



**ORDINARY MEETING
OF COUNCIL**

**AGENDA
OPEN MEETING**

22 January 2024

17 January 2024

Notice of Meeting – Ordinary Meeting of Council

In accordance with the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* 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 22 January 2024 with the Business of the meeting to be in accordance with the following agenda paper.

General Manager's Certification

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.



Shane Crawford
GENERAL MANAGER

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

22 January 2024

Mr Shane Crawford
Shane Crawford
General Manager
Waratah-Wynyard Council
PO Box 168
WYNYARD TAS 7325

Dear Shane,

COUNCIL MEETING

In accordance with regulation 4 of the *Local Government (Meeting Regulations) 2015* 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 22 January 2024 commencing at 6pm6.00pm at the Council Chambers, 21 Saunders Street, WynyardCouncil 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.....	8
2.1	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING.....	8
2.2	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING	8
3.0	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.....	9
4.0	COUNCILLORS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REPORT	10
4.1	ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MAYOR.....	10
4.2	MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS.....	10
4.3	REPORTS BY DELEGATES.....	10
4.4	NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS.....	11
5.0	PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS.....	12
5.1	RESPONSE(S) TO PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING	12
5.1.1	K EWINGTON - TACTILE PAVERS IGA.....	12
5.2	PUBLIC QUESTIONS RECEIVED IN WRITING.....	12
5.3	PUBLIC QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE	12
5.4	PUBLIC STATEMENTS RECEIVED IN WRITING.....	12
5.5	PUBLIC STATEMENTS WITHOUT NOTICE	12
6.0	PLANNING AUTHORITY ITEMS	13
6.1	PUBLIC QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE – RELATING TO PLANNING MATTERS.....	13
6.2	PUBLIC STATEMENTS - RELATING TO PLANNING MATTERS	13
6.3	DWELLING, OUTBUILDING (SHED) & VISITOR ACCOMMODATION (3X CABINS) AT 5 THOUSAND HILLS VISTA, SISTERS BEACH - DA 306/2023	14
7.0	MATTER RAISED BY COUNCILLORS	27
7.1	RESPONSE(S) TO COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING.....	27
7.1.1	CR BRAMICH - SPRAYING OF SLENDER THISTLE.....	27
7.2	COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS RECEIVED IN WRITING	28
7.3	COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE	28
8.0	NOTICE OF MOTION	29
9.0	REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.....	30

9.1	AGM MOTION - R KRABBE - FORMATION OF COMMUNITY ACTIVATION PANEL.....	30
9.2	AGM MOTION - C HUTCHISON - OLDINA RESERVE RESTORATION	34
9.3	AGM MOTION - C HUTCHISON - MOORLEAH MULTI-PURPOSE RECREATION CENTRE	40
9.4	REALIGNMENT/ADDRESSING WALKER STREET WYNYARD	50
9.5	CRADLE COAST WASTE MANAGEMENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP	54
9.6	ROLLOUT OF FOOD AND ORGANIC SERVICES ACROSS THE NORTH WEST	59
9.7	MANAGEMENT OF SLENDER THISTLES - UPDATE	63
9.8	AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023	67
9.9	ANNUAL PLAN PROGRESS REPORT - 1 JULY 2023 TO 31 DECEMBER 2023	74
9.10	COMMUNITY & ENGAGEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT	78
9.11	SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FRAMEWORK.....	96
9.12	PROCUREMENT POLICY AND CODE FOR TENDERS AND CONTRACTS REVIEW	101
9.13	CEMETERY FEES AND CHARGES	104
9.14	SENIOR MANAGEMENT REPORT.....	108
9.15	FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023	113
9.16	MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES/COMMITTEES	125
	9.16.1 MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES/COMMITTEES - SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD 21 NOVEMBER 2023	125
10.0	MATTERS PROPOSED FOR CONSIDERATION IN CLOSED MEETING	130
11.0	CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC.....	130
12.0	RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING	131
13.0	PUBLIC RELEASE ANNOUNCEMENT.....	131

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 2015*

AGENDA OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WARATAH-WYNYARD COUNCIL TO BE HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 21 SAUNDERS STREET, WYNYARD ON MONDAY 22 JANUARY 2024, 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

Legislative Reference:

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2005; Regulation 8(2)(a)

The agenda of an ordinary meeting of a council is to provide for, but is not limited to, the following items:

(a) attendance and apologies.

1.1 ATTENDANCE

1.2 APOLOGIES

CR CELISA EDWARDS

1.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED

Nil received.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING
--

Legislative Reference:

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015; Regulation 8(2)(b)

The agenda of an ordinary meeting of a council is to provide for, but is not limited to, the following items:

(b) Confirmation of the minutes.

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 11 December 2023, 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.

2.2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Waratah-Wynyard Council held at Council Chambers, 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard on Monday 15 January 2024, 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

Legislative Reference:

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, Regulation 8(7)

(7) The chairperson is to request Councillors to indicate whether they have, or are likely to have, a pecuniary (or conflict of) interest in any item on the agenda.

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 note the Mayors Communications:

MAYOR DR MARY DUNIAM	
4/12/23	Meeting with Constituent
4/12/23	Councillor Workshop
5/12/23	General Managers Performance Review
6/12/23	LGAT – Community of Practice
6/12/23	Tas Libraries Board Meeting
7/12/23	Governance Group Meeting
8/12/23	LGAT – General Management Committee Meeting
8/12/23	Premiers Local Government Group meeting
11/12/23	Waratah – Keep Australia Beautiful Awards Tas. Winners Photos
11/12/23	Council Meeting
12/12/23	CCA Representatives Meeting
13/12/23	Premier Function
19/12/23	UTAS Summer Graduation
19/12/23	Wynyard High School Presentation evening
15/1/24	Councillor Workshop
15/1/24	Council Annual General Meeting
15/1/24	Waste Transfer Station Media – Minister Roger Jaensch

4.3 REPORTS BY DELEGATES

Nil received.

4.4 NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the following Workshops:

15/1/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Walker Street proposed numbering changes.• Childsafe Framework Policy.• Managing Councillor Interests Discussion Paper.• LGAT Councillor Learning and Development Program.
----------------	---

Councillor Attendance Records

Councillor attendance 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024 (updated to 15/1/24)

	Ordinary Meetings 2023/24 (6)	Special Meetings / AGM 2023/24 (1)	Workshops 2023/24 (13)	Community Conversations 2023/24 (4)	Leave Taken 2023/24
Mayor Mary Duniam	6	1	12	4	
Cr Gary Bramich	6	1	13	4	
Cr Andrea Courtney	4	1	12	1	
Deputy Mayor Celisa Edwards	4	1	9	1	6 weeks
Cr Kevin Hyland	6	1	13	3	
Cr Michael Johnstone	6	1	13	4	
Cr Leanne Raw	4	1	13	4	3 weeks
Cr Dillan Roberts	6	1	13	4	

5.0 PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS**5.1 RESPONSE(S) TO PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING****5.1.1 K EWINGTON - TACTILE PAVERS IGA****QUESTION**

Mr Ewington of Flowerdale noted that there is one tactile paver missing on the supermarket side including tiles on the pavement to shop front and the kerb on the corner of Park and Inglis Streets. Mr Ewington asked when these would be installed.

The Director of Infrastructure and Development Services took the question on notice.

OFFICERS RESPONSE

The new kerb ramps on the corner of Park and Inglis Streets have been installed in accordance with current standards and do not require the installation of TGSi markers; refer to report presented to Council at the July 2023 meeting for further information in this regard.

Regarding the 'one tactile paver missing on the supermarket side', these new kerb ramps have also been installed in accordance with current standards, however the location of the ramps provide continuity to the existing central median pedestrian crossing on Inglis Street and will be treated with TGSi markers to provide continuity to this crossing and existing treatment.

To instigate the process for having these works undertaken a works request has been lodged in Council's customer service system, this will generate a works request that will be prioritised and undertaken in accordance with Council's Customer Service Charter and Road Service Level Document.

5.2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS RECEIVED IN WRITING

Nil received.

5.3 PUBLIC QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**5.4 PUBLIC STATEMENTS RECEIVED IN WRITING**

Nil received.

5.5 PUBLIC STATEMENTS WITHOUT NOTICE

6.0 PLANNING AUTHORITY ITEMS




6.1 PUBLIC QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE – RELATING TO PLANNING MATTERS

Nil received.

6.2 PUBLIC STATEMENTS - RELATING TO PLANNING MATTERS

Nil received.

6.3 DWELLING, OUTBUILDING (SHED) & VISITOR ACCOMMODATION (3X CABINS) AT 5 THOUSAND HILLS VISTA, SISTERS BEACH - DA 306/2023

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Graduate Town Planner
Responsible Officer: Director Infrastructure and Development Services
Report Date: 5 January 2024
File Reference: 9890651
Supporting Documents: 1. Consolidated advertised documents 
2. Representation 
3. 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 (TPS) - Waratah-Wynyard*, grant approval for Dwelling, Outbuilding (Shed) & Visitor Accommodation (3x Cabins) at 5 Thousand Hills Vista, Sisters Beach subject to the following conditions:

PART A CONDITIONS:

- (1) The development is to be generally in accordance with the updated application as submitted and endorsed documents as listed:
 - a. Proposal plans with Project Number 23157 and Drawing Numbers 1/8 to 8/8 as prepared by Abel Drafting Services Pty Ltd and dated 29 November 2023.
 - b. Outbuilding plan with Project Number 367971 and Page Number 2 of 4 as prepared by ShedTech and dated 16 January 2023.
 - c. Accommodation plan by Designer Eco Tiny Homes and dated 17 May 2023.
- (2) No signage is approved as part of this application.
- (3) Stormwater from the development is to be connected and discharged into Council's stormwater drainage network in accordance with the *Urban Drainage Act 2013*.
- (4) 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.
- (5) In the course of undertaking the development/use there is to be no damage caused to any Council owned infrastructure or property.
- (6) Loading and un-loading of vehicles is to be confined to within the boundaries of the property.
- (7) A 150mm diameter stormwater connection point including an accessible inspection opening at ground level is to be constructed at the Thousand Hills Vista lot frontage to permit connection to Council's stormwater drainage reticulation network. The connection point is to be inspected and approved by the Director Infrastructure & Development Services or their delegate before backfilling.

PART B CONDITIONS:

- (1) The person responsible for the activity must comply with the conditions contained in Schedule 2 of Permit Part B which the Regulated Entity (trading as TasWater) has required the planning authority to include in the permit, pursuant to *section 56Q of the Water and Sewerage Industry Act 2008*, reference TWDA 2023/01563-WWC (attached).**

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*.
- A full assessment of the on-site wastewater treatment and disposal system for the Visitor Accommodation units will be undertaken at the Building and Plumbing application stage.
- Registration as a private water supplier maybe required for the Visitor Accommodation units.
- This permit is based on information and particulars set out in Development Application DA 306/2023. Any variation requires an application for further planning approval of Council.
- 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 306/2023 against the requirements of the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Waratah-Wynyard* (Planning Scheme).

BACKGROUND

The subject site is located at 5 Thousand Hills Vista, Sisters Beach, and has an area of 1.229ha and currently contains a single relocatable home. It is located within the Rural Living Zone and has access onto Thousand Hills Vista (road). The property adjoins a vacant block to the northeast and south, and a driveway access to a residential block to the east.

A locality plan identifying the subject property is provided in Figure 1 below.

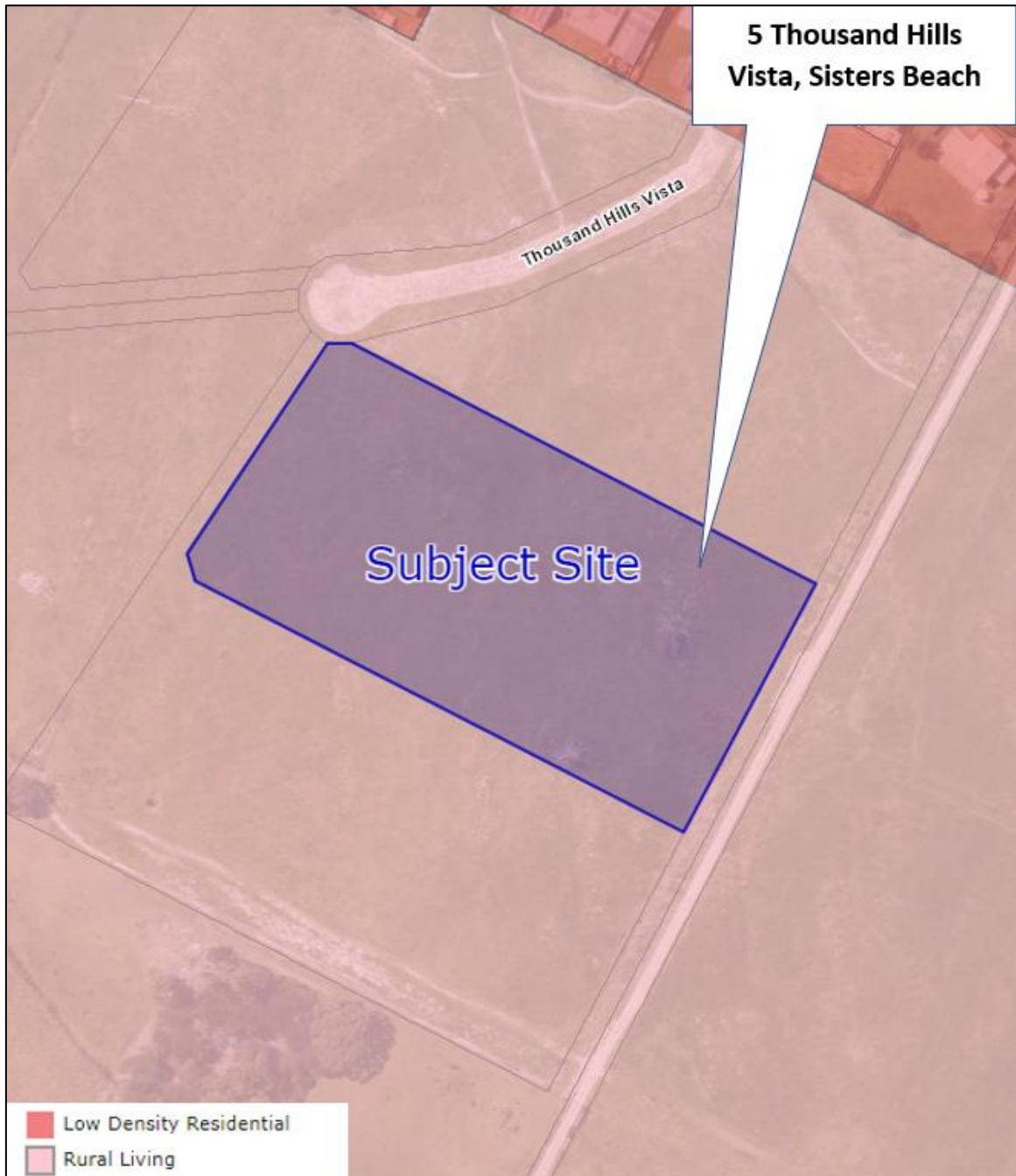


Figure 1: Subject site with zoning

DETAILS

The applicant is seeking approval for a dwelling, outbuilding (shed) and visitor accommodation (3x cabins) on land at 5 Thousand Hills Vista, Sisters Beach.

The subject land contains a single self-contained cabin. However, this proposal seeks to change the use of the cabin from residential to visitor accommodation.

The proposed new dwelling is a single storey with a total floor area of 228m² and a maximum height of 5.475m. It includes 4 bedrooms with a walk-in robe each and the main with ensuite, a bathroom with laundry, toilet and lounge area. A mezzanine with a combined sitting/kitchen/dining area and an unroofed deck is to be attached to the northern elevation of the dwelling, while an unroofed deck will be attached to the north-eastern elevation. A rainwater tank for domestic supply will be installed approximately 2m to the east of the dwelling.

It is to be setback 29.5m from the northern boundary, 19m from the eastern boundary, 25.87m from the southern boundary and more than 50m from the western boundary.

The shed comprises a floor area of 300m² with a maximum height of 5.32m and is to be located approximately 6.05m to the west of the dwelling. It is to be setback 3.6m from the southern boundary but complies all other boundary setbacks.

The proposed visitor accommodation takes the form of three cabins or tiny houses. All cabins consist of a kitchenette, toilet/laundry and the bedroom will be at the upstairs. As stated above, one of the cabins is existing on the site and is being used for a dwelling until the principal residence is established.

Each structure has a maximum height of at least 4.3m and associated floor area of 20m². Each cabin meets the setback requirements for the zone.

Three visitor parking spaces will be built in the accommodation area to meet the requirement under the Planning Scheme.

A rainwater storage tank will be installed approximately 12m to the east of the third cabin and will service all the cabins.

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 Rural Living under the Planning Scheme. The proposal is defined as Residential Use and Visitor Accommodation Use Classes. These are a No Permit Required and Permitted uses respectively within the zone, 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:

- 11.3.2 Visitor Accommodation (P1);
- 11.4.1 Site coverage (P1); and
- 11.4.2 Building height, setback and siting (P3)

CONSULTATION PROCESS

The consultation process was the public exhibition period set out in the *Land Use Planning and Approval 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 2 pages;
- Additional information request x1; and
- Proposal Plans x 22 pages.

The period for representations closed on 18 December 2023. One (1) representation was subsequently received. A map demonstrating the relationship between the subject site and the representor's property is provided in Figure 2.



Figure 2. Relationship between the subject site and the representor's property

The representation and planning responses to the issues raised are provided below. While every effort has been made to include all issues raised, this summary should be read in conjunction with the representation which is included as an enclosure to this report.

The representation below has been summarised from the original text, which can be found in the attachment of this report.

Issues raised	Response:
<p>11.3.2 Visitor Accommodation</p> <p>P1(c and d) – The previous subdivision application in 2020 introduced the large rural living lots suitable for residential use (one dwelling), not blocks with caravan parks/multiple accommodation. It does not fit with the character of the area and residential function.</p> <p>P1(e) - The Traffic Impact Assessment from the previous subdivision was for 1 dwelling per lot not 4. It also relied on internal lots being single dwellings generating low level of traffic and therefore unlikely to impact the amenity of the adjoining properties (54 and 56 Irby Boulevard). <i>Subdivision application (SD2071) - 13.4.7 (A2)</i> must not be an internal lot and relied on Performance Criteria (P2). P2 was permitted “due to the limited nature of the subdivision, traffic generation will be limited to approximately 72 movements per day.”</p> <p>I am concerned about noise, privacy, traffic, and character if this decision becomes a precedent for Rural Living lots in Sisters Beach. There are approximately 30 lots in this zone yet to be developed (remaining Postmans Court, 7 in Thousand Hills Vista and 21 new lots in SD2140 47). There will be implications on the local road network and character of the town if multiple dwellings are permitted.</p>	<p>The application requires assessment to satisfy the Performance Criteria (P1) (a) to (f) for Clause 11.3.2 of the Planning Scheme as the proposed visitor accommodation use is not in the existing habitable building.</p> <p>Please see the Planning Assessment section below for a full assessment against the discretions for Clause 11.3.2 (P1) (a) to (f).</p> <p>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 matters raised in the representation are relevant to the particular discretion being exercised. Compliance with a previous Planning Scheme, or conditions from a previous planning permit are not matters considered assessing a new development application.</p> <p>It is noted that the subdivision application referred to was for the creation of lots, not for the future uses on those lots once created.</p> <p>On any lot within the Rural Living Zone, an application can be made for any of the uses listed in the Rural Living Use Table. Review of this use table identifies that visitor accommodation is a Permitted use, and Residential use, if for a single dwelling, is a No Permit Required Use. However, Residential use for multiple dwellings is Prohibited in the zone.</p> <p>The difference between a residential use (dwelling) and visitor accommodation is that visitor accommodation is for short-term use and a dwelling or multiple dwelling are a person’s principal place of residence.</p>
<p>11.4.1 Site Coverage</p> <p>P1 - The site coverage must be not more than 400m².</p>	<p>The lot is capable of connecting to Council’s stormwater drainage network, located near the frontage of the property.</p>

<p>This development is over 400m². Increased site coverage decreases the sites' ability to absorb runoff (a historical issue with this low-lying land on Irby Flats).</p> <p>Tank overflow discharge from the house in this application is 10m from our boundary (50a Irby Boulevard). We have had issues of water coming from either side of our property in winter and are concerned that this overflow will impact our driveway. The overflow should be contained within the lot boundary.</p> <p>P1(f) – Community and people who have purchased lots were under the impression that this subdivision was for single dwellings not more than 400m² as per the zoning to ensure the character of the subdivisions keep with the area.</p>	<p>The proposal submitted with the application demonstrates that the stormwater from the dwelling and shed will be directed to a water tank located to the east of the dwelling. The overflow will be directed to the Council's stormwater drainage network. In addition to that, there is a condition to construct a stormwater connection point at Thousand Hills Vista lot frontage to permit connection to Council's stormwater drainage reticulation network as per Condition (7).</p> <p>The 400m² site coverage is an acceptable solution. Discretion to this site coverage can be sought, as with this development application, which is then considered against the relevant performance criteria.</p> <p>Please see the Planning Assessment section below for a full assessment against the discretions for Clause 11.4.1 (P1) (a) to (f).</p>
<p>11.4.2 Building height, setback and siting</p> <p>A3 - Buildings must have a setback from side and rear boundaries of not less than 10m.</p> <p>This subdivision was approved based on the requirements under the planning scheme for this zone. Due to the generous size of the lots, there should be no reason to challenge these setbacks. This application is asking for the house to have a 3.6m instead of 10m setback for the southern boundary. The applicant seeks to use sheds on Irby Boulevard being close to boundaries as a precedent but fails to recognise that those properties are in a different zone (Residential not Rural Living).</p> <p>In addition to that, the caravan/tiny home which is already in place does not look like it has the 10m setback as per the plan. It looks like it is right next to the neighbour's driveway/road.</p> <p>P3(e) - the character of the development existing on established properties in the</p>	<p>The proposed development that requires assessment against Performance Criteria for this Clause is limited to the shed. The dwelling and the visitor accommodation units meet all setback requirements.</p> <p>Please see the Planning Assessment section below for a full assessment against the discretions for Clause 11.4.2 (P3) (a) to (f).</p> <p>Potential issues associated with the compliance of the existing tiny house with any planning conditions and Building Act will fall under jurisdiction of the Building Surveyor supervising the construction process.</p> <p>The character of the area is a seaside holiday village. Visitor Accommodation is in keeping with this character.</p>

area. The possibility of caravan parks/multiple accommodation being built on these lots was not indicated in the subdivision plans and does not fit with the character of this area - SD2140 47 states that it is unlikely that any of the lots will be developed for more than one residence due to other restrictions.	
--	--

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.
- (5) A 150mm diameter stormwater connection point including an accessible inspection opening at ground level is to be constructed at the lowest point of the lot to permit connection to Council's stormwater drainage reticulation network. The connection point is to be inspected and approved by the Director Infrastructure & Development Services or their delegate or their delegate before backfilling.

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.

Notes:

The 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*.

A full assessment of the on-site wastewater treatment and disposal system for the Visitor Accommodation units will be undertaken at the Building and Plumbing application stage.

Registration as a private water supplier maybe required for the Visitor Accommodation units.

EXTERNAL REFERRALS

The application was referred to TasWater on 10 November 2023. The response was received on 17 November 2023 and forms Part B of this permit.

PLANNING ASSESSMENT

The subject site is zoned Rural Living under the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme (TPS) – Waratah-Wynyard*. The uses are Residential and Visitor Accommodation which are a No Permit Required and Permitted uses within the Rural Living zone, should the application meet all the relevant acceptable solutions of the planning scheme.

The proposal does not meet all acceptable solutions of the planning scheme and is therefore submitted as a discretionary application under Section 57 of LUPAA and assessed under the *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 Rural Living Zone and relevant Codes is provided below.

