



City of
LAUNCESTON

COUNCIL MINUTES

**COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 6 AUGUST 2026
1:00 PM**

The Ordinary Meeting of the City of Launceston Council was held at the Council Chambers, Town Hall, St John Street, Launceston:

Date: 6 August 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

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 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 was 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>

The following information was provided to members of the public in respect of attendance at the Council Meeting.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - AGENDA ITEM 8

Questions received in writing by close of business 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.

Present:

Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie
Councillor Alan Harris
Councillor Tim Walker
Councillor Joe Pentridge (attended the meeting from 1.10pm)
Councillor Lindi McMahon
Councillor Susie Cai
Councillor Alex Britton
Councillor Krista Preece
Councillor Ross Marsden

In Attendance:

Jane Lewis (Executive Leader Strategy and Innovation)
Nathan Williams (Executive Leader Delivery and Performance)
Richard Jamieson (Executive Leader Community Assets and Design)
Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance and Information Services)
Taylor Murphy (Senior Governance Officer)
Jen Welch (Coordinator Planning Assessments) (Agenda Item 11.1)
Iain More (Senior Town Planner - Policy and Projects) (Agenda Item 11.1)
Catherine Searle (Senior Leader City Infrastructure) (Agenda Item 18.1)
Byron Fraser (Senior Leader Finance and Technology) (Agenda Items 19.1, 19.2, 19.3 and 22.3)
Wezley Frankcombe (Senior Leader People, Governance and Safety) (Agenda Item 19.4)
Erica Deegan (Senior Leader Property and Asset Strategy) (Agenda Items 20.1 and 20.2)
Sharin Imlach (Team Leader Property) (Agenda Items 20.1 and 20.2)
Scott Edwards (Senior Property Officer) (Agenda Item 20.1)
Ben Ransley (Team Leader Facilities) (Agenda Item 20.2)
Duncan Campbell (Team Leader Legal) (Agenda Item 20.2)
Michael Attard (Senior Leader Prosperity and Innovation) (Agenda Item 20.3)

Apologies:

Mayor Councillor Matthew Garwood
Councillor Andrew Palmer
Sam Johnson OAM (Chief Executive Officer)
Ali Kemp (Executive Leader Connections and Liveability)

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1. OPENING OF MEETING - STATEMENT, ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES
Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 8

The Acting Mayor, Councillor Hugh McKenzie, opened the meeting at 1.00pm and provided the following statement:

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.

Following the statement the Mayor noted apologies from Mayor Matthew Garwood and Councillor Andrew Palmer.

2. MAYORAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

There were no Mayoral Acknowledgments for this Meeting.

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).

Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie declared an interest in Agenda Item - 23.6 - Application for Leave of Absence by Councillor H McKenzie.

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 23 July 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Alex Britton, seconded Councillor Krista Preece.

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the City of Launceston Council held on 23 July 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED 8:0

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden

AGAINST VOTE: Nil

5. COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

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

5.1. Council Workshop Report - 30 July 2026

FILE NO: SF4401

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance and Information Services)

APPROVER: Sam Johnson (Chief Executive Officer)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider Council Workshops conducted since the last Council Meeting.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council, pursuant to Regulation 10(3)(c) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, notes the Council Workshops conducted and attended since the last Council Meeting, for the purposes described:

1. Workshop conducted on 30 July 2026:

DA0257/2026 - 781 East Tamar Highway Dilston - Resource Development - Construction of Buildings and Infrastructure for a Turf Farm (Retrospective)

Councillors undertook a site visit to 781 East Tamar Highway, Dilston to discuss DA0257/2026 - Resource Development – Construction of Buildings and Infrastructure for a Turf Farm (Retrospective).

Executive Leader Updates and General Business

Councillors and Executive Leaders had the opportunity to engage in discussion about current and planned projects.

Councillor Connect

Councillors were provided the opportunity to raise and discuss matters of concern, share perspectives, and collectively work through issues that may benefit from group discussion.

Incoming Grants Policy

The Incoming Grants Management Policy presentation provided an overview of the policy and an opportunity for Councilors to seek clarification and provide feedback.

City Heart Cycle Lanes and Bus Stop Upgrades

Councillors were asked to note the information presented and provide early feedback on projects for the City Heart Place Plan.

In Attendance: Mayor Councillor Matthew Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Andrew Palmer, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton and Councillor Krista Preece.

Apologies: Councillor Joe Pentridge and Councillor Ross Marsden

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Alan Harris, seconded Councillor Tim Walker.

That Council, pursuant to Regulation 10(3)(c) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, notes the Council Workshops conducted and attended since the last Council Meeting, for the purposes described:

1. Workshop conducted on 30 July 2026:

DA0257/2026 - 781 East Tamar Highway Dilston - Resource Development - Construction of Buildings and Infrastructure for a Turf Farm (Retrospective)
Councillors undertook a site visit to 781 East Tamar Highway, Dilston to discuss DA0257/2026 - Resource Development – Construction of Buildings and Infrastructure for a Turf Farm (Retrospective).

Executive Leader Updates and General Business
Councillors and Executive Leaders had the opportunity to engage in discussion about current and planned projects.

Councillor Connect
Councillors were provided the opportunity to raise and discuss matters of concern, share perspectives, and collectively work through issues that may benefit from group discussion.

Incoming Grants Policy
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City Heart Cycle Lanes and Bus Stop Upgrades
Councillors were asked to note the information presented and provide early feedback on projects for the City Heart Place Plan.

In Attendance: Mayor Councillor Matthew Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Andrew Palmer, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton and Councillor Krista Preece.

Apologies: Councillor Joe Pentridge and Councillor Ross Marsden

CARRIED 8:0

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden

AGAINST VOTE: Nil

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

Councillors' Leave of Absence Applications will be considered in Closed Council at Agenda Item 23.6 - Application for Leave of Absence by Councillor H McKenzie.

No 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.)

No Items were identified as part of these Minutes.

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 - Jeff McKinnon - Council's Approach to Climate Change Impacts on Ratepayers - 23 July 2026

FILE NO: SF6381

AUTHOR: Taylor Murphy (Senior Governance Officer)

APPROVER: Sam Johnson (Chief Executive Officer)

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES:

The following questions, submitted to Council on 23 July 2026 by Jeff McKinnon, have been answered by Team Leader Sustainability and Innovation.

Question 1:

Can Council please provide an update on what ALGA and the City of Launceston are doing to protect rate payers and the ever increasing burden on climate related cleanups and repairs?

Response:

City of Launceston (CoL) was represented at the recent Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly 2026 by elected members. Elected members attended to vote on motions from across Australian Local Governments. One of the motions supported by all ALGA members councils was:

- Consider ways to increase funding for local government climate adaptation, including consideration of taxes and levies on industries responsible for climate change and establishment of a Climate Compensation Fund.*

In relation to funding climate related clean ups CoL actively seeks grant assistance through the Federal Disaster Ready Fund, other grant opportunities and also work closely with the Tasmanian State Government to receive assistance when there are emergency situations like, fire, flood and wind events.

Question 2:

Will Council lobby the Australian Government to put a national levy on coal, oil and gas companies, to create a Federal Climate Compensation Fund?

Response:

Similar to above question, CoL supported the below ALGA motion at the ALGA National Assembly:

- *Explore long-term climate adaptation funding models, including revenue from non-renewable resources.*

CoL is able to lobby the Australian Government on this matter through its membership with ALGA and local Government Association of Tasmania.

Question 3:

Will Council call upon the Australian Government to explore other pathways for coal, gas and oil corporations to help fund disaster relief mitigation adaptation and establish a parliamentary inquiry into the adequacy of the 2025 national adaptation plan?

Response:

Similar to above questions, CoL did support the below ALGA motion and continue to advocate at a national level via association with LGAT, Tasmanian Government and ALGA.

- *Hold a Parliamentary Inquiry into the adequacy of the National Adaptation Plan and its support for local government.*
-

8.1.2. Questions on Notice by Members of the Public - Robin Smith - New CBD Traffic Routes - Mobile Food Vendor Bookings - 29 July 2026

FILE NO: SF6145, SF6381, SF7927

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance and Information Services)

APPROVER: Sam Johnson (Chief Executive Officer)

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES:

The following questions, submitted to Council on 29 July 2026 by Robin Smith, have been answered by the Team Leader Governance and Information Services and the Senior Customer Service Consultant (Question 2.1).

Question 1:

Historically, under the City Heart plan, the Paterson Street bus interchange required the introduction of an extra traffic flow direction for departing vehicle traffic (busses departing the interchange) to shortcut counterclockwise back through the inner retail CBD core against the current traffic direction on both Paterson Street and Charles Street.

Charles Street is a very successful retail strip and introducing this full cross-city two-way traffic goes against urban planning such as Gehl Architects 'Public Spaces Public Life (Launceston, Australia)' study for urban living (including pedestrians (shoppers) and cyclists) by bizarrely continuing to introduce entirely new routes for road vehicle traffic cutting a new path through the heart of the inner CBD core.

Whilst this route for buses is now no longer required, unfortunately the plan to introduce this new direction of traffic flow remains embedded as an anomaly within the City Heart Place Plan. With city-wide disruption of road construction, expense and spurious claims of enhanced experiences for pedestrians and businesses, would council consider consulting the opinion of business traders along the affected route?

Response:

Thank you for the questions.

In line with our Public Question Time Policy, receipt of the questions is acknowledged however, due to the short timeline between receiving the questions and the date for publishing the agenda for the 6 August 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting, a comprehensive response cannot be provided.

Detailed responses to the questions will be published in the Agenda of the 20 August 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting.

Question 2:

In the year-and-a-half since the inception of the current Mobile Food Vendor (in Public Open Spaces) Policy (32-Plx-005), as at 09 July 2026:

1. How many vendors were registered to operate under the system;
2. How many bookings were made for (i) 'Eat Street' (High Street, Launceston) and (ii) remaining areas under the policy?

Response:

In line with our Public Question Time Policy, receipt of the questions is acknowledged however, due to the short timeline between receiving the questions and the date for publishing the agenda for the 6 August 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting, comprehensive responses cannot be provided for Question 1 and Question 2.2.

Detailed responses to these questions will be published in the Agenda of the 20 August 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting.

Regarding Question 2.1, as at 9 July 2026 44 Mobile Food Vendor permits have been issued. Of those, 14 permits have been cancelled and 30 are still current.

8.2. Questions Without Notice by Members of the Public

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 37

**8.2.1. Questions Without Notice by Members of the Public - Robert, Ravenswood -
LGBT Community Support - 6 August 2026**

Question 1:

Does the Launceston City Council have any plans to assist the LGBT community in the next 12 months?

Question 2:

Would there be any chance that we could have a flag pole erected, not just specifically for the LGBT people but also other community groups, like Beyond Blue, where they can raise their own flag?

Question 3:

Would there be any possibility we could have a rainbow crossing in Launceston?

Response:

The Acting Mayor, Councillor Hugh McKenzie, advised that these questions would be Taken on Notice and responses provided in the Council Agenda of 20 August 2026.

9. PETITIONS

No Items were identified as part of these Minutes.

10. DEPUTATIONS

No Items were identified as part of these Minutes.

11. PLANNING AUTHORITY

The Acting Mayor, Councillor Hugh McKenzie, announced that 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. DA0257/2026 - 781 East Tamar Highway Dilston - Resource Development - Construction of Buildings and Infrastructure for a Turf Farm (Retrospective)

FILE NO: DA0257/2026

AUTHOR: Iain More (Senior Town Planner - Policy and Projects)

APPROVER: Chelsea van Riet (Executive Leader Community Assets and Design)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider and determine a development application pursuant to the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

PLANNING APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Applicant	Rebecca Green & Associates
Site	781 East Tamar Highway, Dilston
Proposal	Construction of buildings and infrastructure for a turf farm (Retrospective)
Zoning	Rural Living
Codes	C2.0 Parking and Sustainable Transport Code C3.0 Road and Railway Assets Code C6.0 Local Historic Heritage Code C8.0 Scenic Protection Code
Use Class	Resource Development
Standards assessed through performance criteria	11.3.1 Discretionary uses - Performance criteria P3 11.4.1 Site coverage - Performance criteria P1 11.4.2 Building height, setback and siting - Performance criteria P2 C6.6.2 Site coverage - Performance criteria P1 C6.6.3 - Height and bulk of buildings - Performance criteria P1 C6.6.4 Siting of buildings and structures - Performance criteria P1 C6.6.6 Roof form and materials - Performance criteria P1 C6.6.8 Outbuildings and structures - Performance criteria P1
Public Notification	24/06/2026 - 08/07/2026
Representations	22
Deemed Approval	31/07/2026

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That, in accordance with sections 51 and 57 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* and the Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston, a permit be granted for DA0257/2026 - Resource Development - Construction of buildings and infrastructure for a turf farm (Retrospective), at 781 East Tamar Highway, Dilston, subject to the following conditions:

1. ENDORSED PLANS & DOCUMENTS

The use and development must be substantially in accordance with the endorsed plans and documents to the satisfaction of the Senior Leader City Development unless modified by a condition of the Permit:

- a) Planning Submission, prepared by Rebecca Green & Associates, Version 1, dated 04/06/2026;
- b) Cover Page, prepared by Engineering Plus, Drawing No. A000, SK5, dated 10/04/26;
- c) Locality Plan, prepared by Engineering Plus, Drawing No. A001, SK5, dated 10/04/26;
- d) Site Plan, prepared by Engineering Plus, Drawing No. A002, SK5, dated 10/04/26;
- e) Site Plan- 35m x 12m SHED, prepared by Engineering Plus, Drawing No. A003, SK5, dated 10/04/26;
- f) Site Plan - 12m x 7m SHED, prepared by Engineering Plus, Drawing No. A004, SK5, dated 10/04/26;
- g) Building Specifications - Drawings, prepared by Skyline Sheds, page 3, dated 06/02/2026;
- h) Building Specifications - Drawings, prepared by Skyline Sheds, page 3, dated 31/03/2026; and
- i) Transport Impact Assessment, prepared by Ratio, Version F01, dated 23/04/2026.

