

# **AGENDA ATTACHMENTS**

20 APRIL 2021

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

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### Central Highlands Council

#### MINUTES - ORDINARY MEETING - 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021

Minutes of an Open Ordinary Meeting of Central Highlands Council held at Hamilton Hall, on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021, commencing at 9am.

#### 1.0 OPENING

The Mayor advises the meeting and members of the public that Council Meetings, not including Closed Sessions, are audio recorded and published on Council's Website.

Mayor L Triffitt opened the meeting at 9.00am.

#### 2.0 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

#### 3.0 PRESENT

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer attended at 9.04 a.m., Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden attended at 9.04 a.m., Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner, Clr J Poore, Mrs Lyn Eyles (General Manager), Mr Adam Wilson (Deputy General Manager) and Mrs Katrina Brazendale (Minutes Secretary).

#### 4.0 APOLOGIES

Nil

#### 5.0 PECUNIARY INTEREST DECLARATIONS

In accordance with Regulation 8 (7) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the Mayor requests Councillors to indicate whether they or a close associate have, or are likely to have a pecuniary interest (any pecuniary or pecuniary detriment) or conflict of interest in any Item of the Agenda.

Clr A Archer – Item 15.1 DA 2020/95: Subdivision – Reorganisation of Boundaries: 289 Rotherwood Road, Lower Marshes.

Cir S Bowden and Cir A Archer attended 9.04 a.m.

#### 6.0 CLOSED SESSION OF THE MEETING

Regulation 15 (1) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* states that at a meeting, a council by absolute majority, or a council committee by simple majority, may close a part of the meeting to the public for a reason specified in sub-regulation (2).

As per Regulation 15 (1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, this motion requires an absolute majority

**Moved:** Clr J Honner **Seconded**: Clr R Cassidy

**THAT** pursuant to Regulation 15 (1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, Council, by absolute majority, close the meeting to the public to consider the following matters in Closed Session

Item Number	Matter	Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015
1	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Closed Session of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 16 February 2021	Regulation 15 (2)(g) - information of a personal and confidential nature or information provided to the council on the condition it is kept confidential
2	Confidential Matter	Regulation 15 (2)(g) - information of a personal and confidential nature or information provided to the council on the condition it is kept confidential
3	Application for Assistance under Policy No 2020-58 – Commercial Addendum to Financial hardship Assistance Model Policy	Regulation 15 (2)(j) – the personal hardship of any person who is resident in, or is a ratepayer in, the relevant municipal area
4	Consideration of Matters for Disclosure to the Public	Regulation 15 (8) - While in a closed meeting, the Council, or Council Committee, is to consider whether any discussions, decisions, reports or documents relating to that closed meeting are to be kept confidential or released to the public, taking into account privacy and confidentiality issues

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 6.1 MOTION OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

<u>Moved</u>: Clr J Honner <u>Seconded</u>: Clr A Campbell

**THAT** the Council:

- (1) Having met and dealt with its business formally move out of the closed session; and
- (2) Resolved to report that it has determined the following:

Item	Matter	Outcome
Number		
1	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Closed Session of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 16 February 2021	Minutes of the Closed Session of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 16 February 2021 were confirmed
2	Confidential Matter	The matter was discussed by Council
3	Application for Assistance under Policy No 2020-58 – Commercial Addendum to Financial Hardship Assistance Model Policy	A rate remission of \$1,000 was approved under Policy No 2020-58 — Commercial Addendum to Financial Hardship Assistance Model Policy
4	Consideration of Matters for Disclosure to the Public	Matters were considered

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### **OPEN MEETING TO PUBLIC**

Due to COVID-19 a limit of 4 members of the public, at any one time will be applied.

#### 7.0 DEPUTATIONS

10.00 – 10.30 Paul Molnar Hydro – Battery of the Nation Briefing

10.30 – 10.45 Jane Alpine & Lyn – Meadowbank Dam Works

10.45 – 11.00 Bill Dermondy – Proposed Medical/Health Petition

The meeting resumed at 10.05 a.m.

Paul Molnar provided Council with a presentation regarding Battery of the Nation, the presentation concluded at 10.43 a.m.

Jane Alpine and Lyn attended the meeting at 10.05 a.m. to provide Council with an update on the Meadowbank Dam Works and concluded at 11.00 a.m.

Bill Dermondy attended the meeting at 10.25 a.m. to provide Council with the Proposed Medical / Health Petition and concluded at 11.18 a.m.

Damian Mackey (Planning Consultant SMC) attended the meeting at 11.13 a.m.

#### 7.1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No members of the Community were present

#### 8.0 MAYORAL COMMITMENTS

10 February 2021	Meeting with General Manager, Meeting with Clr Bailey, Tele meeting with Councillor
11 February 2021	Meeting with Community Member at Bothwell, Meeting with Councillor x 2
15 February 2021	Meeting with Clyde Water Trust, DPIWE, Terry Byard Anglers Alliance Tasmania
16 February 2021	AGM and Council Meeting Bothwell
17 February 2021	Tele meeting with General Manager, Tele meeting with Councillor, Tele meeting with
	Community member
19 February 2021	Business of Council
20 February 2021	217 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of first settler
21 February 2021	Business of Council
22 February 2021	Zoom Meeting with State Grants Commission, meeting with Councillor
23 February 2021	Citizenship Ceremony, Meeting with Community Relations Officer, Meeting with General
-	Manager, Meeting with 2 Rate Payers
24 February 2021	Community Member Calls x 4and Rate Payer Calls, Tele Meeting with Deputy General
	Manager
1 March 2021	Councillor Calls x 2
3 March 2021	Tele Meeting with Rate Payer, Tele Meeting with Councillor
4 March 2021	Rate Payer Meeting
5 March 2021	Business of Council
7 March 2021	Great Lake Shack Owners Meeting, Lake Crescent Shack Owners Meeting
8 March 2021	Business of Council
9 March 2021	Planning Meeting at Bothwell, Guest Speaker at Glenora School, Meeting with General
	Manager

#### 8.1 COUNCILLOR COMMITMENTS

**Deputy Mayor Allwright** 

16 February 2021 Annual General Meeting and Ordinary Council Meeting

24 February 2021 **Bush-Watch Meeting Westerway** 

1 March 2021 Hall Meeting Westerway 9 March 2021 Planning Meeting Bothwell

CIr A Campbell

16 February 2021 Annual General Meeting and Ordinary Council Meeting

17 February 2021 Teleconference with Mayor

18 February 2021 Rural Primary Health Zoom meeting

20 February 2021 LGAT annual elected member's professional development weekend

22 February 2021 Ratepayer phone call

22 February 2021 Audit Panel Meeting - Hamilton 22 February 2021 Meeting with Dr Mary Lumsden Phone call Tas Police 23 February 2021 24 February 2021 Phone call Ratepayer 24 February 2021 Phone call with Councillors

Hatch meeting- Hamilton 26 February 2021 Teleconference with Damien Jacobs - Corumbene

01 March 2021 Zoom meeting with Professor Roger Hughes- Health and Wellbeing

03 March 2021 Letter to Corumbene

9 March 2021 Submission for Rural Health Services inquiry- Legislative Council

CIr R Cassidy

24 February 2021

16 February 2021 Annual General Meeting and Ordinary Council Meeting

9 March 2021 Planning Meeting Bothwell

Clr J Honner

16 February 2021 Annual General Meeting and Ordinary Council Meeting

24 February 2021 Hatch meeting- Hamilton

St Michaels Church world day of prayer 5 March 2021

7 March 2021 Shack owners meeting Miena

10 March 2021 Rate payer inquiry

#### STATUS REPORT COUNCILLORS

Item No.	Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Task	Councillor Responsible	Current Status	Completed Date
				Mayor Triffitt, Clr Campbell &	On going to provide Council with updates each Council	
3	18-Feb-20	16.5	Cattle Hill Wind Farm Community Fund Committee	Clr Honner	meeting	
					Work with HATCH and other relevant organisations in	
					the Central Highlands area to co-ordinate a joint	
4	16-Feb-21	17.2	Inquiry into Rural Health Services in Tasmania	Clr Campbell	submission to the Inquiry	Friday, 12 March 2021
					Councillor Poore and Development & Environmental	
			Concept plan for the redevelopment of the		Services Manager to prepare a concept plan for the	
5	16-Feb-21	17.5	Bothwell Caravan Park	Clr Poore	redevelopment of the Bothwell Caravan Park	

#### 8.2 **GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMITMENTS**

16 February 2021 AGM & Council Meeting

22 February 2021 Virtual Visit State Grants Commission

22 February 2021 **Audit Panel Meeting** 

23 February 2021 Citizenship Ceremony Bothwell

25 February 2021 Meeting Ratepayer

9 March 2021 Planning Committee Workshop

#### **DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMITMENTS** 8.3

16 February 2021 **Ordinary Council Meeting** 22 February 2021 **Audit Panel Meeting** 22 February 2021 Trainee sign appointment

22 February 2021	Visit with State Grants Commission
23 February 2021	Meeting with Rural Alive & Well
25 February 2021	Meeting with Southern Municipal Coordinators Liaison Group
3 March 2021	Meeting with Southern Regional Social Recovery Committee
3 March 2021	Regional Economic Development Strategy Workshop
9 March 2021	Municipal Recovery Coordinators Monthly Meeting

#### 9.0 NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS HELD

#### 9.1 FUTURE WORKSHOPS

Workshop Councillors and Staff - Long Term Asset Management Plan - 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021, Hamilton Office 10.00 a.m.

#### 10.0 MAYORAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Support letters are still being received from all tiers of Government in relation to the Telstra Support

#### 11.0 MINUTES

#### 11.1 RECEIVAL DRAFT MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING

Moved: Clr J Honner Seconded: Clr A Campbell

**THAT** the Draft Minutes of the Open Council Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021 be received.

CARRIED

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 11.2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES ORDINARY MEETING

<u>Moved:</u> Clr A W Bailey <u>Seconded:</u> Clr A Campbell

**THAT** the Minutes of the Open Council Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2021 be confirmed.

CARRIED

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 11.3 RECEIVAL DRAFT MINUTES PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Moved: Clr J Honner Seconded: Clr J Poore

**THAT** the Draft Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021 be received.

CARRIED

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 11.4 RECEIVAL DRAFT MINUTES AUDIT PANEL MEETING

**Moved:** Deputy Mayor J Allwright Seconded: Clr A Campbell

**THAT** the Draft Minutes of the Audit Panel Meeting held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021 be received.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 12.0 BUSINESS ARISING

13.0	That Dr J Kelman be invited to attend the March Ordinary Meeting
15.1	Correspondence sent by Development & Environmental Services Manager
15.2	Correspondence sent by Environmental Health Officer
15.4	Correspondence sent by Development & Environmental Services Manager
15.5	Development & Environmental Services Manager to undertake 'awareness advertising' in Council's newsletter and 'The Digest'.
17.1	Correspondence sent by Deputy General Manager
17.2	Councillor Campbell to work with HATCH and other relevant organisations in the Central Highlands area to co-ordinate a joint submission to the Inquiry into Rural Health Services in Tasmania
17.3	Correspondence sent by Deputy General Manager
17.5	Councillor Poore and Development & Environmental Services Manager to prepare a concept plan for the redevelopment of the Bothwell Caravan Park and Works & Service Manager obtain costing to repair tennis court at Bothwell
17.6	Item be deferred pending further information
17.9	Correspondence sent by Works and Service Manager
18.1	Correspondence sent by Deputy General Manager

#### 13.0 DERWENT CATCHMENT PROJECT REPORT

<u>Moved:</u> Clr J Honner <u>Seconded:</u> Clr J Poore

**THAT** the Derwent Catchment Project report be received.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 14.0 FINANCE REPORT

<u>Moved:</u> Clr J Honner <u>Seconded:</u> Clr R Cassidy

**THAT** the Finance Reports be received.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 15.0 DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

In accordance with Regulation 25(1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the Mayor advises that the Council intends to act as a Planning Authority under the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993, to deal with the following items:

Moved: Clr J Poore Seconded: Clr J Honner

**THAT** the Development & Environmental Services Report be received.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

Graham Rogers (Manager Development Services) attended the meeting at 11.30 a.m.

Moved: Clr J Poore Seconded: Clr R Cassidy

**THAT** move to Item 15.2 Draft Central Highlands Local Provisions Schedule – Response to the Tasmanian Planning Commission

CARRIED

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

# 15.2 DRAFT CENTRAL HIGHLANDS LOCAL PROVISIONS SCHEDULE – RESPONSE TO THE TASMANIAN PLANNING COMMISSION

<u>Moved:</u> Clr R Cassidy <u>Seconded:</u> Clr J Poore

**THAT**, in regard to the Draft Central Highlands Local Provisions Schedule, Council advise the Tasmanian Planning Commission as follows:

- 1. In light of the inability within the current planning reform process to reform the local heritage listings and thereby align the spatial extent of heritage places with their equivalent listings in the Tasmanian Heritage Register, all local heritage places are to be removed from the Table C6.1.
- 2. The zoning of land subject to mining leases be as indicated in the attached table, *Central Highlands Draft Local Provisions Schedule Zoning Clarification Table Mining Leases MRT Comment 9 March 2021*, as per the advice of Mineral Resources Tasmania.
- 3. The zoning of titles queried by the Tasmanian Planning Commission in the rural areas be confirm as per the table in the attached document *Paper 3: Rural and Agriculture Zone Allocation Draft Central Highlands Local Provisions Schedule 10 March 2021.*
- 4. In consideration of the comments received from interested parties regarding the Draft Lake Meadowbank Specific Area Plan (29 November 2020), the Plan be modified as follows:
  - (a). A provision that addresses the cumulative impact of multiple onsite wastewater disposal systems (similar to that proposed in the draft Sorell LPS) be included.
  - (b). A Plan Purpose statement specifically addressing water quality be included.
  - (c). The Aboriginal Heritage Development Standard's Acceptable Solution and Performance Criteria be aligned with the statutory mechanisms pertaining to compliance with the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1975, being the Certificate and Unanticipated Discovery Plan, the Assessment Result and the Approved Permit.

- (d). The zoning of the land within the Specific Area Plan be amended to Rural to better mirror the holistic effect of the current planning scheme provisions.
- (e). The boundary of the SAP area, particularly in the northern section, be corrected so as to align with cadastral boundaries.
- 5. In regard to land with Conservation Covenants, Council's policy position on this matter does not change from one property to another. Therefore, in Council's view, specific justification for individual properties is not warranted. If it is the State Government's policy that land with Conservation Covenants should be zoned Environmental Management, then the State Government should articulate this and mandate such zoning in Local Provisions Schedules.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

Moved: Clr J Poore Seconded: Clr R Cassidy

**THAT** Item 15.1 be brought back onto the agenda.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

CIr A Archer declared an interest and left the meeting

# 15.1 DA 2020/95: SUBDIVISION – REORGANISATION OF BOUNDARIES : 289 ROTHERWOOD ROAD, LOWER MARSHES

<u>Moved:</u> Clr J Poore <u>Seconded:</u> Clr J Honner

**THAT** Council Approve in accordance with section 57 of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 the Planning Authority **Approve** the Development Application DA2020/95 Reorganisation of Boundaries, 289 Rotherwood Road, Lower Marshes CT167018/1, subject to conditions in accordance with the Recommendation.

#### **Conditions**

#### General

- 1) The subdivision layout or development must be carried out substantially in accordance with the application for planning approval, the endorsed drawings and with the conditions of this permit and must not be altered or extended without the further written approval of Council.
- 2) This permit shall not take effect and must not be acted on until 15 days after the date of receipt of this permit unless, as the applicant and the only person with a right of appeal, you notify Council in writing that you propose to commence the use or development before this date, in accordance with Section 53 of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993.

#### Services

3) The Subdivider must pay the cost of any alterations and/or reinstatement to existing services, Council infrastructure or private property incurred as a result of the proposed subdivision works. Any work required is to be specified or undertaken by the authority concerned.

#### Final plan

4) A final approved plan of survey and schedule of easements as necessary, together with one copy, must be submitted to Council for sealing. The final approved plan of survey must be substantially the same as the endorsed plan of subdivision and must be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Recorder of Titles.

- 5) A fee of \$210.00, or as otherwise determined in accordance with Council's adopted fee schedule, must be paid to Council for the sealing of the final approved plan of survey.
- 6) All conditions of this permit, including either the completion of all works and maintenance or payment of security in accordance with this permit, must be satisfied before the Council seals the final plan of survey for each stage.
- 7) It is the subdivider's responsibility to notify Council in writing that the conditions of the permit have been satisfied and to arrange any required inspections.

#### The following advice applies to this permit:

- a) This permit does not imply that any other approval required under any other legislation has been granted.
- b) If you notify Council that you intend to commence the use or development before the date specified above you forfeit your right of appeal in relation to this permit.
- c) Council Officers note the recommendations to property CT167017/1 of the Bushfire Hazard Report. It is advised that the owner undertake the upgrades as per 4.0 Recommendations of the Bushfire Hazard Report.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

Clr A Archer returned to the meeting at 11.48 a.m.

Damian Mackey (Planning Consultant SMC) left the meeting at 11.50 a.m.

#### 15.3 RECREATIONAL CAMPING AND FISHING FACILITIES PROGRAM

Moved: Clr A Archer Seconded: Clr R Cassidy

#### **THAT** Council

- (a) write to The Shack Owners Association and express our details as to why Council is unable to, at this stage assist them in terms of the funding grant;
- (b) apply for an expression of interest under the Recreational Camping and Fishing Facilities Program to undertake replacing the toilet block at Bethune Park camping area at Lake Meadowbank estimated cost \$80,000

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

Moved: Clr R Cassidy Seconded: Clr A Archer

**THAT** Council write to the Tasmanian Fire Service to explain the rationality behind the legislation for subdivisions.

**CARRIED 7/2** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy and Clr J Honner *AGAINST the Motion:* 

Deputy Mayor J Allwright and Clr J Poore

### 15.4 VIETNAM VETERANS & VETERANS MOTOCYCLE CLUB, TASMANIA CHAPER FUND RAISING

#### Noted

#### 15.5 PURCHASE AND INSTALL DISHWASHERS AT HAMILTON AND BOTHWELL HALLS

<u>Moved:</u> Clr A Campbell <u>Seconded:</u> Clr A W Bailey

**THAT** Council install dishwashers at the Hamilton and Bothwell Halls at the approximate costings for 15 place setting dishwasher - \$1,000 to \$1,400 and approximate Installation Cost - \$1,000

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 15.6 WAR MEMORIAL FENTONBURY

Moved: Deputy Mayor J Allwright Seconded: Clr R Cassidy

**THAT** Council authorise the General Manager to sign and seal the Final Plan of Survey for the Fentonbury War Memorial Site

CARRIED

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

The meeting was suspended for lunch at 12.15 p.m. and resumed at 12.51 p.m. Clr A Archer, Clr R Cassidy, Lyn Eyles (General Manager) and Adam Wilson (Deputy General Manager) was not in attendance when the meeting resumed.

#### 15.6 DRAFT WASTE RESOURCE RECOVERY BILL 2021 UPDATE

<u>Moved:</u> Clr J Honner <u>Seconded:</u> Clr A Campbell

**THAT** 

- Council allocate budget money for the 2021-2022 year for waste levy
- Council budget for the Volumetric survey of the landfill

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

Clr A Archer and Clr R Cassidy returned to the meeting at 12.56 p.m.

#### 15.7 ROADSIDE BINS IN THE LAKES AREA

<u>Moved:</u> Clr J Honner <u>Seconded:</u> Clr J Poore

#### **THAT**

- Council approved the increase for the 2021-2022 budget to cover extending weekly empties and the
  possibility of adding extra bins.
- Council approved splitting the waste tenders into roadside bins (Lakes area) and waste transfer station collections.
- These recommendations be placed on the agenda for the next Waste Committee Meeting.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

Jason Branch (Manager Works and Services) attended the meeting at 12.56 p.m.

#### 15.8 HAMILTON COUNCIL OFFICE RE-ROOF UPDATE

#### Noted

Lyn Eyles (General Manager) and Adam Wilson (Deputy General Manager) returned to the meeting at 1.01 p.m.

#### 15.9 COVID 19 VACCINATION UPDATE

**Noted** 

#### 15.10 DES BRIEFING REPORT

#### PLANNING PERMITS ISSUED UNDER DELEGATION

The following planning permits have been issued under delegation during the past month.

#### **NO PERMIT REQUIRED**

DA NO.	APPLICANT	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
2021 / 00013		405.0	
		485 Rockmount Road,	
	R Bean	Ellendale	Replace Caravan with Bus
2021 / 00015	A R Turvey	117 Jones Road, Miena	Outbuilding

#### **PERMITTED**

DA NO.	APPLICANT	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
2021 / 00004	P Feil (Parks & Wildlife	Fergys Paddock Campground,	Toilet
	Service)	Lake St Clair	
2021 / 00006	Woodard & Lowe	40 Arthurs Lake Road, Arthurs	Outbuilding (Customer Toilet)
	Family Trust	Lake	
2021 / 00010	R Hodge, E Lockley	37a Cider Gum Road, Miena	Visitor Accommodation (Use in
			Existing Habitable Building)

#### **DISCRETIONARY**

DA NO.	APPLICANT	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
2021 / 00005	Katree Designs	11 Ruby Road, Miena	Dwelling

#### **ANIMAL CONTROL**

#### **IMPOUNDED DOGS**

No dogs have been impounded over the past month.

#### STATISTICS AS OF 10 MARCH 2021

#### Registrations

Number of Dogs Registered –967 Number of Dogs Pending Re-Registration – 4

#### **Kennel Licences**

Number of Licenses Issued –29 Number of Licences Pending – 0

#### 15.11 POLICY NO. 2013-07 - COUNCIL CAMPING GROUND FACILITIES POLICY

**Moved:** Deputy Mayor J Allwright **Seconded:** Clr R Cassidy

THAT Council adopt Policy No 2013-07 Council Camping Ground Facilities Policy.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 15.12 DRAFT CAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

<u>Moved:</u> Clr R Cassidy <u>Seconded:</u> Clr J Honner

**THAT** the Development & Environmental Services Manager invites the Regional Cat Management Coordinator to a workshop to discuss the Draft Cat Management Strategy. (Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 12.00 noon Hamilton)

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

**Moved:** Deputy Mayor J Allwright **Seconded:** Clr A W Bailey

**THAT** Council endorse the Request to Amend the Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy 2010-2035 – Urban Growth Boundary at 66 Summerhill Road

Graham Rogers (Manager Development Services) left the meeting at 1.10 p.m.

#### 16.0 WORKS & SERVICES

<u>Moved:</u> Clr R Cassidy <u>Seconded:</u> Clr J Honner

**THAT** the Works & Services Report be received.

CARRIED

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

Moved: Clr S Bowden Seconded: Clr J Poore

THAT Council install plastic toilet seats at the Bothwell Public Toilets

**CARRIED 8/1** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### **AGAINST the Motion:**

Clr R Cassidy

#### 16.1 TARGA ROAD CLOSURES

<u>Moved:</u> Clr J Honner <u>Seconded:</u> Clr J Poore

**THAT** Council Works and Services Manager write to Targa stating that Council have no objection and are aware of the event.

CARRIED

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 16.2 WAR MEMORIAL AT FENTONBURY

Moved: Clr A Campbell Seconded: Clr A W Bailey

**THAT** Council accept quote 2 for the fence and quote 3 for the installation.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 16.3 DRAFT NATIONAL ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY

Moved: Clr R Cassidy Seconded: Clr A Campbell

**THAT** Councillors provide their comment on the draft National Road Safety Strategy to the Works & Service Manager by 12.00noon on Wednesday the 17 March 2021 so that Council's comments can be included in the Local Government Association of Tasmania submission to the Office of Road Safety.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 16.4 BOTHWELL RECREATION GROUND

CIr R Cassidy requested the Item to be withdrawn

#### 16.5 COUNCIL SURPLUS PLANT

**Moved:** Deputy Mayor J Allwright **Seconded:** Clr J Poore

**THAT** Council advertise the dog trailer bin and any other minor unused equipment for sale through their Facebook page, Highland digest and that the General Manger be approved to accept the highest price submitted.

CARRIED

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 16.6 SAFE RURAL ROADS PROGRAM ELLENDALE ROAD

Moved: Clr J Poore Seconded: Clr A W Bailey

THAT Council approve the General Manager to sign and seal the grant Deed

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

Jason Branch (Manager Works and Services) left the meeting at 1.33 p.m.

#### 17.0 ADMINISTRATION

#### 17.1 MOTION FROM AUDIT PANEL – ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN

<u>Moved:</u> Clr J Poore <u>Seconded:</u> Clr A Campbell

**THAT** a Council workshop be held on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at Hamilton at 10.00 am. to discuss the Asset Management Plan prior to adopting the 21/22 budget.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

### 17.2 MOTION FROM AUDIT PANEL – AUDIT PLANEL ANNUAL WORK PLAN FOR NOVEMBER 2020 TO NOVEMBER 2022

<u>Moved:</u> Clr J Honner <u>Seconded:</u> Clr R Cassidy

**THAT** the Audit Panel Annual Work Plan for November 20 – November 22 be approved.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 17.3 RAISE THE AGE OF CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY IN TASMANIA

Noted

#### 17.4 TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT RADIO NETWORK (TasGRN) PROJECT

Noted

### 17.5 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 30 JUNE 2021 AND GENERAL MEETING 5 AUGUST 2021

Noted

#### 17.6 PROPOSAL FOR ST MARY THE VIRGIN ANGLICAN CHURCH, GRETNA

Moved: Cir A Campbell Seconded: Cir J Poore

**THAT** Councillors arrive onsite on the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 9.00 a.m. for a site visit.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

# 17.7 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF TASMANIA ANNUAL GENERAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Noted

#### 17.8 COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION - CAMPDRAFTING TASMANIA INC

<u>Moved:</u> Clr J Poore <u>Seconded:</u> Clr A W Bailey

THAT Council make a donation of \$300.00 to Campdrafting Tasmania Inc

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 17.9 POLICY NO 2017-46 RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES POLICY

Moved: Clr J Honner Seconded: Clr R Cassidy

**THAT** Council approve Policy No. 2017-46 Related Party Disclosures Policy.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 17.10 COMMUNITY GRANT APPLICATION CENTRAL HIGHLANDS TASMANIA WILDLIFE GROUP

Moved: Clr J Poore Seconded: Clr A W Bailey

**THAT** Council request further information regarding the following:

- Number of signs;
- Type and size of proposed signage;
- The location of each proposed sign;
- Approval from the property owner at each location;
- · Approval from State Growth for each sign on the Highland Lakes Road, and
- Central Highlands Council planning approval for each sign.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 17.11 ANZAC DAY SERVICES

<u>Moved:</u> Deputy Mayor J Allwright <u>Seconded:</u> Clr A W Bailey

THAT Council facilitates three COVID-19 safe Anzac Day Services for 2021, be held at Gretna, Bothwell and Hamilton

**CARRIED 5/4** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden and Clr J Honner *AGAINST the Motion:* 

Clr J Poore, Clr R Cassidy, Clr A Campbell, Mayor L Triffitt

#### AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION

<u>Moved:</u> Clr J Poore <u>Seconded:</u> Clr R Cassidy

THAT the Central Highlands Council do not hold any Anzac Day Services for 2021 due to COVID-19

**CARRIED 5/4** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Clr J Poore, Clr R Cassidy, Clr A Campbell, Mayor L Triffitt and Clr A W Bailey

#### AGAINST the Motion:

Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr S Bowden and Clr J Honner

#### 17.12 COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORT DECEMBER 2020 TO FEBRUARY 2021

#### Noted

#### 17.13 ELECTED MEMBER'S PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEEKEND – UPDATE

Clr A Campbell provided Councillors with an update with regard to the Elected Members Professional Development weekend that she recently attended.

#### 17.14 DR GARDNER

Resolved to ask Dr Gardner along to morning tea at the April 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting at Bothwell.

#### 18.0 SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEMS

Moved: Clr R Cassidy Seconded: Clr J Poore

**THAT** Council consider the matters on the Supplementary Agenda.

**CARRIED** 

#### FOR the Motion:

Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Clr A Archer, Clr A W Bailey, Clr S Bowden, Clr A Campbell, Clr R Cassidy, Clr J Honner and Clr J Poore.

#### 18.1 SHEEP DOG TRAILS HIRE OF THE BOTHWELL RECREATIONAL GROUND

**Resolved** that Council write to the organisers of the Sheep Dog Trails to advise that the facilities are available on the  $9^{th} - 11^{th}$  April 2021 for their usage.

#### 18.2 2020 AUSSIE BACKYARD BIRD COUNT RESULTS FOR CENTRAL HIGHLANDS COUNCIL

**Noted** 

#### 19.0 CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 2.49 p.m.



# OF THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS COUNCIL HELD IN THE BOTHWELL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, AT 10.00AM ON WEDNESDAY 7TH APRIL 2021

#### 1. PRESENT

Deputy Mayor Allwright, Clr Honner & Clr Bowden (attended at 10.50am)

#### IN ATTENDANCE

Clr Bailey, Clr Campbell, Mr G Rogers (Manager DES), Mrs B Armstrong (EHO) & Mrs K Bradburn (Minutes Secretary)

#### 2. APOLOGIES

Mayor Triffitt, Clr Poore, Clr Cassidy & Mrs L Eyles (General Manager)

#### 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

**RESOLVED THAT** the Draft Minutes of the Waste Committee Meeting of Council held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019 be confirmed.

#### 4. WASTE CONTRACTS & TENDERING

The following contracts are due to expire on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022:

- Door to Door Garbage & Recycling Collection (Currently held by Thorp Waste)
- Waste Transfer Station Recycling (Currently held by Thorp Recycling)
- Supply, Installation & Maintenance of Waste Bins & Collection of Waste (currently held by JJ Richards). This contract includes:
  - Roadside Standalone Bins in the Lakes Areas
  - Waste Transfer Station Roll Top Bins
  - Waste Transfer Station Bulky Skip Bins

It was agreed that Council's Solicitor will need to consider a flexibility clause in the tender documents and contracts in light of the upcoming introduction of the refund legislation which may impact on the quantities of waste and recycling to be collected.

Due to the uncertainty of the impact the introduction of the refund legislation will have on the quantities of waste and recycling it was agreed that the waste contracts should be offered for a two year period.

#### 5. INCREASE IN ROADSIDE STANDALONE BINS

Due to the increase of rubbish in the Lakes areas it was agreed that the number of bins should be increased to three per site year round on a weekly empty schedule under the new Contract for the Roadside Standalone Bins in the Lakes Areas.

#### 6. INTRODUCTION OF WASTE LEVY

With the introduction of the waste levy the operating costs of the Hamilton Refuse Disposal Site may be impacted. Council's Environmental Health Officer advised that there are still quite a few details to be confirmed with regards to the introduction of the levy. It is still unclear if Council will have to install a weigh bridge at the site.

It was agreed that Council should investigate introducing a separate rate charge, possible an Environmental Levy, to cover the cost of the waste levy.

**RESOLVED** that the following recommendation be made to Council:

#### Recommendation

THAT the Waste Committee recommends that Council consider:

- Introducing a separate levy to cover the waste levy being imposed by the State Government on the Hamilton Refuse Disposal Site;
- 2. Levy to commence from the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022; and
- 3. If the levy is introduced, Council to undertake an advertising campaign to explain the new levy.

CIr Bowden attended the meeting at 10.50am

#### 7 BUSINESS CASE FOR COUNCILS OWN COLLECTION SERVICE

At the Waste Committee Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019 Council's Environmental Health Officer presented a business case for the purchase of a waste disposal truck for the emptying of the roll top bins at Council's waste sites.

It was agreed that this item be deferred with tenders being called for two year contracts in 2022. This deferral would allow time for Council to gauge the effect of the new refund legislation being introduced.

#### 8. OTHER BUSINESS

#### Request to Extend Door to Door Garbage & Recycling Collection Service

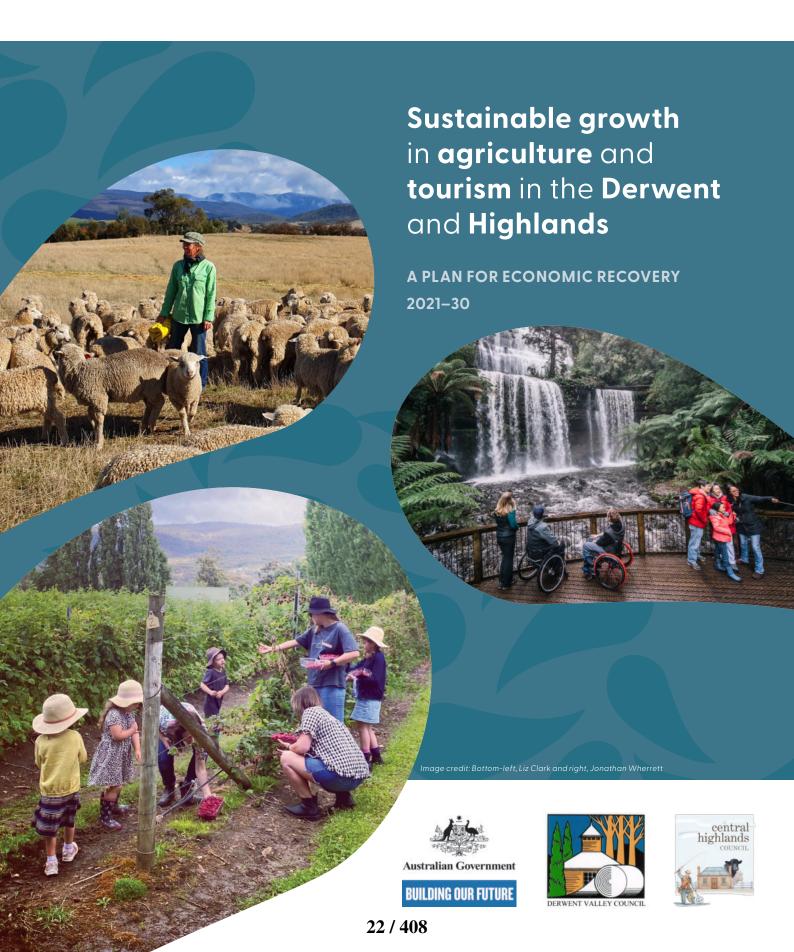
Following requests from ratepayers it was agreed that the following areas be considered during the tendering process for the door to door garbage and recycling collection:

- Lower Marshes Road, Apsley
- Marked Tree Road, Hamilton
- Thousand Acre Lane, Hamilton

#### 9. CLOSURE

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.20am





# Summary

This plan was developed for the sustainable growth of the tourism and agriculture sectors in the Derwent Valley and Highlands of Tasmania. Contributors comprised regional producers, tourism operators, industry bodies, and local and state government staff, reflecting the proposition that regional planning is most successful when championed by communities in partnership with local government.

The plan assessed current barriers to growth in both sectors, how the sectors might work better together, and ways to involve the community in achieving sustainability. As the COVID pandemic struck midway through the plan's development, the scope was increased to incorporate a strategy for post-COVID recovery.

Collaboration and partnership between tourism and agriculture enterprises, and between municipal councils, is key to the growth of both sectors in the Derwent and Highlands. A regional approach to environmental matters, addressing accommodation and services gaps, increased information sharing, and involving Aboriginal interests are crucial to establishing a resilient basis for both sectors.

Key strategies for sustainable growth and COVID recovery of these sectors included:

- » Development of local carbon off-setting opportunities that are visible to visitors and improve landscape health with benefits to farm productivity, water quality and biodiversity to support establishing Tasmania as a carbon neutral travel destination
- » Development of theme based touring routes with roadside interpretation that provide local context to drive journeys
- » Investments in tourism infrastructure that improve road safety in agricultural areas
- » Biosecurity initiatives that improve hygiene practices of visitors to farms and wilderness tourism attractions
- » Support Aboriginal involvement in cross tenure fire management and tourism
- » Weed control programs targeted at protecting agricultural and tourism assets
- » Training and employing locals and providing incentives for local businesses to fill gaps in the 'holiday at home' market
- » Support for local businesses and community in planning for and recovering from a predicted increase in frequency of extreme events e.g. fires, floods, droughts and pandemics

Strategies are highly collaborative and organisations identified to lead each action will provide direction, though funding and resources will be leveraged from external sources. To monitor progress of this plan, each strategy outlined has five- and 10-year key performance indicators.



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### **Acknowledgements**

The development of this plan was funded by the Australian Government's Building Better Regions Fund and the Central Highlands Council. It was developed with input from Central Highlands Council, Derwent Valley Council, Inland Fisheries Service, Tasmanian Fire Service, Derwent Valley Tasmania, Destination Southern Tasmania and local agriculture and tourism businesses.

### **Vision**

A vibrant Derwent and Highlands, with agriculture and tourism businesses growing and working together to build economic, environmental and community resilience.

# 2 Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to:

- 1. identify roadblocks for growth in agriculture and tourism in the Derwent and Highlands
- 2. prevent poor outcomes that could arise from threats that these sectors pose to one another
- 3. encourage collaboration between agriculture and tourism businesses
- **4.** enable the community to have input into strategies for sustainable growth for agriculture and tourism that will be used by government and industry to guide investment.

### 3 Introduction

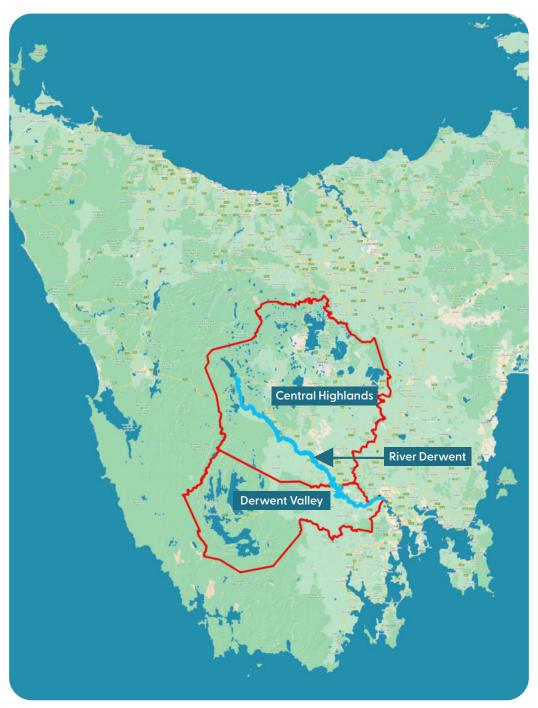
This plan for the sustainable growth of tourism and agriculture in the Derwent and Highlands was developed in consultation with regional producers, tourism operators, industry bodies, and local and state government staff. For this plan, the Derwent and Highlands is considered to be within the boundaries of the Derwent Valley and Central Highlands municipalities. While these boundaries are administrative rather than geographic, the Derwent River is an important asset for these sectors in both municipalities. The selection of this region reflects that regional planning is most successful when championed by local communities in partnership with their local government representatives.