11.0 Rural Living Zone

11.3.2 Visitor Accommodation (P1)

<p>A1</p> <p>Visitor Accommodation must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) accommodate guests in existing habitable buildings; and(b) have a gross floor area of not more than 200m² per lot.	<p>P1</p> <p>Visitor Accommodation must be compatible with the character and use of the area and not cause an unreasonable loss of residential amenity, having regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the privacy of adjoining properties;(b) any likely increase in noise to adjoining properties;(c) the scale of the use and its compatibility with the surrounding character and uses within the area;(d) retaining the primary residential function of an area;(e) the impact on the safety and efficiency of the local road network; and(f) any impact on the owners and users rights of way.
<p>Planning Comments: Complies</p> <p>The use for visitor accommodation is not in fully contained within an existing habitable building. It therefore must be assessed against the performance criteria for this Standard.</p> <p>The three visitor accommodation cabins comply with the prescribed boundary setbacks in the zone. With the residential and visitor accommodation uses having similar impacts, compliance with the setbacks is a strong indication that the cabins will not have any</p>	

greater impact on the amenity of the area. Moreover, with the residential use also on-site, there will be oversight of the guests to address any issues should they arise.

In regard to the character and use in the area, Sisters Beach is well-known as a sea-side holiday village. The Visitor accommodation is common in the area. The three proposed cabins are consistent in scale in comparison to a large house that has been converted into visitor accommodation. Residential use will be retained on the site at the eastern rear of the property, larger in portion than the visitor accommodation use.

The proposal will not create any burdening easement of right of way to any other properties and Council’s Engineering Department does not have concern in relation to the safety of the road or the cul-de-sac in Thousand Hills Vista.

The proposal for visitor accommodation will not cause an unreasonable impact on adjoining amenity and will be consistent with the character and use in the area and is therefore considered to satisfy P1 for this Standard.

11.4.1 Site coverage (P1)

<p>A1</p> <p>The site coverage must be not more than 400m².</p>	<p>P1</p> <p>The site coverage must be consistent with that existing on established properties in the area, having regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the topography of the site; (b) the capacity of the site to absorb runoff; (c) the site and shape of the site; (d) the existing buildings and any constraints imposed by existing development; (e) the need to remove vegetation; and (f) the character of development existing on established properties in the area.
---	--

Planning Comments: Complies

The combined site coverage of the development is 588m², exceeding the 400m² cap in the acceptable solution. Assessment against the performance criteria is required.

The lot size is more than 1ha and the proposal plan submitted with the application demonstrates that the stormwater from the development is to be directed to the water tanks, one is to the east of the dwelling and another one is near the third accommodation cabin. The overflow is to be directed to the Council’s stormwater drainage network and there is a condition to construct a stormwater connection point at the Thousand Hills Vista lot frontage of the lot to permit connection to Council’s stormwater drainage reticulation network.

The largest structure of the proposal is the shed with a floor area of 300m², approximately 50% of the total floor area of the development. Large sheds in Rural Living area are common, and are used to contain vehicles, boats, caravans and equipment to maintain the property.

The lot does not contain any registered right of way, burdening easements or restrictions imposed by a utility. The proposal does not result in any unnecessary removal of vegetation on the site.

The subject land and the adjacent properties are vacant lots. It is considered that the proposed development is the first developed lot in the street. The requirement for the proposal to be consistent with the site coverage of existing developed Rural Living properties in the adjacent area is impractical but is consistent with other Rural Living areas in the municipality.

The proposal is considered to satisfy P1 for this Clause.

11.4.2 Building height, setback and siting (P3)

<p>A3</p> <p>Buildings must have a setback from side and rear boundaries of not less than 10m.</p>	<p>P3</p> <p>Buildings must be sited to not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity to adjoining properties, having regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the topography of the site; (b) the size, shape and orientation of the site; (c) the setback of surrounding buildings; (d) the height bulk and form of existing and proposed buildings; (e) the character of development existing on established properties in the area; and (f) any overshadowing of adjoining properties or public places.
---	---

Planning Comments: Complies

The proposed shed is setback less than 10m from the southern boundary. Assessment against Performance Criteria for this Clause is required for the proximity of the shed to the southern boundary.

Topography is not a concern as the subject land is gently sloping (less than 10⁰ slope) according to the LISTmap.

The shed is for a domestic storage and therefore must be located within the proximity of the proposed dwelling on the lot.

The shed is unlikely to overshadow any habitable room nor private open space of adjoining property to the south, 7 Thousand Hills Vista, as the property is currently

vacant. Additionally, the total site area of this property is approximately 1.4ha and relatively flat. There is sufficient area for the future development on this block.

The subject land and the adjacent properties are vacant lots. It is considered that the proposed development is the first developed lot in the street. The requirement for the development to be consistent with the existing setback of developed Rural Living properties in the adjacent area is impractical but is consistent with other Rural Living areas in the municipality.

In this manner, the proposal satisfies P3 for this Clause.

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. It is noted that one (1) representation was received during the exhibition period.

Local Government (Building & Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993

The application has been considered against the requirements of section 85 of the *Local Government (Building & Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993*. The application is generally consistent with these provisions.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

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

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.

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

COMMENT

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

It is considered that the proposed dwelling, shed and visitor accommodation (3x Cabins) comply with either the acceptable solutions or satisfy the performance criteria for all applicable standards of the Planning Scheme. It is considered that the proposed development is consistent with the development in the Rural Living zone. The visitor accommodation will not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity and is compatible with the character and use in the area of Sisters Beach.

The application is considered to comply with the Rural Living Zone provisions and all other applicable Codes of the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme – Waratah-Wynyard*. It is therefore recommended that Council approve a planning permit for the proposed dwelling, outbuilding (shed) & visitor accommodation (3x cabins).

7.0 MATTER RAISED BY COUNCILLORS**7.1 RESPONSE(S) TO COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS MEETING****7.1.1 CR BRAMICH - SPRAYING OF SLENDER THISTLE****QUESTION**

Cr Gary Bramich asked if organic farmers are required to spray for weeds.

OFFICERS RESPONSE

Council's Authorised Officer (Weeds) has developed and maintains a close, cooperative and effective working relationship with appropriate Government biosecurity officers. A bipartisan approach to consultation and solution development prevails in the addressing of many weed management issues over the past decade.

The Acting Manager Invasive Species Branch Biosecurity Tasmania was consulted on the question from Councillor Bramich. It is understood that certified organic farmers cannot be required or directed to spray weeds.

Under the *Biosecurity Act 2019* which replaced seven previously existing Acts, including the *Weed Management Act 1999*, an organic farmer can be directed to appropriately manage specific weeds growing in specific locations under specific circumstances within their property boundary.

This management direction should be in a manner that will not jeopardise their organic certification obligations. The management direction requirements for organically appropriate solutions would need to be set with consideration to the following:

1. Underpinned by the Voluntary Compliance objective with a stakeholder understanding ownership and responsibility for biosecurity (in this case weed management).
2. Weed Species.
3. Declaration status under the *Biosecurity Act 2019*.
 - Declared
 - Non-declared
4. Status under the Municipality A or B classification.
 - Eradication
 - Containment
5. Specific plant biology.
 - If a specific mechanical intervention to contain a weed species (e.g. slashing) enhanced rather than stopped the spread of a propagating material at an inappropriate time it would not be directed.
 - In some cases hand removal can be directed.
6. Location within property boundary.

-
7. Size of infestation (Number of plants)
 8. Any other discrete matters that relate to the issue if identified in the inspection communication process.

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

Legislative Reference:

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015; Regulation 16

- (5) *A councillor may give written notice of a motion, together with supporting information and reasons, to be included on the agenda of the next meeting to the general manager at least 7 days before the meeting.*
- (6) *The general manager, after consultation with the chairperson, may refuse to accept a written motion that, in their opinion –*
 - (a) *is defamatory; or*
 - (b) *contains offensive language; or*
 - (c) *is unlawful.*
- (7) *A councillor who has given notice of a motion that has not been refused under subregulation (6) is to move the motion at the meeting, otherwise it lapses.*

Nil received.

9.0 REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

9.1 AGM MOTION - R KRABBE - FORMATION OF COMMUNITY ACTIVATION PANEL

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Executive Officer
Responsible Manager: General Manager
Report Date: 15 January 2024
File Reference: 1101
Enclosures: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

OPTION 1

Form a Social and Community Activation Panel

OR

OPTION 2

Defer decision on creation of a Social and Community Activation Panel until further detail can be provided and discussed at workshop regarding the proposed benefits and aims of such a group

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider a motion that was put and carried at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 15 January 2024.

BACKGROUND

Mrs Robin Krabbe put the following motion at the Council's recent AGM:

"That the Council form a Social and Community Activation Panel."

The motion was put and carried for consideration at this Council meeting (being the next available meeting of Council).

DETAILS

Mrs Krabbe put the motion and offered the following comment in support of the motion:

"This panel (there are a number of possible names for the group, e.g. the Community Activation or Advisory Panel, i.e. CAP) similar to the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Panel (SEAP) to help advance the Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan, Youth Plan, and Age Friendly Plan. The SEAP has been very successful to date in activating a passionate group of people with the capacity to advance the Integrated Council Environmental Plan, I contend a SCAP could also be a very effective way of achieving a range of much needed social and community outcomes for the Waratah-Wynyard municipality.

The SCAP does not have to be as large as the SEAP, but the size could be determined by the number of people with the relevant skills who nominate. However, a larger number does have the advantage of making it more possible to form working groups which has been

successfully done in the case of the SEAP. Working groups could be formed around each plan, e.g. health and wellbeing, youth and the aged.

There is huge social and economic unmet need including a relatively high level of disadvantage in North-West Tasmania, whereby an Advisory Panel for would have huge advantages in building community capacity.

A major aspect crucial to the success of SEAP is that it is based on dialogue. As has been stated in the literature, 'It is through dialogue that we grow sensitive to multiple realities and learn to negotiate across diverse relationships and realities. Fostering an ongoing dialogic culture promotes transformative action. A dialogic culture supports attending to what we take for granted, noticing what others notice that would be otherwise invisible to us, and opening pathways exploring new opportunities and possibilities. Dialogue can thus be the basis for making a difference in our community.'

Officers Comment

The following Officers Comments were provided to the motion.

There are a number of matters Councillors should consider prior to the establishment of a Social and Community Activation Panel.

Firstly, Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan, Youth Plan, and Age Friendly Plan are due for renewal in the 2024/25 financial year and, in conjunction with Circular Head Council, a public consultation process will take place to develop the new strategies and associated work plans.

Secondly, recommendations within the final Future of Local Government review report suggest that further work is required to clarify "*councils' core functions, principles, and responsibilities, as well as the obligations of the Tasmanian Government when dealing with the sector as a partner in delivering community services and support*".

There are a number of matters Councillors should consider prior to the establishment of a Social and Community Activation Panel.

Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan, Youth Plan, and Age Friendly Plan (the Plans) are due for renewal in the 2024/25 financial year and, in conjunction with Circular Head Council, a public consultation process will take place to engage the community in the development of new strategies and associated work plans.

Whilst the remit of local government continues to expand, the training, professional development and experience of staff in relevant fields has often been outpaced by this growth, particularly evident in newly emerging fields.

Council recognises that local people are the experts when it comes to their community. Developing and executing new Plans requires a deep understanding of community, market dynamics, trends, and internal capabilities to create impact and deliver genuine outcomes. It is likely both councils will engage external expertise to collaborate with the community and key stakeholders to develop effective Plans and a comprehensive roadmap for achieving success.

Recommendations within the final Future of Local Government review report suggest that further work is required to clarify "*councils' core functions, principles, and*

responsibilities, as well as the obligations of the Tasmanian Government when dealing with the sector as a partner in delivering community services and support”.

It may be prudent to see both of these matters progress prior to the establishment of another working group in order to prevent duplication of effort and allow clear direction.

At the Annual General Meeting a number of speakers were unclear regarding the objectives of this proposed group. An option has been included for Council to consider holding a workshop discussion on the matter to work through details, prior to it returning to a future Council meeting for decision.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 3: Connected Communities
Desired Outcomes
1.1 We make publicly transparent decisions on spending and future directions while encouraging community feedback.
Our Priorities
1.1.1 Commit to best practice in community engagement.

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.
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

Formation and participation in this group will have resource implications for Council which cannot be determined at this time.

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

Two options are provided to Councillors to consider in relation to this proposed panel.

9.2 AGM MOTION - C HUTCHISON - OLDINA RESERVE RESTORATION

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Executive Officer
Responsible Manager: General Manager
Report Date: 16 January 2024
File Reference: 1101
Enclosures: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council include an action in the 2024/2025 annual plan to:

1. **Negotiate with Sustainable Timber Tasmania to develop an Oldina Reserve Restoration & Maintenance Plan with costings in cooperation and consultation with the community; and**
2. **Invite discussions with local State and Federal representatives and election candidates about the community vision to restore facilities and maintenance of the Oldina Reserve.**

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider a motion that was put and carried at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 15 January 2024.

BACKGROUND

Mr Codie Hutchison put the following motion at the Council's recent AGM:

That Council:

1. **Negotiate with Sustainable Timber Tasmania, for a 3 year lease between 2024 – 2027 for the Oldina Reserve & Picnic Area with the option to extend the lease period further; and**
2. **Develop an Oldina Reserve Restoration & Maintenance Plan with costings in cooperation and consultation with the community; and**
3. **Invite discussions with local State and Federal representatives and election candidates about the community vision to restore facilities and maintenance of the Oldina Reserve.**

Following debate, the motion was amended:

That Council:

1. **Negotiate with Sustainable Timber Tasmania to develop an Oldina Reserve Restoration & Maintenance Plan with costings in cooperation and consultation with the community; and**
2. **Invite discussions with local State and Federal representatives and election candidates about the community vision to restore facilities and maintenance of the Oldina Reserve.**

The amended motion was then put and carried for consideration at this Council meeting (being the next available meeting of Council).

DETAILS

Mr Hutchison put the motion and offered the following comment in support of the motion:

*“A motion was raised at the 2022 Waratah-Wynyard AGM, and it was defeated by electors. The vote was **15 AGAINST & 13 FOR** according to the Mayors count.*

This vote was lost because Councillors unanimously opposed it and because of Councillor’s personal associates, council election candidates who had a pre-existing association with certain Councillors, as well as Council staff who were present at the AGM to vote against the motions. This coordinated action was in my honest opinion, pre-planned and orchestrated with the intent to block an initiative by a member of the public.

This is documented in the 2022 Council AGM Meeting Minutes and Council YouTube Live Stream: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-qDD2J5EH2g>

This saga didn’t have to be political, yet at every turn, this Council has made it political.

Since October 2022, there has been in excess of another year of wasted opportunity, which demonstrates another failure by this Council to do something positive at Oldina Reserve.

From personal conversations, it is my understanding that Cr. Hyland thinks a bike path was intended (at some point in the past) to go to Oldina. I find this hard to believe, considering the amount of effort and focus on the bike path between Wynyard and Cooee, then confirmation of intent to progress towards bike paths westward from Wynyard. The restoration of Oldina Reserve cannot be dependent on these pipedreams but must stand alone as a priority project of community significance.

In early 2023, Councillor’s Courtney and Johnstone were appointed to the Oldina Stakeholder group, yet when the meeting was hosted by Council managers, both Councillors were omitted from the invite list from the one and only meeting it has had in 12 months. Despite calls to re-host it with Councillors present, Council management has until now, not held a subsequent meeting.

It is now January 2024, and Oldina Reserve sits, waiting patiently for someone to take some responsibility for it.

I tried to point out the importance of the Oldina Reserve to Council and to begin opening a space for community input. This began in early 2020. Nothing but silence. Council failed.

I tried calling for a public meeting in 2021. It passed the Public Motion and the Council Motion.

Council failed to implement this motion passed and has yet to hold this meeting.

In the time following the passing of the motion, I discovered that Council was working on a Reserve plan behind the community’s back with an undisclosed third party, later to be revealed as the Pony Club due to a past request in 2020 for a potential new venue. Council failed to engage the community in advance of this proposal.

In early 2022, I tried to support Council’s half-baked Pony Club relocation proposal, which didn’t even have the support of the Pony Club. I spent considerable time making comment on the plan and a broader vision with diagrams and infographics. These detailed images were,

in my view, intentionally excluded from the summary of submissions to the concept plan. Council failed to communicate these ideas to the general public.

The Concept plan eventually did not have enough support to achieve traction, and little has been heard about the plan since April 2022. Council failed to deliver any results after that plan was released.

At the 2022 AGM in October, I proposed a public motion for Council to take on a lease of the Reserve, only for Council to thwart this attempt as outlined at the beginning. Council failed the community again.

Council wanted its own working group, got a handful of people and didn't invite the appointed Councillors, telling the community working group that Council doesn't really want anything to do with the Reserve. I didn't apply to join this working group because I believe Council has lost respect for my opinions and ideas. I presumed this attempt to do something at Oldina was just a façade. For the duration of 2023, Council has not indicated any achievements to progress plans or ideas for the Oldina Reserve. Council failed the community again.

We are now having the 2023 AGM in 2024. I fear that Council will simply just come up with more tricks to avoid taking any responsibility for a takeover of the Oldina Reserve despite repeated requests by myself and other community members.

I'm tired of failing to convince Council of the possibilities and potential of the Oldina Reserve. I'm tired of being failed by this Council. We are potentially in line for hundreds of thousands of dollars in investment if we can successfully pitch this or a similar proposal in relation to the Oldina Reserve.

When Council is genuinely willing to work with the community on this project, the opportunity and reward will outweigh the risk and cost.

If this public motion is successful, Council must finally listen and act. My plea is that Council be bold where it has previously been timid and give the community some hope for this once cherished reserve area.

Particulars of the motion:

Lease Period: *A lease of 3 years is considered a reasonable time frame to secure funding, restore access, and create a maintenance schedule to sustainably maintain the reserve and any potential amenity provided.*

Restoration & Maintenance Plan: *Restoration details would be driven by community vision, though it might include Nursery Road repairs, bridge repairs, selected restoration of some grassed areas, new public toilet facility, new reserve signage. Maintenance details would include tree maintenance, road side maintenance, road maintenance, a toilet cleaning schedule, safety checks and hazard removal, rubbish removal, anti-social behaviour monitoring and reporting."*

Officers Comment

The following Officers comments were provided to the motion:

There are numerous reports, comments and briefings on this matter over recent years. Council has continued to maintain a very clear position.

It is not recommended for council to pursue a lease for a site in which it is not aware of the associated costs, risks or community benefit. There is also no plan for the site or interested parties who wish to manage the site despite well publicised calls for expressions of interest.

The Oldina Reserve is not owned by Council, and it remains in the ownership and management of Sustainable Timbers Tasmania (STT). Sustainable Timbers have the ability to make their own choices as to the future use of the site.

As previously reported in Council's agenda and alluded to in the supporting information as part of this motion, a meeting of community members agreed that the best course of action for this site was for people with ideas to contact STT directly as it is their land. STT clearly stated in the meeting that the land is part of a working forest and any ideas generated by individuals would have to realise that the surrounding area would be regularly logged.

The motion calls for Council to take on a lease for the area. This should not occur with an absence of information, such as a use for the site is determined, full costs are known and understood, and it is considered a desired and agreed course of action for council to undertake in line with Council's current strategic direction.

Following the AGM, the amended motion essentially now calls upon Council to facilitate discussions to determine a future use for the site. The question Council needs to answer is whether it believes this is a community priority and a project to which it wishes to pursue. A large number of projects are already committed in the short term.

If there is appetite for Council to explore this concept, it would be best advised to defer this work to a future financial year to allow sufficient time to complete adopted projects and tasks and allocate appropriate resources.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 3: Connected Communities
Desired Outcomes
1.1 We make publicly transparent decisions on spending and future directions while encouraging community feedback.
Our Priorities
1.1.1 Commit to best practice in community engagement.

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.
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

Formation and participation in this group will have resource implications for Council which cannot be determined at this time.

Council does not own the Oldina Reserve and incurs no cost in its maintenance. Any decision of Council as to future use will need to consider financial implications.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

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

CONSULTATION PROCESS

It has been made clear throughout the entire process, and as part of the expression of interest to participate in a working group, placed on the Council website, that Council's involvement has been to facilitate and advocate, including to facilitate a meeting between STT (the landowner) and any interested community members.

The aim was to bring STT together with interested community members so that STT could help give the public access to the reserve through the group generating suitable ideas. The

group members and STT agreed that it made sense that any ideas should be discussed with STT in the first instance because they own the land.

When Council last called for expressions of interest for a working group on the Oldina Reserve, only eight people registered to be part of the Oldina Reserve stakeholder group and six attended the meeting.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that if Council wish to pursue this proposed idea, it should be listed as an annual plan action in future financial years.

Given the short turnaround from the Annual General Meeting, Council may also consider deferral of the matter to allow greater consideration and discussion.

9.3 AGM MOTION - C HUTCHISON - MOORLEAH MULTI-PURPOSE RECREATION CENTRE

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Executive Officer
Responsible Manager: General Manager
Report Date: 16 January 2024
File Reference: 0101
Enclosures: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council determine not to proceed with a feasibility study for a new contemporary multi-purpose recreational centre located near the junction of Lapoinya Road, Preolenna Road, & Pages Road in Moorleah at this time.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider a motion that was put and carried at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 15 January 2024.

BACKGROUND

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to consider a motion that was put and carried at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 15 January 2024.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Mr Codie Hutchison put the following motion at the Council's recent AGM:

That Council:

- 1. Undertake a feasibility study for a new contemporary multi-purpose recreational centre, to serve the communities of Moorleah, Preolenna, Lapoinya, Milabeena, Myalla, & Meunna, located near the junction of Lapoinya Road, Preolenna Road, & Pages Road in Moorleah; and**
- 2. Prepare a cost-benefit report as part of the feasibility study in (1), including inputs from an initial stage of community consultation; and**
- 3. present the final feasibility study to Councillors and the public in an Open Ordinary Meeting Agenda of Council prior to the end of 2024**

The motion was put and carried for consideration at this Council meeting (being the next available meeting of Council).

DETAILS

Mr Hutchison put the motion and offered the following comment in support of the motion:

"Following some research in 2022 for submissions and presentations for the Tasmanian Planning Commission, I identified a few gaps in the services provided by the Waratah-Wynyard Council.

These gaps are comparing the facilities provided by Council in various areas in the municipality, according to population.

There are also gaps when comparing rural regions across North-West Tasmania, with a rural hub generally located half way between 'outer' rural areas and service towns.

This is evident in the municipalities of Circular Head, Burnie, Central Coast, Devonport, Latrobe, & Kentish, etc. It is evident in Waratah-Wynyard in the Yolla District, and the Boat Harbour District, however, in the South-Western rural region, which includes a number of rural hamlets and residences, there is no such similar provision.

A new rural hub facility, that has broader capacity than simply a Community Hall can provide, will enhance the

Why?

- 1. The Moorleah 'crossroads' represents a central area or transition point for a number of rural areas. The current Moorleah Hall is a local central point for some residents of Moorleah (not all). The current hall is not a central point for communities in the surrounding area.*
- 2. The existing Moorleah Community Centre has a narrow range of uses due to size and layout, does not meet community needs, and has low usage rates.*
- 3. Neighbouring managed community spaces are not proximate enough, or no longer accessible, or non-existent*
 - a. Myalla Community Centre and Recreation ground (located in Sisters Creek, not the Myalla township) are not central enough to serve the wider south-west rural community in-land of Wynyard. In the former Myalla Township, all but one church transitioned into non-community use due to the closure of the train line and loss of central economic/transportation hub. The improvement in road access through the region and the centralisation of services to Boat Harbour and Wynyard have led to changes in travel patterns where the majority of traffic from the communities in focus.*
 - b. Calder Hall (junction of Calder & Zig Zag Road) is a privately owned hall for hire but is not located on any primary travel routes for residents of Pages Road, Moorleah, Lapoinya, Milabena, Myalla, Meunna, or Preolenna, and thus has limited user potential.*
 - c. Preolenna Hall was formerly owned by Council was sold to private ownership in 2020 and is no longer available for community use. A nearby negotiated community storage space was leased privately from mid-2023, and Preolenna residents no longer have access to any indoor community facilities for use or hire.*
 - d. Milabena and Lapoinya do not have any open community venues for use or hire.*

Solution

Council could create public spaces and rezone an identified area at the Moorleah 'Crossroads' (The junction of Preolenna Road, Pages Road, & Lapoinya Road) vicinity to develop into a central hub between Wynyard and its south-western agricultural district.

