

CITY OF LAUNCESTON ANNUAL REPORT

2022-23



City of
LAUNCESTON

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Acknowledgement of Country

This report respectfully acknowledges that the land on which the City of Launceston is built is at the heart of the Stoney Creek Nation.

The Stoney Creek Nation clans lived along the riverways in harmony with the seasons for several thousand generations, and today they are remembered as the traditional owners of this land.

We acknowledge Tasmanian Aboriginal People as traditional custodians of this land, we pay respect to Elders past, present and future, as they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hope for generations to come.

We recognise and value Aboriginal histories, knowledge and lived experiences and commit to being culturally inclusive and respectful in our working relationships with Aboriginal People.

PART ONE **ABOUT THE COUNCIL**





Introduction

The City of Launceston Annual Report for the 2022-23 financial year presents the City of Launceston's financial and operational performance for the year against the key objectives, strategies and priorities outlined in the Corporate Strategic Plan and Greater Launceston Plan.

The *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) (the Act) requires City of Launceston to prepare an annual report for each financial year. Section 72 of the Act requires the report to comment on the progress of annual plan actions, goals and objectives relating to public health, code of conduct complaints and the costs associated with them, financial statements, donated land, along with a copy of the audit opinion.

Our Annual Report is one of the ways we communicate our performance to our stakeholders. We seek to build trust and credibility by reporting with transparency and accountability.

Where to get a copy

The City of Launceston's Annual Report can be downloaded via the City of Launceston's website (www.launceston.tas.gov.au/Council/Reports-Plans-and-Strategies/Annual-Report). In line with the City of Launceston's ongoing commitment to sustainability, a limited number of hard copies of the Annual Report are produced. These can be viewed at Town Hall, 18-28 St John Street Launceston, or a copy can be requested by calling the Customer Service Centre on (03) 6323 3000.



Acting Mayor's Message



As I sit to write this year's foreword for the City of Launceston's Annual Report as Acting Mayor, our organisation is preparing to head into a by-election for the Mayoral position.

One of the things that makes me most proud as Acting Mayor of our incredible city is the dedication and community minded approach of our organisation - both its staff and our 12 elected officials.

I am particularly proud of the way those individuals work together in such a collaborative and mutually respectful manner. Whilst not always necessarily agreeing, but engaging in thought-provoking debate, for the betterment of our community.

Council changes

Being elected as Deputy Mayor and then stepping in as Acting Mayor has certainly been an amazing experience, and the support I have received in that time from our community, fellow Councillors and staff has been a genuinely humbling experience.

The past 12 months have certainly been a busy time for the City of Launceston, with a strong and ambitious agenda laid out before us.

Last year, the City of Launceston bid a fond farewell to its longest serving Mayor, Albert van Zetten, who retired after 15 years at the helm.

With seven new Councillors joining the table at the 2022 local government elections, a change in approach and focus was inevitable. New people bring with them new and exciting ideas.

Community-based programs

In that time, we have witnessed a particularly strong focus on community-based programs such as the establishment of the Council's first Homelessness Advisory Committee, the Council's inaugural Sustainability Action Plan, the Urban Greening Project, as well as the adoption of Launceston's Aboriginal Partnership Plan.

While those programs will be ongoing in the community for many years to come, there have been other significant announcements which will have lasting positive impacts for our residents.

In June last year - when faced with growing community concern regarding the noticeable increase in the number of people sleeping rough across the city - the Council responded by establishing the Homelessness Advisory Committee.

There is no doubt that homelessness is an incredibly challenging social issue - the causes of which can be deeply complex and multi-faceted.

And while local government in general has limited scope or capacity to directly impact the causalities that lead to someone becoming homeless, the City of Launceston is determined to take a leadership role.

Through the development of an action plan, the Council hopes the Homelessness Advisory Committee will provide short, medium and long-term solutions for those sleeping rough in our community, in collaboration with other tiers of government and key stakeholders.

Stadiums Tasmania

In December 2022, the Council supported a motion to continue the conversation around the transfer of ownership of University of Tasmania Stadium (UTAS Stadium) to the recently established Stadiums Tasmania.

If this path forward continues, the new statutory authority will assume the ongoing management of several major sporting facilities across the state including the Blundstone Arena, Dial Park on the North-West Coast, as well as Launceston's Silverdome and York Park.

With more than \$130 million in funding already committed by the Tasmanian and Australian Governments to both enhance and expand UTAS Stadium, our sport-loving Northern Tasmania community will certainly reap the benefits of what will ultimately be one of the finest sports facilities anywhere in the country.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank my fellow Councillors and the staff at the City of Launceston for their ongoing work and dedication in supporting our community.

I feel like this is a new era for Launceston. We are right on the teetering point of our next best self, whether you feel that momentum or not quite yet. I also encourage anyone to take the time to reach out and ask questions.

Launceston truly is an amazing city with an incredibly bright and prosperous future ahead.

MATTHEW GARWOOD

Acting Mayor



Chief Executive Officer's Foreword



With the Council currently engaged in the election of a new Mayor, it would be remiss of me to not make mention of our outgoing Mayor, Albert van Zetten, and the former Councillors who bid farewell to their time at the City of Launceston.

Having spent almost two decades on Council - 15 of those as Mayor, Albert was the driving force behind many pivotal projects and initiatives that Launceston residents now enjoy - or will at some stage into the future.

He was a strong and passionate advocate for the Northern Suburbs throughout his entire tenure.

He was also the driving force behind the development of Tasmania's premier playground space - Riverbend Park, which thousands of families and children now enjoy daily.

We also bid farewell to six other Councillors at the 2022 local government elections - Nick Daking, Krista Preece, Rob Soward, Paul Spencer, Karina Stojansek, and Jim Cox, who retired after three decades in politics, which included 11 years at the City of Launceston.

Their commitment, passion and dedication to making Launceston the best regional city in Australia should be commended.

Following the 2022 local government elections, the community and the City of Launceston welcomed new Mayor, Councillor Danny Gibson. Regrettably, personal circumstances saw Councillor Gibson step down as Mayor on 16 May 2023. I thank Councillor Gibson for his service as Mayor of the City of Launceston and acknowledge the impact he had in his short time in office.

Looking to the future - we have a new Acting Mayor in Matthew Garwood. Until the Mayoral election is finalised, Acting Mayor Garwood will be ably supported by Acting Deputy Mayor Councillor Andrea Dawkins.

I look forward to working with our new-look Council over their four-year term. Launceston certainly has a bright future, and I am genuinely excited to see the City move forward under their stewardship.

A strong long-term financial position

There is an often quoted saying in business - if you fail to plan, you plan to fail.

From Launceston's perspective, it is vitally important that its Council remains strong and resilient, particularly in terms of its long-term financial position.

Despite a turbulent year with rising interest rates and a steady increase in the cost of doing business, the City of Launceston's financial bottom line has remained solid, even with an underlying operational deficit of \$3.44 million.

In June 2022, the Council approved a statutory underlying deficit of \$2.85 million for 2022-23.

Unbudgeted and significant costs impacted Council throughout the financial year, however revenue growth remained strong and is sustainable for future years.

The reality is, the City of Launceston is not immune to the inflationary pressures currently being experienced more broadly in the community, with many significant costs such as fuel, power, depreciation and third-party contracts being linked to CPI and similar external factors.

However, the City of Launceston experienced an upward trend driven by factors such as an increase in rates income courtesy of better-than-expected residential growth, a \$2.91 million increase in interest income due to those increased interest rates, and a \$2.71 million increase in fees and charges mostly thanks to increased visitation at the Aquatic Centre and the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, and increased expenditure through development applications and building surveying services.

Overall, the bottom line for the City of Launceston remains consistent with projections in our Long-Term Finance Plan which includes a gradual 'glide-path' recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cultural journey

An internal focus for the City of Launceston remains our cultural journey - that is, creating a positive, constructive culture for our organisation.

This journey is integral to the long-term sustainability and success of the City of Launceston. It is also what makes our organisation a great place to work.

Shortly after I was appointed as Chief Executive Officer, I identified the need to develop a roadmap to guide the Council through a cultural improvement program to enable our organisation to achieve its desired vision and purpose.

This included embedding our values and behaviours, improved staff engagement as well as leadership development and investment in our people.

That was four years ago, and I am proud to say that in that time, there has been a steady improvement across almost all indicators according to our most recent staff cultural survey conducted earlier this year.

Northern Suburbs Community Recreation Hub

One of the most significant stories of the past year was the announcement of a \$27.5 million contribution by the Tasmanian Government towards the much-anticipated Northern Suburbs Community Recreation Hub.

The Hub was identified in the City of Launceston's My Place My Future Northern Suburbs revitalisation plan to help address a critical shortage of indoor sporting facilities in Launceston and to improve access to local community, sport and recreation infrastructure and programs in the Northern Suburbs.

Along with a commitment of \$15 million from the Australian Government, as well as cash and in-kind support of \$1.25 million from the City of Launceston, the Hub will be delivered and owned by the Tasmanian Government and will boast a range of indoor netball and basketball courts which are desperately needed across the broader northern region.

Aboriginal Partnership Plan

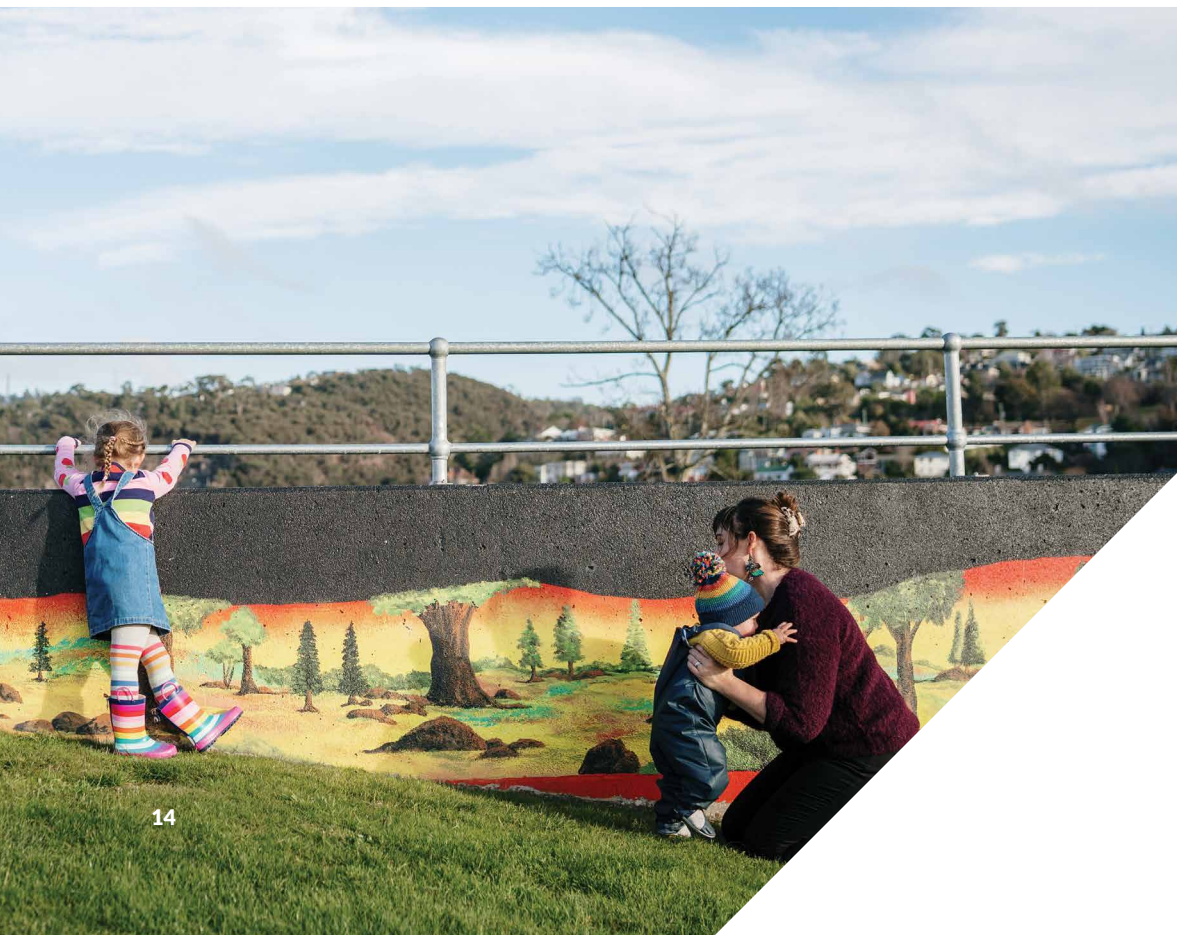
Another significant body of work the Council initiated this year was the development of the organisation's inaugural Aboriginal Partnership Plan.

The City of Launceston has always genuinely valued its relationship with local Aboriginal people, as well as the broader Aboriginal community - and this plan was developed through meaningful conversations with those First Nation's members of our community.

From the City of Launceston's perspective, the Plan provides an opportunity to learn, to gain a new understanding, to forge stronger and more meaningful relationships and to reflect on our past and future by sharing knowledge.

The next steps in this journey will be to undertake an expression of interest process, with the aim of forming an engagement group of Aboriginal People to guide City of Launceston in its engagement with the local Aboriginal community.

We believe it is incredibly important that we promote to the broader community just what the City of Launceston stands for in this regard, as we aspire to be a respected leader of all people.



Kanamaluka/Tamar Estuary

The City of Launceston and its key strategic partners of the Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce continue to deliver positive outcomes to improve our incredible waterway.

For those undertaking the work, the continued improvement of the health of the often-maligned Kanamaluka/Tamar Estuary is of paramount importance, and through the work currently underway via the River Health Action Plan (TERHAP), significant changes are being actioned that will have long-lasting positive impacts.

There is no doubt that Northern Tasmanians have a deep affinity for the Kanamaluka/Tamar Estuary, and TasWater's planned works later in the year to run new pipelines from their Margaret Street pump station to Ti Tree Bend will significantly improve the capacity of our sewage and stormwater systems and reduce the frequency and volume of overflow events.

The Council will invest \$11 million of funding into the TERHAP project, which is a major \$129 million City Deal commitment by all three levels of government, along with TasWater.

It is a significant investment and will ensure a healthier future for the Kanamaluka/Tamar Estuary for future generations and it is one I am certainly proud that the Council is able to support to such an extent.

In closing, I would like to thank the staff for their work and dedication throughout the year.



Michael Stretton
Chief Executive Officer



Organisational Vision, Mission and Values

Greater Launceston Plan Community Vision Statement

Sustainable prosperity for greater Launceston will be achieved by consolidating and building nationally and internationally recognised strategic advantages for the region through a focus on creativity and innovation, maintaining exceptional environmental and liveability qualities and ensuring a diverse, connected and inclusive region.

Our Vision

Inspired people, working together to create the best outcomes for our community.

Our Purpose

We are a progressive organisation, working with our community to create a positive future for Launceston.

Our Values



Our people matter

- we value clear and open communication
- we support and encourage each other
- we respect diversity
- we recognise individual needs, experience and strengths



We care about our community

- we take pride in our work and pursue a standard of excellence
- we genuinely listen, and value collaborative relationships
- we strive towards the best outcome for our community
- we make responsible and sustainable decisions



We bring an open mind

- we actively seek opportunities to continuously improve
- we respect and explore different ideas and perspectives
- we embrace change that leads to positive outcomes
- we value innovation and creativity



We go home safe and well

- we show care for people and look out for one another
- we speak up and support others to be healthy and safe
- we take personal responsibility for our own health and wellbeing
- we value work-life fit

Council Profile

History

Launceston was proclaimed a municipality by an Act of Parliament on 30 October 1852, 47 years after European settlement. The boundaries extended less than two kilometres from the centre of the town. Seven Aldermen were elected to the Launceston Town Council on 1 January 1853, at the first local government elections held in Van Diemen's Land. The Aldermen elected the first Mayor, Alderman William Stammers Button, later that day at the first meeting of the Town Council.

On 8 May 1985, the councils of Launceston City, St Leonards and Lilydale were amalgamated to form the new City of Launceston. After this amalgamation, several rural areas were included in the municipal area. The most recent boundary changes were in 1992 when parts of Prospect and Relbia were included within the municipality.

Town Hall

Launceston's Town Hall is one of few mid-Victorian buildings still used for its original purpose. The ground floor of the original building contained the Council Chambers and municipal offices, and it had a concert hall and meeting room on the upper floor. The building was first occupied in 1867.

The Town Hall has been extended and its interior modified several times - first in 1906 and again in 1936.

The Town Hall Annexe was developed in 1986-88 using the late nineteenth century Federation - Queen Anne styled building, known as the old Mail Exchange, on the southwest corner of Cimitiere and St John Streets.





Council and Elected Members

Elected Members

Councillors have specific powers, responsibilities and duties as set out in the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas). City of Launceston is served by 12 Councillors, one of whom is the Mayor.

Councillors are elected for a four-year term. Local government elections were held in November 2022. Following the resignation of Mayor Danny Gibson on 15 May 2023, a by-election is underway as at 30 June 2023 to fill the vacant position. The polling period closes 2pm Tuesday 11 July 2023.

Council Meetings

At City of Launceston, council meetings are held every second Thursday in keeping with the schedule published on the Council's website.

Council meetings start at 1pm in the Town Hall Council Chambers and are open to the public. Members of the public can ask questions of the Council during public question time at the start of each meeting or can speak to an item in the agenda.

From time to time, a special meeting of Council is convened in accordance with regulation 4(1)(b) or (6) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*. Additionally, section 72B of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) requires Council to hold an Annual General Meeting.

Committees and Councillor Representation on External Bodies

Committees, which include Councillors and members of the public, have been established to provide valued advice to the City of Launceston through community participation and engagement. Councillors may also represent the City of Launceston on external bodies and provide input from a Council and local perspective. Councillor representation on committees is listed on the Councillor profiles on pages 22 to 31.

Audit Panel

The Audit Panel, formerly Finance and Audit Committee, was established in 2003 to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) and operates in line with the *Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014*. The panel consists of an independent chairperson, two elected representatives and two independent members, selected through a recruitment process based on their skills and experience.

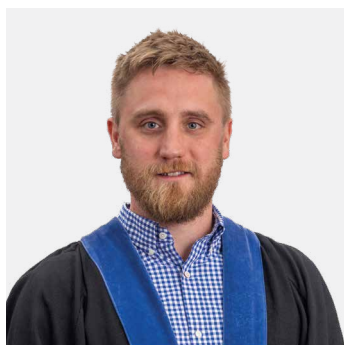
The key objectives of the Audit Panel are:

- a. to assist the Council in the effective conduct of its financial reporting responsibilities;
- b. the management of risk;
- c. maintaining a reliable system of internal controls;
- d. facilitating the conduct of the Council's activities in an ethical and responsible manner; and
- e. review the accounting, internal control, anti-fraud, anti-corruption and risk management policies, systems and controls that the Council has in relation to safeguarding its long-term financial position.

In 2022-23, Panel Members were Ric de Santi (Chair), Independent Members Ken Clark and Steven Hernyk, and Councillors Hugh McKenzie and Tim Walker.



Councillor Profiles



Councillor Alex Britton

1 November 2022 - 30 June 2023

Councillor Alex Britton was born in Launceston and attended Larmenier Primary and St Patrick's College.

Alex is passionate about small business and the role that it plays in shaping our Northern Tasmanian community.

He is a huge supporter of the tourism and hospitality sector and believes Launceston can capitalise on the ever-growing opportunities in this area. Furthermore, he wishes to see more opportunities for young people in Launceston and Northern Tasmania, and believes it is important to attract and keep them here in our wonderful city.

Alex is proud of the authentic relationships that he builds whilst running his busy Launceston hospitality venues.

He looks forward to applying his sound business experience to the Council decision-making processes.

Special Committees:

Cultural Advisory Committee and Launceston Sister City Committee

External Committees:

Economic Development Working Group



Councillor Susie Cai

1 November 2022 - 30 June 2023

Councillor Susie Cai arrived from China with her family in 1987 and has lived in Launceston for 36 years. She co-owns and manages a Chinese restaurant with her husband and is a mother of three children. Since the age of 11, Susie has worked in her parents' and now in her own restaurant. She was educated in Launceston at Glen Dhu Primary, Queechy High and Launceston College. Susie has an understanding of and concern for members of the community who must deal with health and financial challenges affecting their daily lives. Homelessness and creating safer communities are high priorities.

Her personal experiences have always motivated her to act on behalf of people who may feel powerless and to work co-operatively with Council to improve the circumstances of those experiencing disadvantage.

"Fairness and equity are always what I seek to achieve around the council table. It is an honour to be a member of the council team. I work hard to achieve open and fair representation. I take my responsibilities as a member of the council team seriously."

I am proud of Launceston and its natural and built heritage. There is still much to do to ensure Launceston is measured in its progress yet imaginative in making it a happier and safer city in which to live."

Special Council Committees:

Heritage Advisory Committee and Scholarships and Bursary Committee

External Committees:

Launceston Safer Communities Partnership



Councillor Jim Cox

1 July 2022 - 31 August 2022

Councillor Jim Cox was elected in October 2011. He spent more than 20 years as a member of the Tasmanian Government, in which he held several key portfolios including Police and Emergency Management, and Road Safety - and he remains passionate about improving road safety statewide.

Jim saw his role in local government as an opportunity to give something back to a community that has supported him for many decades.

Council Committees:

Chief Executive Officer's Contract and Performance Review Committee

Special Committees:

Launceston Sister City Committee, Municipal Emergency Management Committee (Chair) and Tender Review Committee



Councillor Nick Daking

1 July 2022 - 31 October 2023

Councillor Nick Daking is a Launceston local and extremely passionate about Launceston as a city, its business community, and its citizens. He wants to ensure that Launceston is a city full of opportunity and is motivated to help make the changes necessary for Launceston to become one of the most liveable cities in Australia.

Nick enjoyed a fantastic childhood growing up in Launceston and believes it is one he would like his children to experience. He loves the lifestyle Launceston offers and plans on calling Launceston home for many years to come. Nick has an Advanced Diploma in Civil Engineering and for many years worked with an International Funds Manager where he specialised in finance construction with large developments across the country.

Nick has spent years building and managing hospitality businesses within in Launceston and during this time he has also been an active board member of the Tasmanian Hospitality Association.

Special Committees:

Events Sponsorship Assessment Panel, Launceston City Heart Reference Group, Tender Review Committee and Youth Advisory Group

External Committees:

Cityprom Limited and Economic Development Working Group



Councillor Andrea Dawkins

Councillor 1 July 2022 - 31 May 2023
Acting Deputy Mayor 1 - 30 June 2023

Councillor Andrea Dawkins was elected to City of Launceston in 2014, leading to a stint in the Parliament of Tasmania from 2015 to 2018. Andrea also has over 20 years in small business and six years in the not-for-profit sector. Her strengths are in social enterprise, place-making and animal welfare.

In her 2022 campaign, Andrea highlighted the need to reduce pollution in the valley. Having moved a successful joint motion, Council is now developing a Clean Air Strategy as a matter of priority. Regulation on removing single-use-plastics from our local government area has somewhat stalled after her successful motion to phase out their use. As the environmental impacts of the products that replaced single-use-plastics are unfolding, another solution is being sought by the industry with urgency. She continues to raise the importance of furthering investigations regarding confining cats to property for biosecurity and safety reasons.

In 2023, Andrea was inducted in to the Tasmanian Honour Roll for Women for service to community, advocacy and inclusion; government and public service.

Andrea also serves as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of RSPCA Tasmania.

Special Committees:

Community Recognition Awards, Cultural Advisory Committee and Scholarships and Bursary Committee (all 1 July - 31 October 2022) and Access Advisory Committee (1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)

External Committees:

Design Tasmania and Economic Development Working Group (1 July - 31 October 2023) and Newstead College Association (1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023)



Councillor Matthew Garwood

Deputy Mayor: 1 November 2022 - 15 May 2023
Acting Mayor: 16 May 2023 to 30 June 2023

Living in the Northern Suburbs with his wife Michelle and daughter, Billie, Matthew is born and raised in Launceston. With a heart for community and a passion for people, Matthew is heavily integrated into the Launceston municipality.

Exuberating fresh ideas, energy and enthusiasm as Deputy Mayor and Acting Mayor, Matthew also brings leadership experience with his time as content director at LAFM/CHILLIFM as well as having held numerous external executive committee and board member roles.

Having performed around the country and represented Launceston around the world, Matthew has stepped up to represent the City of Launceston as Acting Mayor since May 2023.

Bringing a focus on communication and conversation, Matthew's vision is a simple one. Connectedness. Connected through infrastructure, transport, arts and culture, identity, local produce and sport and recreation creating a sense of pride, purpose and belonging.

Special Committees:

Community Grants (Organisations) Program, Event Sponsorship Assessment Panel, Launceston City Heart Reference Group, Northern Youth Coordinating Committee, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Governance Advisory Board (Mayor's proxy 2 November - 15 May 2023 and member from 16 May - 30 June 2023) and Youth Advisory Group

External Committees:

Local Government Association of Tasmania (Mayor's proxy 2 November 2022 - 15 May 2023 and member from 16 May - 30 June 2023) and TasWater Owners' Representatives Group (16 May - 30 June 2023)



Councillor Danny Gibson

Deputy Mayor: 1 July 2022 – 31 October 2022

Mayor: 1 November 2022 – 15 May 2023

Councillor: 16 May 2023 – 30 June 2023

Danny's philosophy is, 'Love where you live. Live where you love.'

Danny believes in evidence-based decision making and seeks to balance the diverse needs of the community, small business sector, the arts, sport and recreation, and the future sustainable development of the city.

He understands the importance of community-based events to the cultural fabric of Launceston, having served as a volunteer, supporter and patron of many not-for-profit organisations in Northern Tasmania.

Danny has a passion for grassroots, community-driven projects and initiatives, and seeks to be a positive, collaborative and proactive contributor to the betterment of the city.

He has been a successful advocate for improved recreational infrastructure and facilities, disadvantaged communities across Northern Tasmania, youth education, public art, strategic planning and sustainable development.

Danny is a proud Northern Tasmanian, who has enjoyed a career in print media, arts education, the small business sector, events and the performing arts.

Danny believes Launceston's best days are still to come and is committed to making Launceston one of Australia's most successful, vibrant and dynamic regional cities.

Special Committees:

Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Governance Advisory Board (November 2022 to May 2023)

External Committees:

Communities for Children Kanamaluka (in Launceston and the Tamar Valley), Launceston College Association, Local Government Association of Tasmania (November 2022 – May 2023) and TasWater Owners' Representatives Group (November 2022 – May 2023)



Councillor Alan Harris

1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023

Councillor Alan Harris was first elected to Council in 2018 and was re-elected in 2022. Alan was born, educated and lives in Launceston, married to Katrina with two adult children and his interests include community service through Rotary, cycling and classic motorcycles.

Alan has a wealth of business knowledge and skills, gained over a 40-year career, working as a Senior Executive in Telstra, Federal politics and aged care.

Alan has been an active Rotarian since 2003, holding many leadership positions including Club President, Secretary, Assistant District Governor and led a Rotary International Exchange team to Denmark in 2012. He is the past Chairman of the Carrick Community Committee and the Southern Launceston Community Development committee.

Alan is committed to bringing new ideas, a strong business acumen and leadership to the Council.

Special Council Committees:

Cataract Gorge Advisory Committee, Events Sponsorship Assessment Panel (July 2022 - October 2022), Launceston City Heart Reference Group and Transport Committee (formerly Pedestrian and Bike Committee) (July 2022 - June 2023) and Tender Review Committee (November 2022 - June 2023).

External Committees:

Launceston Safer Communities Partnership and Newstead College Association (July 2022 - October 2023), Economic Development Working Group, Franklin House Management Committee and University of Tasmania Northern Campus Engagement and Advisory Group (July 2022 - June 2023).



Councillor Hugh McKenzie

1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023

Councillor Hugh McKenzie was elected in October 2011. He comes from a strong business background, having been a partner in business advisory firm KPMG for 24 years. Since retiring from that position in 2011 he has spent the past 11 years giving back to his community in a variety of ways, not the least in his role as Councillor.

In the theme of giving back, he sits as the Council endorsed Director and current Chair on the Launceston Airport, is the President of the Board of Management for the Northern Suburbs Community Centre, is the Chair of the Cape Hope Foundation, a philanthropic organisation that funds “hand up” type projects in the Northern Tasmania region including scholarships for disadvantaged young people, and a member of the board for both The Hobart Clinic and Tasmanian Irrigation.

Hugh is an avid sports fan who has participated in football (Australian Rules), cricket, tennis, golf and cycling, including as past President of the Stan Siejka Cycling Festival.

He lives by the motto of “don’t say, do” as actions speak louder than words.

Special Committees:

Heritage Advisory Committee and Transport Committee (formerly Pedestrian and Bike Committee) (July - October 2022), Municipal Emergency Management Committee (Chair) (September 2022 - June 2023), Tender Review Committee and Audit Panel (July 2022 - June 2023)

External Committees:

Economic Development Working Group (July - October 2022), Australian Pacific Airports Launceston, Theatre North Inc. and University of Tasmania Northern Campus Engagement and Advisory Group (July 2022 - June 2023)



Councillor Lindi McMahon

1 November 2022 - 30 June 2023

Councillor Lindi McMahon is a local business owner of Hope & Me in the Quadrant Mall for 13 years, Camp Quality companion 10 years, Cityprom Board member for five years - three as Chairperson, Marketing Committee for four years - three as Chairperson, Governance committee member for two years.

Completion of Australian Institute of Company Directors Course, creator of the 'Get Vocal Buy Local' initiative and facilitator of 'Lifting the Lid on Mental Health' information sharing platform.

Lindi is a previous member of the City of Launceston Lions Club for five years, including one year as Treasurer. Winner of Launceston Chamber of Commerce Retail Entrepreneur Award 2018, S Group Top 5 #Wonder100 Wonderchaser 2018, Finalist Telstra Business Women's Awards 2019.

Creator of the free community event 'The Mad Hatters Twilight Festival' running for six years prior to COVID. Real experience in finance, governance, marketing, events and community engagement. A committed community leader, dedicated to understanding the challenges and barriers of all our people.

Passionate about Launceston, its businesses and people and looking forward to having a positive impact on the future success of our municipality. People. Passion. Purpose.

Special Council Committees:

Cataract Gorge Advisory Committee, Community Grants (Organisations) Program, Events Sponsorship Assessment Panel (Chair) and Youth Advisory Group

External Committees:

Launceston Safer Communities Partnership



Councillor Andrew Palmer

1 November 2022 - 30 June 2023

Councillor Andrew Palmer is passionate about Launceston and growing opportunities in our region.

He loves this city and its people and as a husband, a dad and small business owner, wants to see our community continue to thrive.

Andrew has been and will continue listening to the concerns and aspirations of residents.

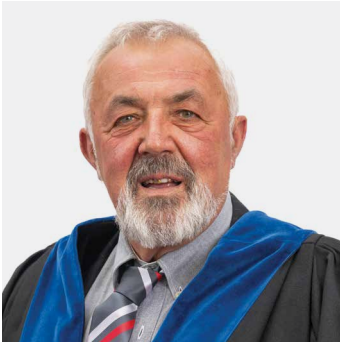
He brings a wide range of experience to the council table including 17 years as a small business owner (Palmer's Dance Studio) and knows the value of supporting employers and employees in our diverse local economy.

Andrew has a passion and deep understanding of Tasmania's growing arts and cultural sector and has been a great supporter of local charities for many years.

He is married to Jo and they are very proud parents of four.

