



City of  
**LAUNCESTON**

# **STRATEGIC PLANNING & POLICY COMMITTEE AGENDA**

**COMMITTEE MEETING  
MONDAY 29 MAY 2017**

**10.00am**

**COMMITTEE ROOM, TOWN HALL, ST JOHN STREET, LAUNCESTON**

---

## Section 65 Certificate of Qualified Advice

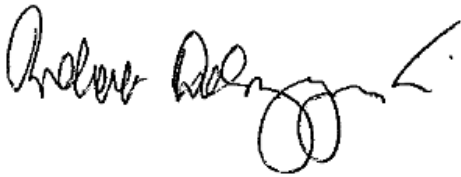
The reports in this Agenda are provided to the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee in order to explain the intent of the process/proposal proposed. Whilst the reports are in Council Meeting format, no decision is being sought.

### Background

Section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires the General Manager to certify that any advice, information or recommendation given to Council is provided by a person with appropriate qualifications or experience.

### Declaration

I certify that persons with appropriate qualifications and experience have provided the advice, information and recommendations to Council in the Agenda Items for this Meeting.



**Robert Dobrzynski**  
**General Manager**

---

**Venue:** Committee Room, Town Hall, St John Street, Launceston

**Time:** 10.00am

---

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

Item No	Item	Page No
1	<b>OPENING OF MEETING - ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES</b>	1
2	<b>DECLARATION OF INTERESTS</b>	1
3	<b>CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES</b>	1
4	<b>AGENDA ITEMS</b>	2
4.1	Deputation - Tamar NRM	2
4.2	Deputation - Primary Health Tasmania	4
4.3	Dog Management Policy Review	6
4.4	Waste Charges to Cover Disposal Voucher	13
5	<b>GENERAL BUSINESS</b>	21
6	<b>CLOSED ITEMS</b>	21
	No Closed Items have been identified for this Agenda	
7	<b>CLOSE OF MEETING</b>	21

---

**1 OPENING OF MEETING - ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

**2 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

**3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**DECISION STATEMENT:**

To resolve that the Minutes of the previous meeting are a true and correct record.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Minutes of the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee Meeting held on 15 May 2017 be accepted as a true and correct record.

---

## 4 AGENDA ITEMS

### 4.1 Deputation - Tamar NRM

**FILE NO:** SF0097

**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Committee Clerk)

**GENERAL MANAGER:** Robert Dobrzynski (General Manager)

---

#### **DECISION STATEMENT:**

To receive a deputation at 10.00am from Ms Gillian Basnett (Program Coordinator), Mr Greg Lundstrom (Program Coordinator) and Mr Roger Tyshing (President - Tamar NRM) initiated by Shane Eberhardt (Director Infrastructure Services).

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee receives a deputation Ms Gillian Basnett (Program Coordinator), Mr Greg Lundstrom (Program Coordinator) and Mr Roger Tyshing (President - Tamar NRM) regarding the Annual Report presentation by Tamar NRM.

---

#### **REPORT:**

Ms Gillian Basnett (Program Coordinator), Mr Greg Lundstrom (Program Coordinator) and Mr Roger Tyshing (President - Tamar NRM) will present their deputation at 10.00am. The deputation will include presentation Tamar NRM's Annual Report as well as providing Aldermen with an update of activities over the last six months. Presenters will seek feedback on NRM projects of importance and determine how best to work together to achieve common goals.

#### **ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

#### **SOCIAL IMPACT:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

---

## 4.1 Deputation - Tamar NRM ...(Cont'd)

---

### STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2014-2024  
Priority Area 8 - A secure, accountable and responsive Organisation  
Ten-year goals - To communicate and engage consistently and effectively with our community and stakeholders  
Key Direction -  
1. To develop and consistently use community engagement processes

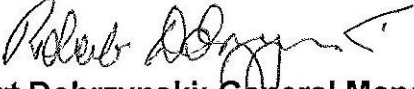
### BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:

Not considered relevant to this report.

### DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

The officer has no conflict of interest in this item.

I certify that I have reviewed and approved this advice and recommendation.

  
**Robert Dobrzynski: General Manager**

## 4.2 Deputation - Primary Health Tasmania

**FILE NO:** SF0097

**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Committee Clerk)

**GENERAL MANAGER:** Robert Dobrzynski (General Manager)

---

### **DECISION STATEMENT:**

To receive a deputation at 10.30am from Mr Phil Edmondson (CEO Primary Health Tasmania) initiated by the Mayor, Alderman A M van Zetten.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee receives a deputation from Mr Phil Edmondson (CEO Primary Health Tasmania) regarding the provision of an update of current activities.

---

### **REPORT:**

Mr Phil Edmondson (CEO Primary Health Tasmania) will present his deputation at 10.30am regarding Primary Health Tasmania's current activities.

### **ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

### **SOCIAL IMPACT:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

---

## 4.2 Deputation - Primary Health Tasmania ...(Cont'd)

---

### STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2014-2024

Priority Area 8 - A secure, accountable and responsive Organisation

Ten-year goals - To communicate and engage consistently and effectively with our community and stakeholders

Key Direction -

1. To develop and consistently use community engagement processes

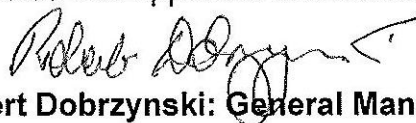
### BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:

Not considered relevant to this report.

### DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

The officer has no conflict of interest in this item.

I certify that I have reviewed and approved this advice and recommendation.



**Robert Dobrzynski: General Manager**

---



## 4.3 Dog Management Policy Review

**FILE NO:** SF0079

**AUTHOR:** Debbie Fortuin (Manager Environmental Services)

**DIRECTOR:** Leanne Hurst (Director Development Services)

---

### **DECISION STATEMENT:**

To consider proposed amendments to the Dog Management Policy.

### **PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**

Council - 12 August 2002 - Agenda Item 9.4 - Dog Management Policy

Council - 28 July 2003 - Agenda Item 9.3 - Dog Management Plan - Review

Council - 22 September 2003 - Agenda Item 9.15 - Dog Management Plan - Review

Council - 25 July 2005 - Agenda Item 16.1 - Dog Management Policy Review

Council - 24 September 2007 - Agenda Item 11.1 - Dog Management Plan

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Aldermen consider the Dog Management Policy 10-Plx-013 (ECM Document # 4067854; Version 13) with proposed amendments.

---

### **REPORT:**

The Dog Management Policy was first adopted by Council in 2002. It underwent a number of subsequent amendments with a complete review undertaken in 2007, and the current Dog Management Policy was adopted on 24 September 2007.

The *Dog Control Act 2000* outlines the requirement to have a Dog Management Policy as follows:

#### ***"7. Dog Management Policy***

*(1) A council is to develop and implement a policy relating to dog management in its municipal area.*

---

## 4.3 Dog Management Policy Review ...(Cont'd)

---

(2) A dog management policy is to include the following:

- (a) a code relating to responsible ownership of dogs;
- (b) the provision of declared areas;
- (c) a fee structure;
- (d) any other relevant matter.

(3) A council is to –

- (a) invite public submissions relating to a proposed dog management policy; and
- (b) consult with any appropriate body or organisation; and
- (c) consider any submissions and results of any consultation before finalising the policy.

(4) A council is to review its dog management policy at least once every 5 years.

(5) In reviewing its dog management policy, a council is to take the actions referred to in subsection (3)."

The Policy was put out for Public Consultation on Your Voice Your Launceston during December 2016 and January 2017. The survey was further advertised on Council's website and on Facebook.

The survey covered off on areas of significant change, namely the tighter measures to ensure registration compliance, single non-discounted dog registration, the lifelong dog registration and the changes to declared areas.

