



City of
LAUNCESTON

COUNCIL AGENDA

**COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 16 APRIL 2026
1:00 PM**

Notice is hereby given that the Ordinary Meeting of the City of Launceston Council will be held at the Council Chambers, Town Hall, St John Street, Launceston:

Date: 16 April 2026

Time: 1:00 pm

Certificate of Qualified Advice

Background

To comply with section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas):

1. A General Manager must ensure that any advice, information or recommendation given to the council, or a council committee, is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation.
2. A council or council committee is not to decide on any matter which requires the advice of a qualified person without considering such advice unless -
 - (a) the General Manager certifies, in writing -
 - (i) that such advice was obtained; and
 - (ii) the General Manager took the advice into account in providing general advice to the council or council committee; and
 - (b) a copy of that advice or, if the advice was given orally, a written transcript or summary of that advice is provided to the council or council committee with the General Manager's certificate.

Certification

I certify that:

- (i) the advice of a qualified person has been sought where required;
- (ii) this advice was taken into account in providing general advice to the council or council committee; and
- (iii) a copy of the advice, or a written transcript or summary of advice provided orally, is included with the agenda item.



Sam Johnson OAM
Chief Executive Officer

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The video and audio of open sessions of ordinary Council meetings and special Council meetings that are held in the Council Chambers at Town Hall, will be streamed live via the Council's meeting stream channel on YouTube.

Video and audio streaming and recording of this Council Meeting, except for any part held in Closed Session, will be made in accordance with our Video and Audio Streaming of Meetings Policy - 17-Plx-017.

This Council Meeting will be streamed live to and can be accessed at:
www.launceston.tas.gov.au/Council/Meetings/Watch-and-Listen

The audio-visual recording equipment will be configured in a way which avoids coverage of the public gallery area and Council will endeavour to ensure images in this area are not streamed. However, Council expressly provides no assurances to this effect and by entering or exiting the Council Chamber or by remaining in the public gallery area, it is assumed that consent has been given to the Council to broadcast images and audio recordings.

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<https://www.launceston.tas.gov.au/Council-Region/Legislation-and-Policy/Policy>

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - AGENDA ITEM 8

A limit of three questions received in writing by Wednesday of the week prior to the Council Meeting are treated as Questions on Notice. Your question and an answer will be published in the Agenda of the Council Meeting. Questions may be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer at contactus@launceston.tas.gov.au, PO Box 396, Launceston TAS 7250, or Town Hall, St John Street, Launceston.

If attending the Council Meeting in person, you may ask up to three questions during Public Question Time. If accepted, your questions will be either answered at the Meeting, or Taken on Notice and answered at a later Council Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

When attending the Council Meeting, you will be asked if you wish to comment on an item in the Agenda. Prior to debate on that Agenda Item, you will be invited by the Chair to move to the public microphone at the doors to the Council Chambers and state your name and address.

Please note the following important information:

- Each item on the Agenda includes a Recommendation prepared by a Council Officer.
- You may speak for up to two minutes, either for or against the Recommendation.
- You may not ask questions or enter into debate with Councillors or Council Officers.
- Your statement is not to be defamatory, inappropriate or abusive, or be intended to embarrass any person, including Councillors or Council Officers.
- The Chair may direct you to stop speaking if you do not follow these rules, or if your statement repeats points that have already been made.
- Audio from our Council Meetings is streamed live via YouTube.

Your respectful contribution is welcome and appreciated.

LEGISLATIVE TERMINOLOGY - GENERAL MANAGER

At the City of Launceston, the title Chief Executive Officer is a term of reference for the General Manager as appointed by Council pursuant to section 61 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)*. For the avoidance of doubt, *Chief Executive Officer* means *General Manager* for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* and all other legislation administered by or concerning Council.

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1. OPENING OF MEETING - STATEMENT, ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 8

An audio visual recording is being made of the meeting.

All persons attending the meeting are to be respectful of, and considerate towards, other persons attending the meeting.

Language and conduct at the meeting that could be perceived as offensive, defamatory or threatening to a person attending the meeting, or listening to the recording, is not acceptable.

2. MAYORAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas) - section 48

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 – regulation 39(1)(f)

(A councillor must declare any interest that the councillor has in a matter before any discussion on that matter commences).

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1. Confirmation of Minutes

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 41(1)(b)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the City of Launceston Council held on 2 April 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

5. **COUNCIL WORKSHOPS**

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 10(3)(c)

No Council Workshops have been identified as part of this Agenda

6. **COUNCILLORS' LEAVE OF ABSENCE APPLICATIONS AND PARENTAL LEAVE NOTIFICATIONS**

No Councillors' Leave of Absence Applications or Parental Leave Notifications have been identified as part of this Agenda.

7. COMMUNITY REPORTS

(Community Reports allow an opportunity for Community Groups to provide Council with a three minute verbal presentation detailing activities of the group. This report is not intended to be used as the time to speak on Agenda Items; that opportunity exists when that Agenda Item is about to be considered. Speakers are not to request funding or ask questions of Council. Printed documentation may be left for Councillors.)

7.1. Community Report - Society of Women Writers Tasmania Incorporated - Rocelyn Ives & Yvonne Gluyas

FILE NO: SF6368

APPROVER: Sam Johnson OAM (Chief Executive Officer)

SUMMARY OF PRESENTATION

Rocelyn Ives and Yvonne Gluyas, members of Society of Women Writers Tasmania and the SWWT Alice Award Sub-Committee will provide an overview of the Alice Award.

The Alice Award is a prestigious National literary award presented biennially to an Australian woman writer whose written work has made a distinguished and long-term contribution to Australian Literature. This year Tasmania is hosting with a few events from 18-20 September. The members will be speaking about the program and how it will raise awareness of, not only women writers, but also the image of Launceston and Tasmania as a beautiful place to be.

8. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulations 36 to 38

8.1. Questions on Notice by Members of the Public

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 38

8.1.1. Questions on Notice by Members of the Public - Robin Smith - Parking at the Northern Inveresk Car Park - 2 April 2026

FILE NO: SF6381

AUTHOR: Keara Downey (Administration Officer- Governance Support)

APPROVER: Sam Johnson OAM (Chief Executive Officer)

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES:

The following questions, submitted to Council on 2 April 2026 by Robin Smith, have been answered by the Senior Leader Health and Regulations.

Question 1:

How much revenue has been generated from the Northern Inveresk Car Park?

Response:

As of March 2026 total parking revenue generated at the Northern Inveresk Car Park since financial year 2020/2021 is \$57,327.97.

Question 2:

What options are there to make it free parking?

Response:

Council is committed to ensuring that parking is managed in a way that supports both the community and local businesses. As part of this, Council will be reviewing the strategic direction for both on and off-street parking over the coming years. This review will consider how parking spaces are managed, including affordability and access.

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

8.2. Questions Without Notice by Members of the Public

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 37

9. PETITIONS

No Petitions have been identified as part of this Agenda

10. DEPUTATIONS

No Deputations have been identified as part of this Agenda

11. PLANNING AUTHORITY

Under the provisions of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, Council acts as a Planning Authority in regard to items included in Agenda Item 11 - Planning Authority.

11.1. PSA-LLP0036 - Partial rezoning of land at 27 Vermont Road, Mowbray, from the Recreation Zone and General Residential Zone to the Inner Residential Zone, and modification of the Local Heritage Place overlay

FILE NO: PSA-LLP0036

AUTHOR: Dileep Karna (Town Planner)

APPROVER: Dean Edsall (Acting Executive Leader Community Assets and Design)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To decide whether to reject or agree to initiate and exhibit proposed Amendment PSA-LLP0036 to the Launceston Local Provisions Schedule at 27 Vermont Road, Mowbray pursuant to the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

PLANNING APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Applicant:	6ty
Area of the Site:	27 Vermont Road, Mowbray (CT 164061/1 and CT 112266/1)
Existing Zones:	Recreation Zone, General Residential Zone and Rural Zone
Existing Use:	Sports and Recreation
Receipt Date:	18 September 2025

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993
Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

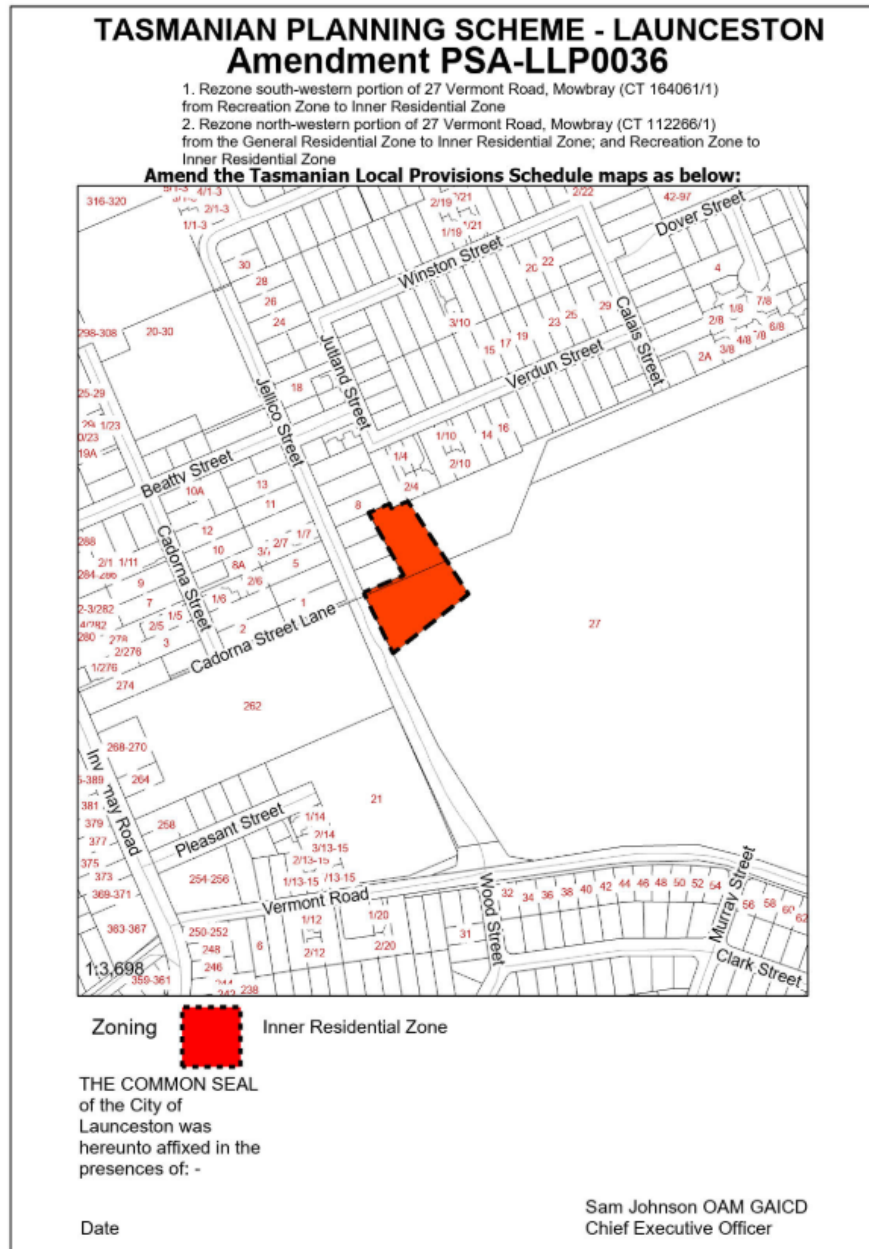
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RECOMMENDATION:

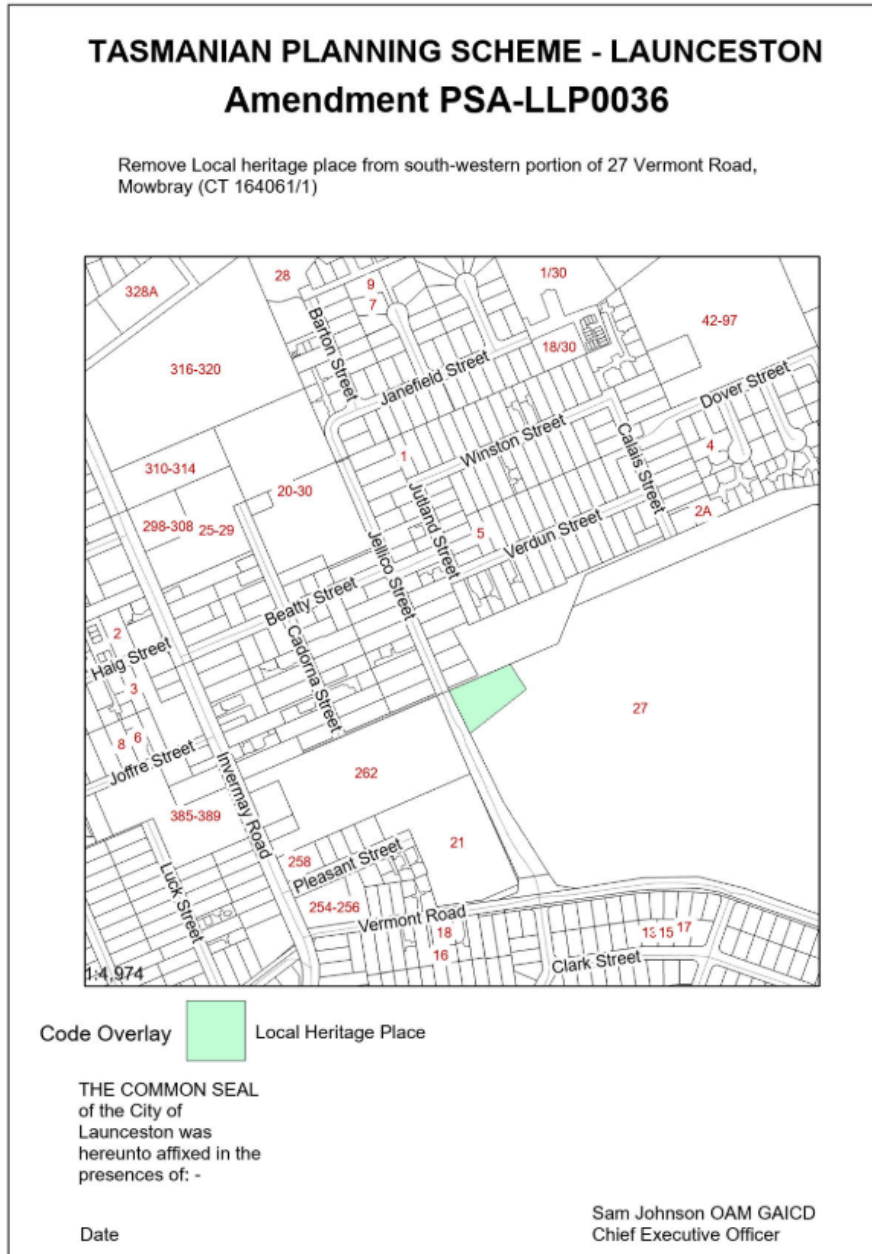
That Council, pursuant to:

1. sections 37 and 38 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, agrees to, and initiates scheme amendment PSA-LLP0036 to the Launceston Local Provisions schedule to:
 - (a) rezone south-western portion of 27 Vermont Road, Mowbray (CT 164061/1) from Recreation Zone to Inner Residential Zone.

- (b) rezone north-western portion of 27 Vermont Road, Mowbray (CT 112266/1) from the General Residential Zone to Inner Residential Zone; and Recreation Zone to Inner Residential Zone.
- (c) remove Local heritage place from south-western portion of 27 Vermont Road, Mowbray (CT 164061/1)



Instrument 1 – Rezoning



Instrument 2 - Removal of a portion of the Local Heritage Place

REPORT: APPLICATION FOR PLANNING SCHEME AMENDMENT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An application has been lodged under section 37 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 (the Act)* for an Amendment to the Launceston Local Provisions Schedule (the LPS) of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston. The application proposes the following:

- rezone south-western portion of 27 Vermont Road, Mowbray (CT 164061/1) from Recreation Zone to Inner Residential Zone.
- rezone north-western portion of 27 Vermont Road, Mowbray (CT 112266/1) from the General Residential Zone to Inner Residential Zone; and Recreation Zone to Inner Residential Zone.

- remove Local heritage place from south-western portion of 27 Vermont Road, Mowbray (CT 164061/1)

The area proposed to be rezoned within CT 164061/1 is approximately 3416sqm and approximately 2419sqm within CT 112266/1.

1.1 Current Site Conditions:

Historically, the subject site at 27 Vermont Road, Mowbray, is triple zoned for Recreation, Rural and Residential use. The area proposed for rezoning has remained vacant, with no prior development. The subject site comprises six titles - CT 164061/1, CT 112266/1, CT 210962/1, CT 114060/3, CT 21408/2, and CT 21408/1, with a total area of 54.35ha and fronting Jellico Street, Vermont Road, and Remount Road.

The site is irregular in shape and accommodates the Mowbray Racecourse, which was established in 1871. The subject site is situated within a well-established urban area and adjoins multiple zones, including the General Residential Zone, General Business Zone, General Industrial Zone, Rural Zone, and Utilities Zone. The surrounding locality supports a diverse mix of land uses, subject to relevant use table of the zones.

The site is currently used as a racecourse under the Sports and Recreation use class within the Recreation Zone, which allows both “no permit required” and “permitted” activities. The site includes associated buildings (grandstand), racecourse and parking areas on CT 164061/1, which are listed on the Tasmanian Heritage Register.

The area proposed for the amendment encompasses two titles - CT 164061/1 and CT 112266/1. These titles have an existing approval for the subdivision of two lots, comprising approximately 3426sqm for Lot 1 and approximately 2409sqm for Lot 2 under DA0297/2025. These approved new lot boundaries reflect the proposed rezoning. Both titles are currently under single ownership by the Tasmanian Turf Club Inc.

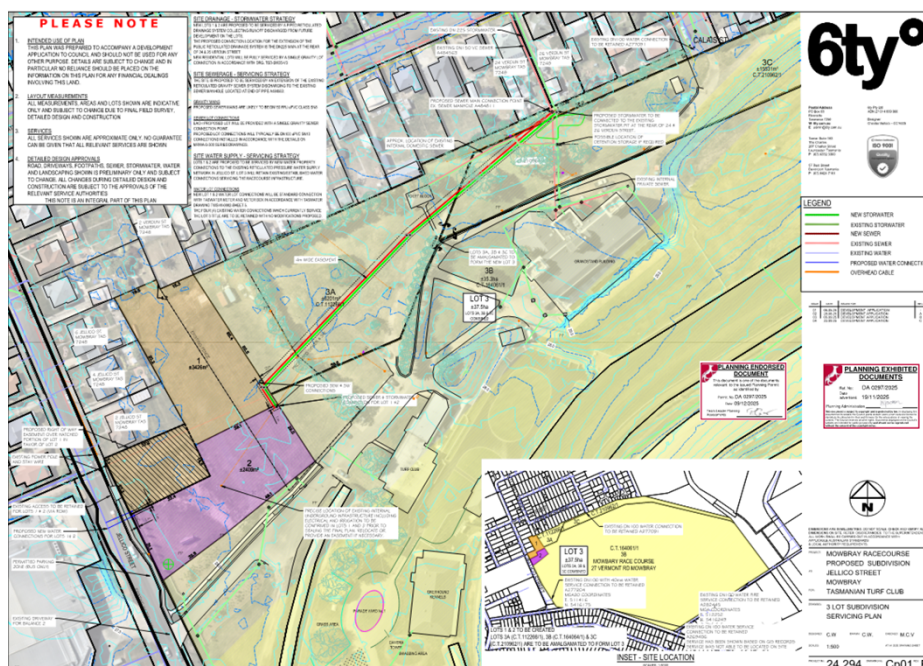


Figure - Approved two lot subdivision

2. RATIONAL FOR SUPPORTING THE AMENDMENT

2.1 Purpose of the Amendment

The purpose of the amendment is to modify the zoning of the subject site to maximise its development potential, particularly the vacant area to the northwest of the site located on CT 164061/1 and CT 112266/1. This area already has approval for the subdivision of two lots, with access via an existing crossover on Jellico Street.

The area proposed for rezoning is approximately 5835sqm, representing approximately 1.07% of the total site area and approximately 1.18% of the privately owned recreation area (39.2ha). The Board of the Tasmanian Turf Club has identified this land as underutilised and surplus to the needs of the existing racecourse.

The registered titles for the subject site fall within three different zones: Recreation, Rural, and Residential. Only a small portion of the Recreation and General Residential Zone is proposed for rezoning, as this area has an existing frontage to Jellico Street with a crossover. Subject to final plan submission and rezoning to the Inner Residential Zone, this surplus land is likely to be sold. According to the applicant, revenue from the sale would contribute to the ongoing maintenance and improvement of the racecourse facility.

2.2 Why the Inner Residential Zone is Preferred?

The Inner Residential Zone allows for a mix of commercial activities and higher-density residential development that complement the existing Major Activity Centre (Mowbray), as it is the prevailing residential zone surrounding the centre.

The amendment will:

- Enable redevelopment of surplus land at the Mowbray Racecourse in a manner consistent with the Major Activity Centre.
- Support efficient land use, encourage investment, and contribute to the strategic consolidation of the centre.

No alternative zoning was considered appropriate. The land is surplus to operational requirements and privately owned. The Inner Residential Zone is the most suitable, as it:

- Aligns with the prevailing residential zoning surrounding the activity centre.
- Is consistent with the adjoining General Residential Zone to the north.
- Supports similar uses as the General Residential Zone, while allowing for higher-density residential development.
- Aligns with the Launceston Housing Plan 2025-2040, that supports medium density housing and housing diversities around the activity centres.

2.3 Why not the General Residential Zone?

As outlined in section 2.2, the proposed Inner Residential Zone is the prevailing zone surrounding the activity centre to the west and is consistent with the spatial application of existing zones.

The proposed rezoning also aligns with the Launceston Housing Plan 2025–2040 (LHP), which supports the application of Inner Residential Zones around activity centres. The subject site is located within 100m of the activity centre.

The application of the Inner Residential Zone will support medium-density housing and housing diversity, noting that Launceston's current housing stock is predominantly detached dwellings. Given the site's proximity to the activity centre (less than 100m), its identification as a consolidation investigation area in Figure 22 of the LHP, including the General Residential Zone immediately to the north, the area is likely to be reviewed in the future to encourage increased housing diversity within a highly serviced area.

Given the limited availability of vacant land in the central area, and noting that Figure 18 of the housing demand analysis (LHP), indicates that the northern suburbs are anticipated to absorb approximately 20% of the total dwelling demand, the site's close proximity to the Mowbray Activity Centre means that the proposed rezoning of this underutilised, surplus land will enable higher-density residential development and provide infill opportunities in the area.

2.4 Changes to Local Heritage Place of Local Historic Heritage Code

The subject site, particularly CT 164061/1, is listed as a Local Heritage Place and is also registered on the Tasmanian Heritage Register for the Mowbray Racecourse Grandstand. The application seeks to remove the Local Heritage Place overlay from the portion of land proposed for rezoning, which is currently vacant.

Once the land has been subdivided under DA0297/2025, the owner is likely to apply to the Tasmanian Heritage Council (THC) to consider the removal of the THC listing over this portion of land which will enable future development of this area.

The Local Historic Heritage Code will not require consideration for this area as part of the proposed amendment. However, any future development on land subject to the Tasmanian Heritage Register will continue to require assessment by the THC. Any decision regarding the removal of the Tasmanian Heritage Register listing will be at the discretion of the THC.

As part of the application process, the planning scheme amendment was referred to the THC, which advised that it has no interest in the application because no works are proposed.

3. NEXT STEPS

If the proposed planning scheme amendment is agreed to, the next steps in the process are as follows:

- The proposed amendment will be exhibited for 28 days
- The proposed amendment will be brought back to a Council meeting if representations are received or major modifications are required. In response to any representations, the Planning Authority could also recommend that the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) does not approve the amendment.
- The TPC will assess and decide whether to approve the amendment, approve the amendment with modifications or reject the amendment.

If the amendment is refused, a person may not make another change that is substantially the same within 2 years of the decision, unless there are changes to the scheme or the regional strategy, to the satisfaction of the TPC.