2. LEGAL TITLE

All development and use associated with the proposal must be confined to the legal title of the subject land except construction of access from the street.

3. HOURS OF CONSTRUCTION

- a) Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Senior Leader Health and Regulations, construction activities must only be carried out between the hours of:
 - i. Monday to Friday - 7 am to 6 pm; and
 - ii. Saturday - 8 am to 6 pm.
- b) Notwithstanding the above paragraph, construction activities must not be carried out on public holidays that are observed state-wide (Easter Tuesday excepted).

4. SITE LANDSCAPING PLAN

Prior to the commencement of works, a landscaping plan must be submitted for approval by Senior Leader City Development. The plan must be drawn to scale and must include information on the type of native screening to replace the Leighton Green species hedging screen.

Once approved the plan will be endorsed and will form part of the permit. The landscaping must be:

- a. Installed in accordance with the endorsed plan; and
- b. Completed within 3 months of the permit being issued; and
- c. Maintained as part of non-residential development. It must not be removed, destroyed or lopped without the written consent of the Council.

5. DAMAGE TO COUNCIL INFRASTRUCTURE & ASSETS

The developer is liable for all costs associated with the repair of damage to Council infrastructure and assets resulting from non-compliance with the conditions of the Planning Permit and any by-law or legislation relevant to the development activity on the site. Damage may also include the undertaking of unauthorised works to Council infrastructure such as driveways, footpaths and stormwater infrastructure. The developer will also be liable for all reasonable costs associated with the enforcement of compliance with the conditions, by-laws and legislation relevant to the development activity on the site.

6. WORKS WITHIN/OCCUPATION OF THE ROAD RESERVE

Prior to commencing any works in (or requiring the occupation of) the Road Reserve the applicant must receive written authorisation from the Road Asset Owner within the City of Launceston.

This includes but is not limited to occupying space with skip bins, construction equipment, hoarding, scaffolding, the use of machinery and facilitating service connections.

Any implementation of temporary traffic controls will also require written approval.

7. SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT CONTROL PLAN

Prior to the commencement of works, a site management plan must be submitted detailing how soil and water must be managed on the site during the construction process. The management plan must include the following:

- a. Allotment boundaries, contours, approximate grades of slope and directions of fall.
- b. Location of adjoining roads, impervious surfaces, underground services and existing drainage.
- c. Location and types of all existing natural vegetation, the proposed location of topsoil stockpiles and the limit of clearing, grading and filling.
- d. Critical natural areas such as drainage lines, cliffs, wetlands and unstable ground.
- e. The estimated dates for the start and finish of the works.
- f. The erosion control practices to be used on the site such as cut off drains, fencing off areas to be undisturbed, revegetation program and so on.
- g. The sediment control practices to be used on site such as silt fencing, stabilised site access, filter screens for inlets to the drainage system, sediment traps and so on.
- h. Timing of the site rehabilitation or landscaping program.
- i. Outline of the maintenance program for the erosion and sediment controls.

Works must not commence prior to the approval of the Soil and Water Management Control Plan by the Executive Leader Community Assets and Design. The Plan must be implemented and maintained during construction to ensure that soil erosion is to be appropriately managed.

8. FACILITIES AND HIGHWAYS BY-LAW

Prior to the placement of any skip bin, security fencing, hoarding, shipping containers, site offices or amenities within a local highway, the person, corporation or other legal entity must seek and have issued a permit pursuant to the Facilities and Highways By-Law (No. 1 of 2021). The payment of the scheduled Occupation Fee (comprising a minimum base fee and a square meter weekly rate) is required prior to the occupation commencing. No occupation of the road reserve is permitted without approval.

9. EXTERIOR AND SECURITY LIGHTING

Exterior lighting and security lighting is to comply with the Australian Standard AS4282 'Control of the obtrusive effects of outdoor lighting' or any subsequent versions.

10. NO BURNING OF WASTE

No burning of any waste materials, including removed vegetation, generated by the development to be undertaken on-site. Any such waste materials are to be removed to a licensed waste disposal facility (e.g. Launceston Waste Centre), reclaimed or recycled.

11. WASTE MATERIALS

All waste materials generated by the activity are to be disposed of at an approved waste disposal facility or reclaimed/recycled if possible.

12. SPILL COLLECTION BUND

All environmentally hazardous materials including all chemicals, fuels and oils, held on the land must be stored and handled within a spill collection bund or spill trays which are designed to contain at least 110% of the volume of the largest storage vessel. The spill containment system must be constructed with materials that will prevent contamination of ground water and soil.

13. DUST MANAGEMENT PLAN (DMP)

The dust management plan must be undertaken in accordance with the report by Landfall Turf dated May 2026. The person responsible is to maintain the dust suppression measures over the life of the operation.

14. SPILL KITS

Spill kits, appropriate for the types and volumes of materials handled on the land, must be kept in appropriate locations and be appropriately maintained to assist with the containment of any spill of environmentally hazardous materials.

15. CONTROL OF DUST EMISSIONS

Dust emissions from the land must be controlled to prevent environmental nuisance beyond the boundary of the land during development and use. If a dust nuisance is occurring, a reevaluated report on how dust will be mitigated must be supplied to the Senior Leader City Development for reviewing.

16. INVENTORY OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

An inventory must be kept of all environmentally hazardous materials stored and handled on the land. The inventory must specify the location of storage facilities and the maximum quantities of each environmentally hazardous material likely to be kept in storage and must include safety data sheets for those environmentally hazardous materials. The inventory is to be provided to a Council officer and the Tasmania Fire Service upon request.

17. BUILDING ACT 2016 REQUIREMENTS

Prior to acting on this permit, it is recommended that an architect, a licensed building practitioner such as a building surveyor or a building designer be consulted to determine the requirements for any associated building, plumbing or demolition work under the Building Act 2016.

18. NON REFLECTIVE EXTERIOR FINISH

All external cladding and roofing of the building(s) must be of a non-reflective nature and must be finished in muted colours to the satisfaction to the Council.

Notes

A. General

This permit was issued based on the proposal documents submitted for DA0257/2026. You should contact Council with any other use or developments, as they may require the separate approval of Council. Council's planning staff can be contacted on 03 6323 3000. This permit takes effect after:

- a. The 14 day appeal period expires; or*
- b. Any appeal to the Tasmanian Civil & Administrative Appeal Tribunal (TASCAT) is withdrawn or determined; or*
- c. Any agreement that is required by this permit pursuant to Part V of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 is executed; or*
- d. Any other required approvals under this or any other Act are granted.*

The permit lapses after a period of two (2) years if the development or use has not substantially commenced within that period. An extension may be granted subject to the provisions of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 as amended, by request to Council.

B. Restrictive Covenants

The granting of this permit takes no account of any covenants applicable to the land. The permit holder and any other interested party, should make their own enquiries as to whether the proposed development is affected, restricted or prohibited by any such covenant.

If the proposal is non-compliant with any restrictive covenants, those restrictive covenants should be removed from the title prior to construction commencing or the owner will carry the liability of potential legal action in the future.

C. Appeal Provisions

A planning appeal may be instituted by lodging a notice of appeal with the Registrar of the Tasmanian Civil & Administrative Tribunal (TASCAT).

A planning appeal may be instituted within 14 days of the date the Corporation serves notice of the decision on the applicant.

For more information see the Tasmanian Civil & Administrative Tribunal (TASCAT) website www.tascat.tas.gov.au <<http://www.tascat.tas.gov.au>>

D. Permit Commencement

If an applicant is the only person with a right of appeal pursuant to section 61 of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 and wishes to commence the use or development for which the permit has been granted within that 14 day period, the Council must be so notified in writing. A copy of Council's Notice to Waive Right of Appeal is attached.

Jen Welch (Coordinator Planning Assessments) and Iain More (Senior Town Planner - Policy and Projects) were in attendance to answer questions in respect of this item. A table of questions asked by Councillors during debate is provided after the decision.

Councillor Joe Pentridge attended the Meeting at 1:10 pm

Frank Archer spoke for the Recommendation
Ryan Smith spoke for the Recommendation
John Baily spoke for the Recommendation
Bev Ernst spoke against the Recommendation
Bev Gale spoke against the Recommendation
Jonathan Cecil spoke for the Recommendation

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Krista Preece, seconded Councillor Alan Harris.

That, in accordance with sections 51 and 57 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* and the Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston, a permit be granted for DA0257/2026 - Resource Development - Construction of buildings and infrastructure for a turf farm (Retrospective), at 781 East Tamar Highway, Dilston, subject to the following conditions:

1. ENDORSED PLANS & DOCUMENTS

The use and development must be substantially in accordance with the endorsed plans and documents to the satisfaction of the Senior Leader City Development unless modified by a condition of the Permit:

- a) Planning Submission, prepared by Rebecca Green & Associates, Version 1, dated 04/06/2026;
- b) Cover Page, prepared by Engineering Plus, Drawing No. A000, SK5, dated 10/04/26;
- c) Locality Plan, prepared by Engineering Plus, Drawing No. A001, SK5, dated 10/04/26;
- d) Site Plan, prepared by Engineering Plus, Drawing No. A002, SK5, dated 10/04/26;
- e) Site Plan- 35m x 12m SHED, prepared by Engineering Plus, Drawing No. A003, SK5, dated 10/04/26;
- f) Site Plan - 12m x 7m SHED, prepared by Engineering Plus, Drawing No. A004, SK5, dated 10/04/26;
- g) Building Specifications - Drawings, prepared by Skyline Sheds, page 3, dated 06/02/2026;
- h) Building Specifications - Drawings, prepared by Skyline Sheds, page 3, dated 31/03/2026; and
- i) Transport Impact Assessment, prepared by Ratio, Version F01, dated 23/04/2026.

2. LEGAL TITLE

All development and use associated with the proposal must be confined to the legal title of the subject land except construction of access from the street.

3. HOURS OF CONSTRUCTION

- a) Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Senior Leader Health and Regulations, construction activities must only be carried out between the hours of:
 - i. Monday to Friday - 7 am to 6 pm; and
 - ii. Saturday - 8 am to 6 pm.
- b) Notwithstanding the above paragraph, construction activities must not be carried out on public holidays that are observed state-wide (Easter Tuesday excepted).

4. SITE LANDSCAPING PLAN

Prior to the commencement of works, a landscaping plan must be submitted for approval by Senior Leader City Development. The plan must be drawn to scale and must include information on the type of native screening to replace the Leighton Green species hedging screen.

Once approved the plan will be endorsed and will form part of the permit. The landscaping must be:

- a. Installed in accordance with the endorsed plan; and
- b. Completed within 3 months of the permit being issued; and
- c. Maintained as part of non-residential development. It must not be removed, destroyed or lopped without the written consent of the Council.

5. DAMAGE TO COUNCIL INFRASTRUCTURE & ASSETS

The developer is liable for all costs associated with the repair of damage to Council infrastructure and assets resulting from non-compliance with the conditions of the Planning Permit and any by-law or legislation relevant to the development activity on the site. Damage may also include the undertaking of unauthorised works to Council infrastructure such as driveways, footpaths and stormwater infrastructure. The developer will also be liable for all reasonable costs associated with the enforcement of compliance with the conditions, by-laws and legislation relevant to the development activity on the site.

6. WORKS WITHIN/OCCUPATION OF THE ROAD RESERVE

Prior to commencing any works in (or requiring the occupation of) the Road Reserve the applicant must receive written authorisation from the Road Asset Owner within the City of Launceston.

This includes but is not limited to occupying space with skip bins, construction equipment, hoarding, scaffolding, the use of machinery and facilitating service connections.

Any implementation of temporary traffic controls will also require written approval.

7. SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT CONTROL PLAN

Prior to the commencement of works, a site management plan must be submitted detailing how soil and water must be managed on the site during the construction process. The management plan must include the following:

- a. Allotment boundaries, contours, approximate grades of slope and directions of fall.
- b. Location of adjoining roads, impervious surfaces, underground services and existing drainage.
- c. Location and types of all existing natural vegetation, the proposed location of topsoil stockpiles and the limit of clearing, grading and filling.
- d. Critical natural areas such as drainage lines, cliffs, wetlands and unstable ground.
- e. The estimated dates for the start and finish of the works.
- f. The erosion control practices to be used on the site such as cut off drains, fencing off areas to be undisturbed, revegetation program and so on.
- g. The sediment control practices to be used on site such as silt fencing, stabilised site access, filter screens for inlets to the drainage system, sediment traps and so on.
- h. Timing of the site rehabilitation or landscaping program.
- i. Outline of the maintenance program for the erosion and sediment controls.

Works must not commence prior to the approval of the Soil and Water Management Control Plan by the Executive Leader Community Assets and Design. The Plan must be implemented and maintained during construction to ensure that soil erosion is to be appropriately managed.

8. FACILITIES AND HIGHWAYS BY-LAW

Prior to the placement of any skip bin, security fencing, hoarding, shipping containers, site offices or amenities within a local highway, the person, corporation or other legal entity must seek and have issued a permit pursuant to the Facilities and Highways By-Law (No. 1 of 2021). The payment of the scheduled Occupation Fee (comprising a minimum base fee and a square meter weekly rate) is required prior to the occupation commencing. No occupation of the road reserve is permitted without approval.

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17. BUILDING ACT 2016 REQUIREMENTS

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18. NON REFLECTIVE EXTERIOR FINISH

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The permit lapses after a period of two (2) years if the development or use has not substantially commenced within that period. An extension may be granted subject to the provisions of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 as amended, by request to Council.

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If the proposal is non-compliant with any restrictive covenants, those restrictive covenants should be removed from the title prior to construction commencing or the owner will carry the liability of potential legal action in the future.

C. Appeal Provisions

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D. Permit Commencement.

