City of
LAUNCESTON

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 18 JUNE 2026
1:00 PM

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

Date: 18 June 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.

Jane Lewis
Acting Chief Executive Officer

VIDEO and AUDIO STREAMING of COUNCIL MEETINGS

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.

The Mayor or their representative will provide notice that the meeting will be recorded through live streaming. By attending a Council meeting, attendees will be taken to have consented to their image, speech or statements being live streamed.

For further information, please refer to our Video and Audio Streaming of Meetings Policy and our Privacy Policy available at: https://www.launceston.tas.gov.au/Council-Region/Legislation-and-Policy/Policy

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 Office*r means *General Manager* for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) and all other legislation administered by or concerning Council.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

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. COMMENCEMENT TIME OF MEETING

2.1. Commencement Time of Meeting

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - Regulation 7(1) - A meeting is not to start before 5.00pm unless otherwise determined by absolute majority or by the council committee by simple majority.

This decision requires an absolute majority of Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. by absolute majority, pursuant to regulation 7(1) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, determines that this Special Council Meeting is to start at or as soon as possible after 1 pm on Thursday, 18 June 2026.

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. DELIVERY AND PERFORMANCE

4.1. 2026/2027 Statutory Estimates (Budget)

FILE NO: SF7154

AUTHOR: Byron Fraser (Senior Leader Finance and Technology)

APPROVER: Nathan Williams (Executive Leader Delivery and Performance)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the adoption of the Council's Statutory Estimates for the financial year ending 30 June 2027.

This decision requires an absolute majority of Council pursuant to section 82(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas).

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Workshop – 12 March 2026 – Budget and Fees & Charges 2026/27
Workshop – 26 March 2026 – Budget 2026/27
Workshop – 21 May 2026 – Budget and Rates Modelling 2026/27

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. Pursuant to section 82(2) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), adopts:

(a)	Estimated Revenue (including Capital Grants)	$172.2m
(b)	Estimated Expenditure	
	▪ Operating	$161.7m
	▪ Capital	$66.8m
(c)	Estimated Capital Works	
	▪ Council Funded	$54.0m
	▪ Externally Funded	$12.8m

2. Pursuant to section 82(3)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), adopts the Statutory Estimates for the financial year ending 30 June 2027 as detailed in Attachment 1 (Doc Set ID 5380156).

	2027 ($m)	2026 ($m)
Revenue	172.2	150.3
Revenue (excluding Capital Funds)	159.4	147.4
Expenditure	161.7	148.2
Expenditure (excluding non-cash costs)	132.3	120.7
Capital Funds (Council and External funded)	66.8	34.0
Council Funded Capital Works	53.9	31.1
External Funded Capital Works	12.8	2.9

3. Pursuant to section 82(3)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), adopts the Capital Projects and Major Operational Projects for the financial year ending 30 June 2027 as detailed in Attachment 1 (Doc Set ID 5380156).

REPORT:

The City of Launceston is a large and dynamic organisation, employing 624 staff with an annual budget of more than $170 million. As the primary provider of local services, infrastructure and community facilities, Council has a significant and far-reaching role in shaping the City's liveability, supporting economic activity, and enhancing the wellbeing and prosperity of the Launceston community.

This budget represents a bold investment in Launceston's future, delivering the largest capital works program in Council's history at $67 million, alongside $6.5 million in major operational projects that will enhance liveability, support economic growth and strengthen community resilience. It also provides for the continued delivery of essential everyday services such as waste collection, road maintenance and public health programs, while investing in the infrastructure and initiatives that help shape the city's future, including cultural assets, safer roads, greener spaces and housing development. Together, these investments will help ensure Launceston remains a vibrant, attractive and resilient place to live, work and visit.

A key priority for the organisation is the delivery of a financially sustainable budget that supports both current-day affordability and long-term financial sustainability. Council is committed to upholding the principle of intergenerational equity, ensuring that today's decisions do not impose an undue financial burden on future generations. The scale and complexity of operations require sensible financial management and ongoing alignment between Council's Strategic Plan and approved strategies, community expectations, service delivery standards, and fiscal responsibility. The annual budget underpins this work, enabling the delivery of essential services while facilitating investment in infrastructure and strategic initiatives that shape Launceston's future.

Council engaged in a community consultation process prior to the final determination of the Annual Plan, Annual Budget, and rating resolution for the 2026/2027 financial year. All comments that were received during the consultation period were considered by Councillors at the Council Workshop held on 21 May 2026.

The Statutory Estimates for 2026/2027 forecasts an Underlying Deficit of $2.2m. After including externally funded Capital Grants of $12.8m, an Operating Surplus of $10.6m is projected.

Council has included a general rate increase of 4.90% in 2026/2027, along with 1.75% growth in the rating revenue base. While the overall increase in rate revenue is 4.90%, modelling indicates that this equates to an approximate 4.57% increase to the total rates notice for the median residential property. This represents an increase of around $89 compared to the previous year, or just under $1.80 per week.

In preparing the budget, Councillors debated the proposed options during their budget workshop and carefully considered ongoing cost-of-living pressures, along with feedback received from the community throughout the consultation process. Options were presented for a larger rate increase than that being recommended; however, Councillors provided clear direction to propose a 4.90% rate increase for 2026/2027. This approach will require Council staff to actively manage the resulting deficit position throughout the year, although ongoing inflationary pressures will make this increasingly challenging.

This will result in Council adopting a deficit budget for the 2026/2027 financial year. While not a decision taken lightly, the deficit position is considered manageable given the current economic climate and is underpinned by a strong commitment to long term financial sustainability.