4. ZONING AND OVERLAYS

The following zones and overlays currently apply to the site:

- Aerial map of the site
- Recreation Zone, General Residential Zone and Rural Zone
- Local Historic Heritage Code
- Waterway and Coastal Protection Area and Priority Vegetation Area
- Bushfire-Prone Areas
- Tasmanian Heritage Register



Figure 1: Subject site (Source: SAM Mapping)

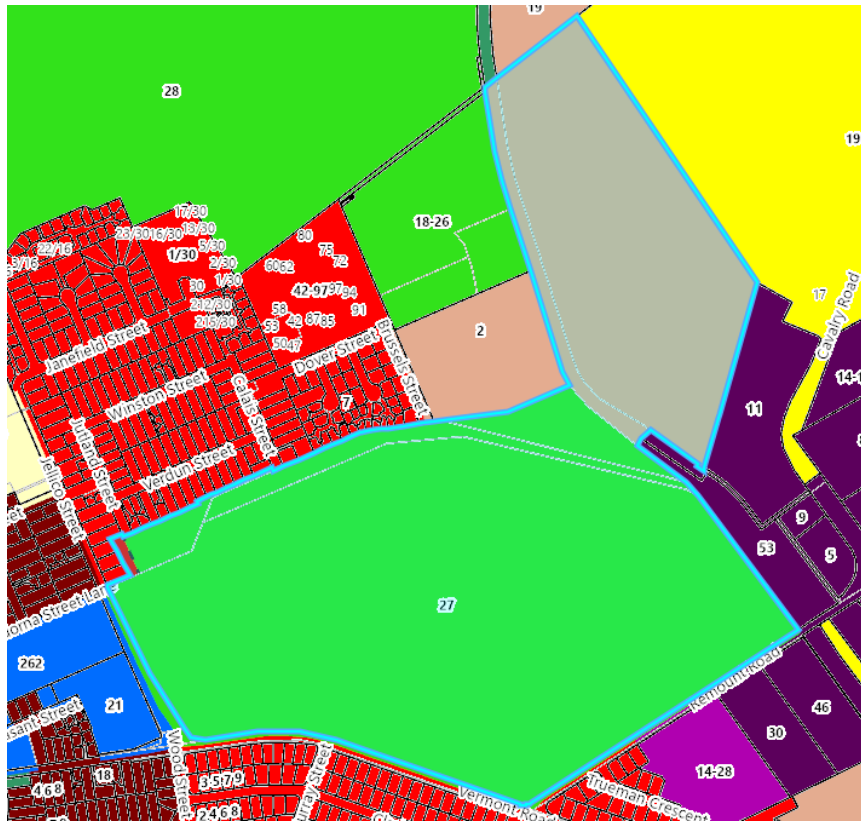


Figure 2: Subject site and existing zoning (Source: SAM Mapping)



Figure 3: Local Historic Heritage Code - Local heritage place (Source: SAM Mapping)



Figure 4: Waterway and Coastal Protection Area and Priority Vegetation Area (Source: SAM Mapping)



Figure 5: Bushfire-Prone Areas (Source: SAM Mapping)



Figure 6: Tasmanian Heritage Register (Source: SAM Mapping)

5. STRATEGIC OUTCOMES

5.1 Strategies

The following is a discussion of how the proposal is consistent with the regional land use strategy and any applicable regional areas as required for amendments to the Local Provisions Schedule (LPS) of section 34 (2) (c) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA).

5.1.1 Regional Strategy

The Northern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy (NTRLUS) was originally declared by the Minister for Planning in accordance with the relevant provisions of LUPAA on 27 October 2011. The current version was amended on 23 June 2021 and provides a framework for the sustainable use and development of land within the region.

The NTRLUS is a strategic regional plan for the eight council areas in the north and north-east of Tasmania. It has a 20-year time horizon to 2032 for integrated infrastructure, land use development and transport planning, and is underpinned by economic development, social and environmental strategies. It defines three land use categories to direct the allocation of all land in the region:

- Urban Growth Areas
- Rural Areas
- Natural Environment Areas

This site falls within Urban Growth Area.

The detailed assessment against the relevant principles, policies and actions of the NTRLUS is provided in **Attachment 2** to this report.

5.1.2 City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2025-2035

The City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2025-2035 (LSP) is prepared under the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas). The detailed assessment against the principles and goals of the LSP is provided in **Attachment 2** to this report.

5.1.3 Launceston Housing Plan 2025-2040

Launceston Housing Plan 2025-2040 is prepared under the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas). The detailed assessment against the principles is provided in **Attachment 2** to this report

5.1.4 State Policies

A detailed assessment against the relevant state policies is provided in **Attachment 2** to this report.

5.2 Statutory Considerations

5.2.1 Section 32 - Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993

Section 32 of LUPAA provides for the contents of a Local Provisions Schedules (LPS), and Section 34 outlines the LPS Criteria.

Attachment 2 provides detailed assessment of the amendment against the requirements of these provisions. The amendment is considered to satisfy all the listed considerations and meet the LPS Criteria.

5.2.2 Tasmanian Heritage Council (THC)

The application was referred to THC, who advised that this amendment does not require heritage referral as it does not contain heritage works or development.

5.2.3 Section 56S - Water and Sewerage Industry Act 2008

The application was referred to TasWater under section 17 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Regulations 2004*. TasWater has issued its Submission to Planning Authority Notice (TWDA 2025/01306-LCC) dated 29/10/2025, with no objection to the draft amendment.

5.2.4 Landowner Consent

The land is registered to Tasmanian Turf Club Incorporated and consent was provided on 09/08/2025 by the board members of the Tasmanian Turf Club.

6. CONCLUSION

The proposed planning scheme amendment seeks to change the zoning at 27 Vermont Road, Mowbray, from the Recreation Zone and General Residential Zone to the Inner Residential Zone, and modification of the Local Heritage Place overlay.

For the above reasons, it is assessed that the proposed planning scheme amendment is consistent with the objectives and other requirements of the *Land Use Planning and*

Approvals Acts 1993, the intent of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston and is consistent with the Northern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy and State Policies.

RISK IMPLICATIONS:

Not considered relevant to this report.

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:

The Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston contains provisions intended to implement the objectives of the Resource Management Planning System. The application has been assessed using these provisions and as such the economic, environmental and social impacts have been considered.

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993
Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Not considered relevant to this report.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

The Author and Executive Leader Community Assets and Design have no interests to declare in this matter.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. PS A- LL P 0036 Attachment 1 Maps [**11.1.1** - 2 pages]
2. PSA-LLP0036 Attachment 2 - Strategic Assessment [**11.1.2** - 17 pages]
3. TasWater - Submission to Planning Authority Notice [**11.1.3** - 1 page]
4. PSA-LLP0036 - Tasmanian Heritage Council [**11.1.4** - 1 page]
5. PSA-LLP0036 - Application Documents [**11.1.5** - 85 pages]

11.2. Lot 3, 18-20 Ellison Street, Newstead - PSA-LLP0033 - 40T Combined Scheme Amendment - Change of Zone from Community Purpose to General Residential; DA0340/2025 - Residential - Construction of 10 dwellings

FILE NO: PSA-LLP0033, DA0340/2025

AUTHOR: Catherine Mainsbridge (Senior Town Planner - Development)

APPROVER: Dean Edsall (Acting Executive Leader Community Assets and Design)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To make a recommendation to the Tasmanian Planning Commission subsequent to the public exhibition period for a combined draft planning scheme amendment to the Launceston Local Provisions Schedule and permit application.

PLANNING APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Applicant:	6ty° Pty Ltd
Address:	Lot 3, 18-20 Ellison Street, Newstead.
Existing Zone:	Community Purpose
Existing Use:	Site vacant, Previous use was a residential hostel

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993
Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston
Northern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council - 5 February 2026 - Agenda Item 11.2

1. Initiated Combined Draft Amendment PSA-LLP0033, to Change of Zone from Community Purpose to General Residential; and
2. Approved DA0340/2025 - Residential - Construction of 10 dwellings

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. in accordance with sections 40K and 42 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, considers the merit of any representation received during public exhibition of combined draft planning scheme amendment and permit application PSA-LLP0033 and DA0340/2025.
 2. recommends to the Tasmanian Planning Commission that the combined draft planning scheme amendment and permit application PSA-LLP0033 and DA0340/2025 be approved as exhibited.
-

REPORT:

1. BACKGROUND

At its meeting on 5 February 2026 Council considered an application under section 40T and 40Y of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, for a Scheme Amendment for a Change of zone from Community Purpose to General Residential and Development Application for Residential - Construction of 10 dwellings.

Council resolved to initiate the rezoning and approved the development application.

As required by the Act, Council then advertised the rezoning for 28 days between 19 February 2026 and 23 March 2026. Two representations were received and are discussed below.

2. REPRESENTATION ASSESSMENT

The key issues raised in representations received are set out and addressed in the table below:

<p>Comment: Concern and objection to the use of the street for the access to the site during construction. Construction of previous developments have led to congestion and damage of the street. Surely there is another access point.</p>
<p><i>Officer Response:</i> <i>The construction phase of a development is not a matter dealt with under the Planning Scheme.</i></p>
<p>Comment: Residents are against more units in the street, in a once quiet street.</p>
<p><i>Officer Response:</i> <i>The proposal to rezone to the General Residential zone is to allow the development of housing for a wider range of the community. The use of multiple dwellings has a permitted use in the General Residential zone but is a prohibited use in the Community Purposes Zone. The Community Purpose Zone only allows for which is the intent of the following:</i> <i>(a) a residential care facility, respite centre, retirement village or assisted housing; or</i> <i>(b) accommodation for staff or students of a use on the site.</i></p>
<p>Comment: If the zoning changes to residential does that alter the use of the existing units which are for 'community purposes'?</p>
<p><i>Officer Response:</i> <i>The rezoning is for Lot 3 18 - 20 Ellison Street only and does not incorporate the adjoining site that was recently developed for units.</i></p>
<p>Comment: The street network contains narrow streets where it is hard to pass if there are cars on both sides it is hard to get through. This causes issues when entering from Punchbowl Road and for residents getting in and out of driveways. We hope this can be addressed by on-stie visits at intermittent times, especially school drop offs.</p>
<p><i>Officer Response:</i> <i>Council officers and the Traffic Impact Assessment do not raise concern of the capacity of the street. Parked vehicles can serve to slow faster moving cars. Visits to the area</i></p>

<i>have not witnessed traffic build ups in the vicinity of the development. Each dwelling will have on site parking for its residents.</i>
Comment: Some residents have sold and left the area.
<i>Officer Response:</i> <i>Noted.</i>
Comment: It was understood that the site was to be developed for the elderly.
<i>Officer Response:</i> <i>The application is for multiple dwellings and the planning scheme does not regulate the demographic of occupants is not a relevant matter of the consideration.</i>
Comment: Will the higher density of the development provide sufficient area for residents?
<i>Officer Response:</i> <i>Each dwelling will have a private outdoor space and area to provide for amenity and operational requirements. Six of the dwellings have two bedrooms each, with floors areas between 80m²-86m² and one car space each. Four dwellings are proposed with three bedrooms, have a floor area of approximately 90m² and two car parking spaces each. At least two visitor spaces are provided.</i>
Comment: Will the development reduce the value of current residences?
<i>Officer Response:</i> <i>This is not a planning consideration.</i>
Comment: Can't access be via Amy Road?
<i>Officer Response:</i> <i>The only access to the site is via Ellison Street.</i>

3. RECOMMENDED MODIFICATIONS

No modifications are required.

4. CONCLUSION

Council are supportive of the application as exhibited, and no further changes are required.

RISK IMPLICATIONS:

Not considered relevant to this report.

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:

The amendment to the Launceston Local Provisions Schedule has been assessed against the requirements of the Act. The Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston, and the Launceston Local Provisions Schedule also contain provisions intended to implement the objectives of the Resource Management Planning System. The application has been assessed using these provisions and as such the economic, environmental and social impacts have been considered.

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993
Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston & Launceston Local Provisions Schedule
Northern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy (NTRLUS) 2018
Launceston Residential Strategy (LRS) 2009-2029
City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2025-2035

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Not considered relevant to this report.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

The Author and Executive Leader Community Assets and Design have no interests to declare in this matter.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - 40T Combined Scheme Amendment - 18-20 Ellison Street -Representations - NOT FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION [11.2.1 - 7 pages]

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

No Mayor's Announcements have been identified as part of this Agenda

13. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

(This item provides an opportunity for Councillors to briefly report on the activities that have been undertaken in their capacity as a representative of the Council. It is not necessary to list social functions that have been attended.)

14. QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 34 and 35

14.1. Questions on Notice by Councillors

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 35

14.1.1. Questions on Notice by Councillors - Councillor T G Walker - Park and Ride Facilities and West Launceston Bowls Club Building - 2 April 2026

FILE NO: SF2375

AUTHOR: Keara Downey (Administration Officer- Governance Support)

APPROVER: Sam Johnson OAM (Chief Executive Officer)

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES:

The following questions, submitted to Council on 2 April 2026 by Councillor T G Walker, have been answered by the Team Leader - Engineering and the Senior Leader – City Infrastructure (Question 1) and Senior Leader - Property Asset Strategy (Question 2).