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CARRIED 9:0

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Joe Pentridge, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden

AGAINST VOTE: Nil

COUNCILLOR	QUESTION	RESPONSE
Councillor Alex Britton	Can we get some clarification on the 100m buffer zone and does it apply here? What chemicals does the planning scheme permit and what mitigation will be used for dust?	Senior Planner - Policy and Project <i>The planning scheme is silent when it comes to attenuation requirements for chemical spray. However, we do know that operators are still required to comply with relevant legislation, policies, and regulatory requirements.</i> <i>In Tasmania, this includes oversight by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania, as well as the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA). These authorities have requirements and obligations relating to the management and monitoring of spray applications, particularly where spraying occurs in proximity to sensitive land uses.</i>
Councillor Alan Harris	Did you answer the question about the 100 metre buffer zone?	Senior Planner - Policy and Project <i>Under the planning scheme there is no buffer zone.</i>
Councillor Alan Harris	How far is the area being cultivated for turf from the houses on the other side of the highway?	Senior Planner - Policy and Project <i>From the actual turf farm growing area, it's approximately 50 metres from that area to the boundary of the residential properties on John Lees Drive.</i>
Councillor Alan Harris	How was the turf farm for UTAS stadium allowed to grow turf without a planning permit?	Senior Planner - Policy and Project <i>It was on a different title. This is currently zoned Rural Living B. The zoning on that area of land where the turf was grown was Rural, which didn't require planning approval.</i>
Councillor Tim Walker	The existing trees in the area subject to this approval, do they have any sort of landscape or scenic overlay protection?	Senior Planner - Policy and Project <i>Vegetation removal is exempt from requiring a planning permit.</i>

The Acting Mayor, Councillor Hugh McKenzie, announced that Council no longer sits as a Planning Authority.

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

12.1. Mayor's Announcements

FILE NO: SF2375

Monday 29 June 2026

- Attended meeting, Mayor and Chief Executive Officer 1 on 1. Town Hall, Launceston

Tuesday 30 June 2026

- Attended meeting, Launceston Sewer Transformation Project. Parliament House, Canberra
- Attended Turn Up Aus - Spotify. Parliament House, Canberra
- Attended 50th Anniversary of the Basic Treaty of Friendship and Co-operation between Australia and Japan. Parliament House, Canberra

Wednesday 3 July 2026

- Attended community meeting, Project management and briefing, FIRMUS. Phone

Thursday 2 July 2026

- Media. Premier Rockliff, Northern Economic Summit. Launceston
- Officiated Workshop. Town Hall, Launceston
- Attended community meeting, Local Boags development. JMC, Launceston

Friday 3 July 2026

- Officiated Town Hall School Visit, Lilydale District School Leaders. Town Hall, Launceston
- Attended All Abilities Sports Day. The Northern Recreation Hub, Launceston

Saturday 4 July 2026

- Attended AFL Hawks versus Demons. Utas Stadium, Launceston
- Attended Island Winter Escape Festival. Tramsheds, Launceston

Sunday 5 July 2026

- Attended Salvation Army Launceston, NAIDOC Week Service. Launceston

Monday 6 July 2026

- Officiated Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre NAIDOC Week Flag Raising. Launceston
- Attended meeting, Mayor and Chief Executive Officer 1 on 1. Town Hall, Launceston
- Attended Labor Party, Community Conversation. Launceston

Wednesday 8 July 2026

- Attended meeting, Mayor and Executive Leader Community Assets and Design 1 on 1. Town Hall, Launceston
- Attended community meeting, The Veranda Project. Town Hall, Launceston
- Attended meeting, City Nation Place /Mainstreet Australia Conference briefing. Online

Thursday 9 July 2026

- Officiated Council meeting. Town Hall, Launceston
- Attended Launceston Chamber of Commerce CareSuper Business Awards Finalist Evening. Boag's Brewhouse, Launceston

Friday 10 July 2026

- Attended community meeting, Tasmanian Turf Club Chief Executive Officer. Town Hall, Launceston

Saturday 11 July 2026

- Attended Christmas in July. Ben Lomond Base Camp, Launceston

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Sunday 12 July 2026

- Attended 150 years of Ministry Anniversary. Gateway Baptist Church, Launceston.

Monday 13 July 2026

- Attended meeting, Mayor and Chief Executive Officer 1 on 1. Town Hall, Launceston
- Attended community meeting, Music and Arts Hub. Town Hall, Launceston

Wednesday 15 July 2026

- Participated in Northern Tasmania Economic Summit. Boathouse, Launceston
- Attended community meeting, Salvation Army. Town Hall, Launceston
- Media: Margaret Street reconstruction, Launceston

Thursday 16 July 2026

- Officiated Workshop. Town Hall, Launceston

Friday 17 July 2026

- Attended community meeting, Le Pettit. Town Hall, Launceston

Monday 20 July 2026

- Attended community meeting, Lilydale Men's Shed. Town Hall, Launceston
- Attended meeting, Mayor and Chief Executive Officer 1 on 1. Town Hall, Launceston
- Attended Ministerial meeting, Hon Kerry Vincent. Town Hall, Launceston

Wednesday 22 July 2026

- Media: ABC Tasmania Statewide, Northern Tasmania Economic Summit.
- Attended community meeting, Local development. Le Café, Launceston
- Attended meeting, Mayor and Chief Executive Officer 1 on 1. Town Hall, Launceston
- Attended meeting, Mayor and Executive Leader Strategy and Innovation 1 on 1. Town Hall, Launceston
- Attended meeting, Chief Executive Officer Performance Review Committee. Town Hall, Launceston

Thursday 23 July 2026

- Attended meeting, Chief Executive Officer Performance Review Committee Day 2. Town Hall, Launceston
- Officiated Workshop. Town Hall, Launceston
- Attended Biz & Bubbles, Launceston Central. Nomy Bar and Kitchen, Launceston
- Attended meeting, Senator Colbeck, Bell Bay Aluminium briefing. Phone

Friday 24 July 2026

- Media: Federal Opposition Leader and Liberal Senators, Bell Bay Aluminium. Bell Bay, George Town
- Participated in Judes, The Youth Shift workshop. Tailrace, Riverside
- Attended City of Launceston RSL Band Annual General Meeting. Tramsheds, Launceston

Saturday 25 July 2026

- Attended WayFM Radio, 40 Year Celebration. Blackstone Heights Christian Centre, Blackstone
 - Attended Northern Force Season Celebration. Boag's Brewhouse, Launceston
-

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.)

Deputy Mayor, Councillor Hugh McKenzie

Wednesday 29 July 2026

- Attended the Community Champions Awards at the Ark

Friday 31 July 2026

- Officiated and spoke at the Hawthorn Inner Sanctum Event at the Sports Garden

Tuesday 4 August 2026

- Attended the New Launceston Resident Morning Tea

Councillor Alan Harris

Tuesday 28 July 2026

- Attended the Councillor Information Session at Town Hall
- Attended the Tas Tourism Conference Event at Albert Hall

Wednesday 29 July 2026

- Attended the Citizenship Ceremony at the Albert Hall

Saturday 1 August 2026

- Attended the Hawthorn v North Melbourne AFL Match at UTAS Stadium

Saturday 1 August 2026

- Attended the Cancer Council Fundraising Gala at the Hotel Grand Chancellor

Councillor Susie Cai

Tuesday 28 July 2026

- Attended the UTAS Scholarship Thank You Morning Tea

Wednesday 29 July 2026

- Attended the Community Champions Annual Celebration
- Attended the Citizenship Ceremony at the Albert Hall

Saturday 1 August 2026

- Attended the Annual Festive Winter Market at the Dilston Memorial Hall

Monday 3 August 2026

- Attended the Homelessness Week Morning Tea at Town Hall

Tuesday 4 August 2026

- Attended the New Launnie Resident Morning Tea

Wednesday 5 August 2026

- Attended the Homelessness Week Walk to Raise Awareness

Councillor Ross Marsden

Friday 31 July 2026

- Attended the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre Refugee Leadership Program Graduation Ceremony

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 Susie Cai - Trevallyn Primary School Drop-off Zone and Thoroughfare 2027 - 23 July 2026

FILE NO: SF2375

AUTHOR: Taylor Murphy (Senior Governance Officer)

APPROVER: Sam Johnson (Chief Executive Officer)

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES:

The following question, submitted to Council on 23 July 2026 by Councillor Susie Cai, has been answered by the Coordinator Transport (Question 1) and the Senior Leader Community Place and Wellbeing (Question 2).

Question 1:

Is it possible to look into putting a concrete pathway in the front of the Trevallyn Primary School where the drop off zone is? Currently they get out of the car onto uneven grass, but during this time of the year it is slippery mud.

Response:

A concrete path on the verge would not be feasible. It would require the construction of a new retaining wall, removing tree canopy cover, and would likely come at significant expense to Council.

However, Council officers have contacted Trevallyn Primary School and will investigate an alternative option creating an additional drop-off/pick-up zone (signed 'no parking; drop-off/pick-up only') across the street on the existing asphalt footpath to provide an option for parents to drop their children off safely in wet conditions, avoiding the sloping, grassy nature strip.

Question 2:

Will there be the Thoroughfare Event held in 2027?

Response:

Council is currently considering future community art initiatives that support Council's Four-Year Delivery Plan by increasing opportunities for cultural participation, strengthening community connections and enhancing local places through public art and creative activation. While there is strong interest in continuing the Thoroughfare event, no decision has been made regarding an event in 2027.

14.2. Questions Without Notice by Councillors

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 34

**14.2.1. Questions Without Notice by Councillor Krista Preece - Traffic Management
Park Street Car Park - 6 August 2026**

Question 1:

Would it be possible for Council to consider installing an additional speed hump in the Park Street Car Park?

Question 2:

Could this be a ready-made speed hump installed near the end of the car park, or would it need to wait until the car park is due for resurfacing?

Response:

The Acting Mayor, Councillor Hugh McKenzie, advised that these questions would be Taken on Notice and responses provided in the Council Agenda of 20 August 2026.

14.2.2. Questions Without Notice by Councillor Alex Britton - Albert Hall Bookings and Charge for Citizenship Ceremonies - 6 August 2026

Question 1:

Have Council received any complaints, queries or concerns from Schools, Colleges, Charities or Community Organisations regarding the use of the Albert Hall and if so, what are their concerns?

Questions 2:

Does Council pay any costs for hosting citizenship ceremonies at Albert Hall?

Response:

The Acting Mayor, Councillor Hugh McKenzie, advised that these questions would be Taken on Notice and responses provided in the Council Agenda of 20 August 2026.

14.2.3. Questions Without Notice by Councillor Susie Cai - Adopt a Tree Program - 6 August 2026

Question 1:

Under the adopt a tree project, can a person choose what tree is planted, such as a fruit tree or native evergreen and can they have more than one tree?

Response:

The Acting Mayor, Councillor Hugh McKenzie, advised that these questions would be Taken on Notice and responses provided in the Council Agenda of 20 August 2026.

15. WRITTEN NOTICES OF MOTION

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 19

No Items were identified as part of these Minutes.

16. COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Items were identified as part of these Minutes.

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

No Items were identified as part of these Minutes.

18. COMMUNITY ASSETS AND DESIGN

18.1. Flood Mitigation Program - Charter and Program

FILE NO: SF7756

AUTHOR: Catherine Searle (Senior Leader City Infrastructure)

APPROVER: Chelsea van Riet (Executive Leader Community Assets and Design)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To seek Council adoption of the Flood Mitigation Plan Program Charter.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council - 7 March 2024 - Agenda Item 12.1 Notice of Motion - Councillor A J Britton -
Establish a Flood Mitigation Strategy - 28 February 2024

Workshop - 27 June 2024 - Agenda Item 1.1 - Flood Mitigation Notice of Motion - Project
Scope Update

Council - 31 October 2024 - Agenda Item 19.2 - Flood Mitigation Strategy - Scoping Study

Council - 19 June 2025 - Agenda Item 19.3 - Grant Submissions, April and May 2025

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. notes the contents and adopts the Flood Mitigation Program Charter (ECM Doc Set ID 5402142).
-

Catherine Searle (Senior Leader City Infrastructure) and Richard Jamieson (Senior Leader City Development) were in attendance to answer questions in respect of this item. A table of questions asked by Councillors during debate is provided after the decision.

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Alex Britton, seconded Councillor Tim Walker.

That Council:

- 1. notes the contents and adopts the Flood Mitigation Program Charter (ECM Doc Set ID 5402142).**

CARRIED 8:1

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden

AGAINST VOTE: Councillor Joe Pentridge

COUNCILLOR	QUESTION	RESPONSE
Councillor Tim Walker	Is there going to be an opportunity in the next 3 years for community consultation	Senior Leader City Infrastructure <i>Stakeholder engagement and community engagement will take place throughout the three years of the project. There is a formal consultation period on the draft plan toward the end of the project, but we are not waiting until then. There will be a great deal of stakeholder engagement, and we will have a lot of key partners in this because it is a holistic program looking at the whole of the river estuary and river basin system. Of course, that goes beyond the boundaries of the City of Launceston, so we will be working very closely with our partnering councils in adjacent councils and with the various riverine and water stakeholders in this space, of which there are many.</i> <i>There will be periods where we can have some community input into that as well. We have a very comprehensive register of stakeholders who will potentially be interested in this, and we will continue to refine that and have a whole program of regular communications and engagement. Many of those key stakeholders will also be invited to participate in the working groups on this project throughout.</i>

Councillor Tim Walker	How much of the prior work and studies completed by government and community groups is going to be used during this process?	Senior Leader City Infrastructure <i>All prior studies will be very useful. There is a lot of work happening currently to review the studies that have been completed to date. We will be engaging with groups closely throughout the project</i>
Councillor Alan Harris	I couldn't find any reference in the report to the \$8 million proposed silk traps for the Northwest River. Is such funding for these items for example put on hold until this report is accepted?	Senior Leader City Infrastructure <i>Our Flood asset management program will continue and will be unaffected by this Flood Mitigation Program. Which the Launceston Flood Authority will still oversee work. It will run in parallel.</i>
Councillor Alan Harris	Has the \$4 million dredging grant been put on hold during this time?	Senior Leader City Infrastructure <i>We as a Council are not undertaking any dredging.</i>
Councillor Hugh McKenzie	Can the \$4 million funding be redirected?	Senior Leader City Infrastructure <i>Funding was provided for dredging but could also be used for other flood mitigation works which is what is currently occurring.</i>

18.2. Proposed Alternative Street Name for Extension of Chapple Street, Ravenswood - Pendle Place

FILE NO: SF0621 / DA0584/2019

AUTHOR: Julie Ross (Administration Officer)

APPROVER: Chelsea van Riet (Executive Leader Community Assets and Design)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider overturning the decision made during the 25 June 2026 Council Meeting, Agenda Item 18.1 to approve the use of an existing Street Name – Chapple Street and approve the new street name, Pendle Place, Ravenswood.

