WARATAH WYNYARD COUNCIL

# ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

# AGENDA OPEN MEETING

**27 April 2026**

22 April 2026

## Notice of Meeting – Ordinary Meeting of Council

In accordance with the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025* NOTICE is hereby given that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Waratah-Wynyard Council will be held at the Council Chambers, 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard on Monday 27 April 2026 with the Business of the meeting to be in accordance with the following agenda paper.

## Chief Executive Officer's Certification

"**Legislative terminology – Chief Executive Officer/General Manager**: At the Waratah-Wynyard Council, the title Chief Executive Officer is a term of reference for the General Manager as appointed by Council pursuant to section 61 of the *Local Government Act 1993;* and carries the same meaning for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 1993* and all other legislation administered by or concerning the Council."

PURSUANT to Section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993* I hereby certify, with respect to the advice, information and/or recommendation provided for the guidance of Council in this Agenda, that:

1. Such advice, information and/or recommendation has been given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice; and

2. Where any advice is given by a person who does not have the required qualifications or experience, that person has obtained and taken into account the advice from an appropriately qualified or experienced person.

Vanessa Adams
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (GM)

Enquiries: Mayor Duniam
Phone: (03) 6443 8311
Our Ref: 004.01

22 April 2026

Mrs Vanessa Adams
Chief Executive Officer
Waratah-Wynyard Council
PO Box 168
WYNYARD TAS 7325

Dear Vanessa,

**COUNCIL MEETING**

In accordance with regulation 5 (2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Regulations) 2025* which states:

*4. Convening meetings of council*
*(1) The mayor of a council may convene council meetings.*

I request that you make the necessary arrangements for the next ordinary meeting of Council to be convened on Monday 27 April 2026 commencing 6.00pm at the Council Chambers, 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard.

Yours sincerely

Cr Mary Duniam
MAYOR

*TABLE OF CONTENTS*


**1.0 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE ..... 7**

**1.1 ATTENDANCE ..... 7**

**1.2 APOLOGIES ..... 7**

**1.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED ..... 7**

**2.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING ..... 7**

**2.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ..... 7**

**3.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ..... 7**

**4.0 COUNCILLORS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORT ..... 8**

**4.1 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR ..... 8**

**4.2 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS ..... 8**

**4.3 REPORTS BY DELEGATES ..... 8**

**4.4 NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS ..... 9**

**5.0 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS ..... 10**

**5.1 RESPONSE(S) TO PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING ..... 10**

**5.2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS RECEIVED IN WRITING ..... 10**

**5.3 PUBLIC QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE ..... 10**

**5.4 PUBLIC STATEMENTS RECEIVED IN WRITING ..... 10**

**5.5 PUBLIC STATEMENTS WITHOUT NOTICE ..... 10**

**6.0 PLANNING AUTHORITY ITEMS ..... 11**

**6.1 PUBLIC QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE – RELATING TO PLANNING MATTERS ..... 11**

**6.2 PUBLIC STATEMENTS - RELATING TO PLANNING MATTERS ..... 11**

**6.3 DWELLING EXTENSION LOCATED AT 36 BANKSIA AVENUE, SISTERS BEACH - DA 18/2026 ..... 12**

**6.4 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT (PSA 2/2025) FOR 5-7 GEORGE STREET, WYNYARD & PROPOSED CHILD CARE CENTRE (DA 104/2025) - SECTION 40K REPORT ..... 24**

**6.5 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT (PSA 1/2024) FOR GOLF LINKS ROAD, WYNYARD AND ASSOCIATED 12 LOT SUBDIVISION (SD 2191) - SECTION 40K REPORT ..... 31**

**7.0 MATTER RAISED BY COUNCILLORS ..... 40**

**7.1 RESPONSE(S) TO COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING ..... 40**

7.1.1 CR EDWARDS - SISTERS BEACH WORKING GROUP ..... 40

7.1.2 CR EDWARDS - VANDALISM COSTS ..... 40

7.1.3 CR COURTNEY - AMBULANCE TRANSFERS ..... 41

**7.2 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS RECEIVED IN WRITING ..... 44**
**7.3 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE ..... 44**

**8.0 NOTICE OF MOTION ..... 44**
**8.1 CR COURTNEY - PROJECT MARINUS ..... 45**
**8.2 CR COURTNEY - ADVOCACY FOR WARATAH-WYNYARD AS A PILOT SITE FOR A GUARANTEED LIVING INCOME PROGRAM ..... 47**
**8.3 CR C EDWARDS - NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY WEEK ..... 50**

**9.0 REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES ..... 51**
**9.1 FRENCHS ROAD NATURE RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026 ..... 51**
**9.2 DRAFT CAMP CREEK MASTER PLAN 2026 FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION ..... 56**
**9.3 WYNYARD SPORTS PRECINCT - INDOOR STADIUM EXPANSION REQUEST ..... 61**
**9.4 COMMUNITY AND ENGAGEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT ..... 68**
**9.5 GONE NUTS EVENT REPORT 2026 ..... 85**
**9.6 ADOPTION OF THE RURAL ROAD SAFETY AUDIT ..... 89**
**9.7 OLD BASS HIGHWAY - SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION ..... 93**
**9.8 STORMWATER SYSTEM MANAGEMENT PLAN - BIG CREEK FLOOD MITIGATION UPDATE ..... 95**
**9.9 WARATAH WYNYARD YOUTH LEADERS GUIDELINES ..... 105**
**9.10 SENIOR MANAGEMENT REPORT ..... 109**
**9.11 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2026 ..... 116**
**9.12 MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES/COMMITTEES ..... 130**
9.12.1 MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES/COMMITTEES - ACCESSIBILITY WORKING GROUP HELD 25 MARCH 2026 ..... 130

**10.0 MATTERS PROPOSED FOR CONSIDERATION IN CLOSED MEETING ..... 134**

**11.0 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC ..... 134**

**12.0 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING ..... 135**

**13.0 PUBLIC RELEASE ANNOUNCEMENT ..... 135**

**THE PUBLIC IS ADVISED THAT IT IS COUNCIL POLICY TO RECORD THE PROCEEDINGS OF MEETINGS OF COUNCIL ON DIGITAL MEDIA TO ASSIST IN THE PREPARATION OF MINUTES AND TO ENSURE THAT A TRUE AND ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF DEBATE AND DISCUSSION OF MEETINGS IS AVAILABLE. THIS AUDIO RECORDING IS AUTHORISED BY THE *LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2025***

## AGENDA OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WARATAH-WYNYARD COUNCIL TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 21 SAUNDERS STREET, WYNYARD ON MONDAY 27 APRIL 2026, COMMENCING AT 6.00PM

| | From | To | Time Occupied |
|---|---|---|---|
| Open Council | | | |
| Planning Authority | | | |
| Open Council | | | |
| Closed Council | | | |
| Open Council | | | |
| TOTAL TIME OCCUPIED | | | |

**DIGITAL RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS POLICY**

The Chairman is to declare the meeting open (time), welcome those present in attendance and advise that the meeting will be digitally recorded, in accordance with the Council Policy **GOV.017 – Digital Recording of Council Meetings** to "record meetings of Council to assist in the preparation of minutes and to allow live streaming of Council Meetings.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

I would like to begin by acknowledging the traditional owners and custodians of the land on which we meet today, the Tommeginne people, and to pay our respect to those that have passed before us, their history and their culture.

## 1.0 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

### 1.1 ATTENDANCE

### 1.2 APOLOGIES

### 1.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED

Cr Kevin Hyland

Cr Leanne Raw

## 2.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

### 2.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

**RECOMMENDATION**
**That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Waratah-Wynyard Council held at Council Chambers, 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard on Monday 16 March 2026, a copy of which having previously been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting, be confirmed as a true record.**

*Any corrections to the Minutes are to be identified and agreed at this point prior to taking a vote to adopt the minutes.*

## 3.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

**Councillor and Agenda Item Number**

**Staff and Agenda Item Number**

## 4.0 COUNCILLORS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORT

### 4.1 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR

Nil received.

### 4.2 MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council notes the Mayor's Communications:**

| **MAYOR DR MARY DUNIAM** | |
|---|---|
| 10/3/26 | ALGWA 75th Anniversary Video |
| 11/3/26 | Boat harbour Beach Community Conversation |
| 12/3/26 | ALGWA On-Line Webinar |
| 16/3/26 | Council Meeting |
| 18/3/26 | LGAT Learning and Development Sub-committee meeting |
| 18/3/26 | Community Harmony Week Celebration Event |
| 19/3/26 | ALGWA Meeting with Minister Jane Howlett |
| 20/3/26 | Tas Library Advisory Board Meeting |
| 23/3/26 | Photos with Wynyard High and Boat Harbour Primary Schools for the 2026 Youth Expo promotion |
| 30/3/26 | Cr Workshop |
| 31/3/26 | Audit Panel Meeting |
| 1/4/26 | Interview 7BU Radio |
| 1/4/26 | CCA Executive - Housing Round Table |
| 1/4/26 | 2026/27 Cr Budget Workshop |
| 1/4/26 | Councillors' Cradle Coast Regional Land Use Strategy Workshop |
| 8/4/26 | Cradle Coast Housing Action & Worker Accommodation Roundtable |
| 9/4/26 | LGAT Mayor and Deputy Mayor Workshop |
| 10/4/26 | LGAT General Meeting |
| 13/4/26 | Recycle Rewards Photo Shoot |
| 13/4/26 | Boat Harbour Beach Project site visit |
| 13/4/26 | Cr Workshop |
| 15/4/26 | Community Conversation Waratah |
| 16/4/26 | ALGWA Peer Mentoring Circle |

### 4.3 REPORTS BY DELEGATES

Nil received.

## 4.4 NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

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**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council notes the following Workshops:**

| | |
|---|---|
| **23 March 2026** | **Business Visit Elphinstone's Dairy**<br>**Rates and Charges Policy**<br>**Sisters Beach Foreshore Management** |
| **30 March 2026** | **Waratah Road Infrastructure Improvement Design**<br>**Wynyard Sporting Facilities**<br>**Draft 2026/27 Budget** |
| **13 April 2026** | **BHB Project Site Visit**<br>**Cradle Coast Authority Presentation**<br>**Cr Courtney – Motion Discussion** |

**Councillor attendance – 1/7/25 –2/3/26** (last updated to 6/3/26)

| | Ordinary Meetings 2025/26 (9) | Special Meetings / AGM 2025/26 (1) | Workshops 2025/26 (23) | Community Conversations 2025/26 (3) | Weeks Leave Approved |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mayor Mary Duniam | 8 | 1 | 23 | 3 | 2 |
| Deputy Mayor Celisa Edwards | 8 | 1 | 19 | 2 | 2 |
| Cr Gary Bramich | 8 | 1 | 21 | 3 | 1 |
| Cr Andrea Courtney | 9 | 1 | 16 | 2 | 1 |
| Cr Kevin Hyland | 6 | 1 | 16 | 1 | 15 |
| Cr Michael Johnstone | 8 | 1 | 22 | 2 | 0 |
| Cr Leanne Raw | 9 | 1 | 17 | 2 | 8 |
| Cr Dillon Roberts | 9 | 1 | 22 | 3 | 1 |

## 5.0 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

### 5.1 RESPONSE(S) TO PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil received.

### 5.2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS RECEIVED IN WRITING

Nil received.

### 5.3 PUBLIC QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

A summary of questions without notice and response(s) and the name of the person asking the question will be recorded in the minutes.

### 5.4 PUBLIC STATEMENTS RECEIVED IN WRITING

A summary that includes the name of the person making a public statement and subject title of that statement will be recorded in the minutes.

Nil received.

### 5.5 PUBLIC STATEMENTS WITHOUT NOTICE

## 6.0 PLANNING AUTHORITY ITEMS

### 6.1 PUBLIC QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE – RELATING TO PLANNING MATTERS

A summary of questions without notice and response(s) and the name of the person asking the question will be recorded in the minutes.

Nil received.

### 6.2 PUBLIC STATEMENTS - RELATING TO PLANNING MATTERS

A summary that includes the name of the person making a public statement and subject title of that statement will be recorded in the minutes.

Nil received.

## 6.3 DWELLING EXTENSION LOCATED AT 36 BANKSIA AVENUE, SISTERS BEACH - DA 18/2026

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Town Planner |
| Responsible Officer: | Permit Authority |
| Report Date: | 30 March 2026 |
| File Reference: | 2787257 |
| Supporting Documents: | 1. Consolidated advertised documents |
| | 2. Representation A |
| | 3. Representation B |
| | 4. Representation C |
| | 5. Signed extension of time |

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council, in accordance with Section 51 and Section 57 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* and the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Waratah-Wynyard*, grants approval for a Dwelling Extension at 36 Banksia Avenue, Sisters Beach subject to the following conditions:**

**CONDITIONS:**

**(1) The development is to be generally in accordance with the application as submitted and endorsed documents as listed:**

**a. Proposal plans with Project Number: 24223 and Drawing Numbers: 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 as prepared by Abel Design & Drafting and dated 10 February 2026.**

**(2) Stormwater from the development is to be connected and discharged into Council's stormwater drainage network in accordance with the *Urban Drainage Act 2013*.**

**(3) All costs associated with the proposed development including those related to infrastructure extensions or upgrades to Council assets are to be met by the Developer.**

**(4) In the course of undertaking the development/use there is to be no damage caused to any Council owned infrastructure or property.**

**(5) Loading and un-loading of vehicles is to be confined to within the boundaries of the property.**

**(6) Control measures are to be installed for the duration of the construction phase so as to limit the loss of soils and other debris from the site.**

**Notes: -**

The following is provided for information only and does not constitute condition(s) of permit.

- An "Activity in Road Reservation" permit must be obtained from Council for all activity within the Road Reservation.
- This project must be substantially commenced within two years of the issue of this permit.

- The applicant is advised to consult with a building surveyor to ensure the development is constructed in accordance with Building Act 2016.
- This permit is based on information and particulars set out in Development Application DA 18/2026. Any variation requires an application for further planning approval of Council.
- Further approval from Council's Engineering Department will be required for any alterations to existing stormwater infrastructure. A hydrology report assessing the upstream and downstream capacity of the affected stormwater will need to be submitted to Council as part of obtaining this approval.
- This development/use is not to result in the generation of environmental harm or nuisance as defined in the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994.
- Attention is drawn to existing or proposed electricity infrastructure, please be sure to contact TasNetworks on 1300 137 008 to ensure these works do not impede on existing electricity easements and are at a safe distance from powerlines. Failure to do so could result in the relocation of electricity assets at your cost.
- Under Section 61(4) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993, the applicant has the right to lodge an appeal against Council's decision. Notice of appeal should be lodged on the prescribed form together with the required fee within fourteen days after the date on which notice of the decision was served on that person, to the Tasmanian Civil & Administrative Tribunal (TASCAT), G.P.O. Box 2036, Hobart, 7001 (mailto:resourceplanning@tascat.tas.gov.au). Updated Notices of Appeal are available on the Tribunal's website at https://www.tascat.tas.gov.au/

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the merits of the application DA 18/2026 against the requirements of the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Waratah-Wynyard*.

**BACKGROUND**

The subject site is located in an established residential area. The subject site fronts onto Banksia Avenue to the south-east and contains a single dwelling and outbuilding. Adjoining lots to the north-east, south-west and south-east across Banksia Avenue also contain single dwellings and outbuildings. Land to the north-west is a residential subdivision containing a mix of developed and vacant lots. A locality plan identifying the subject site is provided in Figure 1 below.

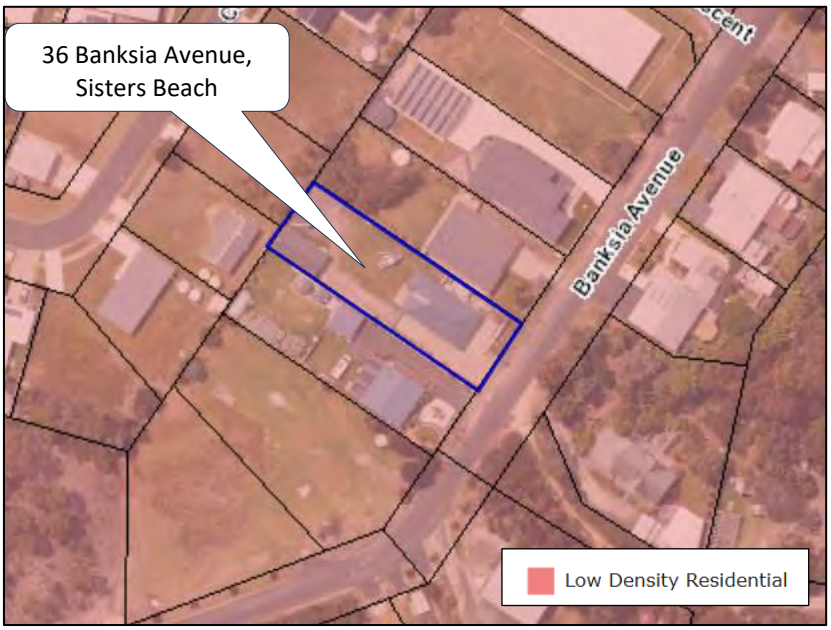


**Figure 1: Subject site with zoning**

## DETAILS

The applicant is seeking approval for a dwelling extension on land at 36 Banksia Avenue, Sisters Beach.

The proposed extension comprises a new sunroom on the ground floor of the existing dwelling with an open staircase to an upper level. The upper level with contain a second kitchen/dining space and living area centred around the open stairway and a new bedroom with ensuite and walk-in-robe. A 12.24m$^2$ deck extends off the north-western elevation. The total additional floor area is 93m$^2$, including both upper and lower levels, with an overall height of 7.424m.

The extension is setback behind the building line of the existing dwelling, 4m from the north-eastern side boundary, over 20m from the north-western rear boundary and 5.84m from the south-western side boundary. It is clad and roofed in a mix of cement render, weatherboard and Colorbond. No cut or retaining walls are proposed.

This report assesses the proposal against the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme – Waratah-Wynyard* (the Planning Scheme) and considers any representations received during the public exhibition period.

The subject property is zoned Low Density Residential under the Planning Scheme. The proposal is defined as a Residential Use Class. This is a no permit required use within the zone if a single dwelling, including extensions to existing, and should the application meet all the relevant acceptable solutions. The proposal does not comply with all the acceptable solutions. The applicant is applying for discretion under the following Clauses of the Planning Scheme:

- Clause 10.4.3 Setbacks (P2)

## CONSULTATION PROCESS

The consultation process was the public exhibition period set out in the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA) and involved notification of adjoining landowners, public

notices on-site and advertising in a daily newspaper. The application was placed on public exhibition for a period of 14 days as required under LUPAA.

The following documentation was advertised:

- Development application form x 3 Pages;
- Title documents x 5 Pages;
- Supporting letter x 1 Page; and
- Development plans x 9 Pages.

The period for representations closed on 21 January 2026. Three (3) representations were subsequently received – see Figure 2.

**Figure 2: Relationship between subject site and representors' properties**

A summary of the issues raised by the representation and planning responses to these issues is provided below. While every effort has been made to include all issues raised, this summary must be read in conjunction with the complete representations, which are included as enclosures to this report.

**Representor A: Schaefer Group Consultants**

| Issues Raised: | Response: |
|---|---|
| No fixed privacy screens, obscure glazing, restricted openings or similar privacy treatments are shown in the material reviewed.<br><br>That is a material deficiency. The proposal introduces elevated occupied areas and upper-storey glazing where there is presently a single-storey relationship. On the face of the lodged | The primary test of P2 is that the siting of the proposed dwelling must not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity to the adjoining property to the north-east, 34 Banksia Avenue. |

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|---|---|
| material, there is a real potential for direct and oblique overlooking toward the rear yard and private outdoor area of 34 Banksia Avenue.<br><br>The planning compliance material does not provide a sightline assessment, privacy impact diagram, deck side-elevation detail or any other technical explanation showing how privacy impacts to 34 Banksia Avenue are to be avoided or mitigated. Without that evidence, Council cannot safely assume that the privacy outcome is acceptable. | Any loss of amenity is not sufficient – it must rise to the level of being 'unreasonable' i.e. immoderate or exorbitant.<br><br>When considering whether there will be an unreasonable loss of amenity, Council must give regard to the matters identified under P2(a)-(g) as they apply to the proposal. However, whilst the criteria under 10.4.3 P2(a)-(g) are a list of matters to which Council as a planning authority must consider, they are not in themselves individual standards.<br><br>Some consideration of privacy can be implied by the definition of amenity, as this includes '*any quality, condition or factor that makes or contributes to making the locality, place or building harmonious, pleasant or enjoyable.'* It is acknowledged that there is a certain level of privacy expected by occupants of a dwelling, however unlike the General Residential zone, the Low Density Residential zone provisions do not include standards specifically related to privacy of dwellings. There are no setback requirements specific to development with a finished floor level above 1m, no requirements for screening and P2(a)-(g) does not require Council to consider the potential for overlooking or direct views into adjoining properties.<br><br>Within the context of the siting of the proposed development as it relates to 34 Banksia Avenue, and in particular P2(c) and (e), the existing dwelling at 34 Banksia Avenue is setback 1.5m from the boundary shared with the subject site. It has three windows in the south-western elevation, only one of which is to a habitable room (bedroom). The proposed extension is offset in the horizontal plane from this window by approximately 3.5m and will not be visually prominent for occupants of the bedroom.<br><br>The deck included on the upper level of the proposed development is orientated to the north-west, overlooking the backyard of the subject site and away from 34 Banksia Avenue. The main living space on the upper level is also positioned away from 34 Banksia Avenue, with windows in the north-western elevation consisting of a bathroom window and two windows to the kitchen/dining space.<br><br>Even if an expectation of privacy is implied from the definition of amenity, having regard to the matters identified under P2(a)-(g) it is not |

| | |
|---|---|
| | considered that the potential loss of amenity (including privacy) as a result of the development is unreasonable. |
| For the adjoining owner at 34 Banksia Avenue, the relevant concern is not height in isolation. It is the combined effect of a reduced side setback, a materially larger upper-level form, elevated deck space and upper-level glazing at the side boundary interface. That combination has the potential to create an overbearing built form even if a separate height control is technically met.<br><br>No cross-sectional elevation, neighbour-perspective section, photomontage or comparable visual analysis appears to have been provided to show how the proposal will actually read from the private open space of 34 Banksia Avenue. In the absence of that material, Council has limited evidence before it on whether the proposal's scale and upper-level form are compatible with a reasonable amenity outcome. | The applicant was not required to provide a cross-sectional elevation, neighbour-perspective section, photomontage or comparable visual analysis to Council. It is up to Council as a planning authority to determine what evidence is reasonably required to allow it to determine whether or not an application can comply with relevant standards.<br><br>Regarding visual impact, the proposed extension has an overall height of 7.424m, however the pitched design of the roof means that the portion closest to 34 Banksia Avenue has an eave height of 5.29m. The use of contrasting cladding materials and windows interspersed along the north-eastern elevation of the proposed dwelling further break up the bulk of the proposed extension when viewed from the north.<br><br>It is noted that the proposal would be a permitted application should it be located 5m off the north-eastern boundary rather than the 4m proposed. Whilst the extent to which something deviates from the acceptable solution is not a determinative factor, it is relevant as a point of comparison that the acceptable solution for this clause would permit an 8.5m high solid wall, 5m off the boundary. The proposed building is 4m off the boundary and has a height of only 5.29m at this point. |
| The applicant's justification, as summarised in the material reviewed, is that the siting of the extension is influenced by the existing building footprint and that the setbacks remain consistent with existing development and are greater than those on 32, 34 and 38 Banksia Avenue.<br><br>That reasoning is not sufficient to discharge the planning test. The fact that the existing building footprint may explain the design approach does not establish that the resulting siting is acceptable under clause 10.4.3 P2. The statutory question remains whether this proposal, in this form and at this setback, avoids unreasonable loss of amenity to adjoining properties. | It is the role of Council as a Planning Authority to determine whether an application complies with the relevant standards. While consideration is given to the arguments presented by an applicant, the decision rests with Council.<br><br>The existing dwelling at 34 Banksia Avenue is setback 1.5m from the boundary shared with the subject site. The dwelling at 32 Banksia Avenue is also setback 1.5m from a side boundary. In terms of other two storey development in the area, the property at 46 Banksia Avenue includes a two storey building with a raised deck setback 3.2m from a side boundary at a height of 6.5m. It is considered that the siting of the proposed extension is consistent with the density, scale and siting of |

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|---|---|
| Nor is the comparative setback claim presently supported by a setback schedule, survey material or any detailed comparative analysis of the adjoining interfaces. There is no demonstrated comparison of matters that actually matter under clause 10.4.3 P2, such as whether the neighbouring examples involve an upper-level side interface, similar deck placement, similar glazing, similar privacy treatment or a similar relationship to adjoining private open space. Council should therefore place limited weight on that comparative assertion unless it is properly evidenced. | other residential development found in Sisters Beach. The level of impact on the amenity of adjoining properties as a result of the size and location of the extension is not considered to be unreasonable. |
| The applicant's reliance on the existence of other two-storey dwellings in Sisters Beach, including cited examples in Banksia Avenue and Serrata Crescent, is of limited assistance.<br><br>Character is one of the matters relevant to clause 10.4.3 P2, but it does not override the need for a site-specific assessment of amenity impacts on the adjoining property immediately affected.<br><br>In practical terms, the existence of other two-storey dwellings elsewhere in the locality does not answer whether this particular upper-level addition, with this particular setback and interface, has demonstrated an acceptable outcome for 34 Banksia Avenue. Without detailed comparative information, the cited examples should not be treated as establishing a planning precedent that resolves privacy, bulk or overlooking concerns. | Clause 10.4.3 P2(g) requires Council to give consideration to the character of development existing on established properties in the area. 'Area' is a broader consideration than just streetscape, which is limited to 100m either side of the properties side boundaries and extends beyond the street upon which the development is sited. It must be large enough in range to assess prevailing characteristics but not so broad that it fails to capture the context in which the development will sit.<br><br>Sisters Beach is characterised by proximity to the beach and Rocky Cape National Park as well as opportunities for outdoor recreation. The area is populated by a mix of older shack style dwellings, most of which have been redeveloped, and new housing development.<br><br>In some areas of Sisters Beach two storey development is the norm, most notably the northern side of Irby Boulevard. Although the majority of buildings along Banksia Avenue are single storey, the property directly opposite the subject site, 37 Banksia Avenue, is two storey as are others in the vicinity of the subject site including 43 Banksia Avenue, 9 Banksia Avenue and 2 Serrata Crescent. |
| On the material reviewed, overshadowing does not appear to be the principal objection ground affecting 34 Banksia Avenue. The shadow diagrams appear to focus mainly on the southern adjoining property, understood to be 38 Banksia Avenue, rather than on 34 Banksia Avenue.<br><br>Even so, the absence of sunlight analysis for 34 Banksia Avenue remains relevant. Clause 10.4.3 P2 expressly requires regard to sunlight to private open space and windows of habitable | The shading diagrams provided focus on 38 Banksia Avenue because that is the property south of the proposed development. Due to the apparent migration of the sun across the sky throughout the day and the positioning of 34 Banksia Avenue to the north/north-east of the proposed development, overshadowing is not a concern. Buildings in the southern hemisphere cannot cast shadows to the north. |

| | |
|---|---|
| rooms on adjoining properties. The application material reviewed does not quantify existing versus proposed sunlight access for 34 Banksia Avenue's private open space or habitable room windows, nor does it provide additional time-step analysis directed to that property.<br><br>This is not put forward as an overstatement of sun impact. Rather, it is a submission that the current material does not provide Council with enough evidence to be positively satisfied on that issue one way or the other. Where the planning test requires an amenity judgment, the absence of analysis remains a material gap. | |
| Taken together, the present application material does not provide a strong evidentiary foundation for the conclusions expressed in the planning compliance statement. The proposal asks Council to accept that there will be no unreasonable loss of amenity, but the material reviewed does not include the sort of analysis that would ordinarily support that conclusion for an adjoining owner directly exposed to a new upper-level interface. | Clause 6.1.3 of the planning scheme sets out information Council *may*, in order to enable it to consider an application, require such further or additional information as Council considers necessary to satisfy it that the proposed use or development will comply with any relevant standards applicable to the use or development. Unlike items under 6.1.2, failure to include things mentioned under 6.1.3 does not render an application invalid.<br><br>The application contains all the information required under 6.1.2. If Council has not deemed it necessary that that information be provided, absence of any of the items listed under 6.1.3 is not itself a material flaw. |

**Representor B: A & P Sweeney**

| **Issues Raised:** | **Response:** |
|---|---|
| The proposed second storey introduces direct overlooking the private outdoor spaces for 32 Banksia Avenue and represents a substantial lack of privacy.<br><br>The development risks diminishing the enjoyment of 32 Banksia Avenue, particularly the outdoor areas that are currently secluded and usable. The sense of being overlooked will impact how these spaces can be used.<br><br>The height and positioning of the extension will create clear sight-lines into 32 Banksia Avenue. The level of visual intrusion is excessive and inconsistent with reasonable expectations of residential amenity. | Clause 6.10 of the Planning Scheme sets out the matters which Council must have regard to when determining applications. This includes the content of any representations received, but only insofar as the content relates to the particular discretions being exercised.<br><br>Compliance with Performance Criteria P2 for Clause 10.4.3 requires Council to consider whether development will result in an unreasonable loss of amenity to adjoining properties. 'Adjoining' is defined in Table 3.1 of the planning scheme as '*next to or having a common boundary with'.* 32 Banksia Avenue does not adjoin the subject site and therefore potential loss of amenity to this property is not something which Council is permitted to consider as part of its assessment. |

| | |
|---|---|
| A two-storey structure of this nature is out of character with the surrounding properties on this block, and approval could set an undesirable precedent for similar developments that further erode privacy standards within the neighbourhood. | Clause 10.4.3 P2(g) requires Council to give consideration to the character of development existing on established properties in the area. 'Area' is a broader consideration than just streetscape, which is limited to 100m either side of the properties side boundaries and extends beyond the street upon which the development is sited. It must be large enough in range to assess prevailing characteristics but not so broad that it fails to capture the context in which the development will sit.<br><br>Although the majority of buildings along Banksia Avenue are single storey, the property directly opposite the subject site, 37 Banksia Avenue, is two storey as are others in the area including 9 Banksia Avenue, 2 Serrata Crescent and 11, 13 and 17 Irby Circus.<br><br>For a full discussion of the merits of the proposal against 10.4.3 P2, please see the planning assessment section below. |

**Representor C: D Jakob**

| **Issues Raised:** | **Response:** |
|---|---|
| The 2nd storey extension will infringe on privacy of the yard for 38 Banksia Avenue and will also cause showing into the backyard. | The proposed dwelling extension is setback 5m from the side boundary shared with 38 Banksia Avenue, compliant with the acceptable solution for side boundary setbacks. Impact on residential amenity is not a consideration for the neighbouring property to the south-west. |

**INTERNAL REFERRALS**

**Engineering Services Department**

The application was referred to the Engineering Services Department. The following conditions were recommended:

(1) Stormwater from the development is to be connected and discharged into Council's stormwater drainage network in accordance with the *Urban Drainage Act 2013*.