# 4 The Derwent and Highlands

The Derwent and Highlands represents one-fifth of the land area of Tasmania and half of the land area of southern Tasmania (Figure 4.1). The Derwent River is a central feature.

Figure 4.1. The location of Derwent and Highlands and the Derwent River.

The Derwent and Highlands region is dominated by the Derwent River and its main tributaries (the Ouse, Clyde, Shannon, Styx, Tyenna, Plenty, Broad and Lachlan Rivers), which connect many of the townships of the region (Figure 4.2).



 $Figure\ 4.1.\ The\ location\ of\ Derwent\ and\ Highlands\ and\ the\ Derwent\ River.$ 

The diversity of the region is immense, with the highland lakes producing hydro-electric power, the tall forests, multiple entrances to the Tasmanian Wilderness Word Heritage Area, one of Tasmania's most visited National Parks (Mount Field), Tasmania's premier fly-fishing river (the Tyenna), and agricultural land that produces some of Tasmania's highest value export commodities.

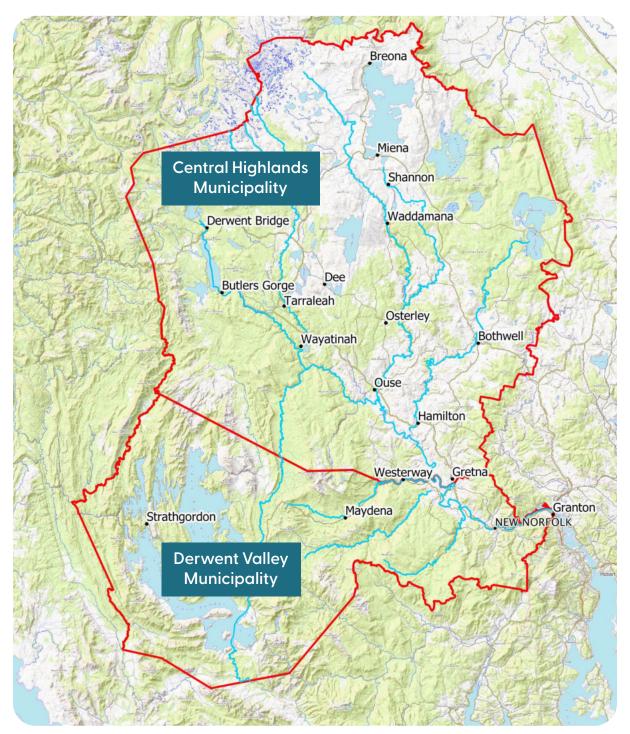


Figure 4.2.2 A map of the Derwent and Highlands region.

These landscapes are linked by a crucial water resource, the Derwent River and its tributaries. The Derwent River is the lifeblood of the region and provides valuable fresh water to hydro operations, forestry, agriculture, aquaculture, tourism and recreation activities like kayaking and whitewater rafting. Originating at Lake St Clair and flowing 239 km southwards to Hobart, the river is fed by many tributaries and in some places contributes to Tasmania's complex hydroelectric scheme.

Although it is named for the river valley, the Derwent Valley municipality contains a relatively short length of the Derwent River's valley, close to its regional centre, New Norfolk. It is instead dominated by the Derwent's tributaries, the Tyenna, Styx and Plenty Rivers. Conversely, the Central Highlands contains the majority of the Derwent River's valley, with the agriculture areas surrounding the river in this municipality known locally as the upper Derwent. Along with sharing the Derwent River's valley, the Derwent Valley and Central Highlands municipalities also share communities, with many agriculture and tourism businesses physically crossing municipal boundaries.

The communities of the Derwent and Highlands – like the landscapes, the river and its tributaries – are also diverse. They do, however, have lots in common. They both are sparsely populated, considered as remote, and have relatively low average income, high unemployment and low education levels compared with the Tasmanian average. The Derwent Valley is much less remote than the Central Highlands and has a larger population, a proportion of which routinely commutes into greater Hobart for work.

While understanding the differences between the communities of the Derwent Valley and Central Highlands is important to the development of this plan, it is also important to acknowledge that there is as much variation in community outlook and perspective within these boundaries as there is between them.

### 4.1 **Derwent Valley**

The Derwent Valley municipality is 410,811 ha. In 2018 there were 10,290 people within its boundaries (ABS 2020a). Most employed people were working as health care and social assistance workers, closely followed by technicians and trades workers. The top five industry employers were: social assistance, aged care, primary education, supermarkets, and hospitals. The municipality has a mix of residents who live in larger towns, on small acreages and larger farming properties. Due to their proximity to Hobart, many residents of Granton, Molesworth, Glen Dhu, Sorell Creek and New Norfolk commute out of the Valley for work. While there has been a decrease in the prominence of agriculture as a large employer, horticulture and livestock grazing are still important contributors to the local economy; some of the largest Australian exporters of cherries and hops are in the Valley.

Derwent Valley Council recently produced, with the local community, the *Our Valley 2030*: Derwent Valley Community Strategic Plan. It describes a shared community vision for the future of the Valley in which tourism and agriculture play important roles. Community consultation for *Our Valley 2030* highlighted the importance of the beauty of the Valley's preserved natural environment and the produce and lifestyle it provides for a prosperous and proud community. The community aspires to cultivating new, existing and diverse businesses, building a collective sense of purpose and promoting growth linked to the image of the Valley being 'clean and green'.

The Derwent Valley community wants to see economic growth while making sure that the Valley remains an attractive place to live and work. Maintaining a healthy environment has huge benefits to the agriculture and tourism sectors and plays a critical role in sustaining liveable communities and enhancing the wellbeing of the people of the Derwent Valley. The clean green image is also key to the appeal of many of the agriculture and tourism products offered by local businesses.

The community faces some challenges in long-term poverty, unemployment and low levels of education. Building local jobs and opportunities for new businesses that will stay in the Valley in the long term is key for addressing these challenges.

The development and implementation of this plan aligns with the five strategic actions listed in the Our Valley 2030: Derwent Valley Community Strategic Plan:

- 1.1 Facilitate partnerships and discussion to identify education and training opportunities to meet the Valley's future economic needs
- 2.5 Promote community understanding of infrastructure needs and priorities
- 3.2 Develop a sustainable land use strategy that facilitates considered growth and tourism while preserving and protecting our natural and built environment and strategic farmland
- 3.6 Encourage Biosecurity Tasmania to implement strategies as required ensuring our agriculture sector is protected
- 3.7 Support and encourage sustainable agriculture programs

### 4.2 Central Highlands

The Central Highlands municipality is 798,241 ha and in 2018 there were 2,144 people within its boundaries (ABS 2020b). During the summer months the population of the Central Highlands can increase to up to 60,000 with campers and shack owners (CHC 2016). It supports a large and diverse agriculture industry, and a significant livestock industry including meat and dairy production and more than 15% of the state's sheep and lambs (CHC 2015). Most employed people are employed as support staff for farms, with sheep and beef cattle farming the top industries of employment (ABS 2020b). The horticulture sector produces grapes, stone fruit and berries, and together with forestry, power production, trout fishing, tourism and recreation, contributes to making the municipality a diverse rural location.

Central Highlands Council's vision is to provide residents and visitors with opportunities to participate in and enjoy a vibrant local economy, a rewarding community life, cultural heritage and a natural environment that is world class. Their Strategic Plan (2015–24) describes a balance between encouraging economic viability and responsible management of the natural resources and assets.

Central Highlands Council recently worked with the local community on the *Central Highlands Health and Wellbeing Plan*: 2020–25, which captures the community's aspirations for their future wellbeing. It aims to ensure children and young people are invested in life in the Central Highlands and are connected to education and employment opportunities that capitalise on the region's natural assets. The Central Highlands faces similar long-term challenges to the Derwent Valley's, with higher unemployment, lower incomes, and lower education levels compared with the rest of Tasmania. Remoteness, social isolation, and poor transport options and road quality where identified as challenges for community health and wellbeing.

The Central Highlands Health and Wellbeing Plan acknowledges the Central Highlands as the traditional land of the Big River Tribe. It also acknowledges that many Aboriginal families still live in the Central Highlands and they continue to practise their culture, gathering traditional foods and medicines locally and across Tasmania.

The development and implementation of this plan contributes to 10 strategic actions under the Central Highlands Strategic Plan: 2015–24:

- 4.6 Strive to provide a clean and healthy environment
- 4.7 Support and assist practical programs that address existing environmental problems and improve the environment
- 5.1 Encourage expansion in the business sector and opening of new market opportunities
- 5.4 Encourage the establishment of alternative industries to support job creation and increase permanent residents
- 5.5 Promote our area's tourism opportunities, destinations and events
- 5.6 Support existing businesses to continue to grow and prosper
- 5.7 Develop partnerships with State Government, industry and regional bodies to promote economic and employment opportunities
- 5.8 Work with the community to further develop tourism in the area
- 6.5 Provide advocacy on behalf of the community and actively engage government and other organisations in the pursuit of community priorities
- 6.6 Consider Council's strategic direction in relation to resource sharing with neighbouring councils and opportunities for mutual benefit
- 6.7 Support and encourage community participation and engagement

... and two future wellbeing actions listed under the Central Highlands Health and Wellbeing Plan: 2020:

- 5. Report on and renew the Central Highlands Destination Action Plan 2016–19
- 6. Support tourism infrastructure and development that align with the qualities, strengths and values of the Central Highlands

# 5 Agriculture sector

The agriculture sector is an important contributor to the economy of the Derwent and Highlands. High-value agricultural commodities include beef, berries, cherries, dairy, prime lambs, hops and wool. The region supports some of Australia's largest producers of export-quality cherries, hops and raspberries. Most of the agriculture businesses in the region are mixed farming enterprises, with both cropping and livestock.

Where primary industries have remained a stable and important employer in the Central Highlands (114 agriculture, forestry and fishing businesses employing 33.4% of employed people), this has decreased both in number of businesses and proportion of employment between 2014 and 2019 in the Derwent Valley (ABRS 2020a&b). Farming businesses are estimated to jointly employ a seasonal casual workforce of over 1,000 people per year.

The Tasmanian Government has set a target to grow the farm gate value of Tasmanian agriculture to \$10 billion by 2050 (Agri-growth 2019). The Derwent and Highlands, with access to the Southern Highlands Irrigation Scheme and recent expansion in horticulture and dairy, is identified as a major contributor to this growth through the production of high-value export commodities. Irrigation from the Derwent, Clyde and Ouse Rivers and Lake Medowbank also significantly supports agriculture in the Derwent and Highlands. Access to irrigation water is key to agricultural growth. The Clyde Water Trust estimates that for each 1ML water available to agricultural production returns \$400 to the farmer and \$1,000 to the local community.

Many agriculture and horticulture businesses are increasing their emphasis on sustainability. Some of the key issues that are likely to impact on production, social and environmental values of the region with unsustainable industry growth are listed below:

- » Irrigated pasture (dairy and prime lambs) lack of skilled labour, water quality (nutrient and sediment runoff and stock in waterways), water supply and declining soil health
- » Dryland grazing lack of skilled labour, pasture quality, short growing season of unirrigated pastures, and ground cover (especially on north-facing slopes)
- » Horticulture lack of skilled labour, lack of accommodation for seasonal workers, water quality, water supply, biosecurity, pollination services and declining soil health

The long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the growth of the agriculture sector of the Derwent and Highlands is still unfolding. Early disruptors and likely impacts are described in Section 8.2.

### **6 Tourism sector**

The Derwent and Highlands provides visitors with a wide range of experiences, with multiple gateways to the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (at Strathgordon and Derwent Bridge), one of Tasmania's most popular National Parks (Mount Field), Tasmania's premier fly-fishing river (the Tyenna), Australia's second-largest freshwater lake, yingina/Great Lake, and Australia's deepest freshwater lake, Lake St Clair.

The Tasmanian Government has projected 5.5% growth in visitor numbers each year for five years to reach 1.5 million visitors by 2020 (DTHE 2015). This increase is predicted to lead to 20,000 new jobs in the tourism sector in the state. By the end of 2019, Tasmania's tourism market was well on the way to this target, with 1.35 million visitors and 22,300 direct and 20,900 indirect jobs (DTHE 2020).

Mount Field National Park, the key attraction to the Derwent and Highlands, is one of the oldest protected wilderness areas in Australia. The park is known for its high-altitude lakes, snow-capped mountain peaks in the colder months, and stunning waterfalls including Lady Barron Falls, Horseshoe Falls and Russell Falls. Mount Field National Park has attracted 28% more visitors in the five years up to 2018–19, with 204,000 visitors in this financial year (most recent published visitor numbers, PWS 2019). The Tasmanian Government recently invested in improving the visitor experience to Mount Field National Park, with upgrades to the popular walking track at Russell Falls.

There is a rich and diverse range of other tourism attractions in the Derwent and Highlands including the Maydena Mountain Bike Park, guided wilderness experiences, fishing and golfing in the Highlands, forestry and hydro-electric heritage experiences (e.g. the Wall), events celebrating the Highlands culture (Bushfest and Liawenee Trout Weekend), and a wide range of agri-tourism experiences such as distilleries, wineries, farm gate sales, farm stays and farm tours (see Section 7). These tourism attractions all benefit from increased visitor numbers to Mount Field National Park, and a key challenge of the region's tourism sector is how to keep these visitors in the region for longer.

With the tourism sector's focus on experiencing the natural beauty and agricultural productivity of the region, maintaining the health and condition of the region's natural assets is key to sustainable growth, especially those related to:

- » scenic beauty forest health and harvesting, ground cover on agricultural land (especially north-facing slopes)
- » recreational access to rivers and lakes water quality and quantity, riverbank condition (weeds, stock access).

Like the agriculture sector, growth of the tourism sector is also impacted by a lack of skilled labour, especially in more remote locations.

The long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Derwent and Highlands tourism sector are still to be fully realised, however a few tourism businesses have already closed, and many are uncertain of their future. Likely long-term impacts are described in Section 8.2, with recovery strategies outlined in Section 9.

# 7 Agri-tourism

The Derwent and Highlands have an increasing offering in premium food and beverage related experiences. These experiences all fit the broad definition of agri-tourism, which includes all on-farm experiences and associated community/industry activities (DSG 2016). The Tasmanian Government's agri-tourism position paper describes three categories of agri-tourism:

- » Fixed attractions in regional areas. Examples include farm stays, oyster and mussel farms, chocolate and cheese factories and other food processing facilities, breweries, wineries, whisky distilleries and pick-your-own-fruit experiences.
- » Events based on an agriculture theme. These include food and wine festivals, farmers markets, cider/beer festivals and events such as Agfest.
- » Services based on a regional food/beverage experience. Cooking schools, fishing trips, beer making classes, and food and beverage tours are considered services.

A key element of many of the Derwent and Highlands' successful tourism enterprises is sharing the agricultural produce of the region through farm gate sales and farm experiences. Diversifying income through tourism has increased several multi-generational farms' viability. The diversity of income for agri-tourism businesses who offer both working farm and tourism experiences has buffered some from the early impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, while impacts on incomes for tourism-only businesses have been more severely affected.

The current approach to agri-tourism is not a good fit for all farms, however, as larger commercial farms are busy workplaces are not always safe for visitors unless they have invested in facilities and staff to welcome and spend time with them. The region is unique in the diversity of commodities that are of export quality i.e. diary, fruit, hops, meat and wine. Collaboration and partnership between tourism and agriculture enterprises is key to the growth of both sectors in the Derwent and Highlands, and these collaborations could take many forms (see Section 10.1 for action planning on this topic) including helping to showcase the unique aspects of the regions agricultural sector.

# 8 SWOT analysis of agriculture and tourism in the region

An analysis of the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) of the agriculture and tourism sectors of the Derwent and Highlands, with a focus on those shared between sectors, was undertaken in a community workshop and through a series of one-on-one interviews with key sector representatives. A summary of the findings is presented in Table 8.1.

This process was used to identify topics for which regional action planning was required to improve outcomes, address key threats and capitalise on opportunities (see Section 10). It highlighted a number of issues for which there is a significant cross-sector or SWOT interplay, outlined in more detail in Section 8.1

The exercise was undertaken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. To address the threat this global crisis has posed to the agriculture and tourism sectors of the Derwent and Highlands, this issue and its impacts were investigated through interviews and input from industry bodies, key sector and local government staff supporting individual businesses (see Section 8.2).

### Agriculture

Strengths (+)	Weaknesses (-)
<ul> <li>Export-quality produce</li> <li>Best-practice agriculture</li> <li>Market advantage with Tasmania's relative pest- and disease-free status</li> <li>Most farms are under mixed management and produce more than one commodity e.g. livestock and cropping</li> <li>Many farm businesses have diversified into agri-tourism</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Low level of ground cover, especially on cleared north-facing slopes</li> <li>Our climate – short growing season (especially unirrigated pastures)</li> <li>Future water supply – likely to decrease with predicted reduction in rainfall</li> <li>Lack of skilled labour</li> <li>Wildlife browsers and deer impacting on pasture availability for livestock and the cost of establishing trees in the landscape</li> <li>Declining soil health through intensification of irrigation</li> <li>Declining river health and water quality:         <ul> <li>nutrient runoff</li> <li>cleared native riverbank vegetation</li> <li>infestation of crack willow</li> </ul> </li> <li>Lack of involvement of Aboriginal people in fire management</li> </ul>
Opportunities (+)	Threats (-)
<ul> <li>Increase in access to water through new irrigation schemes</li> <li>Develop an agri-tourism touring circuit show casing large commercial farms with export-quality produce</li> <li>Benchmark sustainability credentials</li> <li>Create premium branding of Derwent and Highlands producers</li> <li>Increase value adding to agricultural products through processing and manufacture within the region</li> <li>Increase farm gate sales during tourist season</li> <li>Climate change providing opportunities for new commodities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>» Peri-urban and rural interface</li> <li>» Poor biosecurity practices:         <ul> <li>quarantine entry ports</li> <li>local practices between properties</li> </ul> </li> <li>» Weeds and pests – distributions and species are likely to change with a changing climate and increased growth</li> <li>» Water use by willows in infested waterways – 1 ha of willows uses between 3.9 and 5 ML of water per year</li> <li>» COVID-19 – access to seasonal workers, not wanting to move once completed, if restrictions are in place during harvest for key commodities e.g. cherries, hops, berries</li> <li>» Climate change and increased frequency of extreme events e.g. fire, flood and drought</li> </ul>

### **Tourism**

Strengths (+)	Weaknesses (-)
» Natural assets:	» Unmanned fuel stations e.g. Hamilton
Russell Falls and Mount Field	» Early closing time for many businesses e.g. food and fuel
Highland Lakes	<ul> <li>Lack of diversity in accommodation options e.g. few options for groups, luxury experiences, season workers</li> </ul>
Derwent River	» Lack of diversity for eating out
<ul> <li>Tyenna River</li> <li>Multiple entrances to Tasmania Wilderness World Heritage Area</li> </ul>	» There are few restaurants, cafes and other eateries, and opening hours suit local customers rather than visitors (rarely past 6pm)
	» Lack of skilled labour
» Increasing visitor numbers to Mount Field National Park – 204,000 in 2018–19, up 4% from previous year	» Tourist information centres (New Norfolk and Bothwell):
» Distance from Hobart Airport – the region can be visited as a day trip	volunteer run
» Investment in road safety on roads with high visitor use	limited hours, lack of information on local businesses
e.g. Glenora Road upgrade	» Distance of travel between businesses in rural/regional areas
	» Lack of the perspectives and stories of Aboriginal people
Opportunities (+)	Threats (-)
Opportunities (+)      Wtilise the old Derwent Valley Rail four tourism e.g. develop a cycleway and/or repair and re-establish rail transport	» Poor forest practices planning especially clearance of plantations directly adjacent to waterways which is allowed for plantations established
» Utilise the old Derwent Valley Rail four tourism e.g. develop a cycleway	<ul> <li>Poor forest practices planning especially clearance of plantations directly adjacent to waterways which is allowed for plantations established before January 2001 in the Forest Practices Code.</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Wtilise the old Derwent Valley Rail four tourism e.g. develop a cycleway and/or repair and re-establish rail transport</li> <li>Growing sector providing consistent local work for local people</li> <li>Share information between businesses to encourage visitors to spend</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Poor forest practices planning especially clearance of plantations directly adjacent to waterways which is allowed for plantations established before January 2001 in the Forest Practices Code.</li> <li>Energy cost making international travel too expensive</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Wtilise the old Derwent Valley Rail four tourism e.g. develop a cycleway and/or repair and re-establish rail transport</li> <li>Growing sector providing consistent local work for local people</li> <li>Share information between businesses to encourage visitors to spend more time in the region</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>» Poor forest practices planning especially clearance of plantations directly adjacent to waterways which is allowed for plantations established before January 2001 in the Forest Practices Code.</li> <li>» Energy cost making international travel too expensive</li> <li>» Development that impacts on visitor experience and farm business</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Wtilise the old Derwent Valley Rail four tourism e.g. develop a cycleway and/or repair and re-establish rail transport</li> <li>Growing sector providing consistent local work for local people</li> <li>Share information between businesses to encourage visitors to spend more time in the region</li> <li>Develop collaborative tourism experiences to encourage longer stays, or</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>» Poor forest practices planning especially clearance of plantations directly adjacent to waterways which is allowed for plantations established before January 2001 in the Forest Practices Code.</li> <li>» Energy cost making international travel too expensive</li> <li>» Development that impacts on visitor experience and farm business</li> <li>» Over-tourism or 'over loving' the experience</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>W Utilise the old Derwent Valley Rail four tourism e.g. develop a cycleway and/or repair and re-establish rail transport</li> <li>Growing sector providing consistent local work for local people</li> <li>Share information between businesses to encourage visitors to spend more time in the region</li> <li>Develop collaborative tourism experiences to encourage longer stays, or return; take advantage of flexible and more options</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Poor forest practices planning especially clearance of plantations directly adjacent to waterways which is allowed for plantations established before January 2001 in the Forest Practices Code.</li> <li>Energy cost making international travel too expensive</li> <li>Development that impacts on visitor experience and farm business</li> <li>Over-tourism or 'over loving' the experience</li> <li>COVID-19 – business have had to temporary or permanently shut down</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Wtilise the old Derwent Valley Rail four tourism e.g. develop a cycleway and/or repair and re-establish rail transport</li> <li>Growing sector providing consistent local work for local people</li> <li>Share information between businesses to encourage visitors to spend more time in the region</li> <li>Develop collaborative tourism experiences to encourage longer stays, or return; take advantage of flexible and more options</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>» Poor forest practices planning especially clearance of plantations directly adjacent to waterways which is allowed for plantations established before January 2001 in the Forest Practices Code.</li> <li>» Energy cost making international travel too expensive</li> <li>» Development that impacts on visitor experience and farm business</li> <li>» Over-tourism or 'over loving' the experience</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Wtilise the old Derwent Valley Rail four tourism e.g. develop a cycleway and/or repair and re-establish rail transport</li> <li>Growing sector providing consistent local work for local people</li> <li>Share information between businesses to encourage visitors to spend more time in the region</li> <li>Develop collaborative tourism experiences to encourage longer stays, or return; take advantage of flexible and more options</li> <li>Climate change – increased visitation from heat-impacted areas</li> <li>Diversify accommodation options such as camping on private land as</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Poor forest practices planning especially clearance of plantations directly adjacent to waterways which is allowed for plantations established before January 2001 in the Forest Practices Code.</li> <li>Energy cost making international travel too expensive</li> <li>Development that impacts on visitor experience and farm business</li> <li>Over-tourism or 'over loving' the experience</li> <li>COVID-19 – business have had to temporary or permanently shut down due to social distancing requirements</li> <li>Climate Change – Increased frequency of extreme events – fire,</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Wtilise the old Derwent Valley Rail four tourism e.g. develop a cycleway and/or repair and re-establish rail transport</li> <li>Growing sector providing consistent local work for local people</li> <li>Share information between businesses to encourage visitors to spend more time in the region</li> <li>Develop collaborative tourism experiences to encourage longer stays, or return; take advantage of flexible and more options</li> <li>Climate change – increased visitation from heat-impacted areas</li> <li>Diversify accommodation options such as camping on private land as facilitated by apps such as YouCamp and WikiCamp</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Poor forest practices planning especially clearance of plantations directly adjacent to waterways which is allowed for plantations established before January 2001 in the Forest Practices Code.</li> <li>Energy cost making international travel too expensive</li> <li>Development that impacts on visitor experience and farm business</li> <li>Over-tourism or 'over loving' the experience</li> <li>COVID-19 – business have had to temporary or permanently shut down due to social distancing requirements</li> <li>Climate Change – Increased frequency of extreme events – fire, flood and drought.</li> </ul>

#### **Cross-sector**

Strengths (+)	Weaknesses (-)
<ul> <li>» Diversity of offering – natural assets, agri-tourism, adventure tourism, passive wilderness touring</li> <li>» Close to capital city – within an hour's drive of Hobart Airport</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Derwent and Highlands as a region is split over two council areas</li> <li>Bare, cleared north-facing slopes impact on visual amenity and productivity</li> <li>Lack of skilled labour</li> <li>Lack of public transport options, particularly for backpackers (tourists and seasonal workers in agriculture)</li> <li>Lack of cross-sector consultation with local Aboriginal people and community groups</li> </ul>
Opportunities (+)	Threats (-)
<ul> <li>» Regional tourism and agriculture businesses working together:         <ul> <li>cooperative designed experiences</li> <li>experience development and destination development</li> <li>cooperative and collaborative marketing and branding</li> </ul> </li> <li>» Create a digital list of heritage properties</li> <li>» Education – provide appropriate information to tourists to add value</li> <li>» Build community gardens that educate on sustainability and promote fresh produce to tourists</li> <li>» Make the Valley a stayover destination and not just a day trip</li> <li>» Extend the use of Derwent Valley Branding to Central Highland businesses in the Upper Derwent</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>» Road safety, with increased traffic in rural areas during the oftenoverlapping harvest and tourism seasons</li> <li>» Poor waste management, with lack of recycling options</li> <li>» Poor biosecurity practices coupled with increased visitor numbers</li> <li>» Closure of Norske Skog – the loss of a major regional employer would have impacts on other sectors due to families moving away from the region</li> <li>» Climate change – increased frequency of extreme events e.g. fire, flood and related road closures</li> <li>» COVID-19 – businesses have had to temporarily or permanently shut down due to social distancing requirements</li> </ul>

## 8.7 Cross-sector interplay in SWOT analysis

Several SWOT topics displayed significant cross-sector interplay across the Derwent and Highlands.

Climate change. Climate change poses threats and presents opportunities to the Derwent and Highlands agriculture and tourism sectors (Table 8.1). Climate change predictions include warmer and drier conditions (especially for the Highlands) and more extreme events such as flood and wildfire (Climate Futures 2010). The predicted changes in temperature are less extreme for Tasmania than for mainland Australia (Climate Futures 2010), which is likely to provide opportunities for both agriculture and tourism in the region. While many of the threats posed by climate change will be realised over longer time frames – with preparedness planning key to successful adaptation – communities are currently impacted by the increased frequency of extreme events such as fire, flood and drought. For these events there is an immediate need for action and adaption support for regional businesses.

Agriculture industry bodies have developed useful climate change principles and resources to help producers adapt to climate change:

- » Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA) <a href="https://www.mla.com.au/research-and-development/">https://www.mla.com.au/research-and-development/</a> Environment-sustainability/climate-change-and-variability/climate-change-information/
- » Horticultural Innovation Australia (HIA) <a href="https://www.horticulture.com.au/growers/help-your-business-grow/research-reports-publications-fact-sheets-and-more/ah06019/">https://www.horticulture.com.au/growers/help-your-business-grow/research-reports-publications-fact-sheets-and-more/ah06019/</a>
- » Dairy Australia <a href="https://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/land-water-and-climate/climate-change-and-weather/extreme-weather#.YDbfTxNLhTZ">https://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/land-water-and-climate/climate-change-and-weather/extreme-weather#.YDbfTxNLhTZ</a>

There are no industry-specific resources for addressing the impact of, or adaptation to, climate change for the Australian tourism sector, however there are useful resources developed by government and NGOs:

- Climate Change Council <a href="https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/uploads/964cb874391d33dfd85ec959aa4141ff.pdf">https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/uploads/964cb874391d33dfd85ec959aa4141ff.pdf</a>
- Tasmanian Department of Premier and Cabinet <a href="http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0009/174834/Adapting\_to\_climate\_change\_in\_Tasmania.pdf">http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0009/174834/Adapting\_to\_climate\_change\_in\_Tasmania.pdf</a>

**Communication and education.** There were several areas identified that could benefit from improved communications and educational resources.

Communications between regional business:

- » Logistics: closing times, maps of local touring routes, list of food and accommodation businesses on route to visitors' next destination
- » What is happening in the local area: where in the region to direct visitors for certain experiences e.g. the best place to see platypus, where to go for a farm tour, what local producers are producing and where

Education and interpretation for visitors:

- » Where your food comes from: show casing best-practice agriculture and high-value exports, roadside stops and interpretation with a production focus
- » Expected visitor behaviour: where camping is allowed, littering, good biosecurity practices
- » Visitor safety: road safety in agricultural areas, what to do if there is a fire or flood

Increased local government collaboration. There was a range of areas in which participants called for increased collaboration between DVC and CHC to support sustainable growth. These include:

- » waste management in high visitation areas
- » infrastructure planning and maintenance
- » the mechanisms used for community requests for council investment or support for tourism initiatives
- » support of place-based branding and marketing
- » alignment of community grant programs.

Mechanisms for shared maintenance already existing between DVC and CHC who currently shared the maintenance of Meadow Bank Road.

Agri-tourism in the Derwent and Highlands. Tasmanian regional areas that are destinations due to their successful and diverse agri-tourism offerings, e.g. Huon Valley and the Tamar, are dominated by small hobby farms that produce a wide range of boutique, value added products that are ideal for current models of agri-tourism. While there are many smaller farms in the Derwent and Highlands production areas are dominated by large commercial farms that produce export grade produce across a wide range of commodities. These diverse agricultural landscapes represent a unique agricultural visitor experience for the region. However, showcasing these attributes without impacting on farm productivity requires a different approach to other regions known for their agri-tourism. Collaboration and partnership between tourism and agriculture enterprises is key to helping to showcase the unique aspects of the regions agricultural sector and opportunities include:

- » Promotion of clustering of agri-tourism business and creation of agri-tourism circuit focused with roadside stops and other signage supporting interpretation of:
  - large commercial farms with export commodities
  - on-farm plantings funded through carbon-off setting from tourism business and travellers
- » Networking between tourism and agricultural businesses:
  - Connect tour operators and accommodation providers with local producers
  - Develop local food networks with increased showcasing of local produce by local eateries, accommodation providers and providors

Airbnb, camping apps and avoiding over-tourism. There was a range of views from participants on the prevalence and regulation required for Airbnb and camping apps e.g. YouCamp, WikiCamp. While these platforms represent opportunities for some business to diversify their accommodation offerings and reach, others see that their unregulated growth can have negative social and environmental outcomes and increase the risk of over-tourism. Airbnb and camping apps are also seen to encourage self-catering visitors and in many cases the money doesn't stay in the community as many property owners live interstate. There was also a concern that they pose a reputational risk for the region, as a poor experience could impact on visitors' return rate.

Over-tourism is when visitor numbers lead to overcrowding in areas where residents suffer the consequences of tourism peaks, and where this overcrowding leads to permanent changes to lifestyles, access to amenities and general well-being (Milano et al 2018). Over-tourism is a complex, global phenomenon and while digital platforms such as Airbnb are a compounding factors, the growing global population, cheaper and larger-scale international travel, changing

tourist behaviour, poor tourist dispersal and narrow marketing strategies are also key drivers (Goodwin 2017, Dodds and Butler 2019). The effects of over-tourism are on hold across the globe with the travel restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, which has been seen as an opportunity to reset tourism in a number of global tourism hotspots (Momigilano 2020, TNZ 2020). While the Derwent and Highlands do not experience the tourist numbers of these places it is clear the local communities are aware of the risks of unsustainable tourism growth and want to maintain the liveability of their region.

Those concerned with the unregulated use of camping apps in the Derwent and Highlands believed that there is much to learn from over-tourism in New Zealand, including the country's move to a less regulated interpretation of camping space. Through the Freedom Camping Act (2011), put in place to accommodate international visitors for the 2011 Rugby World Cup, the national government allowed camping in a broad range of public spaces whiling devolving infrastructure responsibility and compliance to local councils (Billiante 2010, Ashton 2019). As freedom camping numbers rose, residents have become angry at having to fund camping infrastructure while living with the negative social and environmental effects and questioned the value proposition of freedom camping (Ashton 2019).

Under current Tasmania regulations New Zealand's experience with the impacts of freedom camping are unlikely to be seen. YouCamp and WikiCamp help people to access camp sites on private land. In the Derwent and Highlands, the establishment of camping sites on private land is regulated by local government and requires approvals that include environmental and visitor safety conditions that mitigate the environmental and social impacts seen in New Zealand. It is possible that these impacts could occur with an increase in the number of unapproved camping sites on private land and a lack of enforcement of restrictions to camping on public land.

While there is a clear argument that unregulated use of platforms such as Airbnb, YouCamp and WikiCamp can lead to questionable value propositions for tourism on the local scale, there are also pitfalls in a sole focus on high-value, high-yield tourism products designed to encourage fewer visitors paying for high-cost experiences. This has been highlighted by the current COVID-19 travel restrictions, which are likely to impact on the access of higher-paying visitors for longer than local tourists. Many of the visitors who are prepared to pay for high-value tourism products are from interstate and international markets. It is likely that a balanced approach that caters for a range of visitor budgets will aid recovery of the Derwent and Highlands tourism sector.

Lack of skilled labour. Access and retention of skilled labour in remote areas of the Derwent and Highlands is problematic for both tourism and agriculture businesses. This has been recognised as a barrier for economic growth by both the Derwent Valley and Central Highlands Councils and the communities they represent (DVC 2019, CHC 2015). While commensurate pay and conditions is a strong incentive for skilled workers, this can be difficult for small businesses to achieve in early stages of growth. Obtaining a skilled local labour force can also be difficult for larger businesses as local cultural nuances can impact on-job performance, especially for seasonal work. Clear career pathways and on-the-job training opportunities are useful for motivating local school leavers to stay in the region. Government support of local businesses to attract skilled labour and upskill people interested in living in the region would be of great benefit to the growth of tourism and agriculture in the region.

**Degraded and unbalanced landscape processes.** There are several landscape processes that are either degraded or unbalanced and are affecting the sustainable growth of agriculture in the region. Addressing this degradation requires coordinated management across multiple tenures, and would involve:

- » declining river health and water quality
- » soil erosion from cleared north-facing slopes
- » declining soil health through compaction caused by intensive irrigation and production
- » uncoordinated planned burning changing vegetation communities and increasing the risk of larger wildfires – issues with both too frequent and long unburnt areas resulting from a loss of local confidence in planned burning
- » high wildlife and deer browsing pressure across the region due to unsustainable browser populations.
- » clearing of native vegetation having a cumulative impact on biodiversity and ecosystem resilience – smaller scale contemporary clearing has increased cumulative impacts due to large scale historic clearing

Consultation and inclusion of Aboriginal people. Participation in this planning process focused on representatives from established tourism and agriculture businesses and was not tailored or resourced to incorporate the aspirations and perspectives of Aboriginal people. The absence of Aboriginal perspectives was noted as a weakness of the region's agriculture and tourism sectors, both in terms of creating an authentic sense of place and in incorporating Aboriginal land management practices to address some of the degraded and unbalanced landscape processes affecting sustainable growth.

The Central Highlands Council has a unique opportunity to be at the forefront of the inclusion of the aspirations of Aboriginal people in regional land management and tourism initiatives in Tasmania. The Highlands comprises Aboriginal owned and managed land (trawtha makuminya) and is home to the culturally significant cider gum. Council has identified the importance of providing for the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal families (CHC, 2020).

### 8.2 COVID-19 impacts

The travel restrictions and social distancing requirements that have been necessary during the global COVID-19 pandemic have impacted significantly on the tourism sector around the world. In Australia, travel restrictions are likely to be in place for some time, especially for international travel. In the Derwent and Highlands some businesses have permanently closed, where others have reopened or plan to reopen as travel restrictions are lifted. Some businesses took the opportunity for maintenance activities during the shutdown and were unable to respond to the early lifting of social distancing and travel restrictions. Parks and reserves were closed in late March 2020 and re-opened in mid-June 2020.

For many, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have come after two consecutive tourism seasons impacted by wildfire and associated restrictions of movement. They were relying on a good season to remain viable. Without well considered and tailored government support the region's tourism sector is at risk of losing much of its diversity.

With the easing of social distancing and travel restrictions since lockdown the tourism market is undergoing what is likely to be a long period of change with 1. Tasmanian travellers, 2. interstate travellers and 3. international travellers returning, in that order. While interstate and international travel from New Zealand has resumed, changing travel restrictions in response

to new outbreaks is creating uncertainty that discourages many from unnecessary long-distance travel. This has meant that the Tasmanian traveller holidaying at home will remain key to supporting the tourism sector's early recovery. Pre-COVID-19, much of the Derwent and Highlands tourism sector is pitched at interstate and international markets, who are often higher yielding customers prepared to pay more for food, accommodation and experiences than the local Tasmanian market.

Visitation to Mt Field was down 18% in 2019-20 from visitor numbers in 2018-19, with the reduction attributed primarily to the pandemic (PWS 2020). As Mt Field is close to Hobart it has been a popular destination for those from Greater Hobart. Since the reopening of parks and reserves in mid-June 2020 there have been strong forward bookings of the Government Huts at Mt Field especially on weekends (PWS 2020).

The agriculture sector was buffered from the initial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, though there where impacts on the workforce from travel restrictions, reduced markets for producers selling to Hobart-based restaurants catering for interstate travellers, and supply chain disruptions. Workforce difficulties were predicted over the 2020-21 harvest season, especially for fruit growers who depend on interstate and international pickers, however these did not impact harvest as much as anticipated.

# 9 Strategies for sustainable growth and COVID-19 recovery

The SWOT analysis and interviews were used to develop a range of strategies to promote recovery and sustainable growth in the Derwent and Highlands agriculture and tourism sectors (Table 9.1). The Regional Development Australia Principles for Economic Recovery (RDA 2020) were taken into consideration. Recovery opportunities should prioritise:

- » employment, including training opportunities, for local people out of work through COVID-19 impacts
- » tailored support for local businesses dealing with COVID-19 impacts
- » incentives for businesses filling identified gaps in the tourism and agriculture sectors and marketing to the holiday at home tourism market.