Question 1:

What communication have we had from the State Government regarding Park and Ride facilities in Launceston, locations and timelines?

Response:

Engineering Officers are providing ongoing support to the Department of State Growth in relation to the implementation of its proposed Park and Ride facilities in Launceston.

The State has identified a preferred preliminary northern location, being the vacant parcel of land situated between 419 and 421 Invermay Road, Mowbray.

The land is currently already utilised for informal parking, with engineering concept design expected to commence by the end of April. Further investigations are being undertaken to explore this site's suitability as a Park and Ride facility.

Once design concepts have been developed, including associated financial estimates, further updates will be provided by the State, with a subsequent update to Council to follow.

Question 2:

West Launceston Bowls Club have vacated the building has Council made any endeavours to determine what it will be used for?

Response:

The newly created Property Team is currently considering the future of several Council properties, including the West Launceston Bowls Club site at 5 Merrys Lane, West Launceston.

Early findings indicate that the site's previous use as a cemetery (from 1828 to 1925) places some limitations on potential uses. The team is exploring options for a short-term lease while considering long-term plans. This matter will be presented to the Council for future decision-making.

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

14.1.2. Questions on Notice by Councillors - Councillor J J Pentridge - Heritage Listing in Newstead Crescent - 2 April 2026

FILE NO: SF2375

AUTHOR: Keara Downey (Administration Officer- Governance Support)

APPROVER: Sam Johnson OAM (Chief Executive Officer)

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES:

The following question, submitted to Council on 2 April 2026 by Councillor J J Pentridge, has been answered by the Senior Leader City Development.

Question 1:

What was the danger in Newstead Crescent to stop what we were doing with buildings in other areas to focus on Newstead Crescent?

Response:

Over the last 5 years the Council has progressed amendments to the planning scheme to implement heritage precincts and to increase the numbers of locally listed properties. The most recent focus has been on introducing precincts. Newstead Crescent was chosen as a precinct because of its consistent character and importance as an example of intact inter war suburban development. Other precincts likely to progress in the next 12 months are for Babbington/ Middle Street, Mayne Street, and St Leonards.

Within the next 6 months it is also the intention of Council officers to recommend to Council up to 50 properties to be entered onto the local heritage list.

Levels of danger or threats to heritage assets can be difficult to predict and are often only evident with hindsight. The consistent heritage nature of Newstead Crescent means its adoption is likely to be well accepted by the community and therefore a simpler process than a diverse area making it a good choice for an early precinct as Council is developing its understanding of precincts.

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

14.2. Questions Without Notice by Councillors

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 34

15. WRITTEN NOTICES OF MOTION

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 19

No Written Notices of Motion have been identified as part of this Agenda

16. COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Committee Reports have been identified as part of this Agenda

17. CONNECTIONS AND LIVEABILITY (INCLUDING QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY)

17.1. Heritage Interpretation Framework

FILE NO: SF7813

AUTHOR: Sophie Appleby (Place and Heritage Officer)

APPROVER: Ali Kemp (Executive Leader Connections and Liveability)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the adoption of the Heritage Interpretation Framework.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

N/A

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Workshop – 26 March 2026 – Heritage Interpretation Project Progress and Aboriginal Engagement Framework Development

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. adopts the Heritage Interpretation Framework (ECM Doc Set ID 5295609).

REPORT:

Background to the Project

In July 2024, the City of Launceston engaged Lovell Chen, Heritage Consultants, to prepare a Heritage Interpretation Framework to guide a coordinated, city-wide approach to heritage interpretation across the municipality. The Framework responds to the City's commitment to recognising and communicating heritage and cultural significance within the public realm. Interpretation is understood as a process that makes cultural significance accessible, provoking interest, revealing meaning and enhancing understanding through engaging forms of communication. As a strategic, non-site-specific document, the Framework establishes a consistent approach to interpreting Launceston's layered histories, landscapes and identities within publicly managed spaces.

Development of the Framework

The Heritage Interpretation Framework was developed through facilitated stakeholder workshops, engagement with Council, review of existing interpretation and targeted desktop research drawing on Council documents and secondary sources. Workshops held between November 2024 and May 2025 involved City of Launceston staff, institutional

partners and local community groups, and directly informed the identification of key themes, narratives and interpretive media.

Framework Outcomes

The Heritage Interpretation Framework provides an overarching approach to interpretation delivered by the City of Launceston and is intended to complement other strategic documents, contribute to place-making, and enhance public amenity. While applicable across the municipality, implementation is anticipated to focus primarily on the CBD and selected sites such as Cataract Gorge. The Framework considers physical and digital interpretive responses, with an emphasis on permanent or semi-permanent installations.

Actioning Recommendations

This Framework is intended to support the staged and iterative implementation of heritage interpretation across the City of Launceston, either on a project basis or with a focus on specific places. It provides a strategic foundation for identifying appropriate interpretive themes and media when implementation is considered. Next stages are to include further co-design engagement with Tasmanian Aboriginal people in accordance with the Milangkani Projects framework, the preparation of Heritage Interpretation Plans to translate the Framework into deliverable outcomes, and targeted community consultation to inform proposed interpretive responses.

The Heritage Interpretation Framework was presented to Council Workshop on Thursday 26 March 2026 for discussion. The Workshop provided an opportunity for Councillors to consider the intent, scope and proposed implementation of the Framework. Following discussion, it was recommended that the Heritage Interpretation Framework be brought forward to Council Meeting for consideration and endorsement.

RISK IMPLICATIONS:

Non-adoption of the framework would risk the process of heritage interpretation to continue on an ad hoc basis.

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:

Adoption of the Framework will contribute to a broader knowledge and appreciation of Launceston stories and the city's colonial history and contribute to community identity, belonging and pride.

The framework assists in the prioritisation of projects and the targeted and focused generation of budget bids as the Heritage Interpretation Project is delivered over a number of years across the municipality.

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2025-2035

Strategic Pillar 2 - Place

Goal 2.3 Launceston's community is connected to our Aboriginal and built heritage, while growing a city of the future.

Objective 2.3(a)	Encourage and facilitate recognition of Aboriginal cultural heritage as a means of retaining a sense of place and connection to Country
Objective 2.3(b)	Ensure that significant heritage elements are respected while addressing the future housing, commerce and recreational needs of the community.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Nil

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

The Author and Executive Leader have no interests to declare in this matter.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. ECM 5295609 v 1 City of Launceston Heritage Interpretation Framework [17.1.1 - 58 pages]

17.2. Extension of Signature Major Event Sponsorship 2023/2024 - 2025/2026

FILE NO: SF7507

AUTHOR: Roshani Hamal (Acting Grants and Sponsorship Officer)

APPROVER: Ali Kemp (Executive Leader Connections and Liveability)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider a one-year extension of Signature Major Event Sponsorship for Junction Arts Festival and Tasmanian Open DanceSport Championship to be allocated from the 2026/27 approved event sponsorship budget.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council - 18 May 2023 - Agenda item 15.1 - Event Sponsorship Signature Events 2023/2024 - 2025/2026

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. approves a one-year extension of the previously approved Signature Event Sponsorship funding for Junction Arts Festival and the Tasmanian Open DanceSport Championship, in the amounts of \$45,000 and \$18,200 respectively.

Organisation	Event	\$Recom
Junction Arts Festival	Junction Arts Festival	\$45,000*
DanceSport Australia Limited**	Tasmanian Open DanceSport Championship	\$18,200*

*Note * This funding reflects a one-year extension of the existing Signature Event funding agreement.
If approved, these applications will be withdrawn from Major Event Sponsorship Round 1 2026/27.*

*** Due to a Conflict of Interest, Councillor Andrew Palmer abstained from assessment and discussion of the Tasmanian Open DanceSport Championship (DanceSport Tasmania)*

REPORT:

The Signature Event Funding program was established to provide multi-year support to event organisers, enabling long term planning, continuity, and the delivery of high value, established events within the City of Launceston. Funding under this program was originally allocated for a three-year period, concluding in the 2025/26 financial year.

A new Outgoing Grants Policy and associated Event Funding Guidelines are currently under development and will be brought to a future Council meeting for consideration. As a result, a new multi-year Signature Event funding round has not yet been initiated.

For events scheduled between August and December 2026, event organisers were invited to apply under Round 1 of the 2026/27 Major and Small Event Sponsorship Program.

At the Assessment Panel meeting held on 1 April 2026 for Round 1 of the 2026/27 Major and Small Event Sponsorship Program, the Panel noted that the \$20,000 funding ceiling of the Major Events program was not appropriate for the previously funded Junction Arts Festival, which had received \$45,000 under the Signature Event program. The Panel considered that this reduction would create uncertainty and may adversely impact the programming and delivery of this well-established event.

In response, the Panel recommends a one-year transitional extension of Signature Event funding for Junction Arts Festival. This approach provides funding certainty and supports continuity in event delivery while the new Outgoing Grants Policy and Event Funding Guidelines are finalised.

For parity, the Panel also recommends a one-year extension of funding for the Tasmanian Open DanceSport Championship, which was also previously supported under the Signature Event Funding program and is scheduled to take place between July and December 2026.

It is therefore recommended that \$45,000 be allocated to Junction Arts Festival and \$18,200 be allocated to the Tasmanian Open DanceSport Championship, consistent with previously approved funding levels.

Program Governance

The Event Sponsorship Assessment Panel is a Special Committee of Council, established under section 24 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (TAS). The panel consists of three Councillors, nominated by Council, in addition to external stakeholder representatives.

The panel is responsible for considering, reviewing, and assessing each application against the relevant sponsorship categories and assessment criteria, and for providing funding recommendations according to the available budget. The Chair has the additional responsibility of managing conflicts of interest among panel members.

The Assessment Panel also has the authority to deem an application ineligible where it does not meet the established criteria. Council officers provide administrative and procedural support; however, they do not make recommendations on grant applications.

RISK IMPLICATIONS:

Failing to extend Signature Event funding may disrupt established events, reducing their community, cultural, and economic contribution to Launceston.

A one-year extension of Signature Event funding addresses these risks by maintaining continuity, supporting fairness in funding decisions, and remaining within approved budget parameters.

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:

Extending Signature Event funding for Junction Arts Festival and Tasmanian Open DanceSport Championship will benefit Launceston by ensuring event continuity, maximising social and economic outcomes, and reinforcing the City's reputation as a vibrant and culturally rich destination.

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2025-2035

Strategic Pillar 1 - Prosperity

Goal 1.1 Launceston is a premier visitor destination, celebrated for its natural beauty, creative and historic city centre, welcoming community, and rich food culture.

Objective 1.1(b)	Enhance Launceston's reputation nationally and internationally as a leading host city for events and festivals, while leveraging our history and natural beauty to encourage extended and expanded stays.
Objective 1.1(c)	Expand Launceston's position as an arts and cultural hub by providing an environment for creative industries to thrive.

Strategic Pillar 3 - People

Goal 3.2 Participation in cultural and recreational activities is widespread across the community and promotes health and wellbeing at all ages while bridging social, cultural and geographical gaps.

Objective 3.2(b)	Broaden and increase participation in arts, cultural, and community events to foster community identity, leadership and capacity building, resilience, pride & a sense of belonging.
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BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Program	Proposed Budget	\$Recom	Balance
2026/2027 Major Signature Event Sponsorship Budget	\$200,000	\$63,200	\$136,800

The total proposed budget for the 2026/2027 Major Signature Event Sponsorship program is \$200,000. Should the recommended allocations of \$45,000 to the Junction Arts Festival and \$18,200 to the Tasmanian Open DanceSport Championship be approved, a remaining balance of \$136,800 will be available. The remaining balance of the program budget will be reallocated following adoption of the new Outgoing Grants Policy and associated event grants funding program.

The budget adjustment consideration of this item has been approved by the Executive Leader Connections and Liveability.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

The Author and Executive Leader have no interest to declare in this matter.

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

17.3. Outgoing Grants Policy (and Event Grants Program Documents)

FILE NO: SF0984

AUTHOR: Laura Keith (Grants and Sponsorship Officer)

APPROVER: Ali Kemp (Executive Leader Connections and Liveability)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the adoption of the Outgoing Grants Policy and the endorsement of the associated Event Grants Program Guidelines.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)
Child and Youth Safe Organisations Act 2023 (Tas)
Personal Information Protection Act 2004 (Tas)
Right to Information Act 2009 (Tas)
Anti-Discrimination Act 1998 (Tas)

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Workshop – 26 March 2026 – Agenda Item Grants Policy and Guidelines
Workshop – 4 September 2025 – Agenda Item 1.2 Council Grants Policy

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. adopts the Outgoing Grants Policy (05-Plx-012) as set out below:

OUTGOING GRANTS POLICY

PURPOSE

This policy gives effect to the City of Launceston's commitment to accountable, transparent, equitable and financially responsible grant funding by establishing a consistent framework for all Council grant programs and funding decisions, ensuring grants are used effectively to support Council's strategic objectives and deliver positive outcomes for the Launceston community.