Employee costs remain Council’s largest area of expenditure and, as a result, even relatively modest changes in wage assumptions have a material impact on the overall budget position. Labour costs have increased compared to the previous year, primarily due to the 5% salary increase for existing staff under the new Enterprise Agreement. Compared to the initial four-day work week proposal, which assumed a 1% pay increase, the approved 5% salary increase under the Enterprise Agreement adds $3.4 million to employee costs. This additional cost is equivalent to a 4.5% rate increase and is materially higher than the employee cost assumptions modelled under that earlier proposal. The revised budget therefore reflects a significantly higher employee cost base, driven by the agreed Enterprise Agreement outcome rather than the four-day work week proposal.

A revised Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) will outline a clear pathway back to a modest underlying surplus budget position supported by measured and responsible rate increases. In parallel, Council is actively pursuing organisational efficiencies to reduce cost pressures, strengthen service delivery and improve long-term financial sustainability. This work includes greater use of artificial intelligence and digital tools to improve productivity and decision-making, alongside the continued implementation of Project Ignite to modernise systems, streamline processes and strengthen organisational capability. Council is also progressing a comprehensive review of service levels across the organisation and reinforcing leadership accountability to ensure resources are directed to the areas of greatest strategic and community value.

These initiatives are designed to better align Council's operations and investment decisions with the priorities set out in its ambitious Strategic Plan. Council will continue to engage with the community throughout this process, maintaining transparency and ensuring that financial decisions remain closely connected to the aspirations and needs of the Launceston community.

Some significant inclusions in the Capital Works program are;

- $31 million for Princess Theatre & Earl Arts Centre Upgrade
- $11.4 million for Margaret Street Reconstruction
- $3.3 million for Road Reseal Program
- $3.3 million for Second River Road Reconstruction
- $1.8 million for Launceston City Heart Two Way Streets
- $1.2 million for Kings Meadows Connector Shared Path
- $1 million for Launceston Aquatic Change Rooms Renewal
- $0.5m for Urban Greening in Newnham

Fees and Charges have generally increased by 5.0% for 2026/2027, with full details set out in the schedule of Fees and Charges approved by Council at its meeting on 28 May 2026. The increase reflects a more equitable user-pays approach, ensuring that the costs of Council-owned facilities and services are more appropriately borne by those who use them, including non-ratepayers who access Council services and facilities, while reducing the broader reliance on rates revenue to subsidise these services.

The Waste Management Charge continues to recover the cost of providing the service of collection, disposal and processing of landfill, recycling and FOGO (Food Organics and Garden Organics) within the municipality and at the Launceston Waste Centre.

Waste Management Charges will also increase moderately due to rising fuel prices, collection and disposal costs, and increasing risks and compliance costs associated with landfill disposal. While we have made every effort to manage and minimise these rising costs, an average increase of 6.28% is required.

The new charges are as follows:

- 85 litre bins $190.00
- 140 litre bins $240.00
- 240 litre bins $400.00

Detailed commentary can be found in the attached Statutory Estimates.

RISK IMPLICATIONS:

In order to minimise risk, the use of a common framework to assess priorities, sound, transparent and defensible financial decisions and recommendations are possible. The risk program provides an effective and transparent prioritisation tool for decision making when long-term and annual financial resource allocations are decided. This process contributes to the quality of the longer-term financial plans of the Council (including the capital works and asset management programs) and assists in effective decision making in strategic planning which in part need to recognise the future implications of decisions.

Costings for some capital projects will need to be referred back to Council at future meetings once full project costs are known, including for a decision on the appropriate funding methodology. This will result in subsequent budget amendments requiring approval once project scope, timing and funding have been confirmed.

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:

The Council has a significant economic impact on the region through its revenue raising and expenditure. The budget contains specific projects and ongoing programs to improve environmental and social outcomes.

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 IMPLICATIONS:

As per the Statutory Estimates, Capital Projects Budget listing and Major Operational Projects Budget listing.

Council is reviewing its LTFP and expects to table an updated version for approval in the coming months. This will endeavour to chart a course to a sustainable underlying surplus in the short to medium term.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Statutory Estimates 2026/27 [**4.1.1** - 25 pages]

4.2. Rates and Charges Policy

FILE NO: SF7153/SF0521

AUTHOR: Byron Fraser (Senior Leader Finance and Technology)

APPROVER: Nathan Williams (Executive Leader Delivery and Performance)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the revised Rates and Charges Policy (23-Plx-010).

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)
Valuation of Land Act 2001 (Tas)
Fire Services Act 1979 (Tas)
Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022 (Tas)

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Considered annually.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. pursuant to section 86B of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas), adopts the revised Rates and Charges Policy (23-Plx-010) as set out below:

Rates and Charges Policy

PURPOSE:

This Policy provides the rating framework that the Council has adopted for rates and charges.

The Policy is prepared in accordance with section 86B of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) (LGA 1993) and provides an overview of the rating framework that Council has adopted.

The Policy reflects the fundamental premise as set out in section 86A of the LGA 1993 that:

(a) rates are a tax and not a fee for service; and
(b) the value of land is an indicator of the capacity to pay.

The Council through the application of this Policy primarily levies rates based on property values with a contribution through fixed and service charges. The Policy also outlines the Council's approach to the provision of remissions and the management of the rate debt.

SCOPE:

The Policy sets out the Council's rates and charges (taxation) objectives in regard to:

(a) Statutory compliance; and
(b) Discretionary matters.

This document is a statement of policy and intent, it does not supersede or overrule the specific rating resolutions and policies that are determined by resolution of the Council.