Special Council Committees:

Community Grants (Organisations) Program, Event Sponsorship Assessment Panel, Launceston Sister City and Scholarships and Bursary Committee



Councillor Joe Pentridge

1 November 2022 - 30 June 2023

Councillor Joe Pentridge is Launceston-born and raised, but also proud of his Croatian heritage. He was brought up to believe that hard work created opportunities and has continued to apply that throughout his working life.

Joe joined Launceston’s workforce as a boilermaker-welder and through the opportunities that created he became a developer of industrial and residential sites throughout the city.

Commercial developments have been a specialty and Joe has acquired expertise in this style of development.

He firmly believes in the principle of reuse, and applies that to restoring and reusing machinery, land sites and residential properties. Joe loves Launceston’s heritage buildings and believes that they must be retained, reused and, where necessary, transformed for modern use.

Joe also believes everyone deserves a fair go and has committed to representing the community to the best of his ability, taking things on with passion and drive.

Special Council Committees:

Heritage Advisory Committee, Launceston Sister City Committee, Tender Review Committee and Transport Committee



Councillor Krista Preece

1 July 2022 - 31 October 2022

Councillor Krista Preece joined the City of Launceston in June 2021, winning a countback to fill the vacancy left by outgoing Councillor and former Mayor Janie Finlay.

Krista was born in Launceston, the eldest of three children. Her father worked at the local radio station, and she spent time working alongside his team. She has also worked in retail before completing her apprenticeship as a hairdresser, working at several well-known businesses across the city during that time. She currently works at the Launceston General Hospital as a ward clerk in the Department of Emergency Medicine and Specialist clinic - a position she finds extremely rewarding.

She is a former Rotary president and current assistant governor. Krista is also a carer for her elderly aunt. Krista and her husband live in Newstead, and they have four children. She is excited at the opportunity to represent the people of Launceston and wants to give back to her “amazing” community.

Krista believes that promoting a positive health message to those in our community is paramount. She is also passionate about providing residents with a reliable and well-connected public transport system, particularly for people who rely on catching a bus for work and medical appointments.

Krista is an avid supporter of the maker movement and the many incredible markets that operate across Launceston.

Special Committees:

Launceston City Heart Reference Group

External Committees:

University of Tasmania Northern Campus Engagement and Advisory Group



Councillor Dr George Razay

1 November 2022 - 30 June 2023

Councillor, Doctor and Clinical Associate Professor George Razay was elected in November 2022. He has spent the last 25 years working as a General Physician and Geriatrician, Director of the Memory Disorders Clinic and Dementia Research Centre at the Launceston General Hospital, Clinical School of Medicine, University of Tasmania. He was a 2021 Tasmanian Australian of the Year nominee.

Dr Razay’s research has contributed greatly to increasing our understanding of the risk factors and treatment of dementia and Alzheimer’s disease. His research was the first to report: a) the link between obesity, abdominal obesity, the metabolic syndrome and Alzheimer’s disease; b) improvement in cognitive and physical functioning following exercise in Alzheimer’s disease and; c) the high incidence of idiopathic Normal Pressure Hydrocephalus, a treatable form of dementia that is often misdiagnosed and that can be treated with shunt surgery which improves cognition, balance, and gait.

Dr Razay is proud to serve the Launceston City as a Councillor. His campaign goals included promoting a healthy and active community, combating traffic congestion and air pollution, supporting the homeless people, improving the Kanamaluka/Tamar Estuary, revitalising the city centre, promoting respect for our seniors and supporting the young generation.

Special Committees:

Launceston City Heart Reference Group and Homelessness Advisory Committee



Councillor Rob Soward

1 July 2022 - 31 October 2022

Councillor Rob Soward was first elected as a Councillor in 2009 and served as Deputy Mayor 2014 - 2018.

Rob holds postgraduate University qualifications in educational leadership and business and has a strong community and sporting background including 24 years as a senior teacher with the Department of Education. He is a past Director of the Northern Tasmanian Football League and Connect Credit Union (My State Ltd) and has had 24 years’ experience as an AFL Accredited Level 2 Football Coach.

Rob has also held senior state manager roles in the Tasmanian employment sector working with business and industry on job creation and assisting people to gain employment. Councillor Soward has strong, lifelong interests in improving community health and wellbeing and has extensive experience in successful project management in that area.

Special Committees:

Community Recognition Awards and Launceston Sister City Committee



Councillor Paul Spencer

1 July 2022 - 31 October 2022

Councillor Paul Spencer was elected in November 2018. He is happily married to wife Margy and has been for 41 years. Together they have five adult sons and six grandchildren. Paul has been a hard-working electrician for 47 years and self-employed in his own successful business for 31 years. Paul also manages a 130-hectare family farm.

He has employed many apprentices and worked with varied tradespeople on jobs from heavy industrial to residential projects. His interests include restoring cars, motor racing, farming and spending time with his family.

Paul is driven by his desire to provide a fair go for all and to help people from all walks of life. He is committed to his election promises of introducing a fair tender process and ensuring Council is transparent and fair in all its processes.

Council Committees:

Chief Executive Officer's Contract and Performance Review

Special Committees:

Community Grants (Organisations) Program and Tender Review Committee

External Committees:

Launceston Safer Communities Partnership



Councillor Karina Stojansek

1 July 2022 - 31 October 2022

Councillor Karina Stojansek was elected in 2015 and has more than 20 years' senior management experience in small to medium organisations, most recently as the Managing Director of a statewide training organisation. She studied a Bachelor of Commerce at the University of Tasmania and has extensive skills in accounting, human resources and business management.

Karina is currently on the board of the local Steiner School and has served on various committees including RSPCA Tasmania, and the Trevallyn Tennis Club in the positions of President, Treasurer and Secretary.

She has been involved with the migrant community, delivering the Foot in the Door Program helping migrants find employment.

Karina has a passion for community and believes strongly in the importance of health, family, an active lifestyle and building a vibrant, dynamic, connected and inclusive community.

Special Committees:

Community Grants (Organisations) Program, Events Sponsorship Assessment Panel, Launceston City Heart Reference Group and Launceston Sister City Committee



Councillor Albert van Zetten

Mayor: 1 July 2022 - 31 October 2022

Mayor Albert van Zetten was first elected to the City of Launceston in 2005.

Before entering the local government sector, Albert spent more than 30 years as a chartered accountant, 18 years as Chief Executive Officer of Launceston City Mission and had close involvement with a range of community organisations across Northern Tasmania.

In October 2007, he was elected Mayor with the aim of working with Northern Tasmanians to help make Launceston one of the world’s great regional cities.

In his fifth term as Mayor of the City of Launceston, Albert is supported by his wife Lyndle and family, and strongly believes that community collaboration and teamwork can make the impossible, possible.

Launceston is on track to become one of the great regional cities in the world: it is small enough to manage and large enough to matter. He believes great opportunities lie ahead for Launceston, and that Northern Tasmanians, working together, can achieve great things for our community.

Council Committees:

Chief Executive Officer’s Contract and Performance Review Committee

Special Committees:

Launceston City Heart Reference Group, NTCA Ground Management Committee and Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Governance Advisory Board

External Committees:

Local Government Association of Tasmania and TasWater Owners’ Representatives Group



Councillor Tim Walker

1 July 2022 - 30 June 2023

Councillor Tim Walker has been a councillor since 2018. He has had a diverse career: a former journalist, teacher, woodworker, support worker, event manager and political adviser.

Tim knows Launceston faces big challenges in terms of population growth, traffic management and housing availability and affordability, and looks forward to working with the broader community to find long-term solutions that are sustainable and inclusive. These include improving public transport options and dedicated cycleways, encouraging affordable and sustainable housing, improving resource recycling to reduce environmental pollution, developing a meaningful, ongoing relationship with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community, improving the Kanamaluka/ Tamar Estuary and our other waterways, supporting local fresh food security, and championing thoughtful urban development that does not detract from our enviable and unique community lifestyle.

He considers it an honour to serve the City of Launceston as a Councillor and is always available to hear from you about your ideas or concerns for our community.

Council Committees:

Chief Executive Officer’s Contract and Performance Review Committee

Special Committees:

Community Grants (Organisations) Program and Heritage Advisory Committee (July - October 2022), Audit Panel and Cataract Gorge Advisory Committee (Chair) (July 2022 - June 2023) and Cultural Advisory Group (Chair), Homelessness Advisory Committee (Chair) and Tender Review Committee (October 2022 - June 2023)

External Committees:

Tamar NRM Reference Group (July - October 2022) and Economic Development Working Group (July 2022 - June 2023)

Executive Leadership Team



Michael Stretton
Chief Executive Officer



Shane Eberhardt
General Manager
Infrastructure and Assets Network



Shane Fitzgerald
General Manager
Creative Arts and Cultural Services Network



Louise Foster
General Manager
Organisational Services Network



Dan Ryan
General Manager
Community and Place Network



Paul Gimpl
Chief Financial Officer
1 July 2022-30 June 2023 (including a period of leave)



Nathan Williams
Chief Financial Officer
22 May 2023 - 30 June 2023 (including a period of leave coverage)

Organisational Structure

Within our organisational structure are four Networks of teams. These Networks are in place to improve collaboration, engagement, and communication in a dynamic way and provide more equitable distribution of work across the organisation.

Each Network is led by a General Manager who reports directly to the Chief Executive Officer. The General Managers are supported by a strong leadership structure of Managers and Team Leaders.



Our People

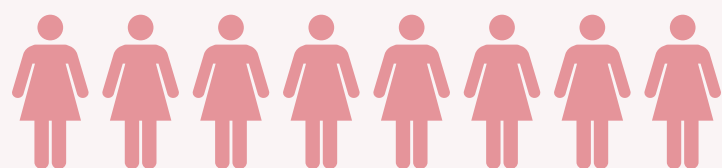
Employee count



Gender balance



50% male



50% female

Apprentices and cadets



4

Horticulturalist Apprentices



1

Civil Construction Apprentice



8

Directly Employed Apprentices



1

Groundsperson Apprentice



1

Cadet Engineer



1

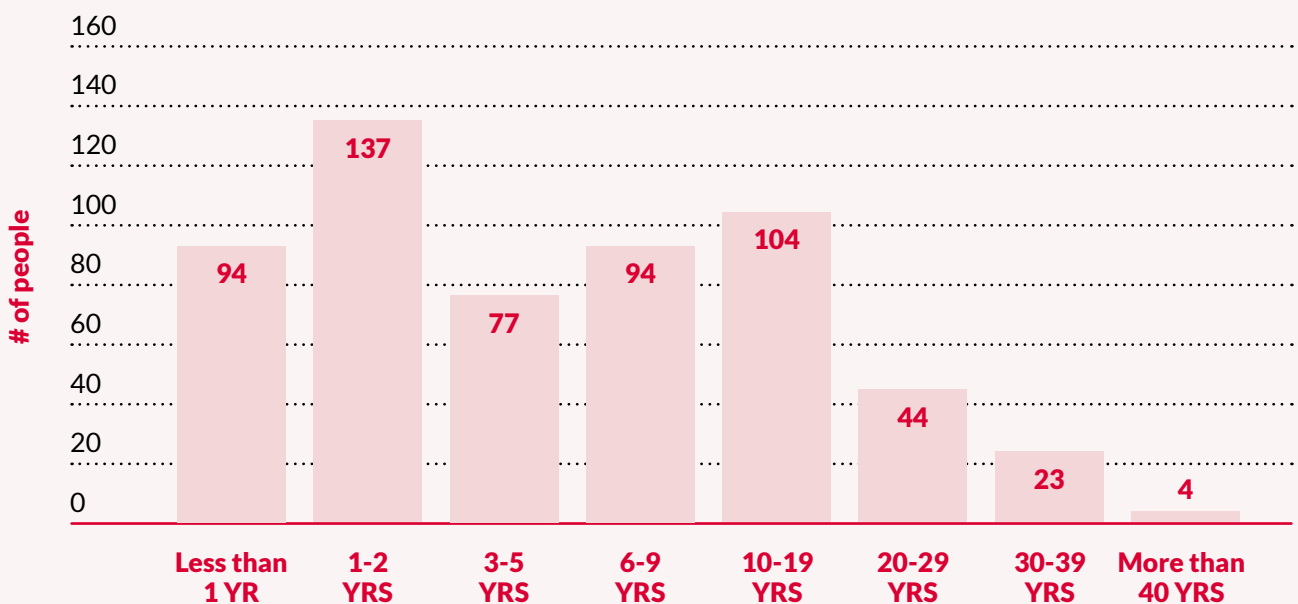
Cadet Planner



2

Mechanic Apprentices

Length of service



Volunteers

Our volunteers play a vital role in our community and we celebrated their incredible contributions over two celebration events in 2022 and 2023.

The City of Launceston hosted the inaugural Celebrating Volunteers lunch in Invermay on Monday 11 and Tuesday 12 July 2022. The event was held over two days to demonstrate Council's appreciation of the immeasurable value our volunteers provide our community. Guests enjoyed a hot two-course meal and the chance to enjoy a social outing. The event was emceed by then Mayor Councillor Danny Gibson and included entertainment from local emerging talents Audrey Green and Delilah McGill. Both guitarists were discovered as part of Council's busking competition. The event was well attended with 290 guests representing 57 organisations, including representation from emergency and community service organisations; health, wellbeing and advocacy groups; political volunteers; as well as those from environment, arts, sport/recreation and animal welfare organisations.

During National Volunteer Week in May 2023, the City of Launceston again celebrated the contribution of volunteers to our community with morning tea and a movie. We also provided volunteer certificates to community groups in recognition of their time and valuable work within the community.



A Year in Review

Mayor

Conferred Australian citizenship upon 307 people at five citizenship ceremonies.

Hosted 16 civic functions for community organisations to celebrate significant milestones.

Road network

City of Launceston maintains:

- 758.08 kilometres of road including 391.55 kilometres of urban roads and 366.53 kilometres of rural roads
- 92 bridges

There are approximately 32.34 kilometres of privately maintained roads in the Launceston Municipality.

Parks and recreation

- Council owns, maintains and/or manages 269 parks, reserves and conservation areas
- 2078.40 hectares of parklands with more than 27,869 trees (not including bushland trees)

EasyPark parking app

- total of 1,331,293 EasyPark transactions
- March 2023 was the busiest month with 119,707 transactions recorded

Carr Villa annual burial and cremation statistics

- Burials 199
- Cremations 401
- Ash placements 198

Launceston Leisure and Aquatic Centre

- 1405 average daily users
- 21 February 2023 was our busiest day, with 2271 total users on this day

City of Launceston actioned 25,289 community requests



**Roads and
footpaths**

3052



**Parks and
recreation**

834



**Stormwater
and drainage**

698



Dogs

918



Nature strips

321



**Tree
management**

1145



Parking

5020



**Environmental
health**

1850



Bookings

(Halls, Heat Kits, Malls)

357



**Building and
planning**

2191



**Waste
management**

6582



Other

2321

The Launceston City Deal

The City of Launceston remains dedicated to working collaboratively with Launceston City Deal partners, the Community and Business Advisory Board, neighbouring Councils and stakeholders to drive forward the projects outlined in the City Deal. This will enable Launceston to be Australia's most liveable and innovative regional cities, with growing incomes and falling levels of disadvantage.

Following the 2022 Federal Election and change in government, the Labor party confirmed their commitment to honour previously signed City Deal commitments.

The Executive Board continued to meet quarterly to coordinate the strategic vision of the City Deal with meetings held in August 2022, November 2022 and May 2023. Ongoing, the Executive Board agreed to meet once per year.

Notable visual progress is now being observed throughout the City, with several commitment milestones achieved in the sixth year of the agreement. As a component of the University's Transformation Project, stage one of the Stone Building refurbishment opened in May 2023. More than 150 staff from the University's Student Services and Operations, and People and Wellbeing divisions are now based inside.

A series of green spaces known collectively as the Urban Realm are also continuing to emerge across the precinct. The outdoor spaces provide over 15,000 square metres of flexible space for learning, events and gatherings for the community and the University. (Source: Transforming our Inveresk Campus | University of Tasmania, available from <https://www.utas.edu.au/about/campuses/inveresk-transformation>).

With the transformation of Inveresk progressing, the future of the old Newnham Campus is too. The University of Tasmania published the Newnham Development Strategy and invited community feedback. The strategy includes locations for two City Deal commitments; the Defence and Innovation Precinct and the Cadet Facility. The health of the Kanamaluka/Tamar commitments are being progressed through actions identified in the Tamar

Estuary River Health Action Plan and delivery partner, TasWater. The St John Street pump station underwent an upgrade that concluded in December 2022. This upgrade aims to enhance the station's capacity for sewage pumping, enabling the transfer of sewage to the treatment plant. Construction also began in October 2022 for a new underground diversion chamber at the Margaret Street Sewage Pump Station. The purpose is to redirect both sewage and stormwater flows from the Old Margaret Street Pump Station to the New Margaret Street Pump Station.¹

Announced as part of their budget, the State Government agreed to contribute \$27.5 million towards the Northern Suburbs Recreation Hub project. Adding to funds already committed by the Australian Government, \$15 million and the City of Launceston, \$1.1 million. The additional funding has enabled the project to progress and tenders for works were issued.

The initial tender for the building and construction of the Albert Hall Renewal Project Stage Three was approved at the Council Meeting in October 2022.

For more information on the Launceston City Deal, visit www.launcestoncitydeal.com.au

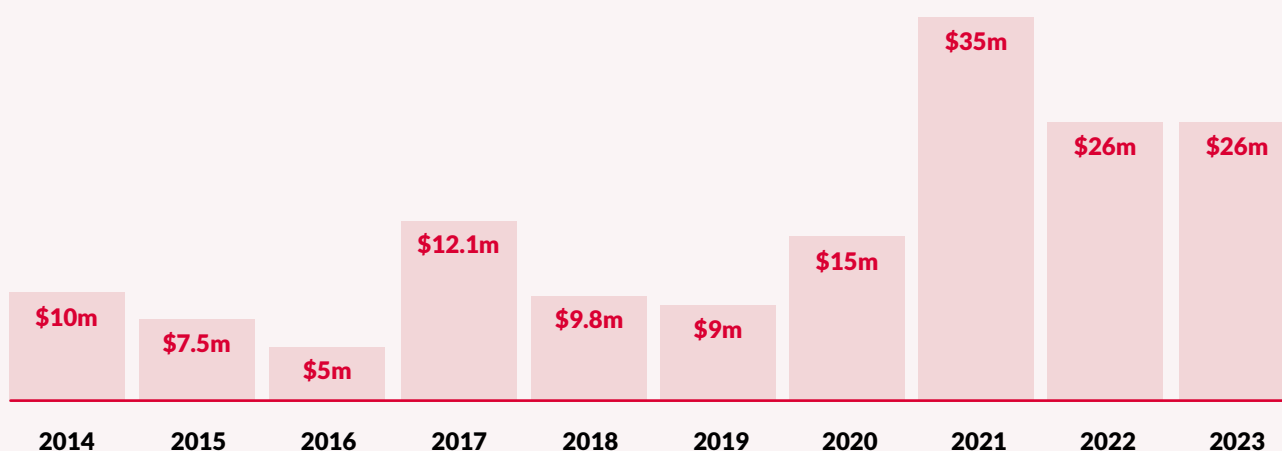
¹Source: Tamar Estuary River Health Action Plan (TERHAP) Project | TasWater, available from <https://www.taswater.com.au/community/community/our-projects/project-works/currentwork/tamar-estuary-river-health-action-plan-works>



Outstanding Loans

At the end of each financial year.

Tasmanian Government Interest Only Loans. Interest refunded by the Tasmanian Government.



Where the Dollars Come From

	\$'000	
Rates	79,210	60.3%
Fees and charges	30,616	23.3%
Operational grant revenue and contributions	11,265	8.6%
Interest revenue	3,452	2.6%
Investment revenue	3,269	2.5%
Other revenue	3,596	2.7%
	131,408	100.0%

Where the Dollars Go

Provision of services	96,060	71.2%
Finance costs	614	0.5%
Depreciation	26,978	20.0%
State Government Levies	10,884	8.1%
Rate remissions and abatements	384	0.3%
	134,920	100.0%

Expenditure by Program

General and public services	19,263	14.3%
Public order and safety	9,643	7.1%
Health and welfare	3,455	2.6%
Housing and community amenities	32,394	24.0%
Recreation and culture	39,064	29.0%
Roads, traffic and parking	25,550	18.9%
Other	5,551	4.1%
	134,920	100.0%



Supporting the Community

Youth Advisory Group (YAG)

YAG is a special committee of Council comprising of youth members who live, work, study and play within the Launceston municipality. The group's primary role is to act as a consultative link between City of Launceston and young people and to inform the broader community about matters that affect the youth of our city. YAG meets fortnightly and this year successfully supported youth programs in the municipality, including a youth symposium, Riverbend Rock Challenge 2023, Music in the Mall for youth week, and the YNOT-coordinated Tasmanian Youth Forum 2023 themed "Mental Wellbeing and Resilience".

Northern Youth Coordinating Committee (NYCC)

NYCC is a special committee of council comprising 120 members across non-government organisations, the Tasmanian government and local government. NYCC held five regular meetings in 2022-23 plus a very well received speed networking event. The committee also helped support Headspace with their mental health week event and Future Impact's youth week launch.

Launceston Access Advisory Committee

Approximately 7.4% of the Launceston population identifies as needing help due to a disability. These people are represented on the Access Advisory Committee by a range of individuals and service organisations who work with people with access needs.

Using the Access Framework for Action to guide the work for the Committee has been a strategic way of prioritising the many tasks needed to make Launceston a more accessible city. Achievements from the past year include employing a full time Community Development Officer - Inclusion, investigating Auslan signage at council's parks and installing two accessible parking spots outside City Park. Work will continue in 2023/24 around website access, mapping, signage, Disability Discrimination Act compliance for our bus stops and preparing to review the Access Framework which is due to expire in 2024.

Invermay ABCDE Learning Site

The City of Launceston's ABCDE Learning Site for 2022-23 was held in Invermay for an extended period of 18 months and will conclude in December 2023. Local community builders worked with Council's community connector to identify, connect and mobilise their community assets in order to take action, make positive change and directly shape their community's future.

A significant project was the production of a short film with Tasmania's Action Crew and students from Invermay Primary School and St Finn Barr's Catholic Primary School called A Bright New Day in Invermay. Other projects included the inaugural Swampies' Gumboot Gala event at the new UTAS Inveresk Campus, a local resident's On the Swamp social history project of Inveresk, a homelessness education program, a peaceful garden created by a grade five student, the manufacture of Swampie tote bags, various Builder Time events connecting the community, and an event welcoming Fijian gardeners at the new UTAS community garden.

Suicide Prevention Trial

During 2022-23, the Launceston Suicide Prevention Trial hosted by City of Launceston started the final transition from federal funding to council-supported initiatives. The nationally recognised Barbers for Life program evolved into the For Life initiative, opening up mental health and suicide prevention training to more community members.

The trial funding in 2022-23 contributed to a LGBTQIA+ disability forum, supported The Men's Table with their work in Launceston, and enabled the production of welcome bags to new culturally and linguistically diverse community members. The City of Launceston also facilitated the third annual Out of the Shadows walk to mark World Suicide Prevention Day along with the inaugural International Survivors of Suicide Loss reflective evening.

Children's Week

For Children's Week, City of Launceston hosted a series of free activities for children at QVMAG Museum and Art Gallery and the Launceston Leisure and Aquatic Centre, together with a collaborative event with the Northern Early Years Learning group.

Seniors Week

The City of Launceston is dedicated to fostering an age-friendly community and provides various activities for seniors and their caregivers. Seniors Week (October 2022) was celebrated with morning tea across the municipality. Community members and Council representatives gathered to listen to guest speaker Dr Frank Madill who gave insightful talks on “Nutrition for Older People” and “Medical Mysteries: Old and New”.

Venues where Seniors Week was celebrated included the Migrant Resource Centre (Mowbray), the Northern Suburbs Community Centre (Newnham), Starting Point Neighbourhood House (Ravenswood), Launceston Town Hall (in partnership with the Council of the Ageing), and the Dilston Memorial Hall.

Other

Throughout the year, our Children, Families and Seniors Community Development Officer organised various community events, including:

- 16 Days of Activism, aimed at raising awareness about family and domestic violence;
- Walk Against Elder Abuse, an initiative to increase awareness of elder abuse and its prevention;
- Support for the Palliative Care Week morning tea and information session;
- The “Living as a Senior” newsletter, which includes a wealth of information about Council services, community programs and events;
- Support for a collaborative school holiday program in Ravenswood, featuring fun activities and events
- The “Living Library”, a social inclusion initiative; and
- Promotion of “52 Things to Do before 12 Around Launceston”, encouraging activities and ideas for local children.

These initiatives demonstrate the City of Launceston’s dedication to fostering a strong sense of community, supporting its seniors, children, and volunteers, and creating a welcoming environment for all residents.

Music in the Park

Six events under the Music in the Park banner were held in the band rotunda in City Park between 8 January and 19 February 2023. These events were free for the community to attend. There were a variety of music performances over the six occasions to appeal to a wide cross section of the City’s music lovers. Approximately 4,000 people attended, with a peak of people attending the Tassie Tenor on 22 January 2023 and the West Tamar Municipal Band and the St Andrews Caledonian Pipe Band on 12 February 2023. In addition to the music performances, the City Park train operated free for families during the events which was well utilised by many who attended. Once again very positive feedback from the public was received.

My Place My Future

My Place My Future is the comprehensive strategy aimed at enhancing the quality of life in Launceston's Northern Suburbs. My Place My Future is a City Deal priority, garnering support from all three levels of government. It remains committed to enhancing the liveability of Launceston's Northern Suburbs through infrastructure development, public space improvements, enhanced transportation, improved overall lifestyle and social and economic outcomes for the community.

The City of Launceston is actively implementing place-based, community-focused programs and initiatives under this plan. It is dedicated to cultivating strong relationships throughout the Northern Suburbs by engaging with stakeholders and community groups, providing support for existing programs, advocating for necessary changes, and seeking funding opportunities for new projects. Over the past financial year, council has facilitated the following:

- **Business Connect program:** developed through collaboration with local business service providers in Launceston, this initiative bolsters business knowledge and skills while simplifying access to local resources for small businesses. The program successfully facilitated the establishment, networking, growth and prosperity of small businesses. It delivered six informative small business workshops and one networking event with approximately 150 participants. Additionally, a workshop called Starting a Home-based Food Business, tailored for the migrant community wanting to trade in the food industry, was held in collaboration with the Environmental Health team.
- **Celebrating community strengths:** this initiative aimed to shift the narrative of the region towards one that highlights positive outcomes, fosters greater inclusion and connectivity, and celebrates community assets. It focused on strategic collaborations, including co-designing and planning with the community to support cultural, heritage, and significant place-based events. Notable events held included the Ravenswood Community Plant Out, Christmas in Rocherlea, International Women's Day Morning Tea, Rocherlea Neighbourhood Brekkie, and Rave on Wheels Skate Comp and Community Day. Collectively these events were attended by approximately 550 people.
- **Healthy and Connected Communities:** this six-week program provided training in planning community projects to 16 residents of the Northern Suburbs. Participants learned how to secure funding, develop and deliver projects, evaluate outcomes, and share their stories. The program nurtured sustainable community-led projects, using a strengths-based, capacity-building framework to equip communities with the skills to develop their own local health and well-being initiatives.
- **Digital inclusion Wi-Fi project:** this ongoing initiative focuses on providing place-based solutions for digital inclusion and enhancing liveability in the Northern Suburbs. Free public Wi-Fi is available at seven locations for individuals without internet access at home, enabling them to pursue employment opportunities, access information, pay bills, and connect with the community. Tasmania's status as the most digitally disadvantaged state in Australia, as reported by the Australian Digital Inclusion Index 2023, underscores the significance of this project. The Northern Suburbs Community Development Officer continues to advocate for sustainable digital inclusion, monitor established Wi-Fi sites, collect and collate data usage, and explore opportunities for future Wi-Fi sites in the Northern Suburbs.
- **The Food and Resilience Movement (FaRM) project:** this collaborative food security and well-being project in the Northern Suburbs is a significant financial and strategic partnership between the City of Launceston and the Northern Suburbs Community Centre. The FaRM project successfully secured a \$500,000 grant from the Tasmanian Community Fund which will be disbursed over a five-year period. This project addresses well-being, social inclusion, food security and the development of a social enterprise in the Northern Suburbs. Negotiations are currently underway with the City of Launceston to lease an area for the establishment of a market garden.

Tourism

Launceston shines as an epicentre of cultural depth and culinary ingenuity, proudly holding the title of UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy. Our culinary landscape is more than just food—it is a dynamic tapestry of time-honoured traditions melding with contemporary innovation. Visitors can experience this fusion firsthand, exploring our walkable, heritage-rich streets that offer a varied array of recreational activities. The City's urban allure is magnificently anchored by Cataract Gorge, a lush haven embodying our commitment to ecological balance and natural beauty.

Turning to visitor statistics, Tasmania experienced a remarkable surge in tourist numbers for the year ending in June 2023. An estimated 1.3 million individuals journeyed to the state, a 75.4% uptick from prior figures. Launceston alone welcomed 578,842 visitors, with tourists spending soaring to \$3.96 million—a remarkable 80.8% increase year-over-year. Launceston remains highly accessible: 82% of tourists arrived by air and 18% via sea routes. These insights are based on data from the Tasmanian Visitor Survey conducted by Tourism Tasmania.

Supporting our tourism efforts has been the launch year of the Launceston Place Brand which has set an unparalleled standard for cohesive city marketing. This achievement is further elevated by the exemplary integration of our place brand by Launceston Central, which underscores the synergistic benefits of aligning Launnie's unique brand identity in harmony with our partnering agencies. With a focus on increasing visitor engagement, stimulating population growth, enticing private investment and improving liveability, our marketing approach is carefully calibrated to engage tourists, potential residents, investors and the local community. Central to these initiatives is our digital asset platform, www.launnie.com.au, which offers a rich repository of freely accessible promotional assets, including photos, illustrations, a colour palette, typography and the Launceston wordmark.



Cultural Strategy update

Over the past year, Council has undertaken a number of investigations and developed plans to implement key actions stemming from the City of Launceston Cultural Strategy 2020 - 2030 (Cultural Strategy).

To assist with these investigations and plans, and to ensure that the Cultural Strategy reflects our priorities and changing needs, the Council has been consulting with the City of Launceston's Cultural Advisory Committee. Among the Committee's many contributions to cultural development in Launceston, the Committee provided the Council with valuable advice into the development of the inaugural City of Launceston Public Art Strategy 2023 - 2031 (Public Art Strategy), which Council voted unanimously to endorse for adoption on 9 March 2023. The Public Art Strategy is an imperative step in acknowledging the importance of public art in creating a distinctive place-based vision to support a culturally vital City that is envisaged by the Cultural Strategy, and will continue to guide the work Council has been doing in this space. An Implementation Framework, with actions aligned to the Cultural Strategy objectives, will be developed to guide delivery of the Cultural Strategy over an eight year period. In the meantime, preliminary work for the implementation of the Cultural Strategy has commenced.

Other key highlights stemming from the Cultural Strategy this year include:

- the endorsement and adoption of the Aboriginal Partnership Plan, which aims to engage with Tasmanian Aboriginal people in a culturally respectful and genuine manner and ensure that the views, needs, interests and aspirations of Aboriginal People is central to the Council's decision-making.
- realising the potential of the Albert Hall as a cultural place, by progressing plans to upgrade the hall to accommodate the needs of key user groups within the community, events and tourism, the arts, and conference sectors by improving user amenity and the facility's technical capacity. The hall's final design and works schedule was completed, with construction works to commence in 2023.