This policy establishes:

- the principles that underpin Council's approach to grant funding;
 - high-level eligibility requirements applicable to all Council grant programs;
 - governance, decision-making and approval parameters for Council grants; and
 - the respective roles and responsibilities of Council, Councillors, officers and assessment panels involved in the administration, assessment and approval of grants.
-

This policy applies to all outgoing grant funding administered by Council and is supported by grant-specific guidelines, assessment panel terms of reference and other operational documents, which may be amended from time to time without affecting this policy.

SCOPE

This policy applies to grant funding administered by all City of Launceston business units, including areas that have not previously operated under a formal grants policy. Funding provided by Council through grant programs may include support for events, projects, partnerships and initiatives where funding is allocated through an application-based or assessed process and is conditional on delivery, reporting and acquittal.

The policy applies to:

1. City of Launceston staff
2. Councillors
3. Assessment panel members
4. Grant applicants and recipients

This policy does not apply to:

1. Incoming grants received by Council or the City from external organisations
2. Activities governed by the City's Procurement Policy; or
3. Funding provided as part of Council's annual budget process or routine service delivery

This policy supersedes the following policies:

1. 05-PI-010 Community Grants (Organisations) Policy
2. 05-PI-019 Community Grants (Individuals/Teams/Groups) Policy
3. 05-PI-012 Event Sponsorship Policy

Sponsorship arrangements are not grants and are excluded from the scope of this policy. Sponsorship is defined as a commercial arrangement in which Council provides a contribution of money or in-kind support in return for specified promotional, branding or other reciprocal benefits. Sponsorship agreements are governed by separate policies or contractual arrangements and are not covered by this policy.

POLICY

Council provides grant funding to individuals, community groups and organisations to support initiatives that deliver public benefit and advance the City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2025–2035.

Grant funding is one mechanism through which Council invests in activities that:

- strengthen community connection and wellbeing
- support creativity, culture and inclusion
- activate public spaces and enhance liveability
- build local capability and economic resilience
- respond to emerging community needs and opportunities

Council's approach to grant funding emphasises outcomes, value for money and measurable contribution to Council's strategic objectives. Funding is intended to act as a catalyst for innovation, growth and continuous improvement, rather than to subsidise activities that are financially self-sustaining or repetitively delivered without demonstrated public benefit.

Council may administer grant funding through a range of program formats, including open competitive, targeted, non-competitive, ad-hoc or demand-driven approaches, depending on the purpose, scale and intended outcomes of the funding.

Council may provide financial and/or in-kind assistance through its grant programs, subject to available resources and governance requirements. Any in-kind assistance must be proportionate to the scale and risk of the funded activity, assigned an estimated monetary value, and documented in the relevant funding agreement or approval documentation. In-kind assistance forms part of Council's total contribution to an initiative and is not guaranteed.

In determining funding priorities and decisions, Council will:

1. support initiatives that enhance place, liveability and community connection
2. favour proposals demonstrating strong public value and inclusive outcomes
3. support projects that build long-term capability and sector resilience
4. encourage diversity and innovation in funded activities
5. apply governance arrangements proportionate to risk and value.

This policy establishes Council's overarching framework for grant funding. Detailed operational requirements are contained within grant-specific guidelines and procedures.

ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for funding under this policy, applicants must meet Council's eligibility requirements and demonstrate capacity to deliver the proposed activity in accordance with any funding agreement. Council may request additional information from applicants to support assessment or eligibility determination. Meeting eligibility or assessment criteria does not guarantee funding.

Council may deem an applicant ineligible where the applicant:

- has an overdue acquittal, report or repayment obligation relating to any previous Council funding
- has breached the terms or conditions of a Council funding agreement within the previous three (3) years
- is party to another agreement with Council that precludes further grant funding
- has an outstanding debt to Council
- does not hold, or cannot reasonably obtain, appropriate insurance coverage commensurate with the nature and risk of the funded activity.
- cannot demonstrate financial or organisational capacity to deliver the proposed activity
- cannot demonstrate compliance with the Child and Youth Safe Organisations Framework, where the funded activity involves children or young people

- derives revenue from gambling activities. Council funding will not support activities that primarily promote gambling. When determining eligibility, Council may consider the overall public value and community benefit of the proposed activity.
- sells or promotes tobacco or vaping products
- is a government agency or political organisation, or whose primary purpose is political advocacy
- is a current Councillor or Council employee applying in an individual or personal capacity (this does not preclude applications from organisations with which they are affiliated, provided appropriate conflict of interest provisions are declared and managed)

Council may also consider past performance, delivery quality and compliance history when determining eligibility for future funding.

Council may deem a proposed activity ineligible where it:

- does not demonstrate clear public benefit to the Launceston community
- does not align with Council's strategic objectives
- is primarily profit-driven without reinvestment for community benefit
- seeks retrospective funding for activities that have already commenced or concluded (unless expressly permitted in program guidelines)
- involves fundraising for third parties, unless expressly supported through a Council grant program designed to enable fundraising events that contribute to local vibrancy, place activation and community benefit
- lacks required landowner, asset owner or regulatory approvals.

Funding will not generally be provided for routine operational costs or business-as-usual activities unless the applicant can clearly demonstrate that the proposed expenditure:

- contributes directly to Council's strategic objectives; and
- delivers public value beyond the applicant's usual activities, including through innovation, capability building or sector development.

Grant program guidelines may include additional eligibility requirements specific to individual programs, reflecting the purpose, scale and risk of the funding. Guidelines may also specify conditions relating to auspicing arrangements, including financial accountability and compliance responsibilities.

Council may require applicants to provide evidence of financial solvency and governance, including recent financial statements, audited accounts, or governance documentation (such as Annual General Meeting minutes). Where requested, this information must be provided to be considered for funding. Individuals applying in a personal capacity are not required to provide audited financial statements but may be required to demonstrate their capacity to deliver the funded activity.

GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Council is responsible for approving this policy and retains final decision-making authority for grant funding in accordance with its governance framework. Grant programs are administered by Council officers in line with this policy and include

design, assessment coordination, eligibility checks, agreement management, monitoring, reporting and review processes. Assessment panels evaluate applications and provide documented recommendations to Council. Council applies a risk-based approach to grant administration, with monitoring, reporting and compliance requirements scaled to the value and risk profile of funding.

Assessment and Approval

Assessment panels independently assess and score eligible applications against documented assessment criteria and provide recommendations to Council. Assessment panels comprise relevant Council officers and up to two Councillors, with composition proportionate to the scale, complexity and value of the funding program. External expertise may be engaged where specialist knowledge is required. Any individual who has submitted, or is directly associated with, an application in the current funding round must not participate in the assessment, scoring or discussion of applications for that round.

Where appropriate, moderated review processes may be applied to ensure consistency of scoring, fairness of outcomes and alignment with assessment criteria. Moderation processes must be documented and conducted in accordance with Council's governance requirements. A non-scoring probity officer may attend assessment panels to oversee compliance with governance requirements, manage conflicts of interest, and ensure decisions are transparent and appropriately documented.

Final funding decisions are made by Council through formal resolution, having regard to documented recommendations, available budget and strategic priorities. Councillors participating in an assessment panel must not seek to influence Council's final decision outside the documented assessment process.

Roles and Responsibilities

Council officers are responsible for program design, administration of assessment processes, execution of funding agreements and ongoing management of grant recipients. Councillors may participate in assessment panels in accordance with this policy and retain responsibility for approving grant funding decisions. All panel members must comply with conflict-of-interest obligations and governance requirements at all stages of the process. Applicants and recipients are responsible for providing accurate information, complying with funding agreements, and completing required reporting and acquittal.

Probity and Conflicts of Interest

All grant processes must be conducted ethically, impartially, lawfully and transparently. Actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest must be declared and managed in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas). Individuals with a conflict of interest must not participate in, or seek to influence, any part of the assessment or decision-making process for the application round in which the relevant application is being considered. Applications from organisations in which Councillors or Council employees hold a role must be declared and managed in accordance with this policy to ensure transparency and probity in decision-making.

Accountability and Record Management

Grant decisions must be documented and supported by clear rationale. Appropriate records must be maintained to demonstrate compliance with this policy and to support audit, review and public accountability. All grants must be governed by a written funding agreement outlining approved activities, deliverables, reporting requirements and compliance obligations. Funding is conditional upon delivery of agreed outcomes and compliance with funding agreements, including reporting and acquittal requirements proportionate to the value and risk of the grant. Any significant change to the approved activity scope, scale or deliverables must be approved by Council in writing.

Council may apply staged payments, monitoring, audit or other assurance measures proportionate to the value and risk of funding. This includes financial and in-kind contributions provided by Council. Council reserves the right to request evidence of expenditure, vary, suspend or terminate funding, and recover funds where grant conditions are not met.

Funding Management

Where grant funding approved through Council's budget process is uncommitted, withdrawn or returned (for example where a funding round is undersubscribed, a funding agreement is not executed or an approved activity does not proceed), Council may reallocate the available funds to other eligible initiatives within the relevant grant program. Reallocation may occur across funding streams within the program where this supports Council's strategic priorities and remains consistent with the objectives of the grant program. Reallocation delegation is approved at an Executive level, in accordance with Council's governance framework.

Reallocation may be undertaken through either a competitive or non-competitive process, including targeted invitations to apply. Where a non-competitive process is used, applications must be assessed against the relevant assessment criteria and documented in accordance with this policy and the program guidelines.

Transparency

Information about approved grants will be made publicly available in accordance with Council's transparency obligations and relevant legislation.

PRINCIPLES

Council grant funding is guided by the following principles:

Strategic Alignment

Grants must advance the objectives of the City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2025–2035 and contribute to community wellbeing, inclusion, economic vitality and environmental sustainability.

Public Value

Funding is directed to initiatives that deliver clear community benefit and outcomes that would not otherwise occur without Council investment.

Equity and Accessibility

Grant programs are designed to promote fair access and inclusive participation across Launceston's diverse communities.

Capability Building

Council prioritises initiatives that strengthen local capability, encourage innovation, and build resilience within community, cultural, environmental and economic sectors.

Accountability and Transparency

Grant decisions are made openly and responsibly, with clear governance, documentation and reporting to ensure public funds are used effectively.

Integrity

All grant processes are conducted ethically, impartially and in accordance with Council's organisational values and legislative obligations.

RELATED POLICIES & PROCEDURES

This policy is supported by related guidelines, procedures and operational documents, which may be amended from time to time without requiring amendment to this policy, including;

- Grant Program Guidelines & Procedures
- Assessment Panel Terms of Reference
- Funding Agreement Templates
- Assessor Handbooks
- Fraud Control Policy 2023
- Customer Service Charter 2024
- City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2025–2035
- City of Launceston Events Framework 2025

RELATED LEGISLATION

- *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)*
- *Child and Youth Safe Organisations Act 2023 (Tas)*
- *Personal Information Protection Act 1994 (Tas)*
- *Right to Information Act 2009 (Tas)*
- *Anti-Discrimination Act 1998 (Tas)*

REFERENCES

- Australian Government Department of Finance; Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles 2024
- Victorian Auditor-General's Office 2022; Fraud Control Over Local Government Grants
- SmartyGrants; Grant Administration Best Practice Guidance
- Local Government Inspectorate 2019; Protecting Integrity: Yarriambiack Shire Council Investigation

DEFINITIONS

Acquittal A report confirming grant funds were used in accordance with the funding agreement, including outcomes achieved and expenditure. Requirements are proportionate to grant value and risk.

Application process The documented steps required to apply for funding, including eligibility and assessment criteria.

Approver (Decision-maker) The person or body authorised to approve grant funding under Council's governance framework.

Assessment criteria Standards used to evaluate eligible applications. Criteria may be weighted.

Auspicings An arrangement where an incorporated organisation applies for and administers funding on behalf of an unincorporated group or individual and is responsible for compliance.

Conflict of interest A situation where private interests could improperly influence, or be perceived to influence, public duties.

Eligibility criteria Mandatory requirements assessed on a met/not met basis.

Grant Financial or in-kind assistance provided by Council subject to a funding agreement.

Grants administration All processes relating to grant design, assessment, agreements, monitoring, reporting and evaluation.

Grant agreement A legally binding agreement setting out funding conditions and obligations.