The development of a recreation facility in this location would provide rural communities greater access to services, foster greater sense of community, and assist council and other service providers in meeting the needs of residents in this area. It could allow for greater recreational opportunities, serve as a distribution point for goods and services in all directions (rural to village; village to rural;

rural to urban; & urban to rural), as a focal point for agricultural producers, artisans, and makers, of which there are a number in the area.

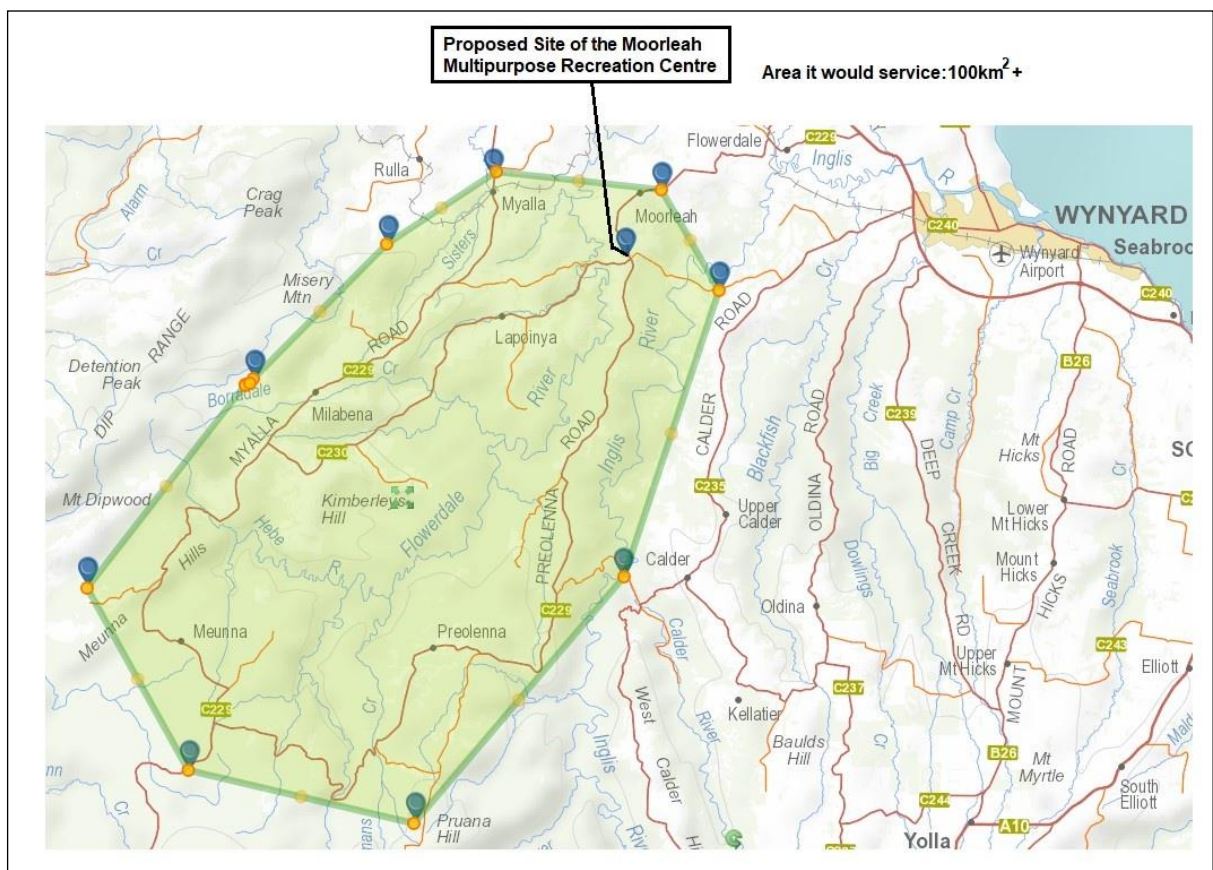
There would also be residents from Flowerdale and Calder that would likely use such a space, depending on the event – and opportunities to attract residents from across the municipality and visitors from other regions.

Such a space would be able to meet current as well as long term needs up to and potentially in excess of 50 years into the future.

Following an initial brainstorm, a list of activities below that would be possible in the centre, but not limited to:

Social Sports	Other
Basketball	Indoor/Outdoor Farmer's Market
Indoor Soccer/Futsal	Music events
Indoor Volleyball	Fitness classes
Indoor Cricket	Children's games afternoons
Netball	Birthday parties
Indoor Hockey / 'Thunder' Hockey	Community meetings
Badminton	Council Community Conversations
Table Tennis	Trivia nights
	Other social events as inspired

Figure 1: The area being considered is the rural districts to the South-West of Wynyard. Source – LIST MAP



Initial Community-Led Community Consultation

A community meeting was advertised and held at the Moorleah Hall on Thursday 14th of December, 2023 (meeting flyer shown below). Following feedback from this recent community-run meeting, key constructive suggestions were:

- Community facilities should be collocated
 - Potential for a Cafe / Visitor hub – with the ability to maintain facility costs and insurances with profit. This could be a staged development prior to or following the development of a Multipurpose Recreation Centre.
 - Information on things to do for tourists visiting the area and a few local history info boards. (Commentary: Capitalise on ‘Tarkine’ brand and our region’s access – and directions to access points and local waterfalls.)
 - Potential for wholefood community cooperative (dry food and local fresh or processed produce) and distribution point with other ‘general store’ type basics
 - Staged development (i.e. 2-10 years): (Commentary: Stages - Secure Land, Secure plans and rezone, Secure funding, Build Recreation facility, Secure plans for cafe, Secure cafe funding, Build cafe)
 - Such a facility would 1st need to identify primary community uses
 - Additional indoor recreation ideas suggested: Rock wall/Bouldering, Movie Nights, Handball, Dance, Yoga, Science Club, Board games evenings
 - Outdoor recreation ideas: small playground, outdoor picnic shelter, native gardens
 - For reference - Moorleah Hall in the past has had aerobics, badminton, cockroach races, parties, and currently also serves as a polling booth for state and federal election purposes.
 - Bush Fire Shelter in emergencies
 - Facility access and updates can be supported with information sharing through Facebook group and/or community newsletter
- Further Commentary:

- Centre could be open to coincide with general movements through the area and afternoon/evening after school or after work recreation time slots.
- Potential opening hours of entire facility could be 2pm – 7pm on select weekdays (as demanded, on a consistent and regular basis), and as booked and managed outside of these hours and on weekends.

Current Population & Comparison

The combined current population of the South-West Rural Districts that (primarily) would be serviced by a Moorleah Multipurpose Centre at the ‘Crossroads’ junction is **510 people** according to figures from the ABS 2021 Census.

Place	Number of Residents (ABS 2021) (Conservative estimates)
Myalla	66
Milabena	77
Lapoinya	143
Moorleah	161
Preolenna	58
Meunna	5
Total	510

As a comparison, the table below shows the number of community / commercial facilities or 'shop front' services in the following rural and regional areas (churches bracketed, accommodation services not included as there is not a regular use for local residents).

Place + Distance from Service Town Supermarket	Population	Community / Commercial facilities/services	Services (No#)	Facility to Pop'n Ratio
Sisters Beach 20km (Wynyard IGA)- LONG	511	Beachside Carparking, Little Sisters General store/Cafe, Sister Beach Fire Station, Public Toilet Block, Playground, Skate Park hub, BBQs (x2), National Park access roads, walking tracks, boat ramp, sewerage system	11 HIGH	1:46 HIGH
Boat Harbour Beach 14km (Wynyard IGA)- MIDDLE	89	Beachside Car-park, Surf Club, Seekers Restaurant, Public Toilet Block, walking tracks, Playground (x2), BBQs (x2), *new development slated, sewerage system, Sandridge Estate	9 HIGH	1:10 HIGH
Boat Harbour 12km (Wynyard IGA) - MIDDLE	339	Boat Harbour Primary School, Thistle Hut Cafe, Restaurant (@ Killynaught), General Store, Boat Harbour Fire Station	5 MED	1:68 HIGH
Yolla (286) & Surrounds (+Henrietta (137)/Takone (80)/West Takone (6) Yolla - 15km (Somerset IGA) -MIDDLE Surrounds – 19km-36km (Somerset IGA)- LONG	509	Yolla District High School, Multipurpose Gym, Football Club, Football Oval, Tavern, Private Hall, Yolla Fire Station, General Store, Pharmacy, Bush reserve access roads (Yolla Baptist Church, Catholic Church [Yolla])	10 (+2) HIGH	1:42 HIGH
Waratah (249) + Savage River (23) 60km (Upper Burnie Woolworths) VERY LONG	272	Men's Shed, Golf Club, Roadhouse, Public Toilet, Waterfalls Walks x 2, Whyte Hills Lookout, Museum, SES, Athenaeum Hall, Bischoff Hotel, Mushroom Cafe, Waratah Community House	13 HIGH	1:21 HIGH
Sisters Creek 17km (Wynyard IGA) - MIDDLE	161	Myalla Oval, Myalla Community Centre, Muddy Boots Cafe	3 LOW	1:54 MED
Elliott 10km (Somerset IGA) - SHORT	355	Community Hall	1 LOW	1:355 LOW
Calder 15km (Wynyard IGA) - MIDDLE	231	Private Hall, Calder Fire Station	2 LOW	1:115 LOW
Oldina 15km (Wynyard IGA) - MIDDLE	145	Bush reserve access roads	1 LOW	1:145 LOW
Mt Hicks 14km (Somerset IGA) - MIDDLE	356	Providence Farm Stall Cafe	1 LOW	1:356 LOW
Table Cape 7km (Wynyard Woolworths) - SHORT	87	Lookout + car park x2, Tulip farm cafe, Alchemia distillery (Boat Harbour Church)	4 LOW	1:22 HIGH

Flowerdale 7.5km (Robin Hill Rd intersection with Preolenna Rd. To Wynyard Woolworths) - SHORT	279	Lobster Ponds	1 LOW	1:279 LOW
South-West rural district areas (+distance to Wynyard IGA) Moorleah (11km), Lapoinya (14km), Lapoinya Sth. (21km) Myalla (20km), Milabeena (22km), Preolenna (25km), Meunna (31km) MIDDLE to LONG	510	Moorleah Hall, Moorleah Fire Station, Bush reserve access roads (Myalla Church)	4 LOW	1:128 LOW

Guide used to categorise each district/village/town:

DISTANCE CATEGORIES

0-9.99km = SHORT

10.0-19.99km = MIDDLE

20 – 49.99km = LONG

50km+ = VERY LONG

FACILITY to POPULATION RATIO CATEGORIES

1:1 – 1:50 = HIGH

1:51 – 1:100 = MEDIUM

1:100+ = LOW



Figure 2: Moorleah ‘Crossroads’ Multi-purpose Recreation Centre Site options overlaid with Existing uses. Source – Google Maps

Note (on figure above): The area at the Crossroads has four corners or quadrants where potential land could be secured for the purpose of a multipurpose recreation centre. Some areas are difficult in terms of accessibility or gradient, however, the northern and north-west areas are worth exploring early on in the feasibility study as presenting the most optimal space for the requested purpose.

Note (on figures below): For comparison, the current building footprint of the Wynyard Basketball Centre is 1,124 metres squared, and the current Basketball Centre and Car park combined area are 3,300 metres squared or less than one acre. It is envisaged that a future Moorleah Multipurpose Recreation Centre would only need approximately the same total footprint, up to 1 acre (4,047 metres squared) to host the facility, outdoor area, and car parking proposed.

Figure 3 & 4: Wynyard Basketball Centre. Source – LIST MAP



Copy of community meeting flyer letter boxed in the area on Dec. 3, 2023:

COMMUNITY MEETING~ All Welcome!

5PM ~ THURSDAY DECEMBER 14th ~ Moorleah Hall

Topic: *Proposal of a New Multipurpose Recreational Centre
in Moorleah, near the Crossroads
(at the junction of Preolenna Rd., Lapoinya Rd. & Pages Rd.)*

What:

A Basketball court sized enclosed multipurpose community facility that has a large open space with a hard surface, toilets/change-rooms, canteen/kitchen, and suitable car parking, that is:

- *Built using State/Federal funding & Council finances*
- *Owned by the Waratah-Wynyard Council*
- *Leased by a 'Moorleah Multipurpose Centre Association' for a nominal amount per year*
- *Managed and maintained by the Association and community volunteers, available for low cost one-off and regular bookings subject to availability.*

Why?

The communities of Lapoinya, Milabeena, Preolenna, Myalla, Meunna, & Moorleah comprise over 500 residents, yet have limited community facilities or spaces that can cater for a wide range of uses.

The current Moorleah Hall has served the area well in its lifetime, however, it is ageing, has limits on the range of uses due to its size and layout, and its location is not central for this combination of communities.

The Myalla Oval has limited users now that club football and cricket is no longer played there, and outdoor oval sports are not as big as they once were. Access to an all weather indoor recreational space will be more attractive for a wider range of people looking for activities to participate in or host for others. Although there is a reasonable use for the Myalla Community Centre, it isn't situated centrally to the communities listed, and is closer in distance to residents of Sisters Creek, Montumana, Rulla, & Myalla.

The 'Crossroads' serves as a potential centre point for our area, and has the potential to facilitate use from residents of Calder and Flowerdale also, meaning that a facility could be accessible to 800+ rural residents, excluding visitors to the area for specialty events or markets.

These factors justify exploring the possibility for such a facility, to make sure that our local Council is distributing its services fairly to the whole municipality.

How? *These are suggestions for the Volunteer Team in the early stages:*

1. *1st Community Meeting, understanding the project, and sharing ideas.*
2. *Call out for a Volunteer Team to begin developing a plan.*
3. *The Volunteer Team meets in January and discusses the next steps forward.*

Possible Use ideas:

- *A range of indoor sports & games for all ages (as demanded)*
- *After School program for kids & youth (fortnightly)*
- *Indoor/Outdoor Moorleah Market (monthly)*
- *Community meeting space (as needed)*
- *Music and performance events (multiple per year)*
- *Plus other community ideas soon to be shared!"*

The following Officers Comments were provided to the motion:

The motion requests officers prepare a feasibility study and associated cost-benefit report prior to the end of 2024. Councillors could list this as an annual plan action for 2024/25 in order to allow appropriate resources to be allocated to undertake the work as outlined.

The concept sits outside the adopted Open Space, Sport and Recreation Plan (OSSR) and has not been raised by community as a matter of interest until this point. It was not raised by community as part of the OSSR consultation.

Council periodically reviews its strategic documents. Recreation plans currently focus on the existing OSSR plans and associated master plans for Wynyard, Somerset and Frederick Street Reserve. Council would be best placed to wait until the next review of the OSSR plan and determine at that time whether community interest in this project sufficiently warrants the feasibility study to be undertaken.

Should Council wish to proceed with the project, it would need to be considered in future financial years to allocate appropriate resources and funds.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 3: Connected Communities
Desired Outcomes
1.1 We make publicly transparent decisions on spending and future directions while encouraging community feedback.
Our Priorities
1.1.1 Commit to best practice in community engagement.

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.

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

Should Council determine to proceed with the feasibility study, depending on the scope and detail of the work, external resourcing may be required. The cost of such an engagement can range anywhere from \$20,000 to \$100,000.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

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

CONSULTATION PROCESS




Council has not received any previous submissions about this proposal. It is understood a recently convened public meeting on the subject had minimal attendance.

If a feasibility study was to be undertaken, consultation with the community and relevant stakeholders would be required

RECOMMENDATION

Council is committed to a range of recreational projects in the short term. The project is not part of any adopted plans or strategies nor has community demand demonstrated a significant appetite for the project. For these reasons, it is recommended the proposed study is not pursued at this time

9.4 REALIGNMENT/ADDRESSING WALKER STREET WYNYARD

To: Council
Reporting Officer: IT and Spatial Services Coordinator
Responsible Manager: Manager Governance and Information Systems
Report Date: 20 December 2023
File Reference: 1
Enclosures: 1. OPTION 1 Map 
2. OPTION 2 Map 
3. OPTION 3 Map 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt OPTION #1 as outlined to use Dart Street as the new datum point for Walker Street; assigning a new name East from this point.

PURPOSE

To illustrate several options to allow for the allocation of clear and logical addressing to new parcels created as part of Seabrook Estate Stage#2 and some possible options for the alignment of Walker Street.

BACKGROUND

Due to recent subdivision works, Walker Street in Wynyard requires readdressing. This readdressing would mark the third instance necessitating an addressing change due to additional subdivisional works; however, this most recent alignment will make further major readdressing unnecessary.

As the addressing authority, Council is mandated to assign clear, logical, and contiguous addressing to all parcels with the objective to facilitate precise navigation for residents, emergency services, and other stakeholders. All addressing is to be assigned in accordance with Council policy and its referenced Acts, Guidelines and Standards. This report presents three potential options for the readdressing of Walker Street.

DETAILS

There are a number of options Council may consider to resolve this matter:

Option 1: DATUM POINT Dart Street

Overview: Use Dart Street as the new datum point for Walker Street, assigning a new road name East from this point. This will retain the existing Walker Street addresses to the West (no change to 20 Walker Street and above) and assign new addresses for 1-18 Walker Street (14 properties). This option is the best balance in its alignment to Council Policy and associated Acts, Guidelines and Standards. This option minimizes the impact on existing Walker Street residents while establishing a clear and logical change point for the roads.

Advantages:

- Minimal disruption for existing Walker Street residents.
- Establishes a clear change (Datum) point for roads.

-
- High clarity of navigation.
 - All new parcels are included in the new estate road naming.

Considerations:

- Potential confusion with the new addresses.

Option 2: DATUM POINT Shoreline Entrance

Overview: Use Shoreline Entrance as the Datum point for Walker Street, renumber Walker Street properties from this point and assign a new name to the road heading East. While this option most closely aligns with Council Policy, Acts, Guidelines and Standards and is the neatest from a road naming perspective, it will require the renumbering of over 60 property addresses.

Advantages:

- Neat and consistent road naming.
- Best Alignment with Council Policy and associated Acts, Guidelines and Standards.
- Highest potential for efficient organization.
- Establishes a clear change (Datum) point for roads.
- Highest potential clarity of navigation.

Considerations:

- Highest impact on existing addresses.
- Potential resistance from affected residents.
- Not all new parcels are “Included” in the new estate road naming.

Option 3: DATUM POINT Dune Close

Overview: Use Dune Close as the datum point for Walker Street and the new road name. This avoids any readdressing however is an awkward spot for a name change, potentially causing confusion. This option is the most contrary to Council Policy, Acts, guidelines, and standards.

Advantages:

- No readdressing required.
- No disruption to existing addresses.

Considerations:

- Most opposed to Council Policy, Acts, Guidelines and Standards.
- Most awkward/Unclear change (Datum) point for Roads.
- Highest potential confusion for navigation.
- Not all new parcels are “Included” in the new estate road naming.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

- PLACE NAMES ACT 2022
- Tasmania Place Naming Guidelines 2022
- Australian/New Zealand Standard Rural and Urban addressing (AS/NZS 4819:2011)

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL
Desired Outcomes
6.1 Our transport and access network can accommodate the changing needs of our industry and community.
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:
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.
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.
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 Road Naming and Addressing Policy is applicable to 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

Council must ensure that addressing and Road/Street alignments are logical and contiguous to allow for ease of navigation especially emergency services. It must also ensure that any change aligns with the relevant legislation.


CONSULTATION PROCESS

As the naming authority, Council has a responsibility to ensure logical addressing and street naming. Public consultation is not necessary; however it is recognised that affected residents will have strong views on this matter.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council progress Option 1 as outlined for the reasons specified within the report. This maintains continuity and simplicity, minimizing disruption for residents and is the best balance between alignment to Policy, neatness, and disruption to residents.

9.5 CRADLE COAST WASTE MANAGEMENT GROUP MEMBERSHIP

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Executive Officer
Responsible Manager: General Manager
Report Date: 4 January 2024
File Reference: 0101
Enclosures: 1. CCWMG - Terms of Reference 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the new Terms of Reference of the Cradle Coast Waste Management Group to include King Island and West Coast Councils into the group.

PURPOSE

To update the Cradle Coast Waste Management Group Terms of Reference to enable King Island and West Coast Council's to join the group.

BACKGROUND

The Cradle Coast Waste Management Group (CCWMG) was formed in 2007 to improve waste management from a regional perspective, providing efficiencies and economies of scale and sourcing specialty waste reduction services in North-West Tasmania. CCWMG currently represents seven North-West Tasmanian Councils being: Burnie City, Central Coast, Circular Head, Devonport City, Latrobe, Kentish and Waratah Wynyard Councils.

Over the last year the group has been working with King Island and West Coast Councils on a range of matters and these two Councils are seeking to become formal members of the group.

CCWMG membership is governed by the Terms of Reference (TOR), signed by representatives of Participating Councils. In the 2022 update of this document the TOR noted that:

West Coast and King Island Council's do not currently participate, however, opportunity for participation is open.

Following investigations by these Councils into the opportunities available from formal membership of the group, both Councils confirmed the desire to join the CCWMG. An amendment to the group's 2023/24 Annual Plan and budget was drafted, together with changes to the TOR to formally include both local government areas. In joining the CCWMG, this ensures all Tasmanian Councils belong to one of the three regional waste groups.

DETAILS

Membership of CCWMG

The CCWMG currently consists of the General Managers of the participating Councils. The group is supported by Cradle Coast Waste Services, part of the Dulverton Regional Waste Management Authority (DWM), providing project management support and waste expertise.

At a meeting of the CCWVG on 19 April 2023, it was agreed that to extend the membership to King Island and West Coast Councils the following process would apply:

1. Exchange of documentation requesting and approving admission to the Group.
2. Negotiation between CCWVG and the new Councils regarding financial contribution to the group, including start dates for service delivery, as well as revision of the group's annual plan and budget to incorporate the additional funding and projects to be presented and agreed by all members.
3. Endorsement from the additional member Council to accept CCWVG Strategic Plan, with any amendments agreeable to members relative to the new Councils needs or modifications to current projects to support broader participation.
4. Resolution of approval minuted in CCWVG meeting.
5. Update of the TOR to include the new member Councils and ensure rules match the requirements of the group.
6. All Councils sign updated TOR.
7. The Department of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) and the Waste and Resource Recovery Board be advised of the change in membership, at the completion of Steps 1-6.

Steps 1-5 have now been addressed and the proposed changes are provided to the TOR in the attachment. The primary changes proposed to the TOR relate to:

1. The TOR specifies certain rules based on the number of Councils currently members. For example: number of Voting Members as seven, quorum amount as four and similar. The TOR is updated to incorporate additional Council membership and amend the majority required for a quorum.
2. State Landfill Levy funding agreements are set up with distinct service areas in mind and remote areas have been offered funding under separate terms than those offered to waste management groups. Due to this, additional Councils outside of current CCWVG borders will need to have payment arrangements to CCWVG to cover regional services in these areas. Provision for this arrangement, and transparency on the use of funds is provided in the revised TOR.
3. The TOR identifies the CCWVG Strategic Plan as the primary driver for the projects and operations of the group. All members are expected to work toward alignment between Councils goals or strategies and the CCWVG goals.