The results were as follows:

1. 85% agreed that the Dog Management Policy contained sufficient information.
2. 85% were in favour of lifelong registration.
3. 84% said they would purchase a lifelong registration at \$100 for the life of their young dog.
4. 80% were in favour of a single registration fee (ie. doing away with the discounted rate) thereby allowing us to send out a first and final notice, followed by enforcement in an attempt to reduce future non-compliances which sit at around 1300 annually.
5. 70% would not make any changes to the proposed declared areas.

Relevant Qualitative Feedback provided included:

1. The need for a discounted lifelong dog registration rate for pensioners (*this has since been included in the fees and charges and a proposed fee of \$50*).
  2. More patrols of the declared areas needed.
  3. The policy does not address penalties (*these are already contained in the Dog Control Act 2000*).
-

## 4.3 Dog Management Policy Review ...(Cont'd)

---

4. Does not contain information about nuisance barking (*this has since been included in the Policy*).
5. Need for information on consequences of non-compliance (*this has since been included in the Policy*).
6. Signage is not clear enough, confusing and difficult (*this has already been identified as an issue by staff and an audit of signage will be planned once the policy has been finalised*).
7. Patrons would like more off-lead areas and dog parks (*this is a matter for Parks Planning to consider within their planning sphere*).
8. Numerous suggestions regarding changes to the declared areas. Practical suggestions made by survey submitters have been included in the proposed amendments to the declared areas as outlined below.
9. Further information sought on legislative defense regarding Dog Attacks - relating to attacks from a dog within its own yard (*this has since been included in the policy*).
10. Better fencing and maintenance of off-lead areas (*this will need to be built into Park's maintenance budget*).

The following outlines the proposed amendments:

1. A Review of the declared areas proposes the following changes:

Note: The Map changes have brought them into line with the legislation and as such what was previously (2007) described as Restricted Area No Dogs 24hrs has been changed to Prohibited Public Area. This category includes areas such as swimming pools, sportsgrounds and playgrounds and these changes have been reflected on the new Maps. The category of Restricted Area has been added to identify areas that Council have declared (eg. City Park). This needs to be taken into consideration when reading the changes below.

Map 3 - Include an On leash section to the Penquite Road walking trail.  
(3.3) Hobblers Bridge Reserve - Change from Prohibited area to On leash.

Map 4 - (4.8) Monash Park - Changed from Prohibited area to On leash.

Map 5 - (5.11) Nunamina Park sports areas - Change from On leash to Prohibited Public area.  
(5.12) Southgate Drive Park - Prohibited area and On leash area identified.

Map 6 - (6.5) City Park - remains as a Restricted area.  
(6.15) Princes Square - Change from Restricted to On leash.

Map 7 - (7.1) Hargrave Crescent Bushland Reserve - Change from Off Leash to On leash.

---

## 4.3 Dog Management Policy Review ...(Cont'd)

---

Map 8 - (8.2) - Dover Village Sportsground - Change from Restricted to On leash.

Map 9 - (9.4) - Ronald Place Park - Change from Off leash to On leash (not fenced).

Map 10 - (10.1) - Ingamells Street Reserve - Change from Prohibited to On leash and subsequent development of (10.6) Pamela Court Reserve.

Map 11 - (11.2) - Punchbowl Reserve - An On leash walking track is to be developed around the Southern perimeter of the current Prohibited area (Punchbowl Reserve). This track will provide a link from Newstead to Kings Meadows whilst bypassing the main Punchbowl area.

The new proposed on lead track will be from Eldonhurst Drive along the fire trail and the back of the community garden to Punchbowl Reserves entrance/exit on Leith Street. Dog owners can also continue to walk their dog along the fence line to Morshead Street. Adequate signage will need to be erected.

Map 12 - (12.3) - Castlemain Road Reserve - Change from Off leash to On leash (due to lack of fencing).

(12.13) - Ravenswood Bushland Reserve - Change from Prohibited area to On leash.

(12.14) - Ravenswood Community Centre park - Change from Prohibited area to Prohibited Public area.