Grant guidelines Program-specific documents outlining objectives, eligibility, assessment and operational requirements.

Grant program type The format through which funding is offered, including:

- **Open competitive grants** – publicly advertised and comparatively assessed.
- **Targeted or restricted competitive grants** – competitive programs open to defined applicants.
- **Non-competitive open grants** – applications assessed individually over a set period.
- **Non-competitive closed grants** – invited applications assessed individually.
- **Demand-driven or first-in first-served grants** – funded in order of eligible applications until funds are exhausted.

- **One-off ad hoc grants** – exceptional grants for urgent or unforeseen circumstances.

In-kind assistance Non-monetary support such as services, facilities or equipment.

Sponsorship A commercial arrangement involving reciprocal promotional benefit and not considered a grant under this policy.

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed at least every five (5) years, or earlier where required due to legislative change, operational needs or Council direction. Minor administrative amendments that do not materially alter the intent of this policy may be approved by the Executive Leadership Team.

2. endorses the draft Event Grants Program Guidelines (ECM Doc Set ID 5356551); and
3. notes draft Event Grants Assessment Panel Terms of Reference is also provided for Council's information and consideration for adoption at a future Council Meeting.

REPORT:

This report presents the new draft Outgoing Grants Policy for Council adoption, together with the Event Grants Program Guidelines for endorsement. A draft Event Grants Assessment Panel Terms of Reference is also provided for Council's information and consideration for adoption at a later date.

Background information

Through its grant programs, the City of Launceston invests in initiatives that strengthen community wellbeing, support creativity and inclusion, and contribute to a vibrant and resilient local economy. Council funding supports activities that deliver public benefit, advance the objectives of the City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2025–2035, and contribute to a connected, liveable and future-focused city.

Grant funding is one of several ways Council partners with individuals, organisations and event organisers to support innovation, enable new and emerging ideas, build local capability, and deliver activities that may not otherwise occur without public investment. Council's approach focuses on outcomes, value for money and strategic alignment, with investment prioritised toward initiatives that:

- demonstrate clear public value and community benefit
- contribute to a diverse, inclusive and equitable city
- build capability and resilience within local sectors
- respond to emerging opportunities and community needs

New Outgoing Grants Policy and Revised Event Grant Program Guidelines

The new Outgoing Grants Policy provides a single, overarching framework for Council's outgoing grant funding, consolidating several existing grant policies into a consistent and streamlined approach. It establishes a transparent and accountable basis for funding

decisions and reflects a shift toward a more strategic, outcomes-focused model of investment, grounded in clear principles, including strategic alignment, public value, equity and accessibility, capability building, accountability and transparency, and integrity.

The accompanying Event Grants Program Guidelines have been revised to align with this policy, supporting a more flexible, future-focused approach to event funding and strengthening the consistency, integrity and transparency of assessment processes. The assessment criteria have also been deliberately refined to support stronger funding outcomes. A draft Terms of Reference for the Event Grants Assessment Panels has been developed to support implementation of the program, introducing a more structured and consistent approach to evaluation, including the use of cross-functional Council officers, Councillor representation and probity oversight, with panel composition scaled to the size and risk of each funding stream.

Revised Event Grants Program Structure

The revised program structure introduces distinct strategic and responsive funding streams, better aligning funding with event scale, purpose and desired outcomes. This approach reflects the objectives of Council's endorsed Events Framework, which sets a renewed direction for fostering innovation, supporting high-quality and distinctive programming, and strengthening Launceston's events sector. It prioritises events that contribute to a vibrant year-round calendar, engage diverse audiences, activate public spaces, and express Launceston's unique identity and aspirations.

In line with this framework, the revised program recognises that grant funding should deliver clear public value, rather than simply supporting activities that could proceed without meaningful community benefit. It also seeks to avoid perpetuating repetitive delivery models that do not demonstrate ongoing impact, innovation or alignment with strategic priorities.

Instead, grant funding is intended to act as a catalyst, supporting growth, experimentation and capability development across the sector. It enables new ideas and the meaningful evolution of existing events, encouraging continuous improvement and helping to realise initiatives that may not otherwise occur without Council investment.

RISK IMPLICATIONS:

The revised policy and associated documents strengthen governance, transparency and consistency in grant funding decisions, reducing risks associated with inconsistent assessment, unclear decision-making and lack of documentation. Financial and compliance risks are mitigated through strengthened eligibility requirements, including the ability to request evidence of financial solvency, and through proportionate monitoring, reporting and acquittal requirements. Reputational risk is reduced through the implementation of clear, merit-based assessment processes and improved transparency of funding decisions. There is a minor operational risk associated with transition to the new program structure, which will be managed through clear communication and staged implementation.

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:

The proposed policy and program support positive economic, environmental and social outcomes for the Launceston community. Economically, the Event Grants Program supports local businesses, visitation and activation of the city, contributing to the visitor economy and local employment. Socially, the program supports community participation, inclusion and connection through a diverse range of events and initiatives.

Environmentally, the guidelines promote responsible event delivery practices, including waste reduction and sustainable operations, supporting Council’s broader sustainability objectives.

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2025-2035

Strategic Pillar 1 - Prosperity

Goal 1.1 Launceston is a premier visitor destination, celebrated for its natural beauty, creative and historic city centre, welcoming community, and rich food culture.

Objective 1.1(a)	Grow and celebrate our identity as a UNESCO Creative City of Gastronomy.
Objective 1.1(b)	Enhance Launceston’s reputation nationally and internationally as a leading host city for events and festivals, while leveraging our history and natural beauty to encourage extended and expanded stays.
Objective 1.1(c)	Expand Launceston’s position as an arts and cultural hub by providing an environment for creative industries to thrive.

Strategic Pillar 1 - Prosperity

Goal 1.2 Launceston's economy is resilient and sustainable, with significant growth in its gross regional product (GRP) through a diverse economic base supported by a skilled workforce, enabling business environment, and facilitation of investment opportunities.

Objective 1.2(a)	Capitalise on our competitive advantages by focusing on key sectors including food and agricultural innovation, research & development, advanced manufacturing, healthcare and circular economy initiatives.
Objective 1.2(b)	Position Launceston as a business-friendly city that attracts & nurtures entrepreneurs, startups, and microbusinesses.

Strategic Pillar 1 - Prosperity

Goal 1.3. Launceston's attractive employment opportunities, enviable lifestyle and our reputation as a forward-thinking city make it the destination of choice for professionals, entrepreneurs and innovators.

Objective 1.3(c)

Establish Launceston as a national leader in sustainability through our achievements in circular economy innovation and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Strategic Pillar 3 - People

Goal 3.2 Participation in cultural and recreational activities is widespread across the community and promotes health and wellbeing at all ages while bridging social, cultural and geographical gaps.

Objective 3.2(b)

Broaden and increase participation in arts, cultural, and community events to foster community identity, leadership and capacity building, resilience, pride & a sense of belonging.

Objective 3.2(c)

Leverage the City of Gastronomy designation to foster a sense of shared identity, enhance understanding of cultural diversity, promote grassroots food culture, and enhance food security.

Strategic Pillar 3 - People

Goal 3.3 As northern Tasmania's cultural and commercial centre, Launceston's historic city heart is buzzing with activity throughout the day and into the night.

Objective 3.3(b)

Implement bold initiatives that increase nighttime activity, optimise dwell time, maximise appeal to locals and visitors, and add to the City's vibrancy and safety.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The total budget allocation for Council's Event Grants Program remains unchanged.

The revised Event Grants Program introduces a new funding structure, with allocation across responsive and strategic funding streams as presented to Councillors at the 26 March 2026 workshop.

This approach enables more strategic and targeted investment while remaining within existing budget parameters.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

The Author and Executive Leader have no interests to declare in this matter.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 05- P1x-012 City of Launceston Outgoing Grants Policy 2026 Final Draft For Adoption [17.3.1 - 9 pages]
2. Event Grants Guidelines 2026 Final Draft for Endorsement [17.3.2 - 18 pages]
3. Event Grants Assessment Panels - Draft Terms of Reference [17.3.3 - 7 pages]

18. COMMUNITY ASSETS AND DESIGN

No items have been identified as part of this Agenda

19. DELIVERY AND PERFORMANCE

19.1. Monthly Financial Performance Report - February 2026

FILE NO: SF7694

AUTHOR: Zakia Afroz (Team Leader Accounting)

APPROVER: Nathan Williams (Executive Leader Delivery and Performance)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the February 2026 Capital and Operational financial reports against budget.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. notes the Monthly Financial Performance Report outlining both Capital and Operational results to the period ending 28 February 2026.
-

REPORT:

Operational Result February 2026

Details are provided in Attachment 1 - Monthly Financial Performance Report Period 8 - Feb 2026 V2.

The YTD budget forecasts an underlying deficit of \$98,230. The YTD actual underlying surplus is \$2,191,349. This results in a favourable YTD variance of \$2,289,579.

Rates are tracking \$77k unfavourable to budget. Residential property rates show an unfavourable variance of \$433k due to delays in issuing supplementary valuations by the Valuer-General, whereas, in contrast, commercial and industrial rates exceeded budget by \$103k, and rates charges and fire services contributions are \$181k favourable, partially offsetting the residential shortfall.

User Fees and Charges are tracking \$1.1m YTD budget due to increased trading revenue for Launceston Aquatic, Carr Villa, Launceston Waste Centre, Gas extraction royalties, Parking and QVMAG Bookshop, whereas Launceston Aquatic Health and Fitness, education income, exhibition income and car-park revenues are lower than anticipated.

The delayed transfer of UTAS Stadium to Stadiums Tasmania has generated an unbudgeted income of \$283k from AFL game hosting. However, it is fully offset by associated expenses.

Statutory Fees and Charges are \$212k unfavourable to budget, primarily due to lower building survey plan fee revenue, as the service has not been operating at full capacity. In addition, parking infringement income is below budget, driven by reduced staffing levels within the parking team, further contributing to the unfavourable result.

Other Income is \$1.0m favourable, mainly due to Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) reimbursements for the 2022–2024 flood and storm events and the insurance settlement for Duck Reach Gorge. Additional favourable contributions have come from Planning and Assessment, the Aquatic Centre, and a \$129k insurance premium refund following the transfer of UTAS Stadium to Stadiums Tasmania.

Employee Benefits are tracking \$1.3m favourable to budget. The YTD salaries variance shifted from a \$127k favourable position in January to \$252k favourable. This shift was largely due to labour savings from Project Shape. Payroll tax and workers' compensation continue to track favourably as a result of vacancies. Redundancy payouts as part of Project Shape also increased leave expenses, further contributing to the variance as these costs were unbudgeted.

The unfavourable variance of \$510k in Material and Service is attributable to higher than budgeted expenditure in the Corporate Applications project and renovation works at Remount Road and Town Hall, along with increased building maintenance across Facilities. Additional costs for expert advice and land tax this month have further contributed to the unfavourable position.

Depreciation expenses are unfavourable to budget by \$524k. This variance is primarily due to the budget being developed using a CPI indexation rate of 3.10%, whereas the actual revaluation of roads and parks assets resulted in materially higher asset values than anticipated. The increased asset base has, in turn, driven higher than budgeted depreciation expenses.

Loss on Disposal of Fixed Assets has also resulted in an unfavorable variance of \$62.342m, with \$61.425m of this variance primarily reflecting the disposal of fixed assets from the UTAS Stadium transfer.

Capital Expenditure February 2026

Total capital expenditure budget for 2025/2026 is made up of carried forward budget funds of \$48,734,116, Current Year Council Funds of \$30,048,438 and External Funding of \$23,685,349 for a total budget of \$102,467,903.

The Council currently has a total of 141 capital projects with 11 (7.80%) not started. This is a change from the December period where there were a total of 135 capital projects and 10 (7.41%) did not start.

RISK IMPLICATIONS:

Council operates within a constrained financial environment with an approved deficit operating budget for 2025/2026.

Ensuring that Councilors and the public are provided with timely monthly information regarding Council's financial performance on a regular basis is critical to transparency and informed decision making.

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:

Not considered relevant to this report.

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2025-2035

Council's consideration of this matter supports delivery of a core service or function.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

As per the report.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

The Author and Executive Leader have no interests to declare in this matter.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Monthly Financial Performance Report Period 8 - Feb 2026 V 2 [19.1.1 - 10 pages]

19.2. 2025/2026 Budget - Budget Amendment

FILE NO: SF7769,SF7514

AUTHOR: Zakia Afroz (Team Leader Accounting)

APPROVER: Nathan Williams (Executive Leader Delivery and Performance)

DECISION STATEMENT:

For Council to:

1. consider changes to the Council's 2025/2026 Statutory Estimates.