**Table 9.1.** Strategies for sustainable growth in the Derwent and Highlands agriculture and tourism sectors. † indicates strategies and actions that have the potential to contribute to COVID-19 recovery. Lead organisation will provide the direction for actions, though for many actions funding and resources will be leveraged from external sources in collaboration with support organisations.

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
1.1 Develop shared approaches between CHC and DVC to support businesses that operate across municipal boundaries	Consider resourcing shared positions for community outreach and support hosted within community organisations e.g. shared Regional Development Officer with tourism focus (see collaborative tourism and infrastructure action plans)	2021-2023	Lead: CHC and DVC Support: DVT and DCP	CHC and DVC model for shared NRM services through the Derwent Catchment Project
	Coordinate waste management services, with a focus on areas with population growth and high visitation. This would include linking local businesses with existing programs, including examining any impediments to the utility of these programs in the Derwent and Highlands.	2021-2023	Lead: CHC and DVC Support: Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT)	Drum Muster Environex Container deposit scheme (in development)
	Develop a regional approach to quality, safety and environmental requirements for Airbnb, WikiCamp etc.	2021-2025	Lead: LGAT Support: CHC and DVC	
1.2 Provide support and incentive for businesses filling identified gaps in tourism and agriculture sectors †	Increase options for eating out – later opening hours, eateries, restaurants †	2021-2025	Lead: TICT, DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania Support: State and Commonwealth government	
	Address accommodation gaps – luxury and group accommodation †	2021-2025	Lead: TICT, DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania Support: CHC and DVC	
	Local value adding to agricultural products through second tier process manufacture †	2021-2025	Lead: DCP producer group Support: Industry groups, CHC and DVC	

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
1.2 continued	Tourism business to offer activities for local corporate businesses *	2021-2020	Lead: TICT, DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania Support: CHC and DVC	
	Provide support and incentive for business that are prepared to offer on the job training with clear career pathways to upskill people that have lost work through COVID-19 impacts	2021-2022	Lead: State and commonwealth government Support: CHC and DVC	
1.3 Provide support and incentive for tourism initiatives that cater to local travellers e.g. Tasmanian and mainland †	Open 4WD drive route from Dover to Miena along existing gravel road network <sup>+</sup>	2022-2020	Lead: TICT, Destination Southern Tasmania Support: STT, CHC, DVC and Huon Valley council	
	Consider tourism options for old Derwent Valley rail corridor *	2025-2030	Lead: DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania Support: DVC, Derwent Valley Railway (DVR)	DVC rail corridor feasibility study – establishing rail transport high cost and not feasible for DVC
	Establish, and improve awareness of existing, community gardens – bushfood and produce †	2023-2030	Lead: CHC and DVC	New Norfolk community garden Bothwell Native garden Ouse community garden
	Maintaining amenity values in public open space utilised by tourists e.g. RV parking	2021-2030	Lead: CHC and DVC	DVC Open Space strategy (in development) Platypus walk in Hamilton

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
1.4 Encourage and support information sharing between local businesses	Facilitate networking events for local tourism businesses	2022-2030	Lead: shared Regional Development Officer (see Section 10.1) Support: TICT, DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania	
	Improve communications and interpretive resources as described in collaborative tourism action plan (see Section 10.1)	2022-2030	Lead: shared Regional Development Officer (see Section 10.1)	see Section 10.1
1.5 Develop and resource new and existing cross-tenure programs to address degraded landscape processes	Implement and resource river recovery programs on the Ouse, Clyde, Tyenna, Styx and Lachlan Rivers, Glen Dhu Rivulet and Sorell Creek *	2021-2030	Lead: DCP Support: IFS, Willow Warriors, DEP, CHC, DVC	Derwent Catchment River Health Plan (in development)  Tyenna River Recovery Program  Ouse River Recovery Program  Flood resilience plans for the Lachlan River, Glen Dhu Rivulet and Sorell Creek
	Facilitate and resource cross-tenure pasture management and forage shrub planting programs to support dryland graziers in the Derwent	2021-2030	Lead: DCP	DCP Pasture Information Network
	Facilitate and resource cross-tenure precision irrigation and nutrient budgeting programs	2021-2030	Lead: DCP	Fert smart Diary Cares for the Derwent
	Facilitate and resource cross-tenure fire management programs in the Highlands, including supporting Aboriginal burning practices on public and private land	2021-2030	Lead: Red Hot Tips Program Support: DCP	Red Hot Tips Program  DCP Miena cider gum recovery program

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
1.5 continued	Support land managers to develop wildlife management plans to protect conservation and production assets in the Derwent and Highlands	2021-2030	Lead: DPIPWE Wildlife Management Branch Support: DCP	DCP Miena cider gum recovery program
1.6 Develop local carbon offset investment pathways	Establish or apply existing carbon-off set methodology to growing native trees on farmland in the Derwent and Highlands	2021-2025	Lead: DCP Support: Private Forests	T21 Visitor Economy Action Plan
	Develop opportunities for corporate staff volunteering in carbon offsetting projects in the Derwent and Highlands	2021-2025	Lead: DCP Support: Tourism Tasmania	T21 Visitor Economy Action Plan
	Facilitate and resource catchment-wide Trees on Farms	2021-2030	Lead: DCP Support: CHC and DVC	Derwent Catchment River Health Plan
	Facilitate and resource Riparian revegetation as part of river recovery programs	2021-2030	Lead: DCP Support: IFS, DEP	Derwent Catchment Healthy River Plan
1.7 Support the development of Aboriginal tourism and land management initiatives in the Central Highlands	Explore and promote the aspirations of Aboriginal people living in the Central Highlands	2021-2030	Lead: CHC	T21 Visitor Economy Action Plan
	Support and incentivise the development of tourism initiatives managed by Aboriginal people	2021-2030	Lead: Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council and Tourism Tasmania Support: CHC	T21 Visitor Economy Action Plan
	Support and resource Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre's fire sticks program to work with private landholders in the Highlands	2021-2030	Lead: TAC and Red Hot Tips Program Support: DCP, CHC, TFS	

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
1.8 Develop resources to support the Derwent and Highlands tourism sector's adaptation to climate change	Plan for increased frequency of extreme events (see Section 10.4)	2021-2030	Lead: Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council Support: DVT, DVC, CHC, Tourism Tasmania, TFS	DVC and CHC emergency management plans
	Assess threats to the region's tourism assets	2021-2023	Lead: Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council Support: DVT, DVC, CHC, Tourism Tasmania	
1.9 Tailor existing national or statewide resources to support the Derwent and Highlands agriculture sector's adaptation to climate change	Plan for the impact of climate change on agricultural enterprises	2021-2030	Lead: DCP  Support: Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DAWE, Australian Government), Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA), Dairy Tasmania, Hort Innovation Australia (HIA), Fruit Growers Tasmania	DCP Pasture Information Network  DCP Trees on Farms  DCP Forage Shrub Trials  DCP Flood resilience plans for the Lachlan River, Glen Dhu Rivulet and Sorell Creek  DCP Dairy sustainability audit  Dairy Cares for the Derwent  Southern Tasmanian Drought Officer position (DAWE)  MLA's CN30 program
	Assess/benchmark sustainability and provide support for agriculture businesses in water use, carbon storage etc. and investigate opportunities for cross-industry benchmarking	2021-2030	Lead: HIA, MLA, Diary Australia Support: DCP	DCP Dairy sustainability audit Other industry sustainability benchmarking programs to be listed here

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
2.0 Implement collaborative tourism action plan (see Section 10.1)	Section 10.1			
3.0 Implement infrastructure action plan (see Section 10.2) †	Section 10.2			
4.0 Implement biosecurity action plan (see Section 10.3)	Section 10.3			
5.0 Implement emergency response action plan (see Section 10.4)	Section 10.4			

## 10 Action planning

Regional action planning was undertaken for the following topics to improve outcomes and capitalise on opportunities, through community workshops, one-on-one interviews or a combination of both:

- » Collaborative tourism experiences (Section 10.1)
- » Infrastructure (Section 10.2)
- » Biosecurity (Section 10.3)
- » Emergency response and communication during extreme events (Section 10.4)

## 10.1 Collaborative tourism experiences

Developing the elements required for successful rural tourism requires a collaborative and planned approach. Rural tourism is most successful if a region (Thompson 2015):

- » has sufficient drawing power to attract national, international and local visitors e.g. creating a sense of place and a key theme to attract people
- » is within an hour's drive of an international airport
- » has a destination factor something that is both naturally occurring and created
- » provides goods and services for tourists which are also in demand locally e.g. wine, beer, food
- » has an approach to stimulating growth that identifies and manages potential impacts locally.

A clear strength of the tourism sector in the Derwent and Highlands is its diversity, and this diversity is both an asset and a hinderance for destination creation. To aid consideration of how this diversity can be incorporated into theme-based destination creation, the natural groupings of tourism experiences in the Derwent and Highlands were explored in a community workshop (Table 10.1). Some businesses have overlapping experience types, but clear distinctions between them need to be made for branding and identity.

Table 10.1. The different types of tourism experience available in the Derwent and Highlands

Туре	Regional examples
Nature based	Accessible and multi-day wilderness
	bushwalking at Mount Field National Park and Lake St Clair, vehicle-based access to the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (Strathgordon) and the Highland lakes
Adventure tourism	Guided hiking tours, mountain bike trails, kayaking tours, guided fly-fishing
Heritage	Hydro heritage of Tarraleah and Wayatinah,
	forestry heritage of Derwent Bridge and around Maydena, accommodation at heritage-listed properties
Agri-tourism	Farm stays, farm gate sales, farm tours, tasting at wineries and distilleries, bespoke tours of local farms

#### Theme development

The following themes were developed during the workshop, capturing a diversity of offerings in the Derwent and Highlands region.

#### 'The tallest to the smallest trees'

- » Promotion of the diversity of natural landscapes of the region tall trees of the wet forest through to alpine lakes and mountains
- » Providing both passive and active experiences

#### 'Open Roads'

- » Promoting the region as a place with scenic open roads
- » Encouraging the Derwent and Highlands as a road trip destination

#### 'Come and experience where your food comes from'

- » Promotion of the paddock part of paddock to plate the Derwent as a region where people can learn and experience how world-class produce is grown
- » A touring route that can incorporate information about the diversity of agriculture in the region and showcase larger scale, export quality production

The existing Western Wilds drive journey promotes experience in the Derwent and Highlands, however this promotion has not been capitalised on by the majority of the tourism business in the region. It presents the Derwent and Highlands as an entrée to the wild West Coast of Tasmania and as such is seen to encourage visitors to drive through the region, rather than treat it as a destination.

#### **Constraints to collaboration**

The following constraints to collaboration between local businesses were identified.

- » Time costs for small businesses to collaborate with others and covering these costs is more difficult for smaller businesses and those that are still in early stages of establishment
- » Distance of travel between businesses in the Derwent and Highlands
- » Individual competition there is a fear of losing business through collaboration
- » Some businesses are reliant on particular tourist groups, which can be impacted when travel patterns change seasonally
- » The attraction of the hassle-free approach of selling and marketing individually rather than as part of a collaborative brand
- » The lack of collaboration between CHC and DVC, especially the additional time costs for businesses and industry groups to communicate with both councils separately through their very different mechanisms
- » The separation felt between businesses in the two municipalities
- » Lack of connectivity with tour guides operating out of Hobart and major tourist locations

To overcome these constraints and capitalise on the strengths and opportunities available to the Derwent and Highlands, a range of strategies and actions have been developed to foster collaboration between local tourism and agriculture businesses and support theme-based destination creation (Table 10.2).

**Table 10.2.** Strategies to promote collaborative tourism in the Derwent and Highlands. † indicates strategies and actions that have the potential to contribute to COVID-19 recovery. Lead organisation will provide the direction for actions, though for many actions funding and resources will be leveraged from external sources in collaboration with support organisations.

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
2.1 Increase collaboration and communication between CHC and DVC	Create and resource a position for a tourism officer shared between CHC and DVC <sup>+</sup>	2021-2022	Lead: CHC and DVC Support: DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council	N/A
	Provide support for businesses to take advantage of funding opportunities including COVID-19 recovery and stimulus †	2021-2022	Lead: CHC and DVC Support: DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council	DVC Regional Development and Community Development Officer positions
	Reinvigorate the CHC tourism subcommittee, with the shared Regional Development Officer to facilitate community input into Council processes	2021-2022	Lead: CHC	CHC tourism subcommittee
2.2 Ensure up-to-date and relevant communication and interpretive information is available to visitors	Update and maintain Inventory of tourism assets (Tourism, toilets, parks) across Derwent and Highlands	2021-2022	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council	Australian Tourism Data Warehouse Local inventory of tourism assets (Tourism, toilets, parks) exists on DVC website but is out of date Tourism information on CHC website
	Create and maintain a low-cost app with up-to-date information on tourism operators, events, experiences, toilet locations, walking trails, list of heritage properties etc.	2022-2023	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council	See above

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
2.2 continued	Reconsider approach of visitor centres at New Norfolk and Bothwell with a focus on providing face to face visitor information to complement online resources <sup>+</sup>	2022-2023	Lead: CHC and DVC Support: DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council	Tasmania-wide consideration of funding and alternative delivery models for visitors centres underway.
2.3 Develop collaborative theme- based destination campaigns	Create theme-based touring routes to showcase regional assets and add regional context and unexpected detours to existing State-wide touring routes and tourism campaigns	2021-2030	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council	
	Work with existing touring routes and tourism campaigns to encourage visitors to stay longer and discover more of the Derwent and Highlands	2021-2025	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council	Western Wilds Come down for air Make yourself at home
	Support the uptake of place- and theme- based collaborative branding by local businesses	2021-2025	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: CHC, DVC, DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council	Derwent Valley Branding The Highlands branding including Bushfest Western Wilds

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
2.4 Showcase the quality food production and best-practice farming methods of the Derwent and Highlands	Develop an agri-tourism touring circuit to support local self-guided drive journeys	2021-2023	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: CHC, DVC, DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council	DCP producer group
	Roadside stops and interpretation/ information bays focused on agricultural production to promote consumer education e.g. photo stop at Glenora Hill – can see hops, dairy and sheep plus the Derwent River in one view	2021-2025	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: CHC, DVC, DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council	DCP producer group
	Organise exploratory bus tours for tour operators to get to know local farm businesses, increasing opportunities for visitors to talk to producers, including those from larger commercial farms	2021-2030	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: CHC, DVC, DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council	
	Develop local food networks including showcasing of local produce by local eateries, accommodation providers and providors	2021-2025	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: Sprout Tasmania, CHC, DVC, DVT, Destination Southern Tasmania, Tasmanian Tourism Industry Council	DCP producer group Sprout Producer Program

#### 10.2 Infrastructure

A community workshop was the primary method of input into tourism infrastructure action planning. Participants were interested in four main topics:

- » road safety
- » picnic areas
- » information bays
- » toilets.

#### **Road safety**

There were several areas of road safety concern, especially where there are increased tourist numbers on roads used for agricultural production. The majority were at intersections where tourists visit Mount Field and Lake St Clair National Parks (Table 10.3) where slow or stationary traffic can cause issues for local vehicles. In the case of intersections, there can be an added complexity to resolving safety concerns, with intersecting roads managed by different levels of government (CHC, DVC, Department of State Growth). There have been recent road upgrades on the Glenora Road, on the way from Hobart to Mount Field National Park, to mitigate road safety concerns with increased visitor numbers during the tourist season. Similar works are being undertaken by CHC on Pelham Rd, to improve road safety on an important gateway into the Highlands. These works have a significant cost, which were beyond the budget of the road manager (local government), and due to their significance have been supported by State Government funding. There is a clear need for a coordinated approach between all levels of government to address road safety concerns that will emerge with anticipated growth of the region's tourism and agriculture sectors.

The feasibility study undertaken to inform the Glenora Road work revealed that in some areas, road upgrades are not the best option as they can be extremely costly, or not possible due to lack of room for road widening or the heritage listing of road infrastructure (e.g. Westerway Bridge). In these cases, other options such as changing speed limits and improved signage are more practical. Changing speed limits can be a long process and require coordination between organisations. All changes to speed limits, even on council managed roads, require approval from the Department of State Growth through a lengthy application process including the need to demonstrate community support for the changes.

Priority areas for road safety improvements that emerged during this action planning include:

- » Glenora Rd,
- » Gordon River Rd at Westerway intersection,
- » intersection into Lake Dobson Rd from Gordon River Rd at Mount Field,
- » intersection into Lake St Clair National Park at Derwent Bridge, and
- » Lake Dobson Rd.

#### Information bays, picnic areas and toilets

Combining information bays, picnic areas and toilets at single locations for visitors to stop, rest and plan the next steps in their journey was seen to have several benefits, including improving visitor experience and reducing maintenance costs. Priority locations were for new stop points and improvements or repairs to existing stop points where identified (Table 10.3). Many of the locations identified were where visitors naturally stop and some had existing infrastructure. Not all identified locations were appropriate for locating information bays, picnic areas and toilets in a single location. Future investment in new, and upgrading existing, stopping sites should be prioritised to support theme based touring routes and other visitor experiences such as local carbon off-set projects (see Section 10.1).

Some considerations for selecting sites for new stop points were raised, including mobile reception and impacts on adjacent private property. It was noted that in remote areas, visitors will stop when mobile phone reception becomes available. Stop site selection should ensure mobile reception is available, so that travellers can stop to plan where to stay and eat. When locating stopping points near a river it is important to consider the land tenure between the stopping point and the river. Pull-overs adjacent to rivers are best placed near public land where river access can be maintained, or where private landholders are part of the Inland Fisheries Service's Anglers Access Program.

Maintenance costs in remote areas of the Derwent and Highlands need to be considered during infrastructure planning. For example, each new toilet facility costs Central Highlands Council approximately \$80,000 to install and \$10,000 per year to maintain and this on-going maintenance budget increases with every new facility. Strategies to reduce facility maintenance costs are presented in Table 10.3. Due to the risk of stop points becoming a dumping ground for rubbish and garden waste, maintenance should also include waste and weed management costs.

Table 10.3. Strategies to increase investment in improved tourism infrastructure development. † indicates strategies and actions that have the potential to contribute to COVID-19 recovery. Lead organisation will provide the direction for actions, though for many actions funding and resources will be leveraged from external sources in collaboration with support organisations.

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
3.1 Increased collaboration and resource sharing in tourism infrastructure planning, resourcing and maintenance	Share contracts for facility maintenance in remote locations	2021-2022	Lead: CHC and DVC Support: Hydro, IFS, PWS	
	Create and resource a position for a tourism officer shared between CHC and DVC (see Collaborative tourism action Plan, Section 10.1)	2021-2022	Lead: CHC and DVC	
	Participate in community development programs from large investors e.g. Tassal, Cattle Hill Wind Farm to leverage funding for priority infrastructure	2021-2030	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: CHC, DVC, DCP and DVT	
3.2 Prioritise road safety projects in areas where increased visitation in tourist season impacts on local communities, especially the safety of agriculture workers †	Glenora Rd upgrades and speed limit reductions †	2021-2021	Lead: DVC	DVC has a feasibility study on road upgrades for which priority works are currently being undertaken with the support of State funding
	Reduce speed limits on Gordon River Rd at Westerway intersection (to Mount Field National Park) – reduce speed limit for traffic entering intersection from Ellendale Rd	2021-2022	Lead: CHC and DVC Support: Department of State Growth, Westerway community	Westerway community scoped a reduction to 50 here 9–10 years ago that was not actioned; this could be represented to the Department of State Growth

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
3.2 continued	Upgrade the intersection into Lake Dobson Rd from Gordon River Rd at Mount Field – install right turn lane and/or reduced speed limit on Gordon River Rd *	2021-2022	Lead: Department of State Growth	
	Upgrade the intersection into Lake St Clair National Park at Derwent Bridge – install right turn lane and/or reduced speed limit on Gordon River Rd <sup>+</sup>	2022-2023	Lead: Department of State Growth	
	Upgrade, or consider shuttle service for, Lake Dobson Rd to improve road safety in winter ski season <sup>+</sup>	2023-2024	Lead: Department of State Growth and PWS	
	Investigate tourism tracker website for future road safety planning. Tourism tracker is a tool that maps travel patterns and could help to identify road safety issues by looking at flow and stop points of visitors using the apps	2021-2022	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: CHC, DVC, DVT	Tourism tracker website
	Give regional road safety information to hire car companies	2021-2030	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: CHC, DVC, DVT	Towards Zero – have road safety information for tourist and seasonal workers and resources e.g. road signs and communications
	Install signage warning of hazards including driving during night, cyclists, dangerous places for stopping, and distance to nearest food and fuel option when leaving towns in remote locations	2021-2030	Lead: CHC and DVC	Towards Zero
	Create a cycle path strategy	2022-2024	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: CHC, DVC, DVT	

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
3.3 Prioritise infrastructure projects that support tourism within existing local government planning *	Repair picnic area at Dunrobin Bridge †	2021-2022	Lead: CHC	CHC health and wellbeing plan
	Update the information in the Derwent Bridge tourist information with a small annual fee for posting business information	2021-2022	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer	CHC health and wellbeing plan
	Establish a view/photo spot with agricultural information bay on Glenora and Clyde Hills †	2021-2022	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer	DVC Open Space Strategy (in development)
	Establish a tourist information bay pull-off in Ouse Hall <sup>+</sup>	2021-2022	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer	CHC health and wellbeing plan
	Develop infrastructure that allows people with a disability to access experiences †	2021-2030	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer	CHC health and wellbeing plan DVC Open Space Strategy (in development)
	Prioritise investment into the establishment of new and upgrade of existing stopping locations that support dispersal along new theme-based touring routes	2023-2030	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer	
	Consider mobile phone reception, river access permissions and maintenance costs when locating new tourist stopping locations or prioritise upgrades to existing locations	2021-2030	Lead: Shared Regional Development Officer Support: CHC, DVC, DVT, IFS	CHC health and wellbeing plan DVC Open Space Strategy (in development)

## 10.3 Biosecurity

The agriculture and tourism businesses of the Derwent and Highlands currently enjoy a range of market advantages due to Tasmania's relative pest- and disease-free status. The impact of a fruit fly control area, which would be imposed with an accidental introduction of this destructive pest to the area through poor biosecurity practices, has the potential to devastate the local multi-million-dollar soft fruit industry and cause significant job losses. Adventure-tourism businesses could be similarly impacted by the introduction of the invasive algae, Didymo, from New Zealand or the northern hemisphere. Weeds impact on both tourism and agricultural assets, adding significantly to land management costs are often not managed across tenure. Weed outcompete native and cultivated plant impacting on the production of natural and agricultural systems. Crack willow infestations impact on water quality, flood vulnerability and access to waterways for recreation and water extraction.

There are increased biosecurity risks with unsustainable growth in both tourism and agriculture. The biosecurity risk species that are currently of concern in the Derwent and Highlands are listed in Table 10.4. It is highly likely that with a changing climate, new pests, disease and weeds will threaten the region. Regional biosecurity planning and extension is key to promoting good biosecurity practices to reduce these risks. Strategies to promote a shared regional approach to biosecurity planning, practice and climate change preparedness are outlined in Table 10.5.

**Table 10.4.** A summary of pests and pathogens of concern, susceptible commodities and vectors.

Pest/pathogen	Vulnerable assets	Vectors for introduction and spread	Current status
Fruit fly	A wide range of fruit crops including cherries, raspberries	Infested plant material	Not in the Derwent and Highlands or Tasmania though recent controlled incursions into the north of the state
Xyella	A wide range of native, commercial and ornamental plant species	Infected plant material and insect vectors	Not in the Derwent and Highlands or Tasmania
Brown Marmorated Stink Bug	A wide range of crops	Infested plant material, people, vehicles and equipment	Not in the Derwent and Highlands or Australia
Fall Army Worm	A wide range of crops	Infested plant material, wind, people, vehicles and equipment	Not in the Derwent and Highlands or Tasmania
Spotted winged drosophila	A wide range of fruit crops including raspberries	Infested plant material	Not in the Derwent and Highlands or Tasmania
Blueberry Rust	Blueberries	Infected plant material and spores on wind, people, vehicles and equipment	In low levels in Tasmania, not in the Derwent and Highlands
Fire blight	Apples and pears	Infected plant material and wind dispersal	Not in the Derwent and Highlands or Tasmania
Powdery mildew of hops	Hops	Infected plant material	Not in the Derwent and Highlands or the southern hemisphere
Downy mildew of hops	Hops	Infected plant material	Not in the Derwent and Highlands or the southern hemisphere
Hop viruses	Hops. Some viruses of fruit and berry crops can also infect hops.	Infected plant material and insect vectors	Some found in the Derwent and Highlands
Grape phylloxera	Grape vines	Infested plant material, soil, people and clothing	Not in the Derwent and Highlands or Tasmania
Varroa mite	Honeybees, horticultural pollination services	Infested honeybees	Not in the Derwent and Highlands or Tasmania

Pest/pathogen	Vulnerable assets	Vectors for introduction and spread	Current status
Footrot	Sheep	Spread between farms via mud and animal material on footwear and clothes of farm visitors	On some properties in the Derwent and Highlands
Foot and Mouth disease	Sheep, cattle, pigs and goats	Spread between farms via infected animals, mud and animal material on footwear and clothes of farm visitors	Not in the Derwent and Highlands or Australia
Didymo	Low nutrient rivers and lakes blocks irrigation and hydro power infrastructure	Water in fishing gear, watercraft	Not in the Derwent and Highlands or Australia
Myrtle Rust	Plants in the Myrtaceae family including Eucalypts, tea trees and paperbarks	Infected plant material and spores on wind, people, vehicles and equipment	On mainland Australia
Phytophthora root rot	A wide range of native and cultivated plants	Soil and mud on animals, vehicles and equipment	Widespread in Tasmania below 700m in altitude, including the Derwent and Highlands
Weeds – agricultural including serrated tussock, African lovegrass, Paterson's Curse and Saffron thistle	Agricultural production	Wind, water, animals, vehicles and equipment	On some properties in the Derwent and Highlands
Weeds – environmental including orange hawkweed	Environmental values	Wind, water, animals, vehicles and equipment	On some properties in the Derwent and Highlands

Table 10.5. Strategies and actions to improve regional biosecurity. Lead organisation will provide the direction for actions, though for many actions funding and resources will be leveraged from external sources in collaboration with support organisations.

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
4.1 Establish a regional approach to addressing biosecurity risks	Visit other areas with active and successful regional biosecurity working groups e.g. Coal River Producers	2021-2021	Lead: DCP and DVC Support: local agriculture and tourism businesses, Hort innovation, Fruit Growers Tasmania, Biosecurity Tasmania	
	Establish a biosecurity working group for the Derwent and Highlands	2021-2021	Lead: DCP and DVC Support: local agriculture and tourism businesses	
	Undertake a regional biosecurity threat assessment that considers the changing distribution of pests, weeds and disease with a changing climate	2021-2022	Lead: DCP and DVC Support: Hort Innovation, Fruit Growers Tasmania, Biosecurity Tasmania	Data from Hort innovation, Fruit Growers Tasmania, Biosecurity Tasmania
	Develop regional biosecurity plan that addresses this threat assessment	2021-2022	Lead: DCP and DVC  Support: local agriculture and tourism businesses, Hort Innovation, Fruit Growers Tasmania, Biosecurity Tasmania	
4.2 Implement and resource the installation of wash- and cleandown facilities for visitors and contractors moving between farms	Investigate and install low cost mobile foot clean-down units	2021-2025	Lead: DCP and DVC Support: local agriculture and tourism businesses, Hort Innovation, Fruit Growers Tasmania, Biosecurity Tasmania	PWS foot-cleaning station designs Phyto-fighter

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
4.2 continued	Investigate and install low-maintenance vehicle and machinery clean-down options for use between farms		Lead: DCP and DVC Support: local agriculture and tourism businesses, Hort Innovation, Fruit Growers Tasmania, Biosecurity Tasmania	
4.3 Implement and resource regional weed control programs that protect tourism and agricultural assets	Continue to build partnerships and investment into regional cross tenure weed control programs that protect natural and agricultural assets from the impacts of invasive weeds	2021-2030	Lead: DCP Support: DVC, CHC, Hydro Tasmania, TasNetworks, Tasmanian Land Conservancy, Parks and Wildlife Service, Sustainable Timber Tasmania, Inland Fisheries Service, Fisheries Habitat Improvement Fund, DEP	Derwent Valley Weed Management Program Central Highlands Weed Management Program Tyenna River Recovery Plan
	Include the protection of horticultural assets in existing weed management programs through the strategic management of alternative hosts to species that pose a high threat to horticulture (Table 10.4)	2021-2030	Lead: DCP Support: local horticulture businesses, Hort Innovation, Fruit Growers Tasmania, Biosecurity Tasmania	Derwent Valley Weed Management Program Central Highlands Weed Management Program
4.4 Implement and resource the communication and extension components of the regional biosecurity plan	Undertake panel discussions for producer groups and Q and A with pest, weed and disease experts focused on high threat biosecurity risk species	2021-2025	Lead: DCP and DVC Support: local agriculture and tourism businesses, Hort innovation, Fruit Growers Tasmania, Biosecurity Tasmania	

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
4.4 continued	Develop and disseminate a communication package for tourism operators: tailored biosecurity messages to encourage good biosecurity practice among visitors to the region	2021-2025	Lead: DCP and DVC Support: local agriculture and tourism businesses, Hort innovation, Fruit Growers Tasmania, Biosecurity Tasmania	Biosecurity information from a range of sources
	Develop and install biosecurity signage design at property boundaries and entry points of the region	2021-2025	Lead: DCP and DVC Support: local agriculture and tourism businesses, Hort innovation, Fruit Growers Tasmania, Biosecurity Tasmania	Farm biosecurity signage
	Support local tourism and agricultural businesses to undertake and implement biosecurity plans for their activities	2021-2030	Lead: DCP and DVC Support: Hort innovation, Fruit Growers Tasmania, Biosecurity Tasmania	

## 10.4 Communication for emergency response during extreme events

The increasing frequency of extreme events including wildfire and major floods in the Derwent and Highlands has impacted local tourism and agriculture businesses over the last four years. These events, shortly followed by the COVID-19 pandemic, have not only put extreme pressure on business viability, they have also left some operating under stressful and sometimes dangerous circumstances. During community workshops and interviews, individual businesses were concerned about providing the correct information to visitors during these events, understanding which agencies were responsible for emergency response, and how to provide for visitors when they are unable to continue their journey due to restricted mobility. There were also concerns with how businesses ensure their continued operation with the disruptions and damage costs these events cause, especially when they impact on consecutive tourism or agricultural production seasons.

In Tasmania, responsibilities and communication protocols during emergency situations such as extreme events are described in the *Emergency Management Act 2006*, with supporting responsibilities in the *Local Government Act 1993*. Each local government area has a Municipal Emergency Management Plan. The DVC and CHC Emergency Management Plans are comprehensive documents that outline the hazards identified in these municipalities, and the roles, responsibilities and procedures including communications during emergency situations. It is possible that some of the confusion about communications and responsibilities during extreme events expressed in community workshops arise as these differ depending on the land tenure on which these event take place (Table 10.6). In many cases local government takes a community information role, even when they are not directly involved in emergency response.

**Table 10.6.** Summary of responsibilities during extreme events. An excerpt from the DVC and CHC Municipal Emergency Management Plans.

Hazard	Response management authority	Typical council support function and activities
Fire – national parks, reserves	DPIPWE Parks and Wildlife Service	Community information Plant and machinery
Fire – declared forest land/state forest	Sustainable Timber Tasmania	Community information Plant and machinery
Fire – urban and privately managed rural land	Tasmania Fire Service (TFS)	Property identification Road closures Plant and machinery
Flood – dams	Tasmania Police (Assisted by dam owner)	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Community information Plant and machinery

Hazard	Response management authority	Typical council support function and activities
Flood – rivers	State Emergency Services (SES) Tasmania Police Council	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Community information Plant and machinery
Influenza pandemic	Department of Health and Human Services Public Health Services	Flu clinic facilities Community information
Storm, high winds, tempest	SES	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Plant and machinery

There is a lack of information for businesses planning for disruptions caused by increasing frequency of extreme events.

There has been a cluster of 'once in 100-year' events in the region. The last three tourist seasons have been impacted either by wildfires or the COVID-19 pandemic and in the last four years the region has experienced three major flood events (Ouse River and two large events in the waterways coming off Mt Wellington). All these events have restricted movement, and some have caused significant damage to public and private infrastructure that supports agriculture and tourism. The support that businesses received in the form of information and assistance in applying for recovery funding following extreme events varied depending on their municipality.

There is mounting evidence that the frequency of these types of events will continue to increase in the future (Climate Futures 2015b, Wallace-Wells 2019), and supporting local businesses to recover from, plan and prepare for impacts of future extreme events will be important in building the resilience of the regions' tourism and agriculture sectors.

Strategies to improve communication during extreme events and planning for increased frequency are outlined in Table 10.7.

Table 10.7. Strategies and actions to improve communication during and in planning for increased frequency of extreme events. Lead organisation will provide the direction for actions, though for many actions funding and resources will be leveraged from external sources in collaboration with support organisations.

Strategy	Actions	Timeline	Roles	Existing resources
5.1 Increase the awareness of support structures for emergency response during and recovery after extreme events	Develop and distribute communications about the legislated responsibilities and communications as outlined in the DVC and CHC emergency management plans	2021-2022	Lead: shared Regional Development Officer and DCP Support: DVC, CHC	DVC and CHC Emergency management Plans
	Facilitate local business access to recovery programs during and following extreme events	2021-2030	Lead: DVC, CHC Support: DCP	RDA Tasmania COVID-19 Principles for Economic Recovery
5.2 Support local businesses to plan and prepare for increased frequency of extreme events	Undertake regional threat assessment of the likely impacts of increased frequency and clustering of extreme events on the tourism and agriculture sectors	2021-2023	Lead: shared Regional Development Officer and DCP Support: DVC, CHC, TFS, Biosecurity Tasmania, Business Tasmania	Climate Future Tasmania
	Support local business to develop business specific preparedness plans for clusters of extreme events	2022- 2030	Lead: shared Regional Development Officer and DCP Support: DVC, CHC, TFS, SES	
5.3 Support local businesses to prepare for increased frequency of extreme events	Provide local businesses with practical information on how to prepare their businesses for extreme events and facilitate their involvement in existing prevention programs	2021-2030	Lead: shared Regional Development Officer and DCP Support: DVC, CHC, TFS, Business Tasmania	DCP flood resilience resources DCP river recovery programs (Ouse and Tyenna Rivers) TFS community fire planning
	Support local business in accessing funding for works to prepare for extreme events	2021-2030	Lead: shared Regional Development Officer and DCP Support: DVC, CHC	

# 11 Monitoring sustainable growth and recovery progress

To monitor the progress of the plan for sustainable growth and recovery of the Derwent and Highlands tourism and agriculture sectors, five- and 10-year key performance indicators (KPIs) have been developed (Table 11.1). These KPIs are aspirational and indicate the state of play when the strategies outlined in this plan have been successfully implemented. Monitoring of the success of the strategies of this plan will be undertaken by the organisations indicated as lead contributors to the actions under each strategy.