POLICY:

Rating Objectives

To maintain an appropriate distribution of rates and charges consistent with the principles stated in this Policy with the objectives of:

(a) Consistent and equitable treatment of all residents and ratepayers;
(b) Achieving an appropriate mix and distribution of taxation from
   i. rates based on property values, fixed and service charges and revenue from other sources; and
   ii. different sectors (including land use categories and localities) within the municipality.
(c) Managing the impact on ratepayers of changes in
   i. the Council's funding requirements; and
   ii. property valuations as reflected in municipal revaluations.
(d) Using rate settings to support the achievement of strategic objectives.

Rating Strategies and Methodologies

The strategies and methodologies that have been developed consistent with the principles and rating objectives are as follows.

- The valuation methodology is based on assessed annual value.

- The inclusion of a general fixed charge (that is not based on a property's value) as a component of the general rate.

- The use of service charges for waste management (collection and processing) based on the capacity of the service provided.

- Transitional arrangements through the capping of rate increases for residential ratepayers when municipal revaluations occur. Transitional arrangements are also considered in other circumstances where there is the potential for a significant change in rates from a change in the Council's rating structure.

- Debt management policies and disincentives intended to encourage the timely payment of rates.

- The minimisation of rate remissions to support equitable outcomes for all ratepayers and for the remissions to be strategically targeted to address unintended consequences of legislation and policy.

- Exemptions based solely on the legislative provisions of section 87 of the LGA 1993.

Valuation Methodologies

The Council has determined to use assessed annual value as the basis of rates (section 89A(2) of the LGA 1993) within the municipality. Valuations are arranged by the Office of the Valuer General. Municipal valuations occur on a six yearly cycle, with indexation adjustments made between the full revaluation every two years.

Supplementary valuations occur when additions or significant alterations are made to a property. The values are determined as though the alterations existed at the date of the last municipal revaluation, with effect from the date the works are completed.

Rating Structures and Differential Rates

The Council uses the power provided by section 107 of the LGA 1993 to vary the rate based on property use. The property usage categories are residential, commercial, industrial, primary production, public (community) service, quarrying or mining, sport or recreation and vacant land (non-use).

Contribution Methodology

Assessed annual value (AAV) is a differential valuation system where the AAV varies with the use and capital value of the property. Through this differential valuation system together with differential rates based on property usage the contribution from sectors of the municipality varies with changes in property values. The use of assessed annual value is consistent with the rating principles contained in section 86A of the LGA 1993.

Fixed Charge

The Council has resolved to impose a fixed charge (section 91 of the LGA 1993) on each rateable property or tenancy, consistent with the legislation a minimum rate is not also levied. The application of a fixed charge recognises that all rateable properties should make a fixed contribution to the cost of the Council's operations and services. The application of a fixed charge reduces the rates that are raised based on property values. The Council recognises the regressive taxation effect of fixed charges and so limits the amount of the fixed charge. The total revenue raised from the fixed charge must not exceed an amount equal to 50% of the Council's general rates in each rating year.

Service Charges

The Council imposes a service charge (section 94(1) of the LGA 1993) for waste management services. Waste management (the collection of waste and recycling materials) is a defined service for which a pay for use charge is appropriate.

Private operators provide specific services to a limited number of organisations where for operational reasons it is not practical or efficient to provide the Council managed service. These organisations are able to opt out of the Council arranged service.

The Council varies or applies different charges based on the capacity of the bins that are now available, this pricing strategy is intended to provide incentives to reduce waste, encourage recycling and reflect the cost of waste disposal.

The Council also imposes a service charge (section 94(1) of the LGA 1993) for waste management services to offset a levy payable by the Council to the State Government under the *Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022* (the Waste Management Levy Offset Service Charge). The State Government imposed levy commenced in 2022/2023 at $20.00 per tonne of waste disposed to the Council's operated landfill facilities. In

2024/2025, the levy was increased to $45.84 per tonne. From 2026/2027, the levy will be $70.56 per tonne. These amounts are subject to annual indexation increases, linked to the Consumer Price Index for Hobart and Fee Units as determined by the State Government.

The Council's methodology when calculating the Waste Management Levy Offset Service Charge is to use the average weight of landfill disposed of per property annually in the municipality, multiplied by the landfill levy which is published by the State Government annually. The City of Launceston will impose the Waste Management Levy Offset Service Charge on each property that has one or more bins on a per property basis only. Data collected indicates that on average, each property disposes 0.49 tonnes to landfill per year and at $70.56 per tonne (as advised by the State Government) this equates to a charge of $34.70 per property with one or more bins for 2026/2027. This amount is disclosed separately on rates notices for properties to which this Waste Management Levy Offset Service Charge applies.

Rating Independent Living Units (Retirement Villages)

General Rate

Residential Independent Living Units within retirement villages which are owned by a charitable organisation and operated exclusively for charitable purposes are exempt from the general rate (section 87(1)(d) of the LGA 1993).

Fire Rate

Residential Independent Living Units within retirement villages which are owned by a charitable organisation and operated exclusively for charitable purposes will have the Fire Rate charged on their property. Council has obtained independent legal advice on the matter and is of the view that by spreading the total fire levy to be raised amongst the community achieves a more equitable outcome. The total funds to be raised and remitted to the Tasmanian Fire Service is unchanged as a result of this.

The appropriateness of discretionary remissions is subject to ongoing monitoring by Council.

Residential properties or units owned commercially or by private individuals are not exempt from being charged the general rate or fire rate.

Residential Rate Cap (Transitional Arrangements)

The Council supports the fundamental principle, subject to any differential rating structures and remissions, that properties with the same value (in the same usage category) should pay the same rate.

The Council recognises that the municipal revaluation may produce circumstances where the rates on individual properties increase or decrease significantly. In order to assist residential ratepayers to transition to the new rating levels, Council has determined to cap the amount that the general rate (the value based component) can increase at 20 percent per annum following a municipal revaluation.