(2) All costs associated with the proposed development including those related to infrastructure extensions or upgrades to Council assets are to be met by the Developer.

(3) In the course of undertaking the development/use there is to be no damage caused to any Council owned infrastructure or property.

(4) Loading and un-loading of vehicles is to be confined to within the boundaries of the property.

Note: An "Activity in Road Reservation" permit must be obtained from Council for all activity within the Road Reservation.

**Environmental Health**

The following environmental health conditions were recommended.

(1) Control measures are to be installed for the duration of the construction phase so as to limit the loss of soils and other debris from the site.

Note: This development/use is not to result in the generation of environmental harm or nuisance as defined in the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994.*

**EXTERNAL REFERRALS**

The application did not require any external referrals.

**PLANNING ASSESSMENT**

The subject site is zoned Low Density Residential under the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Waratah-Wynyard* (TPS). The proposal is defined as a Residential Use, a no permit required use in the zone, if for single dwelling or an extension to a single dwelling, and should the application meet all the relevant acceptable solutions.

The proposal does not meet all of the Acceptable Solutions. Therefore, a discretionary application is made under s57 of the *Land Use Planning & Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA) and assessed under the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme (TPS) – Waratah-Wynyard and* relevant State Policies and Acts. Section 57(1)(b) of LUPAA allows Council to relax or waive the provisions of its Planning Scheme under a discretionary status.

An assessment of the proposal against the applicable clauses for the Low Density Residential zone is provided below.

**Low Density Residential Zone**

**10.4.3 Setbacks**

| **A2** | **P2** |
|---|---|
| A dwelling, excluding outbuildings with a building height of not more than 2.4m and protrusions that extend not more than 0.9m horizontally from the building, must have a setback from side and rear boundaries of not less than 5m. | The siting of a dwelling must not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity to adjoining properties, having regard to:<br>(a) the topography of the site;<br>(b) the size, shape and orientation of the site;<br>(c) the setbacks of surrounding buildings;<br>(d) the height, bulk and form of existing and proposed buildings;<br>(e) the existing buildings and private open space areas on the site;<br>(f) sunlight to private open space and windows of habitable rooms on adjoining properties; and<br>(g) the character of development existing on established properties in the area. |
| **Planning Comments:** Complies<br>The proposed dwelling extension has a maximum height of 7.424m. It is setback behind the building line of the existing dwelling from Banksia Avenue to the south-east, 4m from the north- | |

eastern side boundary, over 20m from the north-western rear boundary and 5.84m from the south-western side boundary.

Per 10.4.3 A2, minimum setback of 5m is required for the north-eastern boundary. The dwelling extension is setback 4m from this boundary and requires assessment against P2 for Clause 10.4.3.

The key test under P2 is whether the proposed development will result in an unreasonable (i.e. immoderate or exorbitant) loss of this amenity for the adjoining properties. The adjoining lots 38 Banksia Avenue and 39 & 41 Serrata Avenue are excluded from consideration as the proposal complies with the permitted setback from the boundary shared with these lots. The proposal also complies with the acceptable solution for frontage setback.

The properties for which consideration of loss of amenity is relevant is limited to 34 Banksia Avenue. Of the criteria outlined under P2, (f) is not in contention as, due to the fact 34 Banksia is north of the subject site, it cannot be overshadowed by the proposed development.

The subject site and surrounding area are relatively flat. The existing amenity of the area is characterised by proximity to the beach and Rocky Cape National Park as well as opportunities for outdoor recreation. The area is populated by a mix of older shack style dwellings, most of which have been redeveloped, and new housing development.

The existing dwelling at 34 Banksia Avenue is setback 1.5m from the boundary shared with the subject site. There are three windows in this elevation, only one of which is to a habitable room (bedroom). The proposed extension is offset in the horizontal plane from this window by approximately 3.5m and will not be visually prominent for occupants of the bedroom.

Regarding visual impact, the proposed extension has an overall height of 7.424m, however the pitched design of the roof means that the portion closest to 34 Banksia Avenue has an eave height of 5.29m. The use of contrasting cladding materials and windows interspersed along the north-eastern elevation of the proposed dwelling further break up the bulk of the proposed extension when viewed from the north.

The proposal would be a permitted application should it be located 5m off the north-eastern boundary rather than the 4m proposed. As a point of comparison, compliance with A2 would allow for an 8.5m high solid wall, 5m off the boundary. The proposed building is 4m off the boundary and has a height of only 5.29m at this point.

The design of the extension includes a deck on the upper level. The deck is orientated to the north-west, overlooking the backyard of the subject site and away from adjoining properties.

Although the majority of buildings along Banksia Avenue are single storey, the property directly opposite the subject site, 37 Banksia Avenue, is two storey as are others in the area including 46 Banksia Avenue, 9 Banksia Avenue, 2 Serrata Crescent and 11, 13 and 17 Irby Circus.

Whilst the construction of an additional storey may result in some loss of amenity for occupants of 34 Banksia Avenue, it is not considered that this loss would be unreasonable having regard to the factors identified under P2(a)-(e) and (g).

The proposal complies with P2 for this Standard.

**STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

*Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*

The Council is established as a Planning Authority by definition under Section 3(1) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 (the Act)* and must enforce the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Waratah- Wynyard* (the Planning Scheme) under S.48 of the Act.

In accordance with section 57 of this Act and Council's Planning Scheme, this proposal is an application for a discretionary permit. Council may approve or refuse discretionary permit

applications after considering both Council's Planning Scheme and the public representations received.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications as a result of this report other than those ordinarily associated with administering the Planning Scheme.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

There is limited risk for the Council acting as Planning Authority, provided that decisions made are in accordance with the Planning Scheme.

Should the Planning Authority wish to make a decision against the professional advice provided, the reasons will need to be detailed.

LUPAA provides for penalties against a Planning Authority that fails to enforce its planning scheme (ss. 63a and 64). Going against advice provided in the planning report, without seeking alternate qualified advice, may create unnecessary risk for the Council in exercising its statutory functions as a Planning Authority.

Should a decision by the Planning Authority be contrary to professional advice provided and the matter is taken to the appeal tribunal, Council would need to obtain separate professional advice to represent Council through the appeal process.

**COMMENT**

This report is presented for Council's consideration, together with the recommendations contained at the beginning of this report.

It is considered that the proposed dwelling extension complies with either the acceptable solution or satisfies the performance criteria for all applicable standards of the Planning Scheme. The proposal is for an extension to an existing dwelling and is compatible with the density, scale and siting of residential development found in Sisters Beach. The proposal will not overshadow the adjoining property to the north, and the upper level addition is offset in the horizontal plane from windows to habitable rooms in the adjoining dwelling to the north. The level of impact on the amenity of adjoining properties as a result of the size and location of the extension is not considered to be unreasonable.

The application is considered to comply with the Low Density Residential provisions and applicable codes for the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Waratah-Wynyard*. It is therefore recommended that Council approve the application for a dwelling extension at 36 Banksia Avenue, Sisters Beach.

## 6.4 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT (PSA 2/2025) FOR 5-7 GEORGE STREET, WYNYARD & PROPOSED CHILD CARE CENTRE (DA 104/2025) - SECTION 40K REPORT

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Town Planner |
| Responsible Officer: | Director Infrastructure and Development Services |
| Report Date: | 9 April 2026 |
| File Reference: | 9495708 |
| Supporting Documents: | 1. Representation<br>2. Statement of opinion |

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council: -**

1. **In accordance with s40K(1) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, forwards a copy of this report to the Tasmanian Planning Commission and advise that one (1) representation was received during the public advertising of PSA 2/2025 and DA 104/2025.**
2. **In accordance with s40K(2)(a) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, Council provides the Tasmanian Planning Commission a copy of the representation received during the public advertising of PSA 2/2025 and DA 104/2025.**
3. **That, in accordance with Sections s40K(2)(c) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, Council advises the Tasmanian Planning Application that it is satisfied that planning scheme amendment PSA 2/2025 meets the LPS Criteria.**

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to consider representations received under s40J *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA) during the notification process of Planning Scheme Amendment PSA 2/2025 and associated development application DA 104/2025 and to seek the Planning Authority's endorsement to provide the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) with a Statement of Opinion, in accordance with s40K LUPAA.

**BACKGROUND**

On 21 February 2022, the Planning Authority determined to initiate and certify a draft amendment to the Waratah-Wynyard LPS.

The draft planning scheme amendment seeks to rezone land from Open Space to Community Purpose under s37(1) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA) for the purpose of facilitating an Educational and Occasional Care Use, which is prohibited under the current zoning. The associated development application DA 184/2025 for a child care centre and associated infrastructure on the identified parcel of land is made under s40T(1) LUPAA.

The site is identified in Figure 1 below, along with the current zoning of the property and the immediate surrounds.

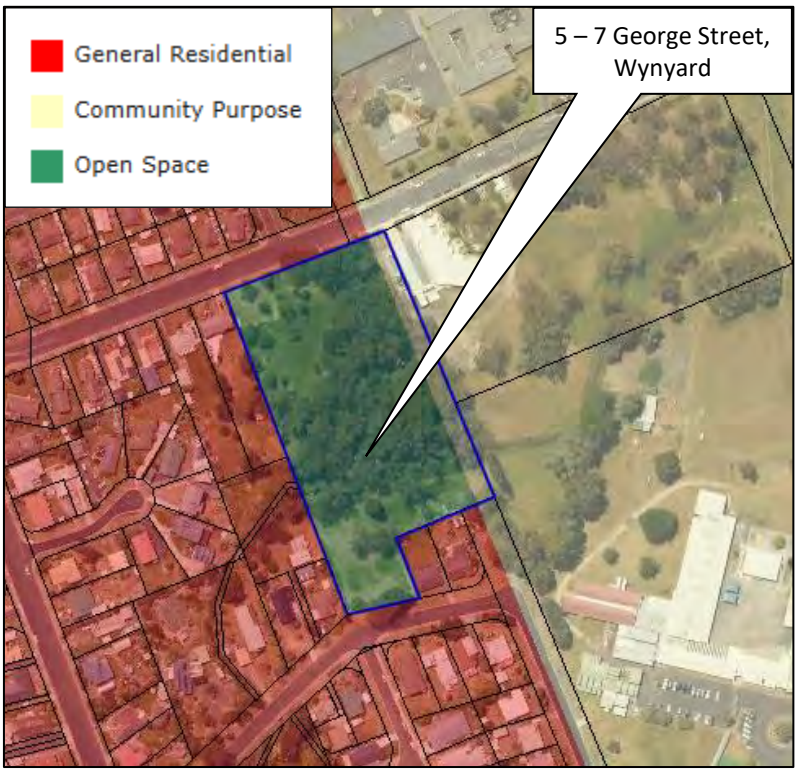


**Figure 1: Current zoning of 5 – 7 George Street (PID 9495708) & surrounds**

**LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

In accordance with Section 40G and Section 40Z of LUPAA Council must publicly exhibit a draft amendment and associated draft planning permit for a period of 28 days. PSA 2/2025 and DA 104/2025 were advertised in accordance with s40H from 28 February 2026 to 31 March 2026.

Per the requirements of s40K, following public exhibition Council as a planning authority must consider any representations and provide a report to the Tasmanian Planning Commission which includes:

*(a) a copy of each representation made under section 40J in relation to the draft amendment before the end of the exhibition period in relation to the draft amendment, or, if no such representations were made before the end of the exhibition period, a statement to that effect; and*

*(b) a copy of each representation, made under section 40J in relation to the draft amendment after the end of the exhibition period in relation to the draft amendment, that the planning authority, in its discretion, includes in the report; and*

*(c) a statement of the planning authority's opinion as to the merit of each representation included under paragraph (a) or (b) in the report, including, in particular, as to –*

*(i) whether the planning authority is of the opinion that the draft amendment ought to be modified to take into account the representation; and*

*(ii) the effect on the draft amendment, and the LPS to which it relates, as a whole, of implementing the recommendation; and*

*(d) a statement as to whether it is satisfied that the draft amendment of an LPS meets the LPS criteria; and*

*(e) any recommendations in relation to the draft amendment that the planning authority thinks fit.*

This report is due 35 days after the public notification period is completed. For this proposal, the report must be provided by 6th May 2026.

**CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Council advertised the Draft Amendment from 28 February 2026 to 31 March 2026, with two separate advertisements placed in the local paper on 28 February 2026 and 31 March 2026. One (1) representation was received regarding the application.

A summary of the of the representation received and planning responses to the merit of these issues is provided in the table below. While every effort has been made to include all issues raised, this summary should be read in conjunction with the complete representation, which is included as an enclosure to this report.

| **Issue Raised** | **Response** |
|---|---|
| Neighbouring landowner purchased their property based on representations that there were no known plans or developments proposed for the subject site and may not have purchased the property had they been made aware of the proposed rezoning and development. The existing environment, with open land and minimal disturbance, was a key factor in selecting the neighbouring property as a suitable long-term home for their family. | The subject site was identified within Waratah-Wynyard Council's Business Plan for the Redevelopment of the Waratah-Wynyard Early Years Service Centre as a suitable site. The current site cannot meet the current or future needs for childcare and early education.<br><br>As part of the design process, draft plans for the development were displayed in the existing childcare centre in 2025 and made available to children, parent and carers. In addition to childcare staff, neighbouring education groups were consulted in 2024 including Table Cape Primary School, Wynyard Highschool and Larapi Child and Family Learning Centre. The previous owners of 26 Gibbons Street were also consulted by letter. An onsite meeting with them was held in June 2025 to provide an overview of the project , extent of works on site and a view of the concept plan.<br><br>**Action:** This issue does not raise any matters which warrant changes to the draft amendment, or which affect the ability of the draft amendment to meet LPS criteria. |
| The development will negatively impact the health and quality of life of the neighbouring landowner's family member due to significant sensory processing challenges, including sensitivities to noise, visual stimulation, and sudden activity mean that<br><br>A childcare centre would create an environment that would significantly impact wellbeing and daily functioning. Substantial and unanticipated modifications to the | Consideration of loss of residential amenity is generally limited in the planning scheme to what is an 'unreasonable' loss. Any loss of amenity is not sufficient – it must rise to the level of being 'unreasonable' i.e. immoderate or exorbitant given the characteristics of an area. The test necessarily implies a consideration of the locality and place in which a residential use sits. |

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| neighbouring property would be required if the development were to proceed. These alterations would impose a significant financial burden.<br><br>The site is currently leased as a private rental. The proposed development is likely to create significant difficulty in maintaining tenancy, due to the increase in noise, traffic, and activity associated with a childcare centre immediately adjoining the property. Additional property modifications may be required to mitigate noise and activity impacts.<br><br>There will be a substantial increase in vehicle movements associated with a childcare centre. Drop-off and pick-up periods are known to create concentrated traffic flows during peak times.<br><br>The location of the carpark along the western boundary of the site will affect residential amenity, introducing additional noise and lights from cars. | The proposal secures and consolidates essential community services (OHSC and early childhood) on land which is not within an identified hazard area and consolidates services onto a single site. The rezoning is compatible with the developing education hub and is considered to be infill development on a serviceable site which is conveniently located in relation to other education facilities and Larapi Child and Family Learning Centre.<br><br>Hours of operation for the proposed childcare centre will be between 7am – 6:30am Monday to Friday. The centre will be closed on weekends. The nature of use on the site means that it does not typically operate at full capacity outside of the permitted hours of operation listed in the acceptable solution.<br><br>The majority of activity between 7am – 8am is confined to early drop off of children and some staff arrivals. The average number of persons present on the site at this time across both services is 8 staff and 39 children. Activities are confined within the building until after 8am, with drop off located between the building and the frontage and staff parking areas screened by fencing along the western boundary.<br><br>It is considered that the likely number of vehicle movements during the period from 7am to 8am are not unreasonable for a residential area in close proximity to schools. It is a time which coincides with people leaving for work and school and it is considered that activity on the site prior to 8am will not result in an unreasonable loss of amenity for adjacent residential uses.<br><br>There is no minimum setback requirement for car parks from property boundaries.<br><br>**Action:** This issue does not raise any matters which warrant changes to the draft amendment, or which affect the ability of the draft amendment to meet LPS criteria. |
| The current boundary fence between residential property and the development is only between 1.4-1.5m high with a large section requiring replacement due timber deterioration. The current development drawings retain this fence and add a section of fencing at the front of the boundary to match the existing fence. Privacy of the residential property is currently also provided by the | There are sufficient planning controls already in place under the proposed zoning to avoid land use conflict between the development associated with the rezoning and adjacent residential area. The current proposal is not considered under planning requirements to warrant the conditioning of additional fencing, landscaping or other mitigation measures. |

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| adjacent vegetation; the development will remove this vegetation. Developments similar to this have been required to build a higher fence and planted a suitable hedge.<br><br>Council should clarify what actions, if any, will be taken to mitigate the impacts this proposed development will have on neighbouring residential properties. | As referenced above, Council as the developer engaged with the previous owners of 26 Gibbons Street in June 2025 to provide an overview of the project , extent of works on site and a view of the concept plan and to discuss any issues or concerns they, as adjoining landowners, may have.<br><br>The current landowners are encouraged to contact Council's Strategic Projects Manager Gary Neil ahead of any hearings with the Tasmanian Planning Commission, which will provide further opportunity to discuss the merits of the proposal and stakeholder concerns.<br><br>**Action:** This issue does not raise any matters which warrant changes to the draft amendment at this stage, or which affect the ability of the draft amendment to meet LPS criteria. |
| The TIA contains several errors, including:<br><br>• Vehicle noise, especially vehicles departing the site via the western driveway (directly adjacent to 26 Gibbons Street) using the very steep inclined stope to access the road. CES drawing 246144-C20 and 246144-C10 shows exiting section of the driveway of 20% (1 in 5) slope. This is contrary to TIA section 5.8.1. stating the *driveway grade is effectively level.* Vehicles would need to accelerate to climb the driveway and then brake suddenly when giving way to road traffic.<br><br>• Contrary to the Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) section 4.7.d. stating the *majority noise will occur with vehicles entering via the eastern driveway. Noise and visual impacts will be minimal and* ***acceptable***. The western driveway will have greater level noise (adjacent to 26 Gibbons Street) due to vehicles would need to accelerate to climb the driveway and then brake suddenly when giving way to road traffic then again accelerating to leave the area. TIA section 4.7. Pg16 also states the *safe and efficient circulation of vehicles on site is enhances traffic and pedestrian safety by* ***segregating entry and exit movements***. Whereas 4.7.d states *residential dwellings are only located near the western boundary of the site, adjacent to the* ***two-*** | • The section of driveway with a 20% slope is limited to a small section of the western driveway, with the majority being effectively level. Condition 10 of the draft permit conditions for the childcare centre requires associated driveways and turning areas to be compliant with AS2890.1, which for non-domestic driveways is typically 1 in 5 (20%). The driveway design complies with the requirements of the planning scheme's Parking and Sustainable Transport Code and relevant Australian standards.<br><br>• Entrance to the site via the western driveway will be restricted to staff accessing the staff car park. Appropriate signage is to be installed to indicate it is for staff access only and limit the number of users entering the site from the west. For the majority of users of the site, entrance will be from the east with exit only by the western driveway. |

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|---|---|
| ***way access***. *This access will accommodate fewer entry movements, as most vehicles will enter via the eastern entry driveway.*<br><br>• Loss of on street parking outside our residence…The number of on-street parking spaces lost as part of the development is incorrect in the TIA. The TIA states **two** on-street parking spaces in the conclusion and in section 4.7 etc whereas the drawing shows **three** from the eastern driveway, Pg9. The driveway on the western side is partly taking by bus manoeuvring area, but also from the front of this manoeuvring area towards the boundary of the adjoining property there is room for another on-street parking space. This is clearer on Licht Architecture drawing A01-01. Therefore, there are **four** on-street parking spaces lost. | • Reduction in the number of on street parking spaces is not a relevant consideration for the development under the planning scheme's Parking and Sustainable Transport Code and does not have significance for the rezoning process. Additionally, reference in the TIA to on-street parking spaces refers to formal, line marked spaces. |
| Plans attached to the development do not include security camera locations, carpark lighting location or security lighting location which can all impact residential amenity. The planning submission states that security lighting will be baffled so that direct light does not extend into the adjoining property, this does not address the issue of illumination level or light pollution on the adjoining property.<br><br>Also, it states that lighting is only required between the early hours, starting at 7am, what about lighting after sunset especially during winter months? With the location of the car park, these lights could be mounted only a couple of metres from windows of 26 Gibbons Street. | The plans comply with the acceptable solution of the relevant clause pertaining to external lighting under the proposed zoning. Restrictions against lighting only apply to lighting used outside the hours of 6:00am to 9:00pm, which is restricted to baffled security lighting.<br><br>The proposal to use lighting from 7am in the parking area is compliant with the acceptable solution. Lighting of the carpark will be provided through light poles, facing away from the adjoining residences. Council as a planning authority cannot impose greater restrictions on external lighting than those set out in the relevant planning scheme provisions.<br><br>**Action:** This issue does not raise any matters which warrant changes to the draft amendment, or which affect the ability of the draft amendment to meet LPS criteria. |

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications for this portion of the planning scheme amendment process.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications for this portion of the planning scheme amendment process.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

Risk is considered to be minimal, as the Statement of Opinion is a process driven requirement. Council has been directed that the Statement of Opinion must come from the Planning Authority. Should Council as a planning authority wish to make a decision against the professional advice provided, the reasons will need to be detailed.

**COMMENT**

The representation has been considered in full and has not raised any matters that require modification of the draft amendment or impact the draft amendment as a whole. The representation does not raise any matters that require modification of the planning permit conditions.

It is recommended that the Planning Authority provides a Statement of Opinion to the TPC that states that the Planning Authority's opinion has not differed from the decision made on 16 February 2026. A Statement of Opinion, as per that enclosed, is recommended.

## 6.5 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT (PSA 1/2024) FOR GOLF LINKS ROAD, WYNYARD AND ASSOCIATED 12 LOT SUBDIVISION (SD 2191) - SECTION 40K REPORT

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Town Planner |
| Responsible Officer: | Director Infrastructure and Development Services |
| Report Date: | 10 April 2026 |
| File Reference: | 2758376 |
| Supporting Documents: | 1. Representation<br>2. Statement of an opinion |

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council: -**

1. **In accordance with s40K(1) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, forwards a copy of this report to the Tasmanian Planning Commission and advise that one (1) representation was received during the public advertising of PSA 1/2024 and SD 2191.**
2. **In accordance with s40K(2)(a) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, Council provide the Tasmanian Planning Commission a copy of the representation received during the public advertising of PSA 2/2025 and SD 2191.**
3. **That, in accordance with Sections s40K(2)(c) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993,* Council advises the Tasmanian Planning Application that it is satisfied that planning scheme amendment PSA 1/2024 meets the LPS Criteria.**

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider representations received under s40J *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA) during the notification process of Planning Scheme Amendment PSA 1/2024 and associated development application SD2191 and to seek the Planning Authority's endorsement to provide the *Tasmanian Planning Commission* (TPC) with a Statement of Opinion, in accordance with s40K LUPAA.

### BACKGROUND

On 16 February 2026, the Planning Authority determined to initiate and certify a joint amendment to the Waratah Wynyard LPS and approve an associated subdivision proposal.

The draft amendment seeks to:

- Rezone land at Lot 2 Golf Links Road (CT148923/2), Wynyard from Agriculture under the Tasmanian Planning Scheme – Waratah Wynyard to Low Density Residential;
- Rezone two small portions of CT148923/2 from Agriculture under the Tasmanian Planning Scheme – Waratah Wynyard to Environmental Management;
- Apply the priority vegetation overlay on the land as identified;
- Remove a section of the coastal refugia overlay as identified;
- Consider a concurrent subdivision for 14 lots, SD2191; and
- Consider the upgrading of services on land known as 8 Inglisdale Drive (CT148923/27) and Council Footway (CT142423/33).

The site is identified in Figure 1 below, along with the current zoning of the property and the immediate surrounds.

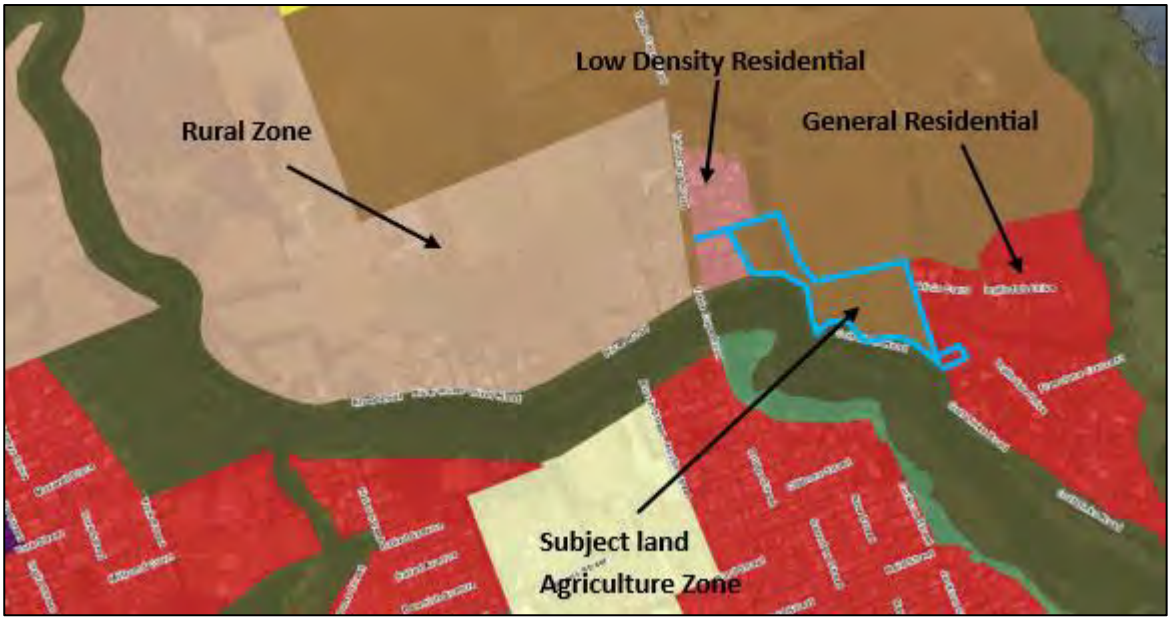


**Figure 1: Current Zoning of subject land and surrounds**

**LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS**

In accordance with Section 40G and Section 40Z of LUPAA Council must publicly exhibit a draft amendment and associated draft planning permit for a period of 28 days. PSA 1/2024 and SD2191 were advertised in accordance with s40H from 28 February 2026 to 31 March 2026.

Per the requirements of s40K, following public exhibition Council as a planning authority must consider any representations and provide a report to the Tasmanian Planning Commission which includes:

*(a) a copy of each representation made under section 40J in relation to the draft amendment before the end of the exhibition period in relation to the draft amendment, or, if no such representations were made before the end of the exhibition period, a statement to that effect; and*

*(b) a copy of each representation, made under section 40J in relation to the draft amendment after the end of the exhibition period in relation to the draft amendment, that the planning authority, in its discretion, includes in the report; and*

*(c) a statement of the planning authority's opinion as to the merit of each representation included under paragraph (a) or (b) in the report, including, in particular, as to –*

*(i) whether the planning authority is of the opinion that the draft amendment ought to be modified to take into account the representation; and*

*(ii) the effect on the draft amendment, and the LPS to which it relates, as a whole, of implementing the recommendation; and*

*(d) a statement as to whether it is satisfied that the draft amendment of an LPS meets the LPS criteria; and*

*(e) any recommendations in relation to the draft amendment that the planning authority thinks fit.*

This report is due 35 days after the public notification period is completed. For this proposal, the report must therefore be provided by the 6th May 2026.

**CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Council advertised the Draft Amendment from 28 February 2026 to 31 March 2026, with two separate advertisements placed in the local paper on 28 February 2026 and 11 March 2026. One (1) representation was received regarding the application.

A summary of the of the representation received and planning responses to the merit of these issues is provided in the table below. While every effort has been made to include all issues raised, this summary should be read in conjunction with the complete representation, which is included as an enclosure to this report.

| Issue Raised | Response |
|---|---|
| **1. Liveable Waratah Wynyard Settlement Strategy – previous submission**<br>• The representor made a submission in response to the Outline Development Plan for this area and are awaiting responses to that submission. | Noted.<br>Previous submissions are unable to be considered in this decision.<br><br><u>Action:</u><br>No modification to draft amendment recommended.<br>It is considered that the draft amendment meets the LPS criteria.<br>No modifications to draft permit recommended. |
| **2. Inconsistency in lot numbers and types in proposal and supporting documents**<br>• The representor raises specific inconsistencies.<br>• Concerned that the owners will wish to request another change of zoning to accommodate 30 lots. | The proposal is for a subdivision that creates 14 new land titles. 12 of these are for development under the Low Density Residential zone. The additional two lots are new road lots to be transferred to the Road Authority. These two lots are referred to in varying ways in the documentation.<br>The representation speaks to certain documents, which are commented on below:<br>- <u>The PDA report:</u> speaks of 12 residential lots. This is correct, as explained above in the lot breakdown.<br>- <u>Pinion Advisory Report:</u> provides an earlier concept plan of subdivision. The document was not required to be updated due to the fact that the reduction of lots does not alter the agricultural capacity of the land, or conclusions of that report, and as such, that report remains relevant, regardless of the plan of subdivision provided. |

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| | - Bushfire Report: It is agreed that this report provides the plan of subdivision that is under consideration. The first plan provided in Schedule 2 of this document (p. 29 of the 47 page document) depicts 12 lots for development, and two road lots (lot 101 and 102). This numbering is standard practice for road lots.<br>A Bushfire Hazard Management Plan is required to depict building envelopes on each lot (other than road lots), which this Plan provides in Schedule 2.<br>- Traffic Impact Assessment: The Traffic Impact Assessment provides the updated plan of subdivision (p.12 of the TIA). The report alternately speaks to 10 and 12 lots being created, depending upon whether the context is to the Golf Links Road intersection or consideration of both intersections. It is noted that it is the Golflinks Road intersection and loading that triggers the requirement for a TIA, rather than that of Table Cape Road.<br><br>In relation to an additional request for zoning change to accommodate 30 lots, this has not been received. Would such a proposal be received, it would be assessed on its own merits at that point in time.<br><br>Action:<br>No modification to draft amendment recommended.<br>It is considered that the draft amendment meets the LPS criteria.<br>No modifications to draft permit recommended. |
| **3. Loss of land zoned Agriculture**<br>• The site should remain in the Agriculture Zone.<br>• Environment Theme from Waratah Wynyard Corporate Strategic Plan is applicable. | The objection to the change in zoning is noted. The representor would prefer this remains in Agriculture zoning.<br>It can be argued that the Environment Theme from the Strategic Plan can be interpreted to include the protection of agriculture and agricultural land. This is reviewed in detail in the initiation report in response to Schedule 1 of LUPAA as well as the State Policy on the Protection of Agricultural Land 2009, both of which provide guidance in excess of that |

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| • Loss of agricultural land is not a sustainable use of a site.<br>• Protection of agricultural land highlighted in the *Liveable Waratah Wynyard Settlement Strategy,* including loss from 'incremental creep'. | available in the Council's Strategic Plan on this matter.<br>It was concluded that:<br>- The site has limited agricultural capacity (due to multiple factors);<br>- Agricultural use on the site is restrained due to the presence of existing dwellings and physical challenges;<br>- The agricultural capacity of the site is limited to such an extent that the development of the proposed number of dwellings would not significantly alter that capacity (e.g. a few grazing animals in limited areas); and<br>- The proposed rezoning would not increase any restrictions on the functioning agricultural land to the north.<br>The site is identified in the *Liveable Waratah Wynyard Strategy* as a site where future change to Low Density Residential is able to be explored, subject to sites specific issues (including drainage) being resolved on the site. The LWWS recognises the severely limited agricultural value of the site due to site characteristics and existing fettering as a result of adjoining residential uses. The bushfire provisions within the LPS achieve additional protections for the agricultural activities to the north.<br><br><u>Action:</u><br>No modification to draft amendment recommended.<br>It is considered that the draft amendment meets the LPS criteria.<br>No modifications to draft permit recommended. |
| **4. Conflicts with Waratah-Wynyard Settlement Strategy**<br>• River Road was recommended for the first area for rezoning.<br>• The area was not recommended by the Settlement Strategy. | The Tasmanian Planning Policies intend for a minimum 15 year regional supply of land. The *Liveable Waratah Wynyard Strategy* identified there to be a 3-4 year supply of land available in the Low Density Residential zone (p.109 of the *Liveable Waratah Wynyard Strategy*), less than the required amount.<br>The site is identified in the *Liveable Waratah Wynyard Strategy* as a site where future change to |

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| • Sites are not approaching exhaustion within the River Road area and there is no threatened interruption of supply. | Low Density Residential is able to be explored, subject to site specific issues (i.e. drainage) being resolved on the site. The proposal has resolved this issue and as such, the site is able to be considered.<br><br>The *Liveable Waratah Wynyard Strategy* recognises the severely limited agricultural value of the site due to site characteristics and existing fettering as a result of adjoining residential uses.<br><br>Strategic work for the River Road site is underway, with the River Road Outline Development Plan completed.<br><br><u>Action:</u><br><br>No modification to draft amendment recommended.<br><br>It is considered that the draft amendment meets the LPS criteria.<br><br>No modifications to draft permit recommended. |
| **5. Environmental Impact on the Inglis River**<br><br>• States concern regarding the environmental impact of the development on the Inglis River.<br><br>• Requests a copy of the full environmental assessment of the area. | All applicable environmental considerations under LUPAA are reviewed in the initiation report. The major concerns for this site under LUPAA were wastewater treatment and additional drainage from the site.<br><br>The proposal includes a specialist wastewater report which was available as part of the documents for public notification.<br><br>All stormwater is required to be managed in accordance with Council's Stormwater policy. Site works are to be subject to standard erosion control measures.<br><br><u>Action:</u><br><br>No modification to draft amendment recommended.<br><br>It is considered that the draft amendment meets the LPS criteria.<br><br>No modifications to draft permit recommended. |
| **6. Hydrological assessment**<br><br>• Requests information on the drainage details and further reports. | The proposal includes a specialist assessment by Geoton that considers drainage, karst and landslip risk and the interactions between these factors, including the need to manage the extensive amount of water on the site. This report includes |

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| | recommendations for the site and development that meet the legislated requirements.<br><br>Further reports are not required for the assessment under LUPAA and as such are unable to be requested by the planning authority.<br><br><u>Action:</u><br><br>No modification to draft amendment recommended.<br><br>It is considered that the draft amendment meets the LPS criteria.<br><br>No modifications to draft permit recommended. |
| **7. Karst**<br><br>• Identifies that the development area includes karst. | Karst is protected under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).<br><br>The supporting report as provided assesses the proposed development against a stronger test than that which applies to the site under the current provisions of the LPS and the recommendations in that report take these into consideration.<br><br><u>Action:</u><br><br>No modification to draft amendment recommended.<br><br>It is considered that the draft amendment meets the LPS criteria.<br><br>No modifications to draft permit recommended. |
| **8. Traffic Impacts**<br><br>• Traffic impact assessment undertaken at low demand times.<br><br>• Traffic has increased since the TIA was undertaken.<br><br>• Walkability has decreased in the area.<br><br>• The population has aged since the TIA was undertaken, also increasing traffic.<br><br>• Near misses often occur. | The Traffic Impact Assessment provided has been completed by a fully qualified traffic engineer, under the requirements of the applicable Codes.<br><br>The proposal, including the traffic impact assessment, was referred to Council's Engineering staff for comment. A number of requests for further information were issued, and responded to, as evidenced by the multiple versions of the TIA.<br><br>It is considered that the additional traffic generated by the proposed development is appropriate for the affected road(s) and intersection(s).<br><br><u>Action:</u><br><br>No modification to draft amendment recommended. |

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| • Potential impact of the new footpath. | It is considered that the draft amendment meets the LPS criteria.<br><br>No modifications to draft permit recommended. |
| **9. Hillside development**<br><br>• The area is subject to low landslip risk and should therefore not be being considered for development.<br><br>• Other dwellings in the area have not been constructed to suit the ground conditions. | This is correct, the area contains land subject to low landslip risk.<br><br>The Tasmanian Planning Scheme provides clear provisions for development within Low landslip risk areas through the C15.0 Landslip Hazard Code. The supporting report by Geoton addresses all of the requirements under C15.0.<br><br><u>Action:</u><br><br>No modification to draft amendment recommended.<br><br>It is considered that the draft amendment meets the LPS criteria.<br><br>No modifications to draft permit recommended. |
| **10. Requests an official response to their concerns** | The Council reports and meetings are fully available to the public.<br><br><u>Action:</u><br><br>No modification to draft amendment recommended.<br><br>It is considered that the draft amendment meets the LPS criteria.<br><br>No modifications to draft permit recommended. |

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications for this portion of the planning scheme amendment process.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications for this portion of the planning scheme amendment process.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

Risk is considered to be minimal, as the Statement of Opinion is a process driven requirement. Council has been directed that the Statement of Opinion must come from the Planning Authority. Should Council as a planning authority wish to make a decision against the professional advice provided, the reasons will need to be detailed.

**COMMENT**

The representation has been considered in full and has not raised any matters that require modification of the draft amendment or impact the draft amendment as a whole. The representation does not raise any matters that require modification of the planning permit conditions.

It is recommended that the Planning Authority provides a Statement of Opinion to the TPC that states that the Planning Authority's opinion has not differed from the decision made on 16 February 2026. A Statement of Opinion, as per that enclosed, is recommended.

## 7.0 MATTER RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

### 7.1 RESPONSE(S) TO COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

#### 7.1.1 CR EDWARDS - SISTERS BEACH WORKING GROUP

**QUESTION**

Cr Celisa Edwards noted an update on Sisters Beach Camping and Open Space and that a working group had been established. She asked who was on the working group and how was it progressing.

**OFFICERS RESPONSE**

This is an internal temporary working group only. It was formed to look at the recently purchased land in Sisters Beach in the wider context of Open Space, and in the interim before coastal erosion mandates its use for any potential relocation of facilities. Broader community consultation in Sisters Beach is underway and will be addressed in more detail in future Council reports and workshops.

#### 7.1.2 CR EDWARDS - VANDALISM COSTS

**QUESTION**

Cr Celisa Edwards noted that vandalism costs were higher than expected and asked if this was normal compared to other years.

The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services advised that only a small amount was allowed for vandalism with the wider aim being to reduce vandalism not to accept that it would occur. He took on notice a request for a comparison with previous years

**OFFICERS RESPONSE**

The captured direct vandalism costs for the last two years and the current year to date are below. It should be noted that what is not also identified is the opportunity cost of staff and resources not undertaking other services for the community while vandalism is dealt with: -

| Financial Year | Amount |
|---|---|
| 23/24 | $21,777 |
| 24/25 | $17,422 |
| 25/26 (YTD) | $17,561 |

### 7.1.3 CR COURTNEY - AMBULANCE TRANSFERS

**QUESTION**

Cr Andrea Courtney asked if there had been a response from the Minister to the question raised regarding ambulance transfers.

**OFFICERS RESPONSE**

A response to Cr Courtney's question was received from Minister Archer on 27 March 2026 following a meeting held with the Mayor, CEO, and Minister Archer. A copy of the letter is attached below.

Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing
Minister for Ageing
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

Level 5, 4 Salamanca Place, HOBART TAS 7000
GPO Box 123 HOBART TAS 7001
Phone: 03 6165 7794
Email: Minister.Archer@dpac.tas.gov.au

Tasmanian Government

Ref: MIN26/430

27 March 2026

Dr Mary Duniam
Mayor Waratah-Wynyard Council
cr.mduniam@warwyn.tas.gov.au

Dear Dr Duniam

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Waratah Wynyard Council seeking additional information about the *Transfer of Care Protocol* and management of patient care.

It was lovely to meet you and Ms Vanessa Adams in February to discuss some of the hospital avoidance and transfer of care (TOC) strategies the Department of Health is progressing, and more detail is provided below.

The *Transfer of Care Protocol* relates to the TOC of patients from Ambulance Tasmania (AT) clinicians to a Tasmanian Health Service (THS) emergency department (ED) clinician with a current target of 100 per cent of patients transferred within 60 minutes.

The Department is committed to the overall safety of all patients in the ED inclusive of patients in the waiting room and ambulance TOC areas. All patients whether arriving by ambulance or by self-presentation are triaged according to clinical need and allocated to the next available ED point of care.

AT, alongside the THS, is progressing a statewide *Management of Patients Affected by Transfer of Care Delay* Protocol that supports patient centred care when TOC Delays occur. This was a recommendation accepted by the Department of Health from the *Transfer of Care Procedure Review Action Plan*.

The draft protocol will operate alongside the *Transfer of Care Protocol*, supporting the provision of safe care and management of patients when a TOC delay occurs. The protocol is currently progressing through consultation, governance and approval processes.

All patients, regardless of how they arrive at the ED, will be seen in order of clinical need as determined by their Australasian triage score. When AT clinicians hand the patient over to an appropriate ED clinician, the patients must be cared for in a clinically appropriate location and always provided with safe and appropriate care.

Further, during times of high community ambulance demand, when immediate release of an AT clinician or crew is required to respond to an incident, AT can activate the *Urgent Offload Operational Work Instruction (OWI)* where the ED must accept care of the patient allowing the ambulance to respond to the community emergency.

With regards to the separate issue of Inter Hospital Transfers (IHTs), the priority provided to IHTs is patient specific and determined by clinical need and urgency. If a patient requires an urgent transfer for a life-threatening condition, for example, that transfer will occur and the Statewide Integrated Operations Centre will make every effort to ensure a bed is made available at the appropriate site. Often, this occurs seamlessly as the various hospitals work very well together to accommodate patient needs.

Thank you again for contacting me and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Bridget Archer

Hon Bridget Archer MP
**Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing**

cc Sally Blanc: sblanc@warwyn.tas.gov.au

## 7.2 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS RECEIVED IN WRITING

Nil received.

## 7.3 COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

A summary of question(s) without notice and response(s) will be recorded in the minutes.

# 8.0 NOTICE OF MOTION

## 8.1 CR COURTNEY - PROJECT MARINUS

Enclosures: Nil

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- **Breach of Trust**: The government promised a 30-day public review period for the business case but instead finalised the deal during a "caretaker" period with limited oversight.
- **Economic Risk**: Respected economists and redacted reports have warned that the project could lead to a "deterioration" of state finances and higher bills for Tasmanians while mainland markets reap the primary benefits.
- **Lack of Planning Oversight**: The Rockliff government has resisted declaring Project Marinus a "Project of State Significance" (PoSS) primarily because doing so would trigger a mandatory, independent review by **the Tasmanian Planning Commission**. This process would open the project to local council and public scrutiny to consider genuine risk to our communities.
- **Incorrect Project Classification** : The business case is a "Whole of State Business Case", and should therefore, be considered a "Project of State Significance" requiring real transparency and genuine oversight.

This motion would put on record that Council has No Confidence in the Final Investment Decision for Stage 1 of Project Marinus, on the grounds that the information available to Council is insufficient to form confident judgement — and that without access to full, independent, and verifiable evidence, no responsible confidence can be confidently expressed by Council.

**No Confidence** key points/rationale:

- The full 400-page Whole-of-State Business Case is being heavily redacted and withheld from the public, meaning the financial modelling and risk assumptions underpinning the decision cannot be independently verified;
- The Expert Advisory Panel appointed to assess the business case was comprised mainly of the CEOs and Chairs of the project's own proponents — including the CEO and Chair of Hydro Tasmania and the Chair of TasNetworks — creating an irreconcilable conflict of interest; and
- Project Marinus not being declared a **Project of State Significance**, despite being the largest infrastructure commitment in Tasmania's history — a designation that would require independent public oversight and was applied to the smaller Basslink project.

Actions required to resolve the recorded vote of No Confidence:

- That the Rockliff government declares Project Marinus a **Project of State Significance** under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, enabling proper independent public oversight; **or**
- Releases the **full, unredacted Whole-of-State Business Case** to demonstrate to Waratah-Wynyard ratepayers that the economic benefits of this project justify their contribution — given that our community will bear the local cost of road damage,

infrastructure wear, and service demands generated by construction and operation of this project in our area.

**OFFICERS COMMENT**

Nil other than that officers will act as requested should the Motion succeed.

**MOTION**

**That Council:**

1. **Writes to Premier Rockliff formally recording that Waratah-Wynyard Council, as elected stewards of its community, has No Confidence in the Marinus Link Final Investment Decision in the absence of full, independently verifiable information;**
2. **Calls on the Premier to either declare Project Marinus a Project of State Significance, or release the full unredacted Whole-of-State Business Case;**
3. **Forwards this resolution to all Cradle Coast Authority member councils.**
4. **Forwards this resolution to relevant state parliamentary crossbenchers and independents for their information.**

## 8.2 CR COURTNEY - ADVOCACY FOR WARATAH-WYNYARD AS A PILOT SITE FOR A GUARANTEED LIVING INCOME PROGRAM

Enclosures: Nil

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

**High Poverty Indicators**

Waratah-Wynyard has a median age of 48 and high rates of residents receiving the Age Pension, Disability Support Pension, and Carer Allowance. This demographic is particularly vulnerable to cost-of-living spikes bought on by events such as Al expansion, as well as the ongoing war between the US and Iran impacting our fuel prices locally.

**Al Redundancy Risks**

Major Australian firms like **Atlassian** and **WiseTech Global** have announced thousands of Al-related job cuts in early 2026. A pilot in a regional area like Waratah-Wynyard provides a manageable environment to study how income floors prevent "hollowing out" of regional workforces.

**Economic Resilience**

Research suggests that a basic income can simplify welfare bureaucracy, lessening the complexities and anxiety of the process in an area with low rates of literacy, and incentivise people to pursue education or training and adjust for an Al-driven economy, without the fear of losing their essential means of survival.

The Tasmanian Government is currently developing its Draft **Al Island Strategy,** which is expected to release in the first half of this year. I believe that Waratah-Wynyard should position itself at the forefront of this policy discussion given the high rates of poverty in our community, and the likely negative impacts that the Al and Marinus projects will impose upon our residents.

**Federal Interest**

Proponents like **Basic Income Australia** are already seeking federal support for university-backed pilots, making this an opportune time for a proactive local council like ours, to step forward and be involved in creating community resilience in the face of the massive changes the Al redundancies will no doubt bring sooner, rather than later, with Al data companies taking advantage of States like Tasmania, that have failed to legislatively plan for the high paced expansion of these centres in regional areas such as ours, and the impact they will have on our economic and social stability into the near future

**OFFICERS COMMENT**

For the information of Councillors, it is noted that 2 Notice of Motions of a similar nature have been recently considered by Council.

The first at the ordinary meeting of 11 December 2023

***That Council investigate partnership and funding opportunities for Waratah-Wynyard to be a pilot site for a trial of Basic Universal Income***.

**That the Motion be deferred until a Councillor Workshop is held to discuss the subject.**

And the second one at the ordinary meeting of 18 March 2024

***That Council investigate partnership and funding opportunities for Waratah-Wynyard to be a pilot site for a trial of Basic Universal Income that includes the following criteria:***

- ***Anyone caring, studying, working or volunteering for at least 25 hours a week is entitled to full basic income payment;***

- ***A 75% payment of the basic income is to apply to participants not meeting the 25 hour eligibility requirement; and***

- ***External agencies, including Live Well Tasmania, become facilitators for people looking to undertake the 25 hours.***

**The MOTION was put and was LOST.**

The matters raised in this 2026 Notice of Motion highlight genuine and important challenges facing the Waratah-Wynyard community. Officers acknowledge that socioeconomic indicators, including income levels and reliance on income support, reflect vulnerability within parts of the community. Broader structural changes, including technological disruption and the potential impacts of artificial intelligence on the workforce, are also recognised as emerging issues that may influence future economic and social outcomes. While these impacts are still evolving, they represent a complex and largely national and global policy issue that will require coordinated responses beyond the scope of local government.

The concept of a Guaranteed Living Income represents a significant policy response aimed at addressing these challenges. However, such programs involve large-scale social and economic reform, requiring substantial funding, legislative authority and complex administrative systems. These functions sit primarily within the remit of State and Federal Governments, rather than local government.

It is also noted that organisations within our community, such as Live Well Tasmania, are already progressing work in this space, including exploration of a Participation Income model and engagement with relevant stakeholders. In this context, there is limited strategic benefit in Council initiating or duplicating similar work, including involvement in program design.

Council's limited resources are more appropriately focused on advocating at a strategic level for initiatives that improve community wellbeing more broadly such as housing and health care. However, should Council wish to engage further, this could occur through exploring the appetite of existing partnerships and advocacy channels to progress this initiative; including engagement through regional bodies such as CCA and with State and Federal Government and sector organisations to promote the concept.

**MOTION**

**That Council:**

1. **Acknowledges the significant socioeconomic challenges facing the Waratah-Wynyard municipality, including median incomes and welfare dependency rates that sit well below national averages, as highlighted in the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) LGA Profile.**
2. **Notes with concern the accelerating impact of Artificial Intelligence on the Australian workforce, which has already resulted in significant redundancies across the technology and service sectors in early 2026.**
3. **Directs the Chief Executive Officer to begin conversations with the Tasmanian Department of State Growth and the Federal Minister for Social Services proposing Waratah-Wynyard as a primary pilot site for a Guaranteed Living Income trial.**
4. **Collaborate with organisations such as TasCOSS and the University of Tasmania (UTAS) to design a pilot framework that evaluates how a living income can mitigate poverty, support workforce transitions during AI disruption, and stimulate our local economy.**

## 8.3 CR C EDWARDS - NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY WEEK

Enclosures: Nil

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Council has held a Memorandum of Understanding with Safer Australian Roads and Highways (SARAH) since August 2024. This agreement represents an important step in Council's ongoing advocacy, as a local government organisation, to promote road safety awareness across our community.

The partnership supports efforts to highlight the far-reaching impact of road trauma on individuals, families and communities at the local, regional, state and national levels. It also strengthens Council's commitment to acknowledging the devastating consequences of road crashes and the importance of education, remembrance and prevention.

Supporting National Road Safety Week would build on this existing commitment by providing a focused opportunity to raise community awareness and to honour those who have lost their lives or been injured on our roads. It would also recognise the lasting impact of road trauma on victims, their families, friends and the wider community.

**OFFICERS COMMENT**

The motion is consistent with Council's previous signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Safer Australian Roads and Highways (SARAH) Group for promoting road safety and road safety advocacy.

**MOTION**

**That Council:**

1. **Recognises National Road Safety Week, held annually in May, as an opportunity to promote safe road use, increase community awareness, and support initiatives aimed at reducing road trauma across the Waratah-Wynyard municipality;**
2. **Includes an appropriate Road Safety Awareness activity or event within Council's Community Events Calendar each year, to coincide with National Road Safety Week;**
3. **Provides for a modest additional allocation within the annual operating budget to support delivery of a Road Safety Week initiative, with an indicative funding range of $500 to $2,500 per annum, to be considered as part of the annual budget process; and**
4. **Encourages collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including schools, community organisations, emergency services and road safety partners, to deliver meaningful and engaging activities.**

## 9.0 REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

### 9.1 FRENCHS ROAD NATURE RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2026

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| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Contracts and Administration Officer |
| Responsible Manager: | Director Infrastructure and Development Services |
| Report Date: | 25 March 2026 |
| File Reference: | FRRMP |
| Enclosures: | 1. Frenchs Road Nature Reserve Management Plan 2026-2035 |

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council adopts the Frenchs Road Nature Reserve Management Plan 2026-2035.**

**PURPOSE**

To seek Council approval for the adoption of the Frenchs Road Nature Reserve Management Plan 2026-2035 (Management Plan).

**BACKGROUND**

Frenchs Road Nature Reserve is a 34.5-hectare Council-managed reserve located in Somerset. The reserve is valued for its natural environment, recreational use, and strong community involvement. It supports a range of native vegetation communities, provides habitat for native wildlife, including threatened species, and plays an important role as a biodiversity refuge within a largely cleared agricultural landscape.

Council has managed the reserve in partnership with Wynyard Landcare for many years, with strong volunteer involvement contributing to significant on-ground improvements including weed control, revegetation, infrastructure upgrades, and ongoing monitoring. Management Planning has evolved over time, with plans prepared in 1998, 2013 and 2020.

Many of the actions identified in those plans are now completed or substantially progressed. As a result, the condition and use of the reserve has improved significantly.

The need for an updated Management Plan was identified to reflect current ecological conditions, increased community use, and the growing complexity of managing the reserve. The Frenchs Road Nature Reserve Management Plan 2026–2035 has been prepared to guide the next phase of management.

**DETAILS**

The Management Plan provides a 10-year framework (2026–2035) guide to management of the reserve. It is built on and informed by field surveys, key stakeholder input from Wynyard Landcare, desktop analysis and review of historical Management Plans. Key additions to this updated plan include:

- **Ecological Restoration and Monitoring:** While the reserve is currently in good condition due to sustained weed control, new initiatives include establishing seven additional herbivore exclusion plots to monitor browsing pressure and trialling manual thinning of

dense *Leptospermum* understorey (where appropriate/required) to promote species diversity.

- **Security and Surveillance:** To address persistent issues with vandalism, illegal camping, and unauthorized ATV access (particularly at the southern boundary), the plan suggests deploying bollards, fencing or similar to limit entry for authorised purposes only, and considering options for surveillance to monitor activity and use within the reserve.
- **Infrastructure Improvements:** Inspection and replacement or refurbishment of existing assets, such as the timber hut, where required. Additionally, the plan recommends investigating a car park expansion to accommodate school buses, which currently face logistical barriers to visiting the reserve and review of access requirements for emergency services.
- **Expansion Opportunities:** The plan explores the potential acquisition of adjacent land parcels, specifically to the east of Seabrook Creek, to enhance habitat connectivity and riparian buffers.

**Key Focus Areas**

A strong focus is placed on maintaining and improving ecological values through continued weed management, ecological restoration, and protection of native habitat and species. These actions build on the significant progress already achieved and support long-term biodiversity outcomes.

The Management Plan also addresses how the reserve is used and accessed by the community, including improving visitor access management, reducing unauthorised activities, and managing the impacts of domestic animals, particularly dogs, on native wildlife.

In addition, the Management Plan emphasises strengthening community engagement and education, including support for community led science initiatives and creating opportunities for the community to connect with and learn about the reserve.

Ongoing maintenance of infrastructure and assets is identified as a priority, alongside continued monitoring and an adaptive management approach to respond to changing conditions over time. Together, these focus areas reflect both the ecological needs of the reserve and the key themes identified through stakeholder consultation.

**Implementation**

The Management Plan is supported by an operational delivery plan outlining actions, priorities, responsibilities, timeframes, and indicative costs, providing a structured framework to guide implementation.

It is important to note that adoption of the Management Plan does not commit Council to the immediate delivery of all identified actions. Rather, it provides a framework to support informed decision-making, future budget planning, and applications for external funding.

Implementation will occur in a staged manner over time, subject to Council's annual budget process and available resources.

**Future Considerations**

Longer-term opportunities have also been identified, including the potential expansion of the reserve to improve habitat connectivity and protect riparian areas. These opportunities

are exploratory in nature only and would be subject to further investigation and separate consideration by Council.

**STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Statutory Requirements

There are no direct statutory implications associated with the adoption of the Frenchs Road Nature Reserve Management Plan 2026-2035. Any future works, infrastructure, or land use changes arising from the Management Plan will be required to comply with relevant legislation, statutory approvals, and permit requirements such as, threatened species, weed management, aboriginal heritage and reserve works approvals.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

Strategic Plan Reference

| |
|---|
| **GOAL 3: Connected Communities** |
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 3.2 We listen and engage with our community in decision making. |
| 3.3 Our natural and built environment aids the community with an active and healthy lifestyle. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 3.2.1 Deliver engagement strategies that adapt to community needs to ensure effective communication and collaboration. |
| 3.3.2 Facilitate activities and events that promote inclusion, health, safety and a sense of place. |
| **GOAL 4: Community Recreation and Wellbeing** |
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 4.4 Our community enjoys access to visually appealing safe spaces and facilities for recreation. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 4.4.2 Provide and maintain quality and safe places and spaces for physical, social and cultural activities, including shared and multi-use facilities where possible. |
| **GOAL 7: Environment** |
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 7.5 Stewardship of our land, water and marine ecosystems respects past, present and future generations. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 7.5.1 Protect, enhance and recover biodiversity through forward thinking and planning. |

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

| Community Future Direction Theme | Key Challenges & Opportunities: |
|---|---|
| **Tourism** | **Memorable visitor experiences all year round** – The must see destination, quality product, easy access, popular events and festivals with coordinated marketing. A longer season with increasing yields. |
| **Strong communities and social capital** | **Enduring community capital** – Growing, proud, self-reliant communities that are inclusive and engaged with volunteers and shared facilities. |
| **Natural resource management** | **Managing abundant, natural and productive resources** – Natural resource management is valued and development is environmentally sustainable. The environment is clean and healthy with unspoilt beauty and biodiversity. |
| **Place making and liveability** | **Liveable places for all ages** – Liveable attractive townships, relaxed lifestyles and community pride attract people to Murchison. Communities have history and character that drive their place-making strategies. Sport and recreation is widely supported especially by young people. Multi-purpose recreational and cultural facilities are well utilised. |

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Council's Integrated Council Environmental Sustainability Policy (iCEP), Reserve Management Policy and Asset Management Policy are relevant to this report. These policies support alignment with Council's sustainability principles and ensure that long-term strategic and asset lifecycle considerations are thought about where infrastructure and reserve improvements are proposed

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

In accordance with iCEP, the Management Plan aims to protect and enhance the natural environment and provides a structured approach to maintaining and improving the environmental values of the reserve.

Implementation of the Management Plan provides a strategic framework to guide future management and community use in a way that prioritises ecological sustainability. It is expected to improve biodiversity outcomes through the protection of native vegetation and habitat, ongoing control of invasive species, and more effective management of human impacts within the reserve.

The Management Plan supports the ongoing and responsible stewardship of the land, ensuring that environmental values are maintained alongside community enjoyment and practical management of the site.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no immediate financial implications associated with the adoption of the Management Plan.

Progressing actions under the Management Plan will have capital and operational cost implications. Ongoing support through community volunteerism, particularly through the efforts of Wynyard Landcare and similar delivery partners, will be critical to ensuring good environmental outcomes.

Capital construction costs under the Management Plan are estimated at $50,000, though this is considered variable depending on the nature of asset inspections and outcomes of reviews for car park expansion and access requirements by emergency services. Capital projects will be managed through the Strategic Asset Management Plan.

Increase to operational costs is estimated at approximately $86,750 over the life of the plan and is influenced by the capital projects (depreciation) and outcomes of the supporting vegetation-, fire and weed-management plans. This is the equivalent of approximately 0.36% general rate increase.

Implementation of these actions will occur in a staged manner, subject to Council's annual budget process and the availability of resources. The suggested increase to Council's annual operating costs will be minimised through obtaining external funding, partnerships with other entities and community volunteerism. Maintenance costs for existing assets, such as regular bridge and track inspections, are intended to be absorbed as operational activities within existing service levels.

## RISK IMPLICATIONS

Adoption of the Management Plan provides a coordinated framework to manage risks associated with:

- environmental degradation and biodiversity decline
- the spread of invasive weeds
- unmanaged visitor access
- the impact of dogs on wildlife

Without an adopted plan, management remains reactive, which may lead to less coordinated decision-making, higher long-term maintenance costs and a reduced ability to secure external funding.

## CONSULTATION PROCESS

The Management Plan has been developed in consultation with Council officers, Wynyard Landcare, and Council's Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Panel (SEAP).

Consultation highlighted the important role of volunteers in the ongoing management of the reserve. Stakeholders emphasized the need for Council to take a stronger leadership role in management and provide structured support to volunteer groups.

Consultation also identified concerns relating to unauthorised access and dog management, as well as opportunities to strengthen education and community engagement and the need for more consistent and coordinated management of the reserve. These matters have been considered and incorporated into the recommendations and actions within the Management Plan.

Individual actions within the Management Plan will require further and broader consultation, which will be undertaken at the appropriate time in the implementation phase of the plan.

## CONCLUSION

The Frenchs Road Nature Reserve Management Plan 2026–2035 offers a practical, evidence-based approach to managing a site that is important to the community. It balances the protection of high-value ecological species and cultural history with the need for improved infrastructure and visitor management.

It reflects past achievements, current conditions and future priorities, and supports a coordinated approach to maintaining and improving this important environmental and community asset. It is therefore recommended that Council adopts the Frenchs Road Nature Reserve Management Plan 2026–2035.

## 9.2 DRAFT CAMP CREEK MASTER PLAN 2026 FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Contracts and Administration Officer |
| Responsible Manager: | Director Infrastructure and Development Services |
| Report Date: | 9 April 2026 |
| File Reference: | CCMP |
| Enclosures: | 1. Draft Camp Creek Master Plan |

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council approves the release of the Draft Camp Creek Master Plan for public consultation and that feedback be considered prior to finalising the Master Plan.**

### PURPOSE

To seek Council approval to circulate the Draft Camp Creek Master Plan for public consultation, with feedback to be considered prior to finalising and endorsing the Master Plan.

### BACKGROUND

Camp Creek and its estuary have been the subject of investigation and discussion for a number of years, with a range of studies highlighting both the environmental significance of the area and the impacts of historical modification and land use practices.

The estuary has been significantly altered since European settlement, including diversion of the creek channel, construction of a weir, landfilling and vegetation clearing. These changes, combined with sedimentation from upstream land use, have influenced the current condition of the creek.

Previous investigations have identified that Camp Creek retains important ecological values, including threatened vegetation communities such as coastal saltmarsh and Melaleuca ericifolia swamp forest, as well as habitat for a range of bird species and aquatic fauna. The lower reaches of the creek have been assessed as having a high conservation management priority.

More recent environmental assessments have reinforced these findings, identifying ongoing ecological values alongside issues such as degraded riparian vegetation and weed infestation.

In addition to formal studies, independent ecological advice and community input have highlighted the importance of the Camp Creek corridor as a functioning wetland system. The site supports a diverse range of fauna, including waterbirds and migratory species protected under international agreements, as well as species such as platypus. The creek is also characterised by a range of interconnected habitats, including tidal areas, riparian vegetation and in-stream features that support feeding and roosting opportunities for wildlife.

A consistent theme across investigations and stakeholder input is that sedimentation within the creek is largely driven by catchment processes, and that short-term engineering responses do not address underlying causes. There has therefore been increasing emphasis on restoration-based approaches, including revegetation, improved riparian management and enhancement of natural processes.

Community and stakeholder interest in the management of Camp Creek has also been demonstrated over time. Feedback has emphasised the importance of the site for bird habitat and ecological restoration, as well as its value for public enjoyment, recreation and environmental education. These objectives can at times be in conflict, creating a need for Council to carefully balance environmental outcomes with community use.

In response, the Draft Camp Creek Master Plan has been prepared to provide a coordinated, long-term approach to the management, restoration and use of the Camp Creek corridor.

**DETAILS**

The Draft Camp Creek Master Plan establishes a long-term vision for the Camp Creek corridor that balances ecological restoration, community use and environmental education.

The plan recognises the significant natural values of the creek and prioritises the protection and enhancement of these values. Camp Creek functions as an important wetland and estuarine environment supporting a diversity of flora and fauna, including habitat for waterbirds, migratory species and aquatic species.

The Master Plan adopts a restoration-focused approach, acknowledging that many of the existing issues within the creek system, including sedimentation and degraded vegetation, are influenced by broader catchment processes. As such, the plan emphasises rehabilitation of the riparian corridor, protection of existing ecological assets and enhancement of natural processes rather than large-scale engineered interventions.

Key themes of the Draft Master Plan include restoration and rehabilitation of riparian vegetation and habitat, protection of identified ecological values including threatened vegetation communities, provision of low-impact recreational opportunities such as walking trails and passive open space, improved connectivity within the broader Wynyard coastal and open space network, and opportunities for community education, interpretation and stewardship.

The plan also acknowledges a number of constraints and considerations, including fragmented land ownership, historical modification of the creek and the need for staged implementation over time. Delivery of actions identified within the plan will be subject to further design, prioritisation and funding.

Importantly, the Draft Master Plan does not commit Council to immediate capital works. Instead, it provides a strategic framework to guide future decision-making and investment, ensuring that any works undertaken are consistent with the long-term vision for the site.

Subject to Council approval, the Draft Plan will be released for public consultation. Feedback received through this process will be used to inform the finalisation of the Master Plan prior to its adoption.

**STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Statutory Requirements

There are no direct statutory implications associated with this report.

Any future works arising from the Master Plan will be subject to relevant statutory approvals, including planning, environmental and land management requirements, where applicable.

## STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

| **GOAL 3: Connected Communities** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 3.2 We listen and engage with our community in decision making. |
| 3.3 Our natural and built environment aids the community with an active and healthy lifestyle. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 3.2.1 Deliver engagement strategies that adapt to community needs to ensure effective communication and collaboration. |
| 3.3.2 Facilitate activities and events that promote inclusion, health, safety and a sense of place. |

| **GOAL 4: Community Recreation and Wellbeing** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 4.4 Our community enjoys access to visually appealing safe spaces and facilities for recreation. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 4.4.1 Employ land-use planning strategies to promote connectivity and equity in the allocation or use of open space for recreation purposes. |
| 4.4.2 Provide and maintain quality and safe places and spaces for physical, social and cultural activities, including shared and multi-use facilities where possible. |

| **GOAL 7: Environment** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 7.5 Stewardship of our land, water and marine ecosystems respects past, present and future generations. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 7.5.1 Protect, enhance and recover biodiversity through forward thinking and planning. |
| 7.5.2 Mitigate biosecurity risks through landscape restoration and industry collaboration. |

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

| **Community Future Direction Theme** | **Key Challenges & Opportunities:** |
|---|---|
| **Tourism** | **Memorable visitor experiences all year round** – The must see destination, quality product, easy access, popular events and festivals with coordinated marketing. A longer season with increasing yields. |
| **Strong communities and social capital** | **Enduring community capital** – Growing, proud, self-reliant communities that are inclusive and engaged with volunteers and shared facilities. |
| **Natural resource management** | **Managing abundant, natural and productive resources** – Natural resource management is valued and development is environmentally sustainable. The environment is clean and healthy with unspoilt beauty and biodiversity. |
| **Place making and liveability** | **Liveable places for all ages** – Liveable attractive townships, relaxed lifestyles and community pride attract people to Murchison. Communities have history and character that drive their place-making strategies. Sport and recreation is widely supported especially by young people. Multi-purpose recreational and cultural facilities are well utilised. |

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The Draft Camp Creek Master Plan aligns with Council's Integrated Council Environmental Plan (iCEP), particularly in supporting the protection and enhancement of natural environmental values, biodiversity and ecosystem health within the municipality.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Draft Camp Creek Master Plan has a strong focus on environmental protection and enhancement.

The plan recognises the ecological significance of the Camp Creek corridor, including the presence of important habitats and vegetation communities, and promotes a restoration-based approach to management. Proposed actions focus on rehabilitation of riparian vegetation, protection of natural values and improvement of ecological function.

Implementation of the Master Plan is expected to result in positive environmental outcomes over time. Any future works will be subject to further assessment to ensure potential environmental impacts are appropriately managed.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Draft Camp Creek Master Plan identifies a range of potential projects and actions to be implemented over time, which will be subject to future Council consideration through the annual budgeting process and will be dependent on the availability of funding, including external grant opportunities.

At this stage, there are no immediate financial commitments associated with the release of the Draft Plan for public consultation.

During the implementation phase, construction costs of the Plan are estimated at $171,193 and the increase to annual operational costs are anticipated to be approximately $10,400 over the life of the plan. This is the equivalent of an 0.111% general rate increase, which will be mitigated through the use of third-party funding and resourcing as well as dedicated grant opportunities.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

There are minimal risks associated with releasing the Draft Plan for consultation.

Potential sensitivities relate to future land acquisition requirements and community expectations regarding the scope and timing of works. These matters will be further considered through the consultation process and in the finalisation of the plan.

**CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Preparation of the Draft Camp Creek Master Plan has been informed by previous technical investigations and environmental assessments, input from Wynyard Landcare as key stakeholders, with input from Council's Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Panel (SEAP).

Council engaged a consultant to coordinate stakeholder engagement and prepare the Master Plan. This included facilitating a workshop to develop a shared vision for the Camp Creek Riparian Reserve in consultation with Council and Wynyard Landcare, as well as the preparation of a draft master plan informed by natural values assessments and supporting research, and the prioritisation of recommended actions.

Subject to Council approval, the Draft Master Plan will be released for public consultation to seek feedback from the broader community and stakeholders.

**CONCLUSION**

The Draft Camp Creek Master Plan provides a strategic framework to guide the future management, restoration and use of the Camp Creek corridor. The plan reflects previous investigations, recognises the ecological significance of the area and proposes a balanced, long-term approach to its enhancement.

It is therefore recommended that Council approves the Draft Camp Creek Master Plan for release for public consultation to ensure community and stakeholder input is considered prior to finalisation.

## 9.3 WYNYARD SPORTS PRECINCT - INDOOR STADIUM EXPANSION REQUEST

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Director Infrastructure and Development Services |
| Responsible Manager: | Chief Executive Officer |
| Report Date: | 16 April 2026 |
| File Reference: | OSSR |
| Enclosures: | Nil |

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

1. **Notes the request made by representatives of Wynyard Basketball Association, Wynyard Pickleball and Wynyard netball to upgrade the Wynyard Indoor stadium by adding an additional, multi-use indoor court suitable for use by all three clubs**
2. **In the 2026/27 Annual plan and budget estimates, include the scoping and data gathering required for a future review of the Open Space Sport and Recreation plan 2017-2027 with this request to be considered as part of the broader review process**

### PURPOSE

To formally note the request received from the Wynyard Basketball Association, The Wynyard Pickleball club and Wynyard netball for an upgrade to the Wynyard indoor sports stadium to add an additional court that is suitable for each groups use.

The report also frames the underlying Open Space Sport and Recreation plan (OSSR) 2017-2027 as: -

- the underlying strategy that drives Council's provision of assets and services including those located and proposed for the Wynyard Sports Precinct.
- Review of the OSSR 2017-2027 as the appropriate way to consider the request and
- Set a clear direction to review the OSSR 2017-2027

### BACKGROUND

Waratah-Wynyard Council adopted an Open Space, Sport and Recreation Plan (OSSR) in 2017. As part of this strategy, a new Wynyard Sporting Precinct (WySP) was proposed.

In the 2017 adopted OSSR, it was noted that previous master plans for the Wynyard Sports Precinct had been developed and scoped dating back over a period as far as the early 2000's (the 2009 version was noted specifically) and that costs were considered a major inhibitor.

In the 2017 OSSR a finding was that only one additional oval would be required at the High School site to meet the needs of the Wynyard Football club and the relocation of the Wynyard Cricket Club.

In regard to the indoor sports stadium, in the 2017 OSSR, it was noted that only two changerooms exist which created significant challenges for hosting men, women and junior competitions. It was also noted that junior basketball participation had peaked in 2014 and

there was some decline in both junior and senior participation. Additionally, it was noted that an additional court was desired and that there was currently no room for netball.

Following the 2017 OSSR, participation at the Wynyard Football Club increased from three teams (male seniors, reserves and u/18s) to also include a senior women's team and additional junior teams as u/12, u/14 and u/16 boys as well as u/14 girls and u/17 girls. This brought the total number of teams participating with the Wynyard Football Club from three to nine. Alongside this, the Wynyard Cricket Club and the Myalla Cricket club merged which increased the number of teams participating under the newly named Wynyard & Districts Cricket Club.

As such the 2017 Wynyard Sports Precinct plan (embedded in the OSSR 2017-2027) was reviewed to account for this growth and subsequent demand on outdoor sports fields in the Wynyard Sports Precinct.

A revised Wynyard Sports Precinct plan (WySP Masterplan) was then developed, including consultation with all involved clubs and was adopted by Council in March 2022 with a proposed solution to allow relocation of the Wynyard & Districts Cricket Club and expanded outdoor playing surfaces, particularly Oval 3 to account for the increase in football participation. At the same time as the 2022 adoption of WySP, Council had just completed the upgrade to the Wynyard Indoor sports centre to add two additional changerooms as cited in the 2017 OSSR.

Since the adoption of the masterplan in March 2022, as occurred post the 2017 masterplan, new sporting needs have emerged: this time for indoor sports facilities.

At the July 2024 Council meeting, Pickleball club member Colin Smith made a public statement and asked a question without notice in relation to broadly: -

- the growing participation of pickleball
- the tension around available indoor court space availability that had resulted across both the Somerset and Wynyard indoor facilities that are primarily used for basketball in absorbing new demand from pickleball use.
- A desire for Wynyard Pickleball to be added to the WySP Design Reference group
- Some thoughts around use of existing tennis courts to ease the current strain on indoor court use

Following these queries, and further correspondence from the Wynyard Pickleball club with Council, at the February 2025 Council meeting a motion was passed: -

**That Council work with the Wynyard Pickleball Club and the Wynyard/Somerset Tennis Club towards the sharing of existing facilities and approve the line marking changes, to be funded by Pickleball, at Wynyard Tennis Club**

This resulted in one of the two Wynyard Sports Precinct tennis courts being amended with line marking to provide 4 outdoor pickleball courts in April 2025.

The modification to share the outdoor facility has resulted is successful sharing of a facility between Wynyard Pickleball and the Wynyard/Somerset Tennis club. The Wynyard Pickleball Club is funding further line marking to the remaining outdoor tennis court in the

Wynyard Sports Precinct to result in 8 outdoor pickleball courts. Works are expected to occur in the coming months subject to weather.

Concurrent with the emergence of Pickleball use of the Wynyard Sports Precinct facilities, the Wynyard Basketball club has raised the increased strain upon availability of the current indoor sports stadium single court.

Following the previous requests from Wynyard Pickleball to be included in the WySP design reference group, members were invited to attend meetings with reps from Wynyard Football Club, the Wynyard & Districts Cricket Club and Wynyard High School, regarding the design development of the Indoor training facility, intended to be located at the Wynyard High School.

Council appointed architects and designers, along with Council officers, the design reference group members and Cricket Tas reps were involved in the exploration of the indoor training facility for basketball and pickleball use. Through this process it was identified that in order to meet the primary needs of an indoor cricket training facility, in particular the required flooring system, the requirements for indoor basketball use and indoor pickleball use could not also be met.

With no opportunity for basketball and pickleball use in the proposed indoor training facility, the Wynyard Basketball Club has raised over the past 12 months, their historic requests for an additional court to be added to the existing court at the Wynyard indoor sports stadium.

To support this request, the following has been cited: -

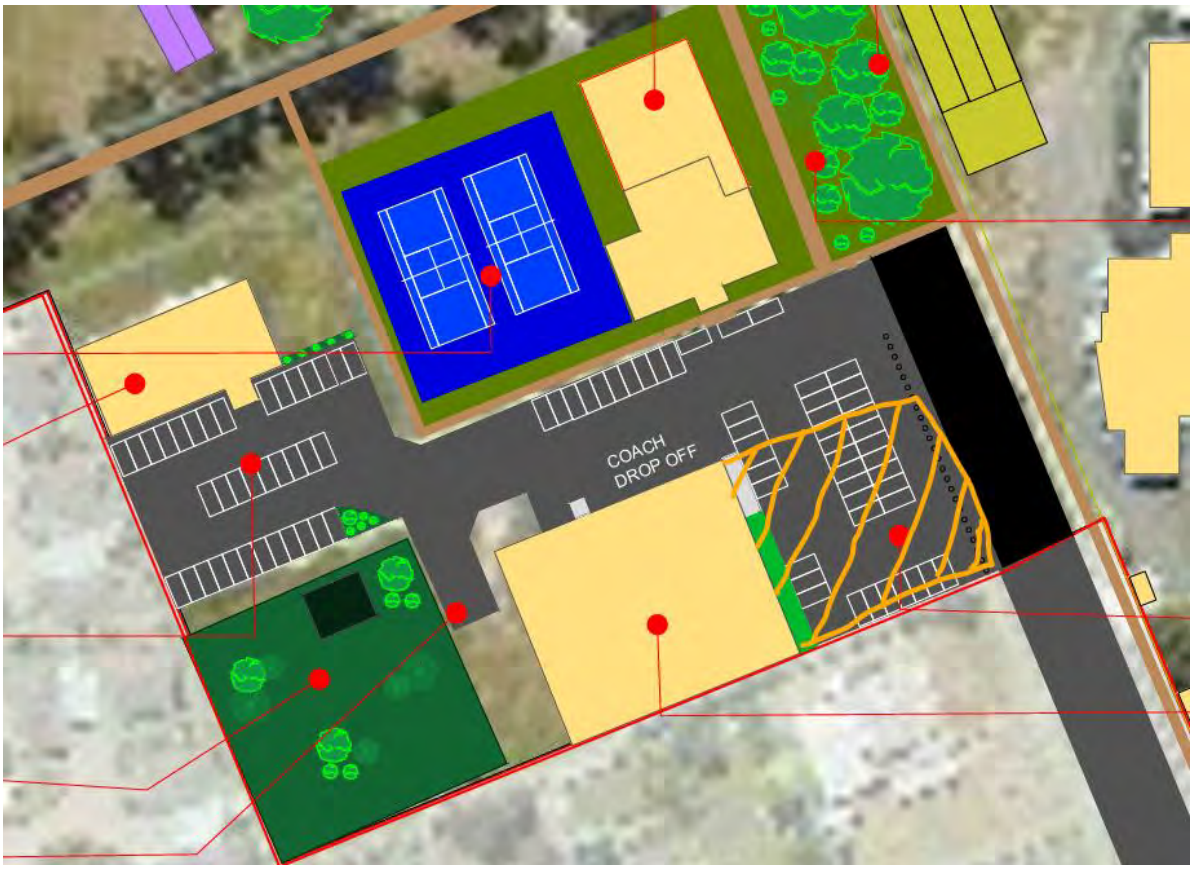
- Pickleball is a growing sport with increasing participation.
- Suggestions of growth now and to come from WBC basketball participation in junior participation and potential future expansion for senior casual basketball.
- Relocation and potential expansion of the current social netball roster that occurs at the Wynyard High School indoor sports court.

No detailed options analysis has been undertaken at this stage to determine whether current or alternate facilities, programming changes, or other shared-use arrangements could address the identified growth in demand.

**DETAILS**

Recently, representatives of the Wynyard Basketball Association, The Wynyard Pickleball club and Wynyard Netball provided a presentation to Councillors in a workshop. The proposal was to upgrade the existing Indoor sports facility to include an extra indoor playing court suitable for a full-sized basketball court that would be multi-use as a netball playing court and could also be used for pickleball. In addition to this, the proposal included an upstairs club space that might have potential to be used for other community uses.

A difficulty in this proposal to upgrade the existing indoor sports centre to provide an additional court is the footprint that it would occupy. The below extract from the 2022 WySP Masterplan, is marked up with orange hatching to indicate the area suggested by representatives of the three clubs for indoor court expansion which would have the effect of consuming existing car parking provision: -




It is not impossible to relocate car parking to another nearby location to achieve this outcome, however this in and of itself also requires careful consideration and full stakeholder consultation. This is necessary to ensure the needs of the broader precinct are met, particularly for facilities that rely on parking, and that costs, funding and any potential impacts or trade-offs are considered.

Any proposal to expand the indoor sports stadium on the current site also requires assessment under the Tasmanian Planning Scheme governed by the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, including but not limited to provision of a minimum number of car parking spaces. A key consideration listed under the recreation zone of the Tasmanian planning scheme is to ensure that sporting facilities do not cause unreasonable impacts upon any adjacent sensitive uses, of which residential use is one.

Below is a map extract of the current Wynyard Sports Precinct site with Tasmanian Planning Scheme overlays of Recreation and adjacent General Residential zoning which must be considered in any stadium expansion: -

*Aerial shot of the Wynyard Sports Precinct with TPS zone overlay (Green – Recreation; Red – General Residential)*

At this stage, further information is required to understand current and future demands, utilisation of existing facilities, site constraints and cost implications. Undertaking targeted scoping and data collection will support an informed, evidence-based assessment of indoor court provision needs for the Wynyard Sports Precinct and across the Municipal area.

## STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

The *Local Government Act 1993, Division 2 – Plans and report* details the requirements for Council's to prepare and hold policies and strategies including the Strategic plan, Financial Management Strategy and Long-term Strategic Asset Management plan and an Annual plan and report.

## STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

| **GOAL 1: Leadership and Governance** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 1.1 We make publicly transparent decisions on spending and future directions while encouraging community feedback. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 13.1 Facilitate the meeting of community needs through strong advocacy and local and regional collaboration for shared outcomes. |

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

| Community Future Direction Theme | Key Challenges & Opportunities: |
|---|---|
| **Strong communities and social capital** | **Enduring community capital** – Growing, proud, self-reliant communities that are inclusive and engaged with volunteers and shared facilities. |
| **Access and infrastructure** | **Local, regional and global transport and infrastructure access** – Safe and efficient access alternatives, growing freight capacity, renewable energy, water management and contemporary communications. Community infrastructure that supports economic development. |
| **Health and Wellbeing** | **Maintaining good health and wellbeing** – Healthy communities, people taking responsibility for their wellness, convenient access to medical services and facilities. |
| **Place making and liveability** | **Liveable places for all ages** – Liveable attractive townships, relaxed lifestyles and community pride attract people to Murchison. Communities have history and character that drive their place-making strategies. Sport and recreation is widely supported especially by young people. Multi-purpose recreational and cultural facilities are well utilised. |

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The Asset Management Policy is relevant here in seeking lowest life cycle cost to the community in providing agreed services that are affordable by the community.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Environmental implications are not yet known and would be assessed as part of any future detailed planning and design process.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The WySP master plan adopted in March 2022 cited a forecast full cost of delivery of $7.2 million dollars. Some elements of this plan have already experienced cost escalation, for example the indoor training facility was forecast as approximately $1.05 million at the time of adoption of the Plan but is now, following design development, forecast to be approximately $3.5 million to achieve.

In expanding the indoor sports facility, the total cost of the current WySP Masterplan would increase substantially. The representatives that attended the Councillor workshop forecast construction costs of $5.47 million that did not include relocating and constructing new car parking facilities. The addition of car parking relocation and refinement of the concept design would see additional costs added.

The forecasting of future costs and Council's mechanism to fund these costs is through the Financial Management Strategy and the Strategic Asset Management Plan. Both documents are reviewed annually and set forward parameters and guidance for Council's annual budget setting process.

No funding source is currently identified for the proposed expansion. Council's current Financial Management Strategy includes significant investment across multiple recreation and sporting assets, including the Wynyard Sports Precinct, all of which is dependent upon gaining external funding. As part of any future review of the OSSR 2017-2027, consideration would be given to the efficient provision and shared use of facilities across the Municipal

area, including how existing assets are utilised and how future investment is best directed to meet needs now and for the forecastable future.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- Reputational Risk

  The request that has been put to Council recently is also evident in past Council documents prior to and including the 2017 adopted OSSR Plan. It has been made based on current and future proposed growth in participation in sport provided by these clubs. An evidence based, clear direction and response is required from Council as has been the case in the previous iteration of WySP and other similar master plans for recreational and sporting facilities. This process will take some planning and resource to achieve which adds time to decision making.

- Financial Sustainability

  Council's financial sustainability is forecast and monitored through the Financial Management Strategy and the Strategic Asset Management plan. Both documents will be critical in assessing this request.

**CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Further detailed consultation will be required directly with the clubs that have made the request to Council and with any other potential partner clubs and/or indirectly affected stakeholders, particularly if a car park relocation is required.

**CONCLUSION**

The Wynyard Basketball Association has historically requested Council to consider upgrading the Wynyard Indoor sports centre to include an additional multi use playing court suitable for competition use.

In recent times, the Wynyard Pickleball club and Wynyard netball have joined with Wynyard Basketball association to request the same upgrade to accommodate existing and potential growth across all three sports.

As with the existing 2022 adopted Wynyard Sports Precinct plan and similar master plans for other sporting precincts and recreational or open space areas, an evidence-based process of review, stakeholder engagement and Council decision making is required to provide a considered response. In order to do so it is highly recommended to progress scoping and data gathering to inform a targeted review of the existing Open Space Sport and Recreation Plan 2017-2027.

This review will provide Council with the information required to consider indoor court provision needs alongside broader community priorities necessary for clear decision making.

As with other major asset investments by Council, it is highly likely that any decision to upgrade the existing Wynyard indoor sports centre would also be dependent upon gaining external funding.

## 9.4 COMMUNITY AND ENGAGEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Manager Community Activation |
| Responsible Manager: | Director Community Services |
| Report Date: | 16 March 2026 |
| File Reference: | 001 |
| Enclosures: | Nil |

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council notes the Quarterly Information Report for the Community and Engagement Directorate.**

### PURPOSE

To provide statistical information and a quarterly update on the activities of the Community and Engagement Directorate. This report covers the following areas:

- Community Activation
- Tourism & Corporate Communications
- Wonders of Wynyard
- Warawyn Early Learning

### BACKGROUND

Quarterly information reports provide Council with a structured overview of operational activity across each Directorate, supporting informed governance and organisational transparency.

Following a review of Council's internal reporting framework, quarterly reports were introduced to ensure Council receives consistent, meaningful updates that highlight key initiatives, service delivery outcomes, and areas of operational focus.