**Table 11.1.** KPIs for each of the each of the strategies.

Strategy	KPIs	
Sustainable growth and recovery		
1.1 Develop shared approaches between CHC and DVC to support businesses that operate across municipal boundaries	5-year KPI: Coordination of waste management services for commercial farms and tourism operations on properties that cross municipal boundaries in place	
	10-year KPI: A regional approach to growth and regulation of digital accommodation platforms developed	
1.2 Provide support and incentive for businesses filling identified gaps in tourism and agriculture sectors	5-year KPI: Mechanism for providing support and incentive for businesses filling identified gaps in tourism and agriculture sectors developed between DVC and CHC	
	10-year KPI: Gaps in tourism and agriculture sectors identified in this plan filled	
1.3 Provide support and incentive for tourism initiatives that cater to local travellers e.g. Tasmanian and mainland	5-year KPI: At least 2 regional projects catering for the intra and interstate tourism markets underway	
	10-year KPI: At least 5 regional projects catering for the intra and interstate tourism markets completed	
1.4 Encourage and support information sharing between local businesses	5-year KPI: Regular networking events for local tourism businesses established	
	10-year KPI: Communications and interpretive resources reflecting the diversity of the Derwent and Highlands natural, agriculture and heritage assets developed.	
	5-year KPI: River recovery projects resourced and underway across 5 priority river systems, guided by the Derwent Catchment River Health Plan	
1.5 Develop and resource new and existing cross-tenure programs to address degraded landscape processes	10-year KPI: Cross tenure pasture, fire and wildlife management programs resourced and implemented across the region	

Strategy	KPIs
1.6. Develop local carbon offset investment pathways	5-year KPI: A local carbon-off set investment pathway has been established and there are at least 5 working examples of carbon plantings on farms of the Derwent and Highlands that can be showcased to visitors to the region.
	10-year KPI: Plantings on farms of the Derwent and Highlands are contributing to Tasmania's status as a carbon neutral destination.
1.7 Support the development of Aboriginal tourism and land management initiatives in the Central Highlands	5-year KPI: A partnership underway to facilitate Aboriginal land management cross-tenure
	5-year KPI: Mechanisms established for providing support and incentive for the establishment of tourism initiatives managed by Aboriginal people in the Central Highlands
	10-year KPI: At least 5 Aboriginal tourism and land management initiatives, managed by Aboriginal people, underway in the Central Highlands
1.8 Develop resources to support the Derwent and Highlands tourism sector's adaptation to climate change	5-year KPI: A threat assessment of the likely impacts of climate change on the region's tourism assets undertaken
	5-year KPI: A regional plan for the tourism sectors preparedness for increased frequency of extreme events developed
	10-year KPI: 80% of local tourism businesses have plans in place for their business preparedness for increased frequency of extreme events (see Section 10.4)
1.9 Tailor existing national or statewide resources to support the Derwent and Highlands agriculture sector's adaptation to climate change	5-year KPI: Regional climate change adaption planning has been undertaken to support dryland graziers, dairy and horticultural enterprises
	5-year KPI: 40% of regional producers have undertaken sustainability benchmarking and are implementing plans increase farm sustainability and increase carbon storage
	10-year KPI: 80% of regional producers have undertaken sustainability benchmarking and are implementing plans increase farm sustainability and increase carbon storage

Strategy	KPIs	
Collaborative tourism experience action planning		
2.1 Increase collaboration and communication between CHC and DVC	5-year KPI: A tourism officer shared between CHC and DVC has been employed with resourcing to continue the position for 10 years	
	10-year KPI: Mechanisms in place for CHC and DVC to collaboratively support the development of sustainable tourism across the Derwent and Highlands	
2.2 Ensure up-to-date and relevant communication and interpretive information is available to visitors	5-year KPI: App with information on tourism operators, events, experiences, toilet locations, walking trails, list of heritage properties is available to visitors to the region and is supported by an up-to-date inventory of tourism assets across Derwent and Highlands	
	10-year KPI: Visitor centres at New Norfolk and Bothwell are resourced by full time staff and have access to the up-to-date inventory of tourism assets across Derwent and Highlands	
2.3 Develop collaborative theme-based destination campaigns	5-year KPI: At least 2 theme-based touring routes to showcase regional assets have been established and promoted	
	10-year KPI: 50% of tourism and agricultural businesses are using place- or theme-based collaborative branding	
2.4 Showcase the quality food production and best-practice farming methods of the Derwent and Highlands	5-year KPI: An agri-tourism touring circuit has been developed and promoted 5-year KPI: At least 2 roadside stops with interpretation/information bays focused on agricultural production to promote consumer education have been established along the agri-tourism touring circuit 5-year KPI: A local food network has been established	
	10-year KPI: At least 5 roadside stops with interpretation/information bays focused on agricultural production to promote consumer education have been established along the agri-tourism touring circuit(s)	

Strategy	KPIs
Infrastructure action planning	
3.1 Increased collaboration and resource sharing in tourism infrastructure planning, resourcing and maintenance	5-year KPI: A tourism officer shared between CHC and DVC has been employed with resourcing to continue the position for 10 years
	5-year KPI: At least 1 shared contract for facility maintenance is in place
	10-year KPI: Priority tourism infrastructure has been established through investment leveraged through local partnerships facilitated by the CHC/DVC tourism officer
3.2 Prioritise road safety projects in areas where increased visitation in tourist season impacts on local communities, especially the safety of agriculture workers	5-year KPI: Road safety projects are completed or underway at 3 priority locations
	5-year KPI: A cycle path strategy has been developed for the region
	10-year KPI: Road safety projects are completed or underway at all priority locations and road safety information is available to visitors
3.3 Prioritise infrastructure projects that support tourism within existing local government planning	5-year KPI: Tourism infrastructure projects are completed or underway at 3 priority locations
	10-year KPI: Tourism infrastructure projects are completed or underway at all priority locations
	10-year KPI: All new tourism infrastructure projects include consideration of mobile phone reception, maintenance requirements, impacts on adjacent land tenure and their ability to increase accessibility to tourism experiences for people with disabilities

Strategy	KPIs
Biosecurity action planning	
4.1 Establish a regional approach to addressing biosecurity risks	5-year KPI: A biosecurity working group for the Derwent and Highlands has been established and has completed a regional biosecurity plan that addresses the threat of climate change
	10-year KPI: The Derwent and Highlands biosecurity working group is implementing the regional biosecurity plan.
4.2 Implement and resource the installation of wash- and clean-down facilities for visitors and contractors moving between farms	5-year KPI: Foot clean-down units and vehicle and machinery clean-down facilities have been installed at 25% of the high-risk locations identified in the regional biosecurity plan
	10-year KPI: Foot clean-down units and vehicle and machinery clean-down facilities have been installed at 100% of the high-risk locations identified in the regional biosecurity plan
4.3 Implement and resource regional weed control programs that protect tourism and agricultural assets	5-year KPI: Investment in and spatial scope of cross tenure weed control programs has been expanded by 25%
	10-year KPI: Investment in and spatial scope of cross tenure weed control programs has been expanded by 50%
4.3 Implement and resource the communication and extension components of the regional biosecurity plan	5-year KPI: A regional biosecurity communication and extension program underway
	5-year KPI: 100% of high risk agricultural and tourism business, as identified in the regional biosecurity plan, have been undertaken and are implementing biosecurity plans for their activities
	10-year KPI: 100% of high and medium risk agricultural and tourism business, as identified in the regional biosecurity plan, have been undertaken and are implementing biosecurity plans for their activities

Strategy	KPIs	
Communication during extreme events		
5.1 Increase the awareness of support structures for emergency response during and recovery after extreme events	5-year KPI: Mechanisms in place to increase regional awareness of support structures for emergency response during and recovery after extreme events and access funding during the recovery phase	
	10-year KPI: 50% of local tourism and agricultural business are utilising these mechanisms	
5.2 Support local businesses to plan for increased frequency of extreme events	5-year KPI: 25% of local tourism and agricultural business have developed preparedness plans for increased frequency of extreme events	
	10-year KPI: 50% of local tourism and agricultural business have developed preparedness plans for increased frequency of extreme events	
5.3 Support local businesses to prepare for increased frequency of extreme events	5-year KPI: Mechanisms in place to support local businesses to access funding to implement their preparedness plans	
	10-year KPI: 50% of local tourism and agricultural business are implementing preparedness plans for increased frequency of extreme events	

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Ms Lyn Eyles General Manager Central Highlands Council

Via Email: <a href="mailto:council@centralhighlands.tas.gov.au">council@centralhighlands.tas.gov.au</a>

Dear Ms Eyles

# REQUEST TO AMEND THE SOUTHERN TASMANIAN REGIONAL LAND USE STRATEGY - URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY EXTENSION AT 69 BRIGHTON ROAD

At its January Ordinary Council Meeting, Brighton Council determined to amend the Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy 2010-2035 (STRLUS) to extend the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) over approximately 11.27ha of land at 69 Brighton Road, Brighton.

Largely, the request is a result of the Department of Education (DoE) acquiring 10ha of General Residential zoned land for the new Brighton High School at 33 Elderslie Road – land that was earmarked for residential development.

The Minister for Planning has requested that Brighton Council seek endorsement for this amendment to the STRLUS from all councils within the southern region, in the form of a Council resolution.

Documentation relating to this amendment is enclosed with this letter.

Please advise myself on 0404 996 614 or email: <u>david.allingham@brighton.tas.gov.au</u> whether you foresee any issues with the proposed STRLUS amendment, and when it is likely this proposal can be considered at a Council meeting.

Yours faithfully,

David Allingham

**Manager Development Services** 

Enclosed – Appendix 1: Extract of Ordinary Council Minutes January 2021





# EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE BRIGHTON COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, COUNCIL OFFICES, OLD BEACH AT 5.30 P.M. ON TUESDAY, 19th JANUARY 2021

PRESENT: Cr Foster (Mayor); Cr Curran (Deputy Mayor); Cr Garlick;

Cr Geard; Cr Gray; Cr Jeffries; Cr Murtagh; Cr Owen and

Cr Whelan.

Mr J Dryburgh (General Manager); Mrs J Banks IN ATTENDANCE:

(Governance Manager); Mr D Allingham (Manager Development Services); Mrs G Browne (Corporate

Executive) and Mr P Carroll (Senior Planner).

- 1. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY:**
- 2. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:**
- 2 1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF 15 DECEMBER 2020:

Cr Jeffries moved, Cr Geard seconded that the Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting of 15th December 2020, be confirmed.

CARRIED

### **VOTING RECORD**

#### In favour Against

Cr Curran Cr Foster

Cr Garlick

Cr Geard

Cr Grav

Cr Jeffries

Cr Murtagh

Cr Owen

Cr Whelan

19/01/2021

# 3. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE:

All members were present.

# 4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME AND DEPUTATIONS:

\* Ms Banks addressed Council in relation to Council's policy on kennel licences and the impending application and process for Boarding Kennels in Tea Tree.

## 5. DECLARATION OF INTEREST:

In accordance with Part 5, Section 48 of the *Local Government Act* 1993, the Chairman of a meeting is to request Councillors to indicate whether they have, or are likely to have an interest in any item on the agenda; and

Part 2 Regulation 8 (7) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the Chairman of a meeting is to request Councillors to indicate whether they have, or are likely to have, a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda.

Accordingly, Councillors are requested to advise of any interest they may have in respect to any matter appearing on the agenda, or any supplementary item to the agenda, which the Council has resolved to deal with, in accordance with Part 2 Regulation 8 (6) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

There were no declarations of interest

### 11. COUNCIL ACTING AS PLANNING AUTHORITY:

In accordance with the provisions of Part 2 Regulation 25 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the intention of the Council to act as a Planning Authority pursuant to the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* is to be noted. In accordance with Regulation 25, the Council will act as a planning authority in respect to those matters appearing under Item 11 on this agenda, inclusive of any supplementary items.

# 11.4 SOUTHERN TASMANIA REGIONAL LAND USE STRATEGY – EXTENSION OF URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY AT 69 BRIGHTON ROAD, BRIGHTON:

Type of Report Planning Authority

Address: 69 Brighton Road, Brighton

Requested by: Brighton Council

Proposal: Amend the Regional Land Use Strategy to extend the Urban

growth Boundary over part of 69 Brighton Road

Zone: Rural Resource Zone

Ordinary Council Meeting 19/01/2021

Author:

Manager Development Services (David Allingham) & Senior Planner (Patrick Carroll)

# 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to consider a request to amend the Southern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy (STRLUS) 2010-2035 to extend the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) the part of 69 Brighton Road that is not covered by the Attenuation Area overlay (approximately 11.27ha).
- **1.2.** Largely, the request is a result of the Department of Education (DoE) compulsorily acquiring 10ha of General Residential zoned land at 33 Elderslie Road that was earmarked for residential development for a new Brighton High School
- **1.3.** The existing Jordan River Learning Federation (JRLF) school farm site was Council's preferred site for the new Brighton High School as it was already owned by DoE and all other proposed sites were needed to accommodate residential or recreation growth for the municipality.
- **1.4.** STRLUS and the UGB has not had a significant review since it was first gazetted in 2011. In the subsequent 10 years, rapid growth has put significant pressure on land supply in the municipality, particularly in Brighton.
- **1.5.** State treasury has forecast that the Brighton municipality is predicted to be the fastest growing municipality in Tasmania to 2032 with most of the growth to be located within Brighton. The loss of 10ha of general residential land puts significant pressure on land supply in the Brighton township.
- **1.6.** A land supply analysis predicts that all remaining infill development opportunities will need to be completed to accommodate the growth, which is unrealistic.
- **1.7.** The extension of the UGB over 11.27ha over 69 Brighton Rd is urgently needed and a logical extension of the Brighton township and will effectively replace the 10ha of land compulsorily acquired by DoE.
- **1.8.** In partnership with DoE, Brighton Council have engaged a consultant to prepare a Master Plan over the South Brighton area, which includes 69 Brighton Road. The Master Plan will ensure a thorough planning process and that the new high school development is appropriately integrated into the surrounding residential area.
- **1.9.** To proceed, the request must be considered and supported by the Planning Authority. If supported, a letter will be sent to the Minister for

19/01/2021

Planning to request a STRLUS amendment to extend the UGB.

**1.10.** The proposal is recommended to be supported.

# 2. Legislative & Policy Content

- **2.1.** The Southern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy (STRLUS) was approved by the Minister for Planning on 27 October 2011. The STRLUS was subsequently amended on 1 October 2013, 14 September 2016, 9 May 2018, and 19 February 2020. Most of the amendments to the STRLUS were to provide for minor expansions of the Urban Growth Boundary.
- **2.2.** Under Section 5A of *the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act* 1993 (LUPAA), the Minister must undertake regular and periodic reviews of regional strategies. To date, no broad review has taken place, nor has the process for a review begun.
- **2.3.** The Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) has advised it cannot consider planning scheme amendments that propose to rezone land for suburban densities that is located outside the UGB as shown in STRLUS.
- **2.4.** Since the STRLUS was declared in 2011, Brighton has experienced significant growth. The municipality is starting to experience increasing development pressure on the fringes of Brighton's township, and there have been substantial changes in terms of housing, employment and education. As such, the STRLUS is in urgent need of review.
- **2.5.** Currently, there is no statutory mechanism for either individuals or Planning Authorities to apply to amend the STRLUS.
- **2.6.** The purpose of this report is to enable the Planning Authority to determine whether to support an amendment to the STRLUS.
- **2.7.** The relevant legislation is the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act* 1993 (the Act).

- **2.8.** In the context of land use planning, the STRLUS sets the broad strategic direction for the region as a whole.
- 2.9. The provisions of the Act specifically require all planning schemes to be as far as practicable consistent with the relevant Regional Land Use Strategy. Specifically, pursuant to Section 32(ea) of the Act, before certifying and publicly exhibiting a draft planning scheme amendment, the Planning Authority must be satisfied that the draft amendment is consistent with the Regional Land Use Strategy. Further, pursuant to Section 30O(1) of the Act, the Tasmanian Planning Commission must also be satisfied that a draft amendment is consistent with the Regional Land Use Strategy before approving the amendment.
- **2.10.** As the land at 69 Brighton Road is outside the existing Urban Growth Boundary within the STRLUS, any application to rezone the land to an urban zoning would be inconsistent with the STRLUS, and as such, a planning scheme amendment of this nature could not be approved.

# 3. Reviewing and Amending the Regional Land Use Strategies

- **3.1.** As no thorough review of STRLUS has commenced and there is no statutory mechanism for it to be amended by an individual or planning authority, the Planning Policy Unit has prepared an Information Sheet¹ (see Attachment A), which provides guidance on when and under what circumstances the regional land use strategies are reviewed and amended. It also provides information on the requirements and process for reviewing and considering amendments to the regional land use strategies.
- **3.2.** The Information Sheet specifies the following minimum information requirements to support an amendment request:
  - All requests for an amendment to a regional land use strategy should first be directed to the relevant local planning authority or regional body representing the local planning authorities in the region.
  - All draft amendments to a regional land use strategy should be submitted in writing to the Minister for Planning by the relevant local planning authority or regional body representing the local planning authorities in the region.
  - The supporting documentation should include details on why the amendment is being sought to the regional land use strategy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Department of Justice (2019) *Information Sheet RLUS 1 – Reviewing and Amending the Regional Land Use Strategies.* Hobart, Tasmania.

 $<sup>\</sup>underline{https://www.planningreform.tas.gov.au/\_\_data/assets/pdf\_file/0004/456961/Information-Sheet-RLUS-1-Reviewing-and-amending-the-Regional-Land-Use-....pdf}$ 

- The supporting documentation should include appropriate justification for any strategic or policy changes being sought and demonstrate how the proposed amendment:
  - (a) furthers the Schedule 1 objectives of LUPAA;
  - (b) is in accordance with State Policies made under section 11 of the State Policies and Project Act 1993;
  - (c) is consistent with the Tasmanian Planning Policies, once they are made; and
  - (d) meets the overarching strategic directions and related policies in the regional land use strategy.
- **3.3.** The Information Sheet also recommends that written endorsement for the proposed change is sought from all planning authorities in the relevant region as well as all relevant State Service agencies.
- **3.4.** Where an amendment seeks to modify an UGB the following additional supporting information should also be required:
  - 1. Justification for any additional land being required beyond that already provided for under the existing regional land use strategy. This analysis should include the current population growth projections prepared by the Department of Treasury and Finance.
  - 2. Analysis and justification of the potential dwelling yield for the proposed additional area of land.
  - 3. Analysis of land consumption (i.e. land taken up for development) since the regional land use strategy was declared.
  - 4. Justification for any additional land being located in the proposed area, considering the suitability of the area in terms of access to existing physical infrastructure, public transport, and activity centres that provide social services, retail and employment opportunities.
  - 5. Consideration of appropriate sequencing of land release within the local area and region.
  - 6. Consideration of any targets for infill development required by the regional land use strategy.
  - 7. Potential for land use conflicts with use and development on adjacent land that might arise from the proposed amendment.
- **3.5.** Additionally, the following matters must be considered if an amendment is proposed to a regional land use strategy to develop 'greenfield' land:

- 1. How the amendment accords with the other strategic directions and policies in the relevant regional land use strategy.
- 2. Impacts on natural values, such as threatened native vegetation communities, threatened flora and fauna species, wetland and waterway values, and coastal values.
- 3. Impacts on cultural values, such as historic heritage values, Aboriginal heritage values and scenic values.
- 4. The potential loss of agricultural land from Tasmania's agricultural estate (including but not limited to prime agricultural land and land within irrigation districts) or land for other resource-based industries (e.g. extractive industries).
- 5. The potential for land use conflicts with adjoining land, such as agricultural land and nearby agricultural activities, other resource-based industries (e.g. forestry and extractive industries) and industrial land taking into account future demand for this land.
- 6. Risks from natural hazards, such as bushfire, flooding, coastal erosion and coastal inundation, and landslip hazards.
- 7. Risks associated with potential land contamination.
- 8. The potential for impacts on the efficiency of the State and local road networks (including potential impacts/compatibility with public transport and linkages with pedestrian and cycle ways), and the rail network (where applicable).
- **3.6.** The following sections address the matters that are covered by the abovementioned legislative requirement.

# 4. Risk & Implications

- **4.1.** Approval or refusal of this request will have no direct financial implications for the Planning Authority.
- **4.2.** As noted in the body of the report, refusing the request may result in a shortage of appropriately zoned residential land in the medium to long term.

### 5. Site Detail

**5.1.** The proposed area to be added to the Urban Growth Boundary is the northern portion of 69 Brighton Road, Brighton. The area encompasses all land to the north of the existing Bridgewater Industrial Precinct Attenuation Area.

- **5.2.** The total area of 69 Brighton Road measures 24.59ha. However, the area proposed to be relocated within the Urban Growth Boundary (i.e. the area shown in red in Figure 1) measures approximately 11.27ha.
- **5.3.** The site sits approximately 388m to the south of Elderslie Road, and immediately to the west of Brighton Road.
- **5.4.** The site is within close proximity to the Brighton commercial precinct and Brighton Industrial Estate and is located on an existing bus route along Brighton Rd.
- **5.5.** The adjoining property at 1 Elderslie Road has recently been sold to the Department of Education. 1 Elderslie Road has been announced as the location of the future Brighton High School site, which is due to open in 2025.
- **5.6.** 69 Brighton Road is currently zoned Rural Resource under the *Brighton Interim Planning Scheme 2015*. The site is immediately adjacent to both 1 Elderslie Road and 33 Elderslie Road, both of which sit within the Urban Growth Boundary.
- **5.7.** 1 Elderslie Road has an area of 10ha, and is shown in yellow on Figure 1 below.



Figure 1: 69 Brighton Rd is shown in red and 1 Elderslie Rd shown in yellow.

5.8. 1 Elderslie Road is currently situated within the Urban Growth Boundary. However, as the land has been sold to the Department of Education and nominated as the future high school site, this 10ha parcel will now be unavailable for future residential development.

# 6. Proposal

**6.1.** The existing UGB is shown on Map 10 of the STRLUS and the area over Brighton is reproduced in Figure 2.

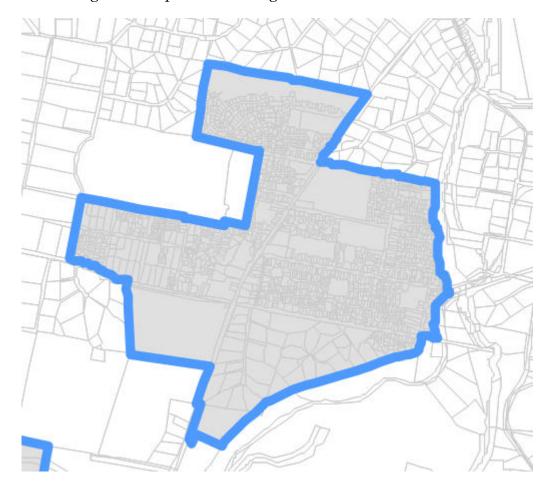
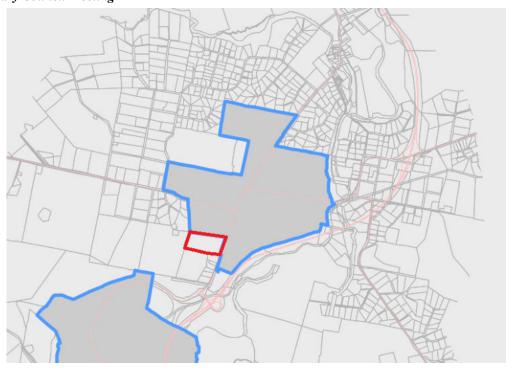


Figure 2: Existing UGB over Brighton

- **6.2.** It is proposed that the STRLUS be amended by expanding the UGB by approximately 11.27ha to include part of 69 Brighton Road. The proposed area to be added to the UGB is shown bound in red in Figure 3.
- **6.3.** No planning scheme amendment, subdivision or development applications are requested at this time. However, a Master Plan is being prepared for 69 Brighton Rd and the surrounding South Brighton Development Precinct.
- **6.4.** The landowner has provided a consent for the UGB expansion (Attachment B)



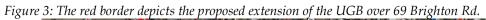




Figure 4: The proposed extension UGB extension over 69 Brighton Rd is shown in red.

# 7. Relevant Background

- 7.1. South Brighton has long been earmarked as a residential growth option and is identified as a Greenfield Development Precinct in the STRLUS and the Brighton Local Area Plan 2012 (BLAP 2012). A key action in the BLAP 2012 is to prepare a Specific Area Plan for the South Brighton Greenfield Development Precinct ("the Development Precinct") in the short/medium term.
- **7.2.** In early 2020, the Department of Education (DoE) announced that a new \$30 million high school will be built in Brighton, providing state of the art learning facilities for Years 7-12. The site chosen for the Brighton High School is 10 hectares of land within the Greenfield Development Precinct on the corner of Elderslie and Brighton Road (now 1 Elderslie Rd).
- **7.3.** Prior to the announcement, Brighton Council advocated for the Brighton High School to be located on the existing DoE owned Jordan river Learning federation school farm site in central Brighton as all other potential sites were needed to accommodate residential or recreation growth for the municipality.
- **7.4.** The loss of 10 hectares of land within the Greenfield Development Precinct puts significant pressure on land supply in the Brighton township.
- **7.5.** The extension of the UGB over 11.27ha over 69 Brighton Rd will effectively replace the 10ha of land compulsorily acquired by DoE and is a logical extension of the Brighton township.
- **7.6.** In June 2020, Brighton Council, in partnership with DoE, have engaged a consultant to prepare a Master Plan for the South Brighton Development Precinct, which includes the land at 69 Brighton Road (See Figure 5 below). The objective of the Master Plan is:

"To develop a comprehensive Master Plan for South Brighton which will guide the development of an attractive gateway neighbourhood which seamlessly integrates the new Brighton High School."

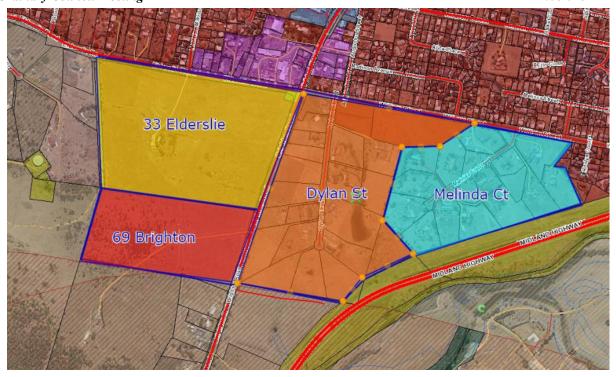


Figure 5: The South Brighton Development Precinct Master Plan area.

7.7. At the time of writing, the consultant had completed an infrastructure feasibility for the area and aboriginal heritage surveys and natural values assessments had been commissioned.

# 8. Planning Assessment

### 8.1. Southern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy

## 8.1.1 Greater Hobart Residential Strategy

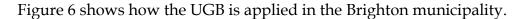
STRLUS provides for a Greater Hobart Residential Strategy to provide for greater efficiency in the use of land through balancing the ratio of greenfield to infill development.

While there are sufficient infill opportunities within existing residential areas in Greater Hobart to accommodate forecast demand, there are many barriers to overcome if a 100% infill policy would be adopted.

The Strategy proceeds based on a 50/50 ratio of greenfield to infill scenario with a minimum net density of 15 dwelling per hectare. Residential growth will be primarily managed through an UGB that will set the physical extent for a 20-year supply of residential land for the metropolitan area.

Also, to be included within the UGB is land for other urban purposes (i.e. commercial and industrial development) as well as pockets of open space and recreational land that assist in providing urban amenity.

# 8.1.2 Brighton Context



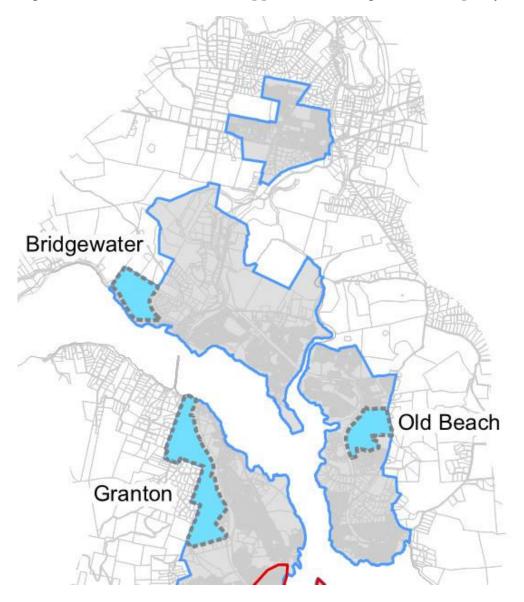


Figure 6: The STRLUS UGB over the Brighton municipality.

Policy SRD 2.3 provides greenfield land for residential purposes across nine Greenfield Development Precincts within the greater Hobart area. Three of these are within the Brighton municipality:

- Bridgewater North
- Brighton South
- Gagebrook/Old Beach

The Brighton South Greenfield Development Precinct was annotated Map 10 in the 2011 gazetted version of STRLUS, but the annotation was removed in the amended 2013 version for unknown reasons.

Regardless, the Brighton South Greenfield Development Precinct at 33 Elderslie Road was zoned to residential in 2009 but has never been developed. 10ha of this land has now been acquired by DoE for the Brighton High School.

The majority of the Gagebrook/Old Beach Greenfield Development Precinct has now been rezoned to General Residential with the Tivoli Green Specific Area Plan overlay which provides for 566 lots. There is a further 15.4ha of land across three parcels that is still zoned Future Urban.

The Bridgewater North Precinct is also zoned Future Urban, but is considered to be poorly located and has poor access to services. In regard to the Bridgewater North Precinct, the BSP 2018 states:

Given that it is currently isolated from other residential zoning development, its development for urban purposes may only be a long term prospect if land to the east is developed for similar purposes.

The potential development of a light rail stop at Bridgewater would provide a catalyst for development. Given that it represents the only viable growth direction for Bridgewater, its zoning should be retained.

Policy SRD 2.7 requires residential infill growth to be distributed across the existing urban areas for the 25 year planning period, with 15%, or 1987 dwellings, to be accommodated within the Brihgton minicipality UGB.

8.2 Justification for any additional land being required beyond that already provided for under the existing regional land use strategy. This analysis should include the current population growth projections prepared by the Department of Treasury and Finance.

# 8.2.1 Brighton Land supply

A review of current lot supply in Brighton was undertaken in December 2020 (see attachment C). The review is comprised of the most significant subdivisions/land holdings and is completed to provide an indication of residential land availability. It does not account for all available lots or minor infill subdivision and on this basis underrepresents the number lots actually available, or readily subdividable within the UGB. However, the STRLUS acknowledges that there are many barriers to infill development and that is why it uses a 50/50 ratio of greenfield to infill development.

In summary, there are currently 1,499 potential infill lots that are already zoned General Residential. This includes 726 lots that are located within the Gagebrook/Old Beach and South Brighton Greenfield Development Precincts that have already been rezoned. It does not include the 10ha acquired for the new Brighton High School.

There is also potential for 735 greenfield lots within the Bridgewater North and Gagebrook/Old Beach Greenfield Development Precincts that is currently zoned Future Urban. Although, as noted above, the Bridgewater North Precinct is isolated and remains a long-term prospect.

Accordingly, there are a total of 2,234 lots in Brighton municipality (1,499 infill and 735 greenfield) that are either approved or could be approved and able to be released in coming years. Only 599 of these are within the Brighton township.

The Tasmanian Department of Treasury and Finance (Treasury) population projections in 2019 expect Brighton Local Government Area (LGA) to be the fastest growing LGA in Tasmania in percentage terms with an expected population gain of 33.4%, or 5,754 people, by 2042. This is an average growth rate of 1.18% per annum.

Analysis undertaken for the Brighton Structure Plan 2018 (BSP 2018) predicts considerably stronger population growth of 7,040 people by 2033 (Based on a 2% growth scenario).

The BSP predicts that 43% of the growth will be accommodated within the suburbs of Brighton and Pontville at a growth rate of 2.7% per annum, or an increase of 3,040 people by 2033 (or 2,465 people by 2042 under the Treasury scenario.

Using ABS data of 2.6 people per household this equates to a demand of 2,213 dwellings by 2042 under the Treasury scenario and 2,708 dwellings by 2033 under the BSP scenario.

This existing supply just satisfies the 20 year supply from Treasury the Treasury projections, but would require ALL infill development opportunities to proceed. The existing supply is well short of the BSP scenario.

Under the BSP scenario for 43% of growth to be accommodated in Brighton township, there will be a shortage of 351 dwellings under the Treasury scenario or 565 dwellings under the BSP scenario.

Of further concern is the release of land in Brighton municipality has generally been slow. Only 309 of potential lots are currently approved and this includes 77 lot subdivision at Plymouth Rd, Gagebrook which hasn't sold a single lot since it was approved in 2006.

Brighton township is expected to accommodate the most growth, but there are only 99 approved lots, 64 of which are in the Army Camp and are likely to be released in early 2021.

A further issue is the isolated location of the Bridgewater North Precinct (approximately 600 lots) and whether the General Residential Zone would even be appropriate in this area.

The loss of 10ha of General Residential land for the use of the Brighton High School has put significant pressure on the land supply within the Brighton township. However, this can be logically replaced on the adjoining land at 69 Brighton Road if the UGB is extended.

# 8.2.2 Brighton Structure Plan 2018

In addition to Council's own lot supply analysis is that undertaken in the BSP 2018.

Whilst the BSP is not a legislative requirement under the Act, it does represent orderly and sound strategic planning direction for the Brighton municipal area.

The BSP acts as a guide for major changes to land use, built form and public spaces that together can achieve identified economic, social and environmental objectives for Brighton.

Strategy 1 from the BSP is relevant to this proposal:

Strategy 1: Review the Urban Growth Boundary.

Based on an analysis of land availability and projected population growth for Brighton, the Structure Plan states that there is inadequate land within the existing Urban Growth Boundary to accommodate Brighton's long term housing needs.

The Structure Plan identifies that 58.2ha of additional land will be needed to meet the required demand within the life of the Structure Plan. It should be noted that the Structure Plan was written in 2018, prior to the Department of Education announcing its plans to develop a high school on the 10ha parcel at 1 Elderslie Road. As noted above, the 10ha of land sits immediately to the north of 69 Brighton Road, and within the existing Urban Growth Boundary.

By removing the 10ha of land acquired by the Department of Education from land to be developed at urban densities, essentially Brighton needs 68.2 ha of additional urban land to meet the projected demand.

The proposed extension of the Urban Growth Boundary would provide for 11.27ha of the 68.2ha, should the land be rezoned and developed in the future.

The Structure Plan recommends that 69 Brighton Road be considered as a primary urban growth option (p.53). It also recommends the Urban Growth

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Boundary be extended to encompass new greenfield development precincts – i.e. the land at 69 Brighton Road (p.44).

The proposed amendment is considered to be consistent with the relevant strategies and actions from the Structure Plan.

# 8.3 Analysis and justification of the potential dwelling yield for the proposed additional area of land.

Council in partnership with DoE has engaged a consultant to undertake an infrastructure feasibility and prepare a Master Plan for the South Brighton Development Precinct.

Figure 7 shows an early concept sketch for 69 Brighton Rd and how it might be developed. The concept sketch shows a dwelling yield of approximately 123.

If the land was developed at 15 dwelling per hectare, as required for greenfield developments under STRLUS, then the dwelling yield will be approximately 169. However, a threatened vegetation community has been identified on the upper western slope and this area may not be developable.

In summary, it is likely that the dwelling yield on 69 Brighton Road will be between 120 and 170 dwellings.



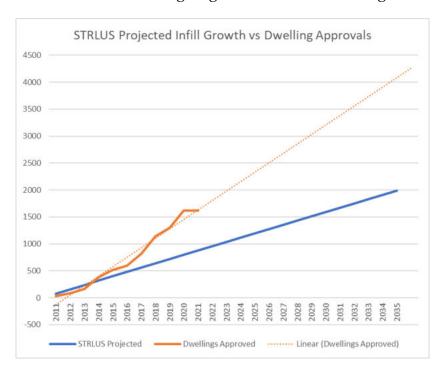
Figure 7: Concept sketch for 69 Brighton Rd (Source: GHD, 2019)

19/01/2021

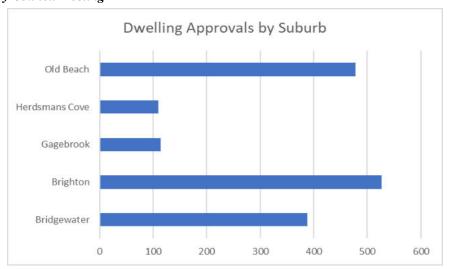
8.4 Analysis of land consumption (i.e. land taken up for development) since the regional land use strategy was declared.

STRLUS identifies that 1,987 dwellings should be accommodated as infill growth within the Brighton municipality over the 25 year planning period. Using Council's development approvals database, it has been estimated that approximately 1,618 dwellings have been constructed on brownfield sites since the STRLUS was gazetted in 27 October 2011. The results have been filtered to ensure that only dwelling approvals within the UGB (excluding Greenfield Development Precincts) have been included.

It is only 10 years into 25 year planning period and the Brighton Council has already achieved 81% of its infill target (see Graph 1). Graph 2 confirms that the strongest growth is within the Brighton township.



Graph 1: STRLUS projected infill growth vs actual development approvals.



Graph 2: Dwelling approvals within UGB by suburb since 27 October 2011.

Additionally, DoE compulsorily acquired 10ha of General Residential zoned land at 33 Elderslie Rd, Brighton (now 1 Elderslie Rd) for the new Brighton High School.

It is acknowledged that land within the UGB will include land for urban purposes, however 33 Elderslie Road has always been earmarked for residential development. For this reason, Brighton Council's preferred high school site was on the existing JRLF school farm site which was already owned by DoE and zoned appropriately. Arguably a school farm is not an urban use and does not belong in the UGB.

STRLUS identified three greenfield sites within Brighton. Two of these have now been rezoned and the other with poor proximity to services and a long term prospect.

Other than 15ha balance of the Old Beach Greenfield Development Precinct (6ha of which is waterway), there is effectively no well-located greenfield land remaining in the Brighton municipality. Of particular concern is the lack of land available within the Brighton township.

8.5 Justification for any additional land being located in the proposed area, considering the suitability of the area in terms of access to existing physical infrastructure, public transport, and activity centres that provide social services, retail and employment opportunities.

As previously mentioned, 69 Brighton Road has been included in a master planning process being undertaken on behalf of Brighton and DoE.

The site will obviously have excellent access to the adjoining high school facility and the master planning process will ensure that there is strong connectivity to the surrounding neighbourhood.

The site has excellent frontage to Brighton Road which is an existing public transport corridor and there is an opportunity to provide a new bus stop once the land is developed. Footpaths and bike lanes will be extended from the corner of Elderslie Road along Brighton Rd to the roundabout to the south. This will provide excellent connectivity to the Brighton township activity centre to the north and the Brighton Industrial Estate to the south.

The Brighton activity centre provides a range of social services and employment opportunities. The Industrial Estate is also a major employer in the municipality and has significant growth potential. The Highway Services Precinct at 40 Brighton Road (opposite 69 Brighton Road) provides further employment opportunities. An extension of the Brighton activity centre into the Master Plan area is also being considered.

There are some major infrastructure upgrades required, however the consultants have prepared a draft infrastructure feasibility study to ensure the most cost-effective outcomes can be achieved.

# 8.6 Consideration of appropriate sequencing of land release within the local area and region.

As noted above, the supply of land in the Brighton local area is unlikely to meet forecast demand even with the extension of the UGB over 69 Brighton Road. The Master Plan process will look at the staged release of land in the area.

# 8.7 Consideration of any targets for infill development required by the regional land use strategy.

See section 8.4 above. Brighton is likely to achieve its infill development target well before the 25 year planning period.

# 8.8 Potential for land use conflicts with use and development on adjacent land that might arise from the proposed amendment.

The proposal is to extend the UGB over 69 Brighton Road to the edge of the Boral Quarry and Industrial Precinct Attenuation areas. As the land is located outside the Attenuation Areas, the land is not subject to the controls of the Attenuation Code. Regardless, Council has received a letter of support from Mineral Resources Tasmania (MRT) for the extension of the UGB to the edge of the buffer (see attached).

The land to the north and west are zoned for residential use and no land use conflicts are likely to occur. Land to the south is zoned Rural Resource, but these are smaller lots established by residential use and is a pseudo rural-living area. The land to the west is zoned Rural Resource and used for dryland grazing. A buffer to this land can be incorporated into the Master Plan and may be required anyway due to threatened vegetation.

8.9 How the amendment accords with the other strategic directions and policies in the relevant regional land use strategy.

The relevant STRLUS strategic policies and corresponding comments demonstrating how the proposal is consistent with STRLUS are listed in the table below.

Policy	Comment
BNV 1.1	See section 8.10 below
Manage and protect significant native vegetation at the earliest possible stage of the land use planning process.	
Where possible, avoid applying zones that provide for intensive use or development to areas that retain biodiversity values that are to be recognised and protected by the planning scheme.	
BNV 2.1	See section 8.10 below
Avoid the clearance of threatened native vegetation communities except:	
a. where the long-term social and economic benefit arising from the use and development facilitated by the clearance outweigh the environmental benefit of retention; and	
b. where the clearance will not significantly detract from the conservation of that threatened native vegetation community.	

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BNV 2.2	See section 8.10 below
Minimise clearance of native vegetation communities that provide habitat for threatened species.	
BNV 2.3	See section 8.10 below
Advise potential applicants of the requirements of the Threatened Species Protection Act 1995 and their responsibilities under the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999	
MRH 1.1	See section 8.14 below
Provide for the management and mitigation of bushfire risk at the earliest possible stage of the land use planning process (rezoning or if no rezoning required; subdivision) by the identification and protection (in perpetuity) of buffer distances or through the design and layout of lots.	
CV 1.3	See section 8.11 below
Avoid the allocation of land use growth opportunities in areas where Aboriginal cultural heritage values are known to exist.	
ROS 1.5	Open space and connectivity to the site will be considered
Provide for residential areas, open spaces and other community destinations that are well connected with a network of high quality walking and cycling routes.	through the master planning process for the site and surrounds.