Debt Management
The Council recognises that some members of the community may not pay the applicable rates and charges either because
(a) they choose not to, or
(b) they are unable to due to financial difficulties.

The Council provides financial disincentives through interest and penalty charges and undertakes commercial debt collection practices to ensure that the payment of rates and charges is given appropriate priority.

The Council seeks to assist those members of the community in genuine financial difficulty through payment arrangements. It also understands that the failure to take appropriate and timely action can have a greater adverse consequence for the ratepayer than the debt collection action.

Unpaid Council rates and charges are a debt that is secured (similarly to a mortgage) against the property (section 119 of the LGA 1993). Thus, any debt must be repaid when the property is sold. The Council has the power to sell a property when debts are outstanding for more than three years (section 137 of the LGA 1993).

Postponement of Payments
Section 125 of the LGA 1993 provides the power for the Council to defer or postpone the payment of rates on the grounds of hardship. The Council has determined that it will not offer this long term debt management facility as there are other commercial facilities that should be used in these circumstances. The Council provides short term payment arrangements.

Rate Remissions
Under section 129 of the LGA 1993 the Council by absolute majority, may grant a remission of all or part of any rates, penalty or interest paid or payable by the ratepayer and/or class of ratepayers. The Interim Rates and Charges Hardship Policy (23-Plx-011) sets out the process for applications in respect of remissions or postponement of rates, penalties or interest on the basis of financial hardship.

The Council is also required to exempt under section 87 of the LGA 1993 some properties from rates.

Without limiting the application of section 129 of the LGA the Council has resolved to provide rating remissions via the following policy documents:
- Crown leases/licences for jetties and slipways (Policy 23-Pl-008)
- Charitable organisations (Policy 23-Pxl-002)
- Small balances (Policy 23-Pl-006)
- Interim Rates and Charges Hardship (Policy 23-Plx-011)

Other Rates
State Government Departments and Business Enterprises
State Government properties, with some exceptions related to parks and infrastructure, are subject to rates and charges on the same basis as other properties (section 87(1)(b) of the LGA 1993).

Construction Rates
Construction rates can be levied (sections 97 and 98 of the LGA 1993) related to drainage infrastructure works. The Council uses developer contribution arrangements in preference to construction rates due to limitations contained in section 98 regarding the amount that can be charged.

Separate Rates
Separate rates can be levied (section 100 of the LGA 1993) where the Council believes the services provided are of particular benefit to the *affected land; or the owners or occupiers of that land*.

There are currently no separate rates.

Fire Service Rates
The Council as required by legislation raises rates on behalf of the State Fire Commission (section 93A of the LGA 1993). The amount of the rate revenue is determined by the State Fire Commission. The Council receives an administrative fee for the provision of the service.

Payments
The Council has spread the payment dates across the year with the instalments due.

Instalment 1 - 31 August
Instalment 2 - 30 November
Instalment 3 - 31 January
Instalment 4 - 30 April

Penalty charges apply when instalments are not paid by the due date, interest applies on unpaid balances.

Rates can be paid in full, by four instalments or by more frequent payments so long as the instalments are paid by the due date, penalty and interest will not be incurred.

Payment Methods
The Council provides a range of payment facilities that include the use of modern technologies and in person.

Discounts
The Council does not provide payment discounts (section 130 of the LGA 1993) due to the additional cost imposed on those who are unable to take advantage of such a facility (the estimated cost of discount significantly exceeds the additional interest earnings that would result from the take up of the discount.)

Application of Payments
Payments are applied to outstanding debts in accordance with the sequence prescribed in the legislation (section 131 of the LGA 1993).

Notification
Within 21 days of making any rates and charges, Council will;

- Circulate notice of the making, along with a summary of rates and charges made, in a daily newspaper circulated in the municipality; and
- Provide the Director for Local Government with a copy of the resolution relating to that making.

Rates Notice
Council will send each ratepayer a notice stating all requirements specified in section 122 of the LGA 1993.

Objection
Objections to rates notices can only be made based on the grounds specified in section 123 of the LGA 1993. The grounds broadly relate to factual or calculation errors.

Objections to valuation can be made under section 28 of the *Valuation of Land Act 2001* (VLA 2001) only on the grounds specified and within 60 days of the date of notice issue. Application can be made for the correction of errors of fact at any time.

Disclaimer
This Policy is a general statement of Council intent, it is not a statement of legislative compliance. The Policy provisions do not provide a legal basis for a challenge or objection to any rating matters. The Policy is updated from time to time, consistent with the legislation (section 86B(4) of the LGA 1993).

PRINCIPLES:

The Council's rating policies are formed within a framework that includes:

(a) The *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas);
(b) Established taxation principles;
(c) Organisational Values;
(d) The Council's Long Term Financial Plan; and
(e) The Council's Rating Resolution.

RELATED POLICIES & PROCEDURES:

23-PI-003 Private Use of Council Land Policy
23-PI-006 Property Debt (Small Charge) Remission Policy
23-PI-008 Rating Exemptions and Remissions for Crown Lease Jetties and Slipways
23-PIx-002 Rating Exemptions and Remissions for Charitable Organisations Policy
23-PIx-011 Interim Rates and Charges Hardship Policy

RELATED LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas) (Part 9 - Rates and Charges)
Valuation of Land Act 2001
Fire Services Act 1979 (Tas)
Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022 (Tas)

REFERENCES:

Access Economics/Henry Review (www.taxreview.treasury.gov.au)
Taxation Policy Criteria (Oakes Committee April 1990)

- Equity or Fairness
- Simplicity and Efficiency
- Accountability or Visibility
- Acceptability
- Benefits Derived
- Capacity to Pay

Local Government Rates and Charges - Guidance paper for policy development April 2012.