A decision for Recommendation 1. requires an absolute majority of Council in accordance with section 82(4) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas).

2. consider adjustments made during 1 February to 28 February 2026 by the Chief Executive Officer to the 2025/2026 Budget.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. pursuant to section 82(4) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* and by an absolute majority, approves the following changes to the 2025/2026 Statutory Estimates:
 - (a) Revenue
 - i. the net increase in revenue from external grants and contributions of \$86,175.
 - (b) Expenses
 - i. the net increase in operations expenditure of \$466,000.
 - (c) Capital Works Expenditure
 - i. the net increase in expenditure from external funds of \$86,175.
 - ii. the decrease in the Council's funded expenditure of \$466,000.
 2. notes that amendments from Recommendation 1. result in:
 - (a) the operating deficit being amended to \$1,914,196 (including capital grants of \$23,685,350) for 2025/2026.
 - (b) the capital budget being decreased to \$53,733,788 for 2025/2026.
 3. pursuant to section 82(7) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)*, receives the Chief Executive Officer's report on adjustments to the 2025/2026 budget for the period 1 February to 28 February 2026.
-

REPORT:

1. Budget Amendments

The budget amendments are changes to the Statutory Estimates which require a Council decision. The changes relate to external grant revenue and transfers between Operations and Capital projects.

	Operations \$'000	Capital \$'000
Statutory Budget as 01/07/2025	2,097	34,007
Adjustments Approved by Council to 31/01/2026	20,054	20,107
Balance Previously Advised as at 31/01/2026	22,151	54,114
<u>Amendments</u>		
Additional Council Funds	0	0
Capital to Operations	(501)	(501)
Operations to Capital	35	35
External Funds	86	86
External Funds Not Received	0	0
Statutory Budget as at 28/02/2026	21,771	53,734
Deduct Capital Grants and Contributions	(23,685)	
Underlying Operating Budget Surplus/(Deficit)	(1,914)	

The table summarises all other Budget Agenda Items and includes reconciliations of the budgeted operating result and capital expenditure.

Details of the amendments are as follows:.

1(a) The following items need to be reallocated from Capital to Operations:

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24769	Buildings Renewal Program 25/26	\$1,735,996	\$70,000	\$0	\$1,665,996
OP25531	OPM2026 LAC Roof Repair	\$0	\$0	\$70,000	\$70,000
	TOTALS	\$1,735,996	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$1,735,996

The project scope of works:

Transfer funds from CP24769 – Buildings Renewal Program 25/26 to OP25531 – OPM2026 LAC Roof Repair to meet the expenses associated with the repair of roof elements contributing to ongoing leak issues in the Old Launceston Aquatic Centre Admin Building.

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24769	Buildings Renewal Program 25/26	\$1,665,996	\$20,000	\$0	\$1,645,996
OP25532	OPM2026 QVMAG Royal Park Drainage Repair	\$0	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000
	TOTALS	\$1,665,996	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$1,665,996

The project scope of works:

Transfer funds from CP24769 – Buildings Renewal Program 25/26 to OP25532 – OPM2026 QVMAG Royal Park Drainage Repair to cover cost to the repair of the concrete drainage system in Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Royal Park basement. Water ingress under the building has damaged existing drainage and now poses a risk to collection items stored in this area.

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24769	Buildings Renewal Program 25/26	\$1,615,996	\$280,000	\$0	\$1,335,996
OP25551	OPM2026 Ravenswood Over 50's Club Roof	\$0	\$0	\$280,000	\$280,000
	TOTALS	\$1,615,996	\$280,000	\$280,000	\$1,615,996

The project scope of works:

Transfer funds from CP24769 – Buildings Renewal Program 25/26 to OP25551 OPM2026 Ravenswood Over 50's Club Roof to allocate costs associated with the Ravenswood Over 50's Club external roof repairs and internal remediation works.

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24769	Buildings Renewal Program 25/26	\$1,335,996	\$10,000	\$0	\$1,325,996
OP25552	OPM2026 LAC HVAC Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$10,000	\$10,000
	TOTALS	\$1,335,996	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$1,335,996

The project scope of works:

The transfer of funds from Capital Project 24769 Building Renewal Project 25/26 to Operational Project 25552 LAC HVAC Maintenance will fund the maintenance works of the steel suspension wires that support the HVAC ducting within the ceiling space of the Launceston Aquatic Centre.

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24769	Buildings Renewal Program 25/26	\$1,325,996	\$35,000	\$0	\$1,290,996
OP25511	Town Hall Structural Repairs	\$75,000	\$0	\$35,000	\$110,000
	TOTALS	\$1,400,996	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$1,400,996

The project scope of works:

The transfer of funds from Capital Project 24769 Building Renewal Project 25/26 to Operational Project 25511 Town Hall Structural Repairs is required to cover additional required works to address the structural defects in the Customer Service Office in Town Hall.

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24440	LCH City Heart	\$2,765,000	\$11,000	\$0	\$2,754,000
OP25517	OPM2026 Strategic Engagement Comms Prog	\$0	\$0	\$11,000	\$11,000
	TOTALS	\$2,765,000	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$2,765,000

The project scope of works:

A total budget of \$5.5 million for the 2025/2026 financial year has been allocated to the City Heart project to facilitate the implementation of actions from the Launceston City Heart Place Plan 2024-2029 in accordance with the 5-year Implementation Plan and Council's 2025/2026 Annual Plan. As projects which address the actions under the plans are reviewed and approved by the City Heart Project Steering Group budget amendments will be undertaken to move funds across to projects for work to be undertaken.

This project is development and implementation of a Strategic Engagement and Communications Program which centres on the City Heart but touches on broader issues relating to city transformation.

The program is envisaged to be a collaboration between Council and key partners such as the Launceston Chamber of Commerce, Launceston Central and Visit Northern Tasmania. This project will help Council, stakeholders, and the community have a clear, shared vision and understanding of its components, stronger and more trusting partnerships with community and stakeholders, better aligned activity and investment, and greater sense of optimism and purpose.

The City Heart Project Steering Group has reviewed this project and determined that it is suitable to be undertaken under the requirements of the Launceston City Heart Place Plan.

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24440	LCH City Heart	\$2,754,000	\$75,000	\$0	\$2,679,000
OP25516	OPM2026 York Street Carpark LCH	\$0	\$0	\$75,000	\$75,000
	TOTALS	\$2,754,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$2,754,000

The project scope of works:

This project will assess the feasibility of delivering a medium density housing development on the York Street West Carpark through well designed infill development that supports urban renewal and aligns with Council's strategic growth objectives. The total budget of \$75,000 for stage 1 and stage 2 needs to be funded by and transferred from the LCH City Heart project.

The City Heart Project Steering Group has reviewed this project and determined that it is suitable to be undertaken under the requirements of the Launceston City Heart Place Plan.

Capital to Operations	Operations	Capital
OPM2026 LAC Roof Repair	\$70,000	(\$70,000)
OPM2026 QVMAG Royal Park Drainage Repair	\$20,000	(\$20,000)
OPM2026 Ravenswood Over 50's Club Roof	\$280,000	(\$280,000)
OPM2026 LAC HVAC Maintenance	\$10,000	(\$10,000)
OPM2026 Town Hall Structural Repairs	\$35,000	(\$35,000)
OPM2026 Strategic Engagement Comms Prog	\$11,000	(\$11,000)
OPM2026 York Street Carpark LCH	\$75,000	(\$75,000)
TOTAL	\$501,000	(\$501,000)

1(b) The following items need to be reallocated from Operations to Capital:

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
OP25445	Operations - City Centre Activation	\$384,700	\$35,000	\$0	\$349,700
CP24817	City Centre Activation	\$0	\$0	\$35,000	\$35,000
	TOTALS	\$384,700	\$35,000	\$35,000	\$384,700

The project scope of works:

As part of the City Centre Activation initiative, the Brisbane Street Mall Lighting Upgrade project will be undertaken to enhance the functionality and overall presentation of the area. Given that the expenditure associated with this project is capital in nature, a budget amendment is required to reallocate the relevant funds from the operational budget to the designated capital project.

Operations to Capital	Operations	Capital
City Centre Activation - Brisbane Mall Lighting Initiative	(\$35,000)	\$35,000
TOTAL	(\$35,000)	\$35,000

1(c) The following items have been affected by external funding changes and affect both the Capital and Operations budgets:

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
GL 10.0.1035.1 000.12505	External funds - Cap Contributions Other	\$0	\$20,000	\$0	(\$20,000)
CP24771	LWC Hook Bin Replacement Program 25/26	\$50,000	\$0	\$20,000	\$70,000
	TOTALS	\$50,000	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$50,000

The project scope of works:

This amendment serves to formally recognize the grant received from Natural Resource Management North for the Capital Project LWC Hook Bin Replacement Program 25/26, and to incorporate the associated funding into approved budget.

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
GL 10.0.1075.1 000.12731	Urban Roads-STATE	(\$883,950)	\$66,175	\$0	(\$950,125)
CP24794	Kings Meadows Connector Shared Path	\$0	\$0	\$66,175	\$66,175
	TOTALS	(\$883,950)	\$66,175	\$66,175	(\$883,950)

The project scope of works:

The amendment serves to formally recognize the grant received from Active Transport Fund for the Capital Project Kings Meadows Connector Shared Path, and to incorporate the associated funding into the approved budget.

External Funding	Operations	Capital
LWC Hook Bin Replacement Program 25/26	(\$20,000)	\$20,000
Kings Meadows Connector Shared Path	(\$66,175)	\$66,175
TOTAL	(\$86,175)	\$86,175

1(d) The following items need to be reallocated between Capital projects but do not alter the operating surplus:

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24440	LCH City Heart	\$5,095,000	\$1,310,000	\$0	\$3,785,000
CP24807	LCH-Bus Interchange	\$0	\$0	\$620,000	\$620,000
CP24805	LCH-Two Way Streets	\$0	\$0	\$690,000	\$690,000
	TOTALS	\$5,095,000	\$1,310,000	\$1,310,000	\$5,095,000

The project scope of works:

Capital Project CP24807 - LCH Bus Interchange will receive a budget transfer from CP24440 - LCH City Heart to facilitate the delivery of a contemporary bus interchange that enables the broader City Heart program to proceed by finalising bus routes and interchange location.

Capital Project CP 24805 - LCH Two Way Streets will receive a budget transfer from CP24440 - LCH City Heart to deliver safer, more attractive, and people-focused streets that encourage public transport usage, community interaction and improved access to public transport facilities.

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24440	LCH City Heart	\$3,785,000	\$550,000	\$0	\$3,235,000
CP24815	LCH Brisbane St Mall Initiatives	\$0	\$0	\$550,000	\$550,000
	TOTALS	\$3,785,000	\$550,000	\$550,000	\$3,785,000

The project scope of works:

As part of the Birchalls Redevelopment, a destination playspace will be installed in the Brisbane St Mall. This project will deliver an inclusive play experience to promote engagement with the mall and complement the urban character and future food and beverage offerings.

The playspace will contribute to positive economic outcomes for surrounding businesses by supporting longer dwell times and repeat visits. It also creates social benefits by activating the mall, improving passive surveillance, and reinforcing Brisbane Street as a shared civic space that caters to all ages. Together, these outcomes support a more vibrant, inclusive and resilient city centre.

The City Heart Project Steering Group has reviewed this project and determined that it is suitable to be undertaken under the requirements of the Launceston City Heart Place Plan.

2. Chief Executive Officer's Report on Adjustments

Pursuant to section 82(6) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas), Council has authorised the General Manager (Chief Executive Officer) to adjust budgets up to \$500,000 so long as the adjustments do not alter revenue, expenditure, borrowings or capital works estimates in total. The Budget Management Policy (12-PI-001), adopted by Council on 13 October 2014, refers to section 82(7) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) which requires the Chief Executive Officer to report any adjustment and an explanation of the adjustment at the first Ordinary Meeting of the Council following the adjustment.