### SI 1.2

Match location and delivery of social infrastructure with the needs of the community and, where relevant, in sequence with residential land release.

The need for social infrastructure will be considered through the master planning process for the site and surrounds.

#### SI 1.3

Provide social infrastructure that is well located and accessible in relation to residential development, public transport services, employment and education opportunities.

See section 8.5 above

### SI 1.4

Identify and protect sites for social infrastructure, particularly in high social dependency areas, targeted urban growth areas (both infill and greenfield) and in identified Activity Centres.

The need for the UGB expansion is a result of identifying the need for a high school on residential land.

### SI 1.6

Co-locate and integrate community facilities and services to improve service delivery, and form accessible hubs and focus points for community activity, in a manner consistent with the Activity Centre hierarchy.

The need for social infrastructure will be considered through the master planning process for the site and surrounds. Opportunities for partnerships with the new High School will also be considered.

### SI 1.8

Provide for the aged to continue living within their communities, and with their families, for as long as possible by providing appropriate options and flexibility within the planning scheme.

The owner of the site has indicated they are interested in providing aged care on the site and this will be considered as part of the master planning process.

### PI 1.1

Preference growth that utilises under-capacity of existing infrastructure through the regional settlement strategy and Urban Growth Boundary for metropolitan area of Greater Hobart.

New infrastructure (e.g. sewer pump station) is already required to service much of the South Brighton Development Precinct. 69 Brighton Road will be able to utilise this infrastructure making it more efficient.

### PI 2

Plan, coordinate and deliver physical infrastructure and servicing in a timely manner to support the regional settlement pattern and specific growth management strategies. A draft Infrastructure Feasibility Study has been prepared for the South Brighton Development Precinct Area to ensure that infrastructure is delivered in a coordinated and efficient manner.

### **LUTI 1.1**

Give preference to urban expansion that is in physical proximity to existing transport corridors and the higher order Activity Centres rather than Urban Satellites or dormitory suburbs.

69 Brighton Rd is on a public transport corridor and within 700m of the Brighton Activity centre.

### **LUTI 1.4**

Consolidate residential development outside of Greater Hobart into key settlements where the daily and weekly needs of residents are met.

# See above comment

## **LUTI 1.6**

Maximise road connections between existing and potential future roads with new roads proposed as part of the design and layout of subdivision. Maximising road connectivity is being considered as part of the master planning process.

anca meeting	
LUTI 1.11	See section 8.5 above.
Encourage walking and cycling as alternative modes of transport through the provision of suitable infrastructure and developing safe, attractive and convenient walking and cycling environments.	
PR 1.2	See section 8.12 below
Avoid potential for further fettering from residential development by setting an acceptable solution buffer distance of 200 metres from the boundary of the Agriculture Zone, within which the planning scheme is to manage potential for land use conflict.	
IA 1.2	See section 8.8 above.
Locate new industrial areas away from sensitive land uses such as residentially zoned land.	
SRD 1.1	See sections 8.1 & 8.2 above
Implement the Regional Settlement Strategy and associated growth management strategies through the planning scheme.	
SRD 1.2	The proposal to extend the UGB
Manage residential growth in District Centres, District Towns and Townships through a hierarchy of planning processes as follows:	is addressing point 1 and the master planning process that has commenced for the site and surrounds addresses point 2.
1. Strategy (regional function & growth scenario);	

<ul><li>2. Settlement Structure Plans (including identification of settlement boundaries);</li><li>3. Subdivision Permit;</li><li>4. Use and Development Permit.</li></ul>	
SRD 1.5  Encourage land zoned General Residential to be developed at a minimum of 15 dwellings per hectare (net density).	15 dwellings/ha will be the aim for 69 Brighton Rd.
SRD 2  Manage residential growth for Greater Hobart on a whole of settlement basis and in a manner that balances the needs for greater sustainability, housing choice and affordability.	See Sections 8.1 – 8.7.

8.10 Impacts on natural values, such as threatened native vegetation communities, threatened flora and fauna species, wetland and waterway values, and coastal values.

A flora and fauna, desktop assessment and site visit have been undertaken for the site. No state-listed threatened native vegetation communities (under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002*) are mapped as occurring on the site. However, a patch of Lowland grassland complex (GCL) occurs (see Figure 8) and are critically endangered ecological community listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBCA).



Figure 8: Map showing location of Lowland grassland complex (GCL) (Source: GHD Flora & Fauna Assessment)

The landowner has engaged a consultant to undertake a more thorough site assessment in coming months so that the grassland communities can be more thoroughly mapped. The more detailed study will inform the Master Planning process and be provided as any future rezoning proposal.

8.11 Impacts on cultural values, such as historic heritage values, Aboriginal heritage values and scenic values.

An aboriginal heritage consultant has been engaged as part of the master planning process and is expected to have a report completed by March 2021.

An initial Dial-Before-You-Dig did not identify any registered Aboriginal relics or apparent risks of impacting Aboriginal relics.

8.12 The potential loss of agricultural land from Tasmania's agricultural estate (including but not limited to prime agricultural land and land within irrigation districts) or land for other resource-based industries (e.g. extractive industries).

The agricultural potential was reviewed as part of the preparation of the Brighton draft Local Provisions Schedule (LPS). The following comments were provided by the agricultural consultant in regard to 69 Brighton Rd and surrounds:

Rural Zone is appropriate for these titles. Most of the titles west of Brighton Rd have existing dwellings on them. While the largest title is 25ha in area, it has an existing dwelling, is steeply sloped, has a relatively poor Land Capability, no irrigation resources and is poorly connected to land that it would likely be farmed in conjunction with. To the north of these titles is land zoned General Residential. While the title to the west is zoned Rural Resource and is around 30ha in area, it has an existing dwelling and also appears to have limited ag potential due to Land Capability, slope and adjacent constraints.

- 69 Brighton Road is not significant agricultural land.
- 8.13 The potential for land use conflicts with adjoining land, such as agricultural land and nearby agricultural activities, other resource-based industries (e.g. forestry and extractive industries) and industrial land taking into account future demand for this land.

See Section 8.8 above.

8.14 Risks from natural hazards, such as bushfire, flooding, coastal erosion and coastal inundation, and landslip hazards.

The only applicable land use hazard is bushfire and the land is within the bushfire overlay. The bushfire risk will be considered as part of the Master Planning process.

8.15 Risks associated with potential land contamination.

There is no land contamination risk.

8.16 The potential for impacts on the efficiency of the State and local road networks (including potential impacts/compatibility with public transport and linkages with pedestrian and cycle ways), and the rail network (where applicable).

A feasibility study has been prepared as part of the Master planning process. The study identifies that roundabouts are likely to be required at the Brighton Rd/Elderslie Rd/William St intersection and the Brighton Rd/Hove Way intersection with a new connection to 69 Brighton Rd.

Pedestrian cycling linkages will need to be constructed along Brighton Rd and throughout the development and a new bus stop along the Brighton Rd frontage can be accommodated.

## 8.17 RMPS Objectives

The objectives of the Resource Management and Planning System must be furthered by the rezoning request.

- (a) to promote the sustainable development of natural and physical resources and the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity; and
  - The request will provide for the sustainable development of a compact township and the master planning process will consider how best to manage an identified threatened vegetation community.
- (b) to provide for the fair, orderly and sustainable use and development of air, land and water; and
  - The request continues to provide for fair, orderly and sustainable use and development of air, land and water.
- (c) to encourage public involvement in resource management and planning; and

There is no formal public exhibition process for requests of this nature. However, the public has had significant involvement in resource management and planning within Brighton over the last five years, through the public consultation for the *Brighton Interim Planning Scheme* 2015, the preparation of the *Brighton Structure Plan* 2018, and through the public consultation periods for the preparation of Brighton's Local Provisions Schedule for the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme*.

The request is for a minor expansion of the Urban Growth Boundary, and is considered to be relatively minor.

Once the STRLUS is formally reviewed in full, the public will again have the opportunity to provide additional comment, demonstrating public involvement through the Resource Management and Planning System in Tasmania.

- (d) to facilitate economic development in accordance with the objectives set out in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c); and
  - The request, if successful, will help facilitate future amendments of the planning scheme to urban densities. Assuming the land is rezoned at some point in the future, there will likely be substantial urban development, which will stimulate the construction economy.
- (e) to promote the sharing of responsibility for resource management and planning between the different spheres of Government, the community and industry in the State.

The proposed request will require the consideration of the Brighton's Planning Authority, all other southern region Planning Authorities and of the Minister for Planning, which will include the involvement of and consultation with various sections and agencies of the Tasmanian Government.

Other local planning authorities within the region will also be formally consulted with as part of the process.

The proposed Planning Scheme Amendment as it relates to the Objectives

### of Part 2 of Schedule 1 of LUPAA is discussed below:

- (a) to require sound strategic planning and co-ordinated action by State and local government;
  - The report demonstrates that the proposal is consistent with the *Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy* 2010-2035, *Brighton Structure Plan* 2018 and the *Brighton Council Strategic Plan* 2015-2025.
- (b) to establish a system of planning instruments to be the principal way of setting objectives, policies and controls for the use, development and protection of land.
  - The proposal has been submitted in accordance with "Information Sheet RLUS 1 Reviewing and amending the Regional Land Use Strategies".
- (c) to ensure that the effects on the environment are considered and provide for explicit consideration of social and economic effects when decisions are made about the use and development of land; and
  - See section 8.10 and 8.5 of this report.
- (d) to require land use and development planning and policy to be easily integrated with environmental, social, economic, conservation and resource management policies at State, regional and municipal levels; and
  - The proposal does not conflict with this objective and is consistent with State, regional and local planning policies and strategies.
- (e) to provide for the consolidation of approvals for land use or development and related matters, and to co-ordinate planning approvals with related approvals; and
  - This objective is not directly relevant to the current matter.
- (f) to secure a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreational environment for all Tasmanians and visitors to Tasmania; and
  - The site forms part of a broader master planning process which will provide the necessary planning controls to provide for a liveable neighbourhood.
- (g) to conserve those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value; and
  - The site and adjoining land are not known to contain any items or places of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historic interest.

(h) to protect public infrastructure and other assets and enable the orderly provision and co-ordination of public utilities and other facilities for the benefit of the community; and

An Infrastructure Feasibility study is being prepared to provide for coordinated delivery of public utilities.

(i) to provide a planning framework which fully considers land capability. See section 8.12 of this report.

### 8.18 State Policies

# 8.18.1 State Coastal Policy 1996

The *State Coastal Policy 1996* applies to land within 1 km of the highwater mark. The subject land is more than 1km from the high-water mark and this policy does not apply.

# 8.18.2 State Policy on the Protection of Agricultural Land 2009

The State Policy on the Protection of Agricultural Land 2009 protects Prime Agricultural Land (Land Capability Classes 1, 2, and 3). The land is not considered to be Prime Agricultural Land.

# 8.18.3 The State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997

The State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997 applies but is more relevant to individual developments.

## 8.19 Tasmanian Planning Policies

The Tasmanian Planning Policies have not been made.

# 8.20 Brighton Council Strategic Plan 2019-2029

The proposed amendment is consistent with the below relevant strategies from the *Brighton Council Strategic Plan* 2019-2029<sup>2</sup>:

- *S1.2: Create Housing/Employment/Play/Education (Liveability)*
- S1.5: Build a resilient community and environmentally sustainable future.
- S2.1: A focus on Agriculture/Horticulture/Aquaculture (Food)
- S3.1: Support 30% Growth Target
- S4.4: Long-term thinking & evidence-based

The proposed amendment does not conflict with any of Council's strategies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Brighton Council (2019) *Brighton Council Strategic Plan 2019-2029*. <a href="https://www.brighton.tas.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Brighton-Strategy-on-a-page-2019-29.pdf">https://www.brighton.tas.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Brighton-Strategy-on-a-page-2019-29.pdf</a>

#### 8.21 Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy 2010-2035

As required under s.32(1)(ea) the proposed amendment must be, as far as practicable, consistent with regional land use strategies. In southern Tasmania, the relevant regional land use strategy is the *Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy* 2010-2035 (STRLUS).

Consistency with STRLUS is demonstrated at section 8.9 of this report.

#### 9 Consultation

#### 9.1 Technical Reference Group

Council has advised the Southern Technical Reference Group (TRG), which is a regional body representing the local planning authorities in the Southern Region, of its intention to pursue the amendment of the STRLUS. Senior Strategic Planners from all southern region Councils sit on TRG. Informally, members of the group were asked if it were likely that their Council would object to the proposed amendment. Whilst no objections were made, one member stated that the decision would be referred to their planning authority.

Should Council determine to support the recommendation, it is understood that the Minister for Planning will formally contact all Councils within the region for their comment on the proposal.

#### 9.2 Planning Policy Unit

Council has consulted with the Planning Policy Unit regarding the proposed amendment.

#### 9.3 Public Exhibition

The request to amend the Regional Land Use Strategy has not been publicly exhibited. There is no statutory requirement to do so.

#### 9.4 Other

- **9.4.1** Council has obtained letters of support from the Department of State Growth, Mineral Resources Tasmania, and a planning consultant acting on behalf of the previous land owner.
- **9.4.2** Consultants have prepared a draft Infrastructure Feasibility study for the South Brighton Development Precinct and have engaged with infrastructure providers throughout this process to gain an understanding of the infrastructure needs for the area.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

The proposal to amend STRLUS to extend the UGB over 69 Brighton Road has become critical since 10ha of land at 1 Elderslie Rd earmarked for residential development was compulsorily acquired by DoE for the new Brighton High School.

19/01/2021

This report demonstrates that the rapid growth in the Brighton municipality since STRLUS was gazetted in 2011 has strained land supply, particularly in the Brighton township.

Treasury population projections predict that Brighton will be the fastest growing municipality to 2042 and the land supply analysis predicts that there is insufficient land in the Brighton municipality to accommodate the growth.

The extension of the UGB to 69 Brighton Rd is urgently required to meet the future need of Greater Hobart and is a logical extension of the Brighton township and adjoins the new high school site. The site is in good proximity to the Brighton activity centre and Brighton Industrial Estate and provides excellent access to social services and employment opportunities.

The site is already being considered in the master planning process for the South Brighton Development Precinct to ensure it is part of an attractive, well planned neighbourhood which integrates with the new Brighton High School.

On this basis, the proposed amendment to STRLUS to expand the UGB over 11.27ha of 69 Brighton Road is recommended for approval.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council resolve to request the Minister for Planning to amend the Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy 2010-2035 (STRLUS) to extend the Urban Growth Boundary over the part of 69 Brighton Road that is not covered by the Attenuation Area overlay.

#### **DECISION:**

Cr Foster moved, Cr Curran seconded that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD				
Against				
Cr Murtagh				
Cr Whelan				

Mayor Foster resumed the Chair

Ordinary Council Meeting
The meeting closed 6.32pm

19/01/2021

# ATTACHMENTS FOR ITEM 11.4

# REVIEWING AND AMENDING THE REGIONAL LAND USE STRATEGIES

## Purpose

This information sheet is issued by the Department of Justice, Planning Policy Unit and provides information on when and under what circumstances the regional land use strategies are reviewed and amended. It also provides information on the requirements and processes for reviewing and considering amendments to the regional land use strategies.

# **Background**

The Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 (LUPAA) provides for the preparation and declaration of regional land use strategies, which provide an important high-level component of the planning system. Essentially, the regional land use strategies provide the linkage between the Schedule I objectives of LUPAA, State Policies established under the State Policies and Projects Act 1993, and the future Tasmanian Planning Policies with the current interim and future Tasmanian planning schemes. They provide the mechanism by which the strategic directions of the State and each region are implemented through the land use planning system.

The regional land use strategies set out the key agreed strategic directions for a region over the medium to longer-term. They aim to provide certainty and predictability for Government, local councils, developers and the community on where, when and what type of development will proceed.

Three regional land use strategies are currently in place in Tasmania. The Minister for Planning originally declared the Cradle Coast, Northern and Southern regional land use strategies on 27 October 2011<sup>2</sup>.

The three regional land use strategies provide the strategic direction for future land use and development in each region over a 25-year time horizon. The strategic directions, policies and actions contained within the regional land use strategies aim to deliver sustainable settlements that are integrated across each region, integrated with services and infrastructure, and complemented



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Minister for Planning, the Hon Bryan Green MP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The three regional land use strategies are: Living on the Coast – The Cradle Coast Regional Land Use Planning Framework; Northern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy; and Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy 2010-2035.

INFORMATION SHEET RLUS I - REVIEWING AND AMENDING THE REGIONAL LAND USE STRATEGIES

by built and open space environments. They also provide directions, policies and actions to protect Tasmania's agricultural estate and other resource-based industries and protect the State's cultural and natural environments.

Regional land use strategies may also incorporate or reference specific local strategic documents for the purposes of reflecting the application of each strategy within a particular municipal area or sub-regional area.3

Since their declaration, a number of subsequent amendments have been made to both the northern and southern regional land use strategies. The amendments range from minor revisions and refinements to improve consistency and revisions to align with the latest planning reforms, through to broader reviews to implement more strategic changes, such as the review of the Northern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy to allow for components of the Greater Launceston Plan.

The regional land use strategies are currently implemented in the land use planning system through statutory zoning and planning provisions in interim planning schemes. They are a key consideration when amendments to the interim planning schemes and other existing planning schemes are being assessed. The regional land use strategies will similarly be implemented through the Local Provisions Schedules (LPSs) that form part of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.

### Legislative context

The regional land use strategies are given legal effect through section 5A of LUPAA.

The Minister for Planning may declare a regional land use strategy for a regional area. Amendments to a regional land use strategy may also be made by the Minister declaring an amended strategy and the Minister is also responsible for keeping the strategies under regular and periodic review.

In addition, comprehensive reviews of all three regional land use strategies will be undertaken following the implementation of the future Tasmanian Planning Policies.

When declaring a regional land use strategy under section 5A of LUPAA, the Minister must first consult with the:

- Tasmanian Planning Commission;
- planning authorities; and
- relevant State Service Agencies and State authorities.

LUPAA specifically requires all planning schemes and any amendments to a planning scheme to be, as far as practicable, consistent with the relevant regional land use strategy.

Before certifying and publicly exhibiting a draft planning scheme amendment, a local council, acting as a planning authority, needs to be satisfied that the draft amendment is consistent with the relevant regional land use strategy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Before being incorporated into (or referenced in) a regional land use strategy, local strategic documents would need to be based on verifiable evidence, supported by Government and demonstrate how they reflect the strategic application of a relevant strategy.

Equally, the Tasmanian Planning Commission must be satisfied that a draft planning scheme amendment is consistent with the relevant regional land use strategy before approving the amendment. Similar legislative requirements apply to all future LPSs, and amendments to LPSs that will be in place under the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.

# Reviewing and amending the regional land use strategies

Regional land use strategies have a significant role to play in setting the medium to longer-term strategic directions for each region. Therefore, it is important that the strategic directions, policies and actions contained within each strategy appropriately address both current and emerging land use planning issues. To achieve this, the Minister for Planning is committed to regularly and periodically reviewing the strategies.

Amendments to regional land use strategies will need to be considered over time for a number of reasons. Importantly, amendments to the strategies will generally occur as part of the reviews that are conducted by the Minister for Planning. The Minister for Planning may consider an amendment to a strategy outside the normal review periods under exceptional circumstances.

Any amendment to a regional land use strategy that is requested by an individual or a planning authority would need to be supported by documentation that identified and justified the need for the amendment. Moreover, as the regional land use strategies are a regional plan, it would require the general support from all councils within the region.

The request would also be subject to a rigorous assessment process to ensure that the agreed medium and longer-term strategic directions contained in the relevant strategy are not undermined. This is necessary to ensure that any site-specific amendments to a regional land use strategy do not lead to unintended regional planning outcomes.

An amendment to a regional land use strategy may need to be considered for purposes such as:

- implementing broader legislative reform or overarching State policies or strategies (e.g. the future Tasmanian Planning Policies);
- implementing any revised background analysis of issues in response to changes such as demographics, emerging planning issues, housing supply and demand, or population growth projections;
- incorporating or referring to local or sub-regional strategy planning work that is based on verifiable and agreed evidence and reflects the application of a regional land use strategy in a municipal area or sub-regional area;
- incorporating contemporary community expectations; or
- making minor refinements to correct errors or clarify the operation of a strategy.

It is also important to consider that amending a regional land use strategy is not always the most appropriate course of action to facilitate use and development within a region. This is because the strategies represent the agreed and approved strategic directions for each 'entire' region and provide certainty to the broad community, infrastructure providers and governments as to medium and long-term investment decisions. Consequently, use and development should be directed in the first instance to those agreed areas identified in the relevant strategy.<sup>4</sup>

### Information requirements to support an amendment request

The information requirements for considering a request to amend a regional land use strategy will be dependent on the nature of the proposed amendment.

Before an individual or a planning authority considers whether or not to make a request to amend a regional land use strategy, it is recommended that early discussions take place with the Planning Policy Unit within the Department of Justice to determine if specific information requirements will be required to enable the consideration of the proposed amendment.

All requests to amend a regional land use strategy should include, as a minimum, the following information.

#### Minimum information requirements to support an amendment request

- 1. All requests for an amendment to a regional land use strategy should first be directed to the relevant local planning authority or regional body representing the local planning authorities in the region.
- 2. All draft amendments to a regional land use strategy should be submitted in writing to the Minister for Planning by the relevant local planning authority or regional body representing the local planning authorities in the region.
- 3. The supporting documentation should include details on why the amendment is being sought to the regional land use strategy.
- 4. The supporting documentation should include appropriate justification for any strategic or policy changes being sought and demonstrate how the proposed amendment:
  - (a) furthers the Schedule I objectives of LUPAA;
  - (b) is in accordance with State Policies made under section 11 of the State Policies and Project Act 1993;
  - (c) is consistent with the Tasmanian Planning Policies, once they are made; and
  - (d) meets the overarching strategic directions and related policies in the regional land use strategy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For example, the Northern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy and Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy 2010-2035 direct residential development in areas within a relevant Urban Growth Boundary or growth corridors.

As the regional land use strategies represent the agreed and approved strategic directions for the planning authorities that are located in a particular region and the State, any proposed amendments need to consider the impacts on these entities and should be based on an agreed position.

To assist with the consideration of an amendment to a regional land use strategy, it is strongly recommended that written endorsement for the proposed change is sought from <u>all</u> the planning authorities in the relevant region.

It is also strongly recommended that consultation with relevant State Service agencies, State authorities and other infrastructure providers be undertaken before making a request for an amendment to ensure that any significant issues are avoided when the Minister for Planning consults as part of considering the merits of the amendment request.

In addition, amendments that seek to modify an urban growth boundary (or equivalent), settlement growth management strategies, or seek other modifications to a regional settlement strategy, will usually require additional supporting information such as an analysis of current residential land supply and demand, using accepted contemporary and verifiable data sources, that considers the region in its entirety.

The following additional supporting information should also be included.

- I. Justification for any additional land being required beyond that already provided for under the existing regional land use strategy. This analysis should include the current population growth projections prepared by the Department of Treasury and Finance.
- 2. Analysis and justification of the potential dwelling yield for the proposed additional area of land.
- 3. Analysis of land consumption (i.e. land taken up for development) since the regional land use strategy was declared.
- 4. Justification for any additional land being located in the proposed area, considering the suitability of the area in terms of access to existing physical infrastructure, public transport, and activity centres that provide social services, retail and employment opportunities.
- 5. Consideration of appropriate sequencing of land release within the local area and region.
- 6. Consideration of any targets for infill development required by the regional land use strategy.
- 7. Potential for land use conflicts with use and development on adjacent land that might arise from the proposed amendment.

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The following matters must be considered if an amendment is proposed to a regional land use strategy to develop 'greenfield' land<sup>5</sup>. These matters may also need to be considered for amendments relating to some infill development (such as 'brownfield' and 'greyfield' development').

The following matters should be considered.

- 1. How the amendment accords with the other strategic directions and policies in the relevant regional land use strategy.
- 2. Impacts on natural values, such as threatened native vegetation communities, threatened flora and fauna species, wetland and waterway values, and coastal values.
- 3. Impacts on cultural values, such as historic heritage values, Aboriginal heritage values and scenic values.
- 4. The potential loss of agricultural land from Tasmania's agricultural estate (including but not limited to prime agricultural land and land within irrigation districts) or land for other resource-based industries (e.g. extractive industries).
- 5. The potential for land use conflicts with adjoining land, such as agricultural land and nearby agricultural activities, other resource-based industries (e.g. forestry and extractive industries) and industrial land taking into account future demand for this land.
- 6. Risks from natural hazards, such as bushfire, flooding, coastal erosion and coastal inundation, and landslip hazards.
- 7. Risks associated with potential land contamination.
- 8. The potential for impacts on the efficiency of the State and local road networks (including potential impacts/compatibility with public transport and linkages with pedestrian and cycle ways), and the rail network (where applicable).

# Process for considering an amendment request

The process for considering an amendment request to a regional land use strategy will depend on the nature and scope of the request and the adequacy of the supporting documentation.

As a minimum, the Minister for Planning is required to consult with the Tasmanian Planning Commission, planning authorities, and relevant State Service agencies (e.g. Department of State

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Greenfield land is generally former agricultural or undeveloped natural land on the periphery of towns and cities that has been identified for urban development

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Brownfield sites are underutilised or former industrial or commercial sites in an urban environment characterised by the presence of potential site contamination. Greyfield sites are underutilised, derelict or vacant residential or commercial sites in an urban environment that are not contaminated.

Growth) and State authorities (e.g. TasNetworks) on all amendments to regional land use strategies).

The Minister will consult with these relevant entities for a period of at least 5 weeks. The Minister may also need to consult with other infrastructure providers, where relevant, such as TasWater and TasGas.

For amendments seeking to incorporate broader strategic changes to a regional land use strategy, the Minister for Planning is also likely to seek public input through a formal public exhibition process during this 5 week consultation period. Broader strategic changes have the potential to affect property rights and the community should be afforded natural justice before the Minister declares an amended strategy.

The Minister for Planning will also require <u>all</u> planning authorities in the relevant region to agree to the proposed amendment.

Following the consultation period, the Minister for Planning will consider any submissions received and seek advice from the Department of Justice, Planning Policy Unit before determining whether or not to declare an amended regional land use strategy and whether any modifications are required to the amendment prior to declaration. Procedural fairness will be afforded to all parties prior to making a decision on the amendment request.

# Where can I get more information?

General enquiries about the requirements and process for considering amendments to the regional land use strategies should be directed to:

Planning Policy Unit Department of Justice GPO Box 825 HOBART TAS 7001

Telephone (03) 6166 1429

Email: planning.unit@justice.tas.gov.au

January 2019

#### **David Allingham**

From:

Sent: Wednesday, 9 December 2020 8:55 AM

**To:** David Allingham

**Cc:** Patrick Carroll; Delta Pi Pi

**Subject:** Re: 69 Brighton Rd UGB extension

Attachments: 3200146\_Dylan Street Brighton Land Use Advice (FINAL 11 June 2020) - Amended 4

December 2020 (for latest plans) (1).pdf

Dear David,

I am a Director of 69 Brighton Rd Pty Ltd, the entity owner of 69 Brighton Rd, Brighton.

We fully support this application for the UGB to cover our site.

I also have a report attached that we prepared to help Council show our intentions of our site at 69 Brighton Rd and our Dylan St blocks (12, 15, 16 & 17).

If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

#### Kind Regards,

### **Tony Dourias Jnr**

Joint Managing Director 69 Brighton Rd Pty Ltd

On Tue, 8 Dec 2020 at 14:25, David Allingham < David.Allingham@brighton.tas.gov.au > wrote:

Hi Tony

Could you please provide a letter or email with landowner consent from 69 Brighton Rd Pty Ltd that you support the extension of the Urban growth Boundary over 69 Brighton Rd as per below image?

If possible, it would be great to get it by lunchtime tomorrow (Wed 9/12).

# Brighton Subdivision and Residential Land Supply

## Zoned Land (within UGB)

		# of lots poss	sible/		
Location/Suburb	Description	Subdivision perapproved	sealed	lots # lots i	remaining Comment
Old Beach	72 Churinga Waters	Nil	20	0	20 Estimate based on draft subdivision plan
	110 Fouche	SA2013/12	38	12	<mark>26</mark>
	10 Alanah	SA2017/6	10	0	<u>10</u>
	15 Shelmore	Nil	6	0	6 Estimate based on 800m2 lots and constraints
	12 Shelmore	Nil	10	0	10 Estimate based on 1000m2 lots
	38A Jetty	Nil	22	0	22 Estimate based on 15 dwelling/ha
	24A Jetty	Nil	12	0	12 Estimate based on 15 dwelling/ha
	8 Jetty	Nil	8	0	8 Estimate based on 1000m2 lots
	Tivoli Green	SA2018/40	45	0	45
	Tivoli Green balance	Nil	521	0	521 Based on SAP layout
			Sub To	otal	680
<b>Herdsmans Cove</b>	105 Fisher Ave	DA2020/93	40	0	40 Not approved - 10 lot sub & 30 units
	Lot 615 Lamprill Circle	Nil	50	0	50 Strata - based on centacare concept
	119 Lamprill	DA2020/391	10	0	10 Strata - not approved.
			Sub To	otal	100
Gagebrook	1 Plymouth	SA2006/37	77	0	77 some roads built = substanitally commenced.
			Sub To	otal	77
Bridgewater	22A Killarney	Nil	15	0	15 Based on 500m2 lot (21 units approved in 2008 - permit lapsed)
	Lot 974 & 975 Scott Rd	Nil	7	0	7 Based on lapsed Permit (SA2013-18-RZ)
	Cheswick Cres	Nil	9	0	9 Based on lapsed Permit (SA2013-15-RZ)
	Dinosaur Park	SA2019/26	43	0	43
	1 Hayfield Place	Nil	15	0	15 1.8ha, but constrained by coastal overlays. Estimate rough.
			Sub to	tal	89
Brighton	1 Elderslie Road	Nil	0	0	O Compulsirlay acquired by DoE for High School
	33 Elderslie Road	nil	160	0	160 Estimated 10.7ha at 15dwellings/ha
	1 Dylan	SA2015/11	9	0	9
	27 William	Nil	37	0	37 Estimated 2.5ha at 15 dwelling/ha
	85 Andrew St	nil	20	0	20 Estimated 1.7 ha at 15 dwelling/ha minus 5 lots for roads and floodpath
	39 Andrew St	Nil	12	0	12 Estimated based on similar cul-de-sac head at Erin Close
	48 Andrew St	Nil	6	0	6 Estimated on Halket Close sub
	12A Andrew	Nil	40	0	40 Estimated on 14 dwellings/ha
	3 Racecourse	SA2018/43	21	0	21
	Army Camp	SA2011/35	102	38	64
	2 Brooke St	SA2020/20	5	0	5 Decision pending
	15 & 19 Burrows, 54 & 60 Elderslie	Nil	50	0	50 Estimate based on concept sub plans.
	15 Morrison St	Nil	5	0	5 Estimated on adjoinig land to south layout.
	10 Burrows	Nil	4	0	4 As above
	10 Brooke	Nil	8	0	8 Estimated on layout to north.
	42 Elderslie	DA2018/81	9	0	9 Units only
	Other Eldeslie "long lots"	Nil	35	0	35 Estimate based on 7 units/lot for 5 lots (44, 52, 64, 72 & 74 Elderslie)
	Burrows Long lots	Nil	28	0	28 Estimate based on 7 units/lot for 4 lots (11, 21, 23 & 25)
	8A Brooke	Nil	4	0	4 500m2/block
	64 Racecourse	Nil	8	0	8 Unserviced
	5 . Naccodisc		J	•	o onserviced

-1	55
- 1	J

72 Racecourse	Nil	12	0	12 Unserviced
28, 30 Burrows & 66, 68, 70 Racecourse	Nil	16	0	16 Unserviced
		Sub-total TOTAL		553
				1499
		Total a	prove	309

Greenfield sites (within STRLUS UGB & zoned Future Urban)

Location Area (m2) Lot yield Comment

Tivoli Green (203, 205 & 223 154337 135 at 15 dwellings/ha - Approximately 6.3ha subject to waterways and flooding

Boyer Road 580000 600 Isolated from other residential development.Long term prospect if land to east is consolidated. Constrained by NV on upper slopes

Total 735

# 123 / 408

### Department of State Growth

Salamanca Building, Parliament Square
4 Salamanca Place, Hobart TAS 7000
GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001 Australia
Phone 1800 030 688 Fax (03) 6233 5800
Email info@stategrowth.tas.gov.au Web www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au
Your Ref: / Our Ref: D20/80635/3



Mr Ron Sanderson General Manager Brighton Council I Tivoli Road OLD BEACH TAS 7017

By email: development@brighton.tas.gov.au

#### Dear Mr Sanderson

Thank you for your letter of 2 April 2020 regarding a proposal to extend the Southern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy (STRLUS) Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) at 69 Brighton Road, Brighton and the Old Beach quarry site.

The Department of State Growth (the Department) understands that this is an initial notification of Council's proposal to amend the UGB, and that the Minister for Planning (the Minister) will make a final determination on the proposal. The Department understands that it will be consulted by the Minister as part of the assessment process.

At this time, consistent with the Department's portfolio interests, issues the Department would wish to see addressed if the proposal were to proceed and the sites were subsequently rezoned to residential use, include the following:

#### 69 Brighton Road, Brighton

While this property is adjacent to an existing bus route, the centre of the site is approximately 850 metres from the nearest existing bus stop. This distance is further than the distance people are generally willing to walk to access a bus service (i.e. 400 metres). Council should encourage future developers to work with bus service providers to explore the feasibility of establishing better situated and new bus stops adjoining, and within, the redeveloped site. Any future subdivision design should cater for bus access and movements.

Currently, there is no footpath along Brighton Road, connecting the site to public transport or to the Brighton town centre. Pedestrian linkages to the Brighton town centre will significantly improve local accessibility for residents of the site, and should be explored as part of the site development plan. The provision of pedestrian access through the new, Brighton High School site, located to the north of the site, provides an alternative option.

Old Beach quarry

The centre of the site is located approximately 780 metres, via the existing pedestrian and road network, to the nearest bus stop.

While there is a good pedestrian network in the area, it is noted that the elevation does increase from the East Derwent Highway to Alanah Court. This could pose a barrier for future residents to use this bus stop.

Due to the existing bus route and existing road network north of the East Derwent Highway, it is unlikely any bus routes would penetrate into this residential area.

Road network impacts

While neither site is immediately adjacent to the State Road network, State Roads considers that the level of development generated once the land is rezoned is significant enough to warrant a Traffic Impact Assessment.

Of the two sites, State Roads considers the rezoning of the Old Beach Quarry the more likely to result in the need for an intersection upgrade of some form (it may involve benching and improved signage or something more substantial). State Roads has no current commitment to undertake any upgrades to this intersection and the developer would be responsible for any upgrades.

I am advised that Mineral Resources Tasmania (MRT) has responded to you separately and that while MRT has no objection to the proposed extensions of the UGB at 69 Brighton Road or the Old Beach quarry site, MRT does not support re-zoning of the quarry site until rehabilitation of the site is complete.

Please contact Lucy Thorne, A/G Manager Planning Policy, by email at Lucy. Thorne@stategrowth.tas.gov.au or telephone on 0429 698 118 for further information.

Yours sincerely

Kim Evans Secretary

// May 2020

Cc: david.allingham@brighton.tas.gov.au

#### **David Allingham**

From: Siggins, Clint <Clint.Siggins@stategrowth.tas.gov.au>

**Sent:** Thursday, 23 April 2020 2:11 PM **To:** David Allingham; Info, MRT

Cc:Ron Sanderson; James Dryburgh; Thorne, Lucy; Enman, SimonSubject:RE: Brighton Council - urban growth boundary extensionAttachments:Brighton Council UGB extension - letter to MRT.PDF

#### Hello David,

MRT have completed a reviewed of the attached letter from Brighton Council's on a proposed application for extensions of the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB).

As part of the review process MRT has consulted with both lessees potentially affected by the proposal, Boral Construction Materials Group Ltd and Baskerville Quarries Pty Ltd. Boral have indicated they have no direct concerns with the proposed extension of the UGB at 69 Brighton Rd, as it sits outside the 1000m attenuation buffer for their Bridgewater Quarry. Baskerville Quarries advised the have no significant objections to the proposed extension of the UGB containing the Old Beach Quarry, providing it does not include a re-zoning of the land until such time that the rehabilitation of the quarry has been completed.

MRT understands that at this point in time (from discussions with David Allingham) the proposed application for extensions to the UGB do not include a request to change the underlying zone, that being from Rural Resource for both sites to General Residential or similar. Whilst MRT has no objection to future re-zoning of 69 Brighton Road, MRT would not support re-zoning of Old Beach Quarry until such time as the site had ceased operation and completed rehabilitation. The lessee proposes to have completed the rehabilitation by December 2022, noting it is highly likely the rehabilitation will be completed within twelve months. Any change to the current Rural Resource zoning have the potential to introduce sensitive use and potentially result in unwanted conflict.

Based on the comments above, MRT has no objection to the proposed extensions of the UGB at 69 Brighton Road or the Old Beach Quarry, noting the comments provided above with respect to not supporting re-zoning of the Old Beach Quarry site until such time as the rehabilitation of the quarry is completed.

#### Kind regards, Clint

#### Clint Siggins | Manager Scientific Services

Mineral Resources Tasmania | Department of State Growth 30 Gordons Hill Road Rosny Park Tasmania | PO Box 56, Rosny Park, Tasmania, 7018 Phone: (03) 6165 4739 | Mobile: 0417 017 426 | (03) 6173 0222 clint.siggins@stategrowth.tas.gov.au | www.mrt.tas.gov.au | www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH COURAGE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE THROUGH:



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# AllUrbanPlanning

27 April 2020

David Allingham

Manager Development Services

1 Tivoli Road
OLD BEACH 7017

Dear David

# 69 Brighton Road, Extension to Urban Growth Boundary – Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy

All Urban Planning Pty Ltd has been engaged by Pamela Clark, the owner of 69 Brighton Road, to prepare the following submission in support of Brighton Council's proposal to amend the Urban Growth Boundary under the Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy (STRLUS) in the vicinity of and including 69 Brighton Road.

#### **Urban Growth Boundary**

The existing Urban Growth Boundary is shown as the blue line in Figure 1 below and 69 Brighton Road shown in red.



Figure 1 - Attachment 1, Map 10 to Urban Growth Boundary, Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy

#### 69 Brighton Road

69 Brighton Road (Figure 2) is an existing 24ha Rural Resource zoned title (CT 107930/1) located to the south of Elderslie Road and adjacent to the announced new 10ha Brighton high school site.