Launceston Visitor and Information Centre (LVIC)

Our LVIC celebrated great success in 2022/2023, deservedly being named the best visitor Information service in Tasmania in the TICT 2022 Tasmanian Tourism Awards. As a Tasmania Gateway Centre, the award recognised that the LVIC fulfils the crucial role of being a starting point for visitors looking to explore Launceston and the captivating Tamar Valley. The fusion of digital innovation and authentic human insight offered by our dedicated team has resulted in a truly distinctive and superior visitor experience. This approach has encouraged visitors to extend their stays and increase their spending within our region, as observed by Tourism Tasmania's post-COVID reporting. The last 18 months has seen a stunning refurbishment of the centre, including floor-to-ceiling wall murals of the Cataract Gorge and Place Brand imagery, new interactive touchscreens for trip planning and a retail display front and centre showcasing locally made products. The LVIC has continued to excel in managing bookings for the popular Myrtle Park recreation and camping area, with revenue from Myrtle Park doubling in the financial year 2021-22 compared to the previous year, surpassing our targeted 30% increase.

Cultural facilities

Our City is recognised for its cultural vibrancy, which not only makes Launceston a great place to live but also presents us as a very attractive tourism and conference destination. Council owns and/or operates many notable cultural facilities including the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Princess Theatre, Earl Arts Centre and Albert Hall.

Council owns and operates the Launceston Leisure and Aquatic Centre, used by locals and visitors alike, as well as the University of Tasmania Stadium, which hosts major sporting events including AFL and Big Bash League matches.

Emergency Management

The City of Launceston's Emergency Management team works across all aspects of emergency management (preparedness, planning, response and recovery) to ensure the safety of our residents. The City of Launceston's two biggest natural hazard risks are fire and flood, however over the past few years Council has had a particular focus on raising flood risk awareness considering the declaration of La Nina over three consecutive years and the impact to mainland communities from floods. Council continues to foster relationships with emergency management partners across all levels of government as well as business, not for profit organisations and the community and continues to advocate its flood risk at a national and state level with key response and recovery agencies.

In October 2022, Council had the opportunity to test its internal systems and processes in a live environment during a major flood incident that impacted communities across the north-west, north and north-east of Tasmania. The Council deployed over 150 employees to assist with the response and recovery phases including:

- teams to close levee gates;
- managing road closures;
- clearing fallen trees and debris;
- responding to calls of assistance from the public;
- rebuilding and repair of damaged assets; and
- outreach work with affected residents.

For the first time since 2016, Council also opened an evacuation centre where approximately 30 people took shelter when parts of Newstead and residents from areas in the upper catchment of the North Esk River were evacuated. Overall, the flood event caused widespread damage across the north-west, north and north-east of Tasmania. For the City of Launceston significant damage was observed in the upper catchment area of the North Esk River while flood waters downstream affected some lower lying areas, however flood levees were successful in limiting inundation. The damage observed in our municipality included significant damage to roads in the rural areas, while parks, reserves and recreational spaces were affected with some requiring major repair. Unfortunately, some residential properties sustained flood damage. Council undertook a debrief on its arrangements as part of this incident with ongoing learnings being applied so we can continue to support our community during these types of events.

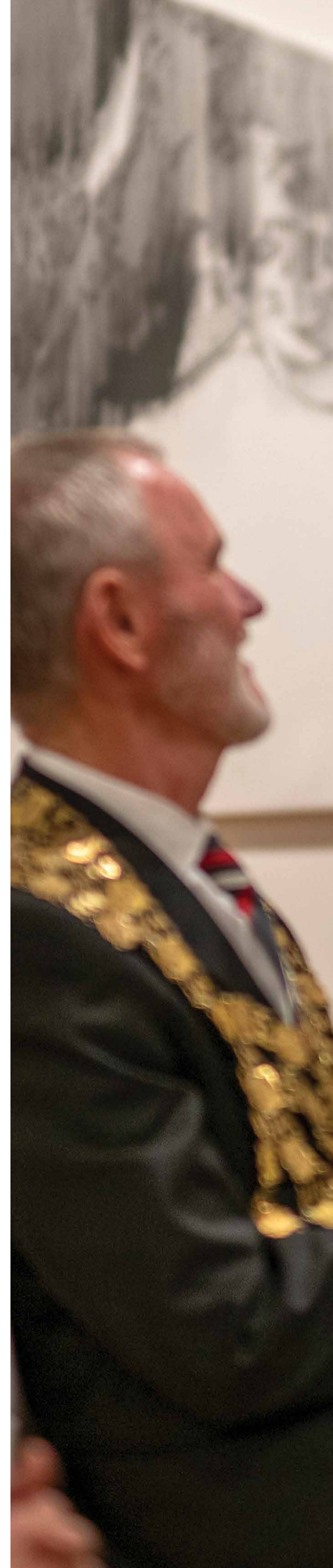
In June 2023 Council held a Recovery Exercise in partnership with the National Emergency Management Agency and Department of Premier and Cabinet. The exercise brought together over 60 participants from all levels of government, a range of business sector organisations and not for profit organisations. The exercise was based around a large-scale flood scenario with participants discussing recovery needs and arrangements that would be needed to assist the community in their recovery journey. Council continues to work with recovery partners to foster collaboration, assist with planning and preparedness should such an incident occur.

Council continues to work within the community to raise awareness of fire and flood. Everyone has a role in emergency management including the community and Council has been active in supporting people understand how they can prepare before a disaster happens. The Council has been successful in receiving two grants from the Tasmanian and Australian governments to help continue this work.

Governor Visit

2-3 August 2022

Her Excellency, the Honourable Barbara Baker AC, Governor of Tasmania, and Emeritus Professor Don Chalmers AO commenced an official visit to the City of Launceston which included visits to East Tamar Primary School, Northern Suburbs Community Centre, Glass Manifesto, JCP Youth, and a tour of the new University of Tasmania Library at Inveresk, prior to attending an afternoon tea with representatives of community groups at the Launceston Town Hall. The Mayor, Councillor Albert van Zetten hosted a Civic Reception at the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery.





Sustainability

City of Launceston continues to deliver projects from the Sustainability Strategy and Sustainability Action Plan which sets out how we will improve environmental sustainability across the City of Launceston's operations, service delivery and assets, and how we will support and advocate for our community.

Actions within the plan are separated into six key priority focus areas:

1. Leadership and advocacy
2. Towards zero emissions
3. Adaptation and resilience
4. Material efficiency, recovery and optimisation
5. Natural capital
6. Smart assets

Over the page are two examples of projects included in the Sustainability Action Plan.



1. Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO)

In the Launceston municipality there are approximately 13,000 households using Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) which equates to 43% of all residential properties.

The organic material diverted from landfill and processed for this reporting period was 13,563 tonnes. This represents a significant carbon emissions reduction for the City of Launceston of 25,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents.

Diverting this organic material away from landfill not only helps to reduce the City's carbon emissions but it also means that we can extend the landfill life and reduce operational costs. During this reporting period 3,200 tonnes of compost was produced and used on Council's rehabilitation projects instead of using virgin soil and fertilisers.

Almost 4,000 tonnes of compost produced - used on parks and gardens and Council's rehabilitation projects instead of using virgin material.

2. Understanding Launceston's future climate

Although there are clear changes in projections of future climate in Tasmania, the fact that Tasmania is an island means that the changing climate is moderated to a certain extent by the surrounding ocean. Tasmania still sees an overall drying and warming trend, with a doubling of bushfire frequency and severity by 2100. Projections for Launceston in terms of changes to 2100 are less extreme compared to projections for other parts of the planet.

A set of climate indices (measures) was developed in consultation with the Launceston Community and the City of Launceston to identify the indices of most interest. They cover five broad areas: temperature, heat extremes, frost and cold extremes, rainfall and evaporative demand, and bushfire risk. These indices were calculated for the Launceston region. Information such as this is vital for planning to reduce the impact of climate variability and longer-term climate trends.



PART TWO **STRATEGY AND PLANNING**





MUSEUM

QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM

OV
MAC
PLANET

Greater Launceston Plan

Through Northern Tasmania Development Corporation (NTDC) the City of Launceston has worked with Councils in the Greater Launceston Area (George Town, Meander Valley, Northern Midlands and West Tamar) to begin a review of the Greater Launceston Plan (GLP). This is a recognition that a collaborative approach is the most appropriate way to pursue successful futures for all our residents.

The GLP is a comprehensive outline of the social, economic and environmental status of our municipality and surrounding areas. The GLP examines trends and how we can capitalise on our strengths and address challenges. The community's vision and aspirations for the Greater Launceston area by 2035 are also set out in the GLP and the review is seeking to update the trends and understand how we can best respond to changes in opportunities and challenges to continue achieving the vision.

Corporate Strategic Plan 2014 to 2024

The Corporate Strategic Plan 2014 to 2024 was adopted on 24 November 2014, following Council's endorsement of the Greater Launceston Plan on 10 June 2014.

Section 70E of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) requires Council to review its Strategic Plan at least every four years. The last review of the Corporate Strategic Plan 2014-2024 commenced in 2018. As part of the results of the review, the Corporate Strategic Plan 2014-2024 was repositioned to make it clear that the plan is the City of Launceston's response to the community's vision for Launceston as expressed in the Greater Launceston Plan.

The reviewed Corporate Strategic Plan 2014-2024: 2019 Review was adopted on 30 May 2019. It provides the structure for subsequent Annual Plans, demonstrated by the seven strategic priorities, 10-year goals and focus areas.

Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP)

Section 70B of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) requires the Council to prepare a SAMP for the municipal area.

The SAMP covers almost 35,000 individual assets with a combined current replacement value of \$2.5 billion, and outlines Council's capital works program over the next 20 years based on currently available asset data. Strategic challenges are examined and addressed. The SAMP also puts forward its approach to ensure the discipline of asset management is applied across Council and the use of a continuous improvement plan to achieve a mature state of ongoing asset management across the organisation. A key part of this work is to align the asset management objectives collectively and individually with the achievement of Council's corporate objectives.

The SAMP will be considered by Council early in the next reporting period.

Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP)

Section 70 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) requires Council to prepare a LTFP for the municipal area.

City of Launceston has taken the view that the LTFP should be used as a decision-making tool with respect to having more informed future planning and greater means of achieving long-term sustainability.

The LTFP estimates the future operating revenues and expenses associated with operating requirements, capital expenditure and asset management renewal, in support of the deliverables in the Corporate Strategic Plan. It also provides a mechanism for us to deliver asset renewal requirements as determined in the SAMP, by making provision for the estimated costs associated with our management of the assets that are considered in that plan. The LTFP can be used in support of strategic decision making, as it allows for detailed scenario analysis to be undertaken. The SAMP provides the mechanism for the LTFP to be able to model the capital and ongoing operational cost associated with asset management, at a whole of organisation level.

The LTFP 2022-2032 was adopted by Council on 25 August 2022.



Annual Plan 2022-23

The following pages provide an update on the final status of Annual Plan 2022-23 actions for the period ending 30 June 2023. The Annual Plan 2022-23 and its reporting takes its structure from the Corporate Strategic Plan 2014 to 2024: 2019 Review and progress against the Annual Plan is reported in terms of the plan's contribution to the achievement of the strategic priorities.

City of Launceston Annual Plan 2022-23

The Annual Plan sets out the high level actions for the financial year ahead that City of Launceston officers will undertake to achieve the goals and strategies set out in the Corporate Strategic Plan 2014-2024. These high level actions are considered to be of greatest significance and interest to the community and our stakeholders, and are based on the seven strategic priorities, 10-year goals and focus areas presented in the Corporate Strategic Plan 2014-2024.

Progress on the 29 action items stated in the Annual Plan 2022-23 is reported to Council every quarter throughout the financial year, and is summarised in the corresponding Annual Report.

Strategic Priorities as set out in the Corporate Strategic Plan 2014 to 2024

Strategic Priority 1

We **connect with our Community and our Region** through meaningful engagement, cooperation and representation.

Strategic Priority 2

We **Facilitate Prosperity** by seeking out and responding to opportunities for growth and renewal of our regional economy.

Strategic Priority 3

We are a **Progressive Leader** that is accountable to our governance obligations and responsive to our community.

Strategic Priority 4

We value our **City's Unique Identity** by celebrating our special heritage and culture and building on our competitive advantages to be a place where people choose to live, work and visit

Strategic Priority 5

We **Serve and Care** for our community by providing equitable and efficient services that reflects needs and expectations of our community.

Strategic Priority 6

We **Protect our Environment** by caring for our unique natural assets and amenity and sensitively managing future development opportunities.

Strategic Priority 7

We are **a City Planning for our Future** by ensuring our approach to strategic land-use, development and infrastructure investment is coordinated, progressive, and sustainable.

Outcomes

29

**Total number of actions
in the Annual Plan**

97%

**of all actions completed
or underway**

3%

on hold or deferred

Performance

The following pages provide a summary of the status of each action from the Annual Plan as at the end of the 2022-23 year.

The full Progress Report including the expanded status of each action will be considered by Council in August 2023. The minutes of this meeting will be publicly available and accessible through the City of Launceston website or upon request through our Customer Service Centre.

STRATEGIC
PRIORITY
ONE

***We connect with our
Community and our Region***
through meaningful
engagement, cooperation
and representation.

Our interactions with our community are authentic, timely, accurate and open. We want to build strong and productive relationships with our community and regional partners.

10-Year Goal:

To seek out and champion positive engagement and collaboration to capitalise on the major opportunities, and address the future challenges facing our community and region.

Focus Areas:

1. To develop and consistently utilise contemporary and effective community engagement processes.
2. To lead the implementation of the Greater Launceston Plan via collaborative and constructive relationships with our regional partners.
3. To advocate and collaborate to enhance regionally significant services and infrastructure for the benefit of our communities.

Focus Area 1

Action

Through the next iteration of the Tomorrow Together program engage with our community on the following:

Theme one: A Social, Inclusive and Fair City:

- Trails and Network Strategy
- Northern Regional Sports Facility Plan
- Urban Tree Canopy Strategy
- Smart Cities Strategy
- Public Open Space Strategy
- City Park and Punchbowl playground renewals
- Preliminary Playspace Strategy consultation

Theme two: A Mobile and Accessible City:

- Two-way traffic and more.

Launch of the new Community Engagement website.

Implementation of compulsory Closing the Loop feedback on all projects.

Network

Organisational
Services



100%

Comment

Theme one: A Social, Inclusive and Fair City was successfully completed.

Theme two: A Mobile and Accessible City was put on hold until Stage Two City Heart commences. Instead, engagement on the Tomorrow Together, A Well-Designed City Theme was undertaken. This included engaging on the following topics:

- Tourism Plan
- Events Strategy
- E-scooters
- CCTV Strategy
- Sustainability Action Plan
- Emergency Management
- Open data and how we can share it

Previous community engagement website www.yourvoicemyourlaunceston.com.au was replaced with a refreshed look and renamed www.tomorrowtogetherlaunceston.com.au.

Closing the Loop feedback on all projects is now compulsory.

Focus Area 2

Action

Complete Regional Sports Facility Plan (the Plan) in conjunction with sporting clubs, the State Government, and neighbouring councils.

Network

Infrastructure and Assets



95%

Comment

The Regional Sports Facility Plan was completed in draft. It was previously reported that the Plan would be released in March 2024; however, it is currently being finalised for adoption by Council earlier in the financial year 2023-24. A detailed medium-term implementation plan to guide our investment will be prepared for adoption with the Regional Sports Facility Plan 2023-24. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council as part of the 2023-24 Annual Plan, as the project moves into its implementation phase.



STRATEGIC
PRIORITY
TWO

We ***Facilitate Prosperity*** by seeking out and responding to opportunities for growth and renewal of our regional economy.

We use our influence and resources to deliver the foundations for ongoing economic development. We want Launceston to be the heart of a thriving regional economy.

10-Year Goal:

To have realised opportunities that grow and sustain our economy, and foster creative and innovative people and industries.

Focus Areas:

1. To actively market the City and Region and pursue investment.
2. To facilitate direct investment in the local economy to support its growth.
3. To provide an environment that is supportive to business and development within the municipality.
4. To promote tourism, and the development of a quality tourism offering for Launceston.
5. To understand and support the establishment and growth of new and creative industries and businesses in Launceston.

Focus Area 1		
Action	Network	
Develop and Implement Smart Cities Strategy (the Strategy).	Organisational Services	 100%
Comment		
The Strategy, rebranded to be the City Innovation Strategy, was endorsed at the Council meeting on 18 May 2023. Implementation is under way.		

STRATEGIC
PRIORITY
THREE

We are a ***Progressive Leader*** that is accountable to our governance obligations and responsive to our community.

Our decision-making and actions are evidence-based, strategic, transparent and considered. We are ethical, fair and impartial in complying with and enforcing the law.

10-Year Goal:

To ensure decisions are made in a transparent and accountable way, that effectively meet our statutory obligations, support quality services and underpin the long-term sustainability of our organisation.

Focus Areas:

1. To provide for the health, safety and welfare of the community.
2. To fairly and equitably discharge our statutory and governance obligations.
3. To ensure decisions are made on the basis of accurate and relevant information.
4. To continually improve our service delivery via a continuous improvement mindset, pursuing efficiency gains, and adopting technological and other process innovations.
5. To maintain a financially sustainable organisation.

Focus Area 2

Action

Provide information and advice to prospective Councilor candidates and support the Tasmanian Electoral Commission in the delivery of the Local Government election.

Network

Organisational Services



100%

Comment

Council officers provided significant support for the 2022 local government elections, which concluded in November 2022. Additionally, support was provided for the Mayoral by-election which was carried out late in 2022-23 and concluded in July 2023.

Action

Engage with the community and commence a review of the Corporate Strategic Plan.

Network

Organisational Services



95%

Comment

This project will be undertaken during the 2023-24 financial year in line with statutory obligations. The focus this year has been on the review of the Greater Launceston Plan which will direct the Corporate Strategic Plan. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council as part of the 2023-24 Annual Plan.

Focus Area 3

Action

Deliver End of Term Report.

Network

Chief Executive Officer



100%

Comment

The End of Term Report 2018-2022 was received by the Council on 21 September 2022 and marked the conclusion of the term of that Council.

Action

Level of Service Planning Stage 1

Develop a project plan to document service levels, review appropriateness of services, and engage with the community around expectations.

Organisational Services



95%

Comment

This project has been impacted by a lack of resources due to a number of failed recruitments. Despite this, an internal trial is complete and has informed the approach to the broader project. The timeline for the delivery of this work in 2023/24 is to be considered along with the resourcing requirements for other important projects. Progress on this action will continue to be reported to Council as part of the 2023-24 Annual Plan.

Focus Area 4

Action

Implement the Organisational Cultural Development Roadmap.

Network

Organisational Services



100%

Comment

The Cultural Roadmap is a multi-year project.

This year, an organisational cultural reassessment was successfully completed which will guide future iterations of the roadmap.

Culture Roadmap initiatives such as Team Leader Forum/Cohort, our 2023 Culture Survey, a review of leadership capabilities to include employee capabilities, our new Leaders Induction, leaders self-help tools (tool kit) and refreshing of our Values Champions Guidelines are completed. Work on the development of an Internal Communication Framework and Plan is well underway by the Communications Team.

Work on a Lean "Guide Group" has not yet commenced.

Our focus in 2023-24 now turns to a planned review of our Culture Roadmap, implementation of the New Leaders Induction, implementation of our revised Leadership Capabilities, promotion of our next value "we bring an open mind" and implementation of the new Internal Communication Framework and Plan.

Focus Area 4

Action

Undertake the Corporate Application Replacement Program (CARP).

Network

Organisational
Services



100%

Comment

This is a multi-year project. All key milestones for the 2022-23 reporting year have been met. The project continues to be delivered in line with the Council's Information Communication Technology (ICT) Strategy and will provide multiple benefits to the City of Launceston.

Focus Area 5

Action

Implement the recommendations of the UTAS Stadium Future Direction Plan.



85%

Comment

The implementation of the UTAS Stadium Future Direction Plan has been substantially progressed with \$130M being committed by the Tasmanian and Australian Governments in support of the proposed re-development of the stadium. Work is progressing with Stadiums Tasmania and the Tasmanian Government on the proposed stadium ownership and governance changes, which are expected to be finalised in early 2023-24. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023-24 Annual Plan around our work with Stadiums Tasmania.

Action

Implement recommendations of the QVMAG Futures Plan.

Network

Chief Executive
Officer



80%

Comment

Throughout this year the Council's officers have been focused on addressing the strategic needs of the QVMAG and determining future workforce arrangements over the first half of this year. Officers have held meetings in respect to the future funding of QVMAG. Work will continue through the 2023-24 financial year on the development of the QVMAG Future Direction Action Plan. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023-24 Annual Plan.

STRATEGIC
PRIORITY
FOUR

We value our City's ***Unique Identity*** by celebrating our special heritage and culture, and building on our competitive advantages to be a place where people choose to live, work and visit.

*We facilitate our community's sense of place by enhancing local identity.
We want people to be proud to say that Launceston is "my city".*

10-Year Goal:

To sustain and promote Launceston as a unique place to live, work, learn and play.

Focus Areas:

1. To promote and enhance Launceston's rich heritage, culture and natural environment.
2. To continue to offer an attractive network of parks, open spaces and facilities throughout Launceston.
3. To promote and attract national and international events and support the sector to ensure a diverse annual events calendar.
4. To support the central business district (CBD) and commercial areas as activity places during day and night.
5. To support sustainable growth in the Northern Region.

Focus Area 1

Action

Launceston Heritage List Review and Precincts - continuing the review of the City of Launceston's local heritage list as part of the final stage of this five-year project.

Network

Community and Place



100%

Comment

A preliminary review of heritage listed properties has been completed. Informal consultation has been undertaken with property owners. This feedback has been collated and reviewed in preparation for Council to initiate formal public exhibition in August 2023.

Action

Launceston place Brand implementation and commencement of monitoring of usage.

Network

Community and Place



100%

Comment

A report on the first 12 months' usage has been prepared and presented to Councillors. A two-year implementation plan is under development and will involve partner organisations including Visit Northern Tasmania and Central Launceston.

Focus Area 1

Action

Continue to work with the newly formed Cultural Advisory Committee to implement the first four-year action plan from the Cultural Strategy.

Network

Community and Place



100%

Comment

Meetings of the Cultural Advisory Committee were held throughout the year with the committee providing feedback and advice on a range of matters including on actions from the Cultural Strategy. The committee will continue to meet over the coming year to provide advice on matters including public art installations and placemaking.

Focus Area 2

Action

Undertake review of the City of Launceston Open Space Strategy.

Network

Infrastructure and Assets



5%

Comment

This project is in the detailed planning stage, with a scope and briefing paper in draft form. The project will be delivered within the next 12 months. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023/24 Annual Plan.

Action

Continue the Albert Hall Renewal program.

Network

Infrastructure and Assets



90%

Comment

The program for Albert Hall Renewal was to commence construction late this financial year as it has been delayed due to seeking a value for money outcome which has now been achieved. A contract for construction has been executed with construction to commence early next financial year. Progress around the redevelopment of Albert Hall will continue to be reported to Council and the community as a project of great significance to Launceston.

Action

Develop and implement an improvement plan for Princess Theatre and Earl Arts Centre upgrade implementation.

Network

Infrastructure and Assets



90%

Comment

The Princess Theatre and Earl Arts Centre project has commenced with a focus on engaging users of the facility. Procurement of an architect was intended to be completed by the end of the financial year. This process is in progress and will be concluded in August/September 2023. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023-24 Annual Plan.

Focus Area 4

Action

Develop and commence implementation of Stage Two Launceston City Heart Project which includes the following key areas of investment:

- Greening of our City.
- Improved public transport infrastructure.
- Creating greater opportunities for pedestrianisation of the CBD.

Network

Community
and Place



Deferred

Comment

Unfortunately, this project was placed on hold pending outcomes of negotiations on a bus interchange, funding application and confirmation of project outcomes. Towards the end of the financial year an agreement was reached in respect to the development of the former Katies/Birchalls building with an announcement on this expected early in the 2023/24 financial year. Once both of these elements are addressed the project will be able to be progressed.



STRATEGIC
PRIORITY
FIVE

We ***Serve and Care*** for our community by providing equitable and efficient services that reflects needs and expectations of our community.

We are invested in our community's long-term health, well-being, safety and resilience. We want to be trusted and respected by our community.

10-Year Goal:

To offer access to services and spaces for all community members, and to work in partnership with stakeholders to address the needs of vulnerable communities.

Focus Areas:

1. To plan for and provide services and facilities that recognise the changing demographics and needs of our community.
2. To define and communicate our role in promoting social inclusion and equity.
3. To work in partnership with community organisations and other levels of government to maximise participation opportunities for vulnerable and diverse members of the community.
4. To support the delivery of programs and events for people to connect with each other through participation in community activities and civic life.
5. To promote and support active and healthy lifestyles of our community.
6. To enhance community awareness of the impacts of uncertain weather patterns, natural and other disasters, and build community resilience.
7. To develop and manage infrastructure and resources to protect our community from natural and other hazards.

Focus Area 1

Action

Implement Council commitments from the My Place My Future Plan and support State and Federal Governments on implementation of their actions.

Network

Community and Place



100%

Comment

The Northern Suburbs Project Officer continues to collaborate with local service providers in the Northern Suburbs and has facilitated a range of events and programs supporting the community in the Northern Suburbs. These included: Rave on Wheels Skate Competition, Healthy & Connected Communities training for Attracting and Keeping Customers, Crafting Your Digital Strategy small business workshops, facilitation of Rocherlea Action Project community group meetings, and negotiating land to lease for the FaRM Project.

Focus Area 3

Action

Continue to roll out the ABCDE Learning Sites community development program, with the Invermay learning site to commence in July 2022.

Network

Community and Place



100%

Comment

The Invermay ABCDE Learning Site is over halfway through with strong community participation, project delivery and new community partnerships. Eleven community led projects and initiatives have been delivered with six more underway and on track for delivery prior to the completion of the learning site in December 2023. Support and connection are also occurring with past learning site community builders for three projects.



STRATEGIC
PRIORITY
SIX

We ***Protect our Environment***
by caring for our unique
natural assets and amenity and
sensitively managing future
development opportunities.

We strive to minimise the impact of our actions on the environment, while planning for, adapting to and managing the impact of climate change. We want to protect the special character and values of our city for future generations.

10-Year Goal:

To enhance the unique natural character, values, and amenity of our city by minimising the impacts of our organisations and our community’s activities in the environment.

Focus Areas:

1. To reduce our and the community’s impact on the natural environment.
2. To contribute to air and river quality improvements in Launceston.
3. To manage the risks of climate related events, particularly in the area of stormwater management and riverine flooding.

Focus Area 1

Action

Develop City of Launceston Sustainability Action Plan which sets out how the organisation will achieve sustainable outcomes for operations, service delivery and assets. The Sustainability Action Plan focuses on six key priority areas:

- Leadership and Advocacy
- Towards Zero Emissions
- Adaption and Resilience
- Material Efficiency, Recovery and Optimisation
- Natural Capital
- Smart Assets

Network

Infrastructure
and Assets



100%

Comment

The Sustainability Action Plan is complete and has been adopted by Council. Implementation of priority actions has commenced.

Focus Area 2

Action

Support TasWater and NRM North with the implementation of the \$157m River Health Action Plan to improve catchment management and reduce overflows from the combined system.

Network

Infrastructure and Assets



100%

Comment

The River Health Action plans for improvement of the combined drainage have been progressing through design by TasWater. Council has been providing support for the planning and delivery of the project.

Action

Participate and support the Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce.

Network

Infrastructure and Assets



100%

Comment

Council has actively supported the Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce and is involved in working groups focusing on estuary rehabilitation, master planning for the upper estuary and wetland development in the North Esk catchment.



STRATEGIC
PRIORITY
SEVEN

We are a ***City Planning for our Future*** by ensuring our approach to strategic land-use, development and infrastructure investment is coordinated, progressive and sustainable.

We play a leading role in balancing the enviable amenity of our municipality with the needs of future development and growth. We want to influence the delivery of the right investment for our city and region.

10-Year Goal:

To facilitate appropriate development via integrated land-use planning, infrastructure investment, and transport solutions within our municipality and region.

Focus Areas:

1. To ensure that our application of the land-use planning system at a local and regional level is effective and efficient.
2. To take a strategic approach to development sites and infrastructure investment within the municipality to maximise public benefit and encourage development and investment.
3. To improve and maintain accessibility, transport options, and infrastructure within the Launceston area, including its rural areas.
4. To ensure our suite of strategic planning initiatives are coordinated, and representative of our community's needs and aspirations.

Focus Area 2

Action

Participate in the Northern Regional Land Use Strategy Review.

Network

Community and Place



100%

Comment

Participation is ongoing. A key input into the review process, the Northern Tasmanian Residential Demand and Supply Study was completed in June 2023 and represents a significant milestone.

Action

Develop a Placemaking Framework.

Network

Community and Place



50%

Comment

A draft framework is currently under development and will be finalised in the first half of the 2023-24 financial year. Progress on this action will be communicated to Councillors at a Workshop, ahead of the Council being asked to consider the Placemaking Framework for adoption.

Focus Area 3

Action

Continue work on St Leonards Residential Growth Strategy and Masterplan and obtain Council endorsement for a structured plan and delivery framework for development within St Leonards and the Eastern Growth Corridor.

Network

Chief Executive Officer



25%

Comment

In the second half of the financial year a temporary position was created and filled via an internal secondment to fast-track work on the St Leonards Residential Growth Strategy and Masterplan. This role has resulted in an acceleration of progress with the strategy, particularly as it relates to infill development. The Council will continue to provide additional resources for this project to make significant progress during 2023-24. Progress on this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023-24 Annual Plan.

Action

Continue work on South Prospect Residential Growth Strategy and Masterplan and initiate planning scheme amendments to facilitate development with the South Prospect Growth Corridor.

Network

Chief Executive Officer



95%

Comment

Much of the technical feasibility assessment has been completed. Officers are working with external stakeholders to finalise Department of State Growth support to connect road infrastructure to the surrounding highway interchanges, North Barker on completion of the natural values assessment and seeking approval from Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife to include Kate Reed Nature Recreation Area in the Planning Scheme Amendment. In addition, officers are working with the developers and Mesh urban planners on finalising elements of the masterplan including zoning, open space, and treatment of the electrical transmission line easement. Early in the 2023-24 financial year, the masterplan will be finalised and the Planning Scheme Amendment will be prepared and submitted for Council approval, followed by a public input period and submission to the Tasmanian Planning Commission. Progress on this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023-24 Annual Plan.

Action

Implement the Launceston Transport Strategy with the following key actions:

- Support the new formed Transport Committee.
- Develop implementation plan for traffic calming in the City.
- Undertake the first stage of a review of speed limits.
- Implementing the Network Operating Plan.

Network

Infrastructure and Assets



90%

Comment

The Transport Committee is set up and operational. A review of speed limits is complete and on track for implementation. A Network Operating Plan has been implemented. City traffic calming concept designs are drafted and further work is ongoing. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023-24 Annual Plan.

Focus Area 4

Action

City Deal Agreement:

Continue to work with the Commonwealth and State Governments to successfully implement all of the City of Launceston's commitments under the City Deal program to deliver a range of economic and social benefits to the City.

Network

Chief Executive Officer



100%

Comment

Work on Launceston City Deal projects is continuing in collaboration with the Australian and Tasmanian Governments. The Australian Government has confirmed its commitment to all current city and regional deal commitments.