(12.18) - Vermont Road Bushland Park - Change from Prohibited area to On leash.

Map 13 - (13.13) - Ti Tree Crescent Play park - Change the whole area from Prohibited area to On leash.

Map 14 - (14.1) - Aberdeen Court Recreation Area - Change the whole area from Prohibited area to On leash.

(14.5) - Lawrence Vale Road Landslip Park - Restrict the Off leash area to the fenced section only. Other sections to be On leash.

Map 15 - (15.8) Tenzing Drive Park - Include an On leash area.

Map 16 - (16.5) - Hardwicke Street Reserve - Change the Prohibited section to On leash.

(16.6) - Havelock Reserve - Change the whole area from Prohibited area to On leash.

Map 17 - (17.2) - Cataract Gorge Reserve - Change from Off leash to On leash (due to no fencing).

- Change part of the Prohibited area to On leash to provide a link from Trevallyn, through Duck Reach to Corin Street in West Launceston.

---

## 4.3 Dog Management Policy Review ...(Cont'd)

---

Map 18 - (18.6) - Tasman Highway Bushland Reserve - Change from Prohibited area to On leash.

Map 19 - (19.2) - Cambridge Street Reserve - Change from Prohibited to On leash  
(19.4) - Denison Road Dog Exercise Area - Change from Off leash to On leash (due to no fencing).

(19.6) - Gee's Lookout - Change from Prohibited area to On leash.

(19.11) - Salisbury Crescent Park - Change from Prohibited area to On leash.

(19.12) - Salisbury Crescent Reserve - Change from Prohibited area to On leash.

Map 20 - (20.5) - Miami park - Change from Prohibited area to On leash.

(20.7) - Youngtown Regional Park - Change the Prohibited area to On leash.

- Include an On leash area at Jinglers Creek Reserve.

Map R3 - (R3.1) - Karoola Recreation Ground and Hall - Change the Prohibited area and Restricted area to On leash

Map R4 - (R4.2) - Lilydale District Swimming Pool - Change from On leash to Prohibited Public area.

(R4.6) - Merthyr Park - Change from Prohibited area to On leash.

- Include on leash area at Lilydale Cenotaph (R4.9).

- Include Lilydale Bowls Club as Prohibited Public area.

Map R5 - (R5.1) Addition of a Prohibited area between the On leash area and the creek.

Map R7 - (R7.1) Change from Prohibited area to On leash.

2. A review of the fee's structure and administrative systems has resulted in the proposed introduction of the lifelong registration of dogs. The proposed conditions of this registration are outlined in the attached policy. It is not expected to influence the income much over the dog registration base initially, as a limited number of dog owners would take up this option. Currently the City of Launceston has over 10,000 dogs registered. It is not uncommon for staff to be following up in excess of 1,000 outstanding registrations annually. The more people that participate in lifelong registration, the less time and money will be spent on chasing outstanding registrations and renewals. Any loss of income from annual registrations over the life of the dog would be offset by efficiencies made in administration costs. With the average lifespan of a dog estimated at being 10 years, it would be cost effective for an owner to register a dog for the life of the dog. However, currently we have a large population of dogs at different ages, which would not make it beneficial for those owners to subscribe to this fee at this time. It is for this reason that we do not anticipate that the income will be significantly impacted initially, but rather, we expect the transition will be more gradual in nature.
-

## 4.3 Dog Management Policy Review ...(Cont'd)

---

It is proposed that other reciprocating Councils within Tasmania's lifelong registered dog's registration will be recognised here in Launceston and vice versa. Where a dog dies or moves out of the area within three years of registration, a 50% refund would apply.

Further changes being proposed relates to the administrative processing of registrations. It is proposed that a single non-discounted registration fee be adopted with a first and final renewal notice being sent out at the renewal time. Staff will then begin following up on non-renewals and issue infringements where non-compliance is confirmed. This will allow for administrative, financial and timing efficiencies.