This decision requires an absolute majority vote.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government (Highways) Act 1982

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council - 25 June 2026 – Agenda Item 18.1. Use of an Existing Street Name - Chapple Street

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. notes that Placenames Tasmania has refused the use of Chapple Street for the extension of the existing Chapple Street, approved by a decision of Council on 25 June 2026 at Agenda Item 18.1; and
2. pursuant to the provisions of section 54 of the Local Government (Highways) Act 1982, approves the alternative name Pendle Place, Ravenswood, accessed off Seymour Street as shown below:



3. notes that if Recommendation 2 is resolved in the affirmative, it will overturn the decision made on 25 June 2026 for Agenda Item 18.1 to approve the Use of an existing Street Name – Chapple Street and requires a decision by an absolute majority pursuant to regulation 22(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*.

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Alan Harris, seconded Councillor Lindi McMahon.

That Council:

1. notes that Placenames Tasmania has refused the use of Chapple Street for the extension of the existing Chapple Street, approved by a decision of Council on 25 June 2026 at Agenda Item 18.1; and
2. pursuant to the provisions of section 54 of the Local Government (Highways) Act 1982, approves the alternative name Pindle Place, Ravenswood, accessed off Seymour Street as shown below:



3. notes that if Recommendation 2 is resolved in the affirmative, it will overturn the decision made on 25 June 2026 for Agenda Item 18.1 to approve the Use of an existing Street Name – Chapple Street and requires a decision by an absolute majority pursuant to regulation 22(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 9:0

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Joe Pentridge, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden

AGAINST VOTE: Nil

19. DELIVERY AND PERFORMANCE

19.1. Fees and Charges 2026/2027 Amendment

FILE NO: SF2968

AUTHOR: Byron Fraser (Senior Leader Finance and Technology)

APPROVER: Nathan Williams (Executive Leader Delivery and Performance)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider changes to the adopted fees and charges for 2026/27.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council – 25 June 2026 – Agenda Item 19.1 - 2026/27 Fees and Charges Amendments

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. pursuant to section 205 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)*, includes the 'Examination and certification of a Strata Plan Fee' to the previously published 2026/2027 Fees and Charges schedule as detailed in ECM Document Set ID 5374262.

Byron Fraser (Senior Leader Finance and Technology) was in attendance to answer questions in respect of this item. A table of questions asked by Councillors during debate is provided after the decision.

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Lindi McMahon, seconded Councillor Alan Harris.

That Council:

1. pursuant to section 205 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas), includes the 'Examination and certification of a Strata Plan Fee' to the previously published 2026/2027 Fees and Charges schedule as detailed in ECM Document Set ID 5374262.

CARRIED 9:0

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Joe Pentridge, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

COUNCILLOR	QUESTION	RESPONSE
Councillor Tim Walker	Is there going to be an opportunity for community consultation in the next 3 years ?	Senior Leader City Infrastructure <i>Stakeholder engagement and community engagement will take place throughout the three years of the project. There is a formal consultation period on the draft plan toward the end of the project, but we are not waiting until then. There will be a great deal of stakeholder engagement, and we will have a lot of key partners in this because it is a holistic program looking at the whole of the river estuary and river basin system. Of course, that goes beyond the boundaries of the City of Launceston, so we will be working very closely with adjacent councils and with the various riverine and water stakeholders in this space, of which there are many. There will be periods where we can have some community input into that as well.</i> <i>We have a very comprehensive register of stakeholders who will potentially be interested in this, and we will continue to refine that and have a whole program of regular communications and engagement. Many of those key stakeholders will also be invited to participate in the working groups on this project throughout.</i>

Councillor Tim Walker	How much of the prior work and studies that have been completed by government and community groups is going to be used during this process?	Senior Leader City Infrastructure <i>All prior studies will be very useful. There is a lot of work happening currently to review the studies that have been completed to date. We will be engaging with groups closely throughout the project.</i>
Councillor Alan Harris	I couldn't find any reference in the report to the \$8 million proposed silk traps for the Northwest River. Is such funding for these items put on hold until this report is accepted?	Senior Leader City Infrastructure <i>Our Flood asset management program will continue and will be unaffected by this Flood Mitigation Program. The Launceston Flood Authority will still oversee work and it will run in parallel.</i>
Councillor Alan Harris	Has the \$4 million dredging grant been put on hold during this time?	Senior Leader City Infrastructure <i>We as a Council are not undertaking any dredging.</i>
Councillor Hugh McKenzie	Can the \$4 million funding be redirected?	Senior Leader City Infrastructure <i>Funding was provided for dredging but could also be used for other flood mitigation works which is what is currently occurring.</i>

19.2. 2025/2026 Budget - Budget Amendment

FILE NO: SF7769/SF7514

AUTHOR: Samantha Rautner (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 June 2026 to 30 June 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 decrease in revenue from external grants and contributions of \$13,016,292.
 - (b) Expenses
 - i. the net decrease in operations expenditure of \$326,496.
 - (c) Capital Works Expenditure
 - i. the decrease in the Council's funded expenditure of \$17,504.
 - ii. the net decrease in expenditure from external funds of \$12,672,292.
2. notes that amendments from Recommendation 1. result in:
 - (a) the operating deficit being amended to \$2,030,307 (including capital grants of \$11,086,357) for 2025/2026.
 - (b) the capital budget being decreased to \$41,200,397 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 June 2026 to 30 June 2026.

Byron Fraser (Senior Leader Finance and Technology) was in attendance to answer questions in respect of this item. A table of questions asked by Councillors during debate is provided after the decision.

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Alan Harris, seconded Councillor Tim Walker.

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 decrease in revenue from external grants and contributions of \$13,016,292.
 - (b) Expenses
 - i. the net decrease in operations expenditure of \$326,496.
 - (c) Capital Works Expenditure
 - i. the decrease in the Council's funded expenditure of \$17,504.
 - ii. the net decrease in expenditure from external funds of \$12,672,292.
2. notes that amendments from Recommendation 1. result in:
 - (a) the operating deficit being amended to \$2,030,307 (including capital grants of \$11,086,357) for 2025/2026.
 - (b) the capital budget being decreased to \$41,200,397 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 June 2026 to 30 June 2026.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 8:1

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden
AGAINST VOTE: Councillor Joe Pentridge

COUNCILLOR	QUESTION	RESPONSE
Councillor Alan Harris	Had this fee been missed out previously or have we not compared with other councils?	Senior Leader City Development <i>We generally add a 3% increase which keeps us in line with other councils. When reviewing this particular fee we found to be significantly behind other councils in the state</i>

19.3. 2026/2027 Budget - Budget Amendment

FILE NO: SF7769/SF7514

AUTHOR: Samantha Rautner (Team Leader Accounting)

APPROVER: Nathan Williams (Executive Leader Delivery and Performance)

DECISION STATEMENT:

For Council to consider changes to the Council's 2026/2027 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).

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 2026/2027 Statutory Estimates:
 - (a) Revenue
 - i. the net increase in revenue from external grants and contributions of \$13,134,131.
 - (b) Expenses
 - i. the net increase in operations expenditure from external funds of \$354,000.
 - (c) Capital Works Expenditure
 - i. the net increase in expenditure from external funds of \$12,780,131.
2. notes that amendments from Recommendation 1. result in:
 - (a) the operating deficit being amended to \$2,236,785 (including capital grants of \$25,587,651) for 2026/2027.
 - (b) the capital budget being increased to \$79,559,771 for 2026/2027.

Byron Fraser (Senior Leader Finance and Technology) was in attendance to answer questions in respect of this item. A table of questions asked by Councillors during debate is provided after the decision.

The Acting Mayor, Councillor Hugh McKenzie, handed the Chair to Councillor Alan Harris at 2.15pm

The Acting Mayor resumed the Chair at 2.15pm

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Tim Walker, seconded Councillor Alex Britton.

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 2026/2027 Statutory Estimates:**
 - (a) Revenue**
 - i. the net increase in revenue from external grants and contributions of \$13,134,131.**
 - (b) Expenses**
 - i. the net increase in operations expenditure from external funds of \$354,000.**
 - (c) Capital Works Expenditure**
 - i. the net increase in expenditure from external funds of \$12,780,131.**
- 2. notes that amendments from Recommendation 1. result in:**
 - (a) the operating deficit being amended to \$2,236,785 (including capital grants of \$25,587,651) for 2026/2027.**
 - (b) the capital budget being increased to \$79,559,771 for 2026/2027.**

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 8:1

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden
AGAINST VOTE: Councillor Joe Pentridge

COUNCILLOR	QUESTION	RESPONSE
Councillor Hugh McKenzie	Is it correct that the operating budget deficit of \$2.23 million is a theoretical balance?	<i>Executive Leader Delivery and Performance</i> <i>That is correct. The finance team is currently submitting our income finance statements to Audit TAS. We will have audited financial statements returned by the end of September which we will then present at the Annual General Meeting.</i>
Councillor Hugh McKenzie	Can Council Officers provide an update in their bulletin in regard to capital adjustments being made under the Chief Executives office report?	<i>Executive Leader Delivery and Performance</i> <i>Yes, we can begin working on this and provide an update via the bulletin.</i>

19.4. Councillors' Expenses and Resources Policy (14-Plx-016)

FILE NO: SF0107, SF0121, SF0160, SF0973, SF4914 and SF4945

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance and Information Services)

APPROVER: Nathan Williams (Executive Leader Delivery and Performance)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the adoption of the Councillors' Expenses and Resources Policy (14-Plx-016).

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas) - schedule 5
Local Government (General) Regulations 2025

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Workshop - 27 November 2025 – Councillor Expenses and Resources Policy
Council – 22 September 2014 – Aldermen's Expenses and Resources Policy
Council – 15 March 2011 – Agenda Item 17.1 - Mayor and Aldermen's Expenses & Resources Policy (14-Plx-016)
Council – 29 November 2010 – Agenda Item 17.4 Mayor and Alderman's Expenses and Resources Policy

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. adopts the Councillor Expenses and Resources Policy (14-Plx-016) as set out below:

Councillors' Expenses and Resources Policy

PURPOSE

To ensure that Councillors are reimbursed on a consistent basis for actual costs incurred, subject to any agreed limits, so that:

- b) They are not financially 'out of pocket' because of carrying out their duties of office; and
- b) The parameters for the reimbursement of expenditure are known and understood.

To distinguish between those resources and expenses that are provided and the payment of the Councillor's allowance paid under Section 340(2A) of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* (the Act).

Schedule 5 of the Act requires Council to adopt a policy in respect of payment of expenses incurred by Councillors in carrying out the duties of office and make a copy of the policy available for public inspection.

It also makes provision for support services, facilities, and equipment on loan to a Councillor on any conditions the Council considers appropriate.

SCOPE

The Policy applies to the reimbursement of and/or contribution to expenses and the provision of resources and facilities support for the Mayor and Councillors of the Council.

The Policy covers expenditure which is additional to the Councillor's Allowance as determined by legislation. It sets out the conditions on which the Council considers it appropriate to provide support services, facilities and equipment on loan in accordance with clause 2 of Schedule 5 of the Act.

POLICY

The Council will reimburse reasonable expenditure incurred by Councillors in carrying out the duties of office as a Councillor of the Council.

Expense reimbursement and the provision of resources and facilities will be made consistent with:

- b) *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025 (Tas)* (the Regulations), Regulation 50; and
- b) the provisions of this policy.

The Council may approve other expenses not explicitly listed in this Policy, where these are demonstrably tied to the performance of a Councillor's official duties.

Resources the Council makes available to Councillors (for example a tablet or laptop) remain the property of the Council and must be returned at the end of the Councillor's term of office. At the end of the term, retiring Councillors may request to purchase items at a rate approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

Any repairs for Council-owned equipment must be organised through the Chief Executive Officer's office.

The Council recognises that Councillors may have existing arrangements in place around, for example, bundled phone and mobile data/internet access. If this is the case, the Council will make arrangements for reimbursement of expenses with Councillors on a case-by-case basis, subject to the limits detailed in the policy and the approval of the Chief Executive Officer.

The support provided by this policy can be categorised as follows:

Expense Reimbursement

- Telephone and Use of the Internet
- Travelling (including meals, accommodation, and functions)
- Care of a Dependant
- Stationery and Office Supplies.
- Other
 - o Council Meeting Meal Allowance
 - o Working with Vulnerable People Registration
- Claims for Reimbursement Procedure

Resources and Facilities

- Communications and Administrative Support
- Information Technology
- Provision of Gifts to Others
- Mayoral Vehicle
- Parking
- Insurance
- Training and Professional Development

There is no right of offset between expense types and Councillors cannot transfer unused reimbursement amounts from one expense category to another where maximum amounts have been set under this policy.

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SECTION 1 PHONE AND INTERNET EXPENSES

Telephone rental or plans, telephone calls and use of the internet are categories in which a Councillor is entitled to be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses pursuant to regulation 50 of the Regulations.

- **Telephone**

Councillors can claim up to a maximum reimbursement of **\$100 per month** for phone costs for a private mobile phone, upon production of an invoice that confirms the charges actually incurred.

- ***Use of the Internet***

Internet access for the Council-issued devices when not at a Council building will be via the internet service that each Councillor elects to arrange and use with their preferred Internet Service Provider (ISP).

Councillors can claim a maximum reimbursement of **\$50 per month** toward the cost of their internet access (service provider charge). Proof of expense will be required to support the claim for reimbursement.

SECTION 2 TRAVELLING (INCLUDING MEALS, ACCOMMODATION AND FUNCTIONS)

- ***Use of Private Vehicles***

Costs relating to private vehicle use while carrying out the duties of office as a Councillor will be reimbursed where a Councillor is representing Council at the direction of Council or the Mayor.