Commitments continue to be progressed. Although infrastructure projects have been impacted by construction industry constraints, the UTAS Relocation to the City reached a milestone with the opening of the Stone Building on 16 May 2023. One hundred and fifty professional staff are transitioning to their new headquarters at UTAS's Inveresk campus, which will support increased vibrancy in the CBD.

UTAS published the Newnham Development Strategy and invited community feedback. The strategy includes locations for two City Deal commitments; the Defence and Innovation Precinct and the Cadet Facility.

The Northern Suburbs Recreation Hub received additional funding from the Tasmanian Government of \$27.5 million and has now been substantially commenced.



PART THREE **STATUTORY REPORTING**





Councillor attendance at Council, Workshops and Council Committee Meetings

Section 72(1)(cc) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* requires us to state the attendance of each Councillor at meetings of the Council or any Council committee during the preceding financial year.

From 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, there were a total of 23 ordinary Council meetings, 16 of which included part of the meeting conducted in closed session, and 20 Workshops. Our Annual General Meeting was held on 1 December 2022.

1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023	Council	Workshop	Annual General Meeting
Number of Meetings	23	20	1
Councillor Andrea Dawkins	21	18	1
Councillor Danny Gibson	21	18	1
Councillor Alan Harris	19	18	1
Councillor Hugh McKenzie	20	16	1
Councillor Tim Walker	23	20	1

1 July to 31 October 2022	Council	Workshop	Annual General Meeting
Number of Meetings	8	5	-
Councillor Jim Cox*	1/4	1/4	-
Councillor Nick Daking	7	3	-
Councillor Krista Preece	7	5	-
Councillor Rob Soward	7	3	-
Councillor Paul Spencer	7	5	-
Councillor Karina Stojansek	5	3	-
Councillor Albert van Zetten	5	2	-

* Councillor Jim Cox's term of office concluded on 31 August 2022

1 November 2022 to 30 June 2023	Council	Workshop	Annual General Meeting
Number of Meetings	15	15	1
Councillor Alex Britton	13	14	1
Councillor Susie Cai	14	15	0
Councillor Matthew Garwood	15	14	1
Councillor Lindi McMahon	14	14	0
Councillor Andrew Palmer	15	15	0
Councillor Joe Pentridge	15	15	1
Councillor Dr Gorge Razay	14	15	0

The Council Committee, the Chief Executive Officer's Contract and Performance Review Committee, did not meet in the 2022-23 reporting period. Matters that would have been dealt with by this committee were instead referred to the Council.

Public health statement and activities

Section 72(1)(ab) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) requires us to provide a statement of goals and objectives in relation to public health for the preceding financial year.

The City of Launceston's Environmental Health team works to protect the health and safety of our residents and visitors. Our team of environmental health officers (EHOs) carry out a range of tasks to protect public health under the *Public Health Act 1997* (Tas), the *Food Act 2003* (Tas) and the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (Tas).

The goals of the team in 2022–23 were to:

- improve public awareness of responsible dog ownership and our Dog Management policy;
- help residents reduce their wood smoke impacts by providing information and education on correct wood heater operation;
- protect public health by regulating Launceston's food businesses, including fixed locations and mobile vendors such as food vans, to make sure they are handling food safely. As part of this, to consider establishing education forums for food businesses on best practice food handling and food safety;
- simplify our food inspection reports to help food businesses more easily meet the requirements of the Food Standards Code;
- reduce the incidence of preventable illnesses by providing immunisations to our community;
- provide planning conditions on developments within the city that will maintain and improve the local amenity for residents;
- provide advice to the community on the water quality of our recreational waterways, including the Cataract Gorge, by undertaking regular monitoring of water quality;
- respond to and investigate complaints about environmental nuisance such as noise, dust, odour and wood smoke;
- reduce the incidence of preventable illnesses by continuing our vaccination program in schools and through our community clinics;
- monitor water quality in our public swimming pools and in our recreational waterways;
- assess place of assembly applications for events of over 1,000 people including Mona Foma and Junction Arts Festival;
- regulate and inspect public health risk premises including piercers, tattooists, cosmetic tattooists and micro blading providers to stop transmission of preventable diseases; and
- review development applications and include environmental conditions that prevent or reduce environmental harm or nuisance, and which protect public health.

Section 72(1A)(a) Section 72(1)(ab) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* requires us to state the extent to which the Council has carried out its functions under the *Public Health Act 1997 (Tas)* and the *Food Act 2003 (Tas)*.

The City of Launceston’s Environmental Health team works to protect the health and safety of our residents and visitors. Our team of environmental health officers (EHOs) carry out a range of tasks to protect public health under the *Public Health Act 1997 (Tas)*, the *Food Act 2003 (Tas)* and the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994 (Tas)*.

Table 1: Activities undertaken by the Environmental Health team

Public Health Act 1997 (Tas)	Comments
<p>Place of assembly assessments (POA) Registration of public events which have a duration of longer than two hours with more than 1,000 people attending</p>	<p>9 POA licences issued including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junction Arts Festival • Festivale • Mona Foma • Launceston Cup • Beerfest • A festival called Panama • 2022 AusCycling BMX Racing National Championships
<p>Public health risk activities Inspection of health risk activities including tattooing and body piercing. All premises where these activities occur, as well as the operators who carry out the health risk activity, are inspected annually</p>	<p>27 premises and 54 operators inspected</p>
<p>Smoke-free areas Patrols of smoke-free areas. Areas patrolled are those declared by council and under the <i>Public Health Act 1997 (Tas)</i></p>	<p>7 patrols undertaken</p>
<p>Regulated systems Registration of cooling towers and warm water systems to reduce the risk of illnesses like Legionnaires’ disease</p>	<p>5 cooling towers and 0 warm water systems registered</p>
<p>Private water suppliers Those providing drinking water through a private supply (i.e. not using TasWater’s reticulated drinking water network). This includes Council’s Myrtle Park</p>	<p>4 private water suppliers registered and inspected</p>
<p>Unhealthy housing Inspection of private residences following complaints of mould or unhealthy living conditions</p>	<p>14 unhealthy housing investigations conducted</p>
<p>Recreational waters – natural Recreational swimming sites tested during the summer months (December–March)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corra Linn • Waverley Lake • St Leonards picnic ground • First Basin

Public Health Act 1997 (Tas)	Comments
<p>Recreational waters – Council-owned pools and spas Monthly testing of the Launceston Leisure and Aquatic Centre's indoor pools Summer (December–March) testing of the Leisure and Aquatic Centre's outdoor pools, along with the Basin Pool and Lilydale Pool</p>	88 samples taken
<p>Immunisations Provision of immunisations through our schools program and through our weekly clinics which align with the national immunisation schedule</p>	3841 vaccine doses provided
<p>Infringements Penalties issued to businesses that fail to register a premises where a public health risk activity occurs</p>	1 infringement issued
Food Act 2003 (Tas)	Comments
<p>Registered food businesses Registration of food businesses that occupy a fixed premises such as restaurants and cafes</p>	697 food businesses registered
<p>Registration of temporary food business Registration of temporary food providers including school fairs, sporting events, festivals and markets</p>	160 temporary registrations granted
<p>Registration of state wide food businesses Registration of mobile food businesses such as food vans, trailers and stalls</p>	99 businesses registered
<p>Food complaint inspections Investigations of complaints made by customers about food quality or food premises hygiene which may or may not be justified</p>	61 complaints investigated
<p>Registered food business inspections Inspections of new food businesses, as well as unannounced and routine inspections of existing food businesses</p>	748 inspections undertaken
<p>Improvement notices Notices issued to food businesses to rectify food safety issues</p>	31 notices issued
<p>Prosecutions Court action against food businesses who have been found to be in serious breach of food safety standards</p>	0 prosecutions undertaken
<p>Prohibition orders Orders issued to food businesses to mitigate an identified and immediate risk to public health</p>	6 orders issued
<p>Infringement notices Penalties issued to food businesses for failure to comply with the <i>Food Act 2003 (Tas)</i> and/or the Food Standards Code</p>	4 infringements issued

Environment	Comments
<p>Environmental pollution investigations (excluding noise) Investigations of complaints received about odour, wood smoke and dust</p>	<p>152 investigations undertaken</p>
<p>Noise pollution investigations Investigation of noise pollution from commercial, industrial and residential sources</p>	<p>189 investigations undertaken</p>
<p>Infringements Penalties issued to people or businesses under the <i>Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994 (Tas)</i> for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • contravening the requirements of a notice issued under the Act • causing an environmental nuisance 	<p>1 infringement issued</p>
<p>Environment protection notices and abatements <i>Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994 (Tas)</i> environment protection notices (EPNs) and <i>Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)</i> abatements issued to people or businesses found to be causing an environmental nuisance</p>	<p>2 EPNs and 0 abatement notices issued (5 dog abatement notices and 54 litter abatement notices were issued)</p>



Section 72(1A)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* requires us to state the resources allocated to public health.

The Environmental Health team comprises two full time Environmental Health Officers, three part time Environmental Health Officers, one part time Environmental Officer and a Team Leader. The team is supported by three technical/administration officers who assist with tasks including food registrations and water sampling. At the conclusion of the reporting period, there was one full time Environmental Health Officer position vacant.

During the 2022–23 financial year the team was under-resourced due to secondments and retirement.

An external consultant was hired on two occasions to undertake food inspections for Council. The external consultant completed 40 food inspections for Council in 2022–23.

Section 72(1A)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* requires us to state the extent to which our goals, objectives, policies and programs in relation to public health met the needs of persons within the municipality.

The Environmental Health team largely met the needs of people in the municipality by carrying out the tasks shown in Table 1. The team was least able to achieve its goals related to undertaking smoke-free patrols due to staff resourcing constraints.

In addition to the items in Table 1, the team undertook the following:

- 52 requests for immunisation records/services;
- 89 public health related investigations;
- 154 general enquiries; and
- 129 inspections of food businesses not required to be inspected (notifiable only) or mobile food businesses from other municipalities.

Section 72(1A)(d) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* requires us to include any details of the completion of any strategies (in relation to public health).

The team completed a review and update on our noise complaints process. The team is undertaking a strategic review of the complaints handling process related to pests.

Grants, assistance and benefits provided

Section 77(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* requires us to include the details of any grant, assistance or benefit that is not a legal entitlement to any person during the preceding financial year.

In 2022-23, the City of Launceston funded \$90,325.00 of community grants to support the community groups and our local young people to participate in state, national and international competitions and events. Twenty-three organisations and 45 individuals and teams were assisted.

Community grants

In 2022-23, the City of Launceston funded \$90,325.00 of community grants to support the community groups and our local young people to participate in state, national and international competitions and events. Twenty-three organisations and 45 individuals and teams were assisted.

Community Grants - Organisations	\$
Australian Red Cross Society - In Search of Safety / Pathways to Protection	3,750
Bravehearts Foundation Limited -Ditto's in a Box - Teachers Resource - Personal Safety Program - Schools and Kinders	3,375
Cancer Patients Foundation - Look Good Feel Better	3,750
Citizen Tasmania - None a Week	3,750
Community Gardens Australia Inc - Flavours of Launceston Cookbook	3,750
Good Neighbour Council Launceston Inc. - Next Level	2,070
Lady Gowrie University Community Child Care - Active Children Tasmania Program	3,150
Launceston Benevolent Society - Food Pantry Project	2,550
Nepali Society of Northern Tasmania Inc. - Digital Literacy on Tax, Superannuation and Business for International Migrants in Launceston	5,000
Northern Suburbs Community Centre Inc. - Operation Expansion	5,000
Rant Arts Ltd - Northern Journeys	3,750
Rapid Relief Team Ltd - 2022 Launceston Festive Food Box Project	1,575
Reclink Australia - Health Wellbeing and Mindfulness	2,500
Sawtooth Ari Inc. - SAW: Sawtooth Artist Workshops	3,750
Self Help Workshop - Kitchen Garden Greenhouse	3,750
St John Ambulance - CPR Awareness & DRSABCD Visual Action Plan	3,139
St Vincent De Paul Society Inc - YMCA Shower and Laundry service	2,241
Starting Point Neighbourhood House - Adventuring On	5,000
Stompin Inc. - Primary Stompin' 2023	5,000
Stompin Inc. - Small but Mighty (balance of grant from 2021-22)	5,000
Thai Association of Tasmania Inc. - Traditional Thai Performing Arts and Language Training	2,100
The Men's Table - The David Peach Fund	5,000
Town Team Movement - GroWaverley Food Co-op	3,750
	82,700

Community grants - teams/groups/individuals	\$
29 X \$100 and under Individual Grants	2,825
Athletics Australia - Under 20 Championships (England) and Mannheim Gala	300
Futsal Tasmania Under 9 Red Team	150
Launceston Christian School	450
Newstead College	150
Queechy High School - National Final for F1 in Schools a STEM Learning Challenge	300
State Football Team Under 16 Girls	150
Stompin Inc. - Australian Youth Dance Festival 2022	150
Tasmanian Indoor Cricket Association	300
Tasmanian Thunder Under 12 Boys Touch Football	375
Tasmanian Thunder Under 16 Touch Football	375
Tasmanian Tigers Under 14 Boys Basketball	450
Tasmanian Tigers Under 14 Girls Basketball	300
Tasmanian Touch Football Under 14 Girls	450
Tasmanian Under 15 Boys State Football Team	300
Tasmanian Under 16 State Rugby Union Team	150
Touch Football Tasmanian Under 18 Girls	450
	7,625

Events sponsorship

Events play a vital role in creating communities that are engaged, vibrant and have a strong sense of pride and community connectivity. Events deliver a range of positive impacts including economic and tourism benefits, promotion of the City's image as a destination and they provide an opportunity to raise the city profile as a great place to live and invest in. A total of 53 events received sponsorship through the Event Sponsorship Program in the 2022-23 financial year and four conference events received funding through the Conference, Convention and Championship Incentives Program.

Signature Small Event Sponsorship	\$
Interweave Arts Association Inc. - Remade 2022	5,000
Launceston City Mission Inc. - Launceston City Community Christmas	5,000
Migrant Resource Centre (Northern Tasmania) - Harmony Day	4,000
	14,000

Signature Major Event Sponsorship	\$
Dancesport Tasmania - Tasmanian Open Dancesport Championships	3,000
Junction Arts Festival	45,000
Launceston Festivale Committee - Festivale	60,000
Motorsport Australia - Launceston Rally	15,000
Richard Welch - Launceston Running Festival	9,000
Tasmanian Turf Club - Launceston Cup Carnival	15,000
	147,000

Small Event Sponsorship	\$
Beaker Street Ltd - Beaker Street Festival Fermentation Trail	1,000
Cancer Council - Relay For Life Launceston	4,000
Cancer Council - Women's 5km Walk/Run (remaining 20% for 2021-22)	750
City of Launceston Lions Club - Launceston Christmas Parade	5,000
Clifford Craig Foundation Ltd - Run and Walk For Your Heart (remaining 20% for 2021-22)	750
Community of St Patricks River District - St Patricks River Valley Day	4,000
Dobson Guitar Services - Riverbend Blues	3,000
Emerge Productions - Killers With Benefits (remaning 20% for 2021-220)	750
Grace Huie Robbins - MOOD Launceston	3,750
Guts Touring - Launceston Leg	2,000
IO Performance - Launceston Summer Series	5,000
Launceston Chin Community Inc. - Chin National Day	4,000
Launceston Festival of Dance Inc. - Launceston Festival of Dance	8,000
Launceston Players Society Inc. - Complete Works of William Shakespeare	3,750
Michael Lavender T/As Swimrun Wild - Swimrun Wild Cataract Gorge	1,500
Northern Tasmanian Croquet Centre - NTCC Easter Croquet Tournament	1,000
Rotary Club of Youngtown - Soggy Bottom Card Board Box Boat Regatta and Family Fun Day	5,000
RSPCA Tasmania - Million Paws Walk	4,000
St Andrews Caledonian Pipe Band - 90th Birthday Celebration	5,000
Story Locker - Tasmanian Storytelling Festival	3,750
Tamar Bicycle Users Group Inc. - Bike Week	2,500
Tasmanian Brick Enthusiasts Inc. - Brixhibition	5,000
Tasmanian Poetry Festival Incorporated - Tasmanian Poetry Festival	4,000
Youth Spectacular Inc. - Youth Spectacular	4,000
	81,500

Major Event Sponsorship	\$
Australian Musical Theatre Festival Inc. - Australian Musical Theatre Festival	16,000
East Launceston Bowls Club - Launceston International Bowls Classic	9,375
Encore Theatre Company Inc. - Priscilla Queen of the Desert	12,000
Encore Theatre Company Inc. - Jersey Boys (remaining 20% for 2021-22)	3,000
Food Innovation Tasmanian Ltd - agriCULTURED	12,500
GTR Events - Tour of Tasmania	9,375
Jacqueline S Anifandis - Launceston Ukulele Jamboree	9,375
Launceston City Cycling Club Inc. - Launceston City Cycling Club Two-Day Classic (remaining 20% for 2021-22)	6,250
Launceston Competitions Association Inc. - Launceston Competitions	10,000
Launceston Musical Society Inc. - Elf The Musical	12,500
Multicultural Council of Tasmania - Harmony Week Launch	9,000
Panama Productions Pty Ltd - A Festival Called PANAMA	12,500
Rotary Club Of Central Launceston - Tamar Valley Cycle Challenge	9,375
Tamar Community Peace Trust - Tamar Valley Peace Festival (remaining 20% for 2021-22)	1,875
Tassie Trail Fest / Richard North - Tassie Trail Fest 2022 (remaining 20% for 2021-22)	1,250
Thai Association of Tasmania Inc. -Thai Food and Culture Festival	7,500
Veterans Cricket Australia Over 70s - National Championships	8,250
	150,125

Special Event Sponsorship	\$
TasDance - Launnie Can Dance	18,000
Auscycling Ltd - BMX Australia National Championships	6,000
	24,000

New Years Eve Event Sponsorship	\$
Beerfest No. 1 Pty Ltd - Beerfest New Years Eve	46,000
	46,000

Conference and Business Incentives	\$
Pickleball Tasmania - Pickleball Tasmanian Open	2,820
Business Events Tasmania - PCOA Conference Organisers Association	8,557
Mathematics Education Research Group of Australia - Merga44 - Merga Annual Conference	2,600
Skal - Launceston - Skål International Australia 106th National Assembly	1,600
	15,577

Other grants, benefits and remissions

Remissions - COVID-19 Community Care and Recovery		\$
Remission Sports Ground Hire Fees		1,791.82
		1,791.82

Remissions - Rates (Charitable and Hardship Concessions) Pursuant to section 129 of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)		\$
General		379,938.21
General Aged Care		0.00
CBD		0.00
Fire		197.22
Fire Aged Care		0.00
Waste		799.59
Interest		247.47
Legal		1,097.25
Penalty		160.00
		382,439.74

Waste concessions		\$
Pensioner		64,024
Residents' free vouchers		255,294
Charitable		28,143
		347,461

Parking Concessions		\$
Parking		124,339
		124,339

Charitable concessions were provided to the following organisations:	\$
Connections Op Shop Inc.	341.30
Bluegum Grounds Maintenance	883.85
Door of Hope Christian Church Inc.	491.89
Launceston Benevolent Society Inc.	308.98
Launceston City Mission Inc.	14,530.06
Police & Citizens Youth Club Launceston Inc.	114.86
Self Help Workshop Inc.	5,414.20
St Michaels Association Inc.	557.83
Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia - Launceston Veterans Support Group	446.59
Lions Club Of Kings Meadows Inc.	89.56
Veterans and Community Wood Centre Inc.	169.78
Just Cats Tasmania	11.36
Starting Point Neighbourhood House Inc.	74.69
Community Housing (TAS) Limited	8,355.75
Community Care Tasmania	429.46
Rotary Punchbowl Community Garden	85.10
Karinya Young Womens Service Inc.	534.78
Launceston VFC Services Inc.	133.26
New Horizons Club Inc.	55.20
Launceston Student Workshop Inc.	11.36
Life Without Barriers	25.16
Citizen Advocacy Launceston Region Inc.	87.26
Litter Free Launnie	134.67
Launceston Bowls Club Inc.	259.90
Windermere Church Forever Inc.	11.50
Teen Challenge Tasmania Inc.	144.34
Launceston Players	11.36
	33,714.05

Other contributions	\$
Local Government Association of Tasmania	76,068.17
Cityprom Ltd	563,862.00
Northern Tasmanian Development Corporation Ltd	191,730.00
West Tamar Council	25,000.00
Tamar Region NRM	127,849.00
NRM North	767,558.50
Launceston Flood Authority	181,805.00
Northern Tasmanian Cricket Association	373,384.00
Tourism Northern Tasmania Inc.	169,750.00
Business Events Tasmania	40,293.23
Theatre North	118,154.54
Just Cats Inc.	30,000.00
Harvest Market	2,945.40
Dogs Home of Tasmania	189,999.96
Ten Days on the Island	25,000.00
	2,883,399.80

Tenders and contracts

Contracts valued at or exceeding \$250,000 excluding GST

Regulation 29(1) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2015* requires us to report on contracts for the supply or provision of goods or services valued at or exceeding \$250,000 excluding GST, entered into or extended in the 2022-23 financial year:

Contract description	Contract period	Extension option	Tender (T) or contract (C) value excluding extension option and GST	Successful contractor and business address
Material Recovery Facility kerbside recycling collection	July 2022 - July 2023	No	\$1,530,000 (C)	JJ's Waste & Recycling PO Box 400 MOWBRAY TAS 7248
CD051/2022 - Birch Avenue change rooms	March 2023	No	\$1,391,426 (T)	Darcon Constructions Pty Ltd 109 St Leonards Rd ST LEONARDS TAS 7250
CD042/2022 - Birch Avenue and Churchill Park light upgrade	March 2023	No	\$1,348,600 (T)	Contact Electrical Pty Ltd 8 Shamrock St SOUTH LAUNCESTON TAS 7250
CD004/2022 - Corporate applications replacement	January 2023 - January 2034	No	\$984,068 (T)	Counterpart Solutions 202-480 St Kilda Road ST KILDA VIC 3004
Petrol and diesel fuel supply	July 2022 - June 2023	Extended Annually	\$975,473 (T)	Ampol Australia GPO Box 3998 SYDNEY NSW 2001
CD008/2023 - Cataract Gorge sewage pump station renewal	May 2023	No	\$663,199 (T)	Zanetto Civil 3 Killafaddy Road ST LEONARDS TAS 7250
Software licence fees	July 2022 - June 2023	Extended Annually	\$640,875 (C)	Technology One PO Box 96 FORTITUDE VALLEY QLD 4006
CD024/2022 - Hillside Crescent rehabilitation	October 2022	No	\$621,192 (T)	Crossroads Civil Contracting Pty Ltd 73-79 Lilydale Road ROCHERLEA TAS 7248
CD030/2022 - Tamar Street, George Street rehabilitation	March 2023	No	\$586,902 (T)	Crossroads Civil Contracting Pty Ltd 73-79 Lilydale Road ROCHERLEA TAS 7248

Contract description	Contract period	Extension option	Tender (T) or contract (C) value excluding extension option and GST	Successful contractor and business address
CD026/2022 - Lilydale Football Club amenities extension	February 2023	No	\$374,032 (T)	Invision Developments PO Box 549 KINGS MEADOWS TAS 7249
Ongoing asphalt supply	July 2022 - June 2023	Extended Annually	\$361,552 (C)	Downer EDI Works PO Box 210 CLAREMONT TAS 7011
CD019/2022 - QVMAG building management system upgrade	August 2022	No	\$322,848 (T)	BAC - Building Automation Controls PTY LTD PO Box 631 MOONAH TAS 7009
Insurance premium	July 2022 - June 2023	No	\$322,820 (C)	MAV Insurance Level 11, 60 Collins Street MELBOURNE VIC 3000
CD034/2020 - West Tamar Trail car park remediation	November 2022	No	\$303,482 (T)	Crossroads Civil Contracting Pty Ltd 73-79 Lilydale Road ROCHERLEA TAS 7248
CD052/2022 - Birch Avenue pitch drainage design and construct	June 2023	No	\$267,016 (T)	The Baker Group (TAS Pty Ltd) 9 Hudson Fysh Drive WESTERN JUNCTION TAS 7212
Truck replacement	December 2022	No	\$256,103 (C)	FRM Materials Handling Pty Ltd PO Box 212 KINGS MEADOWS TAS 7249
CD009/2011 Shuttle (Tiger) and City Explorer Bus Service	July 2022 - June 2023	Extended Annually	\$250,000 (C)	Metro Tasmania PO Box 61 MOONAH TAS 7009

Section 333A of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* provides for instances when the requirement to tender for goods or services valued at or above \$250,000 excluding GST does not apply. These instances are detailed at regulation 27 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2015*.

Regulation 29(2) requires us to report on some of these instances - specifically, when tenders have not been sought because of an emergency pursuant to regulation 27(a), and when a decision of Council has been made pursuant to regulation 27(i).

Reason for not inviting public tenders	Description of goods or services acquired	Value excluding GST	Name of supplier
Regulation 27(i)(iii) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2015</i> – unavailability of competitive or reliable tenderers	CD046/2020 - Town Hall Annexe end of trip facilities	\$492,522	Tas City Building 98 Gleadow Street INVERMAY TAS 7248
Regulation 27(a) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2015</i> – insufficient time to invite tenders for goods or services required in an emergency	CD033/2022 - Maintenance of bridges affected by October 2022 storm event	\$468,598	TasSpan Pty Ltd 10 Faulkner Drive LATROBE TAS 7307
Regulation 27(a) of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2015</i> – insufficient time to invite tenders for goods or services required in an emergency	Plant hire and repairs for Seaport pontoon removal, affected by October 2022 storm event	\$301,818	Crisp Bros/Haywards PO Box 47 KINGS MEADOWS TAS 7249

Contracts valued at or exceeding \$100,000 excluding GST but less than \$250,000

Regulation 29(3) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2015* requires us to report on contracts for the supply or provision of goods or services valued at or exceeding \$100,000 excluding GST but less than \$250,000, entered into or extended in the 2022/2023 financial year:

Contract description	Contract period	Extension option	Tender (T) or contract (C) value excluding extension option and GST	Successful contractor and business address
CD040/2022 - Road and footpath condition assessment	January 2023 - June 2023	No	\$247,786	Infrastructure Management Group PO Box 836 PENRITH NSW 2750
CD005/2023 - Underwood Road embankment stabilisation project	March 2023	No	\$237,419	Zanetto Civil 3 Killafaddy Road ST LEONARDS TAS 7250
Purchase of Toro mower	October 2022	No	\$230,257	Pellows Saws & Mowers 223 Invermay Road INVERMAY TAS 7248
CD015/2022 - Reseal of Hobart Road (Riseley Street to Blaydon Street)	January 2023	No	\$228,307	Crossroads Civil Contracting Pty Ltd 73-79 Lilydale Road ROCHERLEA TAS 7248
CD008/2022 - Lilydale Bowls Club bowling green synthetic surfacing	February 2023	No	\$224,980	Berry Bowling Systems Pty Ltd 7 Redland Drive MITCHAM VIC 3132
CD064/2017 - Compost screening	July 2022 - June 2023	Yes	\$200,000	Fieldwicks Crushing and Screening PO Box 131 EAST DEVONPORT TAS 7310
CD053/2022 - Bridge condition assessments	March 2023 - March 2025	No	\$197,184	AusSpan PO Box 225 LATROBE TAS 7307
CD031/2018 - Dogs' Home of Tasmania	July 2022 - June 2023	Yes	\$190,000	Tasmanian Canine Defence League T/A Dogs' Home of Tasmania PO Box 7 LINDISFARNE TAS 7015
Autumn fuel reduction burn plan	February 2023	No	\$180,175	Ground Proof Mapping PO Box 1072 LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

Golconda Road repairs - Pipers Brook Road to municipal boundary	January 2023	No	\$172,877	Crossroads Civil Contracting Pty Ltd 73-79 Lilydale Road ROCHERLEA TAS 7248
Seaport Pontoon removal	November 2022	No	\$170,054	Pfeiffer Cranes Pty Ltd 27 East Street CARRICK TAS 7291
Golconda Road works - Lilydale Falls to Bacala Road	November 2022	No	\$149,847	Crossroads Civil Contracting Pty Ltd 73-79 Lilydale Road ROCHERLEA TAS 7248
CD004/2023 - Tenzing Park open space playground	May 2023	No	\$132,690	Benson's Landscaping 139 Irby Boulevard SISTERS BEACH TAS 7321
CD020/2020 - Town Hall cleaning	July 2022 - June 2023	Yes	\$123,600	Collings Property Services Pty Ltd PO Box 2144 LAUNCESTON TAS 7250
CD015/2022 - Reseal of Invermay Road, Vermont Road to Foch Street	November 2022	No	\$119,479	Venarchie (Fulton Hogan) PO Box 395 MOWBRAY HEIGHTS TAS 7248
CD017/2022 - North Esk Boardwalk replacement	November 2022	No	\$118,180	Jonathan Hearn Landscape Design & Construction PO Box 3028 LAUNCESTON TAS 7250
CD051/2015 - Hobart Road reseal	December 2022	No	\$113,673	Downer EDI Works Pty Ltd PO Box 210 CLAREMONT TAS 7011
CD005/2017 - Launceston Leisure and Aquatic Centre cleaning contract	July 2022	No	\$110,518	Facilities First Level 6, 123 Epping Road MACQUARIE PARK NSW 2113
Purchase of Ventrac mower	August 2022	No	\$104,081	Pellows Saws & Mowers 223 Invermay Road INVERMAY TAS 7248

Enterprise Powers Statement

Section 72(1)(ca) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* requires us to make a statement of the activities and performance of Council in relation to any activity undertaken pursuant to section 21 as compared with its objectives for the preceding financial year. Section 21 relates to the exercise of enterprise powers.

Enterprize Tasmania Ltd

We are an initial member of Enterprize Tasmania Ltd. Enterprize Tasmania Ltd is a not-for-profit public company limited by guarantee.

The primary objectives of Enterprize Tasmania Ltd are to:

- foster and build a start-up ecosystem and entrepreneurial community within Tasmania;
- promote innovation and entrepreneurship in Tasmania by assisting innovators to develop, test and commercialise their ideas;
- create an entrepreneurial community in Tasmania through the provision of innovation hubs/business workspaces and networking opportunities, including facilitated events and workshops to collaborate and share knowledge, experience and insights;
- provide access for all members of the Tasmanian community to events, training and education that encourage and support innovation, entrepreneurship and commercialisation activities;
- improve access for all Tasmanians to, and participation by Tasmanians in, an entrepreneurial environment that supports and fosters positive social change through innovation and collaboration; and
- doing such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of any or all of those purposes.

Council is represented on the board of Enterprize Tasmania Ltd by Chief Executive Officer, Michael Stretton. An outline of Enterprize Tasmania Ltd projects can be found at <https://enterprize.space/> and information about their activities and performance over the past 12 months is available at <https://www.acnc.gov.au/charity/charities/4b4ea194-3aaf-e811-a961-000d3ad24182/documents/>.

TasWater

The *Water and Sewerage Corporation Act 2012 (Tas)* requires the Council to form, or participate in the formation of, a proprietary company limited by shares and incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth). This corporation is TasWater.

The *Water and Sewerage Corporation Act 2012 (Tas)* also defines the principal objectives of TasWater. These are:

- a. to efficiently provide water and sewerage functions in Tasmania
- b. to encourage water conservation, the demand management of water and the re-use of water on an economic and commercial basis
- c. to be a successful business and, to this end -
 - i. to operate its activities in accordance with good commercial practice; and
 - ii. to deliver sustainable returns to its members; and
 - iii. to deliver water and sewerage services to customers in the most cost-efficient manner.