If these changes are supported by the current members, then the revised Terms of Reference can be endorsed, with any amendments required.

Impact on the CCWVG 2023/24 Annual Plan and Budget

Whilst the proposed two new member Councils have several unique issues, related to the remoteness of these communities, both are working towards supporting their communities to increase resource recovery and manage the cost and environmental impact of waste disposal.

The process so far has been that both Councils have formally sought to join the group. At the April 2023 CCWVG meeting it was agreed in principle to include these Councils as members, subject to developing an approach to the funding and project delivery that the Councils would participate in. The current CCWVG funding agreement does not include return of waste levy for tonnages disposed of by either of these municipalities.

Consequently, it is proposed to charge an equivalent rate for the estimated tonnes generated annually by each Council. This generates a combined additional income for the group of \$76,930.

Program delivery for 2023/24 will seek to see both communities gain access to education and support to increase the recycling and recovery of materials through:

- Provision of 3 days for the schools' program in each new Council area. This will be delivered in a block rather than the usual spread of days to minimize cost and maximize learning outcomes;
- Access to the updated recycling education material to be developed to support the new FOGO and recycling contract commencing in July 2024;
- Provision of community hubs for resource recovery of common household waste streams at 1 location on King Island and 3 locations in West Coast, together with formalizing the logistics for the recovery of items presented;
- King Island will take on the use of the Mandalay program at its landfill and Waste Transfer Station; and
- Development of a Feasibility Study to assess capacity for West Coast to be included within the regional FOGO and recycling tender, addressing logistics, benefits to all member Councils for increased throughput and expected impact on diversion rates.

The Councils will also gain access to several other existing programs and contribute towards the administration costs of the organisation. The proposed changes to the CCWVG Project Task List and Budget have been endorsed by both Councils and approved in principle by the CCWVG at its December 2023 meeting.

Looking to the future, discussions will be held with NRE to determine if it is simpler to retain the current invoicing approach or amend the grant agreement for the CCWVG for 25FY.

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
6.3 We represent our community and are a strong advocate for contemporary regional transport and access network needs.
Our Priorities
5.1.2 Identify and maximise current industry and resource capacities.

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.
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.
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.
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 new environmental implications as a result of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Until 2022/23, the CCWVG was funded by a voluntary levy for waste collected at the regions three landfills; Dulverton (DWM), Port Latta and Lobster Creek. During the 2021/22 FY this levy was charged at a rate of \$5.50 per Tonne and was scheduled to increase by \$0.50 per year for the next ten years.

On 1 July 2022, the Tasmanian State Government initiated a State Landfill Levy of \$20.00 per Tonne, which superseded the regional voluntary levy collection method as ongoing funding for all regional groups was promised from the State. This levy will increase to more than \$60.00 per Tonne by 2026/27.

The Landfill Levy is managed by the Waste and Resource Recovery Board (WRRB), which is developing a clear path for supporting Statewide infrastructure and circular economy projects and released its strategy in November 2023.

WRRB funding is delivered through a three-year Grant linked to average tonnages over the previous three years. This creates a smoothing function for significant landfill changes, such as the introduction of a Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) service. The 2022/23 funding amount has been included in the Grant Deed as a base minimum for future years to maintain a baseline in case of tonnage reductions. The 2023/24 CCWVG grant income for 2023/24 is \$690,990. The inclusion of the two additional Council areas will increase the group's income to \$767,920.

As the cost of providing CCWVG services/programs to West Coast and King Island will be proportionally higher due to remoteness, any renegotiation with the Board regarding

funding should provision for this and agreed to by all CCWVG members in the next 3 year WRRB funding round.

There is no direct financial impact on Waratah-Wynyard Council from inclusion of King Island and West Coast Council in the CCWVG.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

The rates of waste generation per person, together with the costs for disposal and the requirements to manage the environmental and social impacts have become increasingly demanding for many communities to manage. At a regional level, joint contracts provide the ability to increase market competition, when compared to individual Council purchasing. Also, for most Councils in the region, staff may not have specialist knowledge or have an already full workload, limiting their ability to source the best outcomes.

For the new member Councils, participation in CCWVG provides both direct and indirect benefits to enhance waste and resource recovery outcomes and reduce exposure to risks. For the existing members of the CCWVG, increased funding will support the programs offered into the future, as well as have the potential to build throughput in some contracts that lower the unit price for processing collected materials for all Consultation Process.

The member Councils, staff and General Managers, together with community groups have been instrumental in making the CCWVG the most mature and stable waste management group in the state. The commitment to the voluntary levy and the capacity to work together has driven many changes in the last 15 years.

Broadening the membership will spread the benefits of this work further across the region. When the TOR is endorsed by all Councils then the state government and the Waste and Resource Recovery Board will be advised of this change.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council receive this report and endorse the new Terms of Reference of the CCWVG to include King Island and West Coast Councils into the group.

9.6 ROLLOUT OF FOOD AND ORGANIC SERVICES ACROSS THE NORTH WEST

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Director Infrastructure and Development Services
Responsible Manager: General Manager
Report Date: 10 January 2024
File Reference: 02
Enclosures: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the development of the communications strategy to support the planned delivery of the FOGO service across the region from mid-2024.

PURPOSE

To update the community on the communication strategy and delivery plan for the introduction of FOGO services.

BACKGROUND

The Cradle Coast Waste Management Group (CCWVG) has appointed a communications firm to develop information for households around the commencement of the regional Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) service in mid-July 2024. This report provides an overview of how the community across the region can expect the delivery of this new service to occur.

DETAILS

Councils across the North West will be at the forefront in resource recovery in the state with the proposed commencement of the FOGO service from July 2024.

To ensure people know how to effectively use the new green bin that will be delivered to most residents, information is being developed for presentation across a wide range of platforms. This work will be guided by the development of the communications strategy, professionally prepared and overseen by a group comprising Councillors and staff from each of the Councils in the regional FOGO collection contract.

The objectives of the communications work is to:

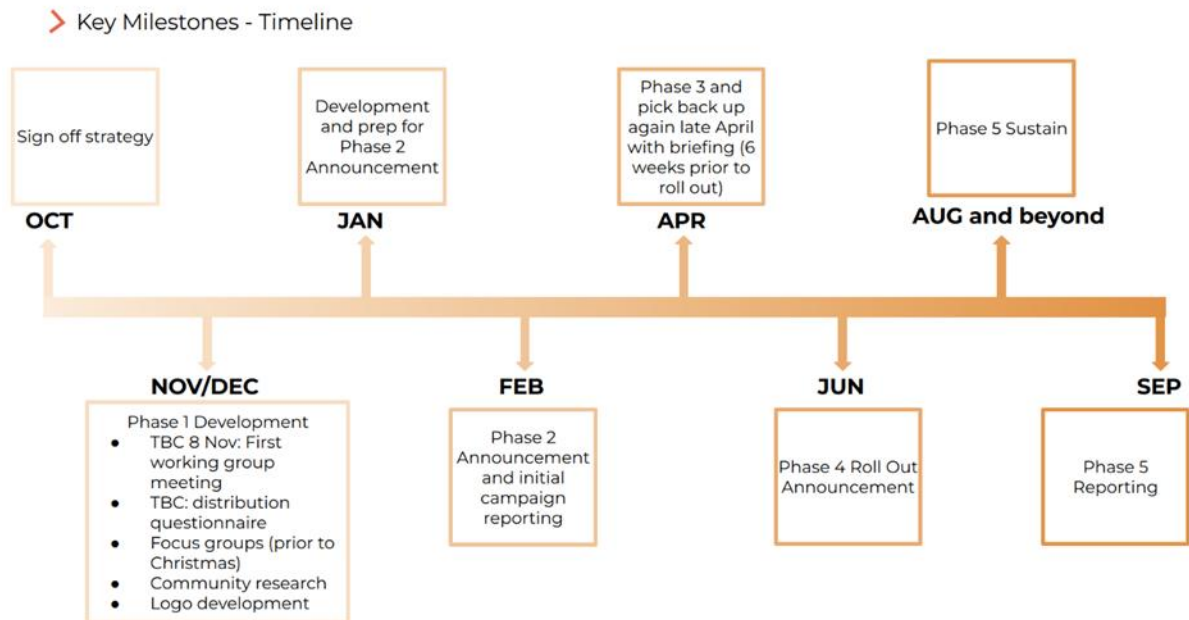
- Drive awareness of the new FOGO service and how to utilize the bin effectively;
- Educate the community on why FOGO is an important element of waste diversion; and
- Inspire/promote participation by households.

The delivery of the communications plan has five key stages which are depicted below:

- 1 DEVELOPMENT**
Prepare strategy, complete the CCWVG re-brand, stakeholder/partner engagement, know audience, and develop needed materials.
- 2 ANNOUNCEMENT**
Generate a public facing announcement to the community.
- 3 BUILD UP**
Rollout awareness and education campaign and tactics to prepare community.

- 4 LAUNCH**
FOGO bin suite rolled out, trigger for large scale awareness and education with community.
- 5 SUSTAIN BEHAVIOUR AND EVALUATION**
Continued education and awareness tactics to sustain behaviour change, with evaluation points.

It is anticipated that the delivery of the project will be as follows:



The first meeting of the Council Engagement Group for this project was held on 9 November 2023. The meeting worked through the stages for the delivery of the communication plan and attendees provided feedback to the consultants on issues that are anticipated to arise.

Following from the session the participants collated a list of local events where information about the new service might be showcased between April and June 2024.

The next meeting of the group is planned for late January 2024 to continue developing the materials households will need to utilise the new bin system.

Implementing the service in a way that maximises the amount of organic material collected and minimises contamination is a key goal. It is anticipated that a range of formats and places to collect information on how to use the green bin will be available as the communications project evolves. Materials with the bin, online, available in person and at community sites are all likely to be elements of the project.

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
1.1 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:
Business & Industry	Specialised diversity of the economy – Value adding, diversification, innovation and employment. A resilient economy with global brand recognition and growing exports.
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.
Health and Wellbeing	Maintaining good health and wellbeing – Healthy communities, people taking responsibility for their wellness, convenient access to medical services and facilities.
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.
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

The CCWVG's strategic vision is to:

Deliver a sustainable community in the Cradle Coast region of Tasmania by implementing strategies which minimise waste through increases in waste diversion and recovery.

The objectives of the CCWVG Strategic Plan 2023-2028 include achieving a 60% resource recovery from municipal waste by 2028. This target sits within the state and national targets for the reduction in landfilling.

The implementation of the regional FOGO collection service across the northwest from mid-2024 will be instrumental in reducing the amount of material bound for landfill.

This is also consistent with Council's own Waste & Resource Recovery Strategy 2019-2024 which has a reduction of waste to landfill of 50% over the life of the strategy and the integrated Council Environmental plan (iCEP).

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Whilst each Council in the regional contract bears the cost of the FOGO service, this cost is off-set in part by savings in the state waste levy that currently apply to the disposal of this material to landfill.

The communications project is funded by the regional waste management group, which receives its primary funding from the state Waste and Resource Recovery Board.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Through working collaboratively, the Council has been able to procure the new service in a cost and time effective manner. Support to oversee the contract will be provided by the regional waste management group.


THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE NEW SERVICE IS SET TO COINCIDE WITH THE DELIVERY OF PROCESSING CAPACITY IN THE REGION AT THE NEW DULVERTON WASTE MANAGEMENT COMPOSTING FACILITY. THIS REDUCES THE TRANSPORT COSTS FOR MATERIALS COLLECTED FROM THE GREEN BINSCONSULTATION PROCESS

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

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the Council note the development of the communications strategy to support the planned delivery of the FOGO service to our municipality and across the region from mid-2024.

9.7 MANAGEMENT OF SLENDER THISTLES - UPDATE

To: Council
Reporting Officer: NRM Officer
Responsible Manager: Director Infrastructure and Development Services
Report Date: 9 January 2024
File Reference: NRM
Enclosures: 1. Slender Thistle Statutory Weed Management Plan 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the update on current Slender Thistle management practices.

PURPOSE

To provide an overview of Council's current practice for management of Slender Thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus* and *Carduus tenuiflorus*) following recent public statements.

BACKGROUND

Council continues to receive public statements and questions regarding Council's management of the plant commonly known as Slender Thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus* and *Carduus tenuiflorus*).

Slender Thistle is a declared weed under the previous *Weed Management Act 1999* and under the Slender Thistle Statutory Weed Management Plan, Waratah-Wynyard, along with 26 other municipal areas is listed as zone B for Containment.

DETAILS

Council's approach to weed management is underpinned by the *Biosecurity Act 2019* first objective of promoting voluntary compliance. This objective reads to *ensure that responsibility for biosecurity is shared between government, industry and the community*.

The Act, passed in 2019 and implemented in 2020. It replaced seven (7) other Acts including the *Weed Management Act 1999*. The administration of the Act is the responsibility of the Minister for Primary Industry and Water. The division of DPIPWE responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Act is *Biosecurity Tasmania*.

Through the Act, suitably qualified and experienced Authorised Officers can be appointed by the Secretary to perform regulatory functions if, and when, required. Authorised Officers can be employed in local government.

Authorised Officers have specific powers. These powers are limited by the person's instrument of appointment. Authorised Officers will be aware of procedures and policies but have scope for individual issue specific discretion.

The key power (*Part 4 Division 3*) is the power of entry. An Authorised Officer may enter a property by foot, vehicle, vessel, aircraft or by any other reasonable means, including a drone or other pilotless vehicle or equipment under remote control. Unauthorised persons do not have these powers and face prosecution if they enter property without permission.

Waratah Wynyard Council employs an Authorised Person.

Council practices an integrated approach to Slender Thistle weed management, consistent with the Statutory Weed Management plan for a Zone B (Containment) Municipal area. Council officers participate regularly with other stakeholders including Local Government, State Government, private land holders and State Utility officers. These stakeholders work formally through the Cradle Coast NRM facilitated Northwest Weed Working Group. Council facilitates and works with local Landcare and community groups and continually works towards achieving improved environmental controls. Weed management hygiene is an area of importance.

Council's approach to weed management within and without council managed land is both strategic and hands on, as well as proactive and reactive. Where seasonal infestation patterns emerge property owners are contacted, issues identified and solutions sought. Communication is on a person-to-person basis usually firstly through a phone call or email and then face to face. Specific weed management actions are generally given to weed management issues requiring action with specific timing requirements. In these instances, follow-up inspections and status reports are undertaken. Formal requirement notices (now formal directions) are issued as required.

Where weed management issues are reported through the public an inspection is made and the matter dealt with in an appropriate manner. This generally involves personal contact with the property owner after the matter's validity is ascertained. Where a matter has been reported to Council and appropriate mitigation is prescribed, under the Act, Council is not obliged to report back to the complainant beyond noting that the matter has been addressed. Any solution identification and agreed management action can be discussed with an appropriate Biosecurity Tasmania officer but breaches of privacy are not acceptable.

Council have developed strong and effective working relationships with Biosecurity officers at various levels over a protracted period. The relationship is underpinned by regular communication and knowledge exchange as well as shared site inspections and face to face discussions with property owners as required. Not all communication is underpinned by regulatory reprisals but often to keep in touch.

Weed management issues are taken seriously and treated objectively by Council officers.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

The *Biosecurity Act 2019* and the *Biosecurity Regulations 2022* have replaced the *Weed Management Act 1999* and *Weed Management Regulations 2017* and are the relevant legislative instruments.

Pertinently, the *Biosecurity Regulations 2022*, section 38 *Weed management plans* states: -

38. Weed management plans

(1) Any weed management plan within the meaning of the Weed Management Act 1999 that was in force immediately before the commencement of this regulation is taken to be a Government biosecurity program implemented by the Secretary under section 136 of the Act containing, subject to subregulation (2), the same provisions and measures as the weed management plan and, if any term or period of the plan is specified, for the term or period expiring on the same day as specified.

(2) A Government biosecurity program under subregulation (1) does not include any reference in a weed management plan to any specific offence against the Weed Management Act 1999, or any other Act of the old legislative scheme.

In this regard, the Slender Thistle Statutory Weed Management Plan lists Waratah-Wynyard Council, along with 26 of the 29 other Tasmanian Councils as a Zone B municipal area for Containment.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 7: Environment
Desired Outcomes
7.5 Stewardship of our land, water and marine ecosystems respects past, present and future generations.
Our Priorities
7.1.2 Advocate for effective environmental management and contribute to regional, state, and national climate change initiatives.

Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040

Community Future Direction Theme	Key Challenges & Opportunities:
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.
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.
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

Council's Enforcement Policy is relevant in this instance.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Slender thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus* and *Carduus tenuiflorus*) is a serious weed of pasture and cropping areas of Tasmania, impacting agricultural environments. Coordinated efforts with all stakeholders is required to contain its impact.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Council weed management budget has increased considerably in recent years. Council, annually expenses \$154,162 on direct weed control measures, predominately weed spraying along with a further \$70,000 on related Natural resource management.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

There are no new 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 note the current management of Slender Thistle and the ongoing partnership arrangement with State Government Biosecurity officers.

9.8 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Manager Financial Services
Responsible Manager: General Manager
Report Date: 12 January 2024
File Reference: Financial Management - Reporting - Annual Financial Statements

Enclosures:

1. Waratah Wynyard Council Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 
2. Independent Audit Opinion for the year ended 30 June 2023 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the Annual Audited Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2023 and note that it is included in the Annual Report.

PURPOSE

This report is provided to present the Annual Audited Financial Statements to Council for the year ended 30 June 2023.

BACKGROUND

The Annual Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Audit Act 2008* and relevant Accounting Standards.

The Audit Opinion and the Annual Financial Statements are attached to this report and will be made available on Council's website and for viewing at Customer Services.

DETAILS

The Annual Financial Report comprises four financial statements, together with notes to the accounts. The 'notes' provide additional detail and explanation to the financial statements.

The Annual Financial Statements fully comply with the accounting standards and Council's statutory obligations and have been audited by the Tasmanian Audit Office.

Council is currently in a strong financial position. Over recent years it has improved its underlying operating position, has strong liquidity and cash flow, relatively low debt levels and its asset renewal requirements are being satisfactorily funded.

Council's Financial Performance

It is pleasing to report that Council has recorded an underlying operating surplus of \$0.834m for the year ended 30 June 2023 compared to a budgeted surplus of \$0.491m, a favourable variance of \$0.343m.

Council's Financial Management Strategy continues to guide Council decision making ensuring that financial implications of Council decision-making are informed, sustainable and affordable to the community.

Through careful management, Council continues to have a sustainable operating position with Council having now had seven years of operational surpluses.

The table below outlines the main favourable variances which contributed to Council reporting an operational surplus for 2023.

Initial budgeted surplus	491
Favorable Variances	
Higher than budgeted supplementary rates income	50
Higher than budgeted interest income	409
Higher than budgeted financial assistance & tulip festival grants	226
Higher than budgeted user fee income from a	174
Lower than budgeted employee costs due to a number of vacancies during the year	148
Higher than budgeted Trainee subsidies	102
Higher than budgeted fuel tax credit income	33
Unfavorable Variances	
Higher than budgeted early payment discount for rates and charges	(26)
Impairment of rates debts for a number of properties with no prospect of recovery	(145)
Higher than budgeted waste clearance expenditure	(127)
Higher than budgeted waste transfer station management costs	(38)
Unbudgeted flood damage	(28)
Unbudgeted operational costs of capital works	(266)
Higher than budgeted loss on disposal of assets	(41)
Other variances	(128)
2022-23 operational surplus	834

Council's ongoing underlying operating position remains sustainable, with Council budgeting for a surplus of \$0.604m in 2023-24 and Financial Management Strategy demonstrating the ability for Council to remain sustainable into the future.

Council's Financial Position

Council continues to have capacity to comfortably meet its financial obligations.

The community's net assets increased by \$24.982m to \$302.332m throughout the reporting period due to Council's continued investment in new infrastructure and increases in the fair value of Council community assets including an increase in Council's investment in Tas Water of \$1.352m and \$19.732m in infrastructure asset revaluations.

Council total capital expenditure for the year was \$11.806m compared with \$10.903m in the previous year. The total value of Council property, plant and infrastructure as at 30 June was \$250.171m (\$225.560.781m as at 30 June 2022). Council's equity investment in Tas Water is valued at \$45.379m.

Council's cash and investments at year-end was \$13.937m. Council's cash balance is subject to several internal and external restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary or future use. This includes coverage of future commitments for infrastructure renewals, liabilities and reserve funds. \$1.245m of the funds on hand was restricted and committed to

the fulfilment of future grant obligations and funds held in trust. Much of Council’s surplus cash is committed to Council’s ambitious capital expenditure program for ongoing projects scheduled for completion throughout 2023/24.

Council continues to have the capacity to meet its ongoing financial obligations.

Financial Management Strategy & Sustainability Targets

Council’s Financial Management Strategy (FMS) is critical to Council’s strategic planning process. It underpins Council’s long-term financial sustainability while meeting the needs and expectations of our communities in delivering Council’s strategic priorities.

Council’s financial performance and position for 2022-23 continues to be sustainable and consistent with the objectives and targets set in its FMS.

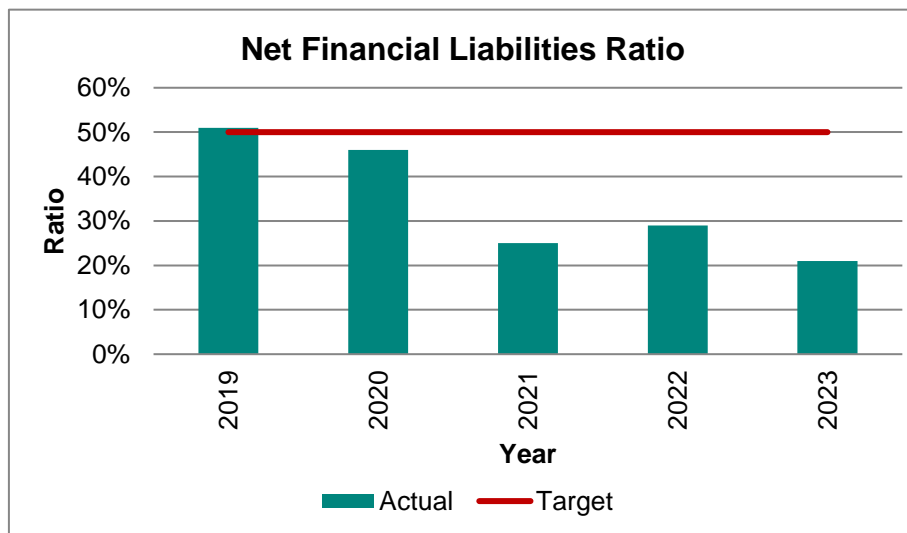
A generally accepted definition of financial sustainability is whether Council has enough financial capacity to meet current and prospective financial requirements. Therefore, to be sustainable, Council needs to have the ability to manage financial risks without adjusting current revenue or expenditure policies radically.

Section 84(2A) of the *Local Government Act*, Local Government (Management indicators) Order (S.R.2014, No. 36) has specified the following indicators of sustainability; the Tasmanian Audit Office has identified benchmarks for each.

Net Financial Liabilities Ratio

This ratio indicates the extent to which Council’s financial liabilities could be met by recurrent income. A ratio above 50 per cent represents a low sustainability risk and may indicate that Council is holding cash reserves greater than it needs.

Council’s 2022-23 ratio indicates that it is well placed to meet its ongoing financial liabilities.