Reimbursement is available for the direct route to and from the venue where the meeting, committee/group activity or function, is outside a 37 kilometre radius of Town Hall.

The rate of reimbursement is to be based on Australian Taxation Office rates.

- ***Meal Expense***

A meal expense is claimable for reimbursement when attending:

- Council business such as a conference, function or event, where the meal is not provided as part of the registration
- a Council event that requires overnight stay and meals are not provided at the venue.

The maximum claimable amount for meals will be capped at the rates identified for each meal type in Table 1 of the Australian Taxation Office's Reasonable Travel Allowance Rates published annually [Travel allowances | Australian Taxation Office](#).

The Council will not reimburse alcoholic drinks at any time.

- ***Attendee at Seminars/Conferences etc.***

The Council will pay for the cost of Councillors to attend approved seminars/conferences, including accommodation and travel expenses providing these are approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

In relation to overseas seminars/conferences/travel, this will be referred to Council to determine whether any elected member/s should attend.

Costs incurred for meals and incidentals will be reimbursed where these are not included in the conference registration package, subject to the presentation of receipts and tax invoices for expenses claimed and the limits identified in this policy.

Councillors are encouraged to provide a written report on each interstate or overseas conference attended within three (3) months of the conclusion of the conference. The report may be prepared individually by elected members or may be a joint report of the Councillors who attended.

All travel undertaken by the Mayor must be approved by the Chief Executive Officer, with the Mayor providing justification for the travel. This may include travel of both intrastate and interstate. If approved, associated travel costs will be met by Council. Costs will only be covered for the Mayor and any accompanying Council staff.

- ***Attendee at Functions***

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors may receive invitations to attend functions in their capacity as a Councillor.

Invitations with Council budgetary implications will be referred to the Chief Executive Officer for approval before agreeing to attend. Retrospective payments will not be provided. Requests for approval will only be considered where the invitation is addressed specifically to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor or an individual Councillor.

The Council will not meet any costs during an election period where the Mayor, Deputy Mayor or particular Councillor standing for re-election is requesting payment.

It is recognised that the Mayor may still need to attend functions as Council's representative during an election period which will be funded by the Council subject to prior approval by the Chief Executive Officer.

- ***Accompanying partners/guests***

A partner or guest may accompany a Councillor to conferences or a function where other attendees are generally accompanied by partners.

The Council will not pay or reimburse for guests' or partners' meals, accommodation, travel, social packages or attendance as an accompanying guest, unless specifically approved by the Chief Executive Officer or Council.

- ***Sister City Visits***

When a Mayor/Councillor is approved to participate in an official visit to a Sister City as part of a delegation, generally through a nomination process, the Council will fund the Councillor's appropriate airfare, accommodation and associated travel expenses.

The Council will determine how many Councillors participate in overseas visits.

SECTION 3 CARE OF A DEPENDANT

The Council will reimburse the cost of necessary care of any person who is a dependent or immediate family member of the Councillor and who requires the care while the Councillor is carrying out their duties of office, including:

- Attendance at Council and Council Committee meetings
- Attendance at meetings arising as a result of a Councillor being appointed by Council to an internal or external body or committee, except where the body or committee reimburses relevant care expenses incurred by the Councillor
- Attendance at informal briefing sessions or meetings with prior approval of the Chief Executive Officer

Claims must, on each occasion, be accompanied by a receipt from a licensed care provider showing the date, time, reason for the care and the person for whom the care was provided.

Where a Councillor is able to claim reimbursement for the provision of care under any Commonwealth Government or Private Insurance Health Benefit Scheme, the Council will only reimburse the difference between the amount reimbursed by the scheme and the total cost of the service provided. Claims are to be submitted against any scheme before submission to the Council.

SECTION 4 STATIONERY AND OFFICE SUPPLIES

Council staff will provide stationery and printing for Councillors when required for carrying out their duties of office.

Councillor business cards will be provided on request.

SECTION 5 OTHER

- ***Council Meeting Meal Allowance***

A meal allowance of \$40 will be paid for any Council meeting that extends beyond 5.30pm.

- ***Working with Vulnerable People Registration***

In accordance with regulation 50(c) of the Regulations, where a Councillor obtains a Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) Card for the activities and duties of office performed in their capacity as a Councillor with the Council, the Council will reimburse the registration or renewal cost of the WWVP check.

SECTION 6 CLAIMS FOR REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE

Claims for reimbursement are to be submitted on a fortnightly basis using Councillor's Reimbursement Claim Form (14-Fm-005).

When making claims for reimbursement of expenses, Councillors must provide original itemised receipts, tax invoices, and documentation to support a claim. Each claim must clearly identify the purpose, in order to make clear the basis of the claim and its relation to the policy guidelines.

Claims for reimbursement are to be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer no later than three (3) months after the expense has been incurred.

Where, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, a question arises as to whether a claim for reimbursement of expenses or any part of a claim is eligible under this policy, the matter will, in the first instance, be brought to the attention of the Mayor. The Mayor will discuss the matter with the Councillor making the claim. If the question remains unresolved, the matter is to be referred to a Closed Session of Council for a decision.

Given the varied contexts in which expenses may arise, the Council may also obtain independent legal advice if there is any uncertainty whether the expense was incurred in carrying out the duties of office, particularly for expenses that may appear personal in nature.

The fundamental test for reimbursement under Schedule 5 of the *Local Government Act 1993* remains whether the expense was incurred in carrying out the duties of office, rather than whether it is merely personal or non-personal.

SECTION 7 COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

- **Office facilities, services, and support staff**

All administrative support for carrying out the duties of office will be provided for Councillors by Council staff. Assistance will not be provided for personal/private business matters.

A suitable printing device, at a standard determined by the Chief Executive Officer, will be available in the Councillor's area to enable printing.

- **Report (Agenda and Minute) Distribution**

The arrangements for report distribution are:

- a) Agendas for Council, workshops and Council committee meetings will be distributed electronically. This is City of Launceston's preferred method of distribution.
- b) Councillors who require printed agendas are to collect them from Town Hall.
- c) Minutes will be distributed electronically only.

- **Council Devices**

Councillors will be provided with a Council-issued device (tablet or laptop computer) and a protective cover of the standard make and type that is being acquired by the Council at the time. It will include a mobile data service suitable for receiving and accessing electronic Council papers and related documentation. The monthly data allowance will be determined by the Council and the cost of the mobile data service for the device will be met by the Council.

Councillors are expected to adhere to the information technology security standards recommended by the Council in their use of these devices (for example, PIN, password protection or multifactor authentication).

- **Software**

Council-issued devices will be supplied with a document distribution application (DocsOnTap). Devices will be supplied with the same version of Microsoft Windows and Microsoft Office that is installed on Council computers. Virus protection software will also be supplied.

Councillors may not install other software applications on Council-issued devices unless approved by the Chief Executive Officer. If approved, any purchasing, licensing, installation and support of these applications will be the responsibility of each Councillor.

- **Council Network**

Council-issued devices will be configured for stand-alone use. They will not have access to the Council's network. Councillors who have a Council-issued laptop are able to use the Council's network facilities via the Councillors' area.

- **Email**

Council email is accessible externally via an internet connection. The final configuration of email accounts including email redirection facilities will be arranged with individual Councillors. The Council's information management policies and standards apply to emails.

- **System Backup**

The backup of the data on the tablet or laptop is a matter for each Councillor to manage as appropriate to their needs. Regular system backups are strongly recommended to protect from data loss in the event of failure.

- **System Support**

Training in specialised applications (e.g. DocsOnTap) will be provided as part of the induction process for Councillors. Any other IT training for Councillors (e.g. in the use of Microsoft Windows and Microsoft Office) will be arranged on request through the Councillor's administration support with an external training provider if required. The Council will pay for reasonable costs as approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

Support for the operation of Council-issued devices will be provided by the IT department during office hours. This support is primarily for equipment problems, not training. Any equipment failures and repairs are to be reported to the IT department so that repairs can be arranged. After-hours support will not be available.

- **Return of Council Devices**

When the device is to be replaced or a Councillor leaves the Council, the equipment is to be returned to the IT department for removal of data and any non-standard software applications prior to reallocation or disposal.

SECTION 8 PROVISION OF GIFTS TO OTHERS

In fulfilling their civic and ceremonial roles and responsibilities, Councillors will meet local, national and international delegates and officials.

In circumstances where the exchange of gifts between the host and visitor is considered courteous and expected, the Council will provide a gift for the Councillor to exchange.

The provision of corporate gifts by Councillors will be by request through the Chief Executive Officer's office and will be of a standard considered appropriate for the event.

Requirements for the disclosure of gifts presented to Councillors are detailed in the Policy for Acceptance of Gifts and Benefits by Councillors (14-Plx-031).

SECTION 9 MAYORAL VEHICLE

The Council is to make a vehicle available to the Mayor, or the Mayor's representative, when representing the City at meetings, functions, and other activities.

The model and value of vehicle supplied to the Mayor is determined and approved by the Chief Executive Officer with consideration given to the Light Fleet Vehicle Management Policy and Usage Guidelines (13-PI-002).

Use of the vehicle by other Councillors or the Chief Executive Officer will only occur at the Chief Executive Officer's discretion.

SECTION 10 PARKING

One parking permit and one electronic parking pass will be made available to each Councillor for use when undertaking their duties of office in any available unreserved space, subject to zoned time limits and relevant parking rules.

Permits will relate to on-street parking and passes will relate to off-street parking within the four Council-owned multi-storey car parks (CH Smith, Elizabeth Street, Paterson Street East, and Paterson Street West).

SECTION 11 INSURANCE

The Council will provide appropriate insurance coverage to Councillors, to apply whilst travelling to and from meetings and carrying out their duties of office on behalf of the Council, including but not limited to, Public Liability and Professional Indemnity, Personal Accident, and Corporate Travel Insurance.

SECTION 12 TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- ***Post-Election Induction Program***

Following their election, Councillors will be provided with an induction program to familiarise themselves with the Council's values and culture, organisational structure, and the roles and responsibilities of Councillors under the Act. The induction program will involve a range of presentations from Executive and Senior Leaders, including strategic business planning and any specific issues affecting the City of Launceston at the time.

- ***Individual Professional Development Activities***

Councillors can request individual professional development to support them in carrying out their duties of office under the annual professional learning budget. The Council will pay for the cost of Councillors to attend approved training, including accommodation and travel expenses providing these are approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

The Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) Company Directors Course covers governance and the practice of directorship, the legal environment, risk and strategy, financial literacy and performance, and achieving board effectiveness. As this course is considered to provide significant value to elected members, the cost of the course is funded in addition to the annual professional learning budget.

The actual cost incurred for meals and incidentals will be reimbursed (where these are not part of the training package) subject to the presentation of receipts and tax invoices for the expenses claimed.

The cost of any post-nominal award assessment or ongoing professional membership costs are not included.

PUBLICATION

Section 72 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) requires the Council to publish in its Annual Report a statement of the total allowances and expenses paid to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors. These will be reported so that individual Councillors' expenses are identified.

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RELATED POLICIES & PROCEDURES

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17-Plx-006 Record Keeping for Councillors Policy
14-Plx-031 Policy for Acceptance of Gifts and Benefits by Councillors
31-PI-011 Mobile Devices Policy
31-PI-004 Mobile Phones and Smart Phones Policy
31-PI-005 Information Security Policy
31-PI-009 Information Systems and IT Acceptable Use Policy
13-PI-002 Light Fleet Vehicle Management Policy and Usage Guidelines
12-PI-005 Corporate Credit Card Policy

RELATED LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)
Local Government (General) Regulations 2025 (Tas)
Local Government (Code of Conduct) Order 2024 (Tas)

REFERENCES

Councillor allowances information sheet, Department of Premier and Cabinet (Tas), June 2025
14-Rf-014 Councillor Expenses Allowances Reference

DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Duties of office	Duties performed in their capacity as a Councillor of the Council, including attendance at official Council meetings, approved functions, and while working on Council-related business other than at home.
Reasonable expenses	Means a standard unit or hourly rate that is readily available to members of the public for a similar service.
Reimbursement of care expenses	Means reimbursing the cost of securing licensed care, less any amount received as a Commonwealth Government subsidy for the care provided. From time to time, this may only be available through Council-nominated care providers, at the discretion of the Council.
Phone costs	Includes phone call and data costs only.
Immediate Family	Includes: • Spouse or de facto spouse (a de facto spouse means a person who lives with the Councillor as their spouse or partner on a bona fide domestic basis); and • Child or an adult child (including an adopted child, a step child or an ex-nuptial child), parent, grandparent, grandchild or sibling of the Councillor.

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed to coincide with Council elections or more frequently, if dictated by operational demands and with Council's approval.

Wezley Frankcombe (Senior Leader People, Governance and Safety) was in attendance to answer questions in respect of this item.

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Alan Harris, seconded Councillor Krista Preece.

That Council:

1. adopts the Councillor Expenses and Resources Policy (14-Plx-016) as set out below:

Councillors' Expenses and Resources Policy

PURPOSE

To ensure that Councillors are reimbursed on a consistent basis for actual costs incurred, subject to any agreed limits, so that:

- a. They are not financially 'out of pocket' because of carrying out their duties of office; and
- b. The parameters for the reimbursement of expenditure are known and understood.

To distinguish between those resources and expenses that are provided and the payment of the Councillor's allowance paid under Section 340(2A) of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) (the Act).

Schedule 5 of the Act requires Council to adopt a policy in respect of payment of expenses incurred by Councillors in carrying out the duties of office and make a copy of the policy available for public inspection.

It also makes provision for support services, facilities, and equipment on loan to a Councillor on any conditions the Council considers appropriate.

SCOPE

The Policy applies to the reimbursement of and/or contribution to expenses and the provision of resources and facilities support for the Mayor and Councillors of the Council.

The Policy covers expenditure which is additional to the Councillor's Allowance as determined by legislation. It sets out the conditions on which the Council considers it appropriate to provide support services, facilities and equipment on loan in accordance with clause 2 of Schedule 5 of the Act.