The Council is represented on Taswater's Owners Representatives Group by the City of Launceston Mayor. Detailed performance information is available at <https://www.taswater.com.au/about-us/annual-reports>.

Northern Tasmanian Development Corporation Ltd

Council is an initial member and shareholder of Northern Tasmanian Development Corporation Ltd (NTDC).

NTDC is a not-for-profit public company limited by guarantee. The primary objectives of NTDC is to:

- provide proactive, engaged and strategic regional economic leadership
- consolidate an agreed vision for the development, sustainability and prosperity of the geographic region that the organisation's members encompass
- implement a strategic economic action plan based on the Northern Regional Futures Plan framework or similar; and
- provide effective representation and advocacy to State and Federal governments and other stakeholders.

NTDC is tasked with validating and actioning the valuable strategic planning work that has been undertaken in recent years to underpin effective and sustainable economic transition in Northern and North-East Tasmania, whilst continuing to place the importance of education and health in our communities. This means finding ways to continually boost economic output, increase investment, create more jobs, and to raise average wage levels.

As a member council, the City of Launceston pays an annual subscription fee to NTDC. Information about NTDC's activities and performance over the past 12 months is available at www.ntdc.org.au.

Australia Pacific Airports (Launceston) Pty Ltd

The City of Launceston holds a 10% share in Australia Pacific Airports (Launceston) Pty Ltd in the form of capital notes.

The book value of these notes is \$258,000 at 30 June 2023.

These notes entitle Council to a share in the operating results of the company, on an equivalent basis to the shareholders. Councillor Hugh McKenzie is a Director.

Council decided to invest in this essential local infrastructure as part of its strategy to support local economic development.

In 2022-23 the Council did not receive a dividend due to the ongoing impact of COVID-19 restrictions on Australian Pacific Airports (Launceston) Pty Ltd revenues.

Strata Scheme No. 175691, CH Smith Centre, Launceston

Council is a member of Strata Scheme No. 175691. This entity acts as the body corporate for the CH Smith Centre.

The primary objectives of Strata Scheme No. 175691 are to:

- administer, manage and improve the common property reasonably and for the benefit of the owners and occupiers of the lots;
- maintain the service infrastructure in good and serviceable order and condition;
- prepare and maintain a fire prevention, detection and evacuation plan;
- prepare and maintain a building security protocol plan over the site;
- exercise its powers under the Act;
- to enforce the by-laws;
- to take out and maintain a policy of insurance as required under the Act and any further insurance that may be required by resolution of the lot owners; and
- to carry out other functions for the benefit of the lot owners.

Council is represented on the board of Strata Scheme No. 175691 by Team Leader Governance, Kelsey Hartland. As a member, Council pays its share of the costs incurred by Strata Scheme No. 175691. In 2019-20, the members of the body corporate appointed a body corporate manager to ensure the ongoing alignment of activities and performance with objectives. The members of the body corporate review this appointment annually and the arrangement was continued in 2022-23.



Code of Conduct complaints

Section 72(1)(ba) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* requires City of Launceston to state the number of code of conduct complaints that were received and the number that were upheld either wholly or in part during the preceding financial year.

For the 2022-23 financial year, City of Launceston received one code of conduct complaint, lodged on 16 January 2023. The Code of Conduct complaint was wholly upheld in a determination dated 2 August 2023.

Section 72(1)(bb) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* requires City of Launceston to declare the total costs met by the council during the preceding financial year in respect of all code of conduct complaints dealt with under Division 3A of Part 3 during the preceding financial year.

The total costs met by the council during the 2022-23 financial year in respect of all code of conduct complaints dealt with under Division 3A of Part 3 is yet to be determined and will be reported in the Annual Report for the 2023-24 financial year.



Public Interest Disclosures

Pursuant to section 86 of the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2002 (Tas)*, City of Launceston makes the following report in relation to each of the matters prescribed by that Act:

Matter	Report
(a) information as to how persons may obtain or access copies of the current procedures established by the public body under Part 7	Copies of the City of Launceston's Public Interest Disclosure Policy are freely available via www.launceston.tas.gov.au or by request to contactus@launceston.tas.gov.au .
(b) the number and types of disclosures made to the public body during the year and the number of those disclosures that the public body determines to be public interest disclosures	One disclosure was made to City of Launceston. No disclosures were determined to be public interest disclosures.
(c) the number of disclosures determined by the public body to be public interest disclosures that it investigated during the year	0
(d) the number and types of disclosed matters referred to the public body during the year by the Ombudsman	0
(e) the number and types of disclosed matters referred during the year by the public body to the Ombudsman to investigate	0
(f) the number and types of investigations of disclosed matters taken over by the Ombudsman from the public body during the year	0
(g) the number and types of disclosed matters that the public body has decided not to investigate during the year	0
(h) the number and types of disclosed matters that were substantiated on investigation and the action taken on completion of the investigation	0
(i) any recommendations of the Ombudsman under this Act that relate to the public body	0

Allowances and Expenses Statement

Section 72(1)(cb) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) requires us to provide a statement of the total allowances and expenses paid to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors.

In 2022-23 the City of Launceston provided allowances and reimbursements for reasonable expenses to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors. This includes telephone rental and calls, travelling and care of any child of a Councillor. The total amount of these expenses is shown below.

Allowances **\$ 592,588**

Expenses **\$ 19,337**



Donation of Land Statement

Section 72(1)(da) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* requires the City of Launceston to report on any land donated by the Council during the year.

The Council made no such donations of land. The Council may transfer easements to infrastructure providers from time to time for nominal consideration in relation to proposals to connect services in the City of Launceston.





FINANCIAL REPORT 2022-23





Statement of Comprehensive Income

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	Budget 2023	Actual 2023	Actual 2022
Income from continuing operations		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Recurrent income				
Rates and Charges	2.1	78,933	79,210	74,996
Statutory Fees and Fines	2.2	4,736	5,673	5,528
User Fees	2.3	23,302	24,943	22,376
Grants	2.4	8,431	10,944	9,826
Contributions	2.5	-	321	43
Interest	2.6	1,668	3,452	543
Other Income	2.7	1,299	3,596	2,879
Investment Revenue	2.9	3,569	3,269	3,269
		121,938	131,408	119,460
Capital income				
Capital grants received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2.4	7,834	7,834	3,662
Contributions Capital Cash	2.5	127	251	193
Contributions Capital Non Monetary Assets	2.5	-	3,295	15,667
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	2.8	-	(3,765)	(3,130)
		7,961	7,615	16,392
Total income from continuing operations		129,899	139,023	135,852
Expenses from continuing operations				
Employee Benefits	3.1	50,521	46,276	44,869
Materials and Services	3.2	43,942	48,164	38,538
Impairment of Receivables	3.3	16	1	-
Depreciation and Amortisation	3.4	25,043	26,978	24,940
Finance Costs	3.5	334	614	633
Other Expenses	3.6	11,172	12,887	9,686
Total expenses from continuing operations		131,028	134,920	118,666
Result from continuing operations		(1,129)	4,103	17,186
Net result for the year		(1,129)	4,103	17,186
Other comprehensive income				
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to net result				
Fair value adjustments on equity investment assets	9.1	-	7,280	6,350
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	9.1	-	182,569	121,028
Actuarial gain/loss on defined benefits plans	6.5	-	24	1,916
Total Other Comprehensive Income		-	189,873	129,294
Total Comprehensive Result		(1,129)	193,976	146,480

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2023

	Note	As at 30 June 2023	As at 30 June 2022
		\$'000	\$'000
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4.1	39,405	56,840
Trade and Other Receivables	4.2	5,833	4,391
Investments	4.3	55,646	25,062
Inventories	4.4	1,068	1,025
Assets Held for Sale	4.5	7,116	1,116
Total current assets		109,068	88,434
Non-current assets			
Investment in Water Corporation	5.1	239,333	232,052
Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment	6.1	1,779,978	1,611,358
Intangible Assets	6.2	3,879	4,145
Right-of-Use Assets	6.3	194	189
QVMAG Collection	6.4	204,600	203,868
Superannuation Asset	6.5	2,279	2,864
Other Assets	6.6	258	258
Total non-current assets		2,230,521	2,054,734
Total assets		2,339,589	2,143,168
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	7.1	6,943	7,157
Trust Funds and Deposits	7.2	3,091	2,644
Employee Provisions	7.3	6,724	7,368
Rehabilitation Provision	8.2	20	8,400
Lease Liabilities	7.4	80	31
Contract Liabilities	7.5	1,890	1,690
Interest Bearing Loans and Borrowings	8.1	20,000	-
Total current liabilities		38,748	27,290
Non-current liabilities			
Employee Provisions	7.3	986	1,016
Rehabilitation Provision	8.2	20,632	9,528
Lease Liabilities	7.4	117	204
Interest Bearing Loans and Borrowings	8.1	6,000	26,000
Total non-current liabilities		27,735	36,748
Total liabilities		66,483	64,038
Net Assets		2,273,106	2,079,130
Equity			
Accumulated Surplus		1,217,626	1,213,499
Reserves	9.1	1,055,480	865,631
Total Equity		2,273,106	2,079,130

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 Inflows/ (Outflows)	2022 Inflows/ (Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities		\$'000	\$'000
Payments			
Provision of Goods and Services (including GST)		(101,276)	(89,014)
Interest Paid		(278)	(481)
State Government Fire Service and Waste Levy		(10,884)	(8,442)
Receipts			
Rates and Charges		78,683	75,201
Fees and Charges (Including GST)		33,322	31,259
Grants and Contributions – Revenue		11,266	9,869
Interest Received		3,328	504
Other (including GST)		6,989	6,778
Net Cash from Operating Activities	9.2	21,150	25,674
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments			
Capital Works		(19,856)	(27,382)
Transfers (to) from Investments		(30,584)	(15,053)
Receipts			
Sale of Assets		350	286
Grants and Contributions – Capital		8,286	4,249
Investment Revenue		3,269	3,269
Net Cash Used In Investing Activities		(38,535)	(34,631)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Payments			
Loan Repayments		-	(9,000)
Lease Repayments		(49)	(33)
Receipts			
Loan Proceeds		-	-
Net Cash From in Financing Activities	9.3	(49)	(9,033)
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		(17,434)	(17,990)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 July		56,839	74,829
Cash and cash equivalents at 30 June	9.4	39,405	56,839

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	Accumulated Surplus 2023	Asset Revaluation Reserve 2023	Fair Value Reserve 2023	Total Equity 2023
2023		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,213,499	886,685	(21,054)	2,079,130
Net result for the year		4,103	-	-	4,103
Other Comprehensive Income:					
Fair value adjustment on equity investment assets	5.1	-	-	7,280	7,280
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	9.1	-	182,569	-	182,569
Actuarial gain/loss on defined benefits plans	6.5	24	-	-	24
Total comprehensive income		4,127	182,569	7,280	193,976
Transfers between reserves		-	-	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year		1,217,626	1,069,254	(13,774)	2,273,106

	Note	Accumulated Surplus 2022	Asset Revaluation Reserve 2022	Fair Value Reserve 2022	Total Equity 2022
2022		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,194,397	765,657	(27,404)	1,932,650
Net result for the year		17,186	-	-	17,186
Other Comprehensive Income:					
Fair value adjustment on equity investment assets	5.1	-	-	6,350	6,350
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	9.1	-	121,028	-	121,028
Actuarial gain/loss on defined benefits plans	6.5	1,916	-	-	1,916
Total comprehensive income		19,102	121,028	6,350	146,480
Transfers between reserves		-	-	-	-
Balance at end of the financial year		1,213,499	886,685	(21,054)	2,079,130

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 1 Overview

Note 1.1 Reporting Entity

- a. The Launceston City Council was established on 30 October 1852 and is a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal.
- b. The function of the Council is to:
 - provide for health, safety and welfare of the community;
 - to represent and promote the interests of the community;
 - provide for the peace, order and good government in the municipality.

Note 1.2 Basis of Accounting

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, and notes accompanying these financial statements.

The general purpose financial report complies with Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, and the *Local Government Act 1993* (LGA1993) (as amended). Council has determined that it does not have profit generation as a prime objective. Consequently, where appropriate, Council has elected to apply options and exemptions within accounting standards that are applicable to not-for-profit entities.

This financial report has been prepared on the accrual and going concern basis.

All amounts are presented in Australian dollars and unless stated, have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars.

This financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, except where specifically stated in notes 4.5, 5.1, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5 and 8.2.

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation, and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

All entities controlled by Council that have material assets or liabilities, such as Special Committees of Management, have been included in this financial report. All transactions between these entities and Council have been eliminated in full.

Note 1.3 Use of Judgements and Estimates

Judgements and Assumptions

In the application of Australian Accounting Standards, Council is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources.

The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 1 Overview Cont.

Note 1.3 Use of Judgements and Estimates Cont.

Council has made no assumptions concerning the future that may cause a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period. Judgements made by Council that have significant effects on the financial report are disclosed in the relevant notes as follows:

Employee entitlements

Assumptions are utilised in the determination of Council's employee entitlement provisions. These assumptions are discussed in note 7.3.

Defined benefit superannuation fund obligations

Actuarial assumptions are utilised in the determination of Council's defined benefit superannuation fund obligations. These assumptions are discussed in note 6.5.

Fair value of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Assumptions and judgements are utilised in determining the fair value of Council's property, plant and equipment including useful lives and depreciation rates. These assumptions are discussed in note 6.1.

Investment in water corporation

Assumptions utilised in the determination of Council's valuation of its investment in TasWater are discussed in note 5.1.

Rehabilitation obligations

Assumptions and judgements are utilised in determining the value of Council's obligations to rehabilitate the landfill and clay quarry at the Launceston Waste Centre. These are discussed in note 8.2.

Note 1.4 Material Budget Variations

	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance % (positive is favourable)
Revenue				
Rates and Charges	78,933	79,210	277	0.4%
Favourable variance due to supplementary valuations higher than budget due to growth in the municipality.				
Statutory Fees and Fines	4,736	5,673	937	19.8%
Technology improvements along with less staff vacancies have increased the capture of parking infringements. Higher than anticipated building activity saw development fees and building surveying fees also above budget.				
User Fees	23,302	24,943	1,641	7.0%
Users to Launceston Aquatic Centre, Carr Villa, Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery and Launceston Waste Centre all above budget levels. On street parking also above budget due to higher compliance levels.				
Grants - Operational	8,431	10,944	2,513	29.8%
Financial Assistance Grants from the Federal Government were paid in advance for the 2023-24 financial year.				

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 1.4 Material Budget Variations Cont.

Revenue Cont.

	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance % (positive is favourable)
Contributions - Cash	-	321	321	100%

Recognition of funds received by Council during the year, these are not budgeted.

Interest	1,668	3,452	1,784	107.0%
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Increases to the Official Cash Rate saw investment returns offered increase in line through the year, resulting in interest earned on cash and investments higher than budget.

Other Income	1,299	3,596	2,297	176.8%
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Various insurance settlements were received for malicious damage and flood damage to council property which were unbudgeted, these are offset by additional expenditure included in materials and services. Income from University of Tasmania Stadium budgeted for only six months as transfer to Stadiums Tasmania was expected during December 2022, which did not occur. Income recognised for services provided by volunteers higher than budget and are offset by equal expense.

Investment Revenue	3,569	3,269	(300)	(8.4%)
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The Australian Pacific Airports (Launceston) declared no profit distribution would be made for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

Capital Income

Capital Grants	7,834	7,834	-	0.0%
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Capital Grants were on budget.

Net Gain/ (Loss) on Disposal	-	(3,765)	(3,765)	(100%)
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Various projects for upgraded community assets, as well as early failure of infrastructure assets has resulted in asset disposals prior to the end of their effective lives. These projects include Warring Street early failure, insurance settlement replacement assets including Russells Plains Road buildings and assets replaced early under funding through the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program.

Contributions Non-Monetary	-	3,295	3,295	100%
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Recognition of assets received by Council throughout the year, which is not budgeted for.

Contributions Capital Cash	127	251	124	97.6%
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Museum cash contributions were higher than anticipated.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 1.4 Material Budget Variations Cont.

	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance % (positive is favourable)
Expenses				
Employee Benefits	50,521	46,276	4,245	8.4%
A number of vacancies throughout council during the year led to a favourable employee benefits variance. While some employee vacancies are included in the budget the competitive labour market resulted in a much higher number of vacant positions. Full Time Equivalent positions increased from 450 in 2022 to 452 in 2023.				
Materials and Services	43,942	48,164	(4,222)	(10%)
Various expenses over budget were incurred contributing to a variance in materials and service including;				
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flood response and recovery costs resulting from the October 2022 flood event• Increases in the kerbside collection contract from rising fuel prices and consumer price index• External labour hire costs related to staff vacancies• Contribution to the Northern Recreational Hub• Expenditure at University of Tasmania Stadium, unbudgeted after December 2022• Transfer of Northern Regional Waste Management Group to NRM North				
Impairment of Receivables	16	1	15	94%
Variance not material				
Depreciation	25,043	26,978	(1,935)	(8%)
Revaluations of various asset classes were higher than budgeted due to higher than anticipated movements in the consumer price index, resulting in unfavourable depreciation charges.				
Finance Costs	334	614	(280)	(83.8%)
Finance costs relating to Launceston Waste Centre rehabilitation obligations were higher than budget due to higher consumer price index.				
Other Expenses	11,172	12,887	(1,715)	(35.1%)
Other expenses recorded higher than budget included election expenses, volunteer services, increase in Launceston Waste Centre rehabilitation provision and State Government Landfill Levy.				

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 1.5 - Functions and Activities of the Council

(a) Revenue and Expenses for the reporting year have been directly attributed to the following functions and activities.

	GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICES	PUBLIC ORDER & SAFETY	HEALTH	WELFARE	HOUSING & COMMUNITY AMENITIES	RECREATION & CULTURE	ROADS & TRAFFIC	OTHER	TOTAL 2023	BUDGET (unaudited)
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
REVENUES										
Rates and Charges	63,298	8,879	-	-	6,610	-	-	423	79,210	78,933
Statutory Fees and Fines	623	253	261	-	2,485	-	2,051	-	5,673	4,736
User Fees	351	-	34	-	10,769	7,297	6,399	93	24,943	23,302
Grants	2,785	-	-	100	1,048	1,911	4,980	120	10,944	8,431
Contributions - Cash	-	-	-	5	295	21	-	-	321	-
Interest	3,369	11	-	-	4	62	6	-	3,452	1,668
Other Income	252	13	-	-	746	2,453	39	93	3,596	1,299
Investment Revenue	3,269	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,269	3,569
	73,947	9,156	295	105	21,957	11,744	13,475	729	131,408	121,938
EXPENSES										
Employee Costs (net of capitalised)	15,077	403	1,084	914	8,185	14,121	3,615	2,877	46,276	50,521
Materials and Services	2,732	349	90	1,137	18,754	15,641	7,031	2,431	48,165	43,942
Impairment of Debts	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	16
Depreciation and Amortisation	3,191	17	1	-	4,483	6,839	12,396	51	26,978	25,043
Finance Costs	278	-	-	-	332	-	1	3	614	334
Change in Asset Values	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	636	8,786	-	-	889	990	1,586	-	12,887	11,172
	21,914	9,555	1,175	2,051	32,644	37,591	24,629	5,362	134,921	131,028
Full Cost Attribution	(2,077)	88	154	75	(329)	1,130	770	189	-	-
Competitive Neutrality	(573)	-	-	-	79	343	151	-	-	-
	19,264	9,643	1,329	2,126	32,394	39,064	25,550	5,551	134,921	131,028
Surplus (Deficit) from Operations	54,683	(487)	(1,034)	(2,021)	(10,437)	(27,320)	(12,075)	(4,822)	(3,513)	(9,090)
Capital Grants and Infrastructure Adjustments										
Capital Grants Received Specifically for New or Upgraded Assets	-	-	-	-	10	6,986	838	-	7,834	7,834
Non Government Capital Cash	-	-	-	-	-	251	-	-	251	127
Contributions - Non-Monetary Assets	-	-	-	-	1,115	651	1,529	-	3,295	-
Net Gain/(Loss) on Disposal of Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment	66	-	-	-	(1,276)	(980)	(1,575)	-	(3,765)	-
Net Surplus (Deficit) Before Other Comprehensive Income	54,749	(487)	(1,034)	(2,021)	(10,588)	(20,412)	(11,283)	(4,822)	4,102	(1,129)
Infrastructure Assets	53,344	1,452	-	1,620	372,405	408,568	942,589	-	1,779,978	
Other Assets	355,012	-	-	-	-	204,599	-	-	559,611	
Total Assets	408,356	1,452	-	1,620	372,405	613,167	942,589	-	2,339,589	

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 1.5 - Functions and Activities of the Council Cont.

(b) Comparative figures for prior year (2022)

	GENERAL PUBLIC SERVICES	PUBLIC ORDER & SAFETY	HEALTH	WELFARE	HOUSING & COMMUNITY AMENITIES	RECREATION & CULTURE	ROADS & TRAFFIC	OTHER	TOTAL 2022	BUDGET (unaudited)
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
REVENUES										
Rates and Charges	60,396	8,531	-	-	5,526	-	-	543	74,996	74,543
Statutory Fees and Fines	706	271	244	-	3,067	-	1,240	-	5,528	5,021
User Fees	339	-	24	-	8,471	7,861	5,625	56	22,376	20,704
Grants	2,870	-	-	181	639	1,835	4,181	120	9,826	8,002
Contributions - Cash	-	-	-	-	3	9	20	11	43	2
Interest	526	12	-	-	1	4	-	-	543	500
Other Income	63	13	-	-	282	2,461	32	28	2,879	2,053
Investment Revenue	3,269	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,269	2,724
	68,169	8,827	268	181	17,989	12,170	11,098	758	119,460	113,549
EXPENSES										
Employee Costs (net of capitalised)	14,382	400	1,080	888	7,603	14,097	3,381	3,038	44,869	48,140
Materials and Services	1,844	327	68	798	14,503	13,857	4,217	2,924	38,538	37,528
Impairment of Debts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Depreciation and Amortisation	2,739	16	1	-	4,622	6,367	11,156	39	24,940	24,026
Finance Costs	481	-	-	-	145	-	-	7	633	639
Change in Asset Values	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Expenses	947	8,442	-	-	253	20	24	-	9,686	9,779
	20,393	9,185	1,149	1,686	27,126	34,341	18,778	6,008	118,666	120,128
Full Cost Attribution	(2,125)	86	150	73	(222)	1,102	751	185	-	-
Competitive Neutrality	(560)	-	-	-	77	335	148	-	-	-
	17,708	9,271	1,299	1,759	26,981	35,778	19,677	6,193	118,666	120,128
Surplus (Deficit) from Operations	50,461	(444)	(1,031)	(1,578)	(8,992)	(23,608)	(8,579)	(5,435)	794	(6,579)
Capital Grants and Infrastructure Adjustments										
Capital Grants Received Specifically for New or Upgraded Assets	-	-	-	-	50	1,278	2,334	-	3,662	2,365
Non Government Capital Cash	109	-	-	-	-	85	-	-	194	85
Contributions - Non-Monetary Assets	-	-	-	-	1,299	1,375	12,992	-	15,666	-
Net Gain/(Loss) on Disposal of Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment	(45)	-	-	-	(1,162)	(755)	(1,168)	-	(3,130)	(200)
Net Surplus (Deficit) Before Other Comprehensive Income	50,525	(444)	(1,031)	(1,578)	(8,805)	(21,625)	5,579	(5,435)	17,186	(4,329)
Infrastructure Assets	49,962	1,364	-	1,376	311,739	356,352	890,572	-	1,611,365	
Other Assets	327,937	-	-	-	-	203,868	-	-	531,805	
Total Assets	377,899	1,364	-	1,376	311,739	560,220	890,572	-	2,143,170	

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 1.5 Functions and Activities of the Council Cont.

(a) Revenue, expenditure and assets attributable to each function as categorised in (c) below:

(b) Reconciliation of Assets above with the Statement of Financial Position at 30 June:

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Current assets	109,068	88,434
Non-current assets	2,230,521	2,054,734
	2,339,589	2,143,168

(c) General Public Service

Management of the administrative and financial operation of the Council organisation including elected representatives.

Public Order and Safety

Supervision of various by-laws, animal control and public nuisances. The collection of the fire levy on behalf of and paid to the State Fire Commission.

Health

Administration of health legislation on behalf of the State Government including food handling control and public health issues. Provision of immunisation services.

Welfare

Assistance, education and consultation activities connected with community support, care and development.

Housing and Community amenities

Provision of building and development approvals services including the maintenance of the planning scheme. Solid waste services including garbage collection and disposal. The provision of street lighting. Maintenance of a range of public buildings and facilities including cemeteries. Maintenance of the stormwater drainage network including flood mitigation works. Provision of street cleaning services.

Recreation and Culture

Maintenance of parks and reserves, sports grounds, playgrounds, swimming pools, halls and related recreational facilities. Funding of Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, University of Tasmania Stadium and the Princess Theatre.

Roads and Traffic

Construction and maintenance of roads, footpaths and bridges. Operation of parking facilities including off street car parks and on street metered spaces.

Other

A range of services and facilities including the provision of economic development and promotional services.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 2 Revenue

Note 2.1 Rates and Charges

Council uses Assessed Annual Value as the basis of valuation of all properties within the municipality. The assessed annual value of a property is its assessed rental value.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Valuation and Rating		
Gross Assessed Annual Value of the City	892,589	713,277
Rates		
	Cents /\$AAV	Cents /\$AAV
General Rate - Residential	5.8975	7.0191
General Rate - Commercial	7.0265	8.1323
General Rate - CBD Variation	8.0647	9.7341
General Rate - Industrial	6.5288	8.1377
General Rate - Public Purpose	7.0315	8.1323
General Rate - Primary Production	5.5864	7.8036
General Rate - Sporting and Recreation	7.0497	8.1323
General Rate - Quarrying and Mining	5.0871	6.3568
General Rate - Vacant Land	5.4642	7.1125
Service Rates		
Fire Protection - Urban	1.1670	1.3980
Fire Protection - Rural	0.2987	0.3620
Fire Protection - Lilydale District	0.3261	0.4202
	\$	\$
General Charge (Fixed Amount)	312.80	301.50
Minimum Rates apply:-		
Fire Levy	44.00	42.00
Service Charges		
	\$ Range	\$ Range
Waste Management - on bin size	148.30 - 317.40	126.10 - 289.85
Rating Revenue		
	\$'000	\$'000
General Charge	11,379	10,875
General Rate - CBD Variation	423	543
General Rate - Residential	32,267	30,565
General Rate - Commercial	11,223	10,762
General Rate - Industrial	3,323	3,182
General Rate - Public Purpose	3,183	3,137
General Rate - Primary Production	1,050	1,005
General Rate - Quarrying and Mining	7	6
General Rate - Sporting and Recreation	276	263
General Rate - Vacant Land	590	601
	63,721	60,939
Fire Protection	8,879	8,531
Waste Management	6,610	5,526
Total Rates and Charges	79,210	74,996

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 2.1 Rates and Charges Cont.

The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipality was July 2016, and the valuation was first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2017.

Accounting policy

Council recognises revenue from rates and annual charges for the amount it is expected to be entitled to at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate, or when the charge has been applied. Rates and charges in advance are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period to which they relate.

Note 2.2 Statutory Fees and Fines

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Infringements and Costs	2,074	1,370
Regulatory Fees	3,054	3,516
Regulatory Services	494	592
Permits and Registrations	51	50
Total Statutory Fees and Fines	5,673	5,528

Accounting policy

Fees and fines (including parking fees and fines) are recognised when or as the performance obligation is completed, or when the taxable event has been applied and Council has an unconditional right to receive payment.

Note 2.3 User Fees

Sport and Leisure Facilities	4,863	4,766
Parking Fees and Charges	6,718	5,924
Waste Charges	8,998	7,030
Health Fees	34	24
Cemetery Fees and Charges	1,592	1,362
Trading Revenue	2,097	2,793
Other Revenue	-	21
Venue Hire	15	4
Commissions	626	452
Total User Fees	24,943	22,376

Accounting policy

Council recognises revenue from user fees and charges when or as the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

Licences granted by Council are all either short-term or low value and all revenue is recognised at the time that the licence is granted rather than the term of the licence.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 2.4 Grants

2023	2022
\$'000	\$'000

Grants were received in respect of the following:

Summary of grants

Federally funded grants	10,422	8,929
State funded grants	8,356	4,559
Total	18,778	13,488

Grants - Recurrent

Commonwealth Grants

Financial Assistance Grants - General Purpose	2,318	1,946
Financial Assistance Grants - Roads	4,547	3,799
Roads	233	129
Drainage and Flood Mitigation	307	59
Other	272	270

State Grants

Roads	327	338
Parks	51	-
Drainage and Flood Mitigation	613	567
Museum	1,758	1,650
Other	518	1,068

Total Recurrent Grants

10,944	9,826
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In 2023 reporting year the Commonwealth paid the 2024 Financial Assistance Grant in advance in full.

In the 2022 reporting year the Commonwealth paid half of the Financial Assistance grants for 2023.

Capital grants received specifically for new or upgraded assets

2023	2022
\$'000	\$'000

Commonwealth Grants

Roads	838	1,698
Sporting Facilities	289	-
Parks	554	778
Other	1,064	250

State Grants

Roads	-	636
Sporting Facilities	4,309	-
Parks	770	250
Other	10	50

Total Capital Grants

7,834	3,662
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Unspent Grants and Contributions

Balance of unspent funds at 1 July	1,690	1,296
Add funds not recognised as revenue in the current year	811	1,690
Less funds received in prior years but recognised as revenue in the current year	(611)	(1,296)
Balance of Unspent Funds At 30 June	1,890	1,690

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 2.4 Grants Cont.

Accounting policy

Council recognises untied grant revenue and those without performance obligations when received. In cases where there is an enforceable agreement which contains sufficiently specific performance obligations, revenue is recognised as or when control of each performance obligations is satisfied. (i.e. when it transfers control of a product or provides a service.) A contract liability is recognised for unspent funds received in advance and then recognised as income as obligations are fulfilled.

Each performance obligation is considered to ensure that the revenue recognition reflects the transfer of control. Within grant agreements there may be some performance obligations where control transfers at a point in time and others which have a continuous transfer of control over the life of the contract. Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

If the transaction is a transfer of a financial asset to enable Council to acquire or construct a recognisable non-financial asset to be controlled by Council (i.e. an in-substance acquisition of a non-financial asset), a contract liability is recognised for the excess of the fair value of the transfer over any related amounts recognised and revenue as the unspent funds are expended at the point in time at which required performance obligations are completed.

For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred, since this is deemed to be the most appropriate measure of the completeness of the construction project as there is no profit margin. For the acquisitions of assets, revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the Council.

Note 2.5 Contributions

Contributions Recurrent

(a) Cash

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Roads	-	20
Sporting Facilities	-	2
Drainage and Flood Mitigation	295	-
Museum	21	7
Other	5	14
Total	321	43

Contributions Capital

(a) Cash

Sporting Facilities	26	25
Parks	98	83
Museum	127	85
Total	251	193

(b) Non-monetary assets

Roads	1,529	12,995
Parks	75	267
Drainage and Flood Mitigation	1,115	1,297
Museum	576	25
Other	-	1,083
Total	3,295	15,667

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 2.5 Contributions Cont.