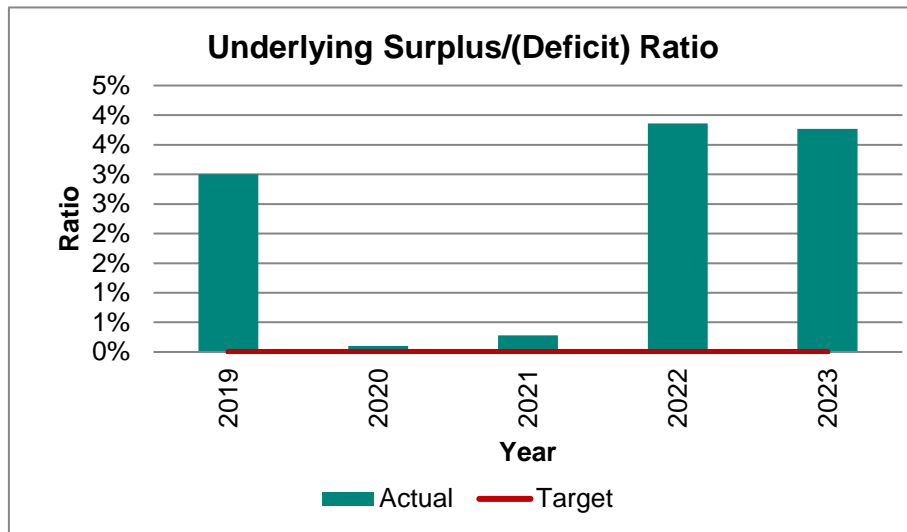


Underlying Surplus or Deficit Ratio

The operating surplus ratio is the operating surplus (deficit) expressed as a percentage of total revenue (Adjusted by excluding capital grants, contributed PP&E and asset revaluation increment/decrements).

Council has now had seven years of operational surpluses (2016/17 to 2022/23) following a significant period of operating deficits between 2011/12 and 2015/16.

Council's operating ratio is sustainable and exceeds the benchmark.

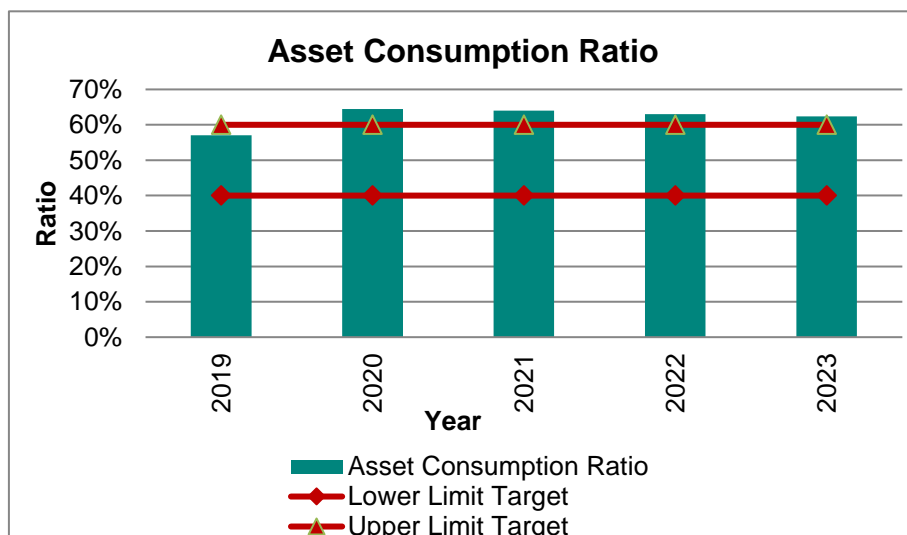


Asset Consumption Ratio

The asset consumption ratio indicates the levels of service potential available in existing infrastructure managed by Council.

The higher the percentage, the greater future service potential is available to provide services to ratepayers. A ratio above 60 per cent may represent low sustainability risk and less than 40 per cent high sustainability risk.

Council's ratio as at 30 June 2023 exceeds the benchmark.



Asset Sustainability Ratio

This ratio calculates the extent to which Council is maintaining operating capacity through the renewal of its existing asset base.

It is a measure of asset replacement expenditure relative to depreciation for a period.

Whilst the ratio result is slightly below the target, Council is comfortable that asset renewal requirements are being satisfactorily met and provided for through its future planning.

Council's Financial Management Strategy demonstrates that Council will comfortably be able to fund its asset renewals as they become due and in accordance with Council's asset management plans and life cycle data for assets.



STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

Section 72 of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires Council to prepare an Annual Report containing the Annual Financial Statements and other statutory requirements. The Annual Report must be considered at the Annual General Meeting, which is to be held no later than 15 December.

The Annual Financial Statements are required to be prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards; Section 84 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Audit Act 2008*.

The *Audit Act 2008* requires that the financial statements are to be prepared within 45 days of the end of the financial year and forwarded to the Auditor-General as soon as practicable. The Tasmanian Audit Office then has a further 45 days to complete the audit of the Statements.

Section 84 (4) of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires that 'the General Manager is to ensure that the certified financial statements are tabled at a meeting of the council as soon as practicable'.

This is the first opportunity for the certified financial statement to be provided formally to Council.

Section 82 (4) of the Act states "a council may alter by absolute majority any estimate referred to in subsection (2) during the financial year".

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 1: Leadership and Governance
Desired Outcomes
1.5 We highly value the use of an evidence-based approach to the development and implementation of strategies and policies that support and strengthen our decision making.
Our Priorities
1.5.1 Build our knowledge base to apply in decision-making processes.
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 in receiving this report.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

The draft financial statements were referred to the Audit Panel for review at its meeting on 19 September 2023.

CONCLUSION

Council's audited financial statements outline Council's financial operating performance and financial position for 2022/23. Council's operating results are favourable to budget and continue to be sustainable with a favourable performance against the budget adopted by Council in June 2022.


Council's Financial Management Strategy continues to guide Council decision making ensuring that financial implications of Council decision-making are informed, sustainable and affordable to the community.

Through careful management, Council continues to have a sustainable operating position with Council having now had seven years of operational surpluses.

Council is currently in a strong financial position with strong liquidity and cash flow, low debt levels, assets that are in good condition, and an ability to satisfactorily fund its asset renewal requirements. Council's operating position has also improved in recent years and is sustainable with its recurrent expenses able to be fully met by its recurrent revenue streams.

It is recommended that Council receive the Annual Audited Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2023 and note that it will be included in the Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2023.

9.9 ANNUAL PLAN PROGRESS REPORT - 1 JULY 2023 TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Information Management Officer
Responsible Manager: Manager Governance and Information Systems
Report Date: 3 January 2024
File Reference: Corporate Management - Planning
Enclosures: 1. Annual Plan Progress Report - 1 July 2023 - 31 December 2023 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the 2023/24 Annual Plan Progress Report for the period 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023.

PURPOSE

This report is provided as an update on the Annual Plan actions as at 31 December 2023.

By providing a regular update, Council can see how the organisation is tracking in the delivery of commitments made to the community through the Annual Plan.

BACKGROUND

The Annual Plan and Budget Estimates is developed by Council each year, outlining key activities and initiatives for the year.

The Council adopted the 2023/24 Annual Plan and Budget Estimates on 19 June 2023.

The strategic planning framework guides Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Our Mission, Vision & Values), medium term (Strategic Plan) and short term (Annual Plan and Budget Estimates) and holds itself accountable through the Audited Financial Statements and Annual Report.

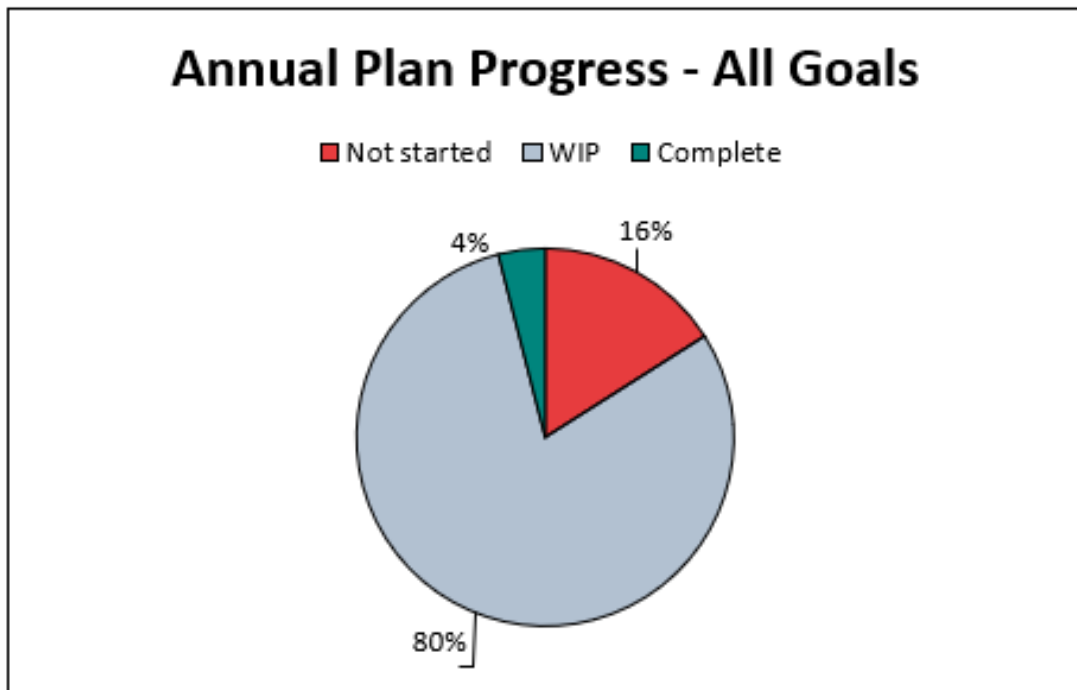
The activities and initiatives included in the Annual Plan and Budget Estimates contribute to achieving the strategic objectives specified in the Strategic Plan.

DETAILS

The attached report provides a progress report of actions against Council's 2023/24 Annual Plan.

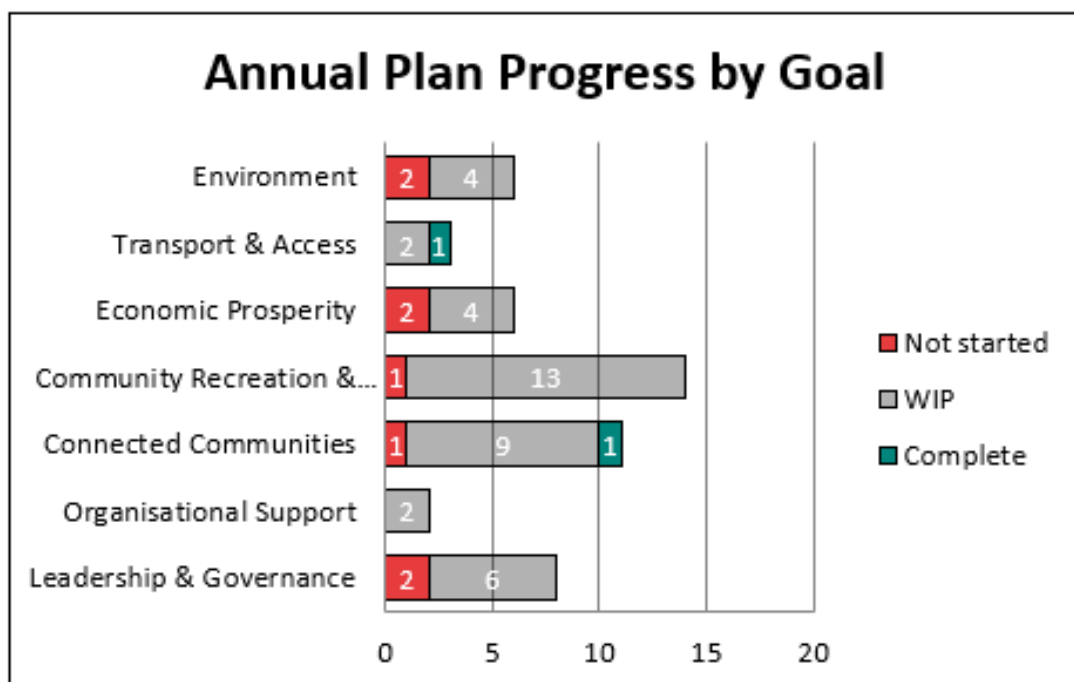
As at 31 December 2023, 40 actions are in progress (80%), 8 actions have not commenced (16%) and 2 actions have been completed (4%).

There was a total of 50 actions adopted in the Annual Plan and Budget. The below graphs present overall progress of the actions to date.



- 2 actions are completed
- 23 actions at least 90% of monthly target
- 4 actions between 70% – 90% complete
- 12 actions at less than 70% complete
- 1 ongoing action
- 8 actions not commenced

The following graph outlines progress against each of Council's strategic goals:



Outstanding Actions Progress

Status on actions which remained uncompleted from the 2022/23 financial year, as reported at the August 2023 meeting is provided below -

Action	Progress
East Wynyard Foreshore Masterplan	Completed. The new boardwalk works have been finalised.
Erosion Mitigation - Somerset	Planning permit completed. Design currently being prepared.
Cam River Masterplan	Public Art project awarded and expected to be installed in February 2024
Rural Road Network Improvements	Completed
Camp Creek Biodiversity Project	Discussions continue with relevant stakeholders with aim to commence planting prior to June 2024.
Bushfire Risks For Settlement Areas	Risk assessments have occurred for the Somerset area and actions are being taken to mitigate identified risks.
Sustainable Murchison Plan Review	Review was deferred until local government reform process has progressed to decision
Yolla Public Toilet	Investigation is continuing. Council is ready and willing to construct this facility should a suitable site be determined. Update likely to be presented in February 2024 Council agenda.
Enclosed Dog Exercise Area	Progressing negotiations with Wynyard Show Society about establishment of site at showgrounds however progress remains slow due to crown land approval process.
Waratah Community Hub Upgrades	These upgrades were deferred so works can be undertaken concurrently with scheduled maintenance tasks in Waratah in the 23/24 financial year. Works are planned for February '24.
Waratah Rail Bridge	Tender awarded at July 2023 Council meeting with works scheduled to commence in October. Completion scheduled for early February 2024.
Big Creek Flood Mitigation Works	New scope and design being considered. Public consultation has commenced
Port Creek Flood Mitigation Works	Tender awarded at May 2023 Council meeting with works commencing in December. Completion expected in May 2024.
Ballad Avenue Use	Council has determined not to proceed with recreational infrastructure on the site and are seeking feedback from the Sustainability Environmental Advisory Panel as to possible uses for the site.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

The Annual Plan is prepared as part of the Budget Estimate process and is required under the Local Government Act 1993:

71. *Annual plan*

(1) A council is to prepare an annual plan for the municipal area for each financial year.

(2) An annual plan is to –

- (a) be consistent with the strategic plan; and*
- (b) include a statement of the manner in which the council is to meet the goals and objectives of the strategic plan; and*
- (c) include a summary of the estimates adopted under section 82; and*
- (d) include a summary of the major strategies to be used in relation to the council's public health goals and objectives. The Annual Plan is part of a larger strategic planning framework.*

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

The plan is consistent with the Waratah-Wynyard Corporate Strategic Plan 2017/27 and the Sustainable Murchison Community Plan 2040.

Council Strategy or Plan	Date Adopted:
Annual Plan and Budget Estimates 2022/23	19 June 2023

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

Council provides quarterly reports as part of the Council meeting process to ensure Councillors and the public can see progress against annual plan actions.

CONCLUSION

That Council note the 2023/24 Annual Plan Action Report for the period 1 July 2023 to 31 December 2023.

9.10 COMMUNITY & ENGAGEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Manager Community Activation
Responsible Manager: General Manager
Report Date: 24 November 2023
File Reference: 001
Enclosures: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the Quarterly Information Report for the Community and Engagement Department as of end December 2023.

PURPOSE

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

- Customer Services
- Community Activation
- Tourism and Marketing
- Communications
- Wonders of Wynyard
- Warawyn Early Learning

BACKGROUND

The quarterly report is to provide an overview of statistical information on the activities of Council for each department.

Following a review of organisational reporting to ensure consistent and improved information sharing to Council, a quarterly information report is provided for each Directorate with a snapshot of activities undertaken.

DETAILS

This report contains statistical and anecdotal information of the activities, projects and programs being delivered within the Community and Engagement Directorate. The strategic context for these actions comes from a range of strategy documents including the Health and Wellbeing, Age Friendly Communities and Youth Plans, the Open Space Sport and Recreation Plan, the Communications and Tourism Plan.

Warawyn EARLY YEARS

Warawyn Early Learning Christmas Party

Each year Warawyn celebrate with families, welcoming opportunities to come together and reflect on the previous 12 months. The Warawyn Christmas party is always a wonderful opportunity for educators and families to share the festive season and showcase the program.

Families gathered on the lawn at the Child Care Centre on Wednesday 6 December to celebrate the festive season. Families brought along a picnic dinner and had an opportunity to mingle and meet other families while enjoying the activities provided by the centre educators.

With the support of the local emergency services, Santa arrived in the fire truck to the delight of the children and families. Sirens sounding and lots of Ho, Ho, Ho, Santa joined the party to the excitement of the children and spent the evening chatting to children and families and providing each child with a wrapped book to take home.





Becoming Safe on our Roads – Yippee Program

Each year hundreds of Australian children are seriously injured as a result of road trauma. These incidents are mostly preventable through collaborative efforts. When parents, carers and early childhood educators work together to support children’s road-safety knowledge, skills, behaviours and attitudes, children are safer and learn how to become capable and responsible citizens.

As part of Warawyn Early Learning centre, Community Connections Program and Calendar of Events, children are educated on the importance of Road-Safety.

Sarah Boylen from RACT visited the children at the childcare centre on Thursday 23 November. Sarah introduced the ‘Yippee Story Time’ Program which is designed to introduce basic road safety concepts to young children.

The children practiced crossing the road with an adult safely and observed the red, amber, and green lights only crossing when the lights turned green.

Every child was provided a copy of the ‘Yippee’ book to take home, encouraging families to continue the road safety education through story.

Road-safety education for young children and how acting early to strengthen children’s attitudes, skills and behaviours about safety on the road can create safer communities—now and in the future.

Warawyn Early Learning Average Attendance

July	August	September	October	November	December
54	57.55	55.64	57.1	56.08	54.25

Warawyn – Wynyard OSHC Average Attendance

July	August	September	October	November	December
34.85	38	35.04	32.28	30.95	32.10

Warawyn – Boat Harbour OSHC Average Attendance

July	August	September	October	November	December
17.15	16.30	14.48	15.10	15.16	15.93

**Averages include actuals/attendance over 4 weeks and does not include cancelations*

COMMUNITY ACTIVATION

CUSTOMER SERVICE

The data for the period covering 2 October 2023 through to 5 January 2024 indicates that Council is responding to approximately 5 requests for service per day. This is slightly higher than the service request volume in the last reporting period.

- 473 requests for service registered in Conquest (Customer Request System).
- 373 have been actioned and completed.
- 100 requests are currently open in Conquest and being progressed.
- 38 requests are “Closed but not Complete” (Require further resource allocation).
- 19 requests were from Waratah.

Waste and Recycling – Recycling levels have remained consistent over the last three reporting periods.

Dog Registration – Office visits by customers increased significantly during this period, and Customer Service was proud to support Compliance Services and facilitate another successful Dog Registration period.

RECREATION

Community Activations Grants – The most applications in the history of the Community Activation Grants were submitted for Round One. Applications were received for projects encouraging social wellbeing, fostering economic development, and education pursuits in the Waratah-Wynyard LGA.



The Lions Club of Wynyard was awarded \$2000 to go towards their Christmas parade.

Frederick Street Reserve Working Group – in August community members, clubs and organisations who utilise the Frederick Street Reserve were invited to have their say and provide input into the future use of Frederick Street Reserve by contributing to an updated Master Plan. The Group have met this quarter and will continue to meet in 2024 to formulate their vision for the recreation space.

Try Skills - Waratah-Wynyard Council offered the Try Skills program in October during the school holiday break. The program aims to encourage active participation by young people in activities in the Waratah-Wynyard area and is open to all young people from grades five, six and seven. This year volunteers came from the following 12 clubs/groups:

Gardening with Kelly (WWC)

Aqua Class at WynFit

Gym Fundamentals at WynFit

Tennis Club

Samurai Ju Jitsu

DoMaur Theatre productions

Shim Jang Taekwondo

Van Diemen's Sword Fighting Association

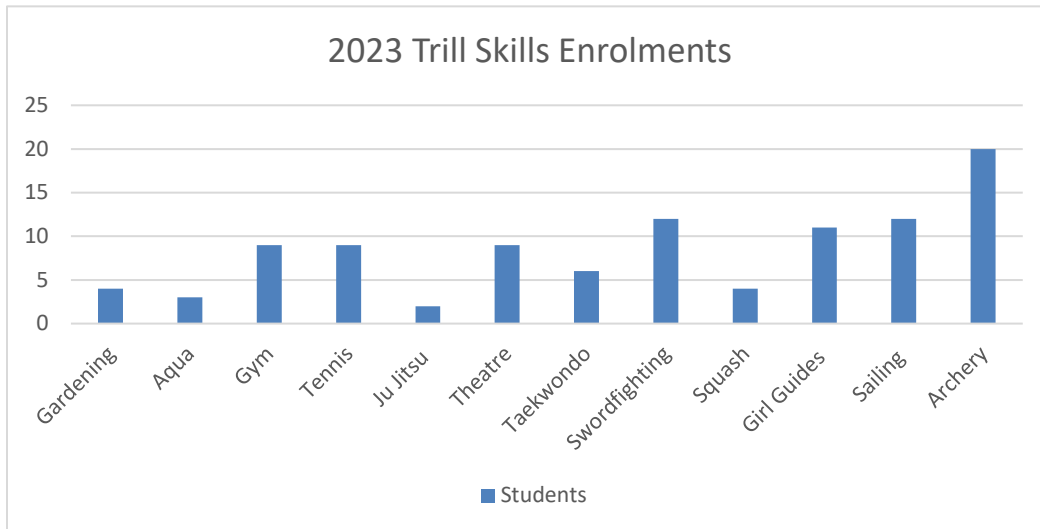
Wynyard Squash Racquets Association

Girl Guides

Sailing with the Wynyard Yacht Club

Burnie Archery Club

Try Skills had 54 students from the municipality participate in this wide range of activities. Many of the events were at maximum capacity. While some groups reported having slightly lower numbers compared to previous years, they were able to recruit new members to their clubs. Ju Jitsu, the Swordfighters, and Squash Club all recruited new members from Try Skills.



Sword fighting was held as part of Try Skills 2023

PUBLIC ART

Wynyard Wall Mural - Council's Public Art Advisory Group put out an Expression of Interest for a local mural artist(s) to create a new artwork for the Lunch Company wall in Wynyard (next to Woolworths) to activate the space. There were many high-quality applications received, and Amy Morrow was selected as the successful artist who will complete the mural in early 2024.

Coastal Pathway Additions of Flair - Council sort submissions by local artists to contribute artistic 'additions of flair' to stopping points along the proposed Coastal Pathway.

Art pieces could be anything from seats, signs, or bike racks – basically, anything creative or interesting to activate and beautify the stopping point. Council received a variety of applications and has engaged artists to create unique pieces that will commence instalment in June 2024.

Wynyard Community Garden Mosaic Exhibition – The colourful mosaics were installed in the CBD Plaza by the Community Garden to activate the space during Spring Loaded

celebrations. The community responded so positively that the exhibit has been invited to stay this quarter and into 2024.



EVENTS

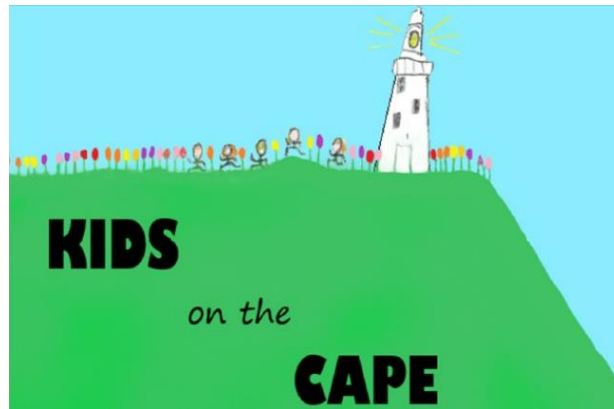
Community Events Calendar – The opportunity for community members to promote their event for free has been created through the Waratah-Wynyard Council Online Events Calendar. The “Event Calendar” section of Council’s website is easy to use. The community is invited to head to warwyn.tas.gov.au/events-calendar/ and 'Add your event details' to share information about their event.