POLICY

The Council will reimburse reasonable expenditure incurred by Councillors in carrying out the duties of office as a Councillor of the Council.

Expense reimbursement and the provision of resources and facilities will be made consistent with:

- a. *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025* (Tas) (the Regulations), Regulation 50; and
- b. the provisions of this policy.

The Council may approve other expenses not explicitly listed in this Policy, where these are demonstrably tied to the performance of a Councillor's official duties.

Resources the Council makes available to Councillors (for example a tablet or laptop) remain the property of the Council and must be returned at the end of the Councillor's term of office. At the end of the term, retiring Councillors may request to purchase items at a rate approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

Any repairs for Council-owned equipment must be organised through the Chief Executive Officer's office.

The Council recognises that Councillors may have existing arrangements in place around, for example, bundled phone and mobile data/internet access. If this is the case, the Council will make arrangements for reimbursement of expenses with Councillors on a case-by-case basis, subject to the limits detailed in the policy and the approval of the Chief Executive Officer.

The support provided by this policy can be categorised as follows:

Expense Reimbursement

- Telephone and Use of the Internet
- Travelling (including meals, accommodation, and functions)
- Care of a Dependant
- Stationery and Office Supplies.
- Other
 - Council Meeting Meal Allowance
 - Working with Vulnerable People Registration
- Claims for Reimbursement Procedure

Resources and Facilities

- Communications and Administrative Support
- Information Technology
- Provision of Gifts to Others
- Mayoral Vehicle
- Parking
- Insurance
- Training and Professional Development

There is no right of offset between expense types and Councillors cannot transfer unused reimbursement amounts from one expense category to another where maximum amounts have been set under this policy.

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SECTION 1 PHONE AND INTERNET EXPENSES

Telephone rental or plans, telephone calls and use of the internet are categories in which a Councillor is entitled to be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses pursuant to regulation 50 of the Regulations.

- ***Telephone***

Councillors can claim up to a maximum reimbursement of \$100 per month for phone costs for a private mobile phone, upon production of an invoice that confirms the charges actually incurred.

- ***Use of the Internet***

Internet access for the Council-issued devices when not at a Council building will be via the internet service that each Councillor elects to arrange and use with their preferred Internet Service Provider (ISP).

Councillors can claim a maximum reimbursement of \$50 per month toward the cost of their internet access (service provider charge). Proof of expense will be required to support the claim for reimbursement.

SECTION 2 TRAVELLING (INCLUDING MEALS, ACCOMMODATION AND FUNCTIONS)

- ***Use of Private Vehicles***

Costs relating to private vehicle use while carrying out the duties of office as a Councillor will be reimbursed where a Councillor is representing Council at the direction of Council or the Mayor.

Reimbursement is available for the direct route to and from the venue where the meeting, committee/group activity or function, is outside a 37 kilometre radius of Town Hall.

The rate of reimbursement is to be based on Australian Taxation Office rates.

- ***Meal Expense***

A meal expense is claimable for reimbursement when attending:

- Council business such as a conference, function or event, where the meal is not provided as part of the registration
- a Council event that requires overnight stay and meals are not provided at the venue.

The maximum claimable amount for meals will be capped at the rates identified for each meal type in Table 1 of the Australian Taxation Office's Reasonable Travel Allowance Rates published annually [Travel allowances | Australian Taxation Office](#).

The Council will not reimburse alcoholic drinks at any time.

- ***Attendee at Seminars/Conferences etc.***

The Council will pay for the cost of Councillors to attend approved seminars/conferences, including accommodation and travel expenses providing these are approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

In relation to overseas seminars/conferences/travel, this will be referred to Council to determine whether any elected member/s should attend.

Costs incurred for meals and incidentals will be reimbursed where these are not included in the conference registration package, subject to the presentation of receipts and tax invoices for expenses claimed and the limits identified in this policy.

Councillors are encouraged to provide a written report on each interstate or overseas conference attended within three (3) months of the conclusion of the conference. The report may be prepared individually by elected members or may be a joint report of the Councillors who attended.

All travel undertaken by the Mayor must be approved by the Chief Executive Officer, with the Mayor providing justification for the travel. This may include travel of both intrastate and interstate. If approved, associated travel costs will be met by Council. Costs will only be covered for the Mayor and any accompanying Council staff.

- ***Attendee at Functions***

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors may receive invitations to attend functions in their capacity as a Councillor.

Invitations with Council budgetary implications will be referred to the Chief Executive Officer for approval before agreeing to attend. Retrospective payments will not be provided. Requests for approval will only be considered where the invitation is addressed specifically to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor or an individual Councillor.

The Council will not meet any costs during an election period where the Mayor, Deputy Mayor or particular Councillor standing for re-election is requesting payment.

It is recognised that the Mayor may still need to attend functions as Council's representative during an election period which will be funded by the Council subject to prior approval by the Chief Executive Officer.

- ***Accompanying partners/guests***

A partner or guest may accompany a Councillor to conferences or a function where other attendees are generally accompanied by partners.

The Council will not pay or reimburse for guests' or partners' meals, accommodation, travel, social packages or attendance as an accompanying guest, unless specifically approved by the Chief Executive Officer or Council.

- ***Sister City Visits***

When a Mayor/Councillor is approved to participate in an official visit to a Sister City as part of a delegation, generally through a nomination process, the Council will fund the Councillor's appropriate airfare, accommodation and associated travel expenses.

The Council will determine how many Councillors participate in overseas visits.

SECTION 3 CARE OF A DEPENDANT

The Council will reimburse the cost of necessary care of any person who is a dependent or immediate family member of the Councillor and who requires the care while the Councillor is carrying out their duties of office, including:

- Attendance at Council and Council Committee meetings
- Attendance at meetings arising as a result of a Councillor being appointed by Council to an internal or external body or committee, except where the body or committee reimburses relevant care expenses incurred by the Councillor
- Attendance at informal briefing sessions or meetings with prior approval of the Chief Executive Officer

Claims must, on each occasion, be accompanied by a receipt from a licensed care provider showing the date, time, reason for the care and the person for whom the care was provided.

Where a Councillor is able to claim reimbursement for the provision of care under any Commonwealth Government or Private Insurance Health Benefit Scheme, the Council will only reimburse the difference between the amount reimbursed by the scheme and the total cost of the service provided. Claims are to be submitted against any scheme before submission to the Council.

SECTION 4 STATIONERY AND OFFICE SUPPLIES

Council staff will provide stationery and printing for Councillors when required for carrying out their duties of office.

Councillor business cards will be provided on request.

SECTION 5 OTHER

- *Council Meeting Meal Allowance*

A meal allowance of \$40 will be paid for any Council meeting that extends beyond 5.30pm.

- *Working with Vulnerable People Registration*

In accordance with regulation 50(c) of the Regulations, where a Councillor obtains a Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) Card for the activities and duties of office performed in their capacity as a Councillor with the Council, the Council will reimburse the registration or renewal cost of the WWVP check.

SECTION 6 CLAIMS FOR REIMBURSEMENT PROCEDURE

Claims for reimbursement are to be submitted on a fortnightly basis using Councillor's Reimbursement Claim Form (14-Fm-005).

When making claims for reimbursement of expenses, Councillors must provide original itemised receipts, tax invoices, and documentation to support a claim. Each claim must clearly identify the purpose, in order to make clear the basis of the claim and its relation to the policy guidelines.

Claims for reimbursement are to be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer no later than three (3) months after the expense has been incurred.

Where, in the opinion of the Chief Executive Officer, a question arises as to whether a claim for reimbursement of expenses or any part of a claim is eligible under this policy, the matter will, in the first instance, be brought to the attention of the Mayor. The Mayor will discuss the matter with the Councillor making the claim. If the question remains unresolved, the matter is to be referred to a Closed Session of Council for a decision.

Given the varied contexts in which expenses may arise, the Council may also obtain independent legal advice if there is any uncertainty whether the expense was incurred in carrying out the duties of office, particularly for expenses that may appear personal in nature.

The fundamental test for reimbursement under Schedule 5 of the *Local Government Act 1993* remains whether the expense was incurred in carrying out the duties of office, rather than whether it is merely personal or non-personal.

SECTION 7 COMMUNICATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

- ***Office facilities, services, and support staff***

All administrative support for carrying out the duties of office will be provided for Councillors by Council staff. Assistance will not be provided for personal/private business matters.

A suitable printing device, at a standard determined by the Chief Executive Officer, will be available in the Councillor's area to enable printing.

- ***Report (Agenda and Minute) Distribution***

The arrangements for report distribution are:

- a) Agendas for Council, workshops and Council committee meetings will be distributed electronically. This is City of Launceston's preferred method of distribution.
- b) Councillors who require printed agendas are to collect them from Town Hall.
- c) Minutes will be distributed electronically only.

- ***Council Devices***

Councillors will be provided with a Council-issued device (tablet or laptop computer) and a protective cover of the standard make and type that is being acquired by the Council at the time. It will include a mobile data service suitable for receiving and accessing electronic Council papers and related documentation. The monthly data allowance will be determined by the Council and the cost of the mobile data service for the device will be met by the Council.

Councillors are expected to adhere to the information technology security standards recommended by the Council in their use of these devices (for example, PIN, password protection or multifactor authentication).

- ***Software***

Council-issued devices will be supplied with a document distribution application (DocsOnTap). Devices will be supplied with the same version of Microsoft Windows and Microsoft Office that is installed on Council computers. Virus protection software will also be supplied.

Councillors may not install other software applications on Council-issued devices unless approved by the Chief Executive Officer. If approved, any purchasing, licensing, installation and support of these applications will be the responsibility of each Councillor.

- ***Council Network***

Council-issued devices will be configured for stand-alone use. They will not have access to the Council's network. Councillors who have a Council-issued laptop are able to use the Council's network facilities via the Councillors' area.

- ***Email***

Council email is accessible externally via an internet connection. The final configuration of email accounts including email redirection facilities will be arranged with individual Councillors. The Council's information management policies and standards apply to emails.

- ***System Backup***

The backup of the data on the tablet or laptop is a matter for each Councillor to manage as appropriate to their needs. Regular system backups are strongly recommended to protect from data loss in the event of failure.

- ***System Support***

Training in specialised applications (e.g. DocsOnTap) will be provided as part of the induction process for Councillors. Any other IT training for Councillors (e.g. in the use of Microsoft Windows and Microsoft Office) will be arranged on request through the Councillor's administration support with an external training provider if required. The Council will pay for reasonable costs as approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

Support for the operation of Council-issued devices will be provided by the IT department during office hours. This support is primarily for equipment problems, not training. Any equipment failures and repairs are to be reported to the IT department so that repairs can be arranged. After-hours support will not be available.

- ***Return of Council Devices***

When the device is to be replaced or a Councillor leaves the Council, the equipment is to be returned to the IT department for removal of data and any non-standard software applications prior to reallocation or disposal.

SECTION 8 PROVISION OF GIFTS TO OTHERS

In fulfilling their civic and ceremonial roles and responsibilities, Councillors will meet local, national and international delegates and officials.

In circumstances where the exchange of gifts between the host and visitor is considered courteous and expected, the Council will provide a gift for the Councillor to exchange.

The provision of corporate gifts by Councillors will be by request through the Chief Executive Officer's office and will be of a standard considered appropriate for the event.

Requirements for the disclosure of gifts presented to Councillors are detailed in the Policy for Acceptance of Gifts and Benefits by Councillors (14-Plx-031).

SECTION 9 MAYORAL VEHICLE

The Council is to make a vehicle available to the Mayor, or the Mayor's representative, when representing the City at meetings, functions, and other activities.

The model and value of vehicle supplied to the Mayor is determined and approved by the Chief Executive Officer with consideration given to the Light Fleet Vehicle Management Policy and Usage Guidelines (13-PI-002).

Use of the vehicle by other Councillors or the Chief Executive Officer will only occur at the Chief Executive Officer's discretion.

SECTION 10 PARKING

One parking permit and one electronic parking pass will be made available to each Councillor for use when undertaking their duties of office in any available unreserved space, subject to zoned time limits and relevant parking rules.

Permits will relate to on-street parking and passes will relate to off-street parking within the four Council-owned multi-storey car parks (CH Smith, Elizabeth Street, Paterson Street East, and Paterson Street West).

SECTION 11 INSURANCE

The Council will provide appropriate insurance coverage to Councillors, to apply whilst travelling to and from meetings and carrying out their duties of office on behalf of the Council, including but not limited to, Public Liability and Professional Indemnity, Personal Accident, and Corporate Travel Insurance.

SECTION 12 TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- ***Post-Election Induction Program***

Following their election, Councillors will be provided with an induction program to familiarise themselves with the Council's values and culture, organisational structure, and the roles and responsibilities of Councillors under the Act. The induction program will involve a range of presentations from Executive and Senior Leaders, including strategic business planning and any specific issues affecting the City of Launceston at the time.

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PUBLICATION

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RELATED LEGISLATION

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Local Government (General) Regulations 2025 (Tas)
Local Government (Code of Conduct) Order 2024 (Tas)

REFERENCES

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14-Rf-014 Councillor Expenses Allowances Reference

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REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed to coincide with Council elections or more frequently, if dictated by operational demands and with Council's approval.