The subject site exists with a single dwelling set well back from the Brighton Road frontage. The title has a 260m frontage to Brighton Road and a fee simple access strip of approximately 7m to Elderslie Road.

The site is located between the two Urban Growth Boundary areas of Brighton and Bridgewater. It is directly adjacent to the southern extent of the Brighton township and is surrounded by areas of Rural Living zoning to east at Dylan Street and north west at Una Court. The approved Brighton Highway Service Centre is under construction on the opposite side of Brighton Road to the east.

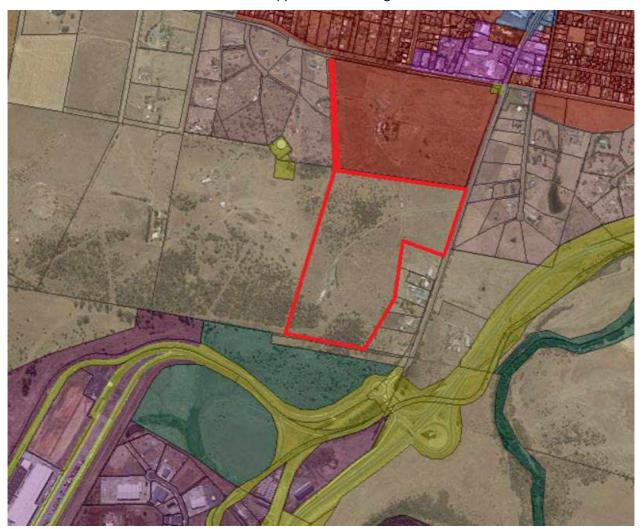


Figure 2 - Site Location Plan (Source: annotated from theList)

#### Background to the Southern Regional Land Use Strategy and Urban Growth Boundary

LUPAA provides for the preparation and declaration of regional land use strategies, which provide an important high-level component of the planning system. The STRLUS provides the link between the Schedule 1 objectives of LUPAA, State Policies established under the State Policies and Projects Act 1993, and the future Tasmanian Planning Policies with the current interim and future Tasmanian planning schemes.

It provides the strategic direction for the region to be implemented through the land use planning system.

LUPAA specifically requires all planning schemes and any amendments to a planning scheme to be, as far as practicable, consistent with the relevant regional land use strategy.

Regional land use strategies have a significant role to play in setting the medium to longer-term strategic directions for each region. Therefore, it is important that the strategic directions, policies and actions contained within each strategy appropriately address both current and emerging land use planning issues. To achieve this, it is understood that the Minister for Planning is committed to regularly and periodically reviewing the strategies. <sup>1</sup>.

In this case, Brighton Council has prepared significant strategic planning work since the STRLUS was prepared that identifies a need for additional greenfield development land at Brighton. In my opinion the STRLUS warrants some review and update in light of this work.

#### **Brighton Structure Plan 2018**

With the majority of the recommended actions from the Brighton Structure Plan 2012 implemented, and with continued population growth forecast, Brighton Council begun to prepare an updated Structure Plan in 2017.

The Brighton Structure Plan 2018 (BSP 2018) was developed in consultation with the local community and infrastructure providers including TasWater and Department of State Growth.

The BSP 2018 identifies (Strategy 1: Review the urban growth boundary) that 582 additional greenfield lots are required in the North region (including Brighton/Pontville) in the next 15 years to meet the estimated demand and the STRLUS assumptions of a 50/50 infill vs greenfield ratio. This equates to need for approximately 58.2ha of additional land.<sup>2</sup>

The BSP 2018 investigated potential growth options to the north, south and west of the urban area of the Brighton township noting that the presence of the Midland Highway and the Jordan River to the east negate the ability to expand in this direction.

The subject site, 69 Brighton Road (Site 17) is specifically identified as a primary urban growth option subject to resolution of access to sewer.

Since the finalization of the BSP 2018, the Government's announcement of its intention to acquire 10ha of land for the new high school site (suitable for approximately 150 dwellings at 15 dwellings per ha), has effectively increased the demand for an addition 10ha of greenfield land, from 58 to 68 ha.

#### Information requirements to support an amendment request

It is understood that an amendment to the Urban Growth Boundary can be considered if the land predominantly adjoins land within the Urban Growth Boundary and it:

a) only provides for a minor and logical extension to land for urban development and does not constitute a significant increase in land zoned for urban development in that locality;

#### Comment

69 Brighton Road is directly adjacent to the UGB and would represent a minor and logical extension to the UGB as identified in the Brighton Structure Plan 2018.

b) will not significantly increase the potential for land use conflicts with other land uses in the immediate area;

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$  Information Sheet RLUS1 – Reviewing and Amending the Regional Land Use Strategies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> P33, Brighton Structure Plan 2018, Ecelon

#### Comment

The northern extent of 69 Brighton Road that runs west from the Brighton Road frontage is located outside the 1km buffer from the Brighton Industrial Precinct and is well clear of the attenuation Area for the Brighton Waste Water Treatment Plant.

c) will not result in the unnecessary conversion of agricultural land; Comment

The subject site is a small area of Class 5, Rural Resource zoned land on the southern fringe of the Brighton township. It is in close proximity to existing and planned residential development and the site does not have significant agricultural potential.

d) does not unreasonably impact on the safety and efficiency of the State road and rail networks, local road networks, or electricity transmission infrastructure;

#### Comment

The site is clear of electricity infrastructure including approximately 1300m north of the Waddamana to Risdson Vale Electricity Transmission line. Other impacts on the local and State road network have been considered in the BSP 2018 and the proposal is not considered to impact on existing or planned infrastructure.

e) can demonstrate appropriate connectivity with existing and planned road, pedestrian, cycling and public transport networks;

#### Comment

The site is located on the Brighton Road frontage and is well located for appropriate connectivity to the planned transport networks including the option for a light rail path and potential Transit - Oriented Mixed Use Urban Renewal Precinct as shown on Figure 26 of the BSP 2018 (Figure 3 below).

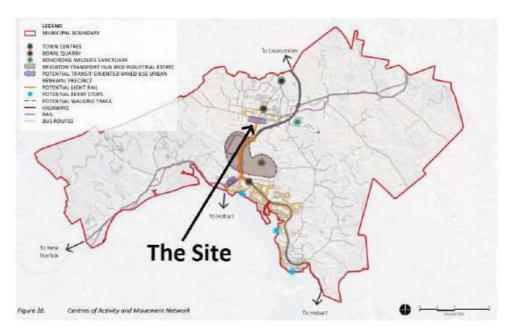


Figure 3 - Centres of Activity and Movement Network (Source: Figure 26, Brighton Structure Plan, 2018)

f) is able to be appropriately serviced with water, sewerage, electricity and telecommunications infrastructure;

#### Comment

The site is well located to make best use of existing water, electricity and telecommunications infrastructure. It is expected that infrastructure planning to accommodate the needs of the future high school as well as existing and proposed residential development of already zoned land at the southern edge of Brighton will require an appropriate sewer solution that would logically cater for this site also. It is expected that Council and the Department of Education will progress these investigations in partnership with TasWater.

g) minimises impacts on natural values such as threatened native vegetation communities, threatened flora and fauna species, wetland and waterway values, and coastal values; Comment

The site exists as cleared pasture and there are no know natural values.

h) minimises impacts on cultural values, such as historic heritage values, Aboriginal heritage values, and scenic values;

#### Comment

The proposal will not have any impacts on historic heritage or scenic values.

i) will not be subject to unreasonable risks from natural hazards, such as bushfire, flooding, coastal erosion and coastal inundation, and landslip hazards; and

#### Comment

The site includes an area of Low Landslide Hazard and will require appropriate geotechnical and engineering advice to be incorporated for any future proposals involving Major Works under the Landslide Hazard Code. The controls of this Code and the Bushfire Hazard Management Code will ensure that identified hazards are considered in any future use and development of the site.

j) addresses the other relevant strategic directions and policies in this strategy. Comment

The proposal furthers the relevant strategic directions and policies of the STRLUS to the extent that the proposal is consistent with the BSP 2018 that has been prepared to fulfil the relevant strategic directions of the STRLUS.

#### **Conclusion**

The site is allocated adjacent to existing General Residential zoned land at the southern fringe of the Brighton township and is close to the proposed new high school site. The land has been named in the Brighton Structure Plan 2018 as appropriate to contribute to the identified need for 58ha of additional greenfield development land at Brighton.

I confirm that the landowners would be pleased to support Council's proposal to extend the Urban Growth Boundary of the Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy to include 69 Brighton Road.

Regards

Frazer Read

Principal

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# TASMANIAN PLANNING COMMISSION

Our ref: DOC/21/35963
Officer: Angela Forrest
Phone: 6165 6828

Email: tpc@planning.tas.gov.au

13 April 2021

Ms Lyn Eyles Central Highlands Council General Manager PO Box 20 HAMILTON TAS 7140

By email: council@centralhighlands.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Eyles

#### Exhibition of draft assessment criteria New Bridgewater Bridge Major Project

I am writing to you, as your organisation is a State Service Agency or Tasmanian Government Business that may have an interest in a matter to which the New Bridgewater Bridge Major Project relates, a relevant planning authority, or a council that is in the regional area in which the major project is situated.

The Development Assessment Panel for the New Bridgewater Bridge Major Project has prepared draft assessment criteria and gives notice of the exhibition of the draft assessment criteria for this major project, in accordance with section 60ZL(1) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993.

A copy of the draft assessment criteria, explanatory document and exhibition notice are attached for your reference. Electronic copies of the draft assessment criteria and other supporting documents are available for downloading on the Commission website<sup>1</sup>.

If you require further information please contact Angela Forrest, Planning Adviser on (03) 6165 6828.

Yours sincerely

Ann Cunningham

Chairperson

**Development Assessment Panel** 

#### **Attachments**

- 1. Draft assessment criteria New Bridgewater Bridge Major Project April 2021
- 2. Explanatory Document Draft assessment criteria New Bridgewater Bridge Major Project April 2021
- 3. Copy of exhibition notice

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.planning.tas.gov.au/assessments-and-hearings/current-assessments-and-hearings/bridgewater-bridge

# TASMANIAN PI ANNING COMMISSIO

## Draft assessment criteria for the New Bridgewater Bridge Major Project Invitation to make a representation

The Development Assessment Panel for the New Bridgewater Bridge Major Project invites representations on the draft assessment criteria, in accordance with section 60ZL(1) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993.

The draft assessment criteria and the major project proposal can be viewed in person at the Commission's offices between 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday at Level 3, 144 Macquarie Street, Hobart from 14 April until 28 April 2021. They may also be viewed and downloaded from the Commission's website at www.planning.tas.gov.au.

Comments can be made in writing during the period specified above, by email to tpc@planning.tas.gov.au, or post to the Tasmanian Planning Commission, GPO Box 1691, Hobart, TAS 7001.

If you require further information please contact the Tasmanian Planning Commission on 6165 6828 or by email to tpc@planning.tas.gov.au

Ann Cunningham 133 / 408 Chairperson, Development Assessment Panel

# TASMANIAN PLANNING COMMISSION

# **EXPLANATORY DOCUMENT**

Draft assessment criteria for the New Bridgewater Bridge Major Project

April 2021

Explanatory Document - Draft Assessment Criteria - New Bridgewater Bridge Major Project

Prepared by:

New Bridgewater Bridge Major Project Development Assessment Panel

Published by:

Tasmanian Planning Commission GPO Box 1691 Hobart Tasmania 7001

April 2021

Email address: tpc@planning.tas.gov.au

Internet address: www.planning.tas.gov.au

#### Purpose of the explanatory document

This explanatory document has been prepared to support the exhibition of the draft assessment criteria for the New Bridgewater Bridge Major Project.

#### Background

Part 4 Division 2A of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act* (the Act) provides a development assessment process for major projects.

The Minister for Planning can declare a major project if the proposal is of significant impact on, or makes a significant contribution to a region's economy, environment or social fabric; is of strategic importance to a region; or is of a significant scale or complexity.

The major project process provides for the consolidation of relevant assessments into one process, such as assessments under the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* and *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*.

Where a project is declared a major project, the Commission establishes a Development Assessment Panel. The Panel's first task is to prepare assessment criteria that set out the matters to be included in the proponent's major project impact statement.

Once assessment criteria are determined the proponent may prepare and submit a major project impact statement to support the assessment of a permit.

The Panel is then responsible for the assessment of a major project impact statement and determining to grant or refuse a permit.

A flowchart showing the major project assessment process is included at Appendix 1. An A3 version of the flow chart is also available on the <a href="Commission's website">Commission's website</a>.

#### Major project proposal

The Department of State Growth is the proponent of the major project proposal, which proposes the construction of a new Bridgewater Bridge to replace the existing two lane bridge forming part of the Midland Highway at Bridgewater.

The project seeks to improve safety and road efficiency. Depending on the final design, the bridge will consist of two two-lane bridges or one four-lane bridge, consistent with the alignment of the existing bridge.

#### Preparation of the draft assessment criteria

After the Commission received the declaration of the major project from the Minister for Planning, the major project proposal was referred to relevant regulators. Relevant regulators are specified in the Act and can respond with a notice of assessment requirements, a notice of no assessment requirements, or notice recommending revocation.

In this case, the relevant regulators responded by providing the Commission with a notice specifying their requirements to be included in the assessment criteria. By doing so, they have become participating regulators.

The participating regulators for the New Bridgewater Bridge project are:

- (a) the EPA Board;
- (b) TasGas;

- (c) TasWater;
- (d) the Tasmanian Heritage Council; and
- (e) the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment.

The Commission also wrote to State agencies, local government, landowners and occupants inviting comment on the matters they think should be included in the assessment criteria.

The Panel prepared the draft assessment criteria having regard to:

- (a) the major project proposal;
- (b) the objectives specified in Schedule 1 of the Act;
- (c) State Policies, in particular the State Coastal Policy 1996 and the State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997;
- (d) the Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy dated 19 February 2020 (regional strategy);
- (e) the State Planning Provisions;
- (f) any applicable zones, codes, and specific area plans in the interim planning schemes applying in the area the proposal is located;
- (g) the matters raised by the participating regulators in their assessment requirement notices as matters to be included in the draft assessment criteria; and
- (h) issues raised by those invited to make comment on the draft assessment criteria as specified under section 60ZJ of the Act.

#### Format of the draft assessment criteria

The draft assessment criteria specify the matters to be addressed in the proponent's major project impact statement in relation to the major project.

Therefore, they are not expressed like the standards in planning schemes. Instead, the draft assessment criteria set out the information and evidence that the major project impact statement must provide to satisfy the Panel that a permit can be granted and to inform appropriate permit conditions and restrictions.

The matters to be considered by the Panel in deciding whether or not to approve the proposal are set out in the Act. Therefore, they are not repeated in the assessment criteria.

The draft assessment criteria are required to set out relevant land use planning matters and any matters required by participating regulators.

Clauses 1 and 2 provide definitions and specify how the major project impact statement is to address the requirements of the assessment criteria.

The terms and definitions used in the draft assessment criteria are largely based on those provided in the State Planning Provisions, the Act and project-associated Acts.

Clause 3 outlines the general information that is required to be submitted as part of the major project impact statement. The specific information requirements of the participating regulators are provided separately in Schedule 2 of the draft assessment criteria.

The relevant land use planning matters are provided for in clause 4 of the draft assessment criteria.

These are matters such as siting, visual impact, natural hazards and the like, that would generally not require assessment by a participating regulator.

The relevant land use planning matters also require the major project impact statement to address how the proposal furthers the objectives of the Act and retains consistency with the State Policies and regional strategy.

Clause 5 comprises those matters that participating regulators require the major project impact statement to address. This is based on the assessment requirement notices provided by relevant regulators, copies of which are available on the Commission's website.

These matters relate to the legislation that each of the participating regulators is responsible for administering, as it relates to the major project.

The relevant participating regulator and related legislation is as follows:

- (a) the EPA Board Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994;
- (b) TasGas Gas Pipelines Act 2000;
- (c) TasWater Water and Sewerage Industry Act 2008;
- (d) the Tasmanian Heritage Council Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995; and
- (e) the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment Aboriginal Heritage Act 1975, Nature Conservation Act 2002, and Threatened Species Protection Act 1995.

Specific and detailed information required to be addressed when providing the assessments in clause 5 is set out in Schedule 2 of the draft assessment criteria.

#### Next steps

The draft assessment criteria are being publicly exhibited for 14 days, during which period any person may make a representation.

Specific provision is made for the Panel to give each participating regulator a copy of any relevant representation received and for the participating regulator to issue an alteration notice if its original assessment requirement notice requires alteration in response to any representation.

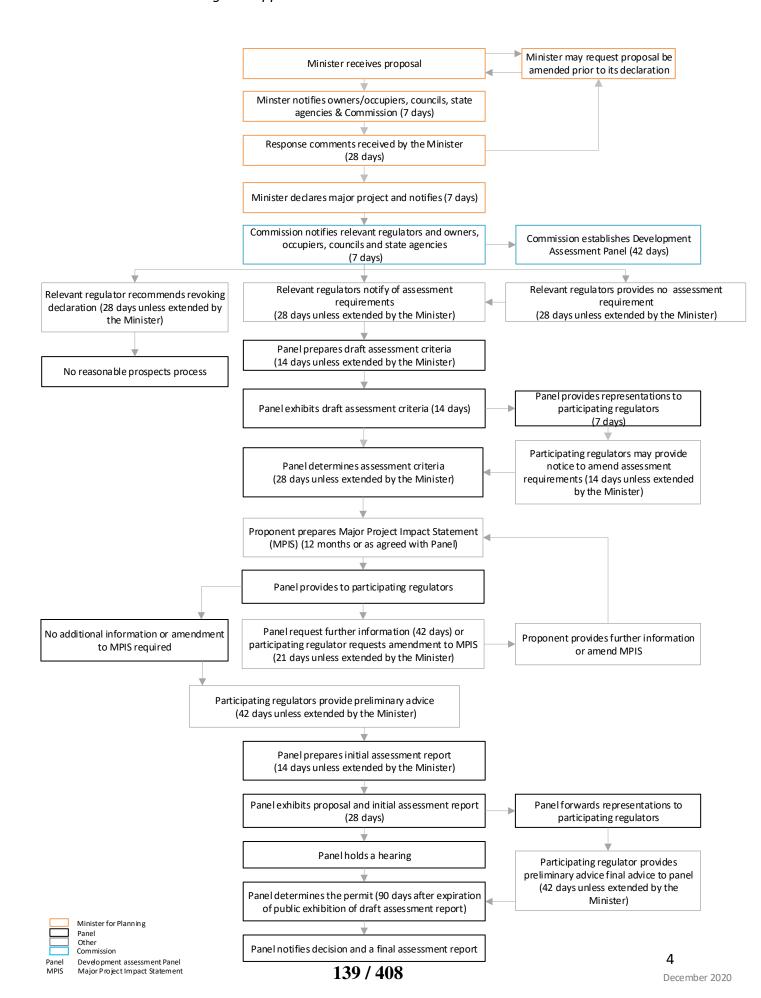
This process will assist the Panel to determine the assessment criteria.

After the assessment criteria have been determined, the Panel will give notice in the Government *Gazette* and in The Mercury.

It is then for the proponent to submit a major project impact statement for the Panel's consideration.

A flow chart setting out the process is in Appendix 1.

# Appendix 1 Major Project Assessment Process Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993



# TASMANIAN PLANNING COMMISSION

# DRAFT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

New Bridgewater Bridge Major Project

prepared by the Development Assessment Panel for the New Bridgewater Bridge

April 2021

### Foreword

The draft assessment criteria set out the matters to be addressed in the major project impact statement for the New Bridgewater Bridge major project and should be read in conjunction with Part 4 Division 2A of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993.

In this document, this foreword, the table of contents, headings and footnotes are included to assist users' understanding of the draft assessment criteria and are for information only.

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### 1.0 Interpretation

- 1.1 Planning terms and definitions
- 1.1.1 Terms used in these assessment criteria are set out in Schedule 1. Where terms are not included in Schedule 1 they have their ordinary meaning unless they are defined in the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 (the Act).

### 2.0 Assessment criteria purpose

- 2.1 Purpose of assessment criteria
- 2.1.1 These assessment criteria specify the matters to be addressed in the major project impact statement.
- 2.1.2 The major project impact statement is to address:
  - (a) each of the relevant land use planning matters under clause 4.0; and
  - (b) each of the matters for the participating regulators under clause 5.0.

# 3.0 Major project impact statement information requirements

- 3.1 General information requirements
- 3.1.1 The major project impact statement must include:
  - (a) details of the location of the proposed use or development;
  - (b) a copy of the current folios of the Register for all land to which the permit sought is to relate, including the plans and any schedule of easements;
  - (c) a full description of the proposed use ordevelopment;
  - (d) a site analysis and site plan showing where applicable:
    - (i) the existing and proposed use(s) on the project land;
    - (ii) the boundaries and dimensions of the project land;
    - (iii) topography including contours showing AHD levels and major project land features;
    - (iv) natural drainage lines, watercourses and wetlands on or adjacent to the project land;
    - (v) soil type;
    - (vi) vegetation types and distribution including any known threatened species, and trees and vegetation to be removed;
    - (vii) details of any proposed demolition;
    - (viii) the location and capacity and connection point of any existing services and proposed services;
    - (ix) the location of easements on the project land or connected to the project land;
    - (x) existing pedestrian and vehicle access to the project land;
    - (xi) the location of existing and proposed buildings on the project land;
    - (xii) the location of existing adjoining properties, adjacent buildings and their uses; and

- (xiii) any natural hazards that may affect use or development on the project land;
- (e) where it is proposed to erect or demolish any buildings or structures, a detailed layout plan of the buildings or structures with dimensions at an appropriate scale showing, where applicable:
  - (i) major elevations of every building and structure to be erected;
  - (ii) the relationship of the elevations to existing ground level, showing any proposed cut or fill; and
  - (iii) materials and colours to be used; and
- (f) any reports or plans required by clauses 4.0 and 5.0.
- 3.2 Participating regulator information requirements
- 3.2.1 Participating regulator information requirements

Participating regulator information requirements to be included in the major project impact statement are set out in clause 5.0 and Schedule 2.

### 4.0 Relevant land use planning matters

- 4.1 Policy and strategy context
- 4.1.1 A major project impact statement must provide an assessment of how the use and development of the land will:
  - (a) be consistent with furthering the objectives specified in Schedule 1 of the Act;
  - (b) not be in contravention of a State Policy and any made Tasmanian Planning Policy (TPP); and
  - (c) not be inconsistent with the relevant regional land use strategy.
- 4.2 Transport
- 4.2.1 Sustainable transport

Provide an assessment of how the use and development encourages cycling, walking and public transport.

4.2.2 Safety and efficiency of the road and rail network

Provide a traffic impact assessment that demonstrates how use and development minimises any adverse effects on the safety and efficiency of the road and rail network and uses dependent upon it, including consideration of:

- (a) safety and efficiency for vehicles and public transport, such as speed limit, traffic flow and public access;
- (b) safety of junctions, vehicle crossings and level crossings;
- (c) any alternative vehicle crossing or level crossing;
- (d) safety for pedestrians and cyclists;
- (e) any change in access arrangements of an existing use;
- (f) any change in the connectivity of the network;
- (g) measures to minimise any adverse effects; and
- (h) any written consent for a new vehicle crossing or level crossing issued by a road or rail authority.

- 4.2.3 Safety and efficiency of the road, rail and public transport network during construction Provide an assessment of how potential impacts during construction on the road, rail and public transport network can be managed to minimise any adverse impacts on the safety and efficiency of the road, rail and public transport network, and the uses dependent on them, having regard to:
  - (a) a traffic management plan or details of how traffic, including public transport, will be managed during construction;
  - (b) impacts on the operation of surrounding uses, such as, businesses and residential;
  - (c) measures to mitigate adverse impacts.
- 4.3 Bushfire-prone areas
- 4.3.1 Storing of materials in bushfire-prone areas

In a bushfire-prone area, where any hazardous chemicals of a manifest quantity are stored, or explosives are stored in a classified explosives location, or large explosives location under the *Explosives Act 2012*, provide:

- (a) a bushfire management plan that contains appropriate bushfire protection measures, and certified by the Tasmania Fire Service or an accredited person; and
- (b) an emergency management strategy (hazardous use) endorsed by the Tasmania Fire Service or an accredited person.
- 4.4 Coastal erosion hazard
- 4.4.1 Use within a coastal erosion hazard area

For use in a coastal erosion hazard area provide a coastal erosion hazard report.

4.4.2 Development within a coastal erosion hazard area

Provide a coastal erosion hazard report for development that does not require authorisation under the *Building Act 2016*, and:

- (a) involves coastal protection works; or
- (b) is within a high coastal erosion hazard band.
- 4.5 Coastal inundation hazard areas
- 4.5.1 Development within a coastal inundation hazard area

Provide a coastal inundation hazard report for development that does not require authorisation under the *Building Act 2016*, and:

- (a) is within a high coastal inundation hazard band; or
- (b) is within a medium coastal inundation hazard band.
- 4.6 Dredging and reclamation
- 4.6.1 Dredging and reclamation works

Provide an assessment on how dredging or reclamation minimises adverse impacts on natural coastal processes and natural assets, having regard to:

- (a) impacts caused by erosion, siltation, sedimentation and runoff;
- (b) impacts on riparian or littoral vegetation;
- (c) the need to avoid land filling of wetlands;
- (d) impacts on sand movement and wave action; and
- (e) the potential for increased risk of inundation of adjacent land.

#### 4.7 Electricity entity infrastructure

#### 4.7.1 Electricity entity infrastructure protection

Provide an assessment of how development, including during construction, avoids unreasonable impacts on the safety, security, operation of, or access to, existing or future electricity entity infrastructure, having regard to:

- (a) the nature, height and materials of the development;
- (b) the location of the development in proximity to the electricity entity infrastructure;
- (c) measures to avoid or mitigate impacts on operational efficiency, access to and security of electricity entity infrastructure; and
- (d) measures to avoid or mitigate against a safety hazard associated with proximity to existing and future electricity entity infrastructure.

#### 4.8 Flood-prone areas

#### 4.8.1 Development in flood-prone areas

For development in a flood-prone area provide a flood hazard report.

#### 4.9 Geoconservation

#### 4.9.1 Geoconservation

Provide an assessment of how potential impacts from development, including during construction, on the geodiversity values of sites of geoconservation significance is minimised, having regard to:

- (a) an assessment of geodiversity values by a suitably qualified person;
- (b) the scale of any site of geoconservation significance;
- (c) the impacts on geodiversity values;
- (d) the existing condition and sensitivity of geodiversity values; and
- (e) any measures to avoid or mitigate adverse impacts.

#### 4.10 Landslip hazards

#### 4.10.1 Development subject to landslip hazard

Provide a landslip hazard report for development, including during construction, that does not require authorisation under the *Building Act 2016*, and:

- (a) involves significant works;
- (b) is within a medium-active landslip hazard band; or
- (c) is within a high landslip hazard band.

#### 4.11 Local historic heritage values

#### 4.11.1 Local historic heritage values

For development, including during construction, on or adjacent to, a local heritage place or within a local heritage precinct, provide a heritage impact statement.

#### 4.12 Marine infrastructure and safety

#### 4.12.1 Marine Safety and Infrastructure

Provide an assessment of how development, including during construction, provides for safe and efficient navigation of vessels, and use of marine infrastructure, having regard to:

(a) the impact on the existing Bridgewater boat ramp and adjacent jetty;

- (b) the impact on the movement of vessels;
- (c) the impact on navigation aids and the markings in the channel; and
- (d) measures to minimise any adverse effects.

#### 4.13 Siting and scale

#### 4.13.1 Siting and scale

Provide an assessment of how development is designed and sited to not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity to adjacent properties, having regard to:

- (a) the topography of the land;
- (b) the setback of existing buildings on the project land and on adjacent properties;
- (c) the bulk, height and form of proposed development;
- (d) the height necessary for the operation of the use;
- (e) the nature of the existing uses on adjacent properties;
- (f) overlooking and overshadowing of adjacent properties and the nature of their uses;
- (g) any existing screening or the ability to implement screening.

#### 4.14 Visual impact

#### 4.14.1 Visual impact

Provide a landscape and visual impact assessment report that demonstrates how development, including during construction, minimises adverse impacts on landscape values and visual amenity, having regard to:

- (a) the design, colour and materials of the proposed development;
- (b) a proposed landscaping plan;
- (c) the nature and area of any vegetation to be removed;
- (d) the topography of the land;
- (e) the existing landscape values and visual amenity;
- (f) the nature of any reduction in landscape values and visual amenity; and
- (g) measures to mitigate adverse impacts.

# 5.0 Participating regulator matters

#### 5.1 Environment Protection Authority requirements

#### 5.1.1 Air emissions

Provide an assessment of how the potential impact of emissions to air from construction and operation do not cause an unreasonable impact on the health and amenity of sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the proposed works and new infrastructure, including consideration of both dust and vehicle emissions.

#### 5.1.2 Noise emissions

Provide an assessment of how the potential impacts of noise emissions resulting from construction and operation do not cause an unreasonable impact on the health and amenity of sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the proposed works and new infrastructure, including consideration of vibration.

#### 5.1.3 Water quality

Provide an assessment of how the potential water quality impacts from construction and operation do not cause an unreasonable impact as a result of the release of sediment and associated contaminants during construction, and as a result of any sediment scouring and deposition changes post-construction.

#### 5.1.4 Stormwater

Provide an assessment of the capacity to control stormwater, entrained sediment and contaminant releases to waterways; and how the potential impacts from stormwater entrained sediment and contaminates in stormwater do not cause an unreasonable impact on waterways.

#### 5.1.5 Hydrogeology

Provide an assessment of the potential for hydrogeological changes, and how the potential impacts arising from construction do not cause an unreasonable impact on groundwater receiving environment.

#### 5.1.6 Contaminated land

Provide an assessment of how the potential impacts from contaminated land or material present with the project land do not cause an unreasonable impact on human health or the environment.

#### 5.1.7 Light pollution

Provide an assessment of how the potential light pollution impacts do not cause an unreasonable impact on sensitive receptors.

#### 5.2 TasGas requirements

Provide an assessment of the potential impacts of the proposed development and construction on gas infrastructure, including:

- (a) a description of any works to be carried out within 150m and within 25m of a gas pipeline, specifying the nature and location of those works; and
- (b) any risk or mitigation controls proposed.

#### 5.3 TasWater requirements

Provide an assessment of how the potential impacts on existing and future water and sewerage infrastructure are avoided or mitigated, including:

- (a) any consequential changes to existing water and sewerage infrastructure; and
- (b) the capacity to provide for the orderly provision of future water and sewerage infrastructure.

#### 5.4 Tasmanian Heritage Council requirements

Provide a heritage impact statement detailing how development, including during construction, will avoid or mitigate adverse impacts on the historic cultural heritage significance of each registered place, including:

- (a) an evaluation of the cultural heritage significance, including a comparative analysis of the significance, in order to understand the significance appropriately;
- (b) options for full or partial retention of the Bridgewater Bridge, noting the high historic cultural heritage significance attributed to the structure;
- (c) measures to protect archaeological values; and
- (d) recommendations to mitigate adverse impacts.

# 5.5 Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment requirements

#### 5.5.1 Aguatic and terrestrial flora

Provide an assessment of how the potential impacts of development on aquatic and terrestrial flora listed under the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* (TSP Act) are avoided, mitigated or offset, including:

- (a) Double jointed speargrass (*Austrostipa bigeniculata*), listed as rare under the TSP Act and occurring in two locations north of the Derwent on both sides of the highway;
- (b) River club sedge (*Schoenoplectus tbernaemontani*), listed as rare under the TSP Act and occurring as a small patch in one location on the north bank of the Derwent relatively near the existing bridge;
- (c) Woolly new-holland daisy (*Vittadinia gracilis*), listed as rare under the TSP Act and recorded as a small number of individuals in one location south of the river;
- (d) Largefruit seatassel (*Ruppia megacarpa*), listed as rare under the TSP Act occurring from the Bridgewater Bridge location;
- (e) Fennel pondweed (*Stuckenia pectinata*), listed as rare under the TSP Act occurring from the Bridgewater Bridge location;
- (f) details of how acid sulphate soil will be managed to avoid adverse impacts to riparian and aquatic flora and fauna; and
- (g) details of any other direct or indirect loss, disturbance and/or degradation of listed or other protected species as a result of the construction and operational phases,

and provide details of any proposed measures to mitigate or offset adverse impacts on listed aquatic or terrestrial flora, where impacts cannot be avoided.

### 5.5.2 Vegetation communities

Provide an assessment of how the potential impacts of development, including during construction, on vegetation communities listed under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* are avoided, mitigated or offset, and provide details of any proposed measures to mitigate or offset adverse impacts on biodiversity and nature conservation values, where impacts cannot be avoided.

#### 5.5.3 Threatened fauna

Provide an assessment of how the potential impacts of development, including during construction, on fauna listed under the TSP Act, or facilitated on those species and their habitats, are avoided, mitigated or offset, including:

- (a) Swift Parrot (*Lathamus Dicolour*), listed as critically endangered under the TSP Act; and
- (b) Australian Grayling (*Prototroctes maraena*), listed as vulnerable under the TSP Act, and provide details of any proposed measures to mitigate or offset adverse impacts listed fauna and habitat for those species, where impacts cannot be avoided.

#### 5.5.4 Aboriginal Heritage

Provide an assessment of how potential impacts of development, including during construction, on Aboriginal heritage sites and objects are avoided or mitigated, including details of:

- (a) excavation or other work carried out on Crown Land for the purpose of searching for Aboriginal heritage;
- (b) details of any action that has the potential to interfere with, destroy, expose, relocate or remove Aboriginal heritage; and
- (c) how the unanticipated discovery of Aboriginal heritage will be managed.

# Schedule 1 Terms and definitions

Term	Definition	
accredited person	means as defined in the Act.	
Act	means the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993.	
adjacent	means near to, and includes adjoining.	
adjoining	means next to, or having a common boundary with.	
AHD	means the Australian Height Datum (Tasmania) being the vertical geodetic datum as described in Chapter 8 of the <i>Geocentric Datum of Australia Technical Manual version 2.4</i> , Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping.	
amenity	means, in relation to a locality, place or building, any quality, condition or factor that makes or contributes to making the locality, place or building harmonious, pleasant or enjoyable.	
annual exceedance probability	means the probability of an event with a certain magnitude being exceeded in any one year.	
assessment criteria	means as defined in section 60B of the Act.	
assisted housing	means housing provided by an organisation for higher needs tenants or residents, including those with physical or intellectual disabilities, and may include associated support services.	
boarding house	means use of land for a dwelling in which lodgers rent one or more rooms, generally for extended periods, and some parts of the dwelling are shared by all lodgers.	
building	means as defined in the Act.	
bushfire hazard management plan	means as defined in the Act.	
bushfire protection measures	means the measures that might be used to reduce the risk of bushfire attack and the threat to life and property in the event of bushfire.	
bushfire-prone area	<ul> <li>means:</li> <li>(a) land shown in a planning scheme as within a bushfire-prone area; or</li> <li>(b) where there is no map in the planning scheme, land that is within 100m of an area of bushfire-prone vegetation equal to or greater than 1ha.</li> </ul>	
coastal erosion	neans land shown:	
	(a) on the Coastal Erosion Hazard Bands 20161201, produced by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and available on theLIST; or	
	(b) in a planning scheme as subject to coastal erosion.	
coastal erosion hazard	means land shown:	
area	(a) on the Coastal Erosion Hazard Bands 20161201, produced by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and available on theLIST; or	
	(b) in a planning scheme as subject to coastal erosion.	
coastal erosion hazard	means a report prepared by geotechnical practitioner that includes:	
report	(a) details, and signed by, the person who prepared or verified the report;	

Term	Definition	
	(b) confirmation that the person has the appropriate qualifications and expertise;	
	<ul><li>(c) confirmation that the report has been prepared in accordance with any methodology specified by a State authority;</li></ul>	
	<ul> <li>(d) a report of a geotechnical site investigation undertaken consistent with Australian Standard AS 1726-2017 Geotechnical site investigations; and</li> </ul>	
	<ul><li>(e) conclusions based on consideration of the proposed use and development that:</li></ul>	
	<ul> <li>(i) determine whether the use or development is likely to cause or contribute to the occurrence of coastal erosion on the project land, adjacent land or public infrastructure;</li> </ul>	
	(ii) determine whether the use or development can achieve and maintain a tolerable risk from a coastal erosion event in 2100 for the intended life of the use or development, having regard to:	
	a. the nature, intensity and duration of the use;	
	b. the type, form and duration of any development;	
	<ul> <li>the likely change in the risk across the intended life of the use or development;</li> </ul>	
	d. the ability to adapt to a change in the level of risk;	
	e. the ability to maintain access to utilities and services;	
	<ul> <li>f. the need for specific coastal erosion reduction or protection measures on the project land;</li> </ul>	
	<li>g. the need for coastal erosion reduction or protection measures beyond the boundary of the project land; and</li>	
	<ul> <li>h. any coastal erosion management plan in place for the project land or adjacent land;</li> </ul>	
	<ul><li>(iii) include any advice relating to the ongoing management of the use or development; and</li></ul>	
	(iv) determine whether the use or development is located on an actively mobile landform within the coastal zone.	
coastal inundation	means the risk of temporary or permanent inundation of land by the sea as a result of:	
	(a) storm surge;	
	(b) tides; or	
	(c) sea-level rise.	
coastal inundation	means land shown:	
hazard area	(a) on the Coastal Inundation Hazard Bands 20161201, produced by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and available on the LIST;	
	(b) in a planning scheme as subject to coastal inundation; or	
	(c) in a coastal inundation investigation area within mapping of points (a) or (b), and where a suitably qualified person has provided a land survey showing an AHD for the land that falls within one of the coastal inundation hazard band levels shown in the coastal inundation hazard bands AHD levels in Appendix 9: Coastal	

Term Definition		
	inundation hazard band levels of the <i>Coastal Hazards Technical Report,</i> December 2016, Department of Premier and Cabinet.	
coastal inundation hazard report	means a report prepared by a suitably qualified person for a site that must include:	
	(a) details of, and signed by, the person who prepared or verified the report;	
	(b) confirmation that the person has the appropriate qualifications and expertise;	
	(c) confirmation that the report has been prepared in accordance with any methodology specified by a State authority; and	
	(d) conclusions based on consideration of the proposed use and development:	
	<ul> <li>(i) as to whether the use or development is likely to cause or contribute to coastal inundation on the project land, adjacent land or public infrastructure;</li> </ul>	
	(ii) as to whether the use or development can achieve and maintain a tolerable risk from a 1% annual exceedance probability coastal inundation event , for the intended life of the use or development, having regard to:	
	a. the nature, intensity and duration of the use;	
	b. the type, form and duration of any development;	
	<ul> <li>the likely change in the risk across the intended life of the use or development;</li> </ul>	
	d. the ability to adapt to a change in the level of risk;	
	e. the ability to maintain access to utilities and services;	
	f. the need for specific coastal inundation hazard reduction or protection measures on the project land;	
	g. the need for coastal inundation reduction or protection measures beyond the boundary of the project land; and	
	h. any coastal inundation management plan in place for the project land or adjacent land; and	
	(iii) any advice relating to the ongoing management of the use or development.	
coastal inundation management plan	means a management plan for a coastal inundation hazard area endorsed by the relevant council.	
coastal protection works	means structures or works aimed at protecting land, property and human life from adverse impacts caused by erosion or inundation in the coastal zone.	
coastal values	means the values of coastal areas derived from their coastal habitat and vegetation, physical elements, landscape values, recreational values and economic values and the processes and functions that underpin them.	
communal residence	means use of land for a building to accommodate persons who are unrelated to one another and who share some parts of the building such as a boarding house, residential college and residential care facility.	
council	means as defined in the Act.	
electricity entity	means as defined in the Electricity Supply Industry Act 1995.	