3. Compulsory microchipping is now a requirement under the *Dog Control Act 2000* since 1 July 2011 and is now reflected in the proposed amended Policy.
4. A statement on Dogs on Lead, Emergency after hours, stray dogs, registration, dog attacks, dangerous dogs, barking dogs, enforcement processes, restricted breed dogs, kennel licence and the delta dog safe education program have all been included to better outline the administration of the requirements of the *Dog Control Act 2000*.

### **ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:**

In the absence of providing designated areas for dogs to exercise, people will exercise their dogs in areas at their discretion. This could lead to dogs being exercised in sensitive habitats for fauna and flora in parks and reserves around the city, negatively impacting on protected or sensitive fauna populations. By providing designated areas and prohibited areas, some management of these protected environments will be provided.

### **SOCIAL IMPACT:**

Dogs are an important part of our society. In the event that dogs are not managed properly, negative consequences can result in the form of noise nuisance from barking dogs or public safety issues from aggressive dogs or dogs not under proper control. The Dog Management Policy along with the *Dog Control Act 2000* contributes to the regulation, management and control of dogs. The Dog Management Policy further encourages responsible pet ownership.

---

## 4.3 Dog Management Policy Review ...(Cont'd)

---

### STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2014-2024

Priority Area 8 - A secure, accountable and responsive Organisation

Ten-year goals - To communicate and engage consistently and effectively with our community and stakeholders

Key Directions -

1. To develop and consistently use community engagement processes
3. To ensure decisions are made on the basis of accurate and relevant information
4. To continually improve our service delivery and supporting processes
5. To strategically manage our assets, facilities and services
6. To maintain a financially sustainable organisation

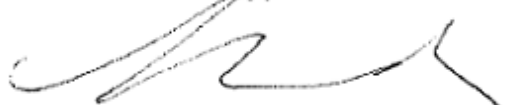
### BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:

Amendments to signage and fencing may need to be undertaken. This will lead to budgetary implications but cannot be calculated at this stage. It is proposed that any changes to the designated dog areas will be costed to the next financial year for roll out at that time.

### DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

The officer has no conflict of interest in this item.

I certify that I have reviewed and approved this advice and recommendation.



**Leanne Hurst: Director Development Services**

### ATTACHMENTS:

1. Dog Management Policy 10-Plx-013 (ECM document # 4067854; Version 13)  
(distributed electronically)
  2. Public Consultation Summary (distributed electronically)
-

## 4.4 Waste Charges to Cover Disposal Voucher

**FILE NO:** SF0633

**AUTHOR:** Rachael Eberhardt (Natural Environment Officer)

**DIRECTOR:** Shane Eberhardt (Director Infrastructure Services)

---

### **DECISION STATEMENT:**

To consider an increase in the Domestic and Commercial/Trade Waste fees for 2017/2018 to recover lost revenue from the two free entry vouchers provided to each residential property.

### **PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**

Workshop - 5 December 2016 - March and October Free Tip Days  
Consideration was given to the March and October free tip days. It was agreed that the remaining free voucher for the March 2017 free day could be used at any time at the Launceston Waste Centre, Nunamara or Lilydale Waste Transfer Stations between 1 February 2017 and 30 June 2017.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council:

1. Issues two vouchers for the Launceston Waste Centre, Nunamara and Lilydale Transfer Stations for 2017/2018 with the following conditions:
    - that vouchers for the Launceston Waste Centre need to be validated at the recycling centre prior to presenting at the transfer station
    - that vouchers are only redeemable for domestic loads and vehicles less than 3 tonnes Gross Vehicle Mass
    - no mattresses or tyres allowed
    - that vouchers be designed to prevent forgery
    - to continue monitoring for multiple entries and cease use of free voucher after four entries
  2. Increases the Domestic and Commercial and Trade Waste fees for 2017/18 to cover the reduced revenue from the two free entry vouchers.
-