DEFINITIONS:

Economic Efficiency

- Does the rating methodology distort property ownership and development decisions in a way that results in significant efficiency costs?

Simplicity

- Is the system practical and cost-effective to administer?
- Is the system simple to understand and comply with?

Equity

- Does the tax burden fall appropriately across different classes of ratepayers?

Capacity to Pay (is the tax progressive or regressive?)

- Those with a greater capacity to pay contribute more.

Benefit Principle

- Should those who benefit more, contribute more?

Sustainability

- Does the system generate sustainable and reliable revenues?
- Is it durable and flexible in changing conditions?

Cross-border Competitiveness

- Does the rating system undermine the Council as a business location?

REVIEW:

This Policy will be brought for approval as part of the annual budgeting and planning cycle.

This Policy is required to be at a minimum reviewed as required by legislation. Section 86B(4) of the LGA 1993 requires that:
A Council must review its rates and charges policy -
(a) by the end of each successive four-year period after 31 August 2012.

There are other provisions in the legislation that trigger a policy review.

REPORT:

The Council's Rates and Charges Policy is required under section 86B of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) and is reviewed annually. This year no changes have been made to the Policy.

This policy has been reviewed to ensure it complies with the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas), the *Fire Services Act 1979* and the *Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022.*

RISK IMPLICATIONS:

If sufficient revenue is not raised by rates, the Council's capital and operational programs delivering the levels of service expected by the community could not be funded.

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:

The application of sound taxation principles in the formulation of the Policy should produce a neutral overall economic impact. The broad alignment of the rating distribution and the valuation of properties underpins this framework. The investment by the Council of funds raised (not just from rates) in the community, provides an economic stimulus. The application of rate revenue rather than the raising of revenue delivers environmental improvements. The application of the taxation principles is key to an equitable outcome for the community.

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 IMPLICATIONS:

The Policy underpins the Council's overall budget. Revenue received from rates accounts for approximately 56% of the overall revenue base.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

4.3. 2026/2027 Rating Framework

FILE NO: SF7153/SF0521

AUTHOR: Byron Fraser (Senior Leader Finance and Technology)

APPROVER: Nathan Williams (Executive Leader Delivery and Performance)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider adoption of the Rating Framework for the financial year ending 30 June 2027.

This decision requires an absolute majority of Council pursuant to Part 9 of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas).

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)
Valuation of Land Act 2001 (Tas)
Fire Service Act 1979 (Tas)
Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022 (Tas)

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Workshop – 12 March 2026 – Budget and Fees & Charges 2026/27
Workshop – 26 March 2026 – Budget 2026/27
Workshop – 21 May 2026 – Budget and Rates Modelling 2026/27

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. pursuant to Part 9 of the *(Local Government Act 1993)* (Tas), determines by absolute majority to adopt the following Rating Framework for the financial year ending 30 June 2027:

RATING RESOLUTION

1. GENERAL RATE:

1.1 Pursuant to sections 90 and 91 of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), Council makes the following general rate on all rateable land (excluding land which is exempt pursuant to the provisions of section 87) within the municipal area of Launceston for the period commencing 1 July 2026 and ending 30 June 2027, which consists of two components as follows:

(a) a rate of **5.2759** cents in the dollar of the assessed annual value of the land; and a fixed charge of **$380.00**.

1.2 Pursuant to section 107(1) and (2) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), by reason of:

(a) the use or non-use of any land which is within the municipal area; and
(b) the locality of the land;

Council declares, by absolute majority, that component 1.1(a) of the General Rate is varied for the financial year as follows:

i. for land used for commercial purposes, the rate is varied by increasing it by **1.8466** cents in the dollar to **7.1225** cents in the dollar of the assessed annual value of the land;
ii. for land used for industrial purposes, the rate is varied by increasing it by **1.8466** cents in the dollar to **7.1225** cents in the dollar of the assessed annual value of the land;
iii. for land used for public purposes, the rate is varied by increasing it by **1.0552** cents in the dollar to **6.3311** cents in the dollar of the assessed annual value of the land;
iv. for land used for primary production purposes, the rate is varied by increasing it by **1.8466** cents in the dollar to **7.1225** cents in the dollar of the assessed annual value of the land;
v. for land used for sporting or recreation facilities, the rate is varied by increasing it by **0.5276** cents in the dollar to **5.8035** cents in the dollar of the assessed annual value of the land;
vi. for land used for quarrying or mining, the rate is varied by decreasing it by **1.3190** cents in the dollar to **3.9569** cents in the dollar of the assessed annual value of the land; and
vii. for land which is vacant land, the rate is varied by increasing it by **0.9497** cents in the dollar to **6.2256** cents in the dollar of the assessed annual value of the land.

MAXIMUM PERCENTAGE INCREASE

1.3 Pursuant to section 88A of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), Council by absolute majority, sets a maximum percentage increase cap on component 1.1(a) of the general rate of 500% where that increase has occurred as a result of municipal revaluation undertaken in accordance with section 20 of the Valuation of Land Act 2001.

1.4 That pursuant to section 107 of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), Council declares by absolute majority, that the maximum percentage cap referred to in 1.3 above is varied to 20% for all land which is used or predominantly used for residential purposes.

2. SERVICE CHARGES - WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICE:

Pursuant to section 94, of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), Council makes the following service charges on all rateable land within the municipal area of Launceston (including land which is otherwise exempt from rates pursuant to section 87 but excluding land owned by the Crown to which the Council does not supply any of the following services) for the period commencing 1 July 2026 and ending on 30 June 2027, namely:

2.1. Service charges for waste management apply to all land to which the Council provides waste management services, including

- the supply of mobile garbage bins; and
- the supply of a recycling service;

Charges are as follows:

i. **$190.00** for an existing 85 litre mobile garbage bin and one recycle bin;
ii. **$240.00** for a 140 litre mobile garbage bin and one recycle bin;
iii. **$400.00** for a 240 litre mobile garbage bin and one recycle bin.