Tulip Festival, Upcoming Young Artists Opportunity – Waratah-Wynyard Council Events teamed up with Hump. Entertainment to enable the youth of the community to have a live paid performance at the Tulip Festival. The up-and-coming artists collaboration was well received by Tulip Festival patrons and will be extended in coming years.

Tulip Festival, Raffle – after a few years of adjournment, the ever-popular Tulip Festival Raffle was back, bigger and better than ever in 2023! The community got behind the raffle with thousands of dollars’ worth of prizes being donated, and bumper ticket sales recorded.

Tulip Festival, Eco Village – For the first time this year’s Tulip Festival featured an Eco Village, with a focus on minimising waste and taking a step towards achieving a zero-waste event in the future. In the lead up to the Tulip Festival this year, the Plastic Free Places Tasmania program was engaged to educate vendors on how to minimise waste. The Eco Village also supported conversations about the local environment, clean energy, and upcycling waste.

Spring Loaded, Kids on the Cape - Council was thrilled to support the inaugural Kids on the Cape Fun Run event on Saturday 7th October, at Table Cape Tulip Farm. This wonderful community event idea came from Boat Harbour Primary School student, Ellie Gatenby, who was inspired by the Gone Nuts event and wanted to create something similar for kids. The emphasis was on participation and having fun, while also enjoying the unique experience of running through tulips and simple ‘farm’ obstacles along the way.



Spring Loaded, Drive in Movie – This year’s Spring Loaded Program featured a family drive in movie night at Frederick Street Reserve. Over 300 vehicles parked at the Reserve to enjoy the fun, free family event.



Spring Loaded, Tree Mail – As part of the Spring Loaded month-long program of events, Community Activation set up “tree mail” and invited people to email their "tree love" to Quercus robur. Council received poems and declarations of love for this popular community treasure.



Community Christmas Collection - This long running community project is a partnership between Council, St Vincent de Paul Society, Lions Club, Rotary Club and Coast FM. Non-perishable food items, gift vouchers, new toys, and back to school items are collected with donations remaining in the community.



Australia Day Nominations - Waratah-Wynyard Council's Australia Day Awards are a celebration and commemoration of the contributions made by exceptional individuals from our community. Nominations opened in October for Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Event of the Year.

YOUTH

Waratah-Wynyard Youth Leaders remained active within the community. They participated in the Tulip Festival and used the occasion to distribute information about their group and activities, as well as provide some fun and free activities to the youth of the community.

The Youth Leaders met regularly throughout the quarter.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Accessibility Strategy - Waratah-Wynyard Council is committed to promoting an inclusive and accessible community where all people, including people with disability, can be active, socially connected individuals, with access to information, activities, facilities, and services within the community. In July the Draft Accessibility Strategy went to the community for feedback. The Accessibility Strategy was adopted in December 2023, following feedback from the newly formed Accessibility Working Group. The Accessibility Working Group will continue to meet during 2024.

Health Tasmania, Neighbours Everyday Grant – Council shared information online and via networks regarding this community grant round.

Australian Government Mobile Service Centre – visited Waratah and Wynyard. Information regarding the service was distributed through Council networks.

RSL, Family Career Connection Event – Council shared resources and information regarding this Veteran’s Health Week event.

National Recycling Week – In October Council shared resources from Planet Ark regarding events and initiatives for the community to get involved with in support of this national event.

Cervical Cancer Awareness Week – In November, Council shared resources and information regarding “your test, your choice” to help women be informed of options when it comes to cervical screening tests.

AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

Christmas Lights Competition – The Community Activation team hosted a Christmas lights competition, with residents able to register their lights for a chance to win. A team of Councillors assessed the applications, with winners announced the week of Christmas.

Community Christmas Contributions – The Community Activation team worked with the communities of Waratah, Yolla, Sisters Beach, Boat Harbour and Somerset to deliver sacks of lollies to hand out to the young and young at heart during the holiday season.



Community Assistance

Between October 2023 and January 2024, Community Activation has accepted and processed the following requests for community support.

Name	Support	Value
Wynyard BMX	Photocopying	\$50
Big hArt	Bean Bags	\$40
Wellways	Bunting/flags/fencing	\$60
Wynyard Community Garden	Marquee Hire	\$230
Artscape	Photocopying	\$40
Wynyard Baptist Church	PA System	\$100
Wynyard High School	Garbage Bags/Gloves - Community Involvement Day	\$20
Moovers N Shakers	Bean Bags	\$60

Burnie Coastal Art Group	TASART Award	\$1000
Wynyard Garden Club	Goldie St Banner	\$1500
U3A	Printing	\$2300
Wynyard Senior Citizens Club	Photocopying	\$100
Wynyard Agricultural & Pastoral Society	Goldie St Banner	\$1500

Use of Facility Requests

Between October and January 2024, Community Activation have accepted and processed 35 Use of Facility requests.

Emergency Management

There have not been any significant events over the last reporting period which have required a response above normal operations by Council.

Officers have attended meetings for the Interim Northwest Regional Recovery Committee the Regional Emergency Management Committee.

Community Bushfire-Ready Information – shared online. Tasmania Fire Service Bushfire Ready Property Checklists and other resources for the community to follow were shared via Council's networks.

WARATAH COMMUNITY BOARD

The Waratah Community Board have held meetings in July and September. In line with the Community Plan, items discussed include Infrastructure projects, civic pride and social connection. These discussions occurred via email communications this quarter.

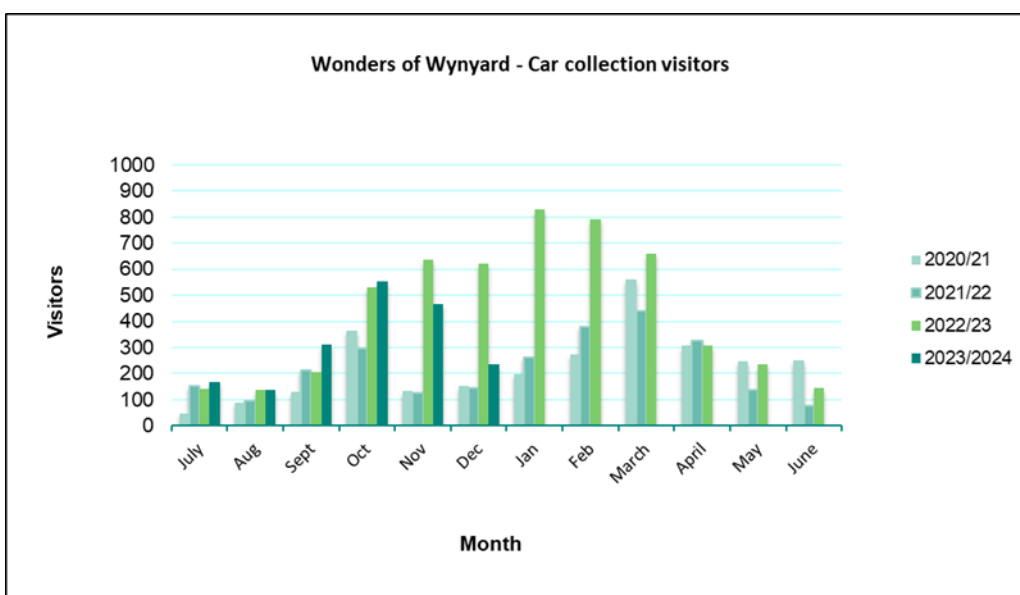
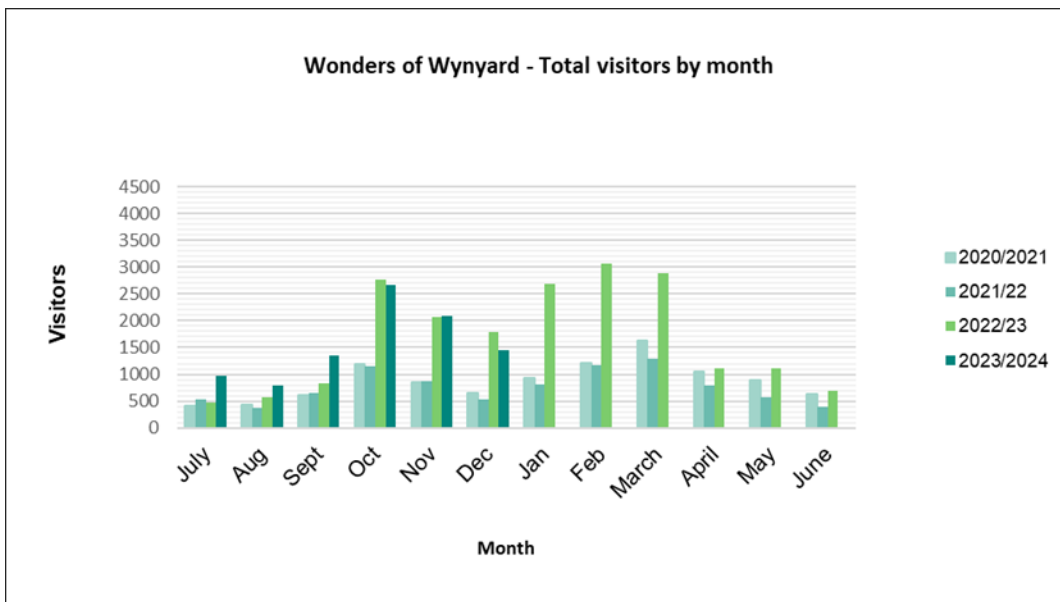
Community Activation Celebration - A big congratulations to Tracey Bradley, Director Community and Engagement at Waratah-Wynyard, and Community Services at Circular Head, who in September was awarded a life membership at the Local Government Professionals Australia - Tasmania awards night. Tracey is also the first ever female life member.

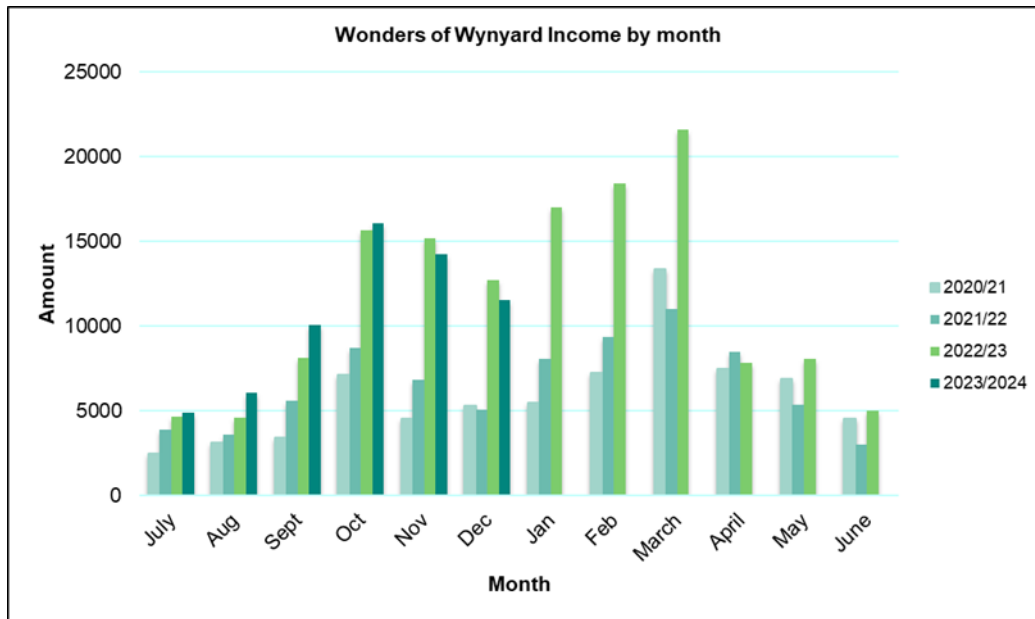


Tourism Statistics (October - December 2023)

Wonders of Wynyard

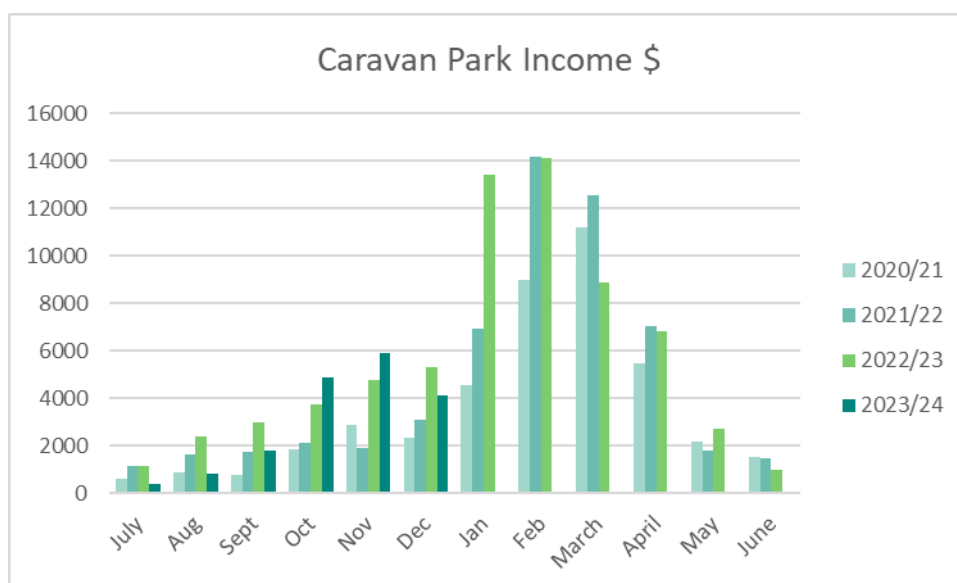
- Visitors to the WOW were down 6% for the quarter- with four cancelled pre-booked coaches from December cruise boats accounting for the difference
- Car Collection Ticket Sales were down significantly for the November/December months – this can again be explained by the disruptions to the cruise boat schedule due to bad weather, with a number of coach tours cancelled as a result.
- Income for the quarter was slightly down (4%) on last year – however the numbers are still very high compared to previous years





Waratah

- The Waratah Caravan Park income was up 8% for the quarter compared to previous year, with October and November popular for campers.
- The Athenaeum Hall will re-open on 13th Jan for Saturdays and Sundays between 1pm-5pm up until Easter. Caravan Park weekend bookings will revert to the Athenaeum Hall for this period as it is the highest demand from visitors. The after-hours bookings have been managed through the Wonders of Wynyard over the winter period, this arrangement is working well.



Tourism – General

- The interactive equipment (kiosk and Table Cape Table) remain at the WOW, however the Glass Elevator VR experience has been moved to another location by owners BNW.
- Table Cape Lighthouse Tours – Parks and Wildlife advised on 30 Nov 2023 that the licence to run Table Cape Lighthouse Tours has been approved – we are now awaiting licence documents from Crown Law to formalise the licence arrangement. It is anticipated Council will have the signed licence in place by the end of January 2024, with tours able to commence soon after.

Communications

The new Creative Content Coordinator commenced 20 November 2023 on a 0.6fte basis. The Strategic Communications Coordinator commenced full time role on 8 January 2024. With a full complement of staff now the new team will work together to implement Council's strategic communications plan.

Social Media Reach and Engagement

- Below quarterly comparison reflects the resourcing challenges in the Communications space during 2023, with a decrease across facebook analytics for the period. However, with the positive turnaround in the month-on-month stats for Nov-Dec, it is anticipated we will see a continuation of the positive trend turnaround with a full complement of staff on board
- Instagram was a stand-out for the quarter – increasing reach by 97% on previous year. This is the result of a more concentrated effort on strategic use of this media for that period.

FY Quarterly 23/24			
	FY Q2 2023 (Oct -Dec)	FY Q2 2024 (Oct-Dec)	Growth
Reach FB	155,670	130,665	-16.06%
Reach IG	650	1,282	97.23%
Profile visits FB	N/A	N/A	N/A
Profile Visits IG	N/A	N/A	N/A
FB new Followers	420	212	-49.52%
FB new Likes	417	200	-52.04%
IG new followers	N/A	39	N/A

Monthly Analytics 23/24







Dec-23			
	Nov-23	Dec-23	Growth
Reach FB	35,229	55,430	56.70%
Reach IG	512	707	37.30%
Profile visits FB	4,283	8,945	105.30%
Profile Visits IG	35	60	66.70%
FB new Followers			
FB new Likes	36	61	69.40%
IG new followers	9	11	22.20%

Audience

Our current audience is majority middle-aged women (category 35-44). 68.8% of our followers are women on Facebook and 75.7% on Instagram.

Most Popular content

Facebook's average engagement per post is 0.15%							
2nd FY Quarter 24							
Highest Reaching posts							
Image	Date	Objective/Genre	Reach	Engagement (shares, reactions, comments)	Ratio	Reactions/likes	Ratio
	1st Oct 23	Tulip Season	36,882	459	1.24%	389	1.05%
	22nd Dec 23	Rd work	21,494	133	0.62%	89	0.41%
	30th Dec 23	Tourism	19,955	159	0.80%	121	0.61%
	23rd Nov 23	Slide Closure	17,198	164	0.95%	114	0.66%
	7th Oct 23	Tulip Season	16,277	196	1.20%	170	1.04%

Instagrams average engagement per post is 0.60%							
2nd FY Quarter 24							
Highest Reaching posts							
Image	Date	Objective/Genre	Reach	Engagement	Ratio	Reactions/likes	Ratio
	1st Oct 2023	Tulip Season	474	43	9.00%	40	8.44%
	7th Dec 23	Grant received	449	48	10.70%	43	9.58%
	23rd Oct 23	Road works	418	18	4.31%	15	3.59%
	2nd Oct	Feel good	414	26	6.28%	26	6.28%
	28th Dec 23	Awards	402	38	9.45%	35	8.71%
	13th Oct 23	Tulip Season	406	36	8.87%	34	8.37%

Website

- Waratah-Wynyard Council’s website continues to provide a valuable source of information for our audience with 20,000 users over the quarter, with over 50,000 individual page views. The most popular pages visited included the Tulip Festival and Spring Loaded page (during October) and the waste transfer page in December – everyone wants to know when their bins will be collected!



Page title and screen class	↓ Views	Users	Views per user	Average engagement time	Event count
	49,824 100% of total	20,434 100% of total	2.44 Avg 0%	1m 06s Avg 0%	156,424 100% of total
1 Tulip Festival & Spring Loaded - Waratah-Wynyard Council	10,601	7,257	1.46	37s	35,209
2 Waratah Wynyard Council - Tasmania's North West Coast	6,927	3,587	1.93	26s	23,115
3 Advertised Planning Applications - Waratah-Wynyard Council	2,395	774	3.09	1m 08s	7,311
4 Contact Us - Waratah-Wynyard Council	1,844	1,319	1.40	33s	5,780
5 Current Vacancies - Waratah-Wynyard Council	1,344	740	1.82	33s	3,550
6 Waste & Recycling - Waratah-Wynyard Council	1,193	697	1.71	28s	3,379
7 Wynyard Foreshore Markets - Waratah-Wynyard Council	986	757	1.30	27s	3,242
8 Waste Transfer Stations - Waratah-Wynyard Council	936	669	1.40	48s	2,885
9 Council News - Waratah-Wynyard Council	669	552	1.21	25s	2,650
10 Fossil Bluff - Waratah-Wynyard Council	541	425	1.27	41s	1,876

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

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

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
13.1 Facilitate the meeting of community needs through strong advocacy and local and regional collaboration for shared outcomes.

GOAL 4: Community Recreation and Wellbeing
Desired Outcomes
3.3 Our natural and built environment aids the community with an active and healthy lifestyle.
Our Priorities
3.1.1 Deliver planning for activation through effective urban design and planning that promotes liveability, social gathering and connectedness, and which recognises and celebrates local history.

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.

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.
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.
Health and Wellbeing	Maintaining good health and wellbeing – Healthy communities, people taking responsibility for their wellness, convenient access to medical services and facilities.
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 Department delivers a wide range of activities which directly impact on the health and wellbeing of the community. This report provides an overview of a selection of those activities. It is recommended that the report be noted.

9.11 SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE FRAMEWORK

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Manager Governance and Information Systems
Responsible Manager: General Manager
Report Date: 15 December 2023
File Reference: Children and Young People
Enclosures:

1. Draft - Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy 
2. Draft Website Content - Safeguarding Children and Young People 
3. Draft - Safeguarding Children and Young People Allegations and Complaints Procedure 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **adopt the Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy;**
2. **adopt the Safeguarding Children and Young People – Allegations and Complaints Procedure;**
3. **endorse the content for Council’s website in relation to the new Children and Young People Act 2023; and**
4. **support ongoing advocacy, through LGAT, for more assistance from the State Government to implement Royal Commission Recommendation 6.12, including standardised resources for all councils to implement the Child and Youth Safe Organisations Act 2023 in a consistent way across the State.**

PURPOSE

Council has been closely monitoring the development of the Child and Youth Safe Organisations Bill since 2022, a response to recommendations from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. On 13 June 2023, the *Child and Youth Safe Organisations Act 2023* was enacted, imposing new obligations on councils.

In preparation for the Act's enforcement from January 1, 2024, Council officers have delved into the legislation, seeking clarity and guidance from various sources, including compliance guidelines and webinars. With the Independent Regulator yet to be appointed, LGAT has been advocating for direct resourcing to assist councils in developing policies and procedures. To manage immediate risks, it is recommended that the Council adopts an interim safeguarding policy and an interim complaint handling procedure. An internal Child Safe Organisation working group has been formed to monitor implementation, impacting the workload of council officers.

The draft policy, based on the Derwent Valley Council's approach, underscores Waratah-Wynyard Council's commitment to a child-safe environment. However, the policy alone is insufficient to meet legal obligations; extensive work, including policy reviews, staff training, and embedding child and youth safe practices, is necessary.

A workshop was held with councillors on 15 January 2024 to update them on the framework's details and the progress of implementation within the local government sector.

BACKGROUND

On 13 June 2023, the *Child and Youth Safe Organisations Act 2023* was passed by Parliament. This new legislation imposes new requirements for councils to comply with.

Since this time Council officers have been engaging with the Department of Justice and the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) to seek further clarity on various matters regarding the implementation of the Act.

The Child and Youth Safe Framework consists of four (4) key elements:

- Ten (10) Child and Youth Safe Principles;
- The Reportable Conduct Scheme;
- The Independent Regulator; and
- New Information Sharing Provisions.

There has been a large amount of information to work through and interpret from the *Child and Youth Safe Organisations Act 2023*. Council Officers have spent a considerable amount of time interpreting the information provided by Department of Justice, including compliance guidelines, and presentations delivered during online webinars held for all Tasmanians.

Council has been liaising on a regular basis with LGAT, who have been advocating for the State Government to provide support to councils for the implementation of policies and procedures, with the belief it is essential that councils should have a consistent approach to how we respond to these new obligations.

DETAILS

Effective from 1 January 2024, councils will have certain responsibilities under the *Child and Youth Safe Organisations Act 2023*, including implementation of the Child and Youth Safe Principles and participation in the Reportable Conduct Scheme.

At the time of report preparation, the Independent Regulator, who is integral to the Reportable Conduct Scheme is yet to be appointed.

LGAT's advocacy is ongoing and given the likely delay in the Independent Regulator being appointed and available to support councils by 1 January 2024, is now seeking direct resourcing to support councils to develop a suite of policies and procedures to ensure councils are equipped to comply with the Act.