Term	Definition
emergency management strategy (hazardous use)	means a strategy that provides for mitigation measures to achieve and maintain a level of tolerable risk that is specifically developed to address the characteristics, nature and scale of the use considering:
	(a) the nature of the bushfire-prone vegetation including the type, fuel load, structure and flammability; and
	(b) available fire protection measures to:
	<ul><li>(i) prevent the hazardous use from contributing to the spread or intensification of bushfire;</li></ul>
	(ii) limit the potential for bushfire to be ignited on the site;
	(iii) prevent exposure of people and the environment to the hazardous chemicals, explosives or emissions as a consequence of bushfire; and
	(iv) reduce risk to emergency service personnel.
EMPC Act	means the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994.
flood	means the risk of periodic or permanent flooding of land from a watercourse or other inland water source.
flood hazard report	means a report prepared by a suitably qualified person for a site, that must include:
	(a) details of, and signed by, the person who prepared or verified the report;
	(b) confirmation that the person has the appropriate qualifications and expertise;
	(c) confirmation that the report has been prepared in accordance with any methodology specified by a State authority; and
	(d) conclusions based on consideration of the proposed use or development:
	<ul> <li>(i) as to whether the use or development is likely to cause or contribute to the occurrence of flood on the project land or on adjacent land;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>(ii) as to whether the use or development can achieve and maintain a tolerable risk from a 1% annual exceedance probability flood event, for the intended life of the use or development, having regard to:</li> </ul>
	a. the nature, intensity and duration of the use;
	b. the type, form and duration of any development;
	<ul> <li>the likely change in the level of risk across the intended life of the use or development;</li> </ul>
	d. the ability to adapt to a change in the level of risk;
	e. the ability to maintain access to utilities and services;
	f. the need for flood reduction or protection measures beyond the boundary of the project land; and
	g. any flood management plan in place for the project land and/or adjacent land; and
	(iii) any advice relating to the ongoing management of the use or development.
flood-prone area	means land shown:

Term	Definition	
	(a) in a planning scheme as subject to flood; or	
	(b) in a report by a suitably qualified person as subject to risk from flood or has the potential to cause or contribute to increased risk from flood.	
geoconservation site	means a site listed on the Tasmanian Geoconservation database available on theList, or a geodiversity feature, system or processes of conservation significance identified through on-site assessment.	
geotechnical	means:	
practitioner	(a) a person holding a building services license issued under the Occupational Licensing Act 2005 in the class of engineer-civil;	
	(b) a geotechnical engineer acting within their area of competence; or	
	(c) an engineering geologist acting within their area of competence.	
hazardous chemicals of a manifest quantity	means a hazardous chemical, as defined in the <i>Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012</i> , if the amount of hazardous chemical stored exceeds the manifest quantity as specified under the <i>Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012</i> . <sup>1</sup>	
heritage impact statement	means a report prepared by a suitably qualified person using the methodology in the State Heritage Office of Western Australia, Heritage Impact Statement – A Guide, 2012 or other best practice guidelines relevant to the assessment of heritage impact, that must include:	
	(a) details of, and signed by, the person who prepared or verified the report;	
	(b) confirmation that the person has the appropriate qualifications and expertise;	
	(c) conclusions based on consideration of the proposed use and development that determine:	
	(i) whether a proposed use and development will impact on a place's historic cultural heritage values or local historic heritage significance; and	
	(ii) how those impacts might be avoided or ameliorated by addressing the following:	
	<ul> <li>a. what is significant about the place in terms of its heritage values and are some part more significant than other;</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>b. will the proposed works adversely affect the significance and if so how;</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>c. what measures, if any, are proposed to avoid or ameliorate any adverse impacts; and</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>d. will the proposal result in any heritage conservation benefits that might offset any adverse impacts.</li> </ul>	
high coastal erosion	means land shown:	
hazard band	(a) on the Coastal Erosion Hazard Bands 20161201, produced by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and available on theLIST and classified into a high hazard band; or	

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 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 1}$  It will be necessary to refer to the relevant Safety Datasheet.

Term	Definition
	(b) in a planning scheme as subject to coastal erosion and classified into a high hazard band.
high landslip hazard	means land shown:
band	<ul> <li>(a) on the landslide Planning Map – Hazard Bands 20131022, produced by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and available on the LIST and classified into a high hazard band;</li> </ul>
	<ul><li>(b) in a planning scheme as subject to landslip and classified into a high hazard band; or</li></ul>
	(c) in a report by a geotechnical practitioner as having the potential to cause or contribute to a landslip with a level of risk equivalent to the high hazard band identified in the Landslide Planning Report, version 5, August 2013, Department of Premier and Cabinet.
high or medium coastal	means land shown:
inundation hazard band	(a) on the Coastal Inundation Hazard Bands 20161201, produced by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and available on the LIST and classified into a high hazard band or medium hazard band;
	<ul><li>(b) in a planning scheme as subject to coastal inundation and classified into a high hazard band or medium hazard band; or</li></ul>
	(c) in a coastal inundation investigation area within mapping of points (a) or (b), and where a suitably qualified person has provided a land survey showing an AHD for the land that falls within the high or medium coastal inundation hazard band levels shown in the coastal inundation hazard bands AHD levels in Appendix 9: Coastal inundation hazard band levels of the Coastal Hazards Technical Report, December 2016, Department of Premier and Cabinet.
historic cultural	means as defined in the <i>Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995</i> .
heritage significance	
home-based business	means use of part of a dwelling by a resident for non-residential purposes if:
	(a) the person conducting the business normally uses the dwelling as their principal place of residence;
	<ul><li>(b) it does not involve employment of more than 2 workers on-site who do not reside at the dwelling;</li></ul>
	<ul><li>(c) any load on a utility is no more than for a domestic use; there is no activity that causes electrical interference to use on other land;</li></ul>
	(d) there is no storage of hazardous material on site;
	<ul> <li>(e) the display of goods for sale are not visible from any road or public open space adjoining the site; (g) there is, on the site, no advertising of the business other than 1 sign (non-illuminated) not exceeding 0.2m² in area;</li> </ul>
	<ul><li>(f) there is, on the site, no refuelling, servicing, detailing or repair of vehicles not owned by a resident;</li></ul>
	<ul> <li>no more than 2 commercial vehicles are on the site at any one time and no commercial vehicle on the site exceeds 2 tonnes; and</li> </ul>
	(ii) all vehicles used by the business are parked on the site.
home-based child care	means use of a dwelling to mind or care for children for a day or part of a day, by one or more persons residing in the dwelling.

Term	Definition	
junction	means an intersection between two or more roads at a common level, including the intersections of on and off ramps, and grade-separated roads.	
land	means as defined in the Act.	
landscape and visual	means a report prepared by a suitably qualified person:	
impact assessment	(a) using the methodology in:	
report	(i) Guidance Note for Visual Impact Assessment, June 2019, Australian Institute of Landscape Architects;	
	<ul> <li>(ii) Guideline for landscape character and visual impact assessment         <ul> <li>Environmental Impact Assessment Practice Note EIA-NO4,</li> <li>version 2.2, August 2020, Transport for NSW; or</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
	(iii) other best practice guidelines relevant to electricity transmission infrastructure; and	
	(b) that, at a minimum, must include:	
	<ul><li>(i) details of, and be signed by, the person who prepared or verified the report;</li></ul>	
	(ii) confirmation that the person has the appropriate qualifications and expertise;	
	(iii) identification of the landscape values;	
	<ul><li>(iv) identification of the sensitivity of the landscape to visual change;</li></ul>	
	<ul><li>(v) identification of representative viewpoints from sites, such as, tourist facilities, public roads and public places; and</li></ul>	
	(vi) assessment of the magnitude of change from each viewpoint.	
landscape values	means:	
	(a) characteristics of a landscape or view that are considered to be significant; and	
	(b) any applicable scenic values identified in a planning scheme particular purpose zone, code or specific area plan.	
landslide	means landslip.	
landslip	means the downslope movement of a mass of rock, debris, or earth.	
landslip hazard area	means land shown:	
	(a) on the Landslide Planning Map – Hazard Bands 20131022, produced by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and available on theLIST;	
	(b) in a planning scheme as subject to landslip; or	
	(c) in a report by a geotechnical practitioner as having the potential to cause or contribute to a landslip.	
landslip hazard report	means a report prepared using the methodology of the <i>Practice Note Guidelines for Landslide Risk Management 2007</i> , Australian Geomechanics Society Landslide Taskforce, Landslide Practice Note Working Group, by a geotechnical practitioner and must include:	
	(a) details of, and be signed by, the person who prepared or verified the report;	
	(b) confirmation that the person has the appropriate qualifications and expertise;	

Term	Definition	
	(c) confirmation that the report has been prepared in accordance with any methodology specified by a State authority;	
	(d) a report of a geotechnical site investigation undertaken consistent with Australian Standard AS 1726:2017 Geotechnical site investigations;	
	(e) conclusions based on consideration of the proposed use or development:	
	<ul> <li>(i) as to whether the use or development is likely to cause or contribute to the occurrence of a landslip event on the project land, adjacent land or public infrastructure;</li> </ul>	
	<ul><li>(ii) as to whether the use or development can achieve and maintain a tolerable risk for the intended life of the development, having regard to:</li></ul>	
	a. the nature, intensity and duration of the use;	
	b. the type, form and duration of any development;	
	<ul> <li>the likely change in the risk across the intended life of the use or development;</li> </ul>	
	d. the ability to adapt to a change in the risk;	
	e. the ability to maintain access to utilities and services;	
	<li>f. the need for specific landslip reduction or protection measures on the project land;</li>	
	<ul> <li>g. the need for landslip reduction or protection measures beyond the boundary of the project land; and</li> </ul>	
	h. any landslip management plan in place for the project land or adjacent land; and	
	<ul><li>(iii) any advice relating to the ongoing management of the use or development.</li></ul>	
landslip management plan	means a management plan for a landslip hazard area endorsed by the relevant council.	
level crossing	means as defined in section 35 of the Rail Infrastructure Act 2007.	
littoral vegetation	means vegetation adjacent to a sea, lake or river that is close to the shore. It includes the intertidal zone to high water mark and can include wetlands.	
local historic heritage significance	means significance in relation to a local heritage place or a local heritage precinct, and its historic heritage values as identified in the relevant list, in a planning scheme, because of:	
	(a) its role in, representation of, or potential for contributing to the understanding of:	
	(i) local history;	
	(ii) creative or technical achievements;	
	(iii) a class of building or place; or	
	(iv) aesthetic characteristics; or	
	(b) its association with:	
	(i) a particular community or cultural group for social or spiritual reasons; or	

Term	Definition	
	(ii) the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance to the locality or region,	
	as identified in the relevant list in the planning scheme, or in a report prepared by a suitably qualified person, if not identified in the relevant list.	
local heritage place	means a place that is listed in a planning scheme and identified as having particular historic heritage significance.	
local heritage precinct	means an area that is listed in a planning scheme and identified as having particular historic heritage significance because of the collective heritage value of individual places as a group for their streetscape or townscape values.	
lot	means a piece or parcel of land where there is only one title other than a lot within the meaning of the <i>Strata Titles Act 1998</i> .	
magnitude of change	means the extent of change that will be experienced from a viewpoint, including:	
	<ul> <li>(a) the proportion of the landscape or view affected, the extent of the area over which the change occurs;</li> </ul>	
	(b) the size and scale of the change;	
	(c) the rate and duration of the change; and	
	(d) the level of contrast and compatibility.	
major project	means the New Bridgewater Bridge major project as specified in the declaration dated 23 October 2020.	
medium-active landslip	means land shown:	
hazard band	(a) on the landslide Planning Map – Hazard Bands 20131022, produced by the Department of Premier and Cabinet and available on the LIST and classified into a medium-active hazard band;	
	(b) in a planning scheme as subject to landslip and classified into a medium-active hazard band; or	
	(c) in a report by a geotechnical practitioner as having the potential to cause or contribute to a landslip with a level of risk equivalent to the medium-active hazard band identified in the <i>Landslide Planning Report, version 5, August 2013,</i> Department of Premier and Cabinet.	
multiple dwelling	means 2 or more dwellings on a site.	
natural assets	means biodiversity, environmental flows, natural streambank and streambed condition, riparian vegetation, littoral vegetation, water quality, wetlands, river condition and waterway and/or coastal values.	
Panel	means the Development Assessment Panel as defined in section 60B of the Act.	
participating regulator	means as defined in section 60B of the Act.	
planning scheme	has the meaning in section 10(2)(a) of the Act.	
project land	means the land to which the major project relates as declared under section 600 of the Act and shown in Schedule 3.	
rail network	means as defined in the Rail Infrastructure Act 2007 and corridors declared under the Strategic Infrastructure Corridors (Strategic and Recreational Use) Act 2016.	

Term	Definition	
registered place	means a place as defined in the <i>Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995</i> and entered on the Tasmanian Heritage Register.	
residential	means use of land for self-contained or shared accommodation.  Examples include a secondary residence, boarding house, communal residence, home-based business, home-based child care, residential care facility, residential college, respite centre, assisted housing, retirement village and single or multiple dwellings.	
residential care facility	means use of land for accommodation and personal or nursing care. It includes recreational, health or laundry facilities and services for residents of the facility.	
road	means land over which the general public has permanent right of passage, including the whole width between abutting property boundaries, all footpaths and the like, and all bridges over which such a road passes.	
sensitive receptors	means sensitive use, residential zones and any tourism and passive recreation uses.	
sensitive use	means a residential use or a use involving the presence of people for extended periods except in the course of their employment such as a caravan park, childcare centre, dwelling, hospital or school.	
significant works	means any of the following:	
	(a) excavation equal to or greater than 1m in depth, including temporary excavations for the installation or maintenance of services or pipes;	
	(b) excavation or land filling of greater than 100m³ whether or not material is sourced on the site or imported;	
	(c) felling or removal of vegetation over a contiguous area greater than 1,000m²;	
	(d) the collection, pooling or storage of water in a dam, pond, tank or swimming pool with a volume of more than 45,000L;	
	(e) removal, redirection, or introduction of drainage for surface or groundwater; and	
	(f) discharge of stormwater, sewage, water storage overflow or other wastewater.	
site	means the lot or lots on which a use or development is located or proposed to be located.	
State authority	means as defined in the Act.	
suitably qualified person	means a person who can adequately demonstrate relevant tertiary qualifications or equivalent) and experience in a recognised field of knowledge, expertise or practice with direct relevance to the matter under consideration.	
tolerable risk	means the lowest level of likely risk from the relevant hazard:	
	(a) to secure the benefits of a use or development in a relevant hazard area; and	
	(b) which can be managed through:	
	(i) routine regulatory measures; or	
	(ii) by specific hazard management measures for the intended life of each use or development.	

Term	Definition	
tourism and passive recreation use	means camping grounds, play grounds, picnic areas, walking tracks, historic routes.	
traffic impact assessment	means a study or a statement prepared in accordance with the <i>Guide to Traffic Management Part 12: Traffic Impacts of Development 2009</i> , Austroads Inc, by a person with qualifications and a level of experience appropriate to the significance of the traffic impact.	
TSP Act	means the Tasmanian Threatened Species Protection Act 1995.	
use	means as defined in the Act.	
vehicle crossing	means a driveway for vehicular traffic to enter or leave a road carriageway from land adjoining a road.	
vehicular access	means land over which a vehicle enters or leaves a road from land adjoining a road.	
visual amenity	means the attractiveness of a scene or view.	
watercourse	means a defined channel with a natural or modified bed and banks that carries surface water flows.	
works	means as defined in the Act.	

# Schedule 2 Participating regulator information requirements

- S2.1 Participating regulator information requirements
- S2.1.1 The participating regulator information requirements set out in clauses S2.2 to S2.5 describe the matters that must be addressed in the major project impact statement to meet the requirements of participating regulators.
- S2.2 Environment Protection Authority information requirements

#### S2.2.1 Air emissions

The following information requirements and matters must be addressed for clause 5.1.1 Air emissions:

- (a) identification of air emission constituents of concern and sensitive receptors during construction and operational phases, include the following details:
  - (i) location of sensitive receptors;
  - (ii) sources of air emissions and their locations; and
  - (iii) constituents of emissions for each source, their quantities, and rates of emission to the atmosphere.
- (b) assessment of construction and operational phase emissions with respect to the likelihood of causing environmental nuisance or environmental harm, including:
  - establishing a baseline for air quality in the vicinity of sensitive receptors prior to the commencement of construction by implementing an air monitoring program to determine ambient concentrations of pollutants associated with construction emissions and with vehicle emissions;
  - (ii) continued operation of the air monitoring program to monitor air quality in the vicinity of sensitive receptors during construction and operational phases of the project;
  - (iii) air dispersion modelling of the potential impact of emissions from the construction and operational phases of the project using a conservative approach and appropriate input data; and
  - (iv) assessment of the potential of emissions from the construction and operational phases of the project to cause environmental nuisance or environmental harm; and
- (c) development of construction and operational phase design, management and mitigation strategies, if required.

#### S2.2.2 Noise emissions

The following Information requirements and matters must be addressed for clause 5.1.2 Noise emissions:

- (a) identification of significant noise emissions and noise-sensitive locations for both the construction and operational phases of the project;
- (b) discussion of the potential for noise impacts on aquatic fauna;
- (c) assessment of construction and operational noise including:
  - (i) establish the baseline (pre-existing) noise in the area with particular focus on sensitive receptors likely to be influenced by the project;
  - (ii) establish noise level criteria for the operational phase of the project, such as, traffic noise from the completed new bridge;
  - (iii) predict construction noise at noise sensitive uses/receptors to identify the need or otherwise of noise mitigation;

- (iv) identify the need or otherwise for mitigation measures or actions for underwater noise; and
- (v) predict operational noise levels and identify areas where the levels exceed the established criteria and areas where the predicted levels exceed the baseline noise levels;
- (d) address how noise generated from the construction and operational phases are consistent with Part 4 of the Environment Protection Policy (Noise) 2009<sup>2</sup>;
- (e) provide a construction noise management plan that includes management of noise complaints and options for noise and vibration monitoring, if required;
- describe any need for post-construction noise measurements and operational noise mitigation; and
- (g) construction and operational phase management and mitigation strategies, if required.

#### S2.2.3 Water quality

The following Information requirements and matters must be addressed for clause 5.1.3 Water quality:

- (a) describe the Derwent Estuary receiving environment (and other local water courses) for pollutants that may be released as a result of construction works and post-construction changes to water flow and sediment deposition, including:
  - (i) identification of the full extent of the Estuary, both east and west of the Bridge, that may be impacted through the release of sediment and associated pollutants to the water column as a result of the proposal, or may be impacted by changes to water flows post construction;
  - (ii) a list all potential receptors and environmental values within the identified area of impact;
  - (iii) a description of estuarine hydrodynamics in the area of potential impact as relevant to the mobilisation and distribution of sediment and other potential contaminants; and
  - (iv) a description of the physical and biological characteristics of the nearby macrophyte beds in relation to the potential for sediment entrapment, deposition, smothering and the effects of anoxic conditions;
- (b) in addition to sediment load, identify contaminants of potential concern that may be released to the water column and water quality parameters that may be impacted and include a review of available historical information including previous contaminant assessments, land use history and contaminant transport modelling;
- (c) provide details of monitoring programs and surveys established to assess impacts to water quality in relation to identified estuarine habitats and use, including impacts to the macrophyte beds in the vicinity of the Bridgewater Causeway, and provide:
  - the results of sediment sampling undertaken in areas of potential disturbance along with a discussion that includes information regarding sediment physical characteristics, contaminant concentrations and the potential for acid sulphate soils;
  - (ii) survey results of aquatic habitats in the identified areas of potential impact;and

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://epa.tas.gov.au/Documents/EPP Noise 2009.pdf

- (iii) the results of baseline water quality monitoring for contaminants and parameters of concern that includes monitoring of existing sediment loads and turbidity at nearby receiving environments;
- (d) assess potential impacts to receiving water quality and habitats, including:
  - (i) provide the results of water flow investigations carried out that includes:
    - an analysis of potential sediment mobilisation, transport, and deposition locations under a range of hydrologic circumstances including plausible worst-case scenarios;
    - b. references to any historical modelling;
    - c. analysis considering variable catchment flows and tides and a range of plausible construction scenarios; and
    - d. potential post construction changes to flows which may result in scouring and changes to sediment deposition location should be considered:
  - (ii) subject to consideration of expected sediment control measures, determine potential sediment deposition rates and effects on estuarine habitats, using analysis based upon the results of:
    - a. monitoring programs of sediment characteristics and sediment deposition;
    - b. hydrodynamic analysis; and
    - c. consideration of the impact of smothering and anoxic condition on the macrophyte beds;
  - (iii) determine specific water quality guideline values for the project land for assessment of water quality impacts during and after construction, using guideline values determined by:
    - reference to National Water Quality Management Strategy Guidelines;
    - b. the results of monitoring and survey work;
    - c. other existing local water quality information available; and
    - analysis of potential sediment scouring and deposition impacts to habitats;
  - (iv) consider the near and far-field impacts that may result from release of nutrients to the water column; and
  - (v) consider the potential for metals and other contaminants contained within sediment to be desorbed, dissolved, or otherwise become chemically more or less bioavailable, in areas of disturbance and areas of potential sediment deposition;
- (e) develop a construction and sediment management plan, that includes:
  - (i) detailed sediment control measures to be implemented during construction and the expected performance standards in relation to these control measures;
  - (ii) detail of any construction sediment analysis, water quality monitoring programs and habitat monitoring proposed and the criteria against which impacts to water quality and receiving aquatic habitats will be assessed;

- (iii) consideration of contingency measures to adapt to variations from predictions, poor performance or unforeseen changes during construction;
- (f) detail any post construction monitoring proposed to assess the potential longer term impacts to water quality and receiving habitats.

#### S2.2.4 Stormwater

The following Information requirements and matters must be addressed for clause 5.1.4 stormwater:

- (a) provide a stormwater management plan to mitigate the potential for release of entrained sediment and contaminants from land-based activities to the Derwent Estuary and any other identified surface water bodies;
- (b) detail the results of any soil contamination and acid sulphate soil analysis, and if contaminated or acid sulphate soils are to be disturbed on land, then detail measures to prevent the release of contaminants to stormwater; and
- (c) provide a plan of proposed stormwater controls and detail design criteria for control infrastructure including design rainfall average recurrence interval for drainage and sediment retention infrastructure.

#### S2.2.5 Hydrology

The following Information requirements and matters must be addressed for clause 5.1.5 Hydrology:

- (a) provide a conceptual groundwater model for the project land indicating local and regional aquifer flows and identifying potential impacts of the project on groundwater; and
- (b) if necessary, mitigation should be proposed for potential impact to receiving environments from changed groundwater quality or flow, noting that controls to prevent migration of contaminants to groundwater at any storage locations for potentially contaminating materials should be detailed in relation to the management of those facilities.

#### S2.2.6 Contaminated land

The following Information requirements and matters must be addressed for clause 5.1.6 Contaminated land:

- identify the location (in three dimensions), volume and properties of potentially contaminated material within and near the project land (particularly within the Derwent River), which may pose a risk to the environment and human health, during the construction and operational phases of the project;
- (b) the contaminated site assessment must be conducted by a consultant who holds Site Contamination Specialist certification under the Certified Environmental Practitioner Scheme (CEnvP(SC));
- (c) assessment of contaminated material should include:
  - (i) a Site History to identify the location and nature of potential contaminated material within and near the project land;
  - (ii) detail regarding proposed construction methodology, bridge footprint, extent of disturbance and how this may interact with contaminated material;
  - (iii) analysis of receptors and risk to receptors due to disturbing potentially contaminated material, during and after construction (e.g. from scouring of sediment due to altered flow patterns);

- (iv) potential consequences of disturbance (i.e. potential impact/risks), and evaluation of their significance; and
- (v) proposed management/mitigation measures for minimising disturbance during construction and long-term use, including monitoring of impacts if relevant;
- (d) reference to relevant legislation and policy;
- (e) describe proposed contamination management measures for construction; and
- (f) review the need for a long-term post-construction contamination management plan.

#### S2.2.7 Light pollution

The following Information requirements and matters to be addressed for clause 5.1.7 Light pollution:

- (a) identification of potential sources of light pollution and sensitive human and wildlife receptors for both the construction and operational phases of the project;
- (b) an assessment of construction and operational light pollution including:
  - (i) consideration of existing levels of light;
  - (ii) consideration of different types of light pollution, and potential impact on human and wildlife receptors, with reference to any relevant guidelines or standards;
  - (iii) identification of the need or otherwise for construction and operational mitigation measures and strategies; and
  - (iv) development of construction and operational phase design, management and mitigation strategies if required.

#### S2.3 TasGas information requirements

The following Information requirements and matters are to be addressed for clause 5.2 TasGas requirements:

- (a) for works within 25m of the pipeline alignment, an engineering assessment of the potential impacts and associated risks to the operation and safety of the gas pipeline.
- S2.4 Tasmanian Heritage Council information requirements

The following Information requirements and matters are to be addressed for clause 5.4 Tasmanian Heritage Council requirements:

- (a) an assessment of the cultural heritage significance of registered places directly impacted and those adjacent places to be impacted within the Project Land including a comparative analysis of registered places against other relevant Tasmanian and Australian heritage places;
- (b) the assessment of the cultural heritage significance should:
  - (i) if demolition of the existing Bridgewater Bridge is proposed, provide:
    - a. a comprehensive study explaining the full rationale for the proposed demolition that demonstrates all feasible options for full or partial retention of the bridge have been fully investigated; and
    - b. the study must include an assessment carried out in accordance to section 6 of the THC's Works Guidelines for Historic Heritage Places<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://heritage.tas.gov.au/Documents/Works Guidelines FINAL Nov2015.pdf

- (c) a Statement of Archaeological Potential and an Archaeological Method Statement (AMS) for registered places within the project land, prepared by a suitably qualified archaeological consultant in accordance with the *THC Practice Note 2 Managing Historical Archaeological Significance in the Works Process*<sup>4</sup>, including a commitment to enact the AMS;
- (d) a heritage impact statement that:
  - (i) refers to the assessment of heritage values, responds to the proposed scope of work, and provides strategies and recommendations for mitigating potential heritage impacts, including commitments to generate public benefits that offset any heritage impacts or loss of heritage values, inclusive of appropriate recording of all structures proposed for demolition, heritage interpretation and the provision of conservation plans for places of heritage significance; and
  - (ii) includes a detailed assessment of the proposal against the THC's Works Guidelines for Historic Heritage Places<sup>5</sup> and the provisions of the Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995.
- S2.5 Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment information requirements
- S2.5.1 Flora, fauna and vegetation communities

The following Information requirements and matters must be addressed for clauses 5.5.1 Impacts to aquatic and terrestrial flora, 5.5.2 Impacts to vegetation communities, and 5.5.3 impacts to threatened fauna:

- (a) information about the identification of threatened aquatic and terrestrial flora and vegetation communities including survey data and historical records;
- (b) details of surveys undertaken, including survey effort, timing and an assessment of the adequacy of the surveys;
- (c) details of the qualifications of the person who undertook the surveys and evidence that the surveys have been undertaken in accordance with the Guidelines for Natural Values Assessments (Terrestrial<sup>6</sup> and Marine and Estuarine<sup>7</sup>);
- (d) information detailing known/recorded populations and known or potential habitat, including habitat in the area surrounding the proposed action;
- (e) a map (or maps) of existing vegetation and type, threatened species and threatened native vegetation communities;
- (f) impacts on species and habitats, with particular reference to rare and threatened species, migratory species and habitats, including aquatic fauna and those listed under the relevant the TSP Act; and
- (g) details of any direct or indirect loss, disturbance and/or degradation of listed or other protected species as a result of the construction and operational phases.

<sup>4</sup> https://heritage.tas.gov.au/Documents/2-Archaeology-FINALNov2014.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://heritage.tas.gov.au/Documents/Works\_Guidelines\_FINAL\_Nov2015.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> https://dpipwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Guideline for Natural Values Surveys related to Development Proposals.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> https://dpipwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Guidelines for Marine and Estuarine Natural Values Surveys & Development Proposals.pdf

#### S2.5.2 Aboriginal heritage

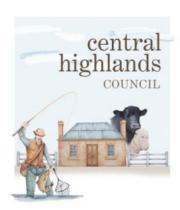
The following Information requirements and matters must be addressed for clause 5.5.4 Aboriginal heritage:

- (a) an Unanticipated Discovery Plan is to be prepared in accordance with the *Aboriginal Heritage Standards and Procedures, June 2018* and sections 10(3) and 21A of the *Aboriginal Act 1975*;
- (b) the assessment of Aboriginal heritage is to be undertaken in accordance with the Aboriginal Heritage Standards and Procedures, including requirements for consultation and engagement with Aboriginal people, with reference to section 14(1) of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1975; and
- (c) where a permit would ordinarily be required to under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act* 1975 during the preparation of the major project impact statement, the Panel must be notified of this requirement in the first instance.



Project land Cadastral Parcels

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# Central Highlands Municipal Emergency Management Plan

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П	an	Details:

Plan Title: Central Highlands Municipal Emergency Management Plan

**Issue Details:** Issue 7, April 2021

**Review Authority:** Central Highlands Municipal Emergency Management Committee

**Submission Authority:** Commander Anthony Cerritelli

Southern Region Emergency Management Controller

#### Approval:

Approval Authority: Commissioner Darren Hine

State Emergency Management Controller

Signature:

**Date:** April 2021

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# 1.1 Glossary

Terms used are consistent with the Tasmanian Emergency Management Arrangements (<u>TEMA</u>). The Emergency Management Act 2006 (the Act) abbreviates some titles (eg. Municipal Coordinator instead of Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator). This practice also applies to this plan.

Table 1: Terms

In the context of this plan, this means:
·
A committee established under section 24E of the Act after an emergency event to coordinate longer term recovery activities at regional and/or local levels; these committees bring together members of the affected community, councils and relevant Tasmanian Government agencies to collaboratively plan, prioritise and coordinate regional and local recovery activities
Measures for the protection of the economy, environment and human health from the negative impacts associated with the entry, establishment or spread of exotic pests (including weeds) and diseases
A function of human and physical resources, systems, processes, training and the supply chain, for example, trained personnel with equipment ready for deployment
The extent to which a capability can be applied to a particular task or function
Means two or more municipal areas determined by the Minister to be a combined area under section 19 of the Act
The internal direction of an organisation's resources in an emergency
<b>Evacuation Centre</b> : A place or facility where people affected by an emergency may be provided with information in relation to the hazards associated with the emergency or with temporary shelter from those hazards
<b>Information Centre:</b> A facility to provide information and answer enquiries about the emergency or operation in progress. This includes the supply of information of a general nature to assist those affected by the event
<b>Recovery Centre:</b> A place or facility where people affected by an emergency may be provided with information or support to recover from that emergency
A captive-bred animal that is not commercial livestock
Activities undertaken to manage the consequences of an emergency and/or emergency response, including activities to minimise recovery needs, including but not limited to measures to protect public health standards, restore essential services and provide relief and financial assistance
A framework made up of various groups within the emergency management system and the way these groups contribute to decision-making through consultation and collaboration; groups may include established committees and related stakeholder groups, supplemented by temporary working groups
The overall direction and management of emergency management activities in an emergency situation; authority for control is established in legislation or in an emergency plan and carries with it responsibility for tasking other organisations in accordance with the needs of the situation; control relates to situations and operates horizontally across organisations
The bringing together of organisations and other resources to support an emergency management response; coordination involves the systematic acquisition and application of resources (organisational, human and equipment) in an emergency situation
In the context of this plan, Council refers to the Central Highlands local government authority
Direct assistance provided by relevant service professionals to emergency-impacted people who are or may be having problems coping with the aftermath of an emergency

Term	In the context of this plan, this means:
debrief	To gather information from participants in an action to gauge the success or otherwise of the action at the end of the task, shift or incident
Deputy Municipal Coordinator (DMC)	A person appointed as Deputy Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator under section 23 of the Act, and who can act for the Municipal Coordinator when the Municipal Coordinator is:  • absent from duty or Tasmania  • unable to perform Municipal Coordinator duties (permanently), or  • temporarily not appointed (eg. has resigned)
emergency	An event, actual or imminent, that endangers or threatens to endanger life, property or the environment, and which requires a significant and coordinated response
emergency centres	<b>Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC)</b> : A facility established to coordinate and organise emergency provision of services. Can be established at municipal, regional and/or state levels
	<b>Emergency Operations Centre (EOC):</b> A facility, either static or mobile, from which the total operation or aspects of the operation are managed. A facility established to control and coordinate the response and support to an incident or emergency
	<b>Incident Control Centre (ICC):</b> The location where the Incident Controller and various members of the Incident Management Team provide overall direction of response activities
emergency management	The planning, organisation, coordination and implementation of measures that are necessary or desirable to prevent, mitigate, respond to, resist, adapt to, overcome and recover from an emergency; can include civil defence, emergency-related research or training, or the development of emergency policy and procedures relating to any of these measures or actions
emergency management plan	A document required by the Act (and other legislation that requires emergency management related plans) that describes governance and coordination arrangements and assigned responsibilities for: a geographic area; identified hazard; or function relevant to emergency management. This includes descriptions of processes that provide for safe and effective operations for emergency situations.
emergency management worker	A member of a statutory service, whether for payment or other consideration or as a volunteer; or an authorised officer; or a person who does or omits to do any act in the assistance of, or under the direction or control of, an authorised officer.
emergency powers and special emergency powers	Powers specified in Schedules 1 and 2 of the Act
emergency risk management	A systematic process that produces a range of measures that contribute to the wellbeing of communities and the environment
environment	Components include: land, air and water; organic and inorganic matter; living organisms; human-made or modified structures and areas; interacting natural ecosystems; and all other components of the earth further defined by the Act
exercise	A simulated emergency scenario designed to validate emergency management arrangements and/or familiarise workers with them
hazard	A place, structure, source or situation that may potentially endanger, destroy or threaten to endanger or destroy human life, property or the environment
Liaison Officer	A person nominated to represent his/her organisation and: provide advice about the organisation's resources, structures and capabilities; act as a conduit for information; and may be authorised to commit resources
Management Authority	Management Authorities provide direction so that capability is maintained for identified hazards across the prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery phases (PPRR), as well as assessing and validating the effectiveness of the strategies they implement
Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMC) Chairperson	The person determined by Council to be the Chairperson of the Municipality's MEMC under section 21 (2) of the Act

Term	In the context of this plan, this means:
Municipal Committee (MEMC)	A Municipal Emergency Management Committee established under section 20 of the Act
Municipal Coordinator (MC)	A person appointed as a Municipal Emergency Management Coordinator under section 23 of the Act
Municipal Recovery Coordinator (MRC)	A Council employee responsible for recovery at the municipal level, appointed under section 24G of the Act
Permanent Timber Production Zone land	A land classification established under the Forest Management Act 2013 to replace the formerly-used term 'state forest'
preparedness	Planned and coordinated measures so safe and effective response and recovery can occur
prevention and mitigation	Planned and coordinated measures that eliminate or reduce the frequency and/or consequences of emergencies
public information	The management of public information and perceptions during response to an incident
recovery	The process undertaken in an area or community affected by an emergency that returns all or part of the social, economic or environmental features or the infrastructure of that area or community to a functional standard, and/or assists the area or community during and after the emergency to deal with the impacts of the emergency
Recovery function	A particular activity or group of activities that may be undertaken as part of recovery efforts
Regional Controller	A person appointed as Regional Emergency Management Controller under section 17 of the Act, who is either: a police commander determined by the Commissioner of Police and the State Controller; or a person appointed by the Minister
Regional Emergency Coordination Centre (RECC)	A facility from which regional coordination of emergency (consequence) management occurs during the response phase.
Regional Emergency Management Committee (REMC)	A Regional Emergency Management Committee established under section 14 of the Act
Regional Emergency Management Plan (REMP)	A regional-level plan developed and amended from time to time and approved by the State Controller under section 33 of the Act
Regional Planner	The person appointed to the position of State Emergency Service (SES) Emergency Management Planner (South)
Regional Social Recovery Coordinator	A nominated Tasmanian State Service employee who is authorised to coordinate the delivery of social recovery services within a region, in collaboration with Municipal Recovery Coordinators and their deputies
Register.Find.Reunite (RFR)	Australian Government service operated by Red Cross that registers, finds and reunites family, friends and loved ones after an emergency
response	Actions taken in anticipation of, during and immediately after an emergency to ensure that its effects are minimised and that people affected are given immediate relief and support
risk	The combination of the probability of an event and its negative consequences
risk assessment	Methodology used to determine the nature and extent of risk, by analysing potential hazards and evaluating existing conditions of vulnerability that together could potentially harm people, property, services, livelihoods and the environment on which they depend
situational awareness	Situational awareness involves an understanding of the current emergency incident, and how it could evolve, to provide advance warning of impending threats and to facilitate the planning of response and mitigation strategies
Standard Operating	An agreed and standardised set of directions detailing actions to be taken

Term	In the context of this plan, this means:
Procedures (SOP)	
State Controller	<ul> <li>A person appointed as State Emergency Management Controller under section 10 of the Act, who is either:</li> <li>Head of the Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management, or</li> <li>a person appointed by the Minister</li> </ul>
state of alert	A state of alert declared under Division 3A of the Act, for occasions where there is a significant threat of an emergency in Tasmania, or credible information that an emergency existing outside Tasmania may impact on Tasmania
state of emergency	A state of emergency declared under Division 4 of the Act for occasions where an emergency, or significant threat of emergency, exists within Tasmania, and in which special emergency powers may be required
Support Agency	<b>Assisting Support Agency:</b> An organisation with specific capabilities or resources that complement the Primary Support Agency in delivering the relevant support function
	<b>Primary Support Agency:</b> An organisation responsible for the delivery and/or coordination of specific functional capabilities as agreed with Management Authorities; Primary Support Agencies have specific capabilities or resources that address the need for a relevant support function and command their own resources in coordination with the Management Authority, as required
validation	Activities conducted to assess or review the effectiveness of emergency management arrangements. Standard validation activities include exercises, operational debriefs, workshops and reviews
warning	Dissemination of a message signalling imminent hazard/s, which may include advice on protective measures
worker	A generic term used to describe people who perform defined functions for an organisation or system including: staff, volunteers and contractors/consultants

# 1.2 Acronyms

Acronyms used in this plan are consistent with the <u>TEMA</u>.