This report provides a summary of the activities undertaken by the Community and Engagement Directorate during the reporting period, including progress across Community Activation, Tourism and Communications, Wonders of Wynyard, and Warawyn Early Learning.

### DETAILS

### COMMUNITY ACTIVATION

#### Recreation

The Gone Nuts Adventure Run 10-year anniversary event was successfully delivered, attracting approximately 980 participants to the region and generating strong engagement from athletes, visitors and local businesses. The milestone event was delivered over two days and supported by Council through activities at the Wynyard Yacht Club and Watershed precinct, helping to showcase local produce, tourism experiences and the broader Waratah-Wynyard region.

The day before the event, approximately 300–400 interstate and intrastate athletes attended the athlete bib collection and bag drop. Council supported the event by facilitating a small activation including a mini-market featuring local food and beverage vendors and live music, creating a welcoming environment for visiting participants.

On race day just under 1,000 athletes competed in the event. Council's support helped create a family-friendly event environment through the provision of a mini-market, food and beverage vendors, live music, lawn games, comfortable seating and festoon lighting, encouraging athletes and spectators to remain onsite and further enhancing the event atmosphere.

**Gone Nuts Post Event**

The Langley Park project continues to progress, with final permits currently being completed. Construction is expected to commence in April 2026.

The Somerset Sports Precinct (SoSP) Basketball Stadium concept design phase has now been completed. The project will progress to detailed design following consideration of the related Burnie motion, expected at the April Council meeting.

**Public Art**

The Wynyard Sensory Garden has been thoughtfully designed in response to community feedback, creating an inclusive space that encourages relaxation, creativity and community connection, and is now formally complete.

The garden incorporates a range of accessible and engaging features designed to support visitors of all ages and abilities. Key elements include mobility-friendly seating and pathways, accessible parking, and both natural shade from established trees and an additional shade structure to improve comfort for visitors.

The garden also showcases native flora, contributing to the natural character of the space while supporting local biodiversity. Interactive elements include a babel drum, encouraging sensory engagement and play.

Public art forms a central component of the garden's design, including a mural created by local artist Tammy Martin (Spirited Tales Fine Art) and a decorative arbour designed and constructed by Adam and Clarissa Horne, adding visual interest and strengthening the site's cultural and creative identity.

**Sensory Garden at the Wynyard Foreshore**

The Art and Culture Strategy was submitted to Council and endorsed for release to the public for feedback prior to adoption.

The Public Art Advisory Group (PAAG) has successfully delivered the Camp Creek Birds public art project, which involved the installation of relief artworks depicting local bird species within the Camp Creek area. PAAG members worked collaboratively with the project manufacturer to finalise the artwork imagery and captions, while coordinating with Crown Land, a Building Surveyor, Council Planning officers and Aboriginal Heritage to secure the necessary approvals and permissions prior to installation.

The artworks have now been installed. As part of the project, the group explored the inclusion of Indigenous names for each of the bird species. While these names have not yet been confirmed, space has been incorporated within the sign design to allow for the addition of a badge or plaque in the future once the Indigenous names are verified.

**Camp Creek Birds**

**EVENTS**

Australia Day - Council hosted a Citizenship Ceremony and Australia Day Awards event, welcoming 10 new citizens, including two children, to the Waratah-Wynyard community. The event provided an opportunity for the Mayor, Councillors and community members to formally acknowledge and celebrate the newest members of the municipality. Council officers coordinated and delivered the event, managing all planning, logistical arrangements and on-site setup to ensure its successful delivery.

The morning also recognised the achievements and contributions of local residents through the Australia Day Awards, highlighting individuals and groups who have made a significant contribution to the community.

The event was well supported by the community and enhanced by the involvement of local organisations and volunteers.

**Australia Day at Gutteridge Gardens**

Harmony Week Council officers hosted a Harmony Week Twilight Celebration in March at the Watershed precinct. The event celebrated cultural diversity and promoted belonging, inclusion and respect within the Waratah-Wynyard community.

The program featured a range of multicultural performances, local entertainment and food vendors, providing opportunities for community members to come together and share cultural experiences in a welcoming and family-friendly environment. Planning with performers, vendors and event logistics supported successful delivery of the event.

Spring Loaded Preparations are now underway for Spring Loaded 2026, with Council officers commencing engagement with local sporting clubs, community groups and organisations to encourage participation and support for this annual program.

Spring Loaded is a month-long calendar of community events delivered across the Waratah–Wynyard municipality each October. The program coincides with the school holiday period and Seniors Week, providing a diverse range of activities designed to encourage community participation and attract visitors to the region.

The program culminates with the Wynyard Tulip Festival, widely regarded as the flagship event of the Spring Loaded calendar. Held during the peak spring flowering season, when gardens across the municipality and the iconic tulip displays at Table Cape are in full bloom, the program provides a coordinated platform to promote visitation, showcase local attractions and celebrate the region's natural beauty.

Tulip Festival Planning for the 2026 Wynyard Tulip Festival is now well underway, with Council officers progressing a range of strategic and operational preparations to support the successful delivery of this flagship event.

In response to ongoing challenges relating to site access, weather exposure, wind conditions and ground saturation, officers are undertaking a comprehensive review of the event site

layout and infrastructure requirements. This work aims to improve patron movement, vendor access, safety and overall event resilience in varying weather conditions.

Preliminary discussions are also underway with event infrastructure and supply providers to explore options relating to staging, marquees, site protection, power supply and logistics. These early engagements are supporting the development of cost estimates, operational planning and contingency measures to ensure the event continues to be delivered safely and effectively.

This early planning phase will inform final event design and operational planning as Council continues to refine arrangements for the 2026 Tulip Festival, ensuring the event remains a high-quality experience for both the community and visitors to the region.

**Health & Wellbeing**

Council officers continued to support community wellbeing initiatives through partnerships, advocacy and information sharing across the municipality.

During the reporting period, Council supported the Burnie Nepalese Community in promoting their Holi Festival of Colours, encouraging participation from the Waratah–Wynyard community. Officers assisted by providing the loan of community resources, including beanbags, and supporting event promotion through Council communication channels. This support contributed to strengthening regional cultural connections and encouraging community members to engage in multicultural celebrations across the North West.

Council also participated in the Tasmanian Government consultation on the development of a Disability Inclusion Plan for Tasmania, providing a submission to ensure the perspectives and experiences of regional communities are represented. Council's input emphasised the importance of accessible infrastructure, inclusive services and community participation opportunities for people living with disability across regional municipalities.

In addition, officers continued to promote awareness of the Waratah–Wynyard Council Community Directory, sharing reminders and information through online channels. The directory provides residents with easy access to a broad range of local support services, community groups and resources, helping individuals and families connect with assistance available within the municipality and strengthening community wellbeing outcomes.

**Age Friendly Communities**

Council has commenced a new collaboration with the Beacon Foundation to establish a youth-specific noticeboard at the Wynyard Community Centre, providing young people with a dedicated space to access information about opportunities, programs and services available to them within the community.

2026 Youth Expo Planning and coordination is currently underway, including event design, stakeholder engagement and venue bookings. To date, approximately 150 students have registered to attend, indicating strong early interest from local schools.

Waratah-Wynyard Youth Leaders A range of youth-focused activities scheduled for delivery throughout 2026, aimed at strengthening engagement opportunities and supporting positive participation for young people across the municipality, is currently progressing.

International Women's Day Council officers coordinated and delivered a morning tea, hosted with the Mayor, to recognise and celebrate the contributions of women within the Waratah-Wynyard community.

The event featured guest speakers, including local business owner Cyndia Hilliger and Wynyard High School Assistant Principal Helena Moore, who shared reflections aligned with the 2026 theme “Give to Gain.” The event was well attended by community members of all ages, including students from Wynyard High School, and representatives from several local organisations.

The event provided an opportunity for the community to come together to acknowledge the achievements of women and reinforce the importance of equality, respect and inclusion.

**Members of the Red Hat Society, and the Mayor at the International Women’s Day Morning Tea**

**Special guests from Wynyard High School at the International Women's Day Morning Tea**

A Reconciliation Action Plan update was submitted to Councillors, who endorsed and extension of a year to support respectful stakeholder engagement

**Community Assistance**

Community Activation Grants Of the 22 grants awarded, 21 recipients have submitted invoices to claim their grant funding, with one recipient yet to submit the required documentation.

To date, four acquittal reports have been received from grant recipients. Remaining acquittals will continue to be monitored in accordance with the grant program requirements.

**Community Support Requests:**

| Q1 (Jan - Mar) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Community Support Requests** | | | |
| **Community Support Group** | **Event Name** | **Item** | **In-Kind Value** |
| Waratah Community Board | Community Newsletter | Photocopying (A4) | $80.00 |
| Waratah Woodchopping Committee | Waratah Woodchopping Festival | PA System | $100.00 |
| Waratah Community Board | Community Newsletter | Photocopying (A4) | $80.00 |
| Wynyard Show Society | Wynayrd Agriculture Show | Bunting<br>Star Pickets<br>Steel Post Caps | $480.00 |
| Sand Art Rocks | Sand Art Rocks | Chairs<br>Garbage Bins<br>Trestle Tables<br>Witches Hats<br>First Aid Kit<br>Hose & Tap Connecti | $391.00 |
| Burnie Nepalese Community | Holi Festival of Colours | Bean Bags<br>Bunting | $201.00 |
| | | **Total** | **$1,332.00** |

Use of Facility Requests Council continues to monitor facility utilisation across key community venues through the online booking system, providing greater insight into both casual and regular use patterns.

During the reporting period, Frederick Street Reserve recorded 42 bookings, comprising 6 casual bookings and 36 regular or recurring bookings across six clubs and organisations. The primary users of the facility during this period were from community support services.

The Railway Institute Hall recorded 108 bookings, including 8 casual bookings and 100 regular or recurring bookings across six clubs and organisations. The main users of this facility were community support services.

The Wynyard Indoor Sports Centre recorded 265 bookings during the period. The majority of bookings were made by five club users, four of which were basketball-related organisations, reflecting the strong demand for indoor court facilities within the municipality.

Council supported the Wynyard Agricultural and Pastoral Society to close the Dog Park and prepare the area for show activities.

**Social Recovery**

Council continues to strengthen its social recovery and emergency management preparedness through planning improvements, resource development and regional collaboration.

During the reporting period, evacuation centre resources were consolidated into 'ready-to-go' deployment tubs, improving Council's ability to activate evacuation centres efficiently during emergency events. The Waratah–Wynyard Council appendix to the Western Emergency Management Committee Social Recovery Plan was also updated to ensure local arrangements remain current and aligned with regional planning.

Council staff participated in several regional emergency management and social recovery meetings, supporting coordination and knowledge sharing across the North West region. Key meetings included the North West Regional Social Recovery meeting on 5 February, where the Emergency Coordinator at Glamorgan Spring Bay presented reflections and learnings from relief and recovery activities following the recent bushfire event at Dolphin Sands.

Council also attended the Northwest Regional Emergency Management Committee (NWREMC) and North West Regional Social Recovery Sub-Committee (NWRSRC), as well as the Waratah Emergency Management Committee (WEMC) meeting.

Internally, Council's Emergency Management Working Group met to progress preparedness initiatives and coordination across Council services.

In addition, Council supported a Community Emergency Preparedness event at Sisters Beach, aimed at increasing community awareness and preparedness for emergency events.

Planning has commenced for a Social Recovery/Evacuation Centre Expo to be held in Wynyard later this year.

**CHILDCARE**

**Community Connections**

As part of our Community Connections Program, our service actively engages with local organisations to foster a strong sense of community, belonging, and identity for children.

In recent weeks, children have enthusiastically participated in a creative project inspired by the rural environment in which they live. Through a variety of artistic experiences, they explored and represented familiar elements of their community, with many choosing to create artwork featuring pigs, cows, and sheep, reflecting the agricultural landscape that surrounds them.

The service proudly submitted over 50 pieces of children's artwork into a local community event. We are delighted to share that entries from our service were recognised across all categories, receiving a range of awards and achievements. This was a wonderful outcome that celebrated not only the children's creativity, but also their connection to their local community.

Experiences such as these play an important role in broadening children's understanding of the world around them. By engaging with community events and organisations, children develop a deeper sense of belonging and appreciation for where they live. These

opportunities also support the development of confidence, identity, and early learning foundations that are essential for future growth.

**Update to the Child Safety Reform Implementation**

Over the past 18 months, the council service has been navigating one of the most significant periods of reform in child safety across the education and care sector. Throughout this time, our priority has remained unchanged — to provide a safe, supportive, and high-quality environment where every child's wellbeing and rights are at the centre of everything we do.

A proactive and structured approach was taken to ensure compliance with new legislative and regulatory requirements while strengthening a genuine child safe culture.

Early and ongoing engagement with staff throughout 2025 to build awareness, understanding, and readiness for change, using national child safety resources and ACECQA guidance to support consistent practice across the service.

Major reforms introduced from September 2025 brought stricter requirements around digital technology use, visitor and contractor management, and accountability measures. In response, the service strengthened policies and procedures, introduced service-issued devices in OSHC, implemented updated sign-in processes, and completed risk assessments with staff formally acknowledging their responsibilities. Clear and transparent communication with families supported shared responsibility for child safety and helped build trust.

Further legislative changes in late 2025 and early 2026 increased enforcement expectations and embedded child safety more deeply within the National Quality Standard. The February 2026 reforms marked a significant milestone, recognising children's safety and rights as paramount and introducing mandatory training, strengthened Working with Children Check requirements, and a National Early Childhood Worker Register. At a service level, governance and compliance systems were strengthened through improved record-keeping, use of the Quality Improvement Plan, establishment of a central Child Safety Folder, and consistent engagement with regulatory bodies.

Workforce capability remained a key focus, with training prioritised during work hours and systems updated to reflect new national requirements. While the reform period required substantial time and effort, it has resulted in stronger systems, improved staff capability, and a reinforced culture where child safety is understood as everyone's responsibility, supported by ongoing commitment to continuous improvement.

**TOURISM & COMMUNICATION**

**Wonders of Wynyard**

The table below presents quarterly statistics for tourism visitation and visitor expenditure at Council-run facilities from January to March 2026. This data is most meaningful when considered in the context of seasonal patterns and in comparison, with previous operating years.

Despite recent disruption to the visitor market due to global fuel supply issues, the peak tourism period has remained strong. Visitation levels were comparable to the previous year, with an increase in visitor spending.

In March, the Wonders of Wynyard Exhibition and Visitor Information Centre recorded a 20% increase in visitation to the car collection compared to the same period last year. The centre also achieved record monthly revenue across the reporting period.

Waratah also experienced growth in the camping and caravan visitor market.

Overall, this reporting period represents the peak tourism season for the municipality, with positive outcomes recorded despite widespread industry impacts and projected declines in visitation associated with high fuel prices. It is noted that the effects of the fuel crisis may become more evident in future reporting periods.

Reporting period: January to March 2026, breaking down income.

| | |
|---|---|
| Exhibition Centre Entry Fees | $12,487.50 |
| Merchandise Sales | $30,944.64 |
| Commission – Bookings/ Parks passes | $171.84 |
| Booking Fee (Myalla campground) | $10.00 |
| Waratah Campground | $56,866.15 |
| Artwork/ Consignment Commission | $1802.85 |
| Bike Hire | $184 |
| Total Income | $102,466.98 |

How it compares – year on year minimal change for Wonders of Wynyard in this case.

| Total visitor numbers 2025 -26 | Total visitor numbers 2024-25 |
|---|---|
| 5559 | 5822 |

| Car collection ticket sales 2025-26 | Car collection ticket sales 2024-25 |
|---|---|
| 1351 | 1307 |

**Industry networking**

During the peak tourism period, Council actively collaborated with a broad range of regional and local stakeholders to strengthen the visitor economy and support industry resilience. This included progressing the WOW brochure upgrade to align with the Gone Nuts 10-year anniversary race event, with email marketing targeting Gone Nuts race visitors to the region and a Wonders of Wynyard visitor information booth was also situated at the race check in.

Ongoing engagement with West x North West Regional Tourism Organisation has enabled Council to better support several upcoming regional initiatives such as Illuminate the West, Trail Graze and Permission to Trespass. Council participated in key industry forums such as the Business North West's tourism network inaugural catch up targeted at tourism operators in the Burnie and Waratah- Wynyard area. The new network welcomes local tourism operators to meet up informally (via business north west lead) and share ideas to work together to support the local industry.

Coordinated efforts were made over the reporting period to facilitate journalist visits, enhancing destination exposure in partnership with Circular Head Tourism Association.

This range of collaborative initiatives were undertaken in the context of the peak season, with a strong awareness of the challenges posed by the fuel crisis and reflect a shared commitment to sustaining and growing tourism across the region.

Pictured: Colourful pages from the updated, Wynyard and surrounds destination brochure.

**Digital communications & engagement**

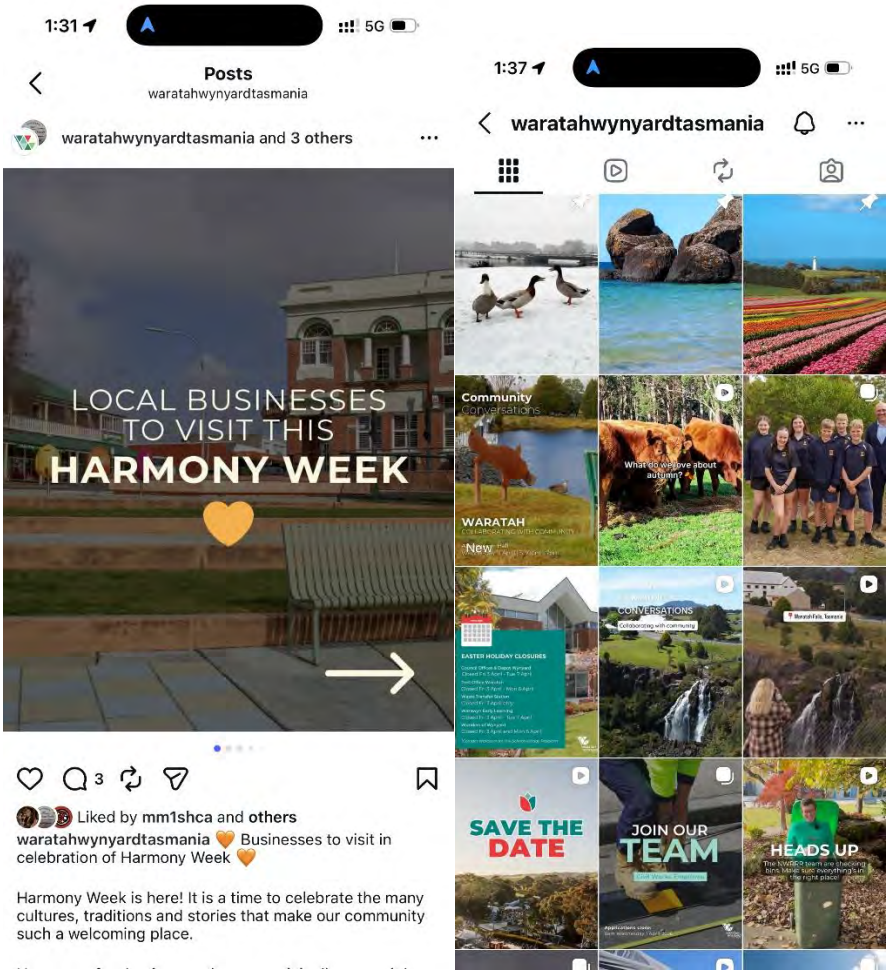
Communications activity for the third quarter has delivered strong growth and engagement across Council's digital platforms. The early rollout of Tulip Festival pre-marketing has kicked off with the Tulip Festival Facebook page recording a 300% increase in followers and a 470% increase in views compared to this period last year, including 70 new followers generated from a single post.

The corporate Waratah-Wynyard Council Facebook page also experienced a 160% increase in followers (approximately 600 new followers this quarter) and a 70% increase in reach, engaging 156,000 unique accounts. The corporate Facebook page is also nearing a significant

milestone of 10,000 followers, representing strong penetration relative to the municipality's population.

Importantly, Facebook activity drove more than 2,000 link clicks during the quarter, demonstrating its effectiveness in directing the community to key information and initiatives, such as to project pages on our website where key information, and opportunities to provide feedback are located for the public. Several consultation opportunities were open to the public in the reporting period.

Instagram results present a mixed outcome, with reach declining by 22% year-on-year to 13,000 unique accounts, despite a substantial increase in followers (over 100 new followers, representing growth of more than 1,000% from a low base). This indicates a need to strengthen content strategy and consistency on the platform to rebuild reach and visibility. Content performance insights show that community-focused posts, particularly those highlighting local businesses- such as the "Harmony Day: Businesses to Visit" feature- generated the highest engagement.




Pictured: Instagram – Harmony Day business post generated high digital engagement.

**Connecting with community**

Community Conversations continue to play an important role in strengthening communication and engagement across the municipality. These sessions, held in different locations each month, have attracted consistent and encouraging levels of community interest, providing residents with accessible opportunities to share feedback, raise local issues, and contribute ideas. The positive participation highlights the value of face-to-face

engagement and reinforces Council's commitment to listening and responding to the needs and priorities of our community.

The corporate communications team will be launching an email newsletter in the next quarter, that will complement the current suite of digital and traditional communication and engagement tools for the Waratah- Wynyard municipality. The proactive multimedia approach enables our diverse community to engage with Council information and updates in a way that suit varied needs.

**Athenaeum Hall activation**

The peak season has wrapped up in Waratah with the Athenaeum Hall staffed over the weekends from December through to March inclusive. The visitor numbers reflect the popularity of the visitor attraction. The Waratah Activity Group is working to activate the Hall year-round with additional community activities and events open to the public.

Quarterly Statistics: December through to March inclusive visitor numbers, 2026.

| | |
|---|---|
| Tasmanian visitors – intrastate | 266 |
| Interstate visitors | 639 |
| International visitors | 84 |
| TOTAL visitors | 989 |

Pictured: Athenaeum Hall open to visitors from December through to March on weekends.

Together, our tourism initiatives and community engagement efforts are contributing to a more connected, vibrant, and responsive Council. Continued interest in local experiences and events support economic activity and showcase the unique character of our region, while initiatives such as the Community Conversations ensure that community voices remain central to Council's planning and decision-making. By strengthening both how we promote our region and how we listen and communicate with residents, Council is well positioned to

support sustainable growth, enhance visitor experiences, and build a community that feels informed, included, and engaged.

## STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

There are no statutory requirements arising from this report. The report is provided for Council's information and does not require a statutory decision.

## STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

| **GOAL 3: Connected Communities** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 3.3 Our natural and built environment aids the community with an active and healthy lifestyle. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 3.5.1 Build community capacity through services and programs that strengthen, support and care for our community. |

| **GOAL 4: Community Recreation and Wellbeing** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 4.2 Our community values, encourages and supports physical, social and cultural activities. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 4.2.1 Focus on the value of recreation in promoting the health and wellbeing of our community. |

| **GOAL 3: Connected Communities** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 3.5 Our community uses its voice to shape its future alongside a strong Council willing to listen and implement where reasonable and practical. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 3.2.1 Deliver engagement strategies that adapt to community needs to ensure effective communication and collaboration. |

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

| **Community Future Direction Theme** | **Key Challenges & Opportunities:** |
|---|---|
| **Business & Industry** | **Specialised diversity of the economy** – Value adding, diversification, innovation and employment. A resilient economy with global brand recognition and growing exports. |
| **Tourism** | **Memorable visitor experiences all year round** – The must see destination, quality product, easy access, popular events and festivals with coordinated marketing. A longer season with increasing yields. |
| **Strong communities and social capital** | **Enduring community capital** – Growing, proud, self-reliant communities that are inclusive and engaged with volunteers and shared facilities. |
| **Natural resource management** | **Managing abundant, natural and productive resources** – Natural resource management is valued and development is environmentally sustainable. The environment is clean and healthy with unspoilt beauty and biodiversity. |
| **Health and Wellbeing** | **Maintaining good health and wellbeing** – Healthy communities, people taking responsibility for their wellness, convenient access to medical services and facilities. |

| Community Future Direction Theme | Key Challenges & Opportunities: |
|---|---|
| **Education** | **Lifelong learning and education** – Education and lifelong learning is valued and there is access to vocational training and tertiary education. Education retention rates have increased. |
| **Place making and liveability** | **Liveable places for all ages** – Liveable attractive townships, relaxed lifestyles and community pride attract people to Murchison. Communities have history and character that drive their place-making strategies. Sport and recreation is widely supported especially by young people. Multi-purpose recreational and cultural facilities are well utilised. |

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

## RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

## CONSULTATION PROCESS

There are no consultation requirements as a result of this report.

## CONCLUSION

The Community and Engagement Directorate manages a diverse and influential portfolio that contributes significantly to the health, wellbeing and liveability of the Waratah-Wynyard community.

Through strategic leadership across Early Childhood Services, Tourism and Communications, and Community Activation, the Directorate continues to deliver initiatives that strengthen community connection, support economic and social outcomes, and enhance the region's reputation as a vibrant and welcoming place to live and visit.

This report provides Council with an overview of the key activities and achievements delivered during the reporting period and highlights the Directorate's continued contribution to supporting strong, connected and resilient communities.

It is recommended Council note the April 2026 Community and Engagement Report.

## 9.5 GONE NUTS EVENT REPORT 2026

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Community Development Officer |
| Responsible Manager: | Director Community Services |
| Report Date: | 9 April 2026 |
| File Reference: | 001 |
| Enclosures: | Nil |

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

1. **Notes the successful delivery of the 2026 Gone Nuts event activation, including the positive outcomes achieved in community engagement, visitation, and local economic activity.**
2. **Continues discussions with the event organiser regarding Council's potential support for the 2027 Gone Nuts event, including consideration of a scaled activation aligned with budget and operational requirements.**

### PURPOSE

For the first time, Council committed resources to support and partner with the Gone Nuts Event organisers for the 10th Anniversary by creating an "athletes' village". The primary objective of the activation was to enhance the visitor participant and people travelling with them to extend attendee engagement beyond the race itself and encourage participants, spectators, and families to remain onsite following the race finish.

A further goal was to showcase local Tasmanian businesses and tourism opportunities to intrastate, interstate, and international visitors, while activating The Watershed as a vibrant, community-focused zone. These initiatives also aimed to generate positive economic outcomes for the region by increasing visitor spend, supporting local businesses, and contributing to broader tourism activity.

### BACKGROUND

Gone Nuts is an annual trail running event delivered by Tasmanian Multisport Adventures (TMA), attracting participants from across Tasmania, interstate, and internationally. The event celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2026.

Michael Phillips, Director of TMA, approached Council seeking support for the anniversary event, including the creation of an "athlete village" atmosphere prior to the race. This involved using The Watershed and activating the finish line area to encourage participants and spectators to remain onsite and engage with the event.

### DETAILS

Council supported the event through the activation of The Watershed as a dedicated event and community space, aimed at enhancing the overall participant and spectator experience.

Pre-race activation included use of the Yacht Club clubrooms as a central hub for bib collection and bag drop, alongside a small market showcasing local produce and tourism

information. The surrounding lawn area included a licensed food and beverage space with local vendors and live music.

Race day activation focused on creating a welcoming, family-friendly finish line environment to encourage attendees to remain onsite. This included local food and licensed beverage vendors, seating and dining areas, children's activities such as face painting and lawn games, atmospheric festoon lighting, and live music. Several pre-race stallholders also returned to trade on race day within The Watershed.

The activation contributed to increased dwell time within the event area, supporting local businesses through increased visitation and spend. It also provided a strong platform to showcase regional food offerings and tourism experiences to a diverse audience.

The event attracted 960 participants, with attendees travelling from across Tasmania (792), interstate (150), and internationally (18). This influx of visitors contributed to increased demand for local accommodation, hospitality, and retail services, supporting the region's visitor economy.

Over the past decade, 61-63% of participants each year are first time attendees – and while not all would be new to Wynyard, this represents a large proportion of participants. This highlights the event's continuing strong ability to attract new audiences and its ongoing role as a driver of visitation to the region.

Trail running events typically attract a high-value, experience-driven demographic aged 25–55, with above-average disposable income, strong environmental awareness, and a preference for nature-based, wellness-oriented travel. Participants and their support crews often extend their stay to explore the region, further increasing local economic benefit.

**STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Statutory Requirements

There are no statutory implications as a result of this report.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

Strategic Plan Reference

| **GOAL 1: Leadership and Governance** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 1.3 We encourage broad community input to create a focussed and strong sense of belonging. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 1.1.1 Commit to best practice in community engagement. |

| **GOAL 3: Connected Communities** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 3.3 Our natural and built environment aids the community with an active and healthy lifestyle. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 3.3.1 Provide high quality shared and multi-use community hubs that combine a range of recreational, sporting and educational uses. |

| **GOAL 4: Community Recreation and Wellbeing** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 4.2 Our community values, encourages and supports physical, social and cultural activities. |
| **Our Priorities** |

| |
|---|
| 4.4.2 Provide and maintain quality and safe places and spaces for physical, social and cultural activities, including shared and multi-use facilities where possible. |

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

| Community Future Direction Theme | Key Challenges & Opportunities: |
|---|---|
| **Business & Industry** | **Specialised diversity of the economy** – Value adding, diversification, innovation and employment. A resilient economy with global brand recognition and growing exports. |
| **Tourism** | **Memorable visitor experiences all year round** – The must see destination, quality product, easy access, popular events and festivals with coordinated marketing. A longer season with increasing yields. |
| **Strong communities and social capital** | **Enduring community capital** – Growing, proud, self-reliant communities that are inclusive and engaged with volunteers and shared facilities. |
| **Health and Wellbeing** | **Maintaining good health and wellbeing** – Healthy communities, people taking responsibility for their wellness, convenient access to medical services and facilities. |
| **Place making and liveability** | **Liveable places for all ages** – Liveable attractive townships, relaxed lifestyles and community pride attract people to Murchison. Communities have history and character that drive their place-making strategies. Sport and recreation is widely supported especially by young people. Multi-purpose recreational and cultural facilities are well utilised. |

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Council allocated $10,000 to support the 10th anniversary of the Gone Nuts event, following a request from the event organiser.