In order for councils to manage any immediate risks or concerns by 1 January 2024, it is recommended that:

1. Council adopt an Interim Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy, subject to more detailed work being undertaken in 2024 (please see attached draft Policy Attachment 1).
2. Council adopt an Interim Allegation and Complaints Handling Procedures (please see Attachment 2).
3. Establish an internal Child Safe Organisation working group to begin monitoring Council's implementation of the Framework.

Waratah-Wynyard Council's draft policy is based on the Derwent Valley Council's (DVC) policy adopted in November 2023 by DVC. This was circulated by LGAT and recommended for use.

The Allegation and Complaints Handling Procedures have been drafted using the Australian Government - National Office For Child Safety Guidelines for creating a child safe organisation and recommendations provided by Page Seager Lawyers as part of a Local Government Professionals of Tasmania Special Interest Group seminar, specifically on the implementation of the Child and Youth Safe Framework for local government in Tasmania.

Subsequent to the LG Professionals session, council officers plan to form an internal Child Safe Organisation working group for Council, which currently includes (but will not be limited to) the General Manager, Manager Community Activation, Manager Governance and Information systems, HR Officer, Manager Children Service and Depot Coordinator. An action plan for the implementation of the Framework will be developed by the working group. This is expected to impact on the workload and priorities of several council officers across the organisation, particularly in the first 12 months of the Act coming into effect.

The Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy defines Waratah-Wynyard Council's commitment to creating and maintaining a Child Safe Organisation.

Implementing this policy is one of the first steps in becoming a child safe organisation. The policy alone does not mean obligations under the legislation are met. Significant further work is still required including reviewing and updating a number of internal policies and procedures, delivering staff and elected member training, and embedding child and youth safe practices across all aspects of the organisation.

The Safeguarding of Children and Young People is of the highest importance and Council is required under the law to ensure safety and wellbeing of children using its services or facilities. This policy outlines Waratah-Wynyard Council's position and responsibilities toward the safeguarding of children and young people. It represents the first step in what will be an ongoing commitment to being a Child Safe Organisation.

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse defined a role for Local Government under Recommendation 6.12 which states:

"With support from governments at the national, state and territory levels, local governments should designate child safety officer positions from existing staff profiles to carry out the following functions:

- a) developing child safe messages in local government venues, grounds and facilities
- b) assisting local institutions to access online child safe resources.
- c) providing child safety information and support to local institutions on a need's basis
- d) supporting local institutions to work collaboratively with key services to ensure child safe approaches are culturally safe, disability aware and appropriate for children from diverse backgrounds."

In developing this policy Council has been working with LGAT to understand how to best implement recommendation 6.12 in the context of the legislation and our limited resourcing.

LGAT continues to advocate to the national and state government for more support to local governments (which has yet to be forthcoming). Without additional support,

Recommendation 6.12 is not something we can currently fully embrace with our current resourcing.

Waratah-Wynyard Council acknowledges it has a leadership role in our community to support relevant organisations to be child safe and promote child safe practices and will work towards the functions of Recommendation 6.12 where possible.

Our approach to working towards the desired outcomes from Recommendation 6.12 is to manage this workload through the WWC Child and Youth Safe Organisation working group.

It is anticipated that over time more resources may be made available to us from the State Government. Council may also decide to put more resources to this on its own accord. This policy should be reviewed and updated accordingly.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

Adherence to the *Interim Compliance Guidance for Organisations* from the Department of Justice for the Child and Youth Safe Organisations Framework by outlining specific steps organisations can take to indicate they are complying with the Child and Youth Safe Standards and Universal Principles, as well as ideas and inspiration for how to take extra steps into the future.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL
Desired Outcomes
1.4 We cherish fairness, trust and honesty in our conduct and dealings with all.
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:
Business & Industry	Specialised diversity of the economy – Value adding, diversification, innovation and employment. A resilient economy with global brand recognition and growing exports.
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.
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

Community Future Direction Theme	Key Challenges & Opportunities:
	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.
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

New Policy for adoption; Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Significant Council time and resources for implementation including regular police checks.

Indicative investigation costs based on working with an external investigator are estimated to be \$2,500-\$15,000, depending on the complexity of the investigation.

Other financial implications as per risk implications.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Failure to comply with the Act risks harm to children and young people.

Organisation can be subject to a fine of up to \$70,200 for every breach, and in the case of the General Manager failing to make a report, the General Manager can be subject to a fine of up to \$23,400.





CONSULTATION PROCESS

Department of Justice, LGAT, Page Seager Lawyers (LG Professionals), Executive Management Team and Senior Management Team.

CONCLUSION

The safeguarding of children and young people is of the highest importance and Council is required under the law to ensure safety and wellbeing of children using its services or facilities. This policy outlines Waratah-Wynyard Council's position and responsibilities toward the safeguarding of children and young people. It represents the first step in what will be an ongoing commitment to being a Child Safe Organisation.

9.12 PROCUREMENT POLICY AND CODE FOR TENDERS AND CONTRACTS REVIEW

To:	Council
Reporting Officer:	Governance Officer
Responsible Manager:	Manager Financial Services
Report Date:	5 December 2023
File Reference:	Financial Management
Enclosures:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Procurement Policy 2. Code for Tenders and Contracts 3. Policy Appendix A - Procedure for Making a Purchase up to \$100,000 4. Policy Appendix B - Procedure for Making a Purchase at \$100,000 or more 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council re-adopt the Procurement Policy and the Code for Tenders and Contracts with immediate effect.

PURPOSE

The Procurement Policy and the Code for Tenders and Contracts are presented for Council consideration.

The documents provide a framework to ensure that Council's procurement practices are compliant and in line with best practice.

BACKGROUND

Under the *Local Government Act 1993 Division 2A section 333B*, a Council must adopt a code of tendering and comply with the code. The Code must be reviewed every four years.

Council's current code for tendering had a substantial review in 2019 and was adopted by Council in November 2020.

The Procurement Policy applies to the acquisition of all goods and services from suppliers external to Council. The Code for Tenders and Contracts provides additional requirements for purchases above \$100,000.

The policies provide a framework for procurement decision making that will:

- ensure compliance with relevant legislation;
- enhance principles of value for money through fair, competitive, non-discriminatory procurement;
- promote the use of resources in an efficient, effective and ethical manner;
- encourage probity, accountability and transparency in decision making;
- provide reasonable opportunity for competitive local businesses to supply to Council;
- minimise the cost to suppliers of participating in the tendering process;
- allow Council to appropriately manage risk;

- promote Council’s economic, social and environmental plans and policies.

The policies exclude services provided by staff employed via payroll and investments.

DETAILS

The Procurement Policy and Associated Documents were last reviewed and adopted by Council in November 2020.

The Senior Management Team has reviewed the documents with no recommended changes.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

Under the *Local Government Act 1993* Division 2A section 333B, a council must adopt a code of tendering and comply with the code. The Act requires: -

333A. Tenders

- (1) *A council must invite tenders for any contract it intends to enter into for the supply or provision of goods or services valued at or above the prescribed amount.*
- (2) *Tenders must be invited and made in a prescribed manner.*
- (3) *Subsection (1) does not apply to prescribed situations or prescribed contracts.*

333B. Code for tenders and contracts

- (1) *A council must adopt a code relating to tenders and contracts under this Division by 1 January 2006.*
- (2) *The code must –*
 - (a) *be consistent with this Act; and*
 - (b) *include any prescribed matter; and*
 - (c) *promote any prescribed principles; and*
 - (d) *be reviewed at least once every 4 years.*
- (3) *A council must comply with its code.*
- (4) *The general manager is to make a copy of the council's code and any amendments to the code available –*
 - (a) *for public inspection at the public office during ordinary office hours; and*
 - (b) *for purchase at a reasonable charge; and*
 - (c) *on its internet site free of charge.*

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 1: Leadership and Governance
Desired Outcomes
We make publicly transparent decisions on spending and future directions while encouraging community feedback.
Our Priorities
1.3 Encourage increased participation by all stakeholders.
1.6 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:
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.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications as a result of this report however the policies do promote and encourage the efficient use of Council resources and consideration of value for money in the use of Council resources.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

The documents are an important control measure for minimising the risk of fraud in Councils Procurement practices.

The policies provide additional control and transparency in line with the recent internal audit on Council Procurement Practices.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

The revised policies have been reviewed and endorsed by the Senior Management Team.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council re-adopt the Procurement Policy and Code for Tenders and Contracts as attached with immediate effect.

9.13 CEMETERY FEES AND CHARGES

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Manager Community Activation
Responsible Manager: General Manager
Report Date: 15 September 2023
File Reference: 001
Enclosures: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council apply the proposed structural changes to the cemetery-based fees and charges commencing from next financial year, with final fees to be adopted in the 2024/25 budget.

PURPOSE

Action 2.1 of the Cemetery Strategy states “Review the cemetery-based fees and charges and compare to the actual cost of interment”.

BACKGROUND

Waratah-Wynyard Council (WWC) is committed to a consistent and strategic approach to cemetery services. The Cemetery Strategy was developed to define Council’s role in the provision of cemetery services and to ensure that the services are aligned with the needs of the community both now and into the future.

DETAILS

As an outcome of the Cemetery Strategy, a desktop review of the current cemetery fees and charges has been conducted and compared to the actual costs of cemetery operations.

The desktop review included looking at budgeted cemetery costs compared to actual costs of cemetery operations, benchmarking WWC’s cemetery fees against other local councils, and discussions with staff involved in the cemetery process.

It was noted that in the last financial year, actual costs for cemetery garden maintenance, cemetery water charges, weed control, irrigation and turf maintenance exceeded the budgeted allocation, in some cases by more than 50%.

The current cemetery fee structure is as follows:

FEE DESCRIPTION	FEE BASIS	2023/24
Exhumation	Per exhumation	\$2,500
Reservation of Wynyard Memorial Wall Lot	Per burial	\$ 485
Wynyard Lawn Cemetery Interment – Full Size	Per burial	\$2,310
Wynyard Lawn Cemetery Interment – Under 5 Years	Per burial	\$ 965
Other Interments	Per burial	\$2,930
Ashes In Wall or Reservation or Existing Grave	Per burial	\$ 555
Private Burial Administration Fee	Per burial	\$ 270
Record Search Fee	Per record	\$ 82.50

EXHUMATION – very rare for WWC. Likely, there has only been one in the past ten years.

It is recommended that this is amended to “at cost recovery”, as the cost is likely to be significantly more than \$2,500, especially if a concrete cover must be broken.

RECORD SEARCH FEE – initially appeared to be low, relative to other Councils. In most instances, record searches take a matter of minutes and are done by Customer Service staff, and the costs are covered by this fee. At the moment no fee is usually charged. Fees would be charged in the instance of multiple requests or complex searches.

Recommend that the fee remains unchanged because the current fee serves to recover costs and dissuade people from making requests without need.

PRIVATE BURIAL ADMINISTRATION FEE – suggest looking at raising this cost. The current cost was calculated recently due to WWC having no cost allocated for this request. The request takes significant time on behalf of the Environmental Health Officer, and cost recovery should be sought.

Recommend that this be increased to aid cost recovery.

OTHER INTERMENT COSTS

Recommend that WWC adopt a two-tiered approach that lists regular fees and Saturday/public holidays fees separately.

This approach has been taken by other Councils in Tasmania and enables better cost recovery.

To aid in the transition from the current pricing to the new pricing, the recommendations are to occur in the new 2024/25 financial year, with the adoption of the fees and charges scheduled for June.

STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

Statutory Requirements

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

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic Plan Reference

GOAL 4: Community Recreation and Wellbeing
Desired Outcomes
1.2 We maintain and manage our assets sustainably.
Our Priorities
1.5.2 Maintain accountability by ensuring council decisions are evidence based and meet all legislative obligations.

GOAL 3: Connected Communities
Desired Outcomes
2.5 We are future-focussed and value continuous improvement.
Our Priorities
2.6.1 Promote best practice and foster innovation.

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.
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.
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.
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

To ensure funding for Waratah-Wynyard Council cemetery services is appropriate to meet its short-term and long-term cemetery commitments, Council will seek to recover the cost of burials through the setting of burial fees.

Burial fees will continue to be reviewed annually as a part of the Council's annual budget deliberations.

Council will seek to strike a balance between full cost recovery and affordability when setting burial fees.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

After reviewing the cemetery-based fees and charges and comparing them to the actual cost of interment, the above recommendations have been made. The recommendations ensure that Council is able to seek cost recovery for services.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

The community were invited to review and comment on the Draft Cemetery Strategy.

The opportunity to provide feedback and the associated time frame were advertised via social media and through Council's website. Community members were able to provide feedback through email, letter or by making an appointment with Manager Community Activation.


Direct notification of the consultation period and process was made to stakeholders with a high level of engagement such as funeral directors.

The Draft Cemetery Strategy was amended to incorporate community feedback received.
Action

CONCLUSION

It is advised that Council note the recommendations made in regard to fees and charges for interment and apply the recommendations for the 2024/25 financial year.

9.14 SENIOR MANAGEMENT REPORT

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Executive Officer
Responsible Manager: General Manager
Report Date: 8 December 2023
File Reference: 1312
Enclosures: 1. Submission - Managing Conflicts of Interest Reform 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note the monthly Senior Management Report; and
2. Note the submission made to the Managing Conflicts of Interest of Councillors Discussion paper

SUMMARY/PURPOSE

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

GENERAL MANAGERS OFFICE

Listed below is a summary of activities undertaken by the General Manager during the period 2 December 2023 to 12 January 2024.

Corporate

- Met with representatives of the University of Tasmania who specialise in landslide risks and hazards to explore whether there are partnership opportunities for projects in the region

Community

- Met with representatives of the Cam Rise Uniting Church to discuss cessation of plans to progress a Council run community hub at the facility.

Industry

- Attended the Business North West breakfast meeting with guest speaker Sonya Stanford, UTAS's Pro Vice-Chancellor of the Cradle Coast region. Sonya discussed the new strategic agenda for the University of Tasmania on the Cradle Coast.
- Attended a meeting of the Cradle Coast Waste Management Group
- Attended a meeting with Minister for Energy, Nick Duigan, coordinated through the Cradle Coast Authority
- Attended a meeting of the North West General Managers. Attendees were given a briefing about the process for completing the new Regional Land Use Strategies

Other

- Attended the Cradle Coast Authority Annual General Meeting and Representatives meeting.
- Annual Leave from Friday 22 December to Tuesday 2 January 2024
- Annual Leave from Wednesday 10 January to Friday 12 January 2024.

Council Submissions

Council prepared the following submission (refer full submissions attached).

Managing Conflicts of Interest of Councillors Discussion Paper

The current processes for managing conflicts of interest for Councillors is being reviewed. Council was requested to provide a submission on the proposed changes. A copy of Council's submission is attached for reference.

Grants

AMOUNT \$	PROGRAM	PURPOSE
28,793	Tas. Govt. Waste Data Readiness Program	Wynyard /waste Transfer Station – waste data management system software upgrade.

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

A community conversation was held at Boat Harbour Beach on 27 November.

The next events will be as per the schedule below.

Sisters Beach	5 February 2024
Waratah	29 April 2024

ADMINISTRATION – Use of Corporate Seal

6/12/23	Grant Deed	Dept State Growth – Major Events Grant Partnership – 2023 Tulip Festival
15/12/23	Grant Deed Variation	Dept. of Industry, Science and Resources – Re-imagining Table Cape
4/1/24	Grant Deed	Dept State Growth – Better Active Transport Grant: Wynyard to Smithton Shared User Trail Feasibility Study

POLICIES TO BE RESCINDED

Nil

WORKING GROUPS

	Elected Member Representatives	Responsible Officer(s)	Status
Wynyard Show Grounds	Cr Bramich Cr Hyland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Manager • Manager Community Activation 	An MOU with WWC remains in development. Show Society finalising designs for camping sites. Planning approvals in place. Demolition of the grandstand to be post the 2024 Wynyard Show.
Somerset Sporting Precinct	Cr Johnstone Deputy Mayor Edwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Manager • Manager Community Activation • Manager Recreation Planning and Environment • Recreation Liaison Officer 	The draft master plan has been provided to the core stakeholder group for their feedback prior to the broader public consultation which is to occur.
Wynyard Sports Precinct	Cr Johnstone Cr Roberts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Infrastructure and Development Services • Strategic Projects Manager • Manager Community Activation 	Turf wicket has been renovated and seeded. Recent matches played on the pitch. Practice Net relocation work underway but on hold pending relocation of a fire hydrant (TasWater have approved) Austin Street TIA consultation completed and to be workshopped. Works at Wynyard High School are well progressed. All underground services installed. Oval has been top dressed and seeded. Lighting towers to be erected.
Boat Harbour Masterplan	Cr Hyland Cr Roberts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Manager • Executive Officer (GM office) • Strategic Projects Manager 	Detailed Design is now complete. Project was approved to continue to tender at November Council meeting with officers completing documentation for additional funding so this can occur.
Oldina Reserve Stakeholder Group	Cr Courtney Cr Johnstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Community and Engagement 	Initial meeting of the group has been held. Notes were included in the March 2023 agenda. Items included on this agenda following successful motion at AGM.
Accessibility Strategy Working Group	Cr Raw Deputy Mayor Edwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manager Community Activation 	The Accessibility Strategy was adopted in December 2023, following feedback from the newly formed Accessibility Working Group. The Accessibility Working Group will continue to meet during 2024
Frederick Street Reserve Working Group	Cr Johnstone Cr Roberts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director Community and Engagement • Manager Community Activation 	Planning implications for the site and Natural Values Assessment of the site have been shared with the Working Group. The next meeting of the group will be held in late January 2024.

PLANNING PERMITS UNDER DELEGATION – December 2023

DA No.	Applicants Name	Location	Development	Date Permit Issued	No of Days to Process	(D)Discretionary (P)Permitted
DA 329/2022	Pitt & Sherry	Bass Highway & Old Bass Highway Somerset, Doctors Rocks & Wynyard	Coastal Pathway (Somerset to Wynyard)	1.12.2023	42	D
DA 285/2023	J Thorne	8 Irbys Circus Sisters Beach	Conversion of Shed to Dwelling & Outbuildings (2x Sheds)	5.12.2023	42	D
DA 288/2023	L Freeman & D Reeve	1082 Murchison Highway Elliott	Outbuilding (Shed)	5.12.2023	38	D
DA 289/2023	PLA Designs Pty Ltd	53 Tippetts Road Mount Hicks	Dwelling Extension (Verandah & Carport)	5.12.2023	35	D
DA 314/2023	CLTP Panel Products Pty Ltd	673 & 683 Deep Creek Road Wynyard	Storage Shed and Crib Room	11.12.2023	26	P
DA 300/2023	PLA Designs Pty Ltd	194 Oldina Road Wynyard	Dwelling Extension	15.12.2023	42	D
DA 302/2023	PDA Surveyors	27 Somerset Esplanade Somerset	Fence Replacement	15.12.2023	26	P
DA 316/2023	PLA Designs Pty Ltd	14 Hardys Road Somerset	Dwelling Extension and Relocated Outbuilding	20.12.2023	32	D
SD 2180	PLA Designs Pty Ltd	Cemetery Road Waratah (CT 222692/1 & CT 230377/1)	Subdivision (2 into 2 lots)	20.12.2023	28	D
DA 308/2023	A & A Tammens	280a Pages Road Calder	Campgrounds (Caravans and Other Self-Contained Vehicles)	21.12.2023	33	D
SD 2182	Planning 4 Bushfire	1154 Oldina Road Oldina	Subdivision (1 into 2 lots)	21.12.2023	33	D

BUILDING PERMITS APPROVED – December 2023

Permit Number	Applicants Name	Location	Development	Date Permit Issued	No of Days to Process	Related Planning Approval
BLD-W-2023-162-01	M D Patterson	27 Serrata Crescent Sisters Beach	New Dwelling	20.12.2023	1	DA 228/2023
PSC-W-2023-7-01	Claude Neon Media	32 Wragg Street Somerset	Construction of Signs	20.12.2023	2	DA 85/2022

COUNCIL MEETING ACTIONS – OPEN COUNCIL

DATE	ITEM	TOPIC	ACTION/STATUS	OFFICER	STATUS
22/6/20	8.2	NOM – Cr Fairbrother – Crown Land	Motion Carried - That Council consider that where areas of Crown land separate a road and a property boundary, for the purposes of planning, that the area be incorporated and or considered as a Part of the road reserve. <i>Council staff met with Minister Jaensch's office, and they are going to follow up the option of Crown Land Services essentially providing a waiver that they have no interest where "impact" is limited to existing access running through Crown Land. No further progress.</i>	MDRS	No further progress
21/2/22	8.3	NOM – D Fairbrother – Planning Matters	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Council writes to the respective Ministers and or State Government bureaucrats to request a review of the planning and building rules to provide for the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Sufficient water storage for both domestic household use and water storage for firefighting purposes in landslip b areas and suggest as a minimum 20,000 L (10,000+10,000) for this purpose. b. Repair, replacement and renovation of existing buildings in areas of designated landslip A; and 2. Make representation to state cabinet members, local members of the house of assembly and local legislative councillors etc seeking their support for such changes 	DIDS	Yet to commence
20/2/23	8.1	NOM CR RAW – Request for TIA Junction of Old Bass Highway and Dart Street	Motion Carried <i>Affected business owners have been contacted unsuccessfully to provide feedback into the process. The TIA will proceed without initial input however ongoing attempts to contact will be made with the opportunity remaining for feedback to be provided.</i>	MEP	In Progress
15/5/23	9.5	ROC – Public Interest Disclosure Procedures	MOTION CARRIED: That Council adopt the Public Interest Disclosure Procedures as presented and submit to the Office of the Ombudsman for approval. <i>Document has been forwarded to Office of Ombudsman for Approval with no further response at date of agenda publication.</i>	GM	In progress

9.15 FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

To: Council
Reporting Officer: Manager Financial Services
Responsible Manager: Manager Financial Services
Report Date: 10 January 2024
File Reference: Financial Management - Reporting - Council
Enclosures: Nil

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the Financial Report for the period ended 31 December 2023

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

DETAILS

Council's year to date financial performance is consistent with the budget estimates. A few favourable variances have been identified. Overall Council's results are expected to be within, or better than, the budget set by Council.

Commentary on known forecast variances identified to date is provided throughout the report.

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 2024-2034	Adopted November 2023

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 December 2023

	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	%	YTD Variance	Budget	Forecast	Forecast Variance	
Recurrent Income								
Rate Revenue	13,738,339	13,624,621	1%	✓ 113,718	13,805,376	13,984,327	✓ 178,951	1
User Charges	1,619,181	1,552,035	4%	✓ 67,146	3,016,688	3,038,688	✓ 22,000	2
Reimbursements/Contributions	130,248	279,148	-53%	✗ (148,900)	709,744	709,744	✓ -	
Grants and Subsidies	228,124	1,880,198	-88%	✗ (1,652,074)	3,879,155	4,368,866	✓ 489,711	3
Interest	379,880	223,656	70%	✓ 156,224	447,500	697,500	✓ 250,000	4
Distributions from Water Corporation	281,000	281,000	0%	✓ -	674,400	674,400	✓ -	
Total Recurrent Income	16,376,772	17,840,658	-8%	✗ (1,463,886)	22,532,863	23,473,525	✓ 940,662	
Recurrent Expenditure								
Employee Costs	4,143,262	4,668,443	11%	✓ 525,181	8,990,374	8,883,945	✓ 106,429	5
State Levies	207,564	297,705	30%	✓ 90,141	724,879	724,879	✓ -	
Remissions & Discounts	372,769	338,651	-10%	✗ (34,118)	366,588	366,588	✓ -	
Materials & Contracts	3,312,086	3,008,840	-10%	✗ (303,246)	6,059,961	6,000,186	✓ 59,775	6
Depreciation	2,704,067	2,704,067	0%	✓ -	5,384,644	5,384,644	✓ -	
(Gain)/Loss on Disposal	-	-	0%	✓ -	45,000	45,000	✓ -	
Borrowing Costs	28,464	28,905	2%	✓ 441	55,920	55,920	✓ -	
Other Expenses	128,286	150,462	15%	✓ 22,176	301,050	301,050	✓ -	
Total Recurrent Expenditure	10,896,498	11,197,073	3%	✓ 300,575	21,928,416	21,762,212	✓ 166,204	
Surplus/(Deficit)	5,480,275	6,643,585	-18%	✗ (1,163,310)	604,447	1,711,313	✓ 1,106,866	
Capital Items								
Capital Grants/Contributions	773,699	701,906	10%	✓ 71,793	6,984,496	6,984,496	✓ -	
Derecognition of Assets	-	-	0%	✓ -	-	-	✓ -	
Asset Recognition	-	-	0%	✓ -	-	-	✓ -	
Comprehensive Surplus/(Deficit)	6,253,973	7,345,491	-15%	✗ (1,091,518)	7,588,943	8,695,809	✓ 1,106,866	

Council is forecast to have a favourable variance to the budget of \$1.107m as at 30 June 2024. Commentary on variances of \$20k or higher are provided below:

1) Rate Revenue

Rate Revenue is expected to be higher than that allowed for in the budget due to Council's initial rate run generating higher levels of revenue than anticipated. This is due to supplementary valuations received in June and after preparation of the budget estimates (income generated from new property development).