Accounting policy

Council recognises contributions without performance obligations when received. In cases where the contributions are for a specific purpose to acquire or construct a recognisable non-financial asset, a liability is recognised for funds received in advance and income recognised as obligations are fulfilled.

Note 2.6 Interest

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Interest on financial assets	1,868	84
Interest on rates	327	311
Interest on cash and cash equivalents	1,123	109
Net Interest on Defined Benefit Asset	124	39
Interest Other	10	-
Total	3,452	543

Accounting policy

Interest is recognised progressively as it is earned.

Note 2.7 Other Income

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Rental income	1,077	1,005
Sponsorship	462	312
Donations	32	19
Recycling	145	132
Volunteer services	248	17
Bequests	141	121
Insurance settlements	518	699
Utilities recovery	174	181
Cost recoveries	344	200
Other	455	193
Total other income	3,596	2,879

Accounting policy

Rental income

Rents are recognised as revenue when the payment is due. Rental payments received in advance are recognised as a payable until they are due.

Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income is recognised upon issue of an invoice.

Donations

Donations revenue is recognised as received.

Recycling income

Recycling Income is recognised upon issue of an invoice.

Volunteer services

Council recognises the inflow of resources in the form of volunteer services where the fair value of those services can be reliably measured and Council would have purchased those services if they had not been donated.

Bequests

Bequest revenue is recognised as received.

Other

Other income is recognised either as received or on the issue of an invoice.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 2.7 Other Income Cont.

Operating leases as lessor

Council is a lessor and enters into agreements with a number of lessees. These include commercial and non-commercial agreements.

Where leases are non-commercial agreements, these are generally with not for profit, such as sporting organisations. In these cases subsidised or peppercorn rents are charged because Council recognises part of its role is community service and community support. In these situations, Where relevant Council records lease revenue on an accruals basis and records the associated properties as part of land and buildings within property, plant and equipment. Buildings are recognised at depreciated replacement cost.

Where leases are commercial agreements, the properties are held for the dominant purpose of enhancing council's operating programs and facilities, Council records lease revenue on an accruals basis and records the associated properties as part of land and buildings within property, plant and equipment. Buildings are recognised at depreciated replacement cost.

Note 2.8 Net Gain/(Loss) on Disposal of Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Proceeds of sale	350	286
Less Carrying Amounts	(4,115)	(3,416)
Net Gain (Loss)	(3,765)	(3,130)
Gain (Loss) on Disposal		
Gain on Disposal	113	87
Scheduled Loss on Disposal	(1,136)	(865)
Unscheduled Loss on Disposal	(2,742)	(2,352)
Total Loss on Disposal	(3,765)	(3,217)
Net Gain (Loss)	(3,765)	(3,130)

Accounting policy

Gains and losses on asset disposals

The gain or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer.

Note 2.9 Investment Revenue

Investment revenue from water corporation

Dividend revenue received	3,269	3,269
Total Investment Revenue	3,269	3,269

Accounting policy

Dividend revenue is recognised when Council's right to receive payment is established and it can be reliably measured.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 3 Expenses

Note 3.1 Employee Benefits

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Wages and Salaries	36,866	36,032
Workers Compensation Insurance	553	537
Payroll Tax	2,572	2,456
Superannuation and Retiring Allowance	6,115	6,334
Fringe Benefits Tax	82	79
Other Costs	907	850
	<hr/> 47,095	<hr/> 46,288
Less amounts capitalised	(819)	(1,419)
Total Employee Benefits	46,276	44,869

Accounting policy

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in asset or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

Employee benefits include, where applicable, entitlements to wages and salaries, annual leave, sick leave, long service leave, superannuation and any other post-employment benefits.

Note 3.2 Materials and Services

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Contract payments	25,527	19,797
Utilities		
Street Lighting	1,016	1,015
Gas	168	257
Electricity	1,205	1,393
Water Fixed - Charges	840	796
Water - Volumetric Charges	351	396
Combined Service Charge (TasWater including TERHAP Contribution)	3,150	1,601
Kerbside Collection	6,979	5,968
Rent External	11	30
Land Tax	722	588
Contributions		
LGAT	76	73
CBD Promotional	564	543
Regional cooperation	1,282	541
Community Assistance Grants	329	299
Events Funding	485	495
Provision of Services	532	515
Administrative		
Administration	877	639
Adverting and Promotion	206	158
Computers and Communication	407	504
Expert Advice	705	541
Insurance (Exc. Workers Compensation)	1,100	1,061
Maintenance	237	150
Payment and Debt collection	649	440
Postage Printing and Stationery	306	311
Motor Vehicle Expenses	440	427
Total materials and services	48,164	38,538

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 3.2 Materials and Services Cont.

Accounting policy

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in asset or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably. Routine maintenance, repair costs, and minor renewal costs are expensed as incurred. Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

Note 3.3 Impairment of Receivables

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Other debtors	1	-
Total Impairment of Receivables	1	-

Accounting policy

Expenses are recognised when Council has determined there to be an increase in the credit risk of a financial asset since initial recognition. Council's policy and events giving rise to impairment losses are disclosed in note 4.2.

Note 3.4 Depreciation and Amortisation

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Property		
<i>Buildings</i>		
Buildings	4,322	3,798
<i>Plant, machinery and equipment</i>		
Plant, machinery and equipment	3,778	3,286
<i>Infrastructure</i>		
Roads	13,144	11,953
Drainage	1,884	1,807
Flood Protection	516	472
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	1,511	1,500
Refuse Disposal	615	661
Rehabilitation Obligation	651	911
<i>Intangible assets</i>		
Intangible assets	491	517
<i>Right-of-use of assets</i>		
Right-of-use of assets	66	35
Total Depreciation and Amortisation	26,978	24,940

Accounting policy

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in asset or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

Buildings, land improvements, plant and equipment, infrastructure and other assets having limited useful lives are systematically depreciated over their useful lives to Council in a manner which reflects consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets.

Right-of-use assets are amortised over the lease term. Estimates of remaining useful lives and residual values are made on a regular basis with major asset classes reassessed annually.

Depreciation and amortisation rates and methods are reviewed annually.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 3.4 Depreciation and Amortisation Cont.

Accounting policy

Where assets have separate identifiable components that are subject to regular replacement, these components are assigned distinct useful lives and remaining values and a separate depreciation rate is determined for each component.

Land and road earthwork assets are not depreciated on the basis that they are assessed as not having a limited useful life.

A review was conducted during the reporting period of Council's asset lives, this has resulted in a change in estimates with respect to useful lives of assets within the Road asset class. This change was applied from 1st June 2023. The impact on the depreciation expense for the reporting period was approximately \$150k favourable. For future reporting periods the effect will reduce depreciation expense by approximately \$1.8m.

The museum collection is not depreciated - see note 6.4.

Straight line depreciation is charged based on the residual useful life as determined each year.

Major depreciation and amortisation periods used are listed below and are consistent with the prior year unless stated:

	2023 Period	2022 Period
Buildings		
freehold buildings	30 - 250 years	30 - 250 years
leasehold buildings	30 - 250 years	30 - 250 years
structures	30 - 250 years	30 - 250 years
leasehold building improvements		
Plant and Equipment		
buildings plant	5- 40 years	5- 40 years
light vehicles	4 - 5 years	4 - 5 years
major plant	5 - 30 years	5 - 30 years
minor plant	3 - 20 years	3 - 20 years
computer equipment	3 - 10 years	3 - 10 years
furniture and equipment	4 - 50 years	4 - 50 years
Stormwater and Drainage	80 - 150 years	80 - 150 years
Stormwater and drainage pump stations	10 - 50 years	10 - 50 years
Roads		
local road pavements	150 years	150 years
arterial road pavements	125 years	100 years
roads sealed surfaces	20 - 40 years	20 - 35 years
roads unsealed surfaces	10 years	10 years
road substructure	300 years	300 years
roads infrastructure	30 - 100 years	30 - 100 years
road kerb and channel	150 years	100 years
Bridges	25 - 100 years	25 - 100 years
Other Infrastructure		
footpaths and cycleways	40 - 80 years	30 - 50 years

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 3.4 Depreciation and Amortisation Cont.

Accounting policy cont.

Refuse Disposal

Waste Centre Clay Liner	60 - 100 years	60 - 100 years
Future Rehabilitation Costs	3 - 59 years	3 - 59 years
Waste Centre Other	10 - 30 years	10 - 30 years
Parks, open space and streetscapes	10 - 150 years	10 - 150 years

Parks, open space and streetscapes

Infrastructure	100 - 200 years	100 - 200 years
Plant	20 years	20 years

Intangible assets

Data Systems	3 - 10 years	3 - 10 years
Plans and Strategies	10 - 15 years	10 - 15 years
Municipal Valuations	6 years	6 years
Right-of-use of assets	Lease Term	Lease Term

Note 3.5 Finance Costs

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Interest - borrowings	278	481
Unwinding of rehabilitation liability	332	145
Interest - lease liabilities	4	7
Total	614	633
Less capitalised borrowing costs on qualifying assets	-	-
Total Finance Costs	614	633

Accounting policy

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in asset or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

Finance costs are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred, except where they are capitalised as part of a qualifying asset constructed by Council. Where specific borrowings are obtained for the purpose of specific asset acquisition, the weighted average interest rate applicable to borrowings at balance date, excluding borrowings associated with superannuation, is used to determine the borrowing costs to be capitalised. No borrowing costs were capitalised during the period.

Finance costs include interest on borrowings, leases and unwinding of discounts.

Note 3.6 Other Expenses

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
External auditors' remuneration (Tasmanian Audit Office)		
Auditing of the Financial Statements	61	39
Other Audit Services	15	9
Internal auditors' remuneration internal audit services - (Crowe Horwath)	45	32

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 3.6 Other Expenses Cont

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Councillors' allowances	593	581
Election Expenses	517	28
Volunteer services	248	17
Fire Levy Paid to State Fire Service	8,785	8,442
Waste Disposal Levy Paid to State Government	2,099	-
Remissions and Abatements	384	291
Change in Rehabilitation Provision	140	247
Total	12,887	9,686

Accounting policy

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in an asset, or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

Note 4 Current Assets

Note 4.1 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Cash on hand	31	30
Cash at bank trading	515	624
At Call Investments	38,834	47,154
Term Deposits	-	9,014
Special Committees	25	18
Total Cash and Dash Equivalents	39,405	56,840

Council's cash and cash equivalents are subject to a number of internal and external restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary or future use. These include:

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Restricted funds		
Trust Funds and Bequests	3,091	2,644
Equity Trusts and Bequests	2,734	2,547
Provision for Retiring Allowance	-	192
Contract Liabilities - Grants in Advance	1,890	1,690
	7,715	7,073
Internal Committed Funds		
Provision for Waste Centre Rehabilitation	20,652	17,928
Employee Provisions	7,710	8,384
	28,362	26,312
Committed Funds	36,077	33,385
Total Uncommitted Cash and Cash Equivalents	3,328	23,455
Total Cash Investments (Note 4.3)	55,646	25,062
Total Uncommitted Funds	58,974	48,517

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 4.1 Cash and Cash Equivalents Cont.

Accounting policy

Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Restricted funds

Trusts and bequests

Trusts and bequests represent amounts bequeathed to Council for expenditure on specific purposes.

Retiring allowance

At the beginning of the 2022/23 reporting period Council has a small number of employees entitled to a retiring allowance by way of a legacy entitlement. These obligations were paid in full in the reporting period.

Rehabilitation Liability

Council's rehabilitation liability is significant with most of the liability to be realised within the next ten years.

See Note 8.2.

Note 4.2 Trade and Other Receivables

Current

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Rates debtors	1,396	1,253
Parking infringement debtors	1,498	1,304
Provision for expected credit loss - parking infringements	(628)	(667)
Other debtors	2,947	2,170
Provision for expected credit loss - other debtors	(154)	(169)
Net GST receivable	774	500
Total Current	5,833	4,391

Reconciliation of movement in expected credit loss

Carrying amount at 1 July

Amounts written off during the year	(50)	(77)
Movement in Provision	(4)	(71)
Carrying amount at 30 June	782	836

For ageing analysis of the financial assets, refer to note 9.7

Accounting policy

Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component are measured at cost, which represents their transaction value.

Impairment

Impairment is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis. When determining whether the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, and when estimating the ECL, Council considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on Council's historical experience, an informed credit assessment and forward-looking information. Council has established a provision matrix to facilitate the impairment assessment.

Rate Debtors

For rate debtors, Council takes the view that unpaid rates represent a charge against the rateable property that will be recovered when the property is next sold.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 4.2 Trade and Other Receivables Cont.

Accounting policy

Sundry debtors

Sundry debtors are assessed for impairment on an individual basis.

Infringement and statutory charges debtors

Infringement and statutory charges debtors are impaired using an aging matrix.

Write off of debts

Council writes off receivables when there is information indicating that there is no realistic prospect of recovery.

Note 4.3 Investments

Current

Term deposits - more than 3 months

2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
55,646	25,062
55,646	25,062

Accounting policy

Investments

Term deposits with maturities beyond 90 days at the time of investment are measured at principal and interest on an accrual basis.

Note 4.4 Inventories

Inventories held for distribution

Inventories held for sale

Total Inventories

2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
839	826
229	199
1,068	1,025

Accounting policy

Investments

Inventories held for distribution are measured at cost adjusted when applicable for any loss of service potential. Inventories held for sale are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Where inventories are acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, the cost shall be the current replacement cost as at the date of acquisition.

Note 4.5 Assets Held for Sale

Carrying Value

Revaluation adjustment

Total

2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
9,208	1,116
(2,092)	-
7,116	1,116

In 2022/23, Council has made the decision to dispose of Council owned land and buildings at 118-122 & 124 Brisbane Street. This decision has resulted in a decrease in fair value of these assets of \$2,092,313 and has necessitated an asset revaluation decrease which has been offset against the existing revaluation reserve for the asset class. This revaluation decrease forms part the "Net asset Revaluation Increment/(decrement)" value reported on the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Council also continues to report assets held for sale associated with an exchange of road assets with the Department of State Growth. The continued delay in gazetting of these roads has caused this process to not be complete.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 4.5 Assets Held for Sale Cont.

Accounting policy

Assets held for sale

A non-current asset held for sale (including disposal groups) is measured at the lower of its carrying amount or fair value less costs to sell, and is not subject to depreciation.

Non-current assets, disposal groups and related liabilities are treated as current and classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. This condition is regarded as met only when the sale is highly probable and the asset's sale (or disposal group sale) is expected to be completed within 12 months from the date of classification.

Note 5 Investments

Note 5.1 Investment in Water Corporation

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Opening balance	232,052	225,702
Change in fair value of investment	7,281	6,350
Total Investment in Water Corporation	239,333	232,052

Council has derived returns from the water corporation as disclosed at note 2.9.

Accounting policy

Equity Investment

Council's investment in TasWater is defined by statute under the *Water and Sewerage Corporations Act 2012* (Tas).

Council has elected under AASB 9: Financial Instruments to irrevocably classify this equity investment as designated at fair value through other comprehensive income.

Subsequent changes in fair value on designated investments in equity instruments are recognised in other comprehensive income (for fair value reserve, refer note 9.1) and not reclassified through comprehensive income when derecognised.

Dividends and other revenues associated with the equity investments are recognised in comprehensive income when the right of payment has been established and it can be reliably measured.

Fair value was determined by using Council's ownership interest against the water corporation's net asset value at balance date. At 30 June 2023, Council holds 13.66% (2022 14.02%) ownership interest in TasWater which is based on Schedule 2 of the Corporation's Constitution.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 6 Non-Current Assets

Note 6.1 Property, Infrastructure and Plant and Equipment

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Summary		
at cost	78,571	76,687
Less accumulated depreciation	(39,449)	(36,450)
	39,122	40,237
at fair value as at 30 June	2,488,059	2,243,748
Less accumulated depreciation	(747,203)	(672,627)
	1,740,856	1,571,121
Total	1,779,978	1,611,358
Property		
Land		
at fair value as at 30 June	209,297	143,397
	209,297	143,397
Land under roads		
at fair value as at 30 June	146,462	146,455
	146,462	146,455
Total Land	355,759	289,852
Buildings		
at fair value as at 30 June	376,986	350,987
Less accumulated depreciation	(156,237)	(140,577)
	220,749	210,410
Total Property	576,508	500,262
Plant and Equipment		
at cost	50,746	49,339
Less accumulated depreciation	(25,778)	(23,429)
Total Plant and Equipment	24,968	25,910

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 6.1 Property, Infrastructure and Plant and Equipment Cont.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Infrastructure		
Roads		
at fair value as at 30 June	1,254,533	1,167,953
Less accumulated depreciation	(448,951)	(410,543)
	805,582	757,410
Drainage		
at fair value as at 30 June	293,405	272,406
Less accumulated depreciation	(96,382)	(88,166)
	197,023	184,240
Parks and Recreation		
at fair value as at 30 June	71,942	66,211
Less accumulated depreciation	(17,958)	(15,448)
	53,984	50,763
Flood Protection		
at fair value as at 30 June	66,342	61,723
Less accumulated depreciation	(12,522)	(11,231)
	53,820	50,492
Refuse Disposal		
at fair value as at 30 June	69,092	34,616
Less accumulated depreciation	(15,153)	(6,662)
	53,939	27,954
Rehabilitation Obligation		
at cost	18,683	16,424
Less accumulated depreciation	(13,671)	(13,021)
	5,012	3,403
Total Infrastructure	1,169,360	1,074,262
Works in progress		
At cost	9,142	10,924
Total Works in progress	9,142	10,924
Total property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	1,779,978	1,611,358

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 6.1 Property, Infrastructure and Plant and Equipment Cont.

Reconciliation of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

	Balance at beginning of financial year	Acquisition of assets	Revaluation increments (decrements)	Depreciation and amortisation Note 3.4	Written down value of disposals	Impairment losses recognised in comprehensive income	Transfers	Balance at end of financial year
2023	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property								
Land	143,397	74	71,306	-	(1,100)	-	(4,380)	209,297
Land Under Roads	146,455	63	-	-	(56)	-	-	146,462
Total land	289,852	137	71,306	-	(1,156)	-	(4,380)	355,759
Buildings	210,410	-	14,612	(4,322)	(412)	-	461	220,749
Total buildings	210,410	-	14,612	(4,322)	(412)	-	461	220,749
Total property	500,262	137	85,918	(4,322)	(1,568)	-	(3,919)	576,508
Plant and Equipment								
Plant and Equipment	25,910	-	-	(3,778)	(405)	-	3,241	24,968
Total plant and equipment	25,910	-	-	(3,778)	(405)	-	3,241	24,968
Infrastructure								
Roads	757,410	1,470	50,654	(13,142)	(1,940)	-	11,130	805,582
Drainage	184,240	1,116	12,596	(1,884)	(151)	-	1,106	197,023
Flood Protection	50,492	-	3,794	(516)	(15)	-	65	53,820
Refuse Disposal	27,954	-	26,609	(615)	(9)	-	-	53,939
Rehabilitation Obligation	3,403	2,260	-	(651)	-	-	-	5,012
Parks and Recreation	50,763	-	3,000	(1,511)	(27)	-	1,759	53,984
Total infrastructure	1,074,262	4,846	96,653	(18,319)	(2,142)	-	14,060	1,169,360
Works in progress	10,924	17,600	-	-	-	-	(19,382)	9,142
Total works in progress	10,924	17,600	-	-	-	-	(19,382)	9,142
Total property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	1,611,358	22,583	182,571	(26,419)	(4,115)	-	(6,000)	1,779,978

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 6.1 Property, Infrastructure and Plant and Equipment Cont.

Reconciliation of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment Cont.

	Balance at beginning of financial year	Acquisition of assets	Revaluation increments (decrements)	Depreciation and amortisation Note 3.4	Written down value of disposals	Impairment losses recognised in comprehensive income	Transfers	Balance at end of financial year
2022	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property								
Land	151,973	117	(9,523)	-	-	-	830	143,397
Land Under Roads	145,889	566	-	-	-	-	-	146,455
Total land	297,862	683	(9,523)	-	-	-	830	289,852
Buildings	185,892	1,083	22,594	(3,798)	(287)	-	4,926	210,410
Total buildings	185,892	1,083	22,594	(3,798)	(287)	-	4,926	210,410
Total property	483,754	1,766	13,071	(3,798)	(287)	-	5,756	500,262
Plant and Equipment								
Plant and Equipment	23,958	-	-	(3,286)	(277)	-	5,515	25,910
Total plant and equipment	23,958	-	-	(3,286)	(277)	-	5,515	25,910
Infrastructure								
Roads	650,453	12,428	98,105	(11,953)	(1,619)	-	9,996	757,410
Drainage	179,838	1,297	4,677	(1,807)	(192)	-	427	184,240
Flood Protection	48,484	-	2,738	(472)	(844)	-	586	50,492
Refuse Disposal	21,738	-	1,537	(660)	-	-	5,339	27,954
Rehabilitation Obligation	-	534	-	(912)	(2,235)	-	6,016	3,403
Parks and Recreation	48,790	150	899	(1,500)	(123)	-	2,547	50,763
Total infrastructure	949,303	14,409	107,956	(17,304)	(5,013)	-	24,911	1,074,262
Works in progress								
Works in progress	19,544	27,562	-	-	-	-	(36,182)	10,924
Total works in progress	19,544	27,562	-	-	-	-	(36,182)	10,924
Total property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	1,476,559	43,737	121,027	(24,388)	(5,577)	-	-	1,611,358

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 6.1 Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment Cont.

Accounting policy

Acquisitions of assets are initially recorded at cost. Cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition.

Property, plant and equipment and infrastructure received in the form of contributions, are recognised as assets and revenues at fair value by Council valuation where that value exceeds the recognition thresholds for the respective asset class. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell the asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Where assets are constructed by Council, cost includes all materials used in construction and direct labour incurred during construction, and an appropriate share of directly attributable variable and fixed overheads.

The following classes of assets have been recognised. In accordance with Council's policy, the thresholds detailed below are minimum thresholds and not all assets are recognised at these limits. Recognition of assets within an applicable asset class, unless otherwise stated, are consistent with the prior year:

	Threshold \$'000
Land	
Land	5
Land under roads	0
Buildings	
Buildings	0
Plant and Equipment	
Plant, machinery and equipment	0
Roads	
Road pavements and seals	5
Road substructure	5
Road kerb, channel and minor culverts	5
Bridges deck	10
Bridges substructure	5
Drainage	10
Refuse Disposal	10
Rehabilitation obligation	10
Flood Protection	1
Parks and Recreation	5
Museum collection	5

Revaluation

Council has adopted the following valuation bases for its non-current assets:

Land	fair value
Land under roads	fair value
Buildings	fair value
Plant and equipment	cost
Roads	fair value
Drainage	fair value
Refuse Disposal	fair value
Rehabilitation obligation	cost
Flood Protection	fair value
Parks and Recreation	fair value

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 6.1 Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment Cont.

Accounting policy cont

Subsequent to the initial recognition of assets, non-current physical assets, other than plant and equipment, are measured at their fair value in accordance with AASB 116 Property, Plant & Equipment and AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement.

At balance date, Council reviewed the carrying value of the individual classes of assets measured at fair value to ensure that each asset class materially approximated its fair value. Where the carrying value materially differed from the fair value at balance date the class of asset was revalued.

In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, land under roads, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis to ensure valuations represent fair value. The valuation is performed either by experienced Council officers or independent experts.

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use on an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset.

Where the assets are revalued, the revaluation increments are credited directly to the asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that an increment reverses a prior year decrement for that class of asset that had been recognised as an expense in which case the increment is recognised as revenue up to the amount of the expense.

Revaluation decrements are recognised as an expense except where prior increments are included in the asset revaluation surplus for that class of asset in which case the decrement is taken to the reserve to the extent of the remaining increments. Within the same class of assets, revaluation increments and decrements within the year are offset.

Impairment of assets

Impairment losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income under other expenses. Reversals of impairment losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income under other revenue.

Land Under Roads

Council recognises land under roads at fair value.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 6.2 Intangible Assets

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Data Systems	2,117	2,299
Plans and Strategies	1,013	1,118
Municipal Valuation	44	103
Work in Progress	705	625
Total Intangible Assets	3,879	4,145

	Data Systems \$'000	Plans and Strategies \$'000	Municipal Valuations \$'000	WIP \$'000	Total \$'000
Reconciliation of intangible assets					
Balance as at 1 July 2021	7,195	2,028	614	381	10,218
Additions	-	-	-	307	307
Transfers out of WIP	63	-	-	(63)	-
Disposal	(179)	-	-	-	(179)
Balance as at 1 July 2022	7,079	2,028	614	625	10,346
Additions	-	-	-	228	228
Transfers out of WIP	148	-	-	(148)	-
Disposals	(3)	-	-	-	(3)
Balance as at 30 June 2023	7,224	2,028	614	705	10,571

Accumulated amortisation and impairment

Balance as at 1 July 2021	4,576	807	409	-	5,792
Amortisation expense	311	103	102	-	516
Disposals	(107)	-	-	-	(107)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at 1 July 2022	4,780	910	511	-	6,201
Amortisation expense	330	105	59	-	494
Disposals	(3)	-	-	-	(3)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at 30 June 2023	5,107	1,015	570	-	6,692
Net book value as at 30 June 2022	2,299	1,118	103	625	4,145
Net book value as at 30 June 2023	2,117	1,013	44	705	3,879

Accounting policy

Intangible assets

Intangible assets with finite lives that are acquired separately are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation is recognised on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. The estimated useful life and amortisation method are reviewed at the end of each reporting period, with the effect of any changes in estimate being accounted for on a prospective basis.

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives that are acquired separately are carried at cost less accumulated impairment losses.

In accordance with Council's policy, the threshold limits applied when recognising intangible assets is \$1,000 to \$10,000 and is consistent with the prior year.

The estimated useful lives for current and comparative periods are as follows:

Data Systems	3 - 10 years
Plans and Strategies	10 - 15 years
Municipal Valuations	6 years

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 6.3 Right-of-Use Assets

	Property \$'000	Total \$'000
Gross carrying amount		
Balance as at 1 July 2022	294	294
Additions	111	111
Disposals / derecognition	(159)	(159)
Balance as at 30 June 2023	246	246
Accumulated amortisation and impairment		
Balance as at 1 July 2022	105	105
Disposals / derecognition	(119)	(119)
Amortisation expense	66	66
Balance as at 30 June 2023	52	52
Net book value at 30 June 2023	194	194
Gross carrying amount		
Balance at 1 July 2021	294	294
Additions	-	-
Disposals / derecognition	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2022	294	294
Accumulated amortisation and impairment		
Balance at 1 July 2021	70	70
Disposals / derecognition	-	-
Amortisation expense	35	35
Balance at 30 June 2022	105	105
Net book value at 30 June 2022	189	189

Accounting policy

Leases - Council as Lessee

In contracts where Council is a lessee, Council recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the commencement date of the lease, unless the short-term or low-value exemption is applied. Refer to note 7.4 for details on accounting policy of lease liability.

A right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost comprising the initial measurement of the lease liability adjusted for any lease payments made before the commencement date (reduced by lease incentives received), plus initial direct costs incurred in obtaining the lease and an estimate of costs to be incurred in dismantling and removing the underlying asset, restoring the site on which it is located or restoring the underlying asset to the condition required by the terms and conditions of the lease.

All right-of-use assets are measured as described in the accounting policy for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment in Note 6.1. Also, Council applies AASB 136 to determine whether a right-of-use asset is impaired and accounts for any identified impairment loss as described in the aforesaid note.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated over the shorter period of lease term and useful life of the underlying asset. If a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset or the cost of the right-of-use asset reflects that the Council expects to exercise a purchase option, the related right-of-use asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset. The depreciation starts at the commencement date of the lease.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 6.4 Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Museum Collection		
Opening Balance	203,804	203,670
Additions	190	109
Contributions Non Monetary Assets	576	25
Collection Value 30 June	204,570	203,804
Work in Progress	30	64
Closing Balance	204,600	203,868

The independent valuation of the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery collection, by Simon Storey FAVAA of Simon Storey Valuations was completed during the financial year to 30 June 2021.

This amount has been disclosed as a separate asset class in the Statement of Financial Position.

Accounting policy

Museum Collection

The Museum collection assets have been assessed to have indefinite lives. These heritage and cultural assets are stored, managed, displayed, repaired and restored in ways that will maintain their cultural or heritage value over time.

Where conservation, restoration and preservation activities demonstrate that an asset will be maintained for an indefinite period, these items are considered to have indefinite useful lives and therefore not subject to depreciation. Revaluations will be made with sufficient regularity to maintain the collection at fair value.

Significant additions to the collection between revaluations are brought to account at curators valuation. Significance is defined at a threshold value of \$5,000. Additions below this amount are brought to account on revaluation of the whole collection.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Results from Museum Operations		
Revenue		
Fees and Charges	830	443
State Government Operations Grant	1,677	1,575
Other Grants	80	75
Bequests and Donations	173	141
Interest	58	4
Other Income	275	689
	3,093	2,927
Expenses		
Provision of Services	7,408	5,907
Bequest Expenditure	7	21
Depreciation	1,011	869
Full Cost Attribution	375	366
	8,801	7,163
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(5,708)	(4,236)
Add Collection Contributions	576	25
Add Capital Grants and Contributions	127	85
Add Gain (Loss) on Disposal	35	6
Surplus / (Deficit)	(4,970)	(4,120)

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 6.5 Superannuation

City of Launceston Defined Benefits - Sub Fund of Spirit Super

The assets and members of the City of Launceston are a division of Spirit Super on a “successor fund” basis.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
The Council has taken up an Asset /(Liability) of :	2,279	2,864

Accounting policy

Superannuation Liability

During the year the Council made the required superannuation contributions for all eligible employees to an appropriate complying superannuation fund as required by the *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992*.

Accumulation Funds

New employees are able to join an accumulation fund of their choice. Employees who are members of the defined benefits fund are able to transfer to a complying accumulation fund. The default offering for Council employees is provided by Spirit Super.

Defined Benefit Funds

The Council contributes, in respect of its eligible employees, to the City of Launceston Defined Benefits Division which was established for employees of the Council. It includes a small number of former employees of the Council that transferred to TasWater. The fund is closed to new entrants.

The details of the actuarial review are:

In respect of the excess of benefit liabilities over assets in the Fund, the Council does not have any immediate requirement to fund the shortfall and continues to fund at the level of contributions assessed by the Scheme's actuary as being required to meet the long term requirements of the Fund.

The calculation of the liability is based on an actuarial review for the purpose of AASB 119 performed by Michael Berg FIAA on behalf of Deloitte, as at 30 June 2023

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
The amount taken up as an employee benefit obligation is made up as follows:		
Balance Sheet Calculation		
Fair value of plan assets	46,057	49,440
Less present value of defined benefit obligation	(43,778)	(46,576)
Asset / (Liability) Recognised	2,279	2,864
Defined Benefit Obligation		
Reconciliation of Obligation		
Present value of defined benefit obligation - 1 July	46,576	55,496
Current service cost	1,591	1,947
Interest cost	1,610	817
Member contributions and transfers from other funds	894	612
Actuarial (gains)/ losses due to changes in financial assumptions	1,442	(419)
Actuarial (gains)/losses due to changes in experience	826	(1,191)
Benefits and tax paid	(9,161)	(10,686)
Present value of defined benefit obligation - 30 June	43,778	46,576

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 6.5 Superannuation Cont.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Assets		
Reconciliation of Assets		
Fair value of plan - 1 July	49,440	57,521
Expected return on plan assets	1,735	856
Actuarial gains/ (losses)	1,741	(228)
Employer contributions	858	831
Member contributions and transfers from other funds	1,444	1,146
Benefits and tax paid	(9,161)	(10,686)
Fair value of defined benefit obligation - 30 June	46,057	49,440
Expense recognised in Operating Surplus		
Current service cost	1,591	1,947
Interest cost	1,610	817
Expected return on plan assets	(1,735)	(856)
Superannuation expense	1,466	1,908
Expense recognised in Other Comprehensive Income		
Actuarial gains/(losses)	24	1,916

General Plan Information

The Plan is a division of the "profit for members" superannuation scheme known as Spirit Super ("the Scheme") and the Trustee of the Scheme is Motor Trades Association of Australia Superannuation Fund Pty. Ltd.