4.4 Waste Charges to Cover Disposal Voucher ...(Cont'd)

Table 3: Proposed 2017/2018 fees for Waste Disposal

Details	GST Status	Approved 2016/2017 GST Inclusive	Approved 2017/2018 GST Inclusive	Proposed 2017/2018 GST Inclusive	Proposed 2017/2018 Increase versus 2016/2017 %
<b>Domestic Waste</b>					
Domestic Waste	Mixed	\$66.00	\$72.00	\$77.00	16.7%
Mattress Disposal	Mixed	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	-
Refrigerators and Air Conditioners	Mixed	\$66.00	\$72.00	\$77.00	16.7%
<b>Lilydale and Nunamara Waste Transfer Stations</b>					
Car/Wagon	Taxable	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$11.00	10.0%
Ute/Van/Single Axle Trailer	Taxable	\$16.00	\$16.00	\$17.00	6.2%
Tandem Axle Trailer	Taxable	\$27.00	\$28.00	\$30.00	11.1%
<b>Commercial and Trade Waste</b>					
Commercial Waste	Mixed	\$93.00	\$95.00	\$100.00	7.5%
<b>Controlled Waste/Controlled Burials</b>					
Controlled Waste	Mixed	\$150.00	\$153.00	\$158.00	5.3%

## 4.4 Waste Charges to Cover Disposal Voucher ...(Cont'd)

### REPORT:

At the Workshop on 5 December 2016, Aldermen discussed:

- the replacement of the March free tip day and October free tip day with a more flexible service;
- if the service is introduced the options of funding the concession either from general rates or as an increase to the waste disposal gate charges;
- the future of the separate waste disposal concessions to pensioners; and
- the extension of the Launceston Smart Cards in providing the more flexible service.

At the 1 February 2017 Council Meeting, it was determined all residents holding a valid free voucher for the Free Day in March would be able to use this voucher between 1 February 2017 and 30 June 2017. Table 1 provides an analysis of the data recorded to 30 April 2017.

**Table 1: Analysis of the usage of free entry vouchers from 1 February 2017 to 30 April 2017**

Month	Number of Entries	Average Weight of Waste Disposed (t)	Highest Waste Disposal (t)	Number of Multiple Entries
February	337	0.24	2.16	22
March	606	0.23	2.04	23
April	219	0.23	2.78	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,162</b>	<b>0.23</b>	<b>2.78</b>	<b>66</b>

During the October 2016 free day, 817 entries were recorded compared to 1,162 entries recorded between 1 February 2017 and 30 April 2017.

Since 1 February 2017 there has been 66 multiple entries recorded where the same vehicle registration has entered the transfer station on more than one occasion. In circumstances where the number of entries has exceeded two waste centre staff have spoken with the driver of the vehicle explaining the free voucher usage conditions.

To assist with resource recovery and diversion from landfill staff have implemented a validation process for disposals at the Launceston Waste Centre (LWC). To be able to use the free voucher, vehicles must present at the recycling centre where Launceston City Mission will assist with recycling and donations prior to proceeding to the transfer station.

City Mission has advised that the number of vehicles presenting at the recycling centre has increased due to the validation process.

**4.4 Waste Charges to Cover Disposal Voucher ...(Cont'd)**

**Redemption Rate**

Local governments in the northern region providing free tip vouchers receive redemption rates of 42% and 70% (West Tamar Council (42% for three vouchers = 1.3 vouchers used) and Dorset (70% for five vouchers = 3.5 vouchers used)). Based on these rates, it is assumed the redemption rate for Launceston will be around 50% for both vouchers.

The trial period was not used to calculate the redemption rate because:

- Autumn and spring are the two largest seasons for residential waste; and
- There were a lot of enquiries from people who had disposed of their voucher as they did not think they would attend the March free day.

The average weight for disposal from 1 February 2017 to 30 April 2017 is 0.23 tonnes.

If 50% redemption rate is assumed of 52,000 vouchers, then 26,000 vouchers will be redeemed.