2) User Charges

The favourable variance to budget is due to higher than budgeted plumbing inspection fees and property certificate income.

3) Grants and Subsidies

Grant income is expected to be higher than budget due to timing of Financial Assistance Grant income from the Federal Government (distributed through the State Grants Commission). The additional \$490k of grant revenue is due to an increase in the yearly distribution via indexation

(\$110k), and also a portion of additional grant funding from the final 2022-23 grant allocation which is a one off (\$380k).

4) Interest

Interest income is expected to be higher than budget due to higher interest rates on Council's term deposits and higher levels of cash on hand due to timing of planned capital expenditure. Interest rates are currently higher than long term averages and therefore are likely to drop in future years.

5) Employee Costs

The favourable variance to budget for employee costs is due to a number of vacancies across the Organisational Performance directorate during late 2023. All vacancies have now been filled.

6) Materials & Contracts

The favourable variance to budget for materials & contracts relates to lower than budgeted insurance costs (\$30k) and lower costs for the proposed Somerset Community Centre (\$29k).

Balance Sheet

Council continues to be in a financially strong position. Council is forecasting a current ratio of 1.38 as of 30 June 2024 compared to a current ratio of 4.35 as at 31 December 2023.

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

	YTD Actual	Budget	Forecast
	\$	\$	\$
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	14,342,001	5,852,574	6,957,940
Receivables	2,586,446	1,296,712	1,296,712
Inventories	120,510	113,049	113,049
Other Current Assets	136,224	271,523	271,523
Total Current Assets	17,185,182	7,533,858	8,639,224
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	249,956,796	248,624,302	248,625,802
Investment in Water	45,378,608	45,378,608	45,378,608
Total Non-Current Assets	295,335,404	294,002,910	294,004,410
Total Assets	312,520,586	301,536,768	302,643,634
Current Liabilities			
Payables	1,877,912	4,073,100	4,073,100
Interest-Bearing Liabilities	185,437	364,178	364,178
Provisions	1,884,431	1,817,365	1,817,365
Total Current Liabilities	3,947,780	6,254,643	6,254,643
Non-Current Liabilities			
Interest-Bearing Liabilities	2,144,657	1,144,657	1,144,657
Provisions	262,678	359,394	359,394
Total Non-Current Liabilities	2,407,335	1,504,051	1,504,051
Total Liabilities	6,355,115	7,758,694	7,758,694
Net Assets	306,165,471	293,778,074	294,884,940
Equity			
Current Year Result	6,253,973	7,588,943	8,695,809
Accumulated Surplus	171,306,467	168,982,952	168,982,952
Reserves	128,605,031	117,206,179	117,206,179
Total Equity	306,165,471	293,778,074	294,884,940
Current Ratio	4.35	1.20	1.38

Council's cash is significantly higher at this time of year compared with that budgeted at 30 June due to the timing of Council's income and expenditure. Council collects 74% of its rates and charges income by 31 August. Council's cash will reduce over the course of the year due to the progression of the capital works spend. Council's receivables will reduce over the course of the year, with some ratepayers electing to pay by instalment.

Cashflow Statement

As of 31 December Council had \$14.342m cash on hand. Based on budgeted income and expenditure, Council is forecast to have \$6.958m of cash on hand as of 30 June 2024.

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

Cashflow Statement as at 31 December 2023

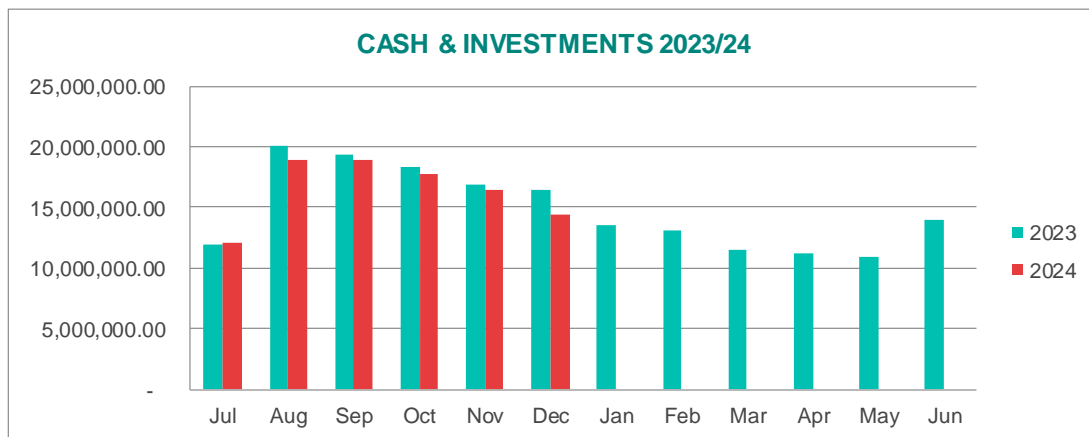
	YTD Actual	Budget		Balance	Forecast
	\$	\$	%	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities					
Employee Costs	(4,076,196)	(8,926,163)	46%	(4,849,967)	(8,819,734)
Materials and Contracts	(5,511,451)	(5,914,662)	93%	(403,211)	(5,854,887)
State Levies	(207,564)	(724,879)	29%	(517,315)	(724,879)
Other Expenses	(501,055)	(667,638)	75%	(166,583)	(667,638)
Rates and Charges	12,448,604	13,763,890	90%	1,315,286	13,942,841
User charges	1,754,480	3,016,688	58%	1,262,208	3,038,688
Interest	379,880	447,500	85%	67,620	697,500
Reimbursement of Expenses	130,248	709,744	18%	579,496	709,744
Government Grants	228,124	3,879,155	6%	3,651,031	4,368,866
Net Cash provided by (used in) operating activities	4,645,071	5,583,635	83%	938,564	6,690,501
Cash flows from investing activities					
Payments for Property, Plant and Equipment	(5,087,161)	(21,486,236)	24%	(16,399,075)	(21,487,736)
Investment revenue from Water Corporation	281,000	674,400	0%	393,400	674,400
Proceeds from Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment	-	572,690	0%	572,690	572,690
Capital grants	773,699	6,984,496	11%	6,210,797	6,984,496
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(4,032,463)	(13,254,650)	30%	(9,222,187)	(13,256,150)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Borrowing Costs	(28,464)	(55,920)	51%	(27,456)	(55,920)
Loan Drawdowns	-	-	0%	-	-
Loan Repayments	(178,741)	(357,089)	50%	(178,348)	(357,089)
Net cash provided by financing activities	(207,205)	(413,009)	50%	(205,804)	(413,009)
Net (Decrease) in Cash Held	405,403	(8,084,024)	-5%	(8,489,427)	(6,978,658)
Cash at beginning of year	13,936,598	13,936,598	100%	-	13,936,598
Cash at end of period	14,342,001	5,852,574	245%	(8,489,427)	6,957,940

Investments

The following table provides an outline of Council’s cash and investment portfolio as of 31 December 2023. Total cash and investments on hand as of 31 December is \$14.342. The weighted average return on investment earned on Council’s investment portfolio is 5.27%.

Investments as at 31 December 2023

	\$	INVESTMENTS	\$	Weighted Average Return
Deposits	13,342,908	Commonwealth Bank	997,593	
Petty Cash and Till Floats	1,500	Investments		
Trading Account	997,593	ING	3,000,000	
		BOQ	4,500,000	
		CBA	5,842,908	
		Petty Cash and Till Floats	1,500	
Balance - All Accounts	14,342,001		14,342,001	5.27%



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.

14.50% of the total rates levied for the year were outstanding as at 31 December 2023; this includes all aged rates and charges outstanding. This compares with 15.15% outstanding as at 31 December last year.

Rates Summary to 31 December 2023

	2023-24		2022-23	
	%	\$	%	\$
<i>Notice Issue Date - 25 July 2023</i>				
Outstanding Rates Debtors (1 July 2023)		778,159		654,411
Less: Rates in Credit		(855,516)		(754,201)
NET RATES OUTSTANDING (1 July 2023)	(0.56)	(77,357)	(0.77)	(99,790)
Rates and Charges Levied	100.51	13,852,703	100.55	12,949,859
Interest Penalties Charged	0.05	7,160	0.22	28,708
GROSS RATES AND CHARGES DEMANDED	100.00	13,782,506	100.00	12,878,777
LESS RATES AND CHARGES COLLECTED	81.96	11,295,969	77.98	10,043,086
REMISSIONS AND DISCOUNTS**	7.72	1,064,534	8.71	1,121,404
	89.68	12,360,504	86.69	11,164,490
ADD PROPERTIES IN CREDIT	(4.19)	577,146	(1.84)	236,683
UNPAID RATES AND CHARGES *	14.50	1,999,149	15.15	1,950,970
(includes Deferred Rates)				
**REMISSIONS AND DISCOUNTS		2023-24		2022-23
Early Payment Discount		328,431		464,111
Pensioner Rebates		699,099		655,868
Council Remissions and Abandonments		37,005		1,425
		1,064,534		1,121,404
Number of Rateable Properties		8,052		8,004
Number of Unpaid Rateable Properties		2,024		1,849
% not fully paid		25.14%		23.10%

Grant Summary

Grant Schedule as at 31 December 2023

	YTD Actual	Budget 2024	Forecast 2024
Capital Grants			
Boat Harbour Masterplan	-	900,000	900,000
Port Creek Flood Mitigation	-	957,335	957,335
Roads to Recovery	-	1,129,728	1,129,728
Dog Park & Freedom Camping	-	160,000	160,000
Mt Hicks Road Bridge Replacement	28,120	458,252	458,252
James Philosopher Smith	-	110,000	110,000
Boating, Camping Fishing	30,000	30,000	30,000
Calder Bridge Replacement	427,994	427,994	427,994
ANZAC Park All Abilities Playground	136,500	136,500	136,500
Waterfront Masterplan	-	320,601	320,601
Table Cape Lookout	79,292	302,967	302,967
Australian Cricket Infrastructure Fund	71,793	-	-
LRCI Funding	-	2,051,119	2,051,119
	773,699	6,984,496	6,984,496

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	(195,705)	(195,705)	-	
Community Activation	869,669	869,669	-	
Corporate & Community Services	351,603	351,603	-	
Tourism & Marketing	519,104	519,104	-	
Community & Engagement Total	1,544,671	1,544,671	-	
Council & General Managers Office				
Council & General Manager's Office	1,462,123	1,462,123	-	
Council & General Managers Office Total	1,462,123	1,462,123	-	
Infrastructure & Development Services				
Asset Services	120,997	120,997	-	
Cemeteries	97,859	97,859	-	
Development Services	965,922	953,922	12,000	1
Engineering Services	143,998	143,998	-	
Footpaths	345,408	345,408	-	
Garbage	31,121	31,121	-	
Public Halls	360,221	331,221	29,000	2
Public Toilets	418,845	418,845	-	
Reserves	1,336,837	1,336,837	-	
Sports	1,133,645	1,133,645	-	
Stormwater Drainage	(172,024)	(192,024)	20,000	3
Transport	3,289,126	3,289,126	-	
Waste	(13,307)	(20,307)	7,000	
Works & Services	75,520	75,520	-	
Infrastructure & Development Services Total	8,134,168	8,066,168	68,000	
Organisational Performance				
Financial Services	(12,196,327)	(13,235,193)	1,038,866	4
Governance & Information Systems	450,918	450,918	-	
Organisational Performance Total	(11,745,409)	(12,784,275)	1,038,866	
Total	(604,447)	(1,711,313)	1,106,866	

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

1) Development Services

Development Services is expecting a favourable variance to budget due to higher than budgeted plumbing inspection income.

2) Public Halls

Public Halls has a favourable variance to budget due to lower operational expenditure for the proposed Somerset Community Centre.

3) Stormwater Drainage

Stormwater drainage is expecting a favourable variance to budget due to higher than budgeted rates income. The higher rates income is due to additional rates from property development within the municipality.

4) Financial Services

Financial Services is expecting a favourable variance to budget of \$1.038m, which is due to higher than budgeted interest income (\$250k), higher than budgeted rates income (\$111k), lower than budgeted wages expenditure (\$106k) and higher than budgeted financial assistance grant income (\$490k). Of the \$1.038m favourable variance, \$486k is one-off in nature.

Capital Works Summary

The Capital Works Summary provides a snapshot of the percentage of expenditure against the 2023/24 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.

Summary Capital Expenditure Report							
	YTD	Budget	Remaining	%	Forecast	Forecast	
	Actual	Estimate	Budget	Spent		Variance	Note
	\$	\$	\$		\$	\$	
Buildings							
Amenities	94,275	788,225	693,950	12%	788,225	-	
Community Facilities	290,968	975,314	684,346	30%	975,314	-	
Childcare	1,103	105,000	103,897	1%	105,000	-	
Council Operational Buildings	27,152	110,664	83,512	25%	110,664	-	
Total Buildings	413,498	1,979,203	1,565,705	21%	1,979,203	-	
Parks & Open Spaces							
Other Infrastructure	169,156	1,754,245	1,585,089	10%	1,754,245	-	
Playgrounds	3,399	667,315	663,916	1%	667,315	-	
Walkways & Tracks	623,172	3,124,334	2,501,163	20%	3,124,334	-	
Recreational Reserves	119,854	1,089,937	970,084	11%	1,089,937	-	
Total Parks & Open Spaces	915,580	6,635,832	5,720,252	14%	6,635,832	-	
Plant & Equipment							
Other Plant & Equipment	29,188	427,040	397,852	7%	401,040	26,000	1
Plant & Vehicle Replacements	74,588	519,913	445,325	14%	519,913	-	
Software & IT Replacements	49,671	938,421	888,750	5%	938,421	-	
Total Plant & Equipment	153,446	1,885,374	1,731,928	8%	1,859,374	26,000	
Sporting Facilities							
Indoor Recreational Facilities	11,481	133,250	121,769	9%	133,250	-	
Outdoor Sporting Facilities	964,480	2,197,998	1,233,517	44%	2,197,998	-	
Total Sporting Facilities	975,961	2,331,248	1,355,286	42%	2,331,248	-	
Stormwater							
Flood Mitigation Works Total	270,194	3,352,656	3,082,462	8%	3,352,656	-	
Other Stormwater Works	11,614	1,456,006	1,444,392	1%	1,456,006	-	
Total Stormwater	281,808	4,808,662	4,526,854	6%	4,808,662	-	
Transport							
Bridge Renewals	1,431,021	1,999,345	568,325	72%	1,999,345	-	
Footpaths & Kerbs	79,745	107,455	27,710	74%	107,455	-	
Other Transport	144,197	340,241	196,044	42%	340,241	-	
Resheeting	295,729	391,859	96,130	75%	391,859	-	
Rural Upgrades	37,959	40,204	2,245	94%	40,204	-	
Rural Reseals	6,810	676,172	669,363	1%	676,172	-	
Urban Reseals	158,149	947,668	789,519	17%	947,668	-	
Total Transport	2,153,609	4,502,944	2,349,336	48%	4,502,944	-	
Total	4,893,903	22,143,263	17,249,360	22%	22,117,263	26,000	


Commentary for capital work forecast variance of \$20,000 or greater is provided below:

1) Other Plant & Equipment

The favourable balance to budget of \$26k is due to a budgeted amount for furniture replacements which will no longer occur.

9.16 MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES/COMMITTEES

9.16.1 MINUTES OF OTHER BODIES/COMMITTEES - SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD 21 NOVEMBER 2023

To:	Council
Reporting Officer:	Contracts and Administration Officer
Responsible Manager:	Director Infrastructure and Development Services
Report Date:	5 December 2023
File Reference:	SEAP
Enclosures:	1. SEAP Unconfirmed Minutes - 21 November 2023 

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Note the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Panel meeting held on 21 November 2023; and**
2. **As part of the Annual Plan and Budget deliberations for 2024/25 consider funding and actions in response to the following recommendations from SEAP: -**
 - a. **Engage with school community to investigate traffic flows to school nodes ways to encourage young people to walk and ride to school (and stay active); and**
 - b. **Review and replace the existing Tree Management Policy (adopted in February 2022) with a more comprehensive Tree and Vegetation Management Policy and Strategy**

PURPOSE

The Unconfirmed Minutes of the Meeting of the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Panel held on 21 November 2023, are presented for information.

From the meeting of 21 November 2023, the SEAP made two recommendations to Council for consideration.

BACKGROUND

After an expression of interest process, Council appointed its first Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Panel (SEAP) at the 26 September 2022 Council meeting.

DETAILS

The Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Panel met on 21 November 2023 at the Waratah-Wynyard Council Chambers.

The meeting reviewed the following standard agenda items:

- Confirmation of meeting minutes from 19 September,
- Updates on recommendations to Council,
- Review of actions, and
- General business.

Further agenda items raised by panel members as well as a special presentation by Circular Head Council's Environmental Sustainability Manager were discussed at the November meeting. They included:

- A presentation to the panel on Sustainability and Threats to Food Security,
- Sub-group updates on Ballad Avenue options,
- Bicycle paths Wynyard,
- Wildlife corridor discussion recap,
- Action plans for parks and reserves,
- Standards of practice to guide ecosystem restoration, and
- The Tasmanian threatened species strategy discussion paper

The Panel's next meeting is scheduled to be held on 20 February 2024 at the Waratah-Wynyard Council Chambers.

From the meeting of 21 November 2023, the SEAP made one (1) recommendation to Council for consideration. The recommendation for Council consideration was:

- a. **Engage with the school community to investigate traffic flows to school nodes and ways to encourage young people to walk and ride to school (and stay active).**

This recommendation was made to help start the conversation with one of the main stakeholders most likely to help facilitate the need for improved pathways and linkages which would assist in the reduction of traffic flow congestion in the immediate vicinity of the schools. It was thought that initial steps could help facilitate a larger discussion.

The SEAP raised a secondary recommendation during the 21 November 2023 meeting which was then confirmed and agreed out of session. The recommendation for Council consideration was:

- a. **Review and replace the existing Tree Management Policy (adopted in February 2022) with a more comprehensive Tree and Vegetation Management Policy and Strategy.**

The scope of the existing Tree Management Policy is narrow as it focusses solely on the risk management of trees. A revised policy would embrace the positive value of trees and vegetation reserves, encompassing all vegetation types from single trees to natural reserves and corridors as assets to be adequately managed for:

- enhancing aesthetic appeal of streets, parks, facilities and natural areas;
- providing a sense of place;
- improving people's health and wellbeing;
- maintaining biodiverse ecosystems;
- providing habitat for native fauna (including rare and threatened mammals and birds);
- promoting active community voluntary participation and learning;
- fostering eco-tourism;
- erosion control;

- fire management;
- creating windbreaks;
- improving water and air quality;
- inhibiting weed growth.

There is a growing awareness, appreciation and support in the community for preserving and enhancing natural vegetation, trees and biodiversity areas and reserves. Council manages a wide variety of vegetation types from rural and urban trees, park and street trees, roadside vegetation, nature strips, natural bushlands, foreshore reserves, riparian reserves, buffer zones and green belts, parks and gardens. Hence the revision of the current policy will better align with the principles of the Integrated Council Environmental Plan (iCEP), community expectations and needs of our unique plants and animals.

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
13.1 Facilitate the meeting of community needs through strong advocacy and local and regional collaboration for shared outcomes.

GOAL 7: Environment
Desired Outcomes
7.1 Council and the community minimise its resource consumption and carbon footprint.
Our Priorities
7.1.2 Advocate for effective environmental management and contribute to regional, state, and national climate change initiatives.

GOAL 7: Environment
Desired Outcomes
7.2 The community understands its vulnerabilities and strengths when it comes to climate change adaptation and resilience.
Our Priorities
7.2.1 Support and foster community led adaption and initiatives.

GOAL 7: Environment
Desired Outcomes
7.3 Our natural environment, unique surroundings and community assets are future ready in a changing climate.
Our Priorities
7.3.1 Facilitate education and awareness of climate change risks to the community and property owners.

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:
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.
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.
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.
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

The purpose of the SEAP and their subsequent recommendations are intended to advise Council on ways to reduce our environmental footprint, protect and enhance our natural values, provide education and access to relevant environmental information, and improve the community’s adaptability and resilience to climate related risks.

To this end the recommendations to Council are consistent, particularly to review and replace the existing Tree Management policy with a more comprehensive Tree & vegetation management policy & strategy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

A high-level estimate for the development of a Tree and Vegetation Management Policy and Strategy is anticipated to cost in the order of \$50,000 for consultancy support if required, which includes Council officer time. This amount of funding was not set aside in June 2023

as part of the 2023/24 Annual plan and budget so would need to be incorporated into the 2024-25 budget deliberations for Council's 17 June 2024 Council meeting to enable the development of the framework.

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.

COMMENT

It is recommended that Council note the unconfirmed minutes from 21 November 2023 along with endorsement of the recommendations made by the SEAP.

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 2015 Reference
Confidential Report R15 (2) - Confirmation Of Closed Minutes Of Previous Meeting	15 (2)
Confidential Report R15 (2) – Notices Of Motion NIL RECEIVED	15(2)
Confidential Report R15 (2) (g) information of a personal nature or information provided to the council on the condition it is kept confidential UNCONFIRMED MINUTES	15 (2) (g)
Confidential Report R15 (2) (b,g,j) information that, if disclosed, is likely to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting, or proposes to conduct business; AND information of a personal nature or information provided to the council on the condition it is kept confidential; AND the personal hardship of any person who is resident, or is a ratepayer in, the relevant municipal area RATES MATTER	15 (2) (b,g,j)
Confidential Report R15 (2) (h) - Leave of Absence Request – Councillors NIL RECEIVED	15(2)(h)
Confidential Report R15 (2) - Closed Senior Management Report	15(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 2015 Reference
Confidential Report R15 (2) - Confirmation Of Closed Minutes Of Previous Meeting	15 (2)
Confidential Report R15 (2) – Notices Of Motion NIL RECEIVED	15(2)
Confidential Report R15 (2) (g) information of a personal nature or information provided to the council on the condition it is kept confidential UNCONFIRMED MINUTES	15 (2) (g)
Confidential Report R15 (2) (b,g,j) information that, if disclosed, is likely to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the Council is conducting, or proposes to conduct business; AND information of a personal nature or information provided to the council on the condition it is kept confidential; AND the personal hardship of any person who is resident, or is a ratepayer in, the relevant municipal area RATES MATTER	15 (2) (b,g,j)
Confidential Report R15 (2) (h) - Leave of Absence Request – Councillors NIL RECEIVED	15(2)(h)
Confidential Report R15 (2) - Closed Senior Management Report	15(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 2015* 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.