CARRIED 8:1

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden

AGAINST VOTE: Councillor Joe Pentridge

19.5. Local Government Association Tasmania - Voting Directions for Annual General Meeting and General Meeting - 19 August 2026

FILE NO: SF2218, SF2217

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance and Information Services)

APPROVER: Nathan Williams (Executive Leader Delivery and Performance)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider voting directions to be provided to the City of Launceston's delegate at the Local Government Association of Tasmania's Annual General Meeting and General Meeting to be held on 19 August 2026.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. in respect of the Local Government Association of Tasmania's Annual General Meeting to be held at 2.00pm on 19 August 2026, directs its delegate to vote as follows for the matters listed below:

Item No.	Page No.	Decision Sought	Submitting Body	City of Launceston Comment
2.1	5	Confirmation of minutes That the Minutes of the 113 th Annual General Meeting held on 25 July 2025 be confirmed.	LGAT	<i>Confirm</i>
2.2	5	Presidents Report The the President's Report be received.	LGAT	<i>Receive</i>
2.3	6	Financial statements to 30 June 2025 That the financial statements for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 be received and adopted.	LGAT	<i>Receive</i>

2.4	6	2026-2027 Budget and Subscriptions That Members 1. Endorse the 2026/27 LGAT Budget and Subscriptions, with a 3.5% wage increase for LGAT staff and an overall 4.5% subscription increase for councils. 2. Endorse the LGAT Assist budget.	LGAT	<i>Endorse</i>
2.5	9	President and vice president honorariums That the President's and Vice President's honorariums for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027 be adjusted in accordance with the annual increase (March 2026) in the wage price index for Tasmania. That the GMC sitting fees for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027 be adjusted in accordance with the annual increase (March 2026) in the wage price index for Tasmania.	LGAT	<i>Endorse</i>
2.6	10	LGAT Rules Update That members endorse the proposed changes to the LGAT Rules for use of the Common Seal.	LGAT	<i>Endorse</i>

2. in respect of the Local Government Association of Tasmania's General Meeting to be held at 2.30 pm on 19 August 2026, directs its delegate to vote as follows for the matters listed below:

Item No.	Page No.	Item for Decision	Submitting Body	City of Launceston Comment
1.1	5	Confirmation of minutes That the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 April as circulated be confirmed.	LGAT	<i>Confirm</i>
1.2	5	Confirmation of agenda That consideration be given to the agenda items and the order of business.	LGAT	<i>Confirm</i>
1.3	6	Follow up motions The Members note the following report.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
1.4	6	Presidents Report That Members note the report on the President's activity from 26 March until 7 August 2026.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
1.5	8	Chief Executive Officers Report That Members note the report on the CEOs activity from 26 March until 7 August 2026.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
1.6	10	Annual Plan update That Members note the report against the Annual Plan.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
2.1	10	Review of Section 11(3), Land Use Planning and Approvals Regulations That Local Government Tasmania: 1. Advocate to the Tasmanian Government for the review and amendment or removal of Section 11(3) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Regulations 2024; and 2. Support a framework that enables councils to set cost-reflective fees for permitted visitor accommodation applications.	LGAT	Senior Leader City Development <i>Supported</i>

2.2	14	Protecting Local Post Offices Across Tasmania That on behalf of local councils, the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT): 1. Write to express concerns to Australia Post about the continued closure of Licenced Post Offices around the State; and 2. Write to the relevant Federal Ministers (Hon Anika Wells, Minister for Communications and Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher, Minister for Government Services) to express these concerns and request that they refer the issue to the relevant Parliamentary Committee with a request that they review the Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989 and associated regulations with a view to ensuring Australia Post maintains, restores and expands a suitably distributed network of post offices to service the full range of communities that have to come rely upon a much greater range of community services beyond the letter service.	City of Hobart	Senior Leader Community Place and Wellbeing <i>Supported</i>
4.1.1	16	Local Government Reform That Members note the update on local government reform.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.1.2	18	Local Government Elections That Members note the update on the local government election campaign.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>

4.1.3	20	EPA Memorandum of Understanding Annual Plan 2026-27 That the Members note the EPA Memorandum of Understanding Annual Plan 2026-27	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.1.4	21	Planning That the Members note the update on planning issues.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.1.5	24	Policy Update That the Members note the update on a range of policy matters.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.1.6	26	Projects Update That Members note the update on the range of grant funded programs.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.2.1	29	Procurement Update That the Members note the update on procurement support to councils.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.2.2	32	Events and Professional Development Overview That the members note the update on events and professional development.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.2.3	33	Learning and Development That Members note the update on Learning and Development	LGAT	<i>Note</i>

Councillor Alex Britton withdrew from the Meeting at 2:20 pm

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Tim Walker, seconded Councillor Ross Marsden.

That Council:

1. in respect of the Local Government Association of Tasmania's Annual General Meeting to be held at 2.00pm on 19 August 2026, directs its delegate to vote as follows for the matters listed below:

Item No.	Page No.	Decision Sought	Submitting Body	City of Launceston Comment
2.1	5	Confirmation of minutes That the Minutes of the 113 th Annual General Meeting held on 25 July 2025 be confirmed.	LGAT	<i>Confirm</i>
2.2	5	Presidents Report The the President's Report be received.	LGAT	<i>Receive</i>
2.3	6	Financial statements to 30 June 2025 That the financial statements for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 be received and adopted.	LGAT	<i>Receive</i>
2.4	6	2026-2027 Budget and Subscriptions That Members 1. Endorse the 2026/27 LGAT Budget and Subscriptions, with a 3.5% wage increase for LGAT staff and an overall 4.5% subscription increase for councils. 2. Endorse the LGAT Assist budget.	LGAT	<i>Endorse</i>

2.5	9	President and vice president honorariums That the President's and Vice President's honorariums for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027 be adjusted in accordance with the annual increase (March 2026) in the wage price index for Tasmania. That the GMC sitting fees for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027 be adjusted in accordance with the annual increase (March 2026) in the wage price index for Tasmania.	LGAT	<i>Endorse</i>
2.6	10	LGAT Rules Update That members endorse the proposed changes to the LGAT Rules for use of the Common Seal.	LGAT	<i>Endorse</i>

2. in respect of the Local Government Association of Tasmania's General Meeting to be held at 2.30 pm on 19 August 2026, directs its delegate to vote as follows for the matters listed below:

Item No.	Page No.	Item for Decision	Submitting Body	City of Launceston Comment
1.1	5	Confirmation of minutes That the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 April as circulated be confirmed.	LGAT	<i>Confirm</i>
1.2	5	Confirmation of agenda That consideration be given to the agenda items and the order of business.	LGAT	<i>Confirm</i>
1.3	6	Follow up motions The Members note the following report.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>

1.4	6	Presidents Report That Members note the report on the President's activity from 26 March until 7 August 2026.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
1.5	8	Chief Executive Officers Report That Members note the report on the CEOs activity from 26 March until 7 August 2026.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
1.6	10	Annual Plan update That Members note the report against the Annual Plan.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
2.1	10	Review of Section 11(3), Land Use Planning and Approvals Regulations That Local Government Tasmania: 1. Advocate to the Tasmanian Government for the review and amendment or removal of Section 11(3) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Regulations 2024; and 2. Support a framework that enables councils to set cost-reflective fees for permitted visitor accommodation applications.	LGAT	<i>Senior Leader City Development Supported</i>
2.2	14	Protecting Local Post Offices Across Tasmania That on behalf of local councils, the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT): 1. Write to express concerns to Australia Post about the continued closure of Licenced Post Offices around the State; and 2. Write to the relevant Federal Ministers (Hon Anika Wells, Minister for Communications and	City of Hobart	<i>Senior Leader Community Place and Wellbeing Supported</i>

		Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher, Minister for Government Services) to express these concerns and request that they refer the issue to the relevant Parliamentary Committee with a request that they review the Australian Postal Corporation Act 1989 and associated regulations with a view to ensuring Australia Post maintains, restores and expands a suitably distributed network of post offices to service the full range of communities that have to come rely upon a much greater range of community services beyond the letter service.		
4.1.1	16	Local Government Reform That Members note the update on local government reform.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.1.2	18	Local Government Elections That Members note the update on the local government election campaign.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.1.3	20	EPA Memorandum of Understanding Annual Plan 2026-27 That the Members note the EPA Memorandum of Understanding Annual Plan 2026-27	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.1.4	21	Planning That the Members note the update on planning issues.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.1.5	24	Policy Update That the Members note the update on a range of policy matters.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>

4.1.6	26	Projects Update That Members note the update on the range of grant funded programs.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.2.1	29	Procurement Update That the Members note the update on procurement support to councils.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.2.2	32	Events and Professional Development Overview That the members note the update on events and professional development.	LGAT	<i>Note</i>
4.2.3	33	Learning and Development That Members note the update on Learning and Development	LGAT	<i>Note</i>

CARRIED 8:0

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Joe Pentridge, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden

AGAINST VOTE: Nil

ABSENT AT THE TIME OF VOTE: Councillor Alex Britton

20. STRATEGY AND INNOVATION

20.1. Lease - Lilydale Pony Club - Karoola Hall and Recreation Ground

FILE NO: SF2967

AUTHOR: Scott Edwards (Senior Property Officer)

APPROVER: Jane Lewis (Executive Leader Strategy and Innovation)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider entering negotiations with Lilydale District Pony Club (LDPC) for a Lease of Karoola Memorial Hall & Recreational Grounds which is not within the scope of the Lease and License Policy.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council - 25 July 2016 - Agenda Item 18.1 - Lease Karoola Memorial Hall

Council - 15 July 2021 - Agenda item 19.3 - Lease - Karoola Recreation Ground and Hall

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. notes that Lilydale District Pony Club has proposed a lease for 1126 Pipers River Road Karoola (CT218477/1 and CT229586/1) as shown in the plan below, that is not consistent with the Council's Lease and License Policy.



Karoola Hall & Recreation Ground

2. authorises the continuation of negotiations with the Lilydale District Pony Club without meeting all of the standard requirements of the Council's Lease and License Policy, provided that the standard resultant lease remains aligned with the principles of the Policy objectives.
 - a) To optimise the use of Council facilities to the mutual benefit of the community and Council;
 - b) To achieve fair and equitable access to facilities.
 - c) To achieve a transparent system.
 - d) For community leases to achieve a cost management model whereby the cost of operation of the asset for community groups is not prohibitive nor an unreasonable financial cost to Council.
3. requires that once negotiations are finalised, the lease is provided to Council for formal consideration, in accordance with the requirements of Part 12 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas).

Erica Deegan (Senior Leader Property and Asset Strategy). Sharin Imlach (Team Leader Property) and Scott Edwards (Senior Property Officer) were in attendance to answer questions in respect of this item. A table of questions asked by Councillors during debate is provided after the decision.

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Tim Walker, seconded Councillor Alan Harris.

That Council:

- 1. notes that Lilydale District Pony Club has proposed a lease for 1126 Pipers River Road Karoola (CT218477/1 and CT229586/1) as shown in the plan below, that is not consistent with the Council's Lease and License Policy.**



Karoola Hall & Recreation Ground

- 2. authorises the continuation of negotiations with the Lilydale District Pony Club without meeting all of the standard requirements of the Council's Lease and License Policy, provided that the standard resultant lease remains aligned with the principles of the Policy objectives.**
 - a) To optimise the use of Council facilities to the mutual benefit of the community and Council;**
 - b) To achieve fair and equitable access to facilities.**
 - c) To achieve a transparent system.**
 - d) For community leases to achieve a cost management model whereby the cost of operation of the asset for community groups is not prohibitive nor an unreasonable financial cost to Council.**

3. requires that once negotiations are finalised, the lease is provided to Council for formal consideration, in accordance with the requirements of Part 12 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas).

CARRIED 8:0

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Joe Pentridge, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden

AGAINST VOTE: Nil

ABSENT AT THE TIME OF VOTE: Councillor Alex Britton

COUNCILLOR	QUESTION	RESPONSE
Councillor Tim Walker	Does the City Of Launceston maintain the building?	Senior Property Officer <i>Under The Lilydale Pony Club's current lease they are responsible for maintaining the grounds, not the building.</i>

20.2. 62 Gorge Road, Trevallyn

FILE NO: SF2967

AUTHOR: Sharin Imlach (Team Leader Property)

APPROVER: Jane Lewis (Executive Leader Strategy and Innovation)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider rescinding Council's decision of 19 March 2026 in relation to the Trevallyn Park Cottage.

This decision requires an absolute majority of Council.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)
Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council – 19 March 2026 – Agenda Item 20.3 – Trevallyn Park Cottage

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. rescinds the decision made on the 19 March 2026 for Agenda Item 20.3, Trevallyn Park Cottage; and
 2. request that, prior to any demolition, a further report be prepared for Council's consideration of options to dispose of the land at 62 Gorge Road, Trevallyn, including assessment of legal, financial, lease and public land disposal requirements.
 3. notes that if Recommendation 1 is resolved in the affirmative, it will overturn the decision made on 19 March 2026 for Agenda Item 20.3 - Trevallyn Park Cottage and requires a decision by an absolute majority pursuant to regulation 22(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, without affecting the actions taken to date.
-

Erica Deegan (Senior Leader Property and Asset Strategy), Sharin Imlach (Team Leader Property), Ben Ransley (Team Leader Facilities) and Duncan Campbell (Team Leader Legal) were in attendance to answer questions in respect of this item.

Councillor Alex Britton re-attended the Meeting at 2.25 pm

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Tim Walker, seconded Councillor Alan Harris.

That Council:

- 1. rescinds the decision made on the 19 March 2026 for Agenda Item 20.3, Trevallyn Park Cottage; and**
- 2. request that, prior to any demolition, a further report be prepared for Council's consideration of options to dispose of the land at 62 Gorge Road, Trevallyn, including assessment of legal, financial, lease and public land disposal requirements.**
- 3. notes that if Recommendation 1 is resolved in the affirmative, it will overturn the decision made on 19 March 2026 for Agenda Item 20.3 - Trevallyn Park Cottage and requires a decision by an absolute majority pursuant to regulation 22(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, without affecting the actions taken to date.**

CARRIED 9:0

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Joe Pentridge, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden

AGAINST VOTE: Nil

20.3. Tasmanian State Government Grant Funds Towards Organics Landfill Diversion

FILE NO: SF3942

AUTHOR: Michael Attard (Senior Leader Prosperity and Innovation)

APPROVER: Jane Lewis (Executive Leader Strategy and Innovation)

DECISION STATEMENT:

The City of Launceston (CoL) considers accepting grant funding from the Tasmanian State Government towards diverting organic material away from landfilling.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas).

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. accepts the funding of \$231,106.00 from the Tasmanian Waste & Resource Recovery Board for the establishment of a non-residential dedicated organic waste collection service and authorise the Chief Executive Officer to execute the grant funding deed; and
 2. notes, for the avoidance of doubt, that Chief Executive Officer is a term of reference for the General Manager within the meaning of the *Local Government Act 1993*.
-

Michael Attard (Senior Leader Prosperity and Innovation) was in attendance to answer questions in respect of this item. A table of questions asked by Councillors during debate is provided after the decision.