2.2. In respect of the service charges for waste management:

a) if any land to which the waste management service is supplied is the subject of separate rights of occupation which are separately valued by the Valuer- General pursuant to section 11(3)(c) of the Valuation of Land Act 2001, then the charge applies to each such separate occupation;

b) pursuant to section 94(3) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), Council by absolute majority, declares that the service charge varies within different parts of the municipal area by reference to the use or predominant use of land as follows:

i. for all land used for residential purposes where there is more than one separate right of occupation which is separately valued in the valuation list prepared under the Valuation of Land Act 2001, and where the rate payer has elected by notice in writing delivered to the Chief Executive Officer on or before the 1 July 2026, not to have a waste management service, then the service charge is varied to **Nil**;

ii. for all land which is used or predominantly used for commercial or industrial purposes, public purposes, primary production, sporting or recreation facilities, quarrying and mining purposes and where the rate payer in respect of that land elects by notice in writing delivered to the Chief Executive Officer on or before the 1 July 2026 not to have a waste management service, then the service charge is varied to **Nil**.

2.3. A service charge for waste management services to offset a levy payable by the Council to the State Government under the *Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022* (a Waste Management Levy Offset Service Charge) as follows:

$34.70 in respect of all land to which the service charge for waste management applies pursuant to 2.1 and 2.2(a).

3. SERVICE RATES - FIRE SERVICE:

3.1 Pursuant to section 93A of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), Council makes the following service rates in respect of the fire service contributions it must collect under the Fire Service Act 1979 for the rateable parcels of land within the municipal area of Launceston (excluding land which is exempt pursuant to the provisions of section 87 of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)) for the period commencing 1 July 2026 and ending on 30 June 2027, as follows:

DISTRICT	CENTS IN THE DOLLAR OF Assessed Annual Value
Launceston Permanent Brigade Rating District	**1.02863**
Lilydale Volunteer Brigade Rating District	**0.26587**
General Land	**0.25221**

3.2 Pursuant to section 93(3) of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), Council sets a minimum amount payable in respect of this service rate of **$52.00** for each rateable parcel of land within the municipal area of Launceston (excluding land which is exempt pursuant to the provisions of section 87 of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas).

4. SEPARATE LAND:

4.1 Except where it is expressly provided to the contrary, for the purposes of these resolutions the rates and charges shall apply to each parcel of land which is shown as being separately valued in the valuation list prepared under the Valuation of Land Act 2001.

5. ADJUSTED VALUES:

5.1 For the purposes of each of these resolutions any reference to assessed annual value includes a reference to that value as adjusted pursuant to sections 89 and 89A of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas).

6. INSTALMENT PAYMENT:

6.1 Pursuant to section 124 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas), Council:

(a) decides that all rates are payable by all rate payers by four instalments which must be of approximately equal amounts.

(b) determines that the dates by which instalments are to be paid shall be as follows:
(i) the first instalment on or before 31 August 2026;
(ii) the second instalment on or before 30 November 2026;
(iii) the third instalment on or before 31 January 2027; and
(iv) the fourth instalment on or before 30 April 2027.

(c) if a ratepayer fails to pay any instalment within 21 days from the date on which it is due, the ratepayer must pay the full amount owing.

7. **PENALTY AND INTEREST:**

7.1 Pursuant to section 128 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas), if any rate or instalment is not paid on or before the date it falls due then:
(a) there is payable a penalty of **3.0%** of the unpaid rate or instalment; and
(b) there is payable a daily interest charge of **0.02054795%** (**7.5%** per annum) in respect of the unpaid rate or instalment for the period during which it is unpaid.

8. **WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS:**

Words and expressions used both in these resolutions and in the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) or the *Fire Service Act 1979*, have in these resolutions the same respective meanings as they have in those Acts.

REPORT:

This resolution serves the purpose of formally translating budgeted rate revenue for 2026/2027 into rates and charges, by setting the prices and conditions by which properties in the municipality are charged for rates and charges.

In 2026/2027, the Council proposes to increase rates revenue by 4.90%.

The proposed Rating Framework provides for the alignment of the rate in the dollar applicable to properties classified as Commercial, Industrial and Primary Production, reflecting the commercial nature of these land uses.

The rate applied to the Vacant Land classification has also been increased as a policy mechanism to encourage and support the timely development of land within the municipal area.

The impact of these changes will result in a smaller increase for most residential and commercial properties.

Council officers undertook detailed financial modelling to assess the costs associated with delivering the proposed operational and capital works program for the 2026/2027 financial year. This analysis demonstrated that a 4.90% increase in rate revenue would be required to sustainably fund Council's planned program and maintain service levels. This formed the basis of the draft Budget and Annual Plan that were released for public consultation.

In preparing the budget, Councillors debated the proposed options during their budget workshop and carefully considered ongoing cost-of-living pressures, along with feedback received from the community throughout the consultation process. Following this review, Councillors provided clear direction to adopt a 4.90% rate increase for 2026/2027

This will result in Council adopting a deficit budget for the 2026/2027 financial year. While not a decision taken lightly, the deficit position is considered responsible and manageable given the current economic climate and is underpinned by a strong commitment to long term financial sustainability.

A revised Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP), due for approval in the coming months, will outline the pathway back to a balanced budget position. Council is actively pursuing organisational efficiencies to reduce cost pressures and review service delivery. This includes embracing technological advancements to streamline processes, undertaking a comprehensive review of service levels across the organisation, and identifying opportunities to realign resources with community priorities in line with Council's Strategic Plan.