The Scheme and the Plan are subject to the requirements of the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1992 and related regulations. Under this legislation, the Trustee is required to measure the value of the assets of the Plan against the total members' vested entitlements and to take action if a shortfall in the value of the assets emerges. Such action could include actuarial management of the Plan, including an increase to the amount of employer contributions.

Members of the Fund are entitled to receive lump sum benefits on leaving service due to retirement, death, total and permanent disablement and resignation.

The most recent actuarial investigation into the Fund in accordance with the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act was carried out by Michael Berg of Rice Warner as at 30 June 2020.

The actuary recommended that the Employer contribute at the rate of 11% of salaries. The funding method used to make the contribution recommendation was the "aggregate funding method".

The economic assumptions used in the investigation were:

Rate of investment return:	4.75%	4.75%
Rate of inflationary salary increases:	2.75%	2.75%

Method of determining Expected Return on plan assets

The expected return on assets assumption is determined by weighting the expected long-term return for each asset class by the expected long term allocation of assets to each asset class. Returns are net of investment tax and investment fees.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 6.5 Superannuation Cont.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Actual Return on Plan Assets		
Present value of defined benefit obligation at end of year	43,778	46,576
Fair value of Plan assets at end of year	(46,057)	(49,440)
(Surplus)/Deficit in Plan	(2,279)	(2,864)
Experience adjustments - Plan liabilities	(826)	1,191
Experience adjustments - Plan assets	1,741	(228)
Actual return on Fund assets	3,476	628
Principal Assumptions		
Discount Rate p.a.	4.03%	3.77%
Salary Increases	3.50%	3.5% - 3.75%

Expected Contributions

If the Council follows the recommendations in the actuarial report, the expected contributions to the Fund for the year ending 30 June 2024 are as follows:

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Expected member contributions (for defined benefits only)	858	831
Expected member contributions (incl. deemed member contributions)	509	577

Sensitivity Analysis

The table below shows how the net liability on the Statement of Financial Position would have been affected by changes in the key actuarial assumptions.

Assumption	Change in Assumption	Movement in Net Liability \$'000
Discount Rate	Increase by: 1% p.a.	Decrease by: 91
Discount Rate	Decrease by: 1% p.a.	Increase by: 417
Salary Growth Rate	Increase by: 1% p.a.	Decrease by: 389
Salary Growth Rate	Decrease by: 1% p.a.	Increase by: 91

Note 6.6 Other Assets

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Deferred Receivable - Loan Australian Pacific Airports Ltd	258	258
Total	258	258

Note 7 Current Liabilities

Note 7.1 Trade and Other Payables

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Trade payables	1,103	807
Accrued expenses	5,840	6,350
Total Trade and Other Payables	6,943	7,157

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 7.1 Trade and Other Payables Cont.

Accounting policy

Trade and other payables

Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services provided to Council as at balance date. General Creditors are unsecured, not subject to interest charges and are normally settled on invoice terms.

For ageing analysis of trade and other payables, refer to note 9.7.

Note 7.2 Trust Funds and Deposits

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Refundable deposits	586	618
Prepayments	304	225
Rates Paid in Advance	2,150	1,750
Conditional Museum Funding	51	51
Total trust funds and deposits	3,091	2,644

Accounting policy

Refundable Deposits

Amounts received as refundable deposits controlled by Council are recognised as Trust funds until they are returned or forfeited.

Rates and charges in advance

Rates and charges in advance represents amounts received by Council prior to the commencement of the rating or charging period. Revenue is recognised by council at the beginning of the rating or charge period to which the advance payment relates.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 7.3 Employee Provisions

	Annual leave \$'000	Long service leave \$'000	Accrued time \$'000	Retiring Allowance \$'000	Total \$'000
2023					
Balance at beginning of the financial year	2,963	5,145	84	192	8,384
Additional provisions	3,052	645	175	-	3,872
Amounts Used	(3,230)	(920)	(173)	(192)	(4,515)
Increase in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	(22)	(9)	-	-	(31)
Balance at the end of the financial year	2,763	4,861	86	-	7,710
Current	2,763	3,875	86	-	6,724
Non-current	-	986	-	-	986
Total	2,763	4,861	86	-	7,710
2022					
Balance at beginning of the financial year	3,002	5,112	103	188	8,405
Additional provisions	3,065	1,047	126	4	4,242
Amounts Used	(2,964)	(960)	(145)	-	(4,069)
Increase in the discounted amount arising because of time and the effect of any change in the discount rate	(140)	(54)	-	-	(194)
Balance at the end of the financial year	2,963	5,145	84	192	8,384
Current	2,963	4,129	84	192	7,368
Non-current	-	1,016	-	-	1,016
Total	2,963	5,145	84	192	8,384

(a) Employee benefits

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Increase in employee costs	3.50%	3.63%
Discount rates	4.01%	3.58%
Employee Numbers - Full time equivalents	452	450

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 7.3 Employee Provisions Cont.

Accounting policy

Employee benefits

i) Short term obligations

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accrued time expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. The liability for annual leave and accrued time are recognised in the provision for employee benefits.

ii) Long term employee benefit obligations

The liability for long service leave which is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method.

Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

The obligations are presented as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

iii) Personal Leave

No accrual is made for personal leave as Council experience indicates that, on average, personal leave taken in each reporting period is less than the entitlement accruing in that period, and this experience is expected to recur in future reporting periods. Council does not make payment for untaken personal leave.

Superannuation

iv) Defined benefit plans

See note 6.5

v) Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Note 7.4 Lease Liabilities

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Lease liabilities	197	235
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Current	80	31
Non-Current	117	204
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	197	235

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 7.4 Lease Liabilities Cont.

Lease liabilities are secured by the related underlying assets. Future minimum lease payments were as follows:

	Minimum lease payments due						
	Within 1 Year \$ '000	1-2 Years \$ '000	2-3 Years \$ '000	3-4 Years \$ '000	4-5 Years \$ '000	After 5 Years \$ '000	Total \$ '000
As at 30 June 2023							
Lease payments	82	86	32	-	-	-	200
Finance charges	(2)	(1)	-	-	-	-	(3)
Net present value	80	85	32	-	-	-	197
As at 30 June 2022							
Lease payments	36	38	39	40	42	61	256
Finance charges	(6)	(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(21)
Net present value	30	33	35	37	40	60	235

Accounting policy

Leases - Council as Lessee

The lease liability is measured at the present value of outstanding payments that are not paid at balance date, discounted by using the rate implicit in the lease. Where this cannot be readily determined then Council's incremental borrowing rate for a similar term with similar security is used.

The lease liability is subsequently measured by increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liability (using the effective interest method) and by reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made.

Council has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases i.e. leases with a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets i.e., when the value of the leased asset when new is \$10,000 or less. Council recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Note 7.5 Contract Liabilities

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Current		
Grants received in advance	1,890	1,690
	1,890	1,690

Accounting policy

Council recognised the following contract liabilities with customers:

Grants received in advance

These amounts are grants for roads and community infrastructure which are yet to be completed.

Upfront Payments

Upfront payments of funding are recognised as a contract liability until performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15 are satisfied and recognition criteria are met.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 7.5 Contract Liabilities Cont.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the reporting period		
Local Roads and Community Infrastructure	611	1,296
	<u>611</u>	<u>1,296</u>

Note 8. Non Current Liabilities

Note 8.1 Interest Bearing Loans and Borrowings

Current

Borrowings - secured	20,000	-
	<u>20,000</u>	<u>-</u>

Non-current

Borrowings - secured	6,000	26,000
	<u>6,000</u>	<u>26,000</u>

Total

	<u>26,000</u>	<u>26,000</u>
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Borrowings

The maturity profile for Council's borrowings is:

Not later than one year	20,000	-
Later than one year and not later than five years	6,000	26,000
Total	<u>26,000</u>	<u>26,000</u>

Accounting policy

Interest bearing liabilities

The borrowing capacity of Council is limited by the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Interest bearing liabilities are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred. Subsequent to initial recognition these liabilities are measured at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption amount is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income over the period of the liability using the effective interest method.

Borrowings are secured by way of mortgages over the general rates of the Council.

Interest is expensed as it accrues and no interest has been capitalised during the current or comparative reporting period. There have been no defaults or breaches of the loan agreement during the period.

Note 8.2 Rehabilitation Provision

	Note	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Provision for Rehabilitation			
Balance at beginning of year		17,928	19,258
Unwinding of discount	3.5	332	145
Repricing of rehabilitation asset	3.6	141	247
Repriced liability adjusted against asset		2,260	(1,701)
Rehabilitation works carried out		(8)	(21)
Balance at end of year		<u>20,653</u>	<u>17,928</u>

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 8.2 Rehabilitation Provision Cont.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Current Liability	20	8,400
Non Current Liability	20,632	9,528
Total Liability	20,652	17,928

Accounting policy

Rehabilitation

The Council operates a refuse disposal area (Launceston Waste Centre) which imposes obligations for rehabilitation in the future.

Provision is made for rehabilitation costs to be incurred in future years by estimating the future costs based on current legislative requirements. This future cost is discounted back to present value at balance date. At each balance date the discounting is unwound as a finance cost.

Each year at the balance date the liability is reassessed to ensure the provision represents an accurate reflection of the future costs. Where there is an asset value available an adjustment is made against the asset, otherwise the adjustment is expensed.

Council does not expect to receive reimbursement from a third party.

Key Assumptions

Key assumptions used to calculate the rehabilitation liability are:

	2023	2022
Expected Lives - Years	2 to 57	1 to 57
Discount Rate	3.95% to 4.34%	2.38% to 3.85%
Inflation Rate	3.86%	2.88%

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9 Other Financial Information

Note 9.1 Reserves

	Balance at beginning of reporting year \$'000	Net Surplus \$'000	Comprehensive Income \$'000	Transfers \$'000	Balance at end of reporting year \$'000
(a) Asset revaluation reserve					
2023					
Property & Infrastructure	886,685	-	182,569	-	1,069,254
Total asset revaluation reserve	886,685	-	182,569	-	1,069,254
2022					
Property & Infrastructure	765,657	-	121,028	-	886,685
Total asset revaluation reserve	765,657	-	121,028	-	886,685

The asset revaluation reserve was established to capture the movements in asset valuations upon the periodic revaluation of Council's assets.

(b) Fair value reserve

2023

Equity Investment assets

Investment in water corporation	(21,054)	-	7,280	-	(13,774)
Total fair value reserve	(21,054)	-	7,280	-	(13,774)

2022

Equity Investment assets

Investment in water corporation	(27,404)	-	6,350	-	(21,054)
Total fair value reserve	(27,404)	-	6,350	-	(21,054)

Council has to designate its investment in Taswater as an equity investment at fair value through other comprehensive income. Subsequent changes in fair value are reflected in the reserve and will not be reclassified through comprehensive income when derecognised.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.1 Reserves Cont.

(c) Accumulated Surplus

	Balance at beginning of reporting year \$'000	Net Surplus \$'000	Comprehensive Income \$'000	Transfers \$'000	Balance at end of reporting year \$'000
2023					
Capital Reserve Government Grants	202,192	7,834	-	-	210,026
Capital Reserve Other Contributions	39,603	3,295	-	-	42,898
General Reserve	934,721	(10,095)	-	-	924,626
CBD Reserve	(202)	(141)	-	-	(343)
Investment in Water Corporation	2,724	-	-	-	2,724
Public Open Space	511	98	-	-	609
Self Insurance	3,795	200	-	-	3,995
Special Committees	32	-	-	-	32
Waste Centre Rehabilitation	17,928	2,725	-	-	20,653
Employee Benefits	9,648	-	24	-	9,672
Trusts and Bequests - Parks	32	1	-	-	33
Trusts and Bequests - Museum	2,515	186	-	-	2,701
Total Accumulated Surplus	1,213,499	4,103	24	-	1,217,626
2022					
Capital Reserve Government Grants	198,530	3,662	-	-	202,192
Capital Reserve Other Contributions	23,894	15,709	-	-	39,603
General Reserve	935,876	(1,155)	-	-	934,721
CBD Reserve	(202)	-	-	-	(202)
Investment in Water Corporation	2,724	-	-	-	2,724
Public Open Space	428	83	-	-	511
Self Insurance	3,685	110	-	-	3,795
Special Committees	32	-	-	-	32
Waste Centre Rehabilitation	19,257	(1,329)	-	-	17,928
Employee Benefits	7,732	-	1,916	-	9,648
Trusts and Bequests - Parks	32	-	-	-	32
Trusts and Bequests - Museum	2,409	106	-	-	2,515
Total Accumulated Surplus	1,194,397	17,186	1,916	-	1,213,499

Total Reserves

2023 \$ '000	2022 \$ '000
2,273,106	2,079,130

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.2 Reconciliation of Cash Flows from Operating Activities to Surplus (Deficit)	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Result from Continued Operations	4,103	17,186
Non-Cash Charges		
Depreciation	26,978	24,940
Employee Provisions	(65)	1,056
Provision for Rehabilitation Movements	473	392
Allowance for Impaired Debts	1	-
Loss (Gain) on Sale of Non-current Assets	3,765	3,130
Changes in Assets and Liabilities		
Rate and Sundry Receivables	94	3,514
Inventories	(43)	(126)
Sundry Creditors	435	(1,634)
Non-Cash Income		
Asset and Infrastructure Contributions	(3,295)	(15,667)
Investing Activities		
Investment Revenue	(3,269)	(3,269)
Lease Movements	4	-
Lease Interest	4	7
Grants and Contributions Capital	(8,035)	(3,855)
Net Cash from Operating Activities	21,150	25,674

Note 9.3 Reconciliation of Liabilities Arising from Financing Activities

	Interest Bearing Loans and Borrowings	Lease Liabilities	Total
Balance as at 1 July 2021	35,000	264	35,264
Changes from Financing Cash Flows			
Cash Received	-	-	-
Non Cash Movements in Liability	-	4	4
Cash Repayments	(9,000)	(33)	(9,033)
Balance as at 30 June 2022	26,000	235	26,235
Changes from Financing Cash Flows			
Cash Received	-	-	-
Non Cash Movements in Liability	-	11	11
Cash Repayments	-	(49)	(49)
Balance as at 30 June 2023	26,000	197	26,197

Note 9.4 Reconciliation of Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Cash	571	672
Short Term Investments	38,834	56,168
	39,405	56,840

Excludes any cash held in Term Deposits with an investment period of 3 months or greater, detailed in Note 4.3

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.5 Commitments

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Capital Expenditure Commitments		
Buildings	1,114	797
Plant and equipment	820	1,223
Roads	1,607	1,442
Drainage	355	1,040
Refuse	62	401
Flood	28	22
Parks	2,550	676
Intangible assets	622	-
Total Capital Expenditure Commitments	7,158	5,601
Operational Commitments		
Buildings	236	162
Plant and equipment	29	65
Roads	408	331
Drainage	17	2
Refuse	252	1,772
Flood	2	14
Parks	323	975
Other	1,182	784
Total Operational Commitments	2,449	4,105
Total Commitments	9,607	9,706

All capital and operational commitments at the reporting date are expected to be settled within the next 12 months.

Amounts disclosed for both capital and operational commitments are exclusive of GST.

Note 9.6 Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

At the reporting date of 30 June 2023 council had no contingent liabilities or assets that would materially affect any of the amounts or disclosure in these accounts.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.7 Financial Instruments

(a) Interest Rate Risk

The exposure to interest rate risk and the effective interest rates of financial assets and non-lease financial liabilities, both recognised and unrecognised, at balance date are as follows. For lease liabilities refer to Note 7.4.

2023

	Weighted average interest rate	Floating interest rate	Fixed interest maturing in:				Total \$'000
			1 year or less \$'000	Over 1 to 5 years \$'000	More than 5 years \$'000	Non-interest bearing \$'000	
Financial assets							
Cash and cash equivalents	2.58%	39,405	-	-	-	-	39,405
Investments	3.47%	-	55,646	-	-	-	55,646
Trade and other receivables		-	-	-	-	5,833	5,833
Deferred Receivables		-	-	-	-	258	258
Investment in water corporation		-	-	-	-	239,333	239,333
Total financial assets		39,405	55,646	-	-	245,424	340,475
Financial liabilities							
Trade and other payables		-	-	-	-	6,943	6,943
Trust funds and deposits		-	-	-	-	3,091	3,091
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	1.07%	-	20,000	6,000	-	-	26,000
Total financial liabilities		-	20,000	6,000	-	10,034	36,034
Net financial assets (liabilities)		39,405	35,646	(6,000)	-	235,390	304,441

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.7 Financial Instruments Cont.

2022

(c) Accumulated Surplus	Weighted average interest rate	Floating interest rate	Fixed interest maturing in:				Total \$'000
			1 year or less \$'000	Over 1 to 5 years \$'000	More than 5 years \$'000	Non-interest bearing \$'000	
Financial assets							
Cash and cash equivalents	0.52%	56,840	-	-	-	-	56,840
Investments	1.12%	-	25,062	-	-	-	25,062
Trade and other receivables		-	-	-	-	4,391	4,391
Deferred Receivables		-	-	-	-	258	258
Investment in water corporation		-	-	-	-	232,052	232,052
Total financial assets		56,840	25,062	-	-	236,701	318,603
Financial liabilities							
Trade and other payables		-	-	-	-	7,157	7,157
Trust funds and deposits		-	-	-	-	2,644	2,644
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	1.07%	-	-	26,000	-	-	26,000
Total financial liabilities		-	-	26,000	-	9,801	35,801
Net financial assets (liabilities)		56,840	25,062	(26,000)	-	226,900	282,802

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.7 Financial Instruments Cont.

(b) Fair Value

The aggregate net fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities, both recognised and unrecognised, at balance date are as follows:

Financial Instruments	Total carrying amount as per Statement of Financial Position		Aggregate net fair value	
	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Financial assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	39,405	56,840	39,405	56,840
Other financial assets	55,646	25,062	55,646	25,062
Trade and other receivables	5,833	4,391	5,833	4,391
Deferred Receivables	258	258	258	258
Investment in water corporation	239,333	232,052	239,333	232,052
Total Financial Assets	340,475	318,603	340,475	318,603
Financial liabilities				
Trade and other payables	6,943	7,157	6,943	7,157
Trust funds and deposits	3,091	2,644	3,091	2,644
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	26,000	26,000	25,072	24,642
Total Financial Liabilities	36,034	35,801	35,106	34,443

(c) Credit Risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk at balance date in relation to each class of recognised financial asset is represented by the carrying amount of those assets as indicated in the Statement of Financial Position.

(d) Risks and mitigation

The risks associated with our main financial instruments and our policies for minimising these risks are detailed below.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of our financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Council's exposures to market risk are primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk. Components of market risk to which we are exposed are discussed below.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Interest rate risk arises from interest bearing financial assets and liabilities that we use. Non derivative interest bearing assets are predominantly short term liquid assets. Our interest rate liability risk arises primarily from long term loans and borrowings at fixed rates which exposes us to fair value interest rate risk.

Our loan borrowings are sourced from TASCORP in accordance with State Government requirements. Finance leases with the property owner. We manage interest rate risk on our net debt portfolio by:

- ensuring access to diverse sources of funding;
- reducing risks of refinancing by managing in accordance with target maturity profiles; and
- setting prudential limits on interest repayments as a percentage of rate revenue.

We manage the interest rate exposure on our debt portfolio by appropriate budgeting strategies and obtaining approval for borrowings from the Department of Treasury and Finance each year.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.7 Financial Instruments Cont.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the *Local Government Act 1993*. We manage interest rate risk by adopting an investment policy that ensures:

- conformity with State and Federal regulations and standards,
- appropriate liquidity,
- diversification by financial institution,
- monitoring of return on investment,
- benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

Maturity will be staggered to provide for interest rate variations and to minimise interest rate risk.

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause Council to make a financial loss.

Council has no material exposure to credit risk. All investments are first ranked deposits with Australian banks rated S&P A or higher. To help manage this risk:

- we have a policy for establishing credit limits for the entities we deal with;
- we may require collateral where appropriate; and
- we only invest surplus funds with financial institutions which have a recognised credit rating specified in our Investment Policy.

Credit risk arises from Council's financial assets, which comprise cash and cash equivalents, and trade and other receivables. Council's exposure to credit risk arises from potential default of the counterparty, with a maximum exposure equal to the carrying amount of these instruments.

Exposure at balance date is addressed in each applicable policy note.

Council generally trades with recognised, creditworthy third parties, and as such collateral is generally not requested, nor is it Council's policy to securitise its trade and other receivables.

It is Council's policy that some customers who wish to trade on credit terms are subject to credit verification procedures including an assessment of their credit rating, financial position, past experience and industry reputation.

In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that Council's exposure to bad debts is not significant.

Credit quality of contractual financial assets that are neither past due nor impaired

	Financial Institutions (minimum A credit rating) \$'000	Government agencies (AA credit rating) \$'000	Other Unrated \$'000	Total \$'000
2023				
Cash and cash equivalents	39,405	-	-	39,405
Trade and other receivables	-	-	6,091	6,091
Investments and other financial assets	55,646	239,333	-	294,979
Total Contractual Financial Assets	95,051	239,333	6,091	340,475
2022				
Cash and cash equivalents	56,840	-	-	56,840
Trade and other receivables	-	-	4,649	4,649
Investments and other financial assets	25,062	232,052	-	257,114
Total Contractual Financial Assets	81,902	232,052	4,649	318,603

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.7 Financial Instruments Cont.

Ageing of Trade and Other Receivables

At balance date other debtors representing financial assets were past due but not impaired. The ageing of the Council's Trade and Other Receivables was:

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Current (not yet due)	2,527	2,778
Past due by up to 30 days	283	175
Past due between 31 and 90 days	145	104
Past due more than 90 days	3,660	2,170
Total Trade and Other Receivables	6,615	5,227

Ageing of Individually Impaired Trade and Other Receivables

At balance date, other debtors representing financial assets with a nominal value of \$153,577 (2021-22: \$169,238) were impaired. The amount of the provision raised against these debtors was \$153,577 (2021-22: \$169,238). The individually impaired debtors relate to general and sundry debtors and have been impaired as a result of their doubtful collection. Many of the long outstanding past due amounts have been lodged with Council's debt collectors or are on payment arrangements.

The ageing of Trade and Other Receivables that have been individually determined as impaired at reporting date was:

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Post due over 90 days	782	836
Total Trade & Other Receivables	782	836

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of our operational liquidity requirements:

- we will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction on the date;
- we will be forced to sell financial assets at a value which is less than what they are worth; or
- we may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset at all.

To help reduce these risks we:

- have readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- monitor budget to actual performance on a regular basis; and
- have a liquidity policy which targets a minimum and average level of cash and cash equivalents to be maintained;
- have a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various durations;
- set limits on borrowings relating to the percentage of loans to rate revenue and percentage of loan principal repayments to rate revenue.

The Council's exposure to liquidity risk is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.7 Financial Instruments Cont.

The table below lists the contractual maturities for Non-Lease Financial Liabilities. For lease liabilities refer to Note 7.4

	6 mths or less \$ '000	6-12 months \$ '000	1-2 years \$ '000	2-5 years \$ '000	> 5 years \$ '000	Contracted Cash Flow \$ '000	Total \$ '000
2023							
Trade and other payables	6,943	-	-	-	-	-	6,943
Trust funds and deposits	-	-	-	-	-	3,091	3,091
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	-	20,000	6,000	-	-	-	26,000
Total financial liabilities	6,943	20,000	6,000	-	-	3,091	36,034
2022							
Trade and other payables	7,157	-	-	-	-	-	7,157
Trust funds and deposits	-	-	-	-	-	2,644	2,644
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	-	-	20,000	6,000	-	-	26,000
Total financial liabilities	7,157	-	20,000	6,000	-	2,644	35,801

(e) Sensitivity disclosure analysis

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, the Council believes the following movements are 'reasonably possible' over the next 12 months.

The table below discloses the impact on net operating result and equity for each category of financial instruments held by Council at year-end, if the above movements were to occur.

Cash investments and loans payable are fixed interest.

	\$'000	Interest rate risk			
		-1.00%		1.00%	
		-100 basis points Revenue \$'000	Equity \$'000	+100 basis points Revenue \$'000	Equity \$'000
2023					
Financial assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	39,405	(394)	-	394	-
Investments	55,646	(556)	-	556	-
Financial liabilities:					
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	26,000	260	-	(260)	-

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.7 Financial Instruments Cont.

2022		Interest rate risk				
		-1.00%		1.00%		
		-100 basis points		+100 basis points		
	\$'000	Revenue \$'000	Equity \$'000	Revenue \$'000	Equity \$'000	
	Financial assets:					
	Cash and cash equivalents	56,840	(568)	-	568	-
	Investments	25,062	(251)	-	251	-
	Financial liabilities:					
	Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	26,000	260	-	(260)	-

Note 9.8 Fair Value Measurements

Liquidity risk

Council measures and recognises the following assets at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Investment in water corporation
- Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment
 - Land
 - Land Under Roads
 - Buildings
 - Roads, including footpaths and cycleways
 - Drainage
 - Parks and Recreation
 - Flood Protection
 - Refuse Disposal
 - QVMAG Collection

Council measures and recognises the following liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Rehabilitation Obligation

Council also has assets measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis as a result of being reclassified as assets held for sale. These are disclosed in note 4.5.

(a) Fair Value Hierarchy

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a level in the fair value hierarchy as follows:

- | | |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Level 1 | Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement date. |
| Level 2 | Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly. |
| Level 3 | Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability. |

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.8 Fair Value Measurements Cont.

(a) Fair Value Hierarchy Cont.

The table below shows the assigned level for each asset and liability held at fair value by the Council. The table presents the Council's assets and liabilities measured and recognised at fair value at 30 June 2023

The fair values of the assets are determined using valuation techniques which maximise the use of observable data, where it is available, and minimise the use of entity specific estimates.

If one or more of the significant inputs is not based on observable market data, the asset is included in level 3.

This is the case for Council infrastructure assets, which are of a specialist nature for which there is no active market for similar or identical assets. These assets are valued using a combination of observable and unobservable inputs.

As at 30 June 2023	Note	Level 1 \$ '000	Level 2 \$ '000	Level 3 \$ '000	Total \$ '000
Recurring Fair Value Measurements					
Investment in Water Corporation	5.1	-	-	239,333	239,333
Land	6.1	-	209,297	-	209,297
Land Under Roads	6.1	-	146,462	-	146,462
Buildings	6.1	-	220,749	-	220,749
Roads, Including Footpaths	6.1	-	-	805,582	805,582
Drainage	6.1	-	-	197,023	197,023
Parks and Recreation	6.1	-	-	53,984	53,984
Flood Protection	6.1	-	-	53,820	53,820
Refuse Disposal	6.1	-	-	53,939	53,939
QVMAG Collection	6.4	-	204,570	-	204,570
		-	781,078	1,403,681	2,184,759
Non-Recurring Fair Value Measurements					
Assets Held for Sale		7,116	-	-	7,116
	4.5	7,116	-	-	7,116
As at 30 June 2022	Note	Level 1 \$ '000	Level 2 \$ '000	Level 3 \$ '000	Total \$ '000
Recurring Fair Value Measurements					
Investment in Water Corporation	5.1	-	-	232,052	232,052
Land	6.1	-	143,397	-	143,397
Land Under Roads	6.1	-	146,455	-	146,455
Buildings	6.1	-	210,410	-	210,410
Roads, Including Footpaths	6.1	-	-	757,410	757,410
Drainage	6.1	-	-	184,240	184,240
Parks and Recreation	6.1	-	-	50,763	50,763
Flood Protection	6.1	-	-	50,492	50,492
Refuse Disposal	6.1	-	-	27,954	27,954
QVMAG Collection	6.4	-	203,804	-	203,804
		-	704,066	1,302,911	2,006,977
Non-recurring fair value measurements					
Assets held for sale	4.5	1,116	-	-	1,116
		1,116	-	-	1,116

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.8 Fair Value Measurements Cont.

(a) Fair Value Hierarchy Cont.

Transfers between levels of the hierarchy

Council's policy is to recognise transfers in and out of the fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting period.

The following assets / liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis have been subject to a transfer between levels of the hierarchy.

Hierarchy Transfers 2023	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Land	-	(4,380)	-	(4,380)
Buildings	-	(1,620)	-	(1,620)
Assets Held for Sale	6,000	-	-	6,000
	6,000	6,000	-	-

(b) Highest and best use

AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement, requires the fair value of non-financial assets to be calculated based on their "highest and best use". At the reporting date all assets at fair value are utilised at their highest and best use as public assets.

(c) Valuation techniques and significant inputs used to derive fair values

Level 2 Measurements (recurring and non-recurring)

Level 2 assets are measured at independent valuation.

Level 3 Measurements (recurring and non-recurring)

Level 3 assets are measured at their replacement cost. Inputs used are cost of materials, cost of labour and other intangible costs.

Investment in Water Corporation

Refer to Note 5.1 for details of valuation techniques used to derive fair values.

Land

Land fair values are measured at the Valuer General's valuation effective 1 July 2019. Since that date to ensure the current values represent fair value, the Valuer General's indices have been applied during 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years. The indices applied for the period up to 30th June 2023 are based on the land class.

The next full valuation is planned for 2023/24 with an effective date of 1st July 2024.

The indexation rates used are detailed in the following table.

Launceston

Class	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Residential	25%	35%	60%	100%
Commercial	20%	30%	60%	85%
Industrial	10%	30%	60%	85%
Primary Production	20%	25%	60%	100%
Community Services	10%	30%	60%	85%
Other	10%	30%	60%	85%

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.8 Fair Value Measurements Cont.

(c) Valuation techniques and significant inputs used to derive fair values Cont.

West Tamar

Class	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Residential	20%	50%	full reval	25%
Commercial	15%	40%	full reval	10%
Industrial	10%	40%	full reval	10%
Production	30%	75%	full reval	35%
Services	15%	40%	full reval	10%
Other	15%	40%	full reval	10%

Land Under Roads

Land under roads is based on valuations determined by the Valuer-General effective 1 July 2019.

Buildings

The fair value of buildings were determined by qualified independent valuers from LG Valuation Services Pty Ltd effective 30 June 2022. Since that date to ensure the current values represent fair value, Council have applied an index of 8.28% as at 1st May 2023 using the Rawlinson's Building Price Index for the period 1st July 2022 to 31st March 2023. The next full valuation is planned for the 2027-28 financial year. Where there is a market for Council building assets, fair value has been derived from the sales prices of comparable properties after adjusting for differences in key attributes such as property size.

Where Council buildings are of a specialist nature and there is no active market for the assets, fair value has been determined on the basis of replacement with a new asset having similar service potential. The gross current values have been derived by our appointed valuers from appropriate costing guides. The overall replacement cost is considered to be a "Greenfield" assessment.