**Councillor Susie Cai withdrew from the Meeting at 2.38 pm
Councillor Susie Cai re-attended the Meeting at 2.40 pm**

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Alan Harris, seconded Councillor Alex Britton.

That Council:

- 1. accepts the funding of \$231,106.00 from the Tasmanian Waste & Resource Recovery Board for the establishment of a non-residential dedicated organic waste collection service and authorise the Chief Executive Officer to execute the grant funding deed; and**
- 2. notes, for the avoidance of doubt, that Chief Executive Officer is a term of reference for the General Manager within the meaning of the *Local Government Act 1993*.**

CARRIED 8:1

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden
AGAINST VOTE: Councillor Joe Pentridge

COUNCILLOR	QUESTION	RESPONSE
Councillor Alan Harris	Will the vehicle be electric?	<i>Senior Leader Prosperity and Innovation</i> <i>It will be a fuel vehicle due to its ability to transport heavy loads.</i>
Councillor Alan Harris	Have we identified businesses and properties that we can collect organics from and what is the benefit of additional collections?	<i>Senior Leader Prosperity and Innovation</i> <i>This will be utilised for our own internal collections and some small commercial collections.</i> <i>There will be operational savings as these collections will now be diverted from landfill.</i> <i>We have also been recently successful in an Australian carbon credit unit project for organics diversion through the federal government This will see a financial benefit for each tonne of organics that we divert from landfill.</i>

Councillor Tim Walker	How many days will this vehicle be operating?	Senior Leader Prosperity and Innovation <i>During the planning process we surveyed 70 food businesses and 78% indicated they would like to have a collection. The vehicle will be operating 5 days per week and a full time position has been created. It will service our internal parks, gardens, reserves and facilities.</i>
Councillor Tim Walker	Is there any crossover with existing concessional waste rate?	Senior Leader Prosperity and Innovation <i>There is no crossover with this pay-for-collection service. Organics can continue to be delivered directly to us under concessional entry if they have been successfully in their application.</i>
Councillor Tim Walker	Would this be considered cost recovery and can clarity be provided on how we determined the cost per service?	Senior Leader Prosperity and Innovation <i>The cost of the service is based off the anticipated volumes. We estimated that around 1,000 tonnes are available right now, plus around 600 tonnes from our own operations.</i> <i>Regarding the business case undertaken and now that we will be eligible to apply for carbon credits, it's cost-positive to around \$90,000 after taking into consideration the full time position and fleet costs, which are somewhere in the \$50,000 per year range.</i> <i>The cost at the moment is around \$10 per collection. This is very affordable when compared against commercial rates.</i>
Councillor Joe Pentridge	What happens once the organics have been collected?	Senior Leader Prosperity and Innovation <i>Once collection has occurred it is transported and processed at our organics processing facility at the Launceston Waste Centre.</i>
Councillor Joe Pentridge	Do we know what happened with the City of Launceston wood chip. Is it contaminated with glass?	Senior Leader Prosperity and Innovation <i>As the wood chip is a recycled product there will be sources of contamination. It is sent off for testing and it complies with the Australian Standard for soil conditioners and mulchers.</i>

21. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER NETWORK

No Items were identified as part of these Minutes

22. LATE ITEMS

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

22.1. Notice of Motion - Councillor Alan Harris - Report into the Effect of Applying a Rate Capping of 20% on Primary Production to Commercial Rate Charge in 2026/27 Budget - 5 August 2026

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance and Information Services)

APPROVER: Sam Johnson (Chief Executive Officer)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Alan Harris on 5 August 2026 requesting that a Report into the Effect of Applying a Rate Capping of 20% on Primary Production to Commercial Rate Charge in 2026/27 Budget be tabled at the Council Meeting to be held on 20 August 2026.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 - regulation 19

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council - 18 June 2026 - Agenda Item 4.3 2026/2027 Rating Framework

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(S):

That Council:

1. notes concerns raised regarding the impact of the 2026/27 rates equalisation process on a number of properties, including those within the Primary Production rating category;
2. requests the Chief Executive Officer provide a report to the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 20 August 2026 regarding the impacts arising from Council's decision to equalise rating categories, with a particular focus on properties within the Primary Production category;
3. requests that the report include, where available:
 - a. a summary of impacts identified following the issue of 2026/27 rate notices;
 - b. information regarding the application and outcomes of Council's existing 20% capping arrangements, including the number and type of properties that have received relief under the policy;

- c. identification of any other rating categories or individual assessments that have experienced rate increases exceeding 20%;
- d. a comparison with rating approaches adopted by other Tasmanian councils where similar rating structures or equalisation arrangements exist;
- e. analysis of the implications, including financial impacts, associated with extending a 20% capping mechanism to all rating categories; and
- f. advice regarding any consequential changes required to Council's rating strategy, rates policy, budget or revenue position should Council wish to consider broader application of a capping mechanism.

Byron Fraser (Senior Leader Finance and Technology) was in attendance to answer questions in respect of this item. A table of questions asked by Councillors during debate is provided after the decision.

The Acting Mayor, Councillor Hugh McKenzie, handed the Chair to Councillor Alan Harris at 3.05pm

The Acting Mayor resumed the Chair at 3.07pm

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Alan Harris, seconded Councillor Tim Walker.

That Council:

- 1. notes concerns raised regarding the impact of the 2026/27 rates equalisation process on a number of properties, including those within the Primary Production rating category;**
- 2. requests the Chief Executive Officer provide a report to the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 20 August 2026 regarding the impacts arising from Council's decision to equalise rating categories, with a particular focus on properties within the Primary Production category;**
- 3. requests that the report include, where available:**
 - a. a summary of impacts identified following the issue of 2026/27 rate notices;**
 - b. information regarding the application and outcomes of Council's existing 20% capping arrangements, including the number and type of properties that have received relief under the policy;**

- c. identification of any other rating categories or individual assessments that have experienced rate increases exceeding 20%;
- d. a comparison with rating approaches adopted by other Tasmanian councils where similar rating structures or equalisation arrangements exist;
- e. analysis of the implications, including financial impacts, associated with extending a 20% capping mechanism to all rating categories; and
- f. advice regarding any consequential changes required to Council's rating strategy, rates policy, budget or revenue position should Council wish to consider broader application of a capping mechanism.

CARRIED 9:0

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Tim Walker, Councillor Joe Pentridge, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden

AGAINST VOTE: Nil

Council adjourned for a comfort break at 3.14pm

COUNCILLOR	QUESTION	RESPONSE
Councillor Alan Harris	Is the Council officer confident of producing the rate capping report by 20 August 2026?	<i>Executive Leader Delivery and Performance</i> <i>We are confident we can deliver the report on 20 August 2026.</i>
Councillor Susie Cai	Were the rate increases tabled at previous workshops?	<i>Executive Leader Delivery and Performance</i> <i>The 4.9% increase to rates was to the total rating revenue increase for the overall budget. The different categories have different rates applied to form the 4.9% overall.</i>
Councillor Susie Cai	Will it be making a difference if we are to put commercial, industrial and primary all in the same category?	<i>Executive Leader Delivery and Performance</i> <i>The issue there would be that if you just had one general rate for every single property, you could have a business next to somebody's residence and they would be paying the same rates.</i> <i>The theory behind this equalisation was that commercial, industrial and primary production properties generate income, and it would be a deductible business expense.</i>

		<i>Notwithstanding the fact that there are some hobby farms that are probably more appropriately classified as residential properties.</i> <i>There's a process to go through and we'll work with those affected ratepayers. Whereas, as I said, you could argue that businesses such as commercial, industrial and primary production, given it's a tax deduction or a business expense deduction, should be paying more rates. That is a policy decision that does come to Councillors to make that decision yearly.</i>
Councillor Tim Walker	Can Council outline the process for someone who is in financial hardship?	<i>Executive Leader Delivery and Performance</i> <i>Officers will have a report to Councillors for consideration at the meeting of 20 August 2026.</i> <i>Council have received responses from Primary Production ratepayers and we've advised that the matter is under consideration.</i> <i>We will be cognisant of the next rate installment due date being 31 August 2026 for these ratepayers.</i>

Councillor Alan Harris	If those who currently pay a lower primary production rate commence a change to residential, how does Council adjust that change of category with the current rates? Does Council have a timeline on how long that change may take?	<i>Executive Leader Delivery and Performance</i> <i>It is a process that goes through the Valuer General Office who then provide that information to Council. Once received we would then seek to backdate those objections to the date that it was submitted.</i> <i>Previously primary production properties were paying a lower rate than residential properties. There could now be an incentive for primary production to change their property type to residential through the Office of the Valuer General.</i>
Councillor Alan Harris	Do those cases approach Council or go directly to the Valuer General?	<i>Executive Leader Delivery and Performance</i> <i>They would go directly to the Office of the Valuer General to submit for reclassification.</i>
Councillor Alan Harris	If a property owner would to go through that process should they inform Council Staff so we are aware before they get the final outcome?	<i>Executive Leader Delivery and Performance</i> <i>In the report coming to Council on 20 August 2026 it will list the very detailed steps involved in that process. I believe once a rate payer starts that process, we are notified and a pause will be applied for the collection of rates.</i>

Council adjourned for a comfort break at 3.14pm
Council resumed the meeting at 3.21 pm

Following the break Councilor Tim Walker was absent and returned during closed session at 3.31 pm

23. CLOSED COUNCIL

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council moves into Closed Session to consider the following matters:

23.1. Confirmation of the Minutes

REASON FOR CLOSED COUNCIL:

Regulation 40(6) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025* states that at the next closed meeting, the minutes of a closed meeting, after any necessary correction, are to be confirmed as the true record by the council or council committee and signed by the chairperson of the closed meeting.

23.2. Tender - Waverley Lake Community Park Upgrade CD021/2026

REASON FOR CLOSED COUNCIL:

This item is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with regulation 17(2)(e) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

- (e) contracts, and tenders, for the supply of goods and services and their terms, conditions, approval and renewal.

23.3. Tender - Interim Bus Security CD022/2026

REASON FOR CLOSED COUNCIL:

This item is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with regulation 17(2)(e) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

- (e) contracts, and tenders, for the supply of goods and services and their terms, conditions, approval and renewal.

23.4. Tender - 56 Frederick St Redevelopment CD074/2025

REASON FOR CLOSED COUNCIL:

This item is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with regulation 17(2)(e) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

- (e) contracts, and tenders, for the supply of goods and services and their terms, conditions, approval and renewal.

23.5. Annual Remission of Rates and Charges - Year Ended 30 June 2026 - Charitable Organisations

REASON FOR CLOSED COUNCIL:

This item is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with regulation 17(2) (h) and (l) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

- (h) information that is –
 - (i) of a personal and confidential nature; or
 - (ii) provided to the council on the condition that it be kept confidential.
- (l) the personal hardship of any person who is resident in, or is a ratepayer in, the relevant municipal area.

23.6. Application for Leave of Absence by Councillor H McKenzie

REASON FOR CLOSED COUNCIL:

This item is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with section 17(i) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

- (i) requests by Councillors for leave of absence.

23.7. End of Closed Session

To be determined in closed session

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Alex Britton, seconded Councillor Lindi McMahon.

That Council moves into Closed Session.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 8:0

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Joe Pentridge, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden

AGAINST VOTE: Nil

ABSENT AT TIME OF VOTE: Councillor Tim Walker

Council moved into Closed Session at 3.22 pm.

Council returned to Open Session at 3.50 pm.

23.7. End of Closed Session

DECISION: 6 August 2026

MOTION

Moved Councillor Alan Harris, seconded Councillor Lindi McMahon.

That Council:

1. pursuant to regulation 40(1)(b) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, resolves to report in Open Session that it has considered the following matters in Closed Session:

Minutes Item	Matter	Brief Description
23.1	<i>Closed Council Minutes – 23 July 2026</i>	<i>Confirmation of the Minutes of the Closed Meeting of the City of Launceston Council held on 23 July 2026.</i>
23.2	<i>Tender - Waverley Lake Community Park Upgrade CD021/2026</i>	<i>Council awarded a Tender for Contract No. CD021/2026 - Waverley Lake Community Park Upgrade. Names of successful tenderers will be published to www.launceston.tas.gov.au once the successful and unsuccessful tenderers have been notified of the decision.</i>
23.3	<i>Tender - Interim Bus Security CD022/2026</i>	<i>Council awarded a Tender for Contract No. CD022/2026 - Interim Bus Security. Names of successful tenderers will be published to www.launceston.tas.gov.au once the successful and unsuccessful tenderers have been notified of the decision.</i>
23.4	<i>Tender - 56 Frederick St Redevelopment CD074/2025</i>	<i>Council awarded a Tender for Contract No. CD074/2025 - 56 Frederick St Redevelopment. Names of successful tenderers will be published to www.launceston.tas.gov.au once the successful and unsuccessful tenderers have been notified of the decision.</i>

23.5	<i>Annual Remission of Rates and Charges - Year Ended 30 June 2026 - Charitable Organisations</i>	<i>Council considered granting remissions of rates for the financial year 2025/2026.</i>
23.6	<i>Application for Leave of Absence by Councillor H McKenzie</i>	<i>Council considered a Leave of Absence Application for Deputy Mayor H McKenzie</i>

CARRIED 8:0

FOR VOTE: Deputy Mayor Councillor Hugh McKenzie, Councillor Alan Harris, Councillor Joe Pentridge, Councillor Lindi McMahon, Councillor Susie Cai, Councillor Alex Britton, Councillor Krista Preece and Councillor Ross Marsden

AGAINST VOTE: Nil

ABSENT AT TIME OF VOTE: Councillor Tim Walker

24. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING DATE

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at 1.00pm on 20 August 2026 at the Council Chambers, Town Hall, 18-28 St John Street, Launceston.

25. MEETING CLOSURE

The Acting Mayor, Councillor Hugh McKenzie, closed the Meeting at 3.50pm.