These funds were utilised to deliver the activation of The Watershed, including costs associated with event infrastructure and services such as licensing, security, live entertainment, lighting, cleaning, photography, and road closure advertising.

This investment contributed to the successful delivery of the activation, supporting increased visitation, extended dwell time, and positive economic outcomes for local businesses and the broader region.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- Legislative compliance

  The event was delivered in accordance with relevant legislation and Council policies, including liquor licensing, event approvals, and safety requirements.

- Reputational Risk

  There is a potential reputational risk to Council if events are not delivered to a high standard or if issues arise. This was mitigated through planning and coordination with

Gone Nuts event organisers, and positive community engagement. The event was well received.

- Financial Sustainability

  Council allocated a contribution to support the 10th anniversary event. Any future support will need to be considered in line with available budgets and priorities.

- Community and Organisational Safety

  Potential risks included crowd management, public safety, and event infrastructure. These were mitigated through appropriate planning, engagement of security, and adherence to safety requirements. No incidents were reported.

- Other

  A Dial Before You Dig (DBYD) assessment was undertaken at the lawn area where the event was held.

**CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Council worked in collaboration with the event organiser to plan and deliver the activation. Internal consultation occurred across relevant Council teams including the Depot for co-ordinating road closures and delivery of items to the site, and Communications to support event communication to the public.

**CONCLUSION**

Supporting the Gone Nuts event delivers strong benefits to the Waratah-Wynyard community, including increased visitation and local economic activity, activation of public spaces, and valuable opportunities to showcase local businesses and tourism offerings. The event also contributes positively to community engagement and promotes healthy, active lifestyles.

Events of this scale generate direct economic impact through accommodation, dining, transport, and retail spending, while also extending length of stay as participants and their support crews arrive early or remain post-event to explore the region. Trail running events attract a high-value, experience-driven demographic, aligning with Tasmania's strategic focus on attracting visitors who disperse into regional areas and engage with local communities. The interstate and international visitation generated by the event also contributes to increased exposure of Tasmania's North West as a destination for nature-based and adventure tourism.

While there are identifiable risks, including financial sustainability and site-specific operational considerations, these can be effectively managed through appropriate planning, stakeholder collaboration, and mitigation strategies. The recent DBYD assessment highlights the need for further investigation into ground penetration requirements at the event site to ensure ongoing safety and compliance.

Support for the 2027 event is recommended through a scaled activation focused on race day only, aligning with available budget and operational considerations. This approach will enable Council to continue supporting the event while delivering a targeted, community-focused activation that maintains key benefits for the region.

## 9.6 ADOPTION OF THE RURAL ROAD SAFETY AUDIT

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Manager Engineering Services |
| Responsible Manager: | Director Infrastructure and Development Services |
| Report Date: | 11 March 2026 |
| File Reference: | . |
| Enclosures: | 1. Rural Road Network - Road Safety Audit |

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

1. **Notes the Rural Road Network – Road Safety Audit, November 2025 prepared by HDS Australia; and**
2. **Adopts the recommendations of the Rural Road Network – Road Safety Audit, November 2025 for future project planning and deliberation via the Transport Asset Management Plan and Strategic Asset Management Plan.**
3. **Notes the assessment in section 2.7 of the difficulty in providing a pedestrian crossing point to facilitate access to the Coastal pathway at a location on the Bass Highway between Mackenzie Drive and Lyons Street, Somerset**

### PURPOSE

To present to Council the Rural Road Safety Audit prepared by HDS Australia.

### BACKGROUND

In July 2019 Council tendered for a specialist road safety firm to undertake a rural road safety of Council's entire rural road network owing to reports received from the Department of State Growth indicating a high occurrence of traffic accidents in the rural road network.

Through this tender process HDS Australia was awarded the contract to undertake this project.

HDS Australia delivered the report detailing the outcomes of their assessment and recommendations in December 2019.

Since then, Council has employed a rolling annual program to address the road safety risks identified within the report, prioritising those risks identified in the 'High' hazard band.

To ensure commitment to road safety and to keep up to date with relevant Australian Standards and road safety initiatives, Council re-engaged the services of HDS Australia to undertake a second audit in 2025.

### DETAILS

The Rural Road Safety Audit (RSA) identified 362 potential hazards within Council's rural road network.

These potential hazards have been classified in terms of risk and road hierarchy and recommended remedial actions have been proposed for each hazard.

The remedial actions proposed range from relatively simple treatments such as additional guide post installation and line marking through to significant road or intersection realignment works.

It is proposed that the recommendations are included in the Transport Asset Management Plan and Strategic Asset Management Plan for consideration in future budgets.

Whilst the number of audit findings has increased from the original 2019 RSA, it must be noted that there has been significant development and change in the road safety industry over the past few years and standards and guidelines have changed significantly as a result.

Whilst some of the findings in the RSA appear to represent a significant risk of Fatal or Serious Injury (FSI), further investigation and the application of local area knowledge may reduce the severity rating of these hazards.

Clause 1.2 of the RSA provides some commentary regarding the responsibility of accepting the findings of the RSA, per below.

**1.2 Responding to the Audit**

As set out in the Austroads guide, responsibility for any works rests with the Council. The Council is under no obligation to accept the recommendations of the road safety audit. Also, it is not the role of the auditor to agree to or approve of the Council's response to this road safety audit.

The road safety audit provides the opportunity to highlight potential problems and have them formally considered by Council, in conjunction with all other considerations.

A summary of the findings of the Rural Road Safety Audit is included in the tables below.

| Summary of findings | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Hazards Identified** | | |
| **Risk Level** | **2019 Audit Total** | **2025 Audit Total** |
| **Extreme (FSI)** | **N/A** | **4** |
| **High (FSI)** | **N/A** | **47** |
| **High** | **27** | **3** |
| **Medium (FSI)** | **N/A** | **48** |
| **Medium** | **71** | **77** |
| **Low** | **233** | **146** |
| **Negligible** | **N/A** | **7** |
| **No works** | **30** | **30** |
| | | |
| **Total** | **361** | **362** |

| Hazards Identified by Road Hierarchy | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Risk Level** | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Road Hierarchy** | **Extreme (FSI)** | | **High (FSI)** | | **High** | | **Medium (FSI)** | | **Medium** | | **Low** | | **Negligible** | | **No works** | | **Total** | |
| | **2019** | **2025** | **2019** | **2025** | **2019** | **2025** | **2019** | **2025** | **2019** | **2025** | **2019** | **2025** | **2019** | **2025** | **2019** | **2025** | **2019** | **2025** |
| **1. State Highway** | | | | 1 | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| **5. State Highway** | | 3 | | 6 | 2 | | | 5 | 6 | 7 | 38 | 26 | | | 1 | | 47 | 47 |
| **7. Collector** | | | | 6 | 5 | | | | 6 | 2 | 5 | 8 | | | | | 16 | 15 |
| **8. Feeder** | | 1 | | 11 | 6 | 3 | | 8 | 13 | 5 | 31 | 23 | | | 1 | | 51 | 51 |
| **9. Local Access** | | | | 13 | 9 | | | 10 | 26 | 26 | 36 | 20 | | 2 | 3 | 3 | 74 | 74 |
| **10. Minor** | | | | 10 | 5 | | | 25 | 19 | 37 | 122 | 69 | | 5 | 26 | 26 | 172 | 172 |

## STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

There are no statutory implications as a result of this report.

## STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

| **GOAL** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| Our transport and access network is sustainable, affordable and fit for purpose. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 6.2 Plan for all movements and modes of transport with a fit-for-purpose network. |

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

| **Community Future Direction Theme** | **Key Challenges & Opportunities:** |
|---|---|
| **Access and infrastructure** | **Local, regional and global transport and infrastructure access** – Safe and efficient access alternatives, growing freight capacity, renewable energy, water management and contemporary communications. Community infrastructure that supports economic development. |

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial implications associated with design and delivery of the project packages identified in the RSA report will be managed through budgetary processes and reflected in the FMS.

## RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

## CONSULTATION PROCESS

There are no consultation requirements as a result of this report.

## CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council notes the Rural Road Network - Road Safety Audit, November 2025 prepared by HDS Australia and adopts the recommendations contained within this report for future project planning and deliberation via the Transport Asset Management Plan and Strategic Asset Management plan.

## 9.7 OLD BASS HIGHWAY - SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Manager Engineering Services |
| Responsible Manager: | Director Infrastructure and Development Services |
| Report Date: | 12 March 2026 |
| File Reference: | Transport |
| Enclosures: | 1. Letter from Tranport Minister |

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

1. **Notes the Direction letter received from the Transport Commissioner; and**
2. **Proceeds with works to reduce the speed limit along the Old Bass Highway, between Dart Street and the Bass Highway at Doctors Rocks from 70 to 60 km/h as approved by the Transport Commissioner.**

### PURPOSE

To note the Direction letter received from the Transport Commissioner regarding the speed limit reduction on the Old Bass Highway, Wynyard and to proceed with works to implement the speed limit change.

### BACKGROUND

At the ordinary meeting of Council December 2024, Cr Johnstone put forward a motion to investigate a potential speed reduction on the Old Bass Highway, between Dart Street and the Bass Highway at Doctors Rock, Wynyard. At that meeting the following recommendation to Council was provided and carried unanimously: -

**That Council undertake an assessment of the Old Bass Highway for a future report to Council for the consideration of speed limit reduction.**

At the ordinary meeting of Council August 2025, an assessment of Old Bass Highway, between Dart Street and the Bass Highway at Doctors Rocks, was provided to Council and a motion was put and carried such that:

**That council provides recommendation to the Transport Commissioner and seeks to have the speed limit of old Bass Highway reduced to 60km/h throughout its entire length.**

### DETAILS

Following the Council resolution at the August 2025 meeting a request was made to the Transport Commissioner for review of the Old Bass Highway Speed Limit between Dart Street and the Bass Highway at Doctors Rocks.

On 12 March 2026 correspondence was received from the Transport Commissioner, approving Council's request for the speed limit reduction as requested.

### STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

There are no statutory implications as a result of this report.

## STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

| GOAL 6: Transport and Access |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 6.2 Our transport and access network is sustainable, affordable and fit for purpose. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 6.2.2 Plan for all movements and modes of transport with a fit-for-purpose network. |

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

| Community Future Direction Theme | Key Challenges & Opportunities: |
|---|---|
| **Access and infrastructure** | **Local, regional and global transport and infrastructure access** – Safe and efficient access alternatives, growing freight capacity, renewable energy, water management and contemporary communications. Community infrastructure that supports economic development. |

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no significant environmental implications as a result of this report, although the reduced speed limit may lessen the likelihood of wildlife roadkill.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There will be financial implications to install the speed reduction treatment on Old Bass Highway. This implication includes the purchase and installation of signage to advise and enforce the new speed limit, which is expected to cost approximately $2000.

## RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

## CONSULTATION PROCESS

There are no consultation requirements as a result of this report.

## CONCLUSION

**1.** It is recommended that Council notes the direction letter received from the Transport Commissioner and proceeds with works to reduce the speed limit of Old Bass Highway to 60km/h

## 9.8 STORMWATER SYSTEM MANAGEMENT PLAN - BIG CREEK FLOOD MITIGATION UPDATE

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Project Engineer - Environment |
| Responsible Manager: | Chief Executive Officer |
| Report Date: | 19 March 2026 |
| File Reference: | Project |
| Enclosures: | 1. Stormwater System Management Plan<br>2. Big Creek Flood Mitigation - Confidential attachment- Under Separate Cover - Confidential |

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council:**

1. **adopts the updated attached version of Council's Stormwater System Management Plan**
2. **progresses as its preferred Big Creek Flood Mitigation option, a voluntary negotiated purchase of eight (8) flood impacted properties in Stanwyn Court, subject to securing appropriate external grant funding and relevant permits.**

### PURPOSE

To determine Council's position in relation to Big Creek Flood Mitigation options including an updated version of the Stormwater System Management Plan (SWSMP).

### BACKGROUND

In June 2016 a major flood of Big Creek inundated floor levels of several homes at Stanwyn Court, Wynyard.

Following the flood event, which also extended over the outdoor grounds of nearby upstream and downstream properties, Council embarked on an investigation and study of the flood event with the objective of mitigating flood impact.

Section 4 of The Urban Drainage Act 2013 and Part 1 of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 require Council to provide a safe, environmentally responsible, efficient and sustainable stormwater service to minimise the risk of urban flooding due to stormwater flows.

The obligations of Council to comply with the above Acts are attained through the development, maintenance and updating of a Stormwater System Management Plan.

An updated version of the SWSMP which includes property purchase as a flood mitigation option is attached. Council must adopt the updated plan to enable the recommendations.

### DETAILS

Following a major flood event of 5 and 6 June 2016 in which flood waters of Big Creek inundated floor levels of eight (8) homes in Stanwyn Court, Council commissioned a *Flood Analysis Report, November 2017* to understand the significance of the flood and to inform design of potential mitigation measures.

The report modelled and concluded that the 2016 flood was of similar magnitude to a 1% Average Exceedance Probability (AEP) ie, the technical or scientific probability of a similar event occurring once in 100 years.

Recent major floods have occurred across north west Tasmania in 2008, 2011, 2016 and 2022. Thus, the recurrence frequency of such floods is much less than once in 100 years.

Since the 2016 event a suite of investigations, design, reporting and property owner consultation has followed to understand and validate flood risk, to consider flood mitigation options, to seek property owner input and to take legal advice.

The steps Council has taken are summarised in the following chronology :

*November 2017 - Stanwyn Court Flood Study*

- The report modelled the flood to determine flood risk and inform design of mitigation options.
- It verified the flood equated to a 1% Average Exceedance Probability (AEP) and included survey levels of flood water levels at the Stanwyn Court properties.

*January 2018 - Flood Mitigation Options Assessment Report*

- the report identified two mitigation options; Option 1, a levee bank placed along Big Creek within Stanwyn Court and Option 2, detaining/storing flood water upstream of Bass Highway.

*February 2018 - Stanwyn Court Flood Mitigation Options Assessment*

- a draft preliminary report identified three potential options being, a Council purchase of affected properties, construction of a flood levee wall, or construction of a storage flood detention dam
- Council determined to progress investigation and design of a storage detention dam on a site off Brownriggs Road and advised Stanwyn Court and Belton Street residents of that decision in June 2021

*2021 to 2023 - Investigation and Design of Storage Detention Dam*

- Council awarded an investigation, design and permit process consultancy in September 2021. The design progressed through into late 2022 when the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Tasmania sought more information and a spillway design to comply with the Australian National Committee on Large Dams (ANCOLD) guidelines for dam of High B consequence category (a risk regime that examines the consequences of a dam failure).
- Information provided to Officers in March 2023 identified a very high spillway design flood threshold, complexity and uncertain cost risk vs earlier work.
- It was determined to halt the design process to review the design, cost and risk perspectives for Council.

*September 2023 - Big Creek Flood Mitigation – Design and Options Review*

- Officers conducted a thorough review of the Storage Detention Dam option and concluded it was a high risk and uncertain option with a cost escalation estimate of $6M or more (including contingency, professional fees and land acquisition estimates) and that Council should explore the Levee Bank/Wall option.

*Nov 2023 to Oct 2024 - Property Owner Engagement, Options Exploration*

- Officers wrote to Stanwyn Court property owners in November 2023 to advise of the detention dam review and proposed a Flood Wall (levee) option with concept sketches seeking to meet property owners to explore their views.

- Early feedback from property owners involved a request to explore creek channel modification as an alternative which proved not feasible. The flood wall concept was further developed to include technical, cost, sustainability and performance risk.

- Officers conducted one on one meetings with property owners. The flood wall was not favoured by any of the owners as they cited significant amenity and visual impact. Another valid concern was the potential for existing scour of the creek banks that occurs in flood to intensify with the introduction of a flood wall (levee).

- Some property owners asked if Council would consider property purchase as a mitigation option and thus owners were asked to nominate the mitigation options in order of preference. Six of eight property owners nominated property purchase as their most preferred option.

- Officers sought legal advice regarding a property purchase option.

*June to August 2025 - Multi-Criteria Assessment of Options*

- Property owners were advised a Multi-Criteria Assessment (MCA) of the flood mitigation options including Option 3 - property purchase would be undertaken, discussed below.

**Flood Mitigation Options**

The three (3) flood mitigation options designed to protect Stanwyn Court properties are summarised below :

***Option 1 – Flood Storage Detention Dam***

Designed to detain flow until the peak of the flood recedes, passes a 5% AEP. An 11 m high dam wall located off Brownriggs Road with significant approvals complexity and an operational surface area of 40 hectares.

Estimated capital cost of $6M+ including land acquisition, with a high degree of cost uncertainty, requiring long term operational commitment and dam monitoring compliance responsibility.

***Option 2 – Flood Wall (levee)***

Designed to contain flood water within the creek channel so as to not spread into properties. A 2.0 m high concrete wall located on the property boundary. With foundation and operational performance risk, subject to scour and susceptible to damage.

Estimated capital cost of $4-5M+ with a high degree of approvals complexity and uncertainty and operational performance risk (including the concerns of intensified creek bank scour during flood).

***Option 3 – Voluntary Property Purchase***

Subject to Council securing federal funding to facilitate Option 3, the intent would be to purchase the eight (8) impacted properties located at 31, 29, 27, 23, 21, 19, 17 and 15 Stanwyn Court, Wynyard.

Legal advice confirms Council would need to conduct an independent property valuation process that recognises the market value of each individual property on its merits and accommodates any special or unique values of each property owner's circumstances, applied in a fair and equitable mechanism across the purchase process.

Following or associated with purchase agreements, Council would negotiate to run out any tenancy terms before embarking on a demolition and restoration process, that envisages revegetation of the riparian zone with indigenous species to improve resilience of the creek banks.

Estimated capital and rehabilitation costs are expected to be similar to Options 1 and 2 yet provide certainty of flood protection and will require minimal maintenance following an approximate 5 to 6 year vegetation establishment period.

Planning and building permits from Council and State Property Services (Crown Land) approvals will be required for building demolition and riparian rehabilitation.

**Multi Criteria Assessment (MCA)**

MCA is a decision-making tool to evaluate multiple and competing objectives and criteria. Six (6) assessment criteria have been applied to assess and score the flood mitigation options as follows:

*Flood Mitigation Capacity* - how effectively the solution reduces the severity of flooding, protection of assets/infrastructure

*Technical Feasibility* - how readily the solution can be implemented, design considerations, construction constraint, alignment with local conditions

*Social Impact* - impact on property owners, their solution preference, safety, quality of life, amenity and community impact and benefit

*Environmental Impact* - effects on ecosystem, water quality and biodiversity (erosion, siltation and stability)

*Cost* - construction/acquisition, capital and operational costs (incl monitoring, maintenance, compliance)

*Long Term Performance* - risk factors including erosion/stability, climate change, service life

The MCA Scoring system in Table 1 has a score range from 1 to 10, where 1 is least favourable, and 10 is most favourable.

| TABLE 1 - CRITERIA SCORING | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Assessment Criteria** | **1 2 3** | **4 5 6** | **7 8 9 10** |
| ***Flood Mitigation Capacity*** | Minimal reduction in flood severity and protection of assets | Moderate reduction in flood severity and protection of assets | Effective flood mitigation and asset protection |
| ***Technical Feasibility*** | High risk solution with complex design considerations, construction constraint and approvals barriers | Moderate risk, less complex design and feasible construction and approvals outcomes expected | Relatively low risk with a high level of certainty in a design and construction solution |
| ***Social / Property Owner Impact*** | Detrimental to property owners based on Option preference and probable broader impacts for community | Minimal impact on property owners based on Option preference, some amenity and community impact | Limited affect on property owners based on Option preference and no amenity impact, enhancement probable |
| ***Environmental Impact*** | Detrimental environmental impact, high risk of erosion and solution integrity | Limited impact some erosion and habitat disturbance likely to be relatively short term | Minor environmental disturbance, and potential improvement over time |
| ***Cost*** | Uncertain and high risk vs other options, with expected high captial and ongoing monitoring, maintenance and compliance cost | Moderate cost vs other options with a more certain outcome, some ongoing maintenance cost | Minimal cost vs other options with high degree of certainty and lower risk, some ongoing cost likely |
| ***Long Term Performance*** | high risk vs other options in terms of structural stability, climate change, service life risk | lower risk vs other options, moderate risk factors | Very low risk and high level of confidence, some improvement likely over time |

The scores are shown in the following table and discussed below :

| | **Assessment Criteria** | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | ***Flood Mitigation Capacity*** | ***Technical Feasibility*** | ***Social / Property Owner Impact*** | ***Environmental Impact*** | ***Cost*** | ***Long Term Performance*** | **Un - Weighted Total** |
| **Weightings** | | | | | | | |
| **OPTION 1 DETENTION DAM** | | | | | | | |
| To provide flood protection for Stanwyn Court properties, 11.0 m high dam wall, cover 40 Ha surface, land purchase, highly complex and uncertain approvals process, long term monitoring and compliance requirements - all up captial cost could be as high as $6M | 10 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 6 | **32** |
| **OPTION 2 FLOOD WALL** | | | | | | | |
| Flood wall on property boundaries, 2.0 m high for 1 : 200 year flood protection, complex design and approvals (considered a dam) high risk of foundation stability, erosion scour and damage during a flood, not costed but could be $4M to $5M based on concept sketch | 7 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | **18** |
| **OPTION 3 PROPERTY ACQUISITION** | | | | | | | |
| Aquire the 8 properties subject to flood inundation, and over time demolish, rehabilitate to a native bush environment. Removes property flood risk and Council liability (Urban Drainage Act). 6 of 8 have 1st preference for acquisition. | 9 | 8 | 10 | 9 | 5 | 10 | **51** |

### *Option 3 – Property Purchase*

Scores highest at 51, provides effective flood protection, technically feasible, low risk and is 6 of the 8 property owners' first preference, high level of expenditure certainty based on independent valuation and negotiated purchase agreement. Expected to be similar cost to Options 1 and 2.

### *Option 1 – Detention Dam*

Scores in the middle at 32, provides most effective flood protection, broader than Stanwyn Court, high approvals risk, forest removal over 40 hectares, high capital cost with long term operational and compliance cost and responsibility.

***Option 2 – Flood Wall (levee)***

Scores lowest at 18, provides localised (8) Stanwyn Court properties flood protection, high and complex design risk, with detrimental visual and environmental impact with operational performance risk, subject to scour and susceptible to damage.

**MCA Outcome and Consultation Actions**

The MCA was reviewed by Councillors at a workshop on 25 August 2025. It was agreed to share the MCA with property owners and take further legal advice on the evaluation, options feasibility and process timeframe.

During February 2026 officers held one on one meetings with each property owner in which the detail and outcome of the MCA and legal advice to Council regarding a valid and fair approach to a potential purchase mechanism was shared. Property owners were asked to confirm their preferred mitigation option and any unique or special circumstances were discussed.

During March to April 2026, property owners were advised that a Council report containing a recommendation to Council to adopt a voluntary negotiated property purchase as the Big Creek Flood Mitigation option would go to this meeting in the Open Agenda.

A voluntary negotiated property purchase would be subject to Council securing appropriate federal funding and the timeframe to gain funding and implement a purchase process could reasonably be estimated to be a two-to-three-year period. It was also noted that any of the three options would rely upon gaining external funding with the same timeframe for implementation.

**Confidential Report attachment**

A Big Creek Flood Mitigation Confidential attachment includes relevant unique individual and private property owner information conveyed to officers associated with their personal circumstance and consideration of the purchase option.

This information is relevant to Councillors for consideration so as to ensure a potential voluntary negotiated purchase process treats each property owner fairly.

**Stormwater System Management Plan**

For Council to consider property purchase it must adopt an updated version of the Stormwater System Management Plan to include property purchase as an option.

The SWSMP and its statutory implications for Council are discussed below.

**STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Statutory Requirements

Section 4 of The Urban Drainage Act 2013 and Part 1 of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 require Council to provide a safe, environmentally responsible, efficient and sustainable stormwater service to minimise the risk of urban flooding due to stormwater flows.

The obligations of Council to comply with the above Acts are attained through the development, maintenance and updating of a Stormwater System Management Plan.

An updated version of the SWSMP is *attached* for Council review and consideration. Council must adopt the updated plan to enable the recommendations.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

Strategic Plan Reference

| **GOAL 1: Leadership and Governance** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 1.1 We make publicly transparent decisions on spending and future directions while encouraging community feedback. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 1.5.2 Maintain accountability by ensuring council decisions are evidence based and meet all legislative obligations. |

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

| **Community Future Direction Theme** | **Key Challenges & Opportunities:** |
|---|---|
| **Access and infrastructure** | **Local, regional and global transport and infrastructure access** – Safe and efficient access alternatives, growing freight capacity, renewable energy, water management and contemporary communications. Community infrastructure that supports economic development. |
| **Natural resource management** | **Managing abundant, natural and productive resources** – Natural resource management is valued and development is environmentally sustainable. The environment is clean and healthy with unspoilt beauty and biodiversity. |
| **Place making and liveability** | **Liveable places for all ages** – Liveable attractive townships, relaxed lifestyles and community pride attract people to Murchison. Communities have history and character that drive their place-making strategies. Sport and recreation is widely supported especially by young people. Multi-purpose recreational and cultural facilities are well utilised. |

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

This report is consistent with Councils Urban Stormwater Policy Guidelines and Asset Management Policy.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Both Option 1, Detention Dam and Option 2, Flood Wall would result in significant environment disturbance during construction and may have long term environmental impact.

The recommended Option 3 – Property Purchase may result in low level temporary environmental disturbance during demolition; however, the option provides significant opportunity for riparian restoration and enhancement of the local environment.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Adoption of the recommendation is subject to Council being able to secure appropriate grant funding via Federal or State Government streams such as the *National Flood Mitigation Infrastructure Fund*, the *Disaster Ready Fund* or similar flood mitigation funding.

It is envisaged that eight (8) properties within Stanwyn Court would need to be purchased through a voluntary negotiated process that reflects each individual property on its merits at market value.

Such purchase arrangements may result in an overall funding commitment approaching $5-6M.

Purchase of properties would need to progress as a voluntary negotiated outcome with each property owner based on a Valuation Report by an independent valuer accounting for each individual property on merit and accommodating any unique or special values further discussed below under legislative compliance.

It should be noted that Options 1 and 2 have similar up-front costs but include significant ongoing operational, maintenance and compliance costs that would become a burden for Council for the foreseeable future to provide flood protection. In the long term, the ongoing life cycle costs of Options 1 and 2 would accumulate and likely exceed the upfront cost. Option 3, however, has minimal ongoing costs once implemented.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

The principal risks associated with this recommendation to Council area:

- Legislative compliance

  Council has taken legal advice on several occasions over the past two years to provide input to the options analyses and to support information provided to property owners.

  The key elements of that advice is :

  Option 3 is a valid option for Council in meeting its obligations under the *Urban Drainage Act 2013* to minimise the risk of urban flooding due to stormwater flows.

  However, the Council is unable to enact powers under the *Land Acquisition Act 1993* and the associated *Section 176 of the Local Government Act 1993* to acquire the land so as to remove it from the risk of being inundated.

  It would have power under the above-mentioned acts if the purpose was for *"undertaking work for the prevention, control or mitigation of a flood the land to remove it"*

  Council does have authority however, under Section 175 of the Local Government Act to purchase properties to remove, control or mitigate flood risk.

  Legal advice concludes that Council should apply the same principles as would apply if properties were purchased under the Land Acquisition Act, and that is to, negotiate in good faith around market value on merit and accommodating any unique or special values the property owner may bring to Council.

  Any such process would need to apply fairness and objectivity so as to not unduly advantage or disadvantage any property owner.

- Reputational Risk

  Private property purchase by a Council to remove, control or mitigate flood risk has not occurred often in Tasmania. Council will need to ensure the abovementioned principles and approach are followed in such a way to ensure transparency for the community and ratepayers without breaching individual property owner privacy.

The associated Confidential Report attachment to the April Meeting discusses individual property owner circumstances and matters for Council to consider prior to resolving or otherwise a resolution on this report.

- Financial Sustainability

  The proposal to implement any of the options identified, (with the recommendation being for Option 3 – Property Purchase) cannot progress without Federal and/or State Government financial support. To do so without support will compromise Council's Financial Management Strategy and its ability to deliver capital works programs.

- Environmental Impact

  As discussed above in the multi-criteria Assessment, property purchase scores highest as it has the least environmental impact and offers significant opportunity for environmental enhancement of Big Creek riparian in the Stanwyn Court reach.