In determining the level of accumulated depreciation the asset has been disaggregated into significant components which exhibit useful lives. Allowance has been made for the typical asset life cycle and renewal treatments of each component, residual value at the time the asset is considered to be no longer available for use.

Museum Collection

The museum collection is independently valued at replacement cost. The independent valuation of the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery collection, by Simon Storey FAVAA of Simon Storey Valuations was completed during the financial year to 30 June 2021. The next full valuation is planned for the 2025-26 financial year.

Infrastructure Assets

All Council infrastructure assets were fair valued using written down current replacement cost. This valuation comprises the asset's current replacement cost (CRC) less accumulated depreciation calculated on the basis of such cost to reflect the already consumed or expired future economic benefits of the asset. Council first determined the gross cost of replacing the full service potential of the asset and then adjusted this amount to take account of the expired service potential of the asset.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.8 Fair Value Measurements Cont.

(c) Valuation techniques and significant inputs used to derive fair values cont

CRC was measured by reference to the lowest cost at which the gross future economic benefits of the asset could currently be obtained in the normal course of business. The resulting valuation reflects the cost of replacing the existing economic benefits based on an efficient set of modern equivalent assets to achieve the required level of service output.

The unit rates (labour and materials) and quantities applied to determine the CRC of an asset or asset component were based on a "Greenfield" assumption meaning that the CRC was determined as the full cost of replacement with a new asset including components that may not need to be replaced, such as earthworks.

The level of accumulated depreciation for infrastructure assets was determined based on the age of the asset and the useful life adopted by Council for the asset type. Estimated useful lives and residual values are disclosed in Note 3.4.

The calculation of CRC involves a number of inputs that require judgement and are therefore classed as unobservable. While these judgements are made by qualified and experienced staff, different judgements could result in a different valuation. The table at (d) summarises the effect that changes in the most significant unobservable inputs would have on the valuation.

The methods for calculating CRC are described under individual asset categories below.

Roads and Bridges (including footpaths)

Council categorises its road infrastructure into urban and rural roads, then further sub-categorises these into sealed and unsealed roads and then into road function of arterial, industrial, collector, local, and minor. All road segments are then componentised into compacted sub-grade, pavement, sub-pavement and seal (where applicable). Council assumes that environmental factors such as soil type, climate and topography are consistent across each segment. Council also assumes a segment is designed and constructed to the same standard and uses a consistent amount of labour and materials.

Council categorises its bridges based on construction material. Bridge assets are componentised into abutment and pier, deck and superstructure, sub structure and safety barriers. The valuation is based on the material type used for construction and the deck and sub-structure area.

A full revaluation of Road & Bridge assets was undertaken by internal council experts effective 1 May 2022. Since that date to ensure the current values represent fair value, Council have applied an index of 6.9% as at 1st May 2023 using the Annual Hobart CPI for the March 2023 quarter. The next full valuation is planned for the 2024-2025 financial year.

CRC of roads is based on the road area multiplied by a unit price; the unit price being an estimate of labour and material inputs, services costs, and overhead allocations. All valuations are based on construction being outsourced, with most unit rates for the calculation of CRC being based on the average of current periodic supply contract rates.

Residual values are disclosed in Note 3.4. During the reporting period a change in estimates has resulting in a change to useful lives, refer to Note 3.4.

Drainage

A full revaluation of drainage assets was undertaken by internal council experts effective 1 May 2022. Since that date to ensure the current values represent fair value, Council have applied an index of 6.9% as at 1st May 2023 using the Annual Hobart CPI for the March 2023 quarter. The next full valuation is planned for the 2024-2025 financial year.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.8 Fair Value Measurements Cont.

(c) Valuation techniques and significant inputs used to derive fair values Cont.

Consistent with roads, Council assumes that environmental factors such as soil type, climate and topography are consistent across each segment and that a segment is designed and constructed to the same standard and uses a consistent amount of labour and materials. CRC is based on the unit price for the component type. For pipes, the unit price is multiplied by the asset's length. The unit price for pipes is based on the asset location and construction material as well as the depth the pipe is laid.

Flood Protection

A full revaluation of flood protections assets was undertaken by internal council experts effective 1 May 2021. Since that date to ensure the current values represent fair value, Council have applied an index of 5.8% as at 30th June 2022 using the Annual Hobart CPI for the March 2022 quarter, and an index of 6.9% as at 30th June 2023 using the Annual Hobart CPI for the March 2023 quarter. The next full valuation is planned for the 2023-24 financial year.

CRC of flood protection assets is based on assets type and construction material. For levee assets, the unit price is multiplied by the asset's length. The unit rates for levee assets are based on the construction material and height.

Refuse Disposal

A full revaluation of refuse assets was undertaken by internal council experts effective 1 May 2023. The next full valuation is planned for the 2025-26 financial year.

Parks

A full revaluation of parks assets was undertaken by internal council experts effective 1 May 2022. Since that date to ensure the current values represent fair value, Council have applied an index of 6.9% as at 1st May 2023 using the Annual Hobart CPI for the March 2023 quarter. The next full valuation is planned for the 2024-2025 financial year.

(d) Valuation techniques and significant inputs used to derive fair values Cont.

Fair Value	\$,000	Valuation Technique	Key Unobservable Input	Effect of Change on Fair Value
Investment in Water Corporation	239,333	% of net assets	Value of net assets	Value will increase or decrease as the value of the Water Corporation moves.
Buildings	220,749	Market Valuation	Movements in market value	Value will increase or decrease with movements in market values.
Roads	805,582	Input costs per m2	Input Costs	Value will increase or decrease with movements in input costs.
Drainage	197,023	Replacement cost	Individual costs of replacement	Value will increase or decrease with movements in replacement cost inputs.
Parks and Recreation	53,984	Replacement cost	Individual costs of replacement	Value will increase or decrease with movements in replacement cost inputs.
Flood Protection	53,820	Replacement cost	Individual costs of replacement	Value will increase or decrease with movements in replacement cost inputs.
Refuse Disposal	53,939	Replacement cost	Individual costs of replacement	Value will increase or decrease with movements in replacement cost inputs.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.8 Fair Value Measurements Cont

(e) Changes in recurring level 3 fair value measurements

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Balance at beginning of reporting period	1,302,911	1,175,011
Gain/loss recognised in comprehensive income	(17,668)	(16,393)
Gain/loss recognised in other comprehensive income-	103,938	114,306
Acquisitions	2,581	13,875
Disposals	(2,141)	(2,779)
Transfers into level 3	14,060	18,891
Closing balance	1,403,681	1,302,911

(f) Valuation processes

Council's current policy for the valuation of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment, investment in water corporation and investment property (recurring fair value measurements) is set out in notes 5.1 and 6.1 respectively.

Non-recurring fair value measurements are made at the point of reclassification by a registered valuer.

The asset valuation is based on the asset replacement cost at the end of its useful life. The asset replacement cost is defined as the total project cost of the asset, which includes design, project management and construction costs including supply of all materials.

Valuations have been prepared with consideration of the current cost of delivering infrastructure projects, contractor rates, modern renewal / rehabilitation practice, asset componentisation and benchmarked rates. Except where stated below all valuations are performed utilising the Council's staff. The method of valuation is reviewed annually.

Asset Group	Basis of Valuation
Drainage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rates per metre for various diameters of pipelines and include house connections and fittings allowance • Rates vary depending on whether beneath private or public land. • Manholes. identify number and allow for an average size • "Chamber Manholes". identify number and allow for an average size • Gully pits. identify number and allow for connections No allowance for kerb adaptors or connections to kerbs
Roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pavement (road sub base and base) m² • Kerb and Channel in metres left and right • Road surface m² - Footpath m² left and right • Verge (includes guide posts, table drains, bollards as a count and guardrails in linear metres). • Street Light Poles valued individually (LCC's poles - those with only a light, as distinct from Aurora's - those with wires and a light)."
Bridges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridge - type includes timber, concrete and steel - for vehicles and or pedestrians in m². • Culvert - includes box culverts in m2 or reinforced concrete pipe in diameter size and location.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 9.8 Fair Value Measurements Cont.

(f) Valuation processes cont.

Buildings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Independent market valuation.
Parks and Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved grounds m²• Trees are based on a standard unit price• Fencing is valued based on a linear metre on material type• Furniture and fittings are based total number across facilities• Under surface based on m²• Playgrounds based on components and type of system
Museum Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Independent expert valuation.

(g) Assets and liabilities not measured at fair value but for which fair value is disclosed

Council has assets and liabilities which are not measured at fair value, but for which fair values are disclosed in other notes.

Council borrowings are measured at amortised cost with interest recognised in comprehensive income when incurred. The fair value of borrowings disclosed in this note is provided by Tascorp (level 2).

The carrying amounts of trade receivables and trade payables are assumed to approximate their fair values due to their short-term nature (Level 2).

Note 9.9 Events occurring after balance date

The City of Launceston Leisure and Aquatic Centre Enterprise Agreement expired on 31 December 2022. At the reporting date negotiations were continuing but the agreement is yet to be voted on by the affected employees.

No amounts have been included in these financial statements for any back pay that may be payable upon registration of the agreement.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 10 Other Matters

Note 10.1 Related Party Transactions

Accounting Standards Disclosures

Accounting Standards Disclosures AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures

AASB 124 requires the disclosure of related party relationships, transactions and outstanding balances, including commitments.

Related Parties

The Council's Related Parties are those that it controls or can exert significant influence over. For the reporting year Council has no Related Parties that it controls or can exert significant influence over.

Key Management Personnel

Key Management Personnel are those who, directly or indirectly, have authority for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Council.

The Council has interpreted the definition of Key Management Personnel to include the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillors, General Manager and the Executive.

Local Government Act Disclosures

Councillor's Disclosure

Pecuniary Interests

Councillors are required to disclose pecuniary interests in matters which come before the Council. In addition, under section 84(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the Council is required to "specify any interests as notified to the General Manager of any Councillor in respect of any body or organisation with which the Council has major financial dealings."

Allowances

Section 72(1)(cb) of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires a statement of the total allowances and expenses paid to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors.

Remuneration of Senior Officers

Section 72(1)(cd) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, requires the Council to report the total annual remuneration paid to employees who hold positions designated by the Council as senior positions. The Council has determined that senior positions comprise General Manager and Executive positions.

Key Management Personnel Compensation

Councillors

Short Term Benefits (Allowances)
Short Term Benefits (Expenses)

Long Term Benefits

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
	593	581
	19	23
	612	604
	-	-
	612	604

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 10.1 Related Party Transactions Cont.

	2023		2022	
	Number of Employees Actual	Number of Employees Annualised	Number of Employees Actual	Number of Employees Annualised
Remuneration				
\$0 - \$20,000	1	-	-	-
\$40,001 - \$60,000	1	-	-	-
\$160,001 - \$180,000	-	1	3	1
\$180,001 - \$200,000	1	1	-	-
\$200,001 - \$220,000	-	-	1	1
\$220,001 - \$240,000	1	2	1	3
\$240,001 - \$260,000	3	3	1	1
\$300,001 - \$320,000	-	-	1	1
\$320,001 - \$340,000	1	1	-	-
	8	8	7	7

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Senior Officers		
Short Term Benefits	1,373	1,267
Long Term Benefits	(3)	15
Post Employment Benefits	191	173
Termination Benefits	-	59
Related Party Transactions	1,561	1,514
Transactions		
Sales of Goods and Services	7	-
Purchase of Goods and Services	731	658
Contributed Assets	369	-
	1,107	658
Loans to Key Management Personnel	-	-
Outstanding Balances owed by Key Management Personnel	-	-

Sales of Goods and Services

The Council provided goods and services to organisations that Key Management Personnel or their close associates have significant influence or control over during the reporting year.

Sales totalled \$7,208 (2021-22 \$0). These transactions were at arms length and on normal commercial terms.

Purchase of Goods and Services

The Council purchased goods and services from organisations that Key Management Personnel or their close associates have significant influence or control over during the reporting year.

Purchases totalled \$731,042, (2021-22 \$658,179). These transactions were at arms length and on normal commercial terms or through open tender.

Contributed Assets

Key Management Personnel contributed assets to the value of \$369,000 (2021-22 \$0)

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 10.1 Related Party Transactions Cont.

Ordinary Citizen Transactions

The City of Launceston enters into transactions with Key Management Personnel and their Related Parties within a normal customer relationship i.e. payments of rates, dog registration and the use of facilities such as car parks. These transactions are at arms length on terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to the broader community.

These transactions are not included in these disclosures.

Note 10.2 Special Committees

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Committee Name		
Dilston Hall	8	8
Lebrina Progress Association	17	11
Balance - 30 June	25	19
Summary of Special Committees		
Balance 1 July	19	39
Receipts	6	1
Expenses	-	(2)
Balance Transfers	-	(19)
Balance 30 June	25	19

10.3 Interest in Other Entities

Launceston Flood Authority

This is a Single Authority set up under section 30 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

This Authority was formed by Council resolution on 1 September 2008 and was established by gazettal on 10 September 2008. The authority was established to "...perform all tasks necessary for the construction and maintenance of flood levees, to initiate and manage effective emergency management procedures and to take all necessary measures, so as to address the flood risk to the 'flood risk area'".

The Authority is 100% owned by Council and holds no assets in its own name.

Revenue and Expenses	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Revenue		
State Government Grants	613	567
Launceston City Council	182	182
Interest Income	-	1
Other Income	17	-
Total Revenue	812	750
Expenses		
Operations Costs	309	501
Depreciation	594	544
Total Expenses	903	1,045
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	(91)	(295)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	21	850
Surplus / (Deficit)	(112)	(1,145)

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 10.4 Other Significant Accounting Policies and Pending Accounting Standards

(a) Taxation

Council is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax, Payroll Tax, Land Tax and the Goods and Services Tax.

Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of goods and services tax (GST) except for the case of receivables and payables which are recognised inclusive of GST. Cash flows are presented in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(b) Impairment of non-financial assets

At each reporting date, Council reviews the carrying value of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have been impaired.

If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value.

Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the Statement of Other Comprehensive Income, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation reserve in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset.

For non-cash generating assets of Council such as roads, drains, public buildings and the like, value in use is represented by the depreciated value of the asset approximated by its written down replacement cost.

(c) Allocation between current and non-current

In the determination of whether an asset or liability is current or non-current, consideration is given to the time when each asset or liability is expected to be settled.

The asset or liability is classified as current if it is expected to be settled within the next twelve months, being Council's operational cycle, or if Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

(d) Financial guarantees

Financial guarantee contracts are recognised as a liability at the time the guarantee is issued.

The liability is initially measured at fair value, and if there is material increase in the likelihood that the guarantee may have to be exercised, at the higher of the amount determined in accordance with AASB 137 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets and the amount initially recognised less cumulative amortisation, where appropriate. In the determination of fair value, consideration is given to factors including the probability of default by the guaranteed party and the likely loss to Council in the event of default.

At the reporting date Council had no financial guarantee contracts.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 10.4 Other Significant Accounting Policies and Pending Accounting Standards Cont.

(e) Contingent assets, contingent liabilities and commitments

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, but are disclosed by way of a note and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

Commitments are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value inclusive of the GST payable.

At the reporting date Council had no contingent assets or liabilities.

(f) Budget

The estimated revenue and expense amounts in the Statement of Other Comprehensive Income represent revised budget amounts and are not audited.

(g) Adoption of new and amended accounting standards

In the current year, Council has adopted all of the new and revised Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are relevant to its operations and effective for the current annual reporting period.

(h) Pending Accounting Standards

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for 30 June 2023 reporting periods. Council's assessment of the impact of the relevant new standards and interpretations is set out below.

Accounting Standard AASB 2022-5

Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback

This standard makes amendments to AASB 16 for sale and leaseback transactions'. Council does not currently or expect to have such an arrangement in the future. There are no material effect expected for there adoption of this standard.

Accounting Standard AASB 2022-6

Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Non-current Liabilities with Covenants

This Standard amends AASB 101 to improve the information an entity provides in its financial statements about liabilities arising from loan arrangements for which the entity's right to defer settlement of those liabilities for at least twelve months after the reporting period is subject to the entity complying with conditions specified in the loan arrangement.

Council does not currently or expect to have such an arrangement in the future. There are no material effect expected for there adoption of this standard.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 10.4 Other Significant Accounting Policies and Pending Accounting Standards Cont.

(h) Pending Accounting Standards Cont.

AASB 2022-10 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities.

This Standard modifies AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement for application by not-for-profit public sector entities such as Council. It includes authoritative implementation guidance when fair valuing non-financial assets, not held primarily for their ability to generate cash inflows. This includes guidance and clarification regarding the determination of an assets highest and best use, the development and use of internal assumptions for unobservable inputs and allows for greater use of internal judgements when applying the cost approach in the measurement and determination of fair values. Although Council is yet to fully determine the impact of this standard, the changes will be evaluated in the future assessment of all property and infrastructure assets measured at fair value. The Standard applies prospectively to annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024, with earlier application permitted.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

10.5 Significant Business Activities

The operating capital and competitive neutrality costs of the Council's significant business activities:

	Off Street Parking		Launceston Aquatic		LA fit		Building Surveying and Certification	
	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Revenue								
Rates	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
User Charges	3,526	3,044	3,776	3,378	1,604	1,477	616	447
Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Revenue	3,526	3,044	3,776	3,378	1,604	1,477	616	447
Expenditure								
Direct								
Employee Costs	171	171	2,136	2,174	435	442	301	262
Materials and Contacts	196	271	713	743	84	79	13	18
Interest	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utilities	59	66	460	636	14	14	-	-
Indirect								
Engineering and Administration	526	437	297	257	75	47	-	-
Total Expenses	952	945	3,606	3,810	608	582	314	280

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

10.5 Significant Business Activities Cont.

	Off Street Parking		Launceston Aquatic		LA fit		Building Surveying and Certification	
	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000
Notional cost of free services received								
Capital Costs								
Depreciation and amortisation	452	446	1,004	866	40	65	6	2
Opportunity cost of capital	2,159	2,189	1,760	1,788	6	8	3	3
Total Capital Costs	2,611	2,635	2,764	2,654	46	73	9	5
Competitive neutrality adjustments								
Rates and land tax	151	148	88	86	7	7	-	-
Full Cost Attribution	204	78	78	76	81	77	79	77
	355	226	166	162	88	84	79	77
Calculated Surplus/(Deficit)	(392)	(762)	(2,760)	(3,248)	862	738	214	85
Tax Equivalent rate	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%	30%
Taxation equivalent	530	427	-	-	260	223	64	26
Competitive neutrality costs	885	653	166	162	348	307	143	103
Net Result Surplus / (Deficit)	(922)	(1,189)	(2,760)	(3,248)	602	515	150	59

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

10.5 Significant Business Activities Cont.

Accounting policy

Trade and other payables

Significant business activities

Competition Policy Compliance

Section 84(2)(da) of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires the Council's financial statements to contain a statement of the "operating, capital and competitive neutrality costs" in respect of each significant business activity.

The Act also requires specific disclosure of 'significant business activities'.

The Tasmanian Government guidelines for Significant Business identifies a Business Activity as one that operates in a competitive market.

Determining factors on whether the Council activity is significant include, but are not limited to:

- The relevant market
- The size of the local government activity compared to the whole market
- The competitive impact of the Council's activity in the market.

Significant Business Activities

The Council conducted a review during the year to identify any significant business activities. The activities disclosed below have been identified as Significant Business Activities.

The following items have been disclosed:

Labour Costs

Labour costs have been discounted by a factor of 19.25% for the variance between private and public sector average weekly ordinary time earnings.

Superannuation costs have been adjusted to the 11% Superannuation Guarantee Levy.

Full Cost Attribution

Service costs applied to all the Council's operations in respect of internal services provided (e.g. accounting and computer support).

Competitive Neutrality Costs

Notional charges for expenses not normally incurred by Councils (e.g. council rates). As these costs are not actually incurred, the Council's "General Public Services" function has been credited with collection of these notional items.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 10.6 Management Indicators

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
(a) Underlying surplus or (deficit)				
Net result for the year	4,103	17,186	(36,803)	(678)
Less non-operating income				
FAG Grant in Advance - Current Year	(5,283)	(3,485)	(2,353)	(2,235)
FAG Grant in Advance - Prior Year	3,485	2,353	2,235	2,261
Grants for New or Upgraded Assets	(8,522)	(17,260)	(3,687)	(23,383)
Grants for Renewal of Assets	(2,859)	(2,261)	(2,258)	(1,142)
Bequests	(141)	(121)	(115)	(134)
Add non-operational expenses				
Unscheduled Loss on Disposal of Fixed Assets	2,742	2,352	2,466	13,134
Organisational Restructure Redundancies	-	-	60	1,381
Covid 19 Pandemic Costs	120	283	2,823	3,581
Flood Recovery	1,411	-	-	-
Tamar Estuary River Health Action Plan	1,500			
Contribution				
Impairment Loss	-	-		
Museum revaluation adjustment	-	-	34,523	-
Underlying surplus/(deficit)	(3,444)	(953)	(3,109)	(7,215)
Benchmark	0	0	0	0

The intent of the underlying result is to show the outcome of a council's normal or usual day to day operations.

Comment

Council returned an underlying deficit of \$3.44m, against an initial unamended budgeted underlying deficit approved by Council in June 2022 of \$2.85m.

A number of unbudgeted and significant items of expenditure occurred throughout the financial year, however revenue growth remained strong and is sustainable for future years.

Council is not immune to the inflationary pressures currently being experienced more broadly in the community, with many significant costs such as fuel, power, depreciation and third party contracts being linked to CPI and similar external factors.

The Total Comprehensive Result was a surplus of \$193.98m.

Further analysis is detailed at Note 1.4 Material Budget Variations.

(b) Underlying surplus ratio

Underlying surplus (Deficit)	(3,444)	(953)	(3,109)	(7,215)
Recurrent Income	129,468	118,168	111,000	109,606
Underlying surplus ratio %	-3%	-1%	-3%	-7%
Benchmark	0%	0%	0%	0%

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 10.6 Management Indicators Cont.

This ratio serves as an overall measure of financial operating effectiveness.

Comment

Recurrent income growth is strong, however many items of Council expenditure have increased in cost as outlined throughout this report.

Council has a benchmark of greater than 0% in its Long Term Financial Plan. Whilst not achieved in 2022/23, the Long Term Financial Plan details various strategies and actions to return to a small underlying surplus in the medium term.

Further analysis is detailed at Note 1.4 Material Budget Variations.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
(c) Net financial liabilities				
Liquid assets less	100,884	86,293	90,005	68,375
Total liabilities	66,483	64,038	75,658	48,912
Net financial liabilities	34,401	22,255	14,347	19,463
Benchmark	0	0	0	0

This ratio indicates the net financial obligations of Council compared to its recurrent income.

Comment

Council retains a strong balance sheet and liquidity position. Council remains in position to be able to meet ongoing liabilities as they fall due, through recurrent operational income.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
(d) Net financial liabilities ratio				
Net financial liabilities	34,401	22,255	14,347	19,463
Recurrent income	129,468	118,168	111,000	109,606
Benchmark	0% - (50%)	0% - (50%)	0% - (50%)	0% - (50%)
Net financial liabilities ratio %	27%	19%	13%	18%

This ratio indicates the net financial obligations of Council compared to its recurrent income.

Comment

Council remains in position to be able to meet ongoing liabilities as they fall due, through recurrent operational income.

(e) Net financial liabilities ratio

An asset consumption ratio has been calculated in relation to each asset class required to be included in the long-term strategic asset management plan of Council.

Transport Infrastructure

	2023	2022	2021	2020
Fair value (Carrying Amount)	805,582	757,410	650,457	633,142
Current replacement cost (Gross)	1,254,533	1,167,957	1,002,735	967,372
Benchmark	>60%	>60%	>60%	>60%
Net financial liabilities ratio %	64%	65%	65%	65%

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 10.6 Management Indicators Cont.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Buildings				
Fair value (Carrying Amount)	220,749	210,410	185,892	176,483
Current replacement cost (Gross)	376,986	350,987	302,777	276,865
Benchmark	>60%	>60%	>60%	>60%
Asset consumption ratio %	59%	60%	61%	64%
Drainage				
Fair value (Carrying Amount)	197,023	184,240	179,838	173,986
Current replacement cost (Gross)	293,405	272,406	264,181	253,634
Benchmark	>60%	>60%	>60%	>60%
Asset consumption ratio %	67%	68%	68%	69%

Comment

Given the age profile of Launceston as a city and subsequently many of Council's assets, it is expected that Council will be near the stipulated benchmark for this ratio.

An increase in funding for Council's Buildings assets is noted in f) from 2021/2022 highlights the emphasis placed on ensuring this asset class is fit for purpose.

Council is constantly reviewing asset data and ensuring levels of service are in line with the Strategic Asset Management Plan, which is going to be adopted in July 2023.

(f) Asset renewal funding ratio

An asset renewal funding ratio has been calculated in relation to each asset class required to be included in the long-term strategic asset management plan of Council.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Transport Infrastructure				
Projected capital funding outlays**	72,855	75,180	82,158	89,212
Projected capital expenditure funding***	72,855	75,180	82,158	89,212
Benchmark	90-100%	90-100%	90-100%	90-100%
Asset renewal funding ratio %	100%	100%	100%	100%
Buildings				
Projected capital funding outlays**	19,672	10,257	10,662	16,035
Projected capital expenditure funding***	19,672	10,257	10,662	16,035
Benchmark	90-100%	90-100%	90-100%	90-100%
Asset renewal funding ratio %	100%	100%	100%	100%

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 10.6 Management Indicators Cont.

	2023 \$'000	2022 \$'000	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Buildings				
Drainage				
Projected capital funding outlays**	1,625	1,525	3,410	4,550
Projected capital expenditure funding***	1,625	1,525	3,410	4,550
Benchmark	90-100%	90-100%	90-100%	90-100%
Asset renewal funding ratio %	100%	100%	100%	100%

** Current value of projected capital funding outlays for an asset identified in Council's long-term financial plan.

*** Value of projected capital expenditure funding for an asset identified in Council's long-term strategic asset management plan.

This ratio measures Council's capacity to fund future asset replacement requirements.

Comment

Council annually reviews both its Long Term Financial Plan and Strategic Asset Management Plan. There is a high degree of coordination between the two, to ensure consistency of information and that the funding requirements as identified in the Strategic Asset Management Plan can be accommodated within the Long Term Financial Plan.

(g) Asset sustainability ratio

<u>Capex on replacement/renewal of existing assets</u>	10,668	12,337	16,552	17,059
Annual depreciation expense	26,978	24,940	23,359	22,682
Benchmark	100%	100%	100%	100%
Asset sustainability ratio %	40%	49%	71%	75%

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

Comment

Council annually reviews both its Long Term Financial Plan and Strategic Asset Management Plan.

There is a high degree of coordination between the two, to ensure consistency of information and that the funding requirements as identified in the Strategic Asset Management Plan can be accommodated within the Long Term Financial Plan.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 10.6 Management Indicators Cont.

	Capital renewal expenditure \$'000	Capital new/ upgrade expenditure \$'000	Total Capital Expenditure \$'000
2023			
Land	-	23	23
Buildings	1,243	2,916	4,159
Transport Infrastructure	5,833	356	6,189
Stormwater and Drainage	326	1,328	1,654
Plant	1,582	177	1,759
Other	1,684	2,520	4,204
Total	10,668	7,320	17,988
2022			
Land	12	21	33
Buildings	824	1,819	2,643
Transport Infrastructure	6,801	1,270	8,071
Stormwater and Drainage	297	561	858
Plant	1,365	1,233	2,598
Other	3,038	7,378	10,416
Total	12,337	12,282	24,619

Comment

Through the Strategic Asset Management Plan, Council develops its annual capital works program to ensure that decisions are data driven and well informed, with an emphasis placed on the renewal of existing Council assets.

Some significant new and upgrade works were undertaken during the year, such as Newnham Creek Retaining Wall, Birch Avenue & Churchill Park Facilities, Urban Greening and the Lilydale Bowls Club.

Capital Expenditure overall is down on the prior year, this can be attributed to the post-Covid boom beginning to soften and a constrained construction market in Tasmania. Council has taken the approach that it will obtain value for money for its capital works undertaken, and not pay a premium, where this is not essential.

Notes to the Financial Report

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Comment

The financial report presents fairly the financial position of the City of Launceston as at 30 June 2023 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (as amended), Australian Accounting Standards and other authoritative pronouncements issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board.



Michael Stretton
General Manager

Date : 25/09/2023

Independent Auditor's Report
To the Councillors of Launceston City Council
Launceston City of Council
Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Launceston City council (Council), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023 and statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement of certification signed by the General Manager.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report:

- (a) presents fairly, in all material respects, Council's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended
- (b) is in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report. I am independent of Council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

The *Audit Act 2008* further promotes the independence of the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General is the auditor of all Tasmanian public sector entities and can only be removed by Parliament. The Auditor-General may conduct an audit in any way considered appropriate and is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which audit powers are to be exercised. The Auditor-General has for the purposes of conducting an audit, access to all documents and property and can report to Parliament matters which in the Auditor-General's opinion are significant.

My audit responsibility does not extend to the budget figures included in the financial report, the asset renewal funding ratio disclosed in note 10.6, nor the Significant Business Activities disclosed in note 10.5 to the financial report and accordingly, I express no opinion on them.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Key Audit Matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in my professional judgement, were of most significance in my audit of the financial report of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of my audit of the financial report as a whole, and in forming my opinion thereon, and I do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Why this matter is considered to be one of the most significant matters in the audit	Audit procedures to address the matter included
<p>Valuation of property and infrastructure assets <i>Refer to notes 6.1 and 9.8</i></p>	
<p>Property and infrastructure at 30 June 2023 included land, land under roads, buildings and material long-life infrastructure assets, such as roads, drainage, flood protection, refuse disposal, and parks and recreation carried at fair value totalling \$1.74 billion.</p> <p>The fair values of these assets are based on market value or current replacement cost. Council undertakes formal revaluations on a regular basis to ensure valuations represent fair value. Indexation is applied to fair values between formal valuations when considered appropriate.</p> <p>In 2022-23, Council revalued refuse disposal. Council also indexed land, buildings, roads, drainage, flood protection and parks and recreation during 2022-23. The valuations determined by experts are highly dependent upon a range of assumptions and estimated unit rates.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluating management’s oversight of the valuation process and assessment of valuation results. • Assessing the scope, expertise and independence of experts engaged in the valuations. • Evaluating the appropriateness of the valuation methodology applied to determine fair values, including the assumptions used. • Testing, on a sample basis, the mathematical accuracy of the revaluation calculations and recording of the valuations in the asset register and general ledger. • Evaluating indexation applied to assets between formal valuations. • Reviewing the reconciliation of asset balances in the general ledger to the underlying fixed asset register. • Evaluating the adequacy of relevant disclosures in the financial report, including those regarding key assumptions used.

Responsibilities of the General Manager for the Financial Report

The General Manager is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Local Government Act*

1993 and for such internal control as determined necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the General Manager is responsible for assessing Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless Council is to be dissolved by an Act of Parliament or the Councillors intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the General Manager.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the General Manager's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the General Manager regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

From the matters communicated with the General Manager, I determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial report of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. I describe these matters in my auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, I determine that a matter should not be communicated in my report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.



Stephen Morrison
Assistant Auditor-General
Delegate of the Auditor-General
Tasmanian Audit Office

25 September 2023
Hobart

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Inveresk Precinct
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Cataract Gorge
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Kanamaluka/Tamar Estuary
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Boat sitting on the Kanamaluka/Tamar Estuary
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Aerial view of Riverbend Park
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City Park
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