Project Number	Project Description	Budget Before This Adjustment	Adjustment	Revised Budget	Type of Change
CP24495	Stormwater Pipeline - Gallopers Rise	\$211,052	(\$156,052)	\$55,000	Decrease
CP24765	Footpath Reseal Program 25/26	\$1,132,856	\$156,052	\$1,288,908	Increase
CP24495	Stormwater Pipeline - Gallopers Rise	\$55,000	(\$55,000)	\$0	Decrease
CP24819	IT PC Hardware Replacement Program	\$0	\$55,000	\$55,000	Increase
CP24770	Lilydale Falls Water Supply & Waste Water	\$40,000	(\$40,000)	\$0	Decrease
CP24819	IT PC Hardware Replacement Program	\$55,000	\$25,000	\$80,000	Increase
CP24818	Drone Equipment Upgrade	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000	Increase
CP24769	Buildings Renewal Program 25/26	\$1,645,996	(\$30,000)	\$1,615,996	Decrease
CP24816	BMX Club New Roof	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000	Increase
CP24440	LCH City Heart	\$3,235,000	(\$100,000)	\$3,135,000	Decrease
CP24821	LCH Princes Square Activation	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000	Increase
CP24440	LCH City Heart	\$3,135,000	(\$200,000)	\$2,935,000	Decrease
CP24820	LCH Princes Theatre Public Realm	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000	Increase
CP24440	LCH City Heart	\$2,935,000	(\$170,000)	\$2,765,000	Decrease
CP24125	Birchall's Building Redevelopment	\$750,000	\$170,000	\$920,000	Increase
	TOTALS	\$13,194,904	\$0	\$13,194,904	

The following capital project adjustments occurred in the period 01 February 2026 to 28 February 2026:

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24495	Stormwater Pipeline - Gallopers Rise	\$211,052	\$156,052	\$0	\$55,000
CP24765	Footpath Reseal Program 25/26	\$1,132,856	\$0	\$156,052	\$1,288,908
CP24495	Stormwater Pipeline - Gallopers Rise	\$55,000	\$55,000	\$0	\$0
CP24819	IT PC Hardware Replacement Program	\$0	\$0	\$55,000	\$55,000
CP24770	Lilydale Falls Water Supply & Waste Water	\$40,000	\$40,000	\$0	\$0
CP24819	IT PC Hardware Replacement Program	\$55,000	\$0	\$25,000	\$80,000
CP24818	Drone Equipment Upgrade	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$15,000
	TOTALS	\$1,493,908	\$251,052	\$251,052	\$1,493,908

The project scope of works:

The Asset Management Steering Committee has assessed the status and deliverables of approved capital projects. As a result, the committee has reallocated funds for certain projects, considering the Capital Program being prepared for FY26/27. This reallocation aims to prioritise expenditure on projects that can be completed by the end of the financial year.

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24769	Buildings Renewal Program 25/26	\$1,645,996	\$30,000	\$0	\$1,615,996
CP24818	BMX Club New Roof	\$0	\$0	\$30,000	\$30,000
	TOTALS	\$1,645,996	\$30,000	\$30,000	\$1,645,996

The project scope of works:

Transfer funds from CP24769 – Buildings Renewal Program 25/26 to CP24816 BMX Club New Roof to fund the design & construction of the new roof for the St. Leonard Sports BMX Pavillion. The construction includes all external cladding, sky lights, fascia, gutters and down pipes.

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24440	LCH City Heart	\$3,235,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$3,135,000
CP24821	LCH Princes Square Activation	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000
	TOTALS	\$3,235,000	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$3,235,000

The project scope of works:

The project will create opportunities for improved amenities, passive surveillance and nighttime activities in and around Princes Square. Deliver improved greening to enhance visual appeal at entry points to the park and including St Johns St round about. Landscape gardening treatments to existing garden beds to enhance passive surveillance within Prince’s Square, including development of a supporting landscape specification. Install picnic dining infrastructure to provide improved community dining to promote this community function.

The City Heart Project Steering Group has assessed the application for this project and agreed that it will address deliverables under the City Heart Place Plan.

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24440	LCH City Heart	\$3,135,000	\$200,000	\$0	\$2,935,000
CP24820	LCH Princess Theatre Public Realm	\$0	\$0	\$200,000	\$200,000
	TOTALS	\$3,135,000	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$3,135,000

The project scope of works:

To develop documentation for a project that will transform the public realm around the Princess Theatre and Earl Arts Centre into a welcoming, accessible, and vibrant destination, anchoring public space around a major cultural icon and supporting Launceston’s performing arts scene, night-time economy, and walkability. This is the stage 1 design work ready for implementation in future years. The City Heart Project Steering Group has assessed the application for this project and agreed that it will address deliverables under the City Heart Place Plan.

Project Number	Project Description	Current Approved Amount	Transfer From	Transfer To	New Budget
CP24440	LCH City Heart	\$2,935,000	\$170,000	\$0	\$2,765,000
CP24125	Birchall's Building Redevelopment	\$750,000	\$0	\$170,000	\$920,000
	TOTALS	\$3,685,000	\$170,000	\$170,000	\$3,685,000

The project scope of works:

The Birchalls building redevelopment will activate the Brisbane Street mall through new open spaces, residential and commercial tenancies. This project will deliver a redevelopment of the currently underutilised space by partnering with external developers to deliver the construction works.

The project will create a vibrant hub of activity, integrating retail, residential, and commercial spaces, and supporting economic growth and enhanced liveability in central Launceston, encouraging foot traffic, boosting local businesses, and providing modern amenities, while also respecting the heritage of the Existing Building and surrounding area.

Funding is required to continue Council's role in the development and support our interests. This includes additional unforeseen requirements for external legal and financial advice, and funding activities. The City Heart Project Steering Group has reviewed this project and determined that it is suitable to be undertaken under the requirements of the Launceston City Heart Place Plan.

RISK IMPLICATIONS:

Not considered relevant to this report.

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:

Not considered relevant to this report.

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2025-2035

Not applicable:

Council's consideration of this matter supports delivery of a core service or function.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL ASPECTS:

As per the report.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

The Author and Executive Leader have no interests to declare in this matter.

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

19.3. Disposal of Interest in Land - 23-29 Blamey Road Punchbowl

FILE NO: SF2963

AUTHOR: Michelle Grey (Properties and Legal Officer)

APPROVER: Nathan Williams (Executive Leader Delivery and Performance)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider granting an easement over public land at 23-29 Blamey Road, Punchbowl to the Launceston Golf Club

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. notes the Valuer-General's valuation for the land.
2. pursuant to section 178 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)*, forms an intention to create an easement in favour of the Launceston Golf Club totalling approximately 70m² over Certificate of Title 246804/1 as generally indicated in the image below for \$2,396.70 (plus GST) subject to the easement dimensions being more accurately identified.



3. requires that the purchase price for the easement be at the rate of \$34.12 (plus GST) per square metre (with the exact price to be determined at the time of final survey) plus all relevant costs as follows:
 - (a) public advertising of the intention to dispose, approximately \$1,200 (plus GST);
 - (b) \$1,732 (plus GST) being the Council's fee for disposal of an interest in Council and; and
 - (c) all survey, legal and Land Titles Office registration fees and costs associated with the conveyance.

 4. requests the Chief Executive Officer to:
 - (a) ensure that formal notice is given of the intention to create the easement, as required by subsection 178(4) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas); and
 - (b) subject to any objection received during the statutory notice period:
 - i. determine the exact dimensions of the easement and all remaining terms and conditions; and
 - ii. exercise any of Council's rights, options or discretions necessary for registration of the easement.

 5. notes, for the avoidance of doubt Chief Executive Officer is a term of reference for the General Manager as appointed by Council pursuant to section 61 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas).
-

REPORT:

In about August 2025 the Council was approached by an electrical contractor for the Launceston Golf Club for permission to enter public land at the Moreshead Street Reserve at 23-29 Blamey Road, Punchbowl to install and operate underground electricity cables.

The Council issued a Permit/Authorisation to Occupy Road, Park or Public Reserve on 15 August 2025 (ECM Doc Set ID 8498187). The permit was issued over part of Moreshead Street Reserve, being public land owned by the Council.

Launceston Golf Club's electrical contractor entered the land to install the underground electricity cable and connect it to an upgraded TasNetworks substation on Blamey Road, pursuant to a connection negotiated with TasNetworks. The negotiated connection removes the need for overhead powerlines.

The General Manager of the Launceston Golf Club advised that the underground electricity cable was installed in early January 2026.

On 16 February 2026 the Launceston Golf Club confirmed in writing that:

- it agrees to pay all costs associated with the transfer of the easement as per the Recommendations; and
 - agrees with the Valuer-General's valuation of the land and that the purchase price is to be confirmed by final survey, which will be paid for by the Launceston Golf Club.
-

Section 178 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) requires that disposals of public land be advertised.

Title Details

The total area of the property being Moreshead Street Reserve is 1.8466 Hectares in area and is zoned Public Recreation. The land is comprised of Certificate of Title Volume 246804 Folio 1. An extract of that folio plan is shown below (Figure 1).



Figure 1 - Folio Plan extract

Proposed electricity cable easement

The proposed easement (shown in the figure below) is to contain the Launceston Golf Club's private underground electricity infrastructure which serves Launceston Golf Club pump/s. The proposed easement is an estimated 1m wide and 70.25m long as shown by the white line in Figure 2.



Figure 2 - proposed location of work and easement

Council has been asked to agree to the proposed estimated easement prior to survey of the area.

Access to Easement Post Construction of the Infrastructure

The easement will provide Launceston Golf Club with access to maintain the private underground electricity cable. Public access to the Moreshead Street Reserve will not be affected.

Officer Consultation

The Senior Leader Community Place and Wellbeing was consulted regarding potential impact of the proposed easement on City of Launceston plans. While the proposed easement means a restriction on tree planting and construction of any Council infrastructure in the location of the easement, the proposed easement is acceptable.

Valuation of Easement

A formal valuation was not obtained for the proposed easement given the associated cost, together with the availability of the Valuer General's rating valuation dated 22 March 2024 (ECM Doc Set ID 5338242). A rough estimate has been made using the Valuer General's valuation as per the calculation below:

Area of entire title (m2)	Area of easement (m2)	\$/m2	Valuation 22/3/2024 (\$)
18466		34.12	630,000
	70.25	34.12	2,396.70

It is recommended that the easement be disposed of for \$2,396.70 (plus GST) subject to the easement dimensions being more accurately identified. The purchase price will be updated to reflect the confirmed dimensions identified by final survey.

Disposal Mechanism

The land under consideration is public land within the meaning of the (the Act). That designation triggers the requirements of section 178 of (the Act). Relevantly, that section provides that if the Council forms an intention to dispose of an interest in public land, public notice of that fact is to be given in accordance with the requirements, as detailed below:

- 178(4) If a council intends to sell, lease, donate, exchange or otherwise dispose of public land, the general manager is to—*
- (a) publish that intention on at least 2 separate occasions in a daily newspaper circulating in the municipal area; and*
 - (ab) display a copy of the notice on any boundary of the public land that abuts a highway; and*
 - (b) notify the public that objection to the proposed sale, lease, donation, exchange or disposal may be made to the general manager within 21 days of the date of the first publication.*

The Council's officers will ensure that the intention to dispose of the easement is properly given and in line with legislative requirements.

If no objections are received to the disposal, the transfer can occur in accordance with the authority given by this decision outlined in the recommendations.

If an objection is received, the matter will return to Council for formal consideration.

If an objector subsequently lodges an appeal with the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Appeals Tribunal (TasCAT), the Council is further prevented from proceeding until that matter has been finalised.

The easement will only be created at the conclusion of TasCAT proceedings if an appeal is made.

Conclusion

The proposal to dispose of a 70m² easement in the proposed location at 23-29 Blamey Road, Punchbowl will not impact on users of the Moreshead Street Reserve.

Accordingly, it is recommended that Councillors dispose of the easement for \$34.12 per square metre (ex GST) subject to public notification, survey, legal and registration costs being borne by Launceston Golf Club.

RISK IMPLICATIONS:

The Launceston Golf Club requires an easement to operate pumps on the golf course with the connection to TasNetworks' service. Without an easement the Launceston Golf Club will not have a permanent legal right to use and maintain the underground electricity cable and may need to renegotiate with TasNetworks for connection.

For the Council, the Launceston Golf Club may return to the Council for assistance in finding an alternative solution.

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:

Not considered relevant to this report.

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2025-2035

Not applicable:

Council's consideration of this matter meets a legislative requirement.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Not considered relevant to this report.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

The Author and Executive Leader have no interests to declare in this matter.

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

20. STRATEGY AND INNOVATION

No Items have been identified as part of this Agenda

21. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER NETWORK

No items have been identified as part of this Agenda

22. LATE ITEMS

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 – regulation 10(7)

No Items have been identified as part of this Agenda

23. CLOSED COUNCIL

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 – regulation 17(1)

No Items have been identified as part of this Agenda

24. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING DATE

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at 1.00pm on 30 April at the Council Chambers, Town Hall, 18-28 St John Street, Launceston.

25. MEETING CLOSURE