Waste disposed of = 26,000 \* 0.23t = 5,980 tonnes per annum

Waste disposed of under the previous 2 free days scheme is estimated at 376 tonnes per annum

Table 2 below shows the estimated reduction in revenue of the new scheme compared to the current scheme:

**Table 2: Estimated reduction in revenue**

	<b>Annual Tonnage</b>	<b>Domestic Waste Rate per Tonne</b>	<b>Total \$</b>
Proposed 2 free entry voucher scheme	5,980	\$65.91	394,142
Previous 2 free days	(376)	\$65.91	(24,782)
<b>Resulting lost revenue per year</b>	<b>5,604</b>	<b>\$65.91</b>	<b>369,360</b>

Two models have been identified for funding the reduced revenue of \$369,360 for the waste service:

*Model 1 - Changing the 2017/2018 Domestic and Commercial Waste Fees and Charges*  
 Funding of the free vouchers through the Launceston Waste Centre operations fee structure, ie. being subsidised by raising the gate fee for paying customers. The increase in the tonnage rate would be \$5.00 (\$369,360/94,000 tonnes = \$3.93 per tonne, \$4.32 including GST).

**4.4 Waste Charges to Cover Disposal Voucher ...(Cont'd)**

While full cost recovery has now been achieved for commercial users, domestic users are still being subsidised by \$8.40 per tonne. Full cost recovery for domestic users will be achieved in 2019/2020 financial year under the agreed transition arrangement.

Cheaper long distance disposal alternatives are becoming a more economically viable option for contractors as commercial rates increase. This has already been occurring with certain waste types and is considered to be impacting the 2016/2017 LWC revenue.

The proposed fees are provided in Table 3 and increase in the gate fee is the preferred model.

**Table 3: Proposed 2017/2018 fees for Waste Disposal**

Details	GST Status	Approved 2016/2017 GST Inclusive	Approved 2017/2018 GST Inclusive	Proposed 2017/2018 GST Inclusive	Proposed 2017/2018 Increase versus 2016/2017 %
<b>Domestic Waste</b>					
Domestic Waste	Mixed	\$66.00	\$72.00	\$77.00	16.7%
Mattress Disposal	Mixed	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	-
Refrigerators and Air Conditioners	Mixed	\$66.00	\$72.00	\$77.00	16.7%
<b>Lilydale and Nunamara Waste Transfer Stations</b>					
Car/Wagon	Taxable	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$11.00	10.0%
Ute/Van/Single Axle Trailer	Taxable	\$16.00	\$16.00	\$17.00	6.2%
Tandem Axle Trailer	Taxable	\$27.00	\$28.00	\$30.00	11.1%

4.4 Waste Charges to Cover Disposal Voucher ...(Cont'd)

Details	GST Status	Approved 2016/2017 GST Inclusive	Approved 2017/2018 GST Inclusive	Proposed 2017/2018 GST Inclusive	Proposed 2017/2018 Increase versus 2016/2017 %
<b>Commercial and Trade Waste</b>					
Commercial Waste	Mixed	\$93.00	\$95.00	\$100.00	7.5%
<b>Controlled Waste/Controlled Burials</b>					
Controlled Waste	Mixed	\$150.00	\$153.00	\$158.00	5.3%

The Council's own municipal garbage disposal fees will increase the waste management charge by \$100,000 (20,000 tonnes x \$5 increase), which is not included on 2017/2018 proposed budget. This would be equivalent to a \$3.12 increase per rateable property.

*Model 2 - Council Service Charge - Waste Management Service*

Funding of the free vouchers through an increase in the waste management service charge in the amount of \$369,360.