- Timeframe

  The process to identify and secure Federal and/or State funding to support the recommendation could be extended. Officers have advised property owners that a 2-to-3-year period from April 2026 should be anticipated before purchases may be able to take place.

  This timeframe provides property owners who are landlords with adequate forward planning horizons for tenants and run-out of tenancy terms and agreements. Along with owner-occupiers, Council will condition terms to ensure fairness for landlords and tenants alike.

  Legal advice supports the above detailed approach and associated timeline in terms of Council's obligations to provide a safe, environmentally responsible, efficient and sustainable stormwater services to minimise the risk of flooding.

**CONSULTATION PROCESS**

The Big Creek Flood Mitigation project has included significant and extensive engagement firstly with expert consulting engineers to investigate and understand the flooding, secondly with all Stanwyn Court property owners affected by flood waters and thirdly with the eight (8) individual owners of the properties proposed for purchase.

The investigation, reporting and consultation process has been running since November 2017, not long after the June 2016 flood event, and comprises no less than six (6) specialist consulting hydrology, hydraulic and civil engineering reports to Council.

During 2023 to April 2026 in particular, officers have conducted many face-to-face and on-line meetings with the eight property owners under consideration, as outlined in the Details section of this report.

Further, officers have retained legal advice over that period and before to test potential remedies to flood risk before engaging with property owners and Councillors, to provide confidence in advice provided.

**CONCLUSION**

The recommendation to adopt the updated *attached* version of Council's Stormwater System Management Plan so as to progress Big Creek Flood Mitigation via a voluntary

negotiated purchase of eight (8) flood affected properties located at 31, 29, 27, 23, 21, 19, 17 and 15 Stanwyn Court, Wynyard, subject to Council securing appropriate grant funding and relevant permits is a significant step forward to finalise a flood mitigation outcome for the area.

A Council resolution will ensure there is a pathway for officers to progress valuations, investigate funding streams and steps to purchase.

Those steps would be followed by adequate timeframes for both owners and tenants, prior to demolition and land rehabilitation.

The advice to proceed is supported by several years of investigation, reporting, legal advice and consultation.

## 9.9 WARATAH WYNYARD YOUTH LEADERS GUIDELINES

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Manager Community Activation |
| Responsible Manager: | Director Community Services |
| Report Date: | 25 March 2026 |
| File Reference: | 001 |
| Enclosures: | 1. Youth Leaders Guidelines<br>2. Youth Leaders Application Form |

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council approves the amendment of the Waratah-Wynyard Youth Leaders (WWYL) program eligibility criteria, reducing the age range from 14–24 years to 13–20 years, and endorses the update of all program documents accordingly.**

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval to amend the age eligibility criteria for the Waratah-Wynyard Youth Leaders (WWYL) program from 14–24 years to 13–20 years, and to update associated program documentation accordingly.

### BACKGROUND

The Waratah-Wynyard Youth Leaders (WWYL) program provides an opportunity for young people to actively contribute to their community, develop leadership skills, and engage with Council on matters affecting youth. The program is currently open to residents aged between 14 and 24 years.

In recent years, it has been observed that participation and ongoing engagement from individuals in the upper end of this age range has declined. Young adults in their early twenties are often transitioning into tertiary education, full-time employment, or relocating outside the municipality, which can limit their availability and capacity for sustained involvement.

Conversely, younger adolescents tend to have stronger connections to school and local community networks, as well as greater capacity to commit to regular meetings and activities. Introducing participants at an earlier age also provides an opportunity to support longer-term skill development and foster stronger group cohesion over time.

The current age range is also reflected in program materials, including the Youth Leaders Application Form, and would require updating should any changes be adopted.

### DETAILS

A review of the Waratah-Wynyard Youth Leaders (WWYL) program has identified an opportunity to better align the program's age range with the cohort most likely to actively participate and benefit.

The current age range of 14–24 captures a broad and diverse group of young people with varying life stages, commitments, and availability. Feedback and observations indicate that participants in the upper age bracket often face competing priorities such as tertiary study,

employment, and relocation, which can limit consistent engagement and long-term participation in the program.

Adjusting the age range to 13–20 is intended to better target young people who are more likely to be engaged in school and local community life, and therefore able to participate more consistently in meetings, activities, and initiatives. This change also enables earlier engagement, providing a longer developmental pathway for participants to build leadership skills, confidence, and community connections over time.

A narrower age range is expected to support stronger group cohesion, as participants will be at more similar life stages, and may improve overall program retention and attendance. It will also assist in ensuring that program activities, discussions, and initiatives remain relevant and appropriately tailored to the target cohort.

Should the proposed change be adopted, updates will be required to the WWYL Guidelines, application materials, and any promotional content to reflect the revised eligibility criteria.

**STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

Statutory Requirements

There are no direct statutory implications associated with the proposed amendment to the Waratah-Wynyard Youth Leaders program age range.

The program operates as a discretionary Council initiative and is not governed by specific legislative requirements regarding participant age criteria. The proposed changes are administrative in nature and can be implemented within existing Council policies and frameworks.

The revised age range will require continued compliance with child safe standards and Council's child safe framework. Inclusion of younger participants (aged 13) reinforces the importance of maintaining appropriate supervision, risk management practices, and staff and volunteer awareness of child safety obligations. These requirements are already embedded within current program delivery and will continue to be upheld.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

Strategic Plan Reference

| **GOAL 3: Connected Communities** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 3.5 Our community uses its voice to shape its future alongside a strong Council willing to listen and implement where reasonable and practical. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 3.2.1 Deliver engagement strategies that adapt to community needs to ensure effective communication and collaboration. |

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

| **Community Future Direction Theme** | **Key Challenges & Opportunities:** |
|---|---|
| **Strong communities and social capital** | **Enduring community capital** – Growing, proud, self-reliant communities that are inclusive and engaged with volunteers and shared facilities. |

| Community Future Direction Theme | Key Challenges & Opportunities: |
|---|---|
| **Health and Wellbeing** | **Maintaining good health and wellbeing** – Healthy communities, people taking responsibility for their wellness, convenient access to medical services and facilities. |
| **Place making and liveability** | **Liveable places for all ages** – Liveable attractive townships, relaxed lifestyles and community pride attract people to Murchison. Communities have history and character that drive their place-making strategies. Sport and recreation is widely supported especially by young people. Multi-purpose recreational and cultural facilities are well utilised. |

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed amendment will require updates to the Waratah-Wynyard Youth Leaders (WWYL) guidelines, specifically the membership eligibility criteria relating to age. Associated documents, including application forms and promotional materials, will also need to be revised to ensure consistency.

The change aligns with Council's broader strategic objectives to support youth engagement, participation, and community wellbeing. It also remains consistent with Council's child safe framework, ensuring that appropriate safeguards, supervision, and practices are maintained for younger participants.

No additional new policies are required as a result of this amendment; however, existing documents will be updated to reflect the revised age range.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed amendment to the Waratah-Wynyard Youth Leaders (WWYL) program age range is not expected to have any significant financial impact.

Any minor costs associated with updating program documentation and promotional materials will be accommodated within existing operational budgets.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed amendment presents a low level of risk.

There is a potential risk that reducing the upper age limit may exclude some young people who could otherwise contribute valuable perspectives to the program. However, this is considered minimal and is offset by the expected benefits of improved engagement, attendance, and program cohesion within a more targeted age group.

The inclusion of younger participants (from 13 years) reinforces the need to maintain strong adherence to council's child safe framework, including appropriate supervision,

safeguarding practices, and staff and volunteer awareness. These requirements are already embedded in current program delivery and will continue to be applied.

**CONSULTATION PROCESS**

Internal consultation has been undertaken with relevant Council staff involved in the coordination and delivery of the Waratah-Wynyard Youth Leaders (WWYL) program.

Feedback has also been informed by observations of participant engagement and attendance trends within the program. These insights have highlighted the challenges associated with retaining older participants and the opportunity to better target younger age groups.

Further consultation with current and prospective participants will be supported through the implementation phase, including clear communication of any changes to eligibility criteria.

**CONCLUSION**

The proposed amendment to the Waratah-Wynyard Youth Leaders (WWYL) program age range from 14–24 to 13–20 years provides an opportunity to better align the program with the cohort most likely to actively participate and benefit.

The change is expected to improve engagement, attendance, and group cohesion, while supporting earlier and more sustained development of leadership skills among participants. The amendment is administrative in nature, presents minimal risk, and can be implemented within existing resources and frameworks.

It is therefore recommended that Council endorses the proposed changes and the associated updates to program documentation

## 9.10 SENIOR MANAGEMENT REPORT

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Executive Officer |
| Responsible Manager: | Chief Executive Officer |
| Report Date: | 18 March 2026 |
| File Reference: | 0304 |
| Enclosures: | Nil |

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council notes the Senior Management Report.**

### PURPOSE

To provide information on issues of significance or interest, together with statistical information and summaries of specific areas of operations.

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Listed below is a summary of activities undertaken by the Chief Executive Officer from 10 March 2026 to 17 April 2026.

**Corporate**

- Audit Panel
- Joint Executive Meeting with Circular Head Council
- NW GMs meeting

**Community**

- Meeting with community member x 2
- Waratah Community Board Meeting
- Meeting with Ann Urquhart MP
- Community Conversation, Waratah

**Industry/Infrastructure**

- CCA Housing Action & Worker Accommodation Roundtable
- RLUS Steering Group
- CC Waste Management Group

**Other**

- State Fire Commission
- LGAT General Meeting
- CCA Board Meeting

**BILL FRENCH MEMORIAL BURSARY SCHOLARSHIP**

This year's Bill French Memorial Bursary has been awarded to Ms Nikki Van Der Werff Nikki is studying a Bachelor of Engineering (Specialisation) with Honours. The $5000 bursary will be paid annually for 3 years.

**DRAFT ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE BILL 2026**

The draft Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Bill 2026 Bill seeks to replace the 1975 Act and provide for contemporary Aboriginal heritage protection and management. A high level submission was provided supporting the ongoing recognition of Tasmania's Aboriginal Cultural heritage and noting that the Bill may have implications for Council planning, infrastructure and public spaces.

To that end Council sought clarity on how the proposed framework will integrate with existing planning processes to ensure efficient and practical implementation, especially for regional councils, and emphasised the need for a proportionate approach to compliance for routine works.

**PROGRESS OF WARATAH-WYNYARD MOTION AT LGAT SEEKING REVIEW OF TASMANIA'S PUBLIC DISCLOSURES ACT 2002**

The motion seeks *"that LGAT advocates to the Tasmanian State Government in support of a review of Tasmania's Public Disclosures Act 2002 to strengthen the Act to ensure that the services provided to our communities are not impaired due to ineffective protections for prospective whistle-blowers*."

The latest update from LGAT is that an update has been requested from the Ombudsman's office on the previously commissioned review of the Act. Officers will continue to follow up with LGAT.

**COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS**

The following Community Conversations have been scheduled for 2026.

| DATE | TOWN | VENUE |
|---|---|---|
| **1 June** | Sisters Beach | Little Sisters General Store |
| **6 July** | Somerset | To be confirmed |
| **3 August** | Wynyard | To be confirmed |

Number of matters raised at Community Conversations.

| Date | Location | Total Matters Raised | Service Requests | Other Requests |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 February | Yolla | 31 | 8 | 23 |
| 11 March | Boat Harbour | 24 | 4 | 20 |
| 15 April | Waratah | 27 | 5 | 22 |

**ADMINISTRATION** – Use of Corporate Seal

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 18/3/26 | Planning Scheme Amendment | PSA 1/2025 319 Murchison Highway Somerset |
| 19/3/26 | Final Plan and Schedule of Easements | SD 2140/A 47 Bridge Street Sisters Beach (subdivision 21 lots Stage 1) |
| 19/3/26 | Final Plan and Schedule of Easements | SD 2140/A 47 Bridge Street Sisters Beach (subdivision 21 lots Stage 2) |
| 24/3/26 | Final Plan and Schedule of Easements | SD2180 Cemetery Road Waratah (subdivision 2 into 4 lots) |
| 30/3/26 | Final Plan and Schedule of Easements | SD2181 122 Deep Creek Rd (1 into 2 lots) & Part 5 Agreement for Bush Fire Management requirements Lot 1 |
| 30/3/26 | Final Plan and Schedule of Easements | SD2217 – 180 Deep Creek Rd (1 into 4 lots) |
| 13/4/26 | Grant Deed – Dept. State Growth | $248,956 – Waratah Caravan and Camp Ground infrastructure – Expansion of undercover kitchen and development of modern amenities block |
| 14/4/26 | Grant Deed – Dept. State Growth | Termination of $55,000 grant – Dump Point Facility Somerset |

**POLICY**

Council currently has 47 policies. Ten of those policies will need to be reviewed over the next six months; eight policies are outstanding as at the end of March 2026 with the Senior Leadership Team currently in the process of conducting reviews of all outstanding policies.

**POLICIES TO BE RESCINDED**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| NIL | | |

**WORKING GROUPS**

| | Elected Member Representatives | Responsible Officer(s) | Status |
|---|---|---|---|
| Somerset Sporting Precinct | Cr Johnstone<br>Deputy Mayor Edwards | • CEO<br>• Manager Community Activation<br>• Manager Recreation Planning and Environment<br>• Recreation Liaison Officer | Construction works for the Langley Park Upgrades has now commenced. |
| Wynyard Sports Precinct | Cr Johnstone<br>Cr Roberts | • Director Infrastructure and Development Services<br>• Strategic Projects Manager<br>• Manager Community Activation | A meeting has occurred with DECYP and WHS to discuss project progression. Awaiting advice from WHS on a number of matters related to use of the facility<br>Detailed design of the indoor training facility is at 99% completion. Construction remains dependant on external grant funding.<br>Officers are progressing the statutory referral process to TASCAT for determination.( Austin street road closure ). |
| Boat Harbour Masterplan | Cr Hyland<br>Cr Roberts | • Director Infrastructure and Development Services<br>• Executive Officer (CEO Office)<br>• Strategic Projects Manager | Building is at lockup stage. Café joinery is being installed. External cladding is being installed. Internal linings in surf club are being installed. Landscaping works have commenced with perimeter slabs being poured . Moore street / Port Road intersection works commenced. Carpark kerbs being installed on the west side of the new building. |
| Frederick Street Reserve Working Group | Cr Johnstone<br>Cr Roberts | • Director Community and Engagement<br>• Manager Community Activation | The Frederick Street Reserve Master Plan was adopted by Council at the September Meeting. Progress will be staged, subject to resource availability. |

PLANNING PERMITS APPROVED UNDER DELEGATION – March 2026

| DA No. | Applicants Name | Location | Development | Date Permit Issued | No of Days to Process | (D)Discretionary (P)Permitted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| DA 8/2026 | N+B Design | 1 Dune Close Wynyard | Multiple Dwellings (2 x Units) | 4.03.2026 | 36 | D |
| DA 159/2025 | K & R Whyte | 59 Dodgin Street Wynyard | Outbuilding (Shed) | 4.03.2026 | 36 | D |
| DA 28/2026 | M Zarb & C Guest | 7 Walker Street Wynyard | Change of Use (Visitor Accommodation) | 5.03.2026 | 7 | P |
| DA 9/2026 | Claude Neon Pty Ltd | 91A Bass Highway Somerset | Convert Existing Static Billboard to LED Illuminated Billboard | 11.03.2026 | 43 | D |
| DA 12/2026 | Andrew Smith Architects | 3/1 Moore Court Wynyard | Dwelling Extension (Roof Addition) | 16.03.2026 | 40 | D |
| DA 13/2026 | M & J Barrett | 21 Inglis Street Wynyard | Outbuilding (Shed) | 16.03.2026 | 39 | D |
| DA 54/2025 | PDA Surveyors Engineers & Planners | 14-18 Smith Street Waratah | New Amenities Building & BBQ Shelter & Demolition of Existing Facilities | 17.03.2026 | 42 | D |
| DA 23/2026 | Optimo Awnings Northern Pty Ltd | 2/6 Brickworks Entrance Wynyard | Dwelling Extension (Awning) | 20.03.2026 | 25 | P |
| DA 27/2026 | Waratah-Wynyard Council | 287 Port Road Boat Harbour Beach | Demolition of Redundant Storage Shed | 20.03.2026 | 23 | P |
| DA 11/2026 | N+B Design | 48 Graylyn Lane Wynyard | Dwelling, Outbuilding (Shed) & Water Tank | 20.03.2026 | 37 | D |
| DA 32/2026 | G Mulcaster & L Stones | 18 Stockdale Avenue Sisters Beach | Extension | 23.03.2026 | 17 | P |
| DA 25/2026 | Apogee Pty Ltd | 31 Meredith Crescent Savage River | Workers Accommodation (2 Additional Unit Blocks) | 25.03.2026 | 28 | P |
| DA 29/2026 | N Dobson | 664 Waratah Road Waratah | Outbuilding (Storage Shed) | 25.03.2026 | 23 | P |
| DA 33/2026 | RCC Design Pty Ptd | 3 Percy Street Wynyard | Demolition of two Redundant Buildings | 31.03.2026 | 17 | P |
| DA 175/2025 | Pod Matrix | 4 Brickworks Entrance Wynyard | Multiple Dwellings (x6) & Associated Outbuildings | 31.03.2026 | 42 | D |

BUILDING PERMITS APPROVED – March 2026

| Permit Number | Applicants Name | Location | Development | Date Permit Issued | No of Days to Process | Related Planning Approval |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PSC-W-2026-02-01 | D & W White | 12 McArthur Street Wynyard | As constructed Shed | 5/3/2026 | 6 | NPR |
| PSC-W-2026-06-01 | J Poke | 62A Old Bass Highway Wynyard | As Constructed Dwelling alterations/demolition | 6/3/2026 | 3 | NPR |
| PSC-W-2026-3-01 | D Kay, M Emmett | 1570 Murchison Highway Yolla | As Constructed Change of use Church to dwelling | 20/03/2026 | 2 | NPR |

**COUNCIL MEETING ACTIONS – OPEN COUNCIL**

| DATE | ITEM | TOPIC | ACTION/STATUS | OFFICER | STATUS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 16/12/24 | 8.1 | NOM - Cr Johnstone – Speed Limit Old Bass Highway | MOTION CARRIED: That Council undertake an assessment of the Old Bass Highway for a future report to Council for the consideration of speed limit reduction.<br>*Refer report this agenda* | MES | Closed |
| 16/12/24 | 9.2 | ROC – AGM Motion C Hutchison RTI Findings | MOTION CARRIED: Note that parts 1-3 of motion were for noting only.<br>Part 4 of motion: Once appraised of any requirements from the Local Government Priority Reform Program 2024-2026, develop any policies or practices as required by any changes to the *Local Government Act*, that seeks to promote good governance principles of openness, honesty, and transparency, to continually improve existing practices. | CEO | Pending |
| 16/3/26 | 6.1.1 | PETITIONS – School Buses on Murchison Highway | Council will contact the Transport Services division to explore the options of alternative bus stabling locations for the provision of school drop off and pick up at Yolla District School. | DIDS | Pending |
| 16/3/26 | 10.1.2 | MOB – SEAP | Endorsed recommendation: That Council endorse the State of the Environment advocacy statement and authorise the Mayor and CEO to advocate, where appropriate, to the Tasmanian Government for the matters outlined within the statement | MRP&E | Pending |
| 16/3/26 | 8.3.1 | CQWON Cr Courtney – Water Security | Cr Andrea Courtney asked that an Urgent Review of Water Security and Development Controls for High Intensity Data Centres be discussed at a Council Workshop and foreshadowed a motion for the next Council Meeting.<br>*Refer Motion this agenda.* | DIDS | Closed |
| 16/3/26 | 8.3.2 | CQWON Cr Courtney – Project Marinus | Cr Andrea Courtney asked that the subject of council passing a resolution of no confidence in the financial transparency and community impact of Project Marinus be discussed at a Council Workshop and foreshadowed a motion for the next Council Meeting.<br>*Refer Motion this agenda.* | CEO | Closed |
| 16/3/26 | 8.3.3 | CQWON Cr Courtney – Living Income Pilot Program | Cr Andrea Courtney asked that advocacy for council to be a pilot site for the Guaranteed Living Income Program be discussed at a Council Workshop and foreshadowed a motion for the next Council Meeting.<br>*Refer Motion this agenda.* | DCE | Closed |
| 16/3/26 | 8.3.4 | CQWON – Cr Edwards – Sisters Beach Working Group | Cr Celisa Edwards asked who was on the Sisters Beach Camping and Open Space working group and how was it progressing.<br>*Refer response this agenda* | DCE | Closed |
| 16/3/26 | 8.3.7 | CQWON Cr Courtney – Motion re Ambulance Transfers | Cr Andrea Courtney asked if there had been a response from the Minister to the question raised regarding ambulance transfers.<br>*Refer response this agenda* | CEO | Closed |

## STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

There are no statutory implications as a result of this report.

## STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

| **GOAL 1: Leadership and Governance** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 1.4 We cherish fairness, trust and honesty in our conduct and dealings with all. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 1.5.2 Maintain accountability by ensuring council decisions are evidence based and meet all legislative obligations. |

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

| **Community Future Direction Theme** | **Key Challenges & Opportunities:** |
|---|---|
| **Governance and working together** | **Working together for Murchison** – Everyone plays a part in achieving the objectives of the Sustainable Murchison Community Plan. There is cooperation, resource sharing and less duplication between Councils. Leadership is provided across all community sectors. |

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

## RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

## CONSULTATION PROCESS

There are no consultation requirements as a result of this report.

## CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council notes the Senior Management Report.

## 9.11 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Accountant |
| Responsible Manager: | Chief Executive Officer |
| Report Date: | 13 April 2026 |
| File Reference: | Financial Management - Reporting - Council |
| Enclosures: | 1. Program Monthly Progress Report |

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council notes the Financial Report for the period ended 31 March 2026**

### PURPOSE

To provide an overview, summarising the financial position of the organisation on a monthly basis.

### BACKGROUND

The financial reports presented incorporate:

- Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Cashflow Statement
- Investments
- Rate Summary
- Grant Summary
- Operating Performance by Department
- Capital Works Summary
- Project Progress Report (attached)

### DETAILS

Council's year to date financial performance is generally consistent with the budget estimates. A number of favourable and unfavourable variances have been identified. Overall Council is forecasting an unfavourable variance of $22,681. Council officers are actively working to improve the forecast to bring it back in line with the approved budget.

### STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

This special purpose financial report is prepared under *Australian Accounting Standards* and the *Local Government Act 1993*.

### STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

| **GOAL** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| We make publicly transparent decisions on spending and future directions while encouraging community feedback. |

| Our Priorities |
| --- |
| 1.8 Review and adjust service levels to provide value for money. |
| 2.2 Facilitate effective knowledge management practices. |

Council Strategy or Plan Reference

| Council Strategy or Plan | Date Adopted: |
| --- | --- |
| Financial Management Strategy 2026-2036 | Adopted February 2026 |

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no policy implications as a result of this report.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

There are no risk implications as a result of this report.

**CONSULTATION PROCESS**

There are no consultation requirements as a result of this report.

**CONCLUSION**

All details are included in the attached reports.

## Income Statement

The Income Statement shows the performance of Council's operations year to date.

### Income Statement as at 31 March 2026

| | YTD Actual | YTD Budget | % | | YTD Variance | Budget | Forecast | | Forecast Variance | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Recurrent Income** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rate Revenue | 15,787,472 | 15,706,556 | 1% | ✓ | 80,916 | 15,806,556 | 15,839,373 | ✓ | 32,817 | 1 |
| User Charges | 2,697,550 | 2,806,950 | -4% | ✗ | (109,400) | 3,727,923 | 3,830,347 | ✓ | 102,424 | 2 |
| Reimbursements/Contributions | 496,214 | 603,562 | -18% | ✗ | (107,348) | 965,274 | 974,928 | ✓ | 9,654 | |
| Grants and Subsidies | 1,707,049 | 3,494,417 | -51% | ✗ | (1,787,368) | 4,676,310 | 5,092,678 | ✓ | 416,368 | 3 |
| Interest | 269,562 | 447,939 | -40% | ✗ | (178,377) | 597,500 | 285,000 | ✗ | (312,500) | 4 |
| Distributions from Water Corporation | 463,650 | 463,650 | 0% | ✓ | - | 730,600 | 730,600 | ✓ | - | |
| **Total Recurrent Income** | **21,421,497** | **23,523,074** | **-9%** | ✗ | **(2,101,577)** | **26,504,163** | **26,752,926** | ✓ | **248,763** | |
| **Recurrent Expenditure** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Employee Costs | 7,964,383 | 7,974,392 | 0% | ! | 10,009 | 10,896,484 | 10,785,456 | ✓ | 111,028 | 5 |
| State Levies | 510,908 | 664,918 | 23% | ✓ | 154,010 | 863,378 | 858,878 | ✓ | 4,500 | |
| Remissions & Discounts | 392,611 | 383,769 | -2% | ✗ | (8,842) | 413,769 | 402,843 | ✓ | 10,926 | |
| Materials & Contracts | 5,653,553 | 5,287,592 | -7% | ✗ | (365,961) | 7,177,886 | 7,535,784 | ✗ | (357,898) | 6 |
| Depreciation | 4,727,826 | 4,727,826 | 0% | ✗ | - | 6,280,283 | 6,280,283 | ✓ | - | |
| (Gain)/Loss on Disposal | (9,609) | 20,664 | 147% | ✓ | 30,273 | 27,574 | 27,574 | ✓ | - | |
| Borrowing Costs | 19,282 | 18,776 | -3% | ✗ | (506) | 37,048 | 77,048 | ✗ | (40,000) | 7 |
| Other Expenses | 222,810 | 221,927 | 0% | ✗ | (883) | 332,818 | 332,818 | ✓ | - | |
| **Total Recurrent Expenditure** | **19,481,765** | **19,299,864** | **-1%** | ✗ | **(181,901)** | **26,029,240** | **26,300,684** | ✗ | **(271,444)** | |
| **Surplus/(Deficit)** | **1,939,732** | **4,223,210** | **-54%** | ✗ | **(2,283,478)** | **474,923** | **452,242** | ✗ | **(22,681)** | |
| **Capital Items** | | | | | | | | | | |
| Capital Grants/Contributions | 4,725,018 | 4,725,018 | 0% | ✓ | - | 8,230,989 | 8,685,373 | ✓ | 454,384 | |
| Derecognition of Assets | - | - | 0% | ✓ | - | - | - | ✓ | - | |
| Asset Recognition | - | - | 0% | ✓ | - | - | - | ✓ | - | |
| **Comprehensive Surplus/(Deficit)** | **6,664,750** | **8,948,228** | **-26%** | ✗ | **(2,283,478)** | **8,705,912** | **9,137,615** | ✓ | **431,703** | |

Council is forecast to have a unfavourable variance to the budget of $22,681 at 30 June 2026. Commentary on variances of $20,000 or higher are provided below:

### 1) Rate Revenue

Rate Revenue is expecting a favourable forecast variance of $32,817, due to higher than budgeted waste collection income.

### 2) User Charges

User charges are expecting a favourable variance to budget of $102,424 due to higher-than-expected income from development fees, plumbing permits and building fees.

### 3) Grants and Subsidies

Grant income is expected to be higher than budget due to the timing and indexation of Financial Assistance Grant funding received from the Federal Government through the State Grants Commission, as well as an expected increase in the Heavy Vehicle Tax resulting in additional revenue of $416,368.

**4) Interest Income**

Interest income is expected to record an unfavourable variance to budget of $312,500, primarily due to lower cash balances held throughout the financial year.

**5) Employees Costs**

Employee costs are expected to be lower than budget by $111,028. There are a number of variances both favourable and unfavourable which make up this amount, however the main reason for the variance is a number of vacancies in a number of roles across Council which have now been reflected in the forecast as operational savings.

**6) Materials & Contracts**

Materials and contracts are expected to be higher than budget due to increased legal expenses, licence fees, repairs and maintenance costs, and higher turf maintenance costs.

**7) Borrowing Costs**

The unfavourable variance in borrowing costs is due to interest on a $2.5 million loan drawdown in March.

**Balance Sheet**

Council continues to be in a financially strong position. Council is forecasting a current ratio of 0.90 as at 30 June 2026 compared to a current ratio of 1.09 as at 31 March 2026.

## Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2026

| | YTD Actual $ | Budget $ | Forecast $ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Current Assets** | | | |
| Cash & Cash Equivalents | 3,794,023 | 5,075,922 | 5,369,970 |
| Receivables | 2,301,517 | 976,854 | 976,854 |
| Inventories | 111,191 | 108,317 | 108,317 |
| Other Current Assets | 53,212 | 430,602 | 430,602 |
| **Total Current Assets** | **6,259,943** | **6,591,695** | **6,885,744** |
| **Non-Current Assets** | | | |
| Property, Plant and Equipment | 367,322,105 | 372,933,957 | 373,070,616 |
| Investment in Water | 48,787,164 | 48,787,164 | 48,787,164 |
| **Total Non-Current Assets** | **416,109,270** | **421,721,121** | **421,857,780** |
| **Total Assets** | **422,369,212** | **428,311,816** | **428,743,524** |
| **Current Liabilities** | | | |
| Payables | 3,521,347 | 5,328,178 | 5,328,178 |
| Interest-Bearing Liabilities | 190,537 | 333,497 | 333,497 |
| Provisions | 2,030,847 | 1,975,519 | 1,975,519 |
| **Total Current Liabilities** | **5,742,731** | **7,637,194** | **7,637,194** |
| **Non-Current Liabilities** | | | |
| Interest-Bearing Liabilities | 3,850,187 | 5,847,696 | 5,847,696 |
| Provisions | 257,851 | 268,322 | 268,322 |
| **Total Non-Current Liabilities** | **4,108,038** | **6,116,017** | **6,116,017** |
| **Total Liabilities** | **9,850,768** | **13,753,211** | **13,753,211** |
| **Net Assets** | **412,518,444** | **414,558,606** | **414,990,313** |
| **Equity** | | | |
| Current Year Result | 6,664,750 | 8,705,912 | 9,137,615 |
| Accumulated Surplus | 178,297,718 | 178,295,718 | 178,295,718 |
| Reserves | 227,555,976 | 227,556,976 | 227,556,976 |
| **Total Equity** | **412,518,444** | **414,558,606** | **414,990,313** |
| **Current Ratio** | **1.09** | **0.86** | **0.90** |

## Cashflow Statement

As of 31 March Council had $3.794m cash on hand. Based on budgeted income and expenditure, Council is forecast to have $5.370m of cash on hand as of 30 June 2026.

A key assumption of the budget is the completion of the capital works program as set by Council.

### Cashflow Statement as at 31 March 2026

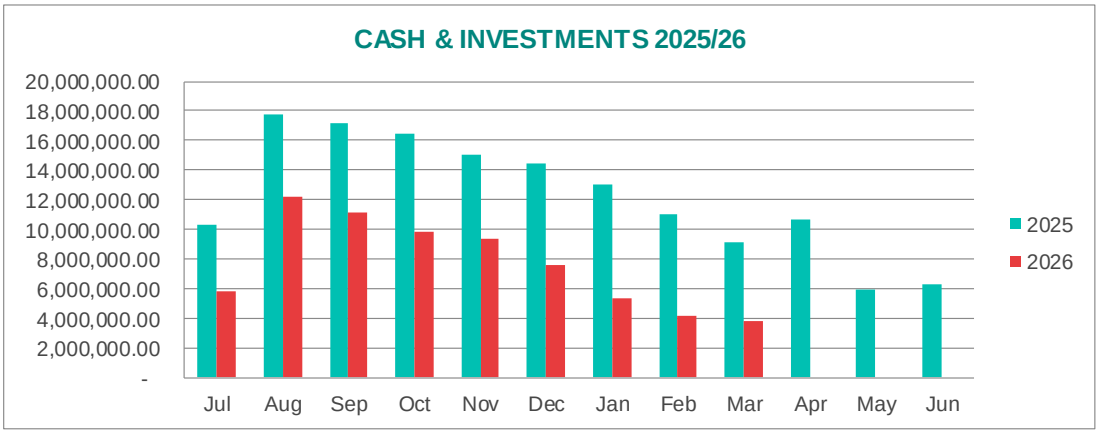
| | YTD Actual $ | Budget $ | % | Balance $ | Forecast $ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Cash flows from operating activities** | | | | | |
| Employee Costs | (7,830,359) | (10,806,564) | 72% | (2,976,205) | (10,695,534) |
| Materials and Contracts | (7,416,552) | (7,066,290) | 105% | 350,262 | (7,433,357) |
| State Levies | (510,908) | (863,378) | 59% | (352,470) | (858,878) |
| Other Expenses | (615,421) | (746,587) | 82% | (131,166) | (735,661) |
| Rates and Charges | 14,549,940 | 15,762,591 | 92% | 1,212,651 | 15,926,504 |
| User charges | 3,059,385 | 3,727,923 | 82% | 668,538 | 3,830,347 |
| Interest | 269,562 | 597,500 | 45% | 327,938 | 285,000 |
| Reimbursement of Expenses | 496,214 | 965,274 | 51% | 469,060 | 974,928 |
| Government Grants | 1,707,049 | 4,807,406 | 36% | 3,100,357 | 5,092,678 |
| **Net Cash provided by (used in) operating activities** | **3,708,910** | **6,377,875** | **58%** | **2,668,965** | **6,386,027** |
| **Cash flows from investing activities** | | | | | |
| Payments for Property, Plant and Equipment | (13,688,415) | (22,564,595) | 61% | (8,876,180) | (21,601,247) |
| Investment revenue from Water Corporation | 463,650 | 730,600 | 0% | 266,950 | 730,600 |
| Proceeds from Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment | - | 1,672,690 | 0% | 1,672,690 | 572,690 |
| Capital grants | 4,725,018 | 8,230,989 | 57% | 3,505,971 | 8,685,372 |
| **Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities** | **(8,499,747)** | **(11,930,316)** | **71%** | **(3,430,569)** | **(11,612,585)** |
| **Cash flows from financing activities** | | | | | |
| Borrowing Costs | (19,282) | (37,048) | 52% | (17,766) | (77,048) |
| Loan Drawdowns | 2,500,000 | 4,800,000 | 0% | 2,300,000 | 4,800,000 |
| Loan Repayments | (189,114) | (427,845) | 44% | (238,731) | (419,680) |
| **Net cash provided by financing activities** | **2,291,604** | **4,335,107** | **53%** | **2,043,503** | **4,303,272** |
| **Net (Decrease) in Cash Held** | (2,499,233) | (1,217,334) | 205% | 1,281,899 | (923,286) |
| Cash at beginning of year | 6,293,256 | 6,293,256 | 100% | - | 6,293,256 |
| **Cash at end of period** | **3,794,023** | **5,075,922** | **75%** | **1,281,899** | **5,369,970** |

**Investments**

The following table provides an outline of Council's cash and investment portfolio as of 31 March 2026. Total cash and investments on hand as of 31 March is $3.794m. The weighted average return on investment earned on Council's investment portfolio is 4.06%.

## Investments as at 31 March 2026

| | $ | INVESTMENTS | $ | Weighted Average Return |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Deposits | 3,500,000 | Commonwealth Bank Investments | 292,523 | |
| Petty Cash and Till Floats | 1,500 | WBC | 3,500,000 | 4.06% |
| Trading Account | 292,523 | Petty Cash and Till Floats | 1,500 | |
| **Balance - All Accounts** | **3,794,023** | | **3,794,023** | **4.06%** |



**Rates Summary**

The following table provides the detail of Council's Rates and Charges levied compared with the same time last year.

Council has several policies to assist in debt collection efforts, including interest penalties, financial hardship provisions providing flexibility for payment arrangements, and the ability for payment of rates and charges by four equal instalments. Ratepayers continue to be encouraged to contact Council if they are having difficulty paying.

5.14% of the total rates levied for the year were outstanding as at 31 March 2026; this includes all aged rates and charges outstanding. This compares with 6.30% outstanding as at 31 March last year.

## Rates Summary to 31 March 2026

| | 2025-26 | | 2024-25 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | % | $ | % | $ |
| *Notice Issue Date - 18 July 2025* | | | | |
| Outstanding Rates Debtors (1 July 2025) | | 423,588 | | 356,192 |
| Less: Rates in Credit | | (956,105) | | (878,209) |
| **NET RATES OUTSTANDING (1 July 2025)** | **(3.48)** | **(532,517)** | **(3.61)** | **(522,017)** |
| Rates and Charges Levied | 103.30 | 15,787,629 | 103.42 | 14,950,153 |
| Interest Penalties Charged | 0.18 | 27,650 | 0.19 | 27,080 |
| **GROSS RATES AND CHARGES DEMANDED** | **100.00** | **15,282,762** | **100.00** | **14,455,216** |
| LESS RATES AND CHARGES COLLECTED | 91.88 | 14,042,202 | 90.35 | 13,060,106 |
| REMISSIONS AND DISCOUNTS** | 7.48 | 1,143,288 | 7.77 | 1,122,745 |
| | **99.36** | **15,185,490** | **98.12** | **14,182,851** |
| ADD PROPERTIES IN CREDIT | (4.50) | 687,858 | (4.41) | 637,882 |
| **UNPAID RATES AND CHARGES *** | **5.14** | **785,130** | **6.30** | **910,247** |
| (includes Deferred Rates) | | | | |

| **REMISSIONS AND DISCOUNTS | 2025-26 | 2024-25 |
|---|---|---|
| Early Payment Discount | 356,193 | 344,602 |
| Pensioner Rebates | 750,620 | 741,849 |
| Council Remissions and Abandonments | 36,475 | 36,295 |
| | **1,143,288** | **1,122,746** |
| Number of Rateable Properties | 8,152 | 8,093 |
| Number of Unpaid Rateable Properties | 1,052 | 1,122 |
| % not fully paid | 12.90% | 13.86% |

## Grant Summary

### Grant Schedule as at 31 March 2026

| | YTD Actual | Budget 2026 | Forecast 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Capital Grants** | | | |
| Boat Harbour Beach Masterplan | 2,925,000 | 4,250,000 | 4,250,000 |
| Wynyard Childcare Centre Expansion | - | 500,000 | 500,000 |
| ECU Minor Infrastructure Grant | - | 12,551 | 12,551 |
| Roads to Recovery | 1,204,392 | 1,637,091 | 1,637,091 |
| LRCI | - | 469,099 | 469,099 |
| Inglis River Walking Track Study | - | 184,422 | 184,422 |
| IGA Carpark | - | 320,000 | 320,000 |
| Recreation Infrastructure | - | 20,473 | 20,473 |
| ANZAC Park Staged Development | - | 46,000 | 46,000 |
| Waratah Active Living Projects - Saunders & Miners Siding Park | 34,906 | 116,353 | 116,353 |
| ACIF - Langley Park Upgrade | 32,975 | - | 36,639 |
| Waste and Resource Recovery | 17,745 | - | 17,745 |
| Tasmania Active Infrastructure - Langley Park | 500,000 | 100,000 | 500,000 |
| Biodiversity Projects | - | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| Blackspot Funding - Raglan St Roundabout | - | 425,000 | 425,000 |
| Caravan and Motorhome Plan - Council Infrastructure Grants | 10,000 | - | - |
| Sensory Garden | - | 100,000 | 100,000 |
| | **4,725,018** | **8,230,989** | **8,685,373** |

**Operational Performance by Department**

This statement provides an overview of Council's forecast operating performance by department based on year-to-date performance.

| Directorate/Department | Annual Budget | Forecast | Variance to Forecast | Note |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Community & Engagement** | | | | |
| Children's Services | (258,688) | (247,850) | (10,838) | 1 |
| Community Activation | 694,370 | 728,080 | (33,710) | 2 |
| Corporate Engagment Management | 249,581 | 249,996 | (415) | |
| Tourism & Marketing | 518,808 | 538,246 | (19,438) | 3 |
| Economic Development | 139,026 | 140,630 | (1,604) | |
| **Community & Engagement Total** | **1,343,097** | **1,409,102** | **(66,005)** | |
| **Council & CEOs Office** | | | | |
| Council & CEOs Office | 1,235,688 | 1,231,699 | 3,989 | |
| **Council & CEOs Office Total** | **1,235,688** | **1,231,699** | **3,989** | |
| **Infrastructure & Development Services** | | | | |
| Asset Services | (40,578) | (40,944) | 366 | |
| Cemeteries | 92,339 | 92,249 | 90 | |
| Development Services | 945,637 | 957,076 | (11,439) | 4 |
| Engineering Services | 372,437 | 255,081 | 117,356 | 5 |
| Footpaths | 392,679 | 392,679 | 0 | |
| Garbage | (56,869) | (50,216) | (6,653) | |
| Public Halls | 470,099 | 466,508 | 3,591 | |
| Public Toilets | 448,391 | 400,921 | 47,470 | 6 |
| Recreational Planning | 719,336 | 818,177 | (98,841) | 7 |
| Reserves | 1,191,096 | 1,240,670 | (49,574) | 8 |
| Sports | 1,417,081 | 1,538,568 | (121,487) | 9 |
| Stormwater Drainage | (298,039) | (280,066) | (17,973) | 10 |
| Transport | 3,070,737 | 2,709,445 | 361,292 | 11 |
| Waste | 395,599 | 383,590 | 12,009 | 12 |
| Works & Services | 215,497 | 308,859 | (93,362) | 13 |
| **Infrastructure & Development Services Total** | **9,335,442** | **9,192,597** | **142,845** | |
| **Governance & Information Systems** | | | | |
| Governance | 436,403 | 446,398 | (9,995) | |
| Information Systems | (874) | 61,544 | (62,418) | 14 |
| Human Resources | 433,453 | 458,000 | (24,547) | 15 |
| **Governance & Information Systems Total** | **868,982** | **965,942** | **(96,960)** | |
| **Financial Services** | | | | |
| Financial Services | (74,170) | 169,313 | (243,483) | 16 |
| General Revenue | (13,606,245) | (13,765,677) | 159,432 | 17 |
| Customer Service | 422,285 | 344,784 | 77,501 | 18 |
| **Financial Services Total** | **(13,258,130)** | **(13,251,580)** | **(6,550)** | |
| **Total** | **(474,921)** | **(452,240)** | **(22,681)** | |

Commentary for departmental forecast variance of $10,000 or greater is provided below:

**1) Children's Services**

The unfavourable variance of $10,838 is relates to unanticipated turf laying costs and increased light and power expenses.

**2) Community Activation**

The unfavourable variance predominantly relates to an increase in employee costs.

**3) Tourism & Marketing**

The unfavourable variance of $19,438 relates to higher light and power expenses at the Athenaeum Hall and Waratah Camping Ground. This is primarily due to changes in Aurora's electricity pricing structure and the late receipt of the June quarter invoice, which has been recognised in the current financial year.

**4) Development Services**

Development services is expecting an unfavourable variance of $11,439. This is due to increased legal costs. This has been partially offset by increased revenue from development fees, plumbing permits and building fees.

**5) Engineering Services**

The favourable variance to budget for Engineering Services is due to vacancies within the department.

**6) Public Toilets**

Public Toilets has a favourable variance of $47,470, which relates to a decrease in cleaning contract costs.

**7) Recreational Planning**

The unfavourable forecast variance of $98,841 relates to an increase in employee costs due to a new role within the department. This will be partially offset by the increased capitalisation of employee costs, which will be reflected as a saving in Engineering Services.

**8) Reserves**

The unfavourable variance for Reserves relates to increase repair costs and tree maintenance costs.

**9) Sports**

Sports is expecting an unfavourable forecast variance of $121,487 due to higher than expected repairs and maintenance expenses, as well as increased turf maintenance costs at the Wynyard and Somerset Recreation Grounds.

**10) Stormwater Drainage**

The unfavourable variance for stormwater drainage is due to an increase in repairs and maintenance costs at Sisters Beach.

**11) Transport**

Transport Services is expecting a favourable variance to budget of $361,292 due to higher than budgeted financial assistance grant income, as well as an expected increase in the Heavy Vehicle Tax.

**12) Waste**

The favourable variance to predominately due to an increased fee income at the Wynyard Waste Transfer station.

**13) Works & Services**

The unfavourable variance of $93,362 in Works & Services is due to higher than budgeted light and power costs, fringe benefits expenses and employee costs.

**14) Information Systems**

Information systems is expecting an unfavourable variance to budget due to an increase in licence fees.

**15) Human Resources**

The unfavourable variance is due an increase in employee recruitment costs.

**16) Financial Services**

Financial Services is forecasting an unfavourable variance of $243,483 due to lower interest income, which has been partially offset by a vacancy within the department.

**17) General Revenue**

General Revenue is expecting a favourable variance to budget due to higher than budgeted financial assistance grant income.

**18) Customer Service**

The favourable variance for customer service is due to a vacant role within the department.

## Capital Works Summary

The Capital Works Summary provides a snapshot of the percentage of expenditure against the 2025/26 Capital Works Budget Estimates. Timing of expenditure is based on the works plan and actual spending and is not always reflective of the actual progress of the Capital Works project. The Monthly Progress Report is attached for the information of the Council.

| | YTD Actual $ | Budget Estimate $ | Remainng Budget $ | % Spent | Forecast $ | Forecast Variance $ | Note |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Buildings** | | | | | | | |
| Amenities | 273,909 | 151,908 | (122,001) | 180% | 157,998 | (6,090) | |
| Community Facilities | 5,353,250 | 8,586,148 | 3,232,898 | 62% | 8,595,575 | (9,427) | |
| Childcare | 365,535 | 615,529 | 249,994 | 59% | 615,529 | - | |
| Council Operational Buildings | 81,317 | 99,064 | 17,747 | 82% | 112,386 | (13,322) | |
| **Total Buildings** | **6,074,011** | **9,452,649** | **3,378,638** | **64%** | **9,481,488** | **(28,839)** | |
| **Parks & Open Spaces** | | | | | | | |
| Other Infrastructure | 1,838,323 | 2,470,851 | 632,528 | 74% | 1,967,036 | 503,815 | 1 |
| Playgrounds | 290,293 | 768,653 | 478,360 | 38% | 697,733 | 70,920 | 2 |
| Walkways & Tracks | 457,602 | 963,651 | 506,049 | 47% | 1,128,582 | (164,931) | 3 |
| Recreational Reserves | 13,171 | 539,551 | 526,380 | 2% | 539,551 | - | |
| **Total Parks & Open Spaces** | **2,599,390** | **4,742,706** | **2,143,316** | **55%** | **4,332,902** | **409,804** | |
| **Plant & Equipment** | | | | | | | |
| Other Plant & Equipment | 110,284 | 116,503 | 6,219 | 95% | 133,653 | (17,150) | |
| Plant & Vehicle Replacements | 823,382 | 1,495,703 | 672,321 | 55% | 1,500,419 | (4,716) | |
| Software & IT Replacements | 103,637 | 334,218 | 230,581 | 31% | 334,433 | (215) | |
| **Total Plant & Equipment** | **1,037,303** | **1,946,424** | **909,121** | **53%** | **1,968,505** | **(22,081)** | |
| **Sporting Facilities** | | | | | | | |
| Indoor Recreational Facilities | 250,305 | 358,664 | 108,359 | 70% | 378,887 | (20,223) | 4 |
| Outdoor Sporting Facilities | 68,948 | 1,829,213 | 1,760,265 | 4% | 2,533,522 | (704,309) | 5 |
| **Total Sporting Facilities** | **319,253** | **2,187,877** | **1,868,624** | **15%** | **2,912,409** | **(724,532)** | |
| **Stormwater** | | | | | | | |
| Flood Mitigation Works | 13,622 | 36,756 | 23,134 | 37% | 39,365 | (2,609) | |
| Other Stormwater Works | 614,264 | 672,139 | 57,875 | 91% | 734,702 | (62,563) | 6 |
| **Total Stormwater** | **627,887** | **708,895** | **81,008** | **89%** | **774,067** | **(65,172)** | |
| **Transport** | | | | | | | |
| Bridge Renewals | 175,610 | 1,011,796 | 836,186 | 17% | 676,503 | 335,293 | 7 |
| Footpaths & Kerbs | 31,670 | 63,152 | 31,482 | 50% | 63,152 | - | |
| Other Transport | 321,500 | 886,182 | 564,682 | 36% | 925,101 | (38,919) | 8 |
| Resheeting | 684,851 | 822,069 | 137,218 | 83% | 824,363 | (2,294) | |
| Rural Upgrades | 280,831 | 293,388 | 12,557 | 96% | 293,388 | - | |
| Rural Reseals | 1,471,348 | 1,911,180 | 439,832 | 77% | 1,911,099 | 81 | |
| Urban Reseals | 63,803 | 165,599 | 101,796 | 39% | 165,599 | - | |
| **Total Transport** | **3,029,614** | **5,153,366** | **2,123,752** | **59%** | **4,859,205** | **294,161** | |
| **Total** | **13,687,459** | **24,191,917** | **10,504,458** | **57%** | **24,328,576** | **(136,659)** | |

Commentary for capital works forecast variance of $20,000 or greater is provided below:

### 1) Other Infrastructure

The favourable variance of $503,815 for Other Infrastructure mainly relates to lower than budgeted costs for the Sisters Beach Erosion Works.

**2) Playgrounds**

Playgrounds are expecting a favourable variance of $70,920 as expenditure for the Wynyard Sensory Garden and ANZAC Park projects is forecast to be below budget.

**3) Walkways & Tracks**

Walkways & Tracks has an unfavourable variance of $164,931 due to higher than budgeted costs for upgrades to the Inglis River Walking Track (Esplanade to Cemetery).

**4) Indoor Recreational Facilities**

Indoor Recreational Facilities are forecasting an unfavourable variance of $20,223 due to higher than budgeted costs for the WYSP grandstand change rooms and umpire facilities, along with the detailed design of the indoor training facility.

**5) Outdoor Sporting Facilities**

The expected unfavourable forecast variance of $704,309 for Outdoor Sporting Facilities relates to increased costs for the Somerset Sports Precinct – Langley Park Building Upgrades. This unfavourable variance will be partially offset by increased grant funding.

**6) Other Stormwater Works**

Other Stormwater Works has an unfavourable variance of $62,563 due to higher than budgeted costs for the Somerset Stormwater Outlet project.

**7) Bridge Renewals**

Bridge Renewals is expecting a favourable variance of $335,293 as the tender for the Bridge Street bridge replacement at Sisters Beach was awarded below budget.

**8) Other Transport**

The unfavourable forecast variance of $38,919 for Other Transport relates to higher than budgeted costs for Irby Boulevard Sealing and the Gates Road Sealing Investigation and Design.

## 9.12 MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES/COMMITTEES

## 9.12.1 MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES/COMMITTEES - ACCESSIBILITY WORKING GROUP HELD 25 MARCH 2026

| | |
|---|---|
| To: | Council |
| Reporting Officer: | Manager Community Activation |
| Responsible Manager: | Director Community Services |
| Report Date: | 26 March 2026 |
| File Reference: | 001 |
| Enclosures: | 1. Accessibility Working Group Meeting Notes March 2026 |

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council receives the notes from the Accessibility Working Group meeting held 25 March 2026.**

### PURPOSE

The notes of the meeting of the Accessibility Working Group held on Wednesday 26 March 2026 are presented to Council for information.

### BACKGROUND

The Waratah-Wynyard Accessibility Strategy Working Group is a collaborative partnership between Council and the community.

The purpose of the Accessibility Strategy Working Group meetings initially was to inform the development of the Accessibility Strategy and Action Plan. The Accessibility Strategy Working Group now advises on the implementation, monitoring, and review of the Accessibility Strategy.

### DETAILS

An Accessibility Working Group meeting was held on Wednesday 25 March 2026 at 5.30pm in the Council Chambers, focusing on Person-Centred Emergency Preparedness.

The meeting included attendance from Councillors, Council staff and community representatives, with several apologies received.

The session included a presentation from an Emergency Preparedness Facilitator from SES Tasmania, who provided information on emergency planning, including evacuation preparedness, support networks, communication methods, and challenges faced by individuals during emergency situations.

Following the presentation, group discussion highlighted the importance of personal preparedness, understanding available support services, and the role of Council in supporting individuals with additional needs. Members also noted the value of sharing this information within the community to strengthen local support networks.

### STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

There are no direct statutory implications arising from the Accessibility Working Group meeting.

The discussion supports Council's broader responsibilities under relevant legislation, including emergency management and disability inclusion frameworks, by promoting awareness, preparedness, and access to information for people with additional needs.

**STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

The Accessibility Working Group meeting supports Council's strategic objectives relating to community wellbeing, inclusion, and resilience.

The focus on person-centred emergency preparedness aligns with Council's commitment to creating a safe, inclusive, and connected community, particularly for individuals with additional needs. The discussions also contribute to strengthening community capacity, improving access to information, and supporting informed decision-making in emergency situations.

Ongoing engagement through the Accessibility Working Group ensures that Council remains responsive to the needs of the community and continues to incorporate inclusive practices into planning and service delivery.

Strategic Plan Reference

| **GOAL 1: Leadership and Governance** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 1.3 We encourage broad community input to create a focussed and strong sense of belonging. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 1.4.1 Collaborate with, understand and satisfy our external customers' needs and values. |

| **GOAL 4: Community Recreation and Wellbeing** |
|---|
| **Desired Outcomes** |
| 4.1 Our community is welcoming and supportive. |
| **Our Priorities** |
| 4.4.2 Provide and maintain quality and safe places and spaces for physical, social and cultural activities, including shared and multi-use facilities where possible. |

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

| Community Future Direction Theme | Key Challenges & Opportunities: |
|---|---|
| **Strong communities and social capital** | **Enduring community capital** – Growing, proud, self-reliant communities that are inclusive and engaged with volunteers and shared facilities. |
| **Access and infrastructure** | **Local, regional and global transport and infrastructure access** – Safe and efficient access alternatives, growing freight capacity, renewable energy, water management and contemporary communications. Community infrastructure that supports economic development. |
| **Health and Wellbeing** | **Maintaining good health and wellbeing** – Healthy communities, people taking responsibility for their wellness, convenient access to medical services and facilities. |
| **Place making and liveability** | **Liveable places for all ages** – Liveable attractive townships, relaxed lifestyles and community pride attract people to Murchison. Communities have history and character that drive their place-making strategies. Sport and recreation is widely |

| Community Future Direction Theme | Key Challenges & Opportunities: |
|---|---|
| | supported especially by young people. Multi-purpose recreational and cultural facilities are well utilised. |

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct environmental implications arising from the accessibility working group meeting.

The matters discussed relate to community preparedness and accessibility and do not involve any activities or works that would impact the environment.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct policy implications arising from the accessibility working group meeting.

The matters discussed are consistent with existing council policies and frameworks relating to community wellbeing, accessibility, and emergency preparedness. Outcomes from the meeting may inform future policy development or updates to ensure continued alignment with best practice in inclusive planning and service delivery

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from the accessibility working group meeting.

Any actions or initiatives identified can be accommodated within existing operational budgets.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS**

The matters discussed present a low level of risk.

The meeting highlighted the importance of community awareness and preparedness for emergency situations, particularly for individuals with additional needs. Ongoing engagement and information sharing through the Accessibility Working Group supports risk mitigation by improving preparedness, strengthening support networks, and enhancing community resilience.

No additional risks have been identified beyond those already managed through existing Council processes and frameworks.

**CONSULTATION PROCESS**

The Accessibility Working Group meeting forms part of Council's ongoing consultation with community members, stakeholders, and individuals with lived experience of accessibility challenges.

The session included information sharing and open discussion, providing an opportunity for participants to contribute insights, raise considerations, and share experiences relating to emergency preparedness.

This engagement supports Council's commitment to inclusive consultation and ensures that community perspectives inform future planning, service delivery, and decision-making.

**COMMENT**

The Accessibility Working Group meeting provided a valuable opportunity to strengthen community awareness and understanding of person-centred emergency preparedness. The information shared and discussions held support Council's ongoing commitment to inclusion, safety, and community resilience.

Continued engagement with the group will assist in ensuring that the needs of people with additional challenges are considered in future planning and that relevant information is effectively communicated across the community.

It is recommended Council receives the meeting notes.

## 10.0 MATTERS PROPOSED FOR CONSIDERATION IN CLOSED MEETING

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Council RESOLVES BY AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY that the matters listed below be considered in Closed Meeting:**

| ***Matter*** | ***Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 Reference*** |
|---|---|
| *Confidential Report R17 (2) - Confirmation Of Closed Minutes Of Previous Meeting* | *17 (2)* |
| *Confidential Report R17 (2) – Notices Of Motion* ***NIL RECEIVED*** | *17(2)* |
| *Confidential Report R17 (2) (h (ii)) information that is – provided to the council on the condition that it be kept confidential* ***AUDIT PANEL MINUTES*** | *17 (2) (h (ii))* |
| *Confidential Report R17 (2) (f (i)) the security of – the council, councillors and council staff* ***AUDIT PANEL MINUTES*** | *17 (2) (f (i))* |
| *Confidential Report R17 (2) (h) - Leave of Absence Request – Councillors* ***NIL RECEIVED*** | *17(2)(h)* |
| *Confidential Report R17 (2) - Closed Senior Management Report* | *17(2)* |

## 11.0 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Council RESOLVES BY AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY that go into Closed Meeting to consider the following matters:**

| ***Matter*** | ***Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 Reference*** |
|---|---|
| *Confidential Report R17 (2) - Confirmation Of Closed Minutes Of Previous Meeting* | *17 (2)* |
| *Confidential Report R17 (2) – Notices Of Motion* ***NIL RECEIVED*** | *17(2)* |
| *Confidential Report R17 (2) (h (ii)) information that is – provided to the council on the condition that it be kept confidential* ***AUDIT PANEL MINUTES*** | *17 (2) (h (ii))* |
| *Confidential Report R17 (2) (f (i)) the security of – the council, councillors and council staff* ***AUDIT PANEL MINUTES*** | *17 (2) (f (i))* |
| *Confidential Report R17 (2) (h) - Leave of Absence Request – Councillors* ***NIL RECEIVED*** | *17(2)(h)* |
| *Confidential Report R17 (2) - Closed Senior Management Report* | *17(2)* |

## 12.0 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

**At ……. pm the Open Meeting was resumed.**

## 13.0 PUBLIC RELEASE ANNOUNCEMENT

**The Chairman announced that pursuant to Regulation 15(9) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025* and having considered privacy and confidential issues, the Council authorised the release to the public of the following discussions, decisions, reports or documents relating to the closed meeting:**

| Min. No. | Subject | Decisions/Documents |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRPERSON DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT ……. pm.