Council will continue to engage with the community throughout this process, ensuring transparency and maintaining a strong connection between the city's aspirations and the financial decisions that support them.

The proposed rate increase delivers a projected underlying deficit of $2.2m and an operating surplus of $10.6m. However, this deficit is used to generate a number of new services and initiatives, including;

- $700,000 for Project Ignite (technology transformation project)
- $689,000 for the Princess Theatre Redevelopment Project - facade works
- $694,500 for the Albert Hall Management Agreement
- $80,000 for the Lilydale Falls Reserve Masterplan
- $65,000 for the Harvest Market Relocation Project

Part of this investment includes a large capital works program for 2026/2027 of $66.8m for a range of projects. Significant projects include:

- $31 million for Princess Theatre & Earl Arts Centre Upgrade
- $1.8 million for Launceston City Heart Two Way Streets
- $11.4 million for Margaret Street Reconstruction
- $1.2 million for Kings Meadows Connector Shared Path
- $3.3 million for Road Reseal Program
- $3.3 million for Second River Road Reconstruction
- $1 million for Launceston Aquatic Change Rooms Renewal
- $0.5m for Urban Greening in Newnham

While an increase in revenue from rates of 4.9% is proposed, modelling shows this will result in an increase of 4.57% to the total rates notice of the median residential property in the municipality, an increase of around $89 on the previous year, which is just under $1.80 per week.

Waste Management Charges will also increase moderately due to rising fuel prices, collection and disposal costs, and increasing risks and compliance costs associated with landfill disposal. While we have made every effort to manage and minimise these rising costs, an average increase of 6.28% is required.

The new charges are as follows:

- 85 litre bins $190.00

- 140 litre bins $240.00
- 240 litre bins $400.00

The Fire Service Rate Charge imposed by the State Government and are charged by Council on a cost recovery basis will be increasing by 6.40%, while Waste Management Levy Offset, charged to offset the State Government Levy payable by council on all waste disposed through landfill, will increase by $12.30 per property that receives a kerbside waste service, due to an increase in State Levy.

The recommendation and resolution contained within this Agenda Item have been reviewed to ensure compliance with the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), the Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022 (Tas), and the Fire Service Act 1979 (Tas).

RISK IMPLICATIONS:

The Rating Framework sets out the rates and charges for the 2026/2027 financial year and allows the Council to raise the required rates revenues to fund its capital and operation programs. Failure to adhere to this would mean the Council cannot deliver the level of service expected by the community.

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:

The Council has a significant economic impact in the region through its revenue raising and spending. The budget contains specific projects and ongoing programs to improve environmental outcomes. The budget contains specific projects and ongoing programs to improve social outcomes. The structure distributes the rates accordingly to property values.

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:

The rate resolution provides the legal authority to levy the rates as detailed in the Council's Statutory Estimates.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil

5. STRATEGY AND INNOVATION

5.1. City of Launceston Four-Year Delivery Plan 2026/27 - 2029/30 and Annual Plan 2026/27

FILE NO: SF7788 and SF7152

AUTHOR: Emily Lewis (Corporate Planning Officer)

APPROVER: Sarah McRobbie (Executive Leader Strategy and Innovation)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider adoption of the City of Launceston Four-Year Delivery Plan 2026/2027 - 2029/2030 and the City of Launceston Annual Plan 2026/2027.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

The *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas): Part 7 – Administration, Division 2 – Plans and report, section 71.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council Workshop – Thursday 21 May 2026 - Four-Year Delivery Plan and Annual Plan 2026/27 update - post public consultation.

Council Workshop - Thursday 2 April 2026 - Four-Year Delivery Plan and Annual Plan 2026/27 Consultation.

Council Workshop - Thursday 12 March 2026 – Four-Year Delivery Plan and Annual Plan 2026/27 update.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. Adopts the City of Launceston Four-Year Delivery Plan 2026/2027 - 2029/2030 (ECM Doc Set ID 5379039);

2. Adopts the City of Launceston Annual Plan 2026/2027 (ECM Doc Set ID 5379056) pursuant to section 71 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas); noting that the Statutory Estimates 2026/2027 (Annual Budget) will be inserted into the Annual Plan following their adoption (at agenda item 3.1); and

3. Notes that, pursuant to section 71(3) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas), a copy of the City of Launceston Annual Plan 2026/2027 adopted at Recommendation 2 will be made available for public inspection and provided to the Director of Local Government and the Director of Public Health following insertion of the Annual Budget.

REPORT:

Four-Year Delivery Plan Summary
The City of Launceston's Four-Year Delivery Plan (the Delivery Plan) provides a roadmap to work towards delivering on the Community Vision and 10-year strategic goals as outlined in the *Shaping Futures: Strategic Plan 2025 - 2035.* It is not required under the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas), however, it is a key element of the City of Launceston's (CoL) Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework. Council has opted to implement and adopt a Four-Year Delivery Plan to support an integrated approach to planning and aligns with best practice.

The Delivery Plan is a rolling four-year plan. It includes the financial year it takes effect and the next three years. The Delivery Plan is reviewed annually within Council's corporate planning processes to monitor delivery and maintain relevance. Annual review helps keep the plan relevant. It allows Council to respond to changing community and operational needs and ensure alignment with emerging priorities. The annual review includes input from elected Councillors, the Executive and the Senior Leadership Teams, and consultation with our community.

To take effect from 1 July 2026, the Delivery Plan 2026/2027 - 2029/2030 will be the first edition connecting the Council's new long-term strategic goals adopted in June 2025 through the adoption of the *Shaping Futures: Strategic Plan 2025 – 2035,* establishing a delivery pathway from the high-level strategic direction through to Council's mid-to-short-term planning and budgeting. It outlines the strategic and key service actions the Council plans to carry out over the four-year timeframe and introduces strategic measures that will assist with the development of key performance indicators to support performance, accountability and transparency.