The required charges for different sized bins necessary to recover the reduction in revenue of the two free vouchers are shown in Table 4 below:

**Table 4: Changes to bin rates**

	No. of Bins	2016/2017 Bin Rate	2017/2018 Proposed Bin Rate	% Increase	Total Additional Revenue
240 litre bins	3,686	\$215.00	\$230.00	7.0%	\$55,290
85 and 140 litre bins	26,260	\$102.00	\$114.00	11.7%	\$315,120
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,946</b>				<b>\$370,410</b>

This option is not preferred as waste collection revenue raised in the rating process would be greater than the cost of collecting and disposing of this waste to landfill. These charges do not need to increase by such a magnitude in the 2017/2018 budget and consequently changing the Waste Fees and Charges (Model 1) is the preferred option.

## 4.4 Waste Charges to Cover Disposal Voucher ...(Cont'd)

---

It is recommended that the Council:

1. Issues two vouchers for the Launceston Waste Centre, Nunamara and Lilydale Transfer Stations for 2017/2018 with the following conditions:
  - that vouchers for the Launceston Waste Centre need to be validated at the recycling centre prior to presenting at the transfer station
  - that vouchers are only redeemable for domestic loads and vehicles less than 3 tonnes Gross Vehicle Mass
  - no mattresses or tyres allowed
  - that vouchers be designed to prevent forgery
  - to continue monitoring for multiple entries and cease use of free voucher after four entries
2. Increases the waste fees and charges in the 2017/2018 budget as proposed in Table 3 to recover the reduced revenue due to the two free entries per annum.

At a Workshop on 5 December 2016, the extension of the Launceston Smart Cards in providing the more flexible service was discussed. At a cost of \$5.50 each per SmartCard and changes required to the iWeigh system at the Launceston Waste Centre, providing a SmartCard to 26,000 residents has not been considered in this report. The total to extend this service would be \$150,000.

### **ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

Impact of increasing landfill fees is seeing commercial operators seeking alternative disposal sites. Aggressive pricing may provide an opportunity for a new market entrant.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:**

Concessions for waste fees promotes a concept where it is free to dispose of your waste and does not encourage the user to recycle or donate where possible as there is no economic benefit for them to do so. The underlying culture should be an emphasis on waste diversion from landfill. Launceston City Mission have advised of an increase in the number of vehicles presenting at the recycling centre due to the validation process which has allowed for collection of recyclables and resaleable items prior to disposal.

In addition it is expected that there should be a reduction in illegal dumping around the municipality.

An additional Food and Garden Organic kerbside collection service will be introduced in 2017/2018.

---

## 4.4 Waste Charges to Cover Disposal Voucher ...(Cont'd)

---

### **SOCIAL IMPACT:**

The average number of times that a Launceston resident disposes of waste at the Launceston Waste Centre is about twice a year. The two free vouchers will provide a greater concession for residents to Launceston than previously offered.

### **STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:**

City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2014-2024

Priority Area 5 - A city that values its environment

Ten-year goal - To reduce the impacts on our natural environment and to build resilience to the changing intensity of natural hazards

Key Direction -

5. To reduce our and the community's impact on the natural environment

Priority Area 8 - A secure, accountable and responsive Organisation

Ten-year goals - To continue to ensure the long-term sustainability of our Organisation

Key Direction -

6. To maintain a financially sustainable organisation

### **BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:**

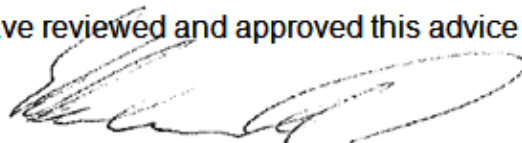
Budget and financial considerations have been provided within the report. A summary is provided.

1. Any subsidy to acquire a Council service requires an equal income from an alternative source.
2. This calculates at a required income of \$369,360 to fund the subsidised service.
3. If charged through increase gate fees then \$80,000 additional funds would need to be included in the 2017/2018 garbage collection budget.

### **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

The officer has no conflict of interest in this item.

I certify that I have reviewed and approved this advice and recommendation.



**Shane Eberhardt: Director Infrastructure Services**

---

**5 GENERAL BUSINESS**

**6 CLOSED ITEMS**

**No Closed Items have been identified for this Agenda**

**7 CLOSE OF MEETING**