Actions in this plan directly inform the Annual Plan 2026/2027.

Annual Plan Summary
Section 71 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas), reproduced below for reference, requires Council to prepare and adopt an Annual Plan:

71 Annual Plan

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

(2) An annual plan is to –

(a) be consistent with the strategic plan; and

(b) include a statement of the manner in which the council is to meet the goals and objectives of the strategic plan; and

(c) include a summary of the estimates adopted under section 82; and

(d) include a summary of the major strategies to be used in relation to the council's public health goals and objectives.

(3) As soon as practicable after a council adopts an annual plan, the general manager is to –

(a) make a copy of the annual plan available for public inspection at the public office during ordinary business hours; and

(b) provide the Director and the Director of Public Health with a copy of the annual plan.

Directly informed by the Four-Year Delivery Plan 2026/2027 - 2029/2030 (tabled for adoption as part of this item), the 62 actions detailed in the CoL Annual Plan for 2026/2027 focus on our strategic and key service project-based work for the financial year ahead.

A statement of how Council will meet its strategic goals and objectives is included in *About the Annual Plan* (page 5) and is further expanded in *How we plan for the future* (page 8).

Alignment and traceability of goals and objectives is achieved through organising actions by Strategic Pillar (Prosperity, Place and People) and referencing the applicable Four-Year Delivery Plan outcomes. Although the actions in the 2026/27 Annual Plan may not address all objectives outlined in the Strategic Plan, these will be addressed over the lifespan of the Strategic Plan.

Prior to publication, a copy of our full Statutory Estimates (Budget) for 2026/2027 will be inserted into our Annual Plan in lieu of a summary of estimates. These will be inserted following their adoption under section 82 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) from page 58 of the Annual Plan, as indicated in the proposed Plan provided in the attachments to this item. The Statutory Estimates (Budget) for 2026/2027 are tabled for adoption consideration by Councillors under separate agenda item 3.1 as part of this Council meeting today, 18 June 2026.

If the Budget 2026/2027 is not adopted at today's Council Meeting (18 June 2026) and changes are applied requiring subsequent changes to the Annual Plan 2026/2027 and Four-Year Delivery Plan 2026/2027 - 2029/2030, the Annual Plan and Four-Year Delivery Plan will be resubmitted to Councillors at a future Council meeting for adoption.

The City of Launceston's commitments in relation to public health goals and objectives are published on page 56.

Progress against the City of Launceston Annual Plan 2026/2027 actions will be reported quarterly to the Council. Summarised progress for the full 2026/2027 reporting year will be included in the 2026/2027 Annual Report.

2026/2027 Drafting Process Overview

Commencing in October 2025, the drafting of the Delivery Plan and Annual Plan was carried out in consultation with the elected Councillors, the Executive and Senior Leadership Teams and through public consultation with the community.

Starting with the Four-Year Delivery Plan, consultant-facilitated planning workshops were held throughout October and November 2025 using program logic to establish the mid-term (four-year) outcomes and actions required to progress the delivery of goals and objectives of the new *Shaping Futures: Strategic Plan 2025-2035*. These actions were then further expanded throughout December 2025 and February 2026 to draft our proposed Annual Plan for 2026/2027.

Workshops with elected Councillors in March and April 2026 contributed to the drafting of these proposed plans, which were then released for a period of public consultation, alongside the 2026/2027 proposed Annual Budget, from Thursday 2 April to Sunday 26 April 2026.

Community members had the opportunity to provide feedback on our proposed suite of plans and budget through an interactive online tool hosted on the City of Launceston's engagement platform, Tomorrow Together, by email through Council's Contact Us service, and through a community drop-in session held on Tuesday 13 April 2026.
All feedback received during the consultation period was presented to Councillors for consideration at the Council workshop on 21 May 2026, following presentation to our Executive Leadership Team for consideration on 6 May 2026.

Final refinements to our proposed plans were applied following consideration of this feedback, resulting in the proposed Delivery Plan and Annual Plan attached to this item for adoption consideration (ECM Doc Set IDs 5379039 and 5379056).

RISK IMPLICATIONS:

Any changes to the 2026/2027 Annual Budget may impact delivery of the proposed 2026/2027 Annual Plan Actions and overall delivery of the proposed Four-Year Delivery Plan 2026/2027 - 2029/2030.

Failure to adopt an Annual Plan for the financial year that meets the requirements under the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) would result in non-compliance with the Act.

If objectives and outcomes outlined in these two plans are not delivered, this may result in loss of trust from our community.

ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:

The City of Launceston's Four-Year Delivery Plan 2026/2027 - 2029/2030 and Annual Plan 2026/2027 are designed to deliver balanced economic, environmental and social benefits.

The Plan supports local economic growth through targeted capital works, cultural infrastructure upgrades, and initiatives to strengthen workforce capacity in emerging industries.

It advances sustainability through the implementation of the Urban Greening Plan, waste and resource recovery strategies, and climate resilience planning.

Socially, the Plan enhances community wellbeing through improved public spaces, inclusive programs, and addressing housing needs through neighbourhood planning.

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:

The 2026/2027 Annual Plan and 2026/2027 Annual Budget have been developed concurrently to ensure effective delivery of planned actions. Changes to the 2026/2027 Annual Budget may impact delivery of the 2026/2027 Annual Plan actions.

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

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

ATTACHMENTS:

1. ECM 5379039 Four- Year Delivery Plan 2026 27-2029 30 [**5.1.1** - 68 pages]
2. ECM 5379056 Annual Plan 2026-27 [**5.1.2** - 60 pages]

6. MEETING CLOSURE