Table 2: Acronyms

Acronym	Stands for
AARC	Affected Area Recovery Committee
AIIMS	Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System
AT	Ambulance Tasmania
ВоМ	Bureau of Meteorology
CALD	Culturally and Linguistically Diverse
CBRN	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear
DCT	Department of Communities Tasmania
DSG	Department of State Growth
DMC	Deputy Municipal Coordinator
DoE	Department of Education
DoH	Department of Health
DoJ	Department of Justice
DOTAF	Department of Treasury and Finance
DPAC	Department of Premier and Cabinet
DPFEM	Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management
DPIPWE	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment
ECC	Emergency Coordination Centre
EPA	Environmental Protection Authority (DPIPWE)
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
GIS	Geographic Information System
GM	General Manager (Council)
ICC	Incident Control Centre
LC	Logistics Coordinator
МС	Municipal Coordinator
MECC	Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre
MEMC	Municipal Emergency Management Committee
MEMP	Municipal Emergency Management Plan (this plan)
MRC	Municipal Recovery Coordinator
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
OSEM	Office of Security and Emergency Management (DPAC)
PHS	Public Health Service (DoH)
PIU	Public Information Unit (DPAC)
PPRR	Prevention and Mitigation, Preparedness, Response and Recovery
PWS	Parks and Wildlife Service (DPIPWE)
RC	Recovery Coordinator
RCM	Recovery Centre Manager
RECC	Regional Emergency Coordination Centre

Acronym	Stands for
REMC	Regional Emergency Management Committee
RFR	Register.Find.Reunite service
RSRC	Regional Social Recovery Coordinator
SCC	State Control Centre
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee
SES	State Emergency Service
SEWS	Standard Emergency Warning Signal
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SRSRC	Southern Region Social Recovery Committee
SITREP	Situation Report
TASPOL	Tasmania Police
TEIS	Tasmanian Emergency Information Service
TEMA	Tasmanian Emergency Management Arrangements
TERAG	Tasmanian Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines
TFS	Tasmania Fire Service
THS	Tasmanian Health Service
TRRA	Tasmanian Relief and Recovery Arrangements

#### 1.3 Introduction

In accordance with the *Emergency Management Act 2006* (the Act), Central Highlands Council (Council) is required to develop a Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) that details the municipality's approach to dealing with emergencies.

Effective emergency management relies on partnerships between individuals, businesses, local emergency management organisations and all tiers of government. Council has an integral role in emergency management and has resources and information about the community that support the process of responding to and recovering from an emergency.

The Central Highlands Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMC)'s strategic objectives for emergency management are to:

- a maintain this MEMP to guide the management of risk to the community arising from emergencies by considering all elements of Prevention and Mitigation, Preparedness, Response and Recovery (PPRR)
- b recognise the value of relationships and partnerships for emergency management, in particular the importance of:
  - i community contributions in emergency management and promoting community management as required
  - ii identifying roles and responsibilities and integration processes between emergency management and Council's management structures
- c develop a progressive review system for all elements of emergency management, based on continuous improvement principles
- d maintain linkages with related bodies, including the Southern Regional Emergency Management Committee (SREMC).

A map of the municipal area is included at Figure 1.

## 1.4 Authority

This plan was prepared for issue under the authority of the State Controller, in accordance with section 34 of the Act. More information is included in Section 4 of this plan.

## 1.5 Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to describe emergency management arrangements that reduce risks to the community and mitigate the impact and effects of any emergency on life and property in the Central Highlands municipality.

# 1.6 Objectives

The objective of this plan is to support effective response and recovery from an emergency by identifying and documenting:

- a roles and responsibilities relating to specific hazards and emergency management functions
- b current arrangements for PPRR
- c protocols for coordinating mutual support with neighbouring councils
- d ways to request/access support from regional, state and national levels
- e opportunities to reduce risks to the community.

# 1.7 Scope and application

The arrangements detailed in this plan are designed to address emergencies that are:

- a caused by hazards impacting the Central Highlands municipal area
- b able to be managed through the capability of local emergency management structures.

These arrangements are intended to be scalable and flexible so they can be adapted as required across the PPRR spectrum, noting that additional legislated powers and/or authorised structural arrangements may be established to complement response to a particular event.

The Municipal Coordinator (MC) may activate specific arrangements detailed in this plan. Activation may also be directed or recommended by the Regional Controller (Southern Region) or Central Highlands MEMC Chairperson. Other communication may occur between the MC and responsible officers in the State Emergency Service (SES) and other government agencies (refer to Section 2).

More detailed arrangements for specific hazards or functions are described in associated plans and other documents listed at Appendix 1.

#### 1.8 Context

Located in the centre of Tasmania, the Central Highlands municipality was formed on 2 April 1993 through the amalgamation of two former municipal areas: Bothwell and Hamilton. Central Highlands covers 8,010 km², or around 12 per cent of Tasmania's land mass, and is home to disparate and small but thriving communities. The area features glorious scenery and dramatic built heritage dating back to the early 19th century.

Central Highlands has strong agricultural, horticultural and tourism industries, with attractions including a World Heritage Area, two National Parks and other Wilderness Conservation Areas, as well as being home to many of Tasmania's recreational fly fishing, hunting and bushwalking communities. The municipality is the birthplace of Tasmania's hydroelectric power scheme and home to arguably the best trout fishing in the southern hemisphere.

The municipality's permanent resident **population** at last census was estimated at of around 2,260 with 3,700 ratepayers, many of whom own shacks in communities around the area's numerous lakes and mountains. The largest towns are Bothwell and Hamilton. The Great Lake and Arthurs Lake area has a growing population of permanent residents of retirement age. Residents rely on their own transport and mobile phone reception is not available in some areas.

Over summer, the resident and visitor population can fluctuate upwards to more than 50,000 people. Visitors largely comprise a mix of shack owners and campers/campervanners accessing Crown land. Major tourist attractions include Tarraleah Village, accessed via the Lyell Highway south of Bronte and Lake St Clair. Visitor accommodation at Lake St Clair is accessed via a single road into and out of the National Park. Most of the land around the lakes area is controlled by Hydro Tasmania.

The Central Highlands municipal area is bounded by the municipalities of: Derwent Valley to the south; Southern Midlands and Northern Midlands to the east; Meander Valley to the north; and West Coast to the west.

#### 1.8.1 Major transport routes

The key road transport routes through the Central Highlands are:

- A5 Highland Lakes Road (from Melton Mowbray in the south, through Bothwell and Miena, along the western side of Great Lake and on to Deloraine in the north)
- A10 Lyell Highway (from Granton in the south, through Hamilton, Ouse, Tarraleah and Derwent Bridge, on to Zeehan in the west and terminating at Camdale near Burnie on the north-west coast).

Other major roads include:

- B11 Marlborough Highway (Bronte Park to Miena)
- B51 Poatina Road (from Highland Lakes Road north of Steppes to Poatina)
- B110 Hollow Tree Road (Hamilton to Bothwell)

Main roads through Central Highlands are controlled by the Department of State Growth (DSG), with Council responsible for the maintenance of smaller roads and bridges. There is a also a network of unsealed roads that are publicly accessible but owned by Sustainable Timber Tasmania (STT) or private entities.

#### 1.8.2 Essential services

TasWater provides **water and sewerage** services to residents of the townships of Bronte Park, Gretna, Hamilton, Ouse and Bothwell. Outside these areas and around the lakes district, residents rely on rainwater (tanks) and on-site waste disposal.

**Waste** transfer stations are located at Miena, Bronte Park and Bothwell, with the municipality's main landfill area situated at Hamilton.

**Mobile phone and internet** coverage outside townships is patchy, with a number of blackspots along sections of the Highland Lakes Road and the Lyell Highway.

#### 1.8.3 Climate

The Central Highlands features the highest-altitude and most inland of Tasmania's landmass. As such, it has cooler temperatures and a larger daily temperature range than areas around the coast. The region experiences cold night-time temperatures and frosts over winter.

The municipality has a large east-west gradient of rainfall. The western half of the municipality receives over 1600mm average annual rainfall with a strong seasonal cycle (driest in February, wettest in August), brought mainly from frontal rain systems coming from the west. The eastern part of the municipality receives less than 600mm average annual rainfall with no significant seasonal cycle (35 to 55 mm rainfall each month), from a variety of weather systems.

Long-term average temperatures have risen in the decades since the 1950s, at a rate similar to the rest of Tasmania (up to 0.1°C per decade). There has been a decline in average rainfall and a lack of very wet years in the municipality since the mid-1970s, with decline being strongest in autumn. Average rainfall decline was exacerbated by the 'big dry' drought of 1995-2009. Rainfall since the end of the drought has been average or slightly above average.

## 1.8.4 Topography, vegetation and hazards

Central Highlands is the most mountainous municipality in Tasmania. Covering just over 834,800 hectares, elevation of the municipal area varies from under 20m above sea level in the Lower Derwent Valley to around 1,400m in the Highlands.

Many lakes are found in the Central Highlands, including:

- Arthurs Lake
- Bradys Lake
- Bronte Lagoon
- Great Lake
- Lagoon of Islands
- Lake Augusta
- Lake Binney
- Lake Crescent
- Lake Echo
- Lake King William
- Lake Sorell
- Little Pine Lagoon.

#### 1.8.4.1 Natural hazards

**Fire:** Fire is a significant hazard across all parts of the municipality during the summer months.

**Flood:** There is a risk of possible flash flooding along rivers and waterways in the Central Highlands, with the most likely being: Ouse River; Clyde River; and River Derwent above Meadowbank Dam.

**Severe weather:** Around the Highland Lakes area, there are frequent land gales and squalls in winter. Severe weather can cause emergency situations around the lakes all

year round, with loss of life on or around the lakes being a high risk. Damaging winds are frequent across the municipality.

**Frost, snow and fog:** In the winter months, frost, snow and fog occur frequently and present potential risks to both motorists and bushwalkers. Snow can impede access to and egress from Miena and the Arthurs Lake Area for days at a time, significantly impacting the permanent population of around 200 residents.

#### 1.8.4.2 Dam failure

There are large dams on farms in the Bothwell area that could cause flash flooding along the Clyde River in the event of dam failure.

There are also large Hydro Tasmania dams within the municipality, namely:

- Great Lake Dam
- Meadowbank Dam
- chain of Hydro Tasmania dams above Meadowbank Lake.

## 1.8.4.3 Road transport hazards

There is a risk of possible isolation for residents and tourists in the event of a traffic accident or landslide.

## 1.8.5 Emergency management

Both SES and Tasmania Fire Service (TFS) have volunteer units in the municipality. Other emergency management partners include STT, Hydro Tasmania, Parks and Wildlife Service and Inland Fisheries Service (Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment) TasWater and local famers.

Rural landowners own equipment that could be useful in an emergency situation, for example firefighting units, bulldozers and excavators.

In an emergency, the radio frequencies used by Council are:

- 79.0125 MHz Bradys Sugarloaf
- 78.7875 MHz Table Mountain.

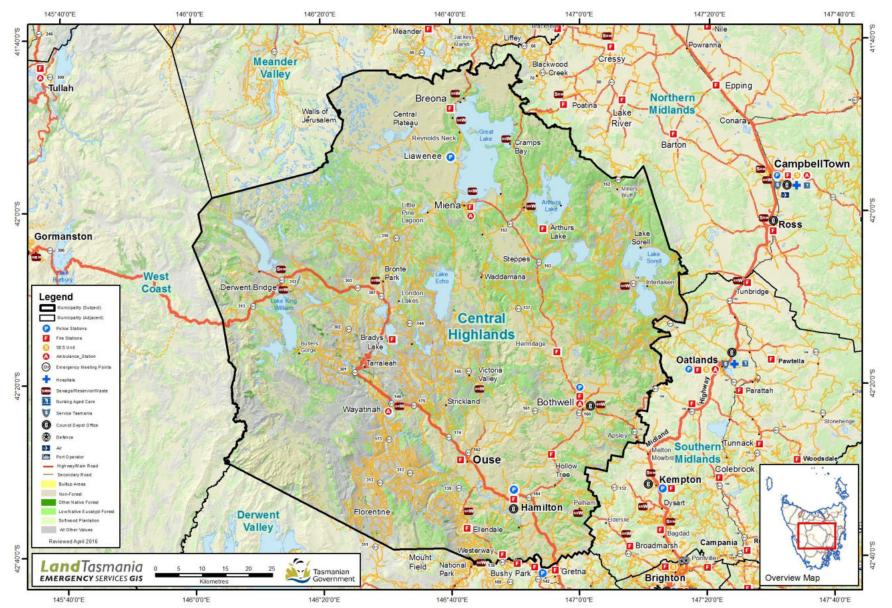


Figure 1: Map of municipal area

# Section 2: Governance and management

This section details how emergency management in Tasmania is governed and managed (Figure 2) and who is involved, focusing on the main roles at a municipal level.

## 2.1 Roles of government and emergency management partners

In Australia, the three tiers of government (federal, state and local) work in partnership to achieve safer, more resilient communities through robust emergency management arrangements.

The Tasmanian Emergency Management Arrangements (<u>TEMA</u>) provides a summary of the various emergency management roles and responsibilities across government, complemented by the work of NGOs, industry, professions, communities and individuals.

Local government authorities play a central role in coordinating and facilitating a range of emergency management activities across all hazards, as well as resourcing specific municipal responsibilities for emergency management. Central Highlands MEMC plays a pivotal role in meeting these requirements, as detailed in Section 2.3.

# 2.2 Tasmania's legal framework for emergency management

In Tasmania, powers and authorities for emergency management are established in the Act. The Act provides for a flexible and scalable emergency management system, including provision for emergency powers and the appointment of workers to fulfil emergency management functions and roles, including Municipal Coordinators (MC), Deputy Municipal Coordinators (DMC) and MEMC Chairpersons.

Supporting municipal responsibilities are established in the Local Government Act 1993, including functions and powers that:

- a provide for the health, safety and welfare of the community
- b represent and promote the interests of the community
- c provide for the peace, order and good government of the municipal area.

The *Public Health Act 1997* also provides for the emergency management of public health risks, including provisions associated with the declaration of a public health emergency under that legislation.

## 2.2.1 Emergency powers and declarations

Powers related to specific hazards and/or functions are established by specific Tasmanian legislation or national arrangements. In some instances, national legislation can also provide authority.

The Act provides additional powers for Regional Controllers, the State Controller, Minister and Premier to authorise and/or direct authorised officers to take action for the protection of life, property and the environment. A summary of main powers under the Act is provided in Appendix 4 of the <u>TEMA</u>.

The MC and the SES Regional Manager (or Duty Officer) may provide advice on the status of operational support issues to the Regional Controller (or through the Regional Planner) if they consider that specific powers should be authorised.

If powers are authorised, any specified authorised officer, including the MC, may be required to implement authorised powers. The Regional Controller (supported by the Regional Planner) will assist MCs to perform the functions required of them.

## 2.3 Emergency management governance

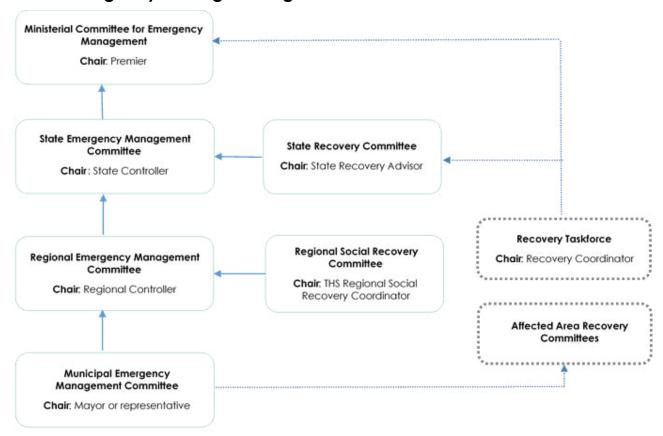


Figure 2: Governance arrangements

**LEGEND:** 

Direct reporting relationship

----- Also works/communicates with

# 2.4 Southern Regional Emergency Management Committee (SREMC)

SREMC has overarching responsibility for emergency management activities in the Southern Region. All southern municipalities, including Central Highlands, are represented on SREMC by each council's respective MC. SREMC is chaired by the Regional Controller. Executive Officer support is provided by the Regional Planner.

# 2.5 Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMC)

While the Central Highlands MEMC is not expected to provide operational involvement in an emergency response, the committee has an important role in effective leadership and communications during and after an emergency. It does this by meeting, if possible, during and after the emergency. At that time, MEMC will provide strategic advice regarding Council's emergency response. As many emergencies occur without warning, there may not be an opportunity for MEMC to meet prior to or during an emergency.

MEMC is chaired by the Mayor (or representative) and supported by the MC. MEMC maintains Terms of Reference, which are reviewed approximately every two years. MEMC Terms of Reference are provided at Appendix 3.

In Central Highlands, a number of other committees and groups are part of the emergency management consultation framework. While these operate reasonably independently, they provide reports and information to MEMC as agreed, and are invited to participate in the review of this plan.

## 2.6 Responsibilities

Tables 4 and 5 provide a summary of the responsibilities of Response Management Authorities (RMAs), and the support functions of Council for hazards in Tasmania. These are not exhaustive, and changes can be made by agreement through the consultation framework over the life of this plan and/or as required during emergencies. More detail is included in the Southern Regional Emergency Management Plan (SREMP) and TEMA.

Table 3: Summary of responsibilities

Note: Refer to Section 1.2 for a list of acronyms used in the table below

Row	Hazard or emergency	Response Management Authority	Council's support function and activities (as required)
1	Biosecurity	DPIPWE (Biosecurity Tasmania)	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Access to disposal facilities Plant and machinery
2	Coastal inundation – storm tide	DPIPWE	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Plant and machinery
3	Cybersecurity	DPAC (Digital Strategy and Services)	Community information
4	Earthquake	DSG	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Advice on facilities requiring priority restoration
5	Energy infrastructure (Includes electricity, gas and petroleum)	TasNetworks Enwave (TasGas) Tasmanian Gas Pipeline Pty Ltd Fuel distributors	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Advice on facilities requiring priority restoration
6	Energy supply (Includes: petroleum, gas, electricity. Excludes: energy infrastructure failures)	DSG (Office of Energy Planning)	Property identification Local operations centres Advice on facilities requiring priority restoration
7	Fire National parks and other reserves	DPIPWE (PWS)	Community information Plant and machinery
8	Fire Declared forest land or permanent timber production zone land	Sustainable Timber Tasmania	Community information Plant and machinery Community Centres
9	Fire Future potential timber production land	DPIPWE (PWS)	Community information Plant and machinery Community Centres
10	Fire Urban, structural and privately-managed rural land	TFS	Property identification Road closures Plant and machinery Community Centres
11	Flood - dams Dam safety	TASPOL (assisted by dam owners)	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Community information Plant and machinery
12	Flood – flash food (Includes associated debris flow)	SES	Prevention, preparedness and mitigation measures Property identification

Row	Hazard or emergency	Response Management Authority	Council's support function and activities (as required)
			Road closures Local operations centres Community information Plant and machinery
13	Flood – rivers	SES	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Community information Plant and machinery
14	Food contamination	DoH (PHS)	Premises inspection Infection controls Community Information Property identification
15	Hazardous materials	TFS	Property identification Road closures
16	Hazardous materials – radiological (unintentional release)	TFS	Property identification Road closures
17	Heatwave	DoH (PHS)	Support health system response Community information
18	Infrastructure failure – building collapse	TASPOL	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Community information Plant and machinery
19	Infrastructure failure – state roads and bridges	DSG (State Roads)	Local operations centres Community information Plant and machinery Alternative transport routes
20	Intentional violence (eg. CBRN attacks, terrorist events)	TASPOL	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Community information Plant and machinery
21	Landslip	TASPOL	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Community information Plant and machinery
22	Marine mammal stranding and entanglements	DPIPWE (PWS)	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Plant and machinery Access to disposal facilities
23	Marine pollution	DPIPWE (EPA)	Infrastructure information relating to stormwater Plant and machinery Access to disposal facilities
24	Pandemic influenza	DoH (PHS)	Testing clinic facilities Premises inspection Infection controls Community information Property identification
25	Pest infestation	DPIPWE (Biosecurity Tasmania)	Premises inspection Infestation controls Community information Property identification

Row	Hazard or emergency	Response Management Authority	Council's support function and activities (as required)
26	Public health emergency	DoH (PHS)	Premises inspection Infection controls Community information
			Property identification
27	Recovery	(Advisory agency – DPAC)	Refer to Table 4 below
28	Space debris	TASPOL, DSG Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (for preservation of meteorite and impact scene)	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Plant and machinery Community information
29	Storm – high winds – tempest	SES	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Plant and machinery
30	Transport crash – aviation (Less than 1000m from the airport runway)	TASPOL	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Plant and machinery
31	Transport crash – aviation (More than 1000m from the airport runway)	TASPOL	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Plant and machinery
32	Transport crash marine (No environmental emergency)	TASPOL	Local operations centres Plant and machinery Road closures Alternative transport routes
33	Transport crash – railway	TASPOL TFS	Local operations centres Plant and machinery Road closures Alternative transport routes
34	Transport crash – road vehicles	TASPOL	Plant and machinery Road closures Alternative transport routes
35	Tsunami	TASPOL	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Plant and machinery
36	Water supply contamination (drinking water)	DoH (PHS)	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Plant and machinery Management of water carriers
37	Water supply disruption	TasWater	Property identification Road closures Local operations centres Plant and machinery Management of water carriers

Table 4: Other support services

Row	Function or activity	Responsible organisation	Typical Council support function/activities
1	Barriers and signage	Council	Provide resource support
2	Dissemination of public information	Response Management Authority Council	Provide community information on recovery services
3	<ul> <li>Essential services</li> <li>Power</li> <li>Telecommunications</li> <li>Water supply</li> <li>Natural gas</li> <li>Stormwater</li> </ul>	TasNetworks Telstra TasWater TasGas Council	Provide resource support
4	Human resources	SES Council	Provide resource support.
5	Medical treatment and patient transport	AT	Provide resource support
6	Plant and equipment	Council	Provide resource support
7	Recovery services including	Council Supported by regional or state- level resources as required	Coordinate delivery of recovery services

# Section 3: Emergency management arrangements

## 3.1 Prevention and mitigation arrangements

This section describes prevention and mitigation for municipal emergency management.

#### 3.1.1 Overview

MEMC oversees a range of prevention and mitigation activities, in collaboration with emergency management partners at municipal, regional and state levels.

Current areas of focus for prevention and mitigation are:

- a research
- b risk management (includes risk assessments and risk reduction activities)
- c protective security and business continuity
- d land use planning
- e climate change.

#### 3.1.2 Research

Through its membership, MEMC maintains awareness of research for hazards and emergency management relevant to the municipal area. Hazards are described in Section 2 of this plan.

Research findings that are relevant to MEMC's emergency management partners (including the community) are communicated and shared in a coordinated and appropriate way by MEMC members.

# 3.1.3 Risk management

The identification and implementation of risk treatments, controls or mitigation strategies occurs after emergency risk assessments. Risk reduction strategies may be categorised in a number of ways, summarised as:

- levels of autonomy (eg. behavioural, procedural and physical controls)
- nature of control (eg. process or physical)
- lifecycle phases (eg. PPRR, operational phases/elements).

Once risk assessments are validated and accepted, relevant stakeholders manage programs and projects to treat those risks. Management Authorities for prevention and mitigation and/or the relevant State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) Hazard Advisory Agencies report on the outcomes of relevant programs and projects through the emergency management governance framework.

Appendix 2 summarises current risk assessment findings for Central Highlands and identifies general responsibilities for the treatment of risks, including responsibility attributed to:

- Council
- partnerships (combination of local and state government agencies, industry, individuals)
- Tasmanian Government agencies, industry associations, industry sectors or individuals
- whole-of-government.

## 3.1.4 Protective security and business continuity

Emergency management includes protective security and business continuity arrangements for the municipality and the region. Each asset owner and/or service provider is responsible for maintaining systems, processes and resources to achieve an appropriate standard of business continuity.

The supply or redundancy of essential services is particularly important for local emergency management operations and requires ongoing review of relationships and arrangements with asset owners or managers for areas including but not limited to:

- a power supply
- b potable water
- c transport networks and alternative route planning
- d telecommunications
- e public/environmental health standards.

Protective security practices have been further integrated into all safety management systems due to the increased frequency of events that are politically motivated or associated with intentional violence. Each organisation maintains their own arrangements to enhance security. Specific advice on counter-terrorism policies and practices may be provided by TASPOL Special Response and Counter-Terrorism Command.

Council's business continuity arrangements are developed with consideration given to Municipal Guidelines developed by the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT).

## 3.1.5 Land use planning

Land use planning responsibilities are identified in the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993. At municipal level, these are largely managed by local government.

Land use planning schemes for Central Highlands are continually reviewed and updated to include improved preventative measures to help mitigate the impact of emergencies on communities.

The Central Highlands Interim Planning Scheme 2015 is the relevant planning scheme. For more information, see <a href="https://www.centralhighlands.tas.gov.au">www.centralhighlands.tas.gov.au</a> and <a href="https://www.iplan.tas.gov.au">www.iplan.tas.gov.au</a>.

## 3.1.6 Climate change adaptation

Climate change is altering risk and hazard profiles for local governments and communities, with more frequent, more extreme weather events intensifying the risk posed by existing and evolving natural hazards.

Adaptation to climate change requires new or changed roles and resource burden at a local government level across the PPRR spectrum.

Council is working to maintain and increase its knowledge and understanding of existing and evolving hazards, and to identify programs, assets and services that have the potential to strengthen resilience across the municipal area.

## 3.2 Preparedness arrangements

This section describes what is done to be ready to respond to an emergency and manage recovery, before an emergency occurs or is imminent. More detailed information about what preparedness entails is provided in the TEMA.

#### 3.2.1 Overview

Preparedness is managed collaboratively between state and local government organisations and their emergency management partners.

The Act identifies specific responsibilities for preparedness, including the following.

Council is responsible for:

- a providing resources and facilities for the management of emergencies in the municipal area in accordance with the MEMP
- b providing resources and facilities for Council-supported volunteer SES Unit/s, as well as for the storage and maintenance of equipment used by the Unit/s and areas for training (arranged in conjunction with the Director SES
- c establishing an MEMC
- d making recommendations for MC and DMC roles and providing a chairperson for MEMC
- e preparing and maintaining an MEMP.

SES is responsible for:

- a providing advice and services relating to emergency management, in accordance with emergency management plans
- b recruiting, training and supporting SES volunteer members.

SES also supports the Regional Controller in preparing and maintaining the Southern Regional Emergency Management Plan (SREMP) and the SREMC, in which Council participates.

Support Agencies and owners/operators of specific facilities maintain various processes and arrangements, so they are prepared to:

- a fulfill their roles in emergency management
- b achieve 'business as usual' for as long as possible
- c coordinate and/or assist broader recovery efforts after the emergency, if required.

# 3.2.2 Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMC)

MEMC has an important role in coordinating the activities identified in Council's emergency management strategic framework, maintaining relationships so that information is shared, and ensuring that effective arrangements are in place for emergency management. MEMC is chaired by the Mayor (or representative) and supported by the MC as Executive Officer.

MEMC preparedness and continuity is supported by MEMC Terms of Reference (refer to Appendix 3) and a maintenance schedule and other resources (refer to Appendix 4).

The MC has a central role in communicating internal to Council and with external agencies before, during and after an emergency, including to ensure that Council resources are available as required.

# 3.2.3 Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP)

MEMC is responsible for preparing and maintaining this plan (MEMP), which is reviewed and/or amended by MEMC and endorsed by Council every two years. Reviews are usually coordinated by the MC and include consideration of:

- a emerging risks, hazards and potential treatments
- b compliance with current legislation and policy
- c accuracy and currency of content, eg roles, procedures, contacts
- d functionality of plan during emergencies
- e comments and suggestions from key stakeholders.

The Regional Planner provides guidance for MEMP format and content, and coordinates legislatively-required approval by the State Controller. More information about consultation and distribution of this MEMP is provided in Section 4.

The current version of this MEMP is available from the MC or through authorised access to WebEOC (a web-based emergency operations information platform administered by TASPOL).

Each organisation represented on MEMC is responsible for maintaining their own plans and procedures and making sure these are aligned with the arrangements set out in this MEMP.

# 3.2.4 Capacity and capability

Council recognises the importance of maintaining and monitoring capacity and capability for emergency management, including:

- a redundancy and adequate relief for Council emergency management roles
- b emergency management education and training for Council workers
- c maintaining the Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre (MECC)
- d maintaining basic systems so resources can be requested and shared.

### 3.2.4.1 Municipal emergency management roles – primary and relief

Primary and relief personnel for key emergency management roles is provided in Table 5.

Table 5: Council's primary and relief function roles and officers

Primary role	Relief role
MEMC Chairperson (Mayor)	MEMC Chairperson Delegate/Proxy (General Manager)
Municipal Coordinator (MC) (Manager Development and Environmental Services))	Deputy Municipal Coordinator (DMC) (Works Manager)
Municipal Recovery Coordinator (MRC) (Deputy General Manager)	Deputy Municipal Recovery Coordinator (DMRC) (Community Development Officer)

### 3.2.4.2 Emergency management education and training

The MC coordinates general induction for Council workers with emergency management functions, including media/information functions. The Regional Planner and Regional Social Recovery Coordinator may assist as required. Validation activities are useful training opportunities that are conducted at various times by a wide range of stakeholders. MEMC members attend these and/or arrange for relevant people from their respective organisations to participate.

<u>TasEMT</u> is an SES-provided, web-based resource for workers with emergency management responsibilities to increase their knowledge, capability and proficiency across the PPRR spectrum. SES' Emergency Management Unit also conducts regular workshops.

Council is committed to undertaking awareness and validation activities to ensure that key staff and community groups are fully aware of their roles in emergency management, which includes validation of this plan. Major actions are reflected in the MEMC Maintenance Schedule (refer to Appendix 4).

## 3.2.4.3 Maintaining the Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre (MECC)

**The MECC is maintained** by the MC as a facility from which to:

- coordinate Council's overall emergency response support activities
- coordinate requests from response/recovery organisations for additional resources
- provide information, for example to the Regional Controller, local community etc.

In an emergency, the MECC is activated by the MC under the following conditions:

- at the request of a Response Management Authority
- after consultation with the Mayor or General Manager
- at the direction of the Regional Controller.

The MC maintains MECC Action Cards and procedures for use during an emergency. These are designed to be used in combination with other centres, for example an Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). More information about the MECC is provided in Appendix 5. Current Action Cards are included at Appendix 6.

### 3.2.4.4 Maintaining basic systems and resources

The MEMC's contact list for emergency management is maintained by the MC. Details are checked at each MEMC meeting, updated and circulated to members and stakeholders. This information is an important resource for SREMC and SRSRC. Regional emergency management contacts are updated and circulated by the Regional Planner and Regional Social Recovery Coordinator to members and stakeholders after each quarterly meeting of the relevant groups.

Council maintains resources and has access to other community resources and vital information about the community that will be required to support efforts to respond to and recovery from an emergency. Resource support may be provided by other councils, and regional, state or national support can be accessed through the SREMC Executive Officer (Regional Planner) or SES Regional Manager or Duty Officer (operational support).

The MC maintains an up-to-date list of local contractors who may be able to provide machinery. Neighbouring councils (for example, Southern Midlands and Derwent Valley) can provide help and resources. Community groups (such as the CWA and local sporting clubs) can provide catering in emergencies.

# 3.2.5 Readiness for community warnings and public information

Response Management Authorities maintain scripts of key messages for community warnings and public information about emergencies. These are usually developed in advance, based on relevant best practice, and maintained as drafts that can be customised to meet specific event needs. Pre-prepared public information resources can be tailored for municipal purposes; these resources can be accessed through TASPOL and SES. These may also be used by the Tasmanian Government's public information hotline: the Tasmanian Emergency Information Service (TEIS). Response arrangements for issuing warnings and public information or opening call centres are included in Section 3.3.

#### 3.2.5.1 TasALERT

<u>TasALERT</u> is the official online source of publicly-available emergency management information in Tasmania. Administered by the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC), the website brings together clear and consistent emergency and resilience information from emergency service organisations and government agencies. TasALERT information is translated into AUSLAN and nine other languages.

Outside emergency response periods, TasALERT provides general information on topics such as volunteering, <u>Get Ready</u> disaster preparedness and community resilience. In an emergency, the website is updated with information about the event, including spatial (mapped) information about the event provided through <u>LISTmap</u> and links to dedicated social media channels.

### 3.2.5.2 Points for public enquiries

All organisations represented on MEMC maintain phone and internet public enquiry points. Council maintains an after-hours emergency point of contact. Council's website is kept up-to-date with relevant information and contact details (phone, email).

#### 3.2.5.3 Available warning systems

Relevant emergency warning systems (and responsible agencies) are:

- a flash and mainstream flooding (from rivers) (BoM/Council)
- b severe weather eg. damaging winds (BoM)
- c bushfire (TFS)
- d Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS) (TASPOL)
- e Emergency Alert (all hazards) (TFS)
- f local ABC Radio (primary Support Agencies or Response Management Authority)
- g road closure (TASPOL)
- h tsunami (TASPOL)
- i heatwave (DoH)
- j TasALERT (DPAC)
- k social media accounts (all agencies).

### 3.2.5.4 Information readiness for low-dependency aged care cohorts

Low-dependency aged care units are co-located with the Central Highlands Community Health Centre in the centre of Ouse. There are also Council-owned units for older residents in Bothwell, also classified as low-dependency. In an emergency, residents of these facilities would be notified via the methods described in *Table 6* (Section 3.3.4).

## 3.2.6 Validation and lessons management

Council is responsible for ensuring that regular testing and validation of planned municipal processes and procedures are conducted as part of the emergency management planning process. Validation activities include debriefs, exercises, workshops, briefings and meetings. Planned validation activities are outlined in *Section 4*.

Council is also responsible for participating in other organisations' validation activities whenever possible. Debriefs are conducted after both exercises and operations. Combined operational debriefs may be arranged by MEMC or SREMC. Lessons identified are recorded and shared as appropriate through the consultation framework.

Council is committed to conducting regular activities to ensure that Council staff and community groups are aware of current emergency plans and procedures and have the skills necessary to implement these. MEMC will also sponsor annual validation activities to ensure that emergency management capability is maintained. These activities may take the form of training sessions, tutorials or field exercises.

The performance of municipal emergency management is progressively reviewed through debriefs and at committee meetings for the area and the region. Where opportunities for improvement are identified, action is taken to address the situation on a risk basis. The <u>Municipal Guidelines</u> include a self-evaluation survey for use by the MEMC to formally review its performance and identify collective areas for future attention. This process may also inform the prioritisation of relevant work programs and funding applications.

## 3.2.7 Administration systems

Each organisation is responsible for managing and maintaining its own administration systems so these can be used effectively in emergencies. Key administration systems are described below.

### 3.2.7.1 Information management

WebEOC is available online at all times and used in an emergency to record decisions, tasks, Situation Reports (SITREPs), plans and documents, and to share information. WebEOC contains a library of current municipal, regional and state emergency management plans.

Systems for recording and managing information during emergencies include draft templates and proformas for documents including but not limited to:

- a SITREPs
- b operational logs
- c resource allocation
- d recording expenditure (see Section 3.2.7.2)
- e registration of spontaneous volunteers, public offers, impacted people/groups
- f impact assessment and consequence management.

### 3.2.7.2 Cost capture and financial administration

All organisations maintain systems and processes so that emergency-related expenditure can be authorised, recorded and reimbursement sought (where available). Preparedness includes identifying the positions responsible for collating the cost of response and recovery efforts.

Cost capture systems are aligned with the three components of the Tasmanian Relief and Recovery Arrangements (TRRA). Processes are in place for Council to request access to TRRA funds.

Council maintains arrangements to enable expenditure by the MC (or delegated representative) for emergency-related costs.

## 3.3 Response arrangements

This section describes what is done when an emergency occurs or is imminent. More detailed information about what response entails is provided in the <u>TEMA</u>.

#### 3.3.1 Overview

Effective response relies on the coordinated activation of pre-agreed roles and responsibilities that are clearly defined, easily understood and well-communicated. High-level responsibilities for hazards or functions are usually prescribed in legislation, but the planning process establishes arrangements that draw on these responsibilities in a practical, flexible and scalable way to reduce the threat to life, property and the environment.

This section describes how the roles and responsibilities relevant to municipal emergency management generally apply in responding to an emergency. These are designed to address situations that occur in this municipal area, although these can be used to support response for emergencies affecting other municipal areas or the region. (Also refer to the typical Council support functions and activities summarised in Section 2.)

These arrangements should be referred to when: arrangements for the situation are inadequate/overwhelmed; and/or the arrangements can enhance/complement what is already in place.

Emergency powers enable authorised action to be taken to resolve emergencies. Primary powers and responsibilities are generally established in hazard-specific legislation and incorporated into hazard-specific plans. Additional powers provided for in the Act may be applied if and when specific criteria are met. Depending on the nature and scale of the emergency, overall control or coordination of response may be assumed by emergency management authorities, such as the Regional Controller or State Controller.

### 3.3.2 Command, control and coordination

### 3.3.2.1 All-hazards response arrangements and escalation

When an emergency occurs, initial response actions are usually carried out at the site by those with primary responsibility for protecting the life, property or environment under threat. In the first instance, this is usually the asset owner or manager of the property or premises and/or the people at the emergency site. Command, control and coordination arrangements are described in the <u>TEMA</u>.

Response Management Authorities are supported by Support Agencies and Council may be requested to support the response and make resources available, usually through direct contact with the MC. At this point, consideration is given to the practicalities of opening a MECC to coordinate resources, information and requests (if not already open). See Section 3.3.2.3 below and Appendix 5 for more information about the MECC.

Liaison Officers for the responding agencies may support fellow workers at the emergency scene and provide advice to other agency representatives at emergency operations or coordination centres (EOCs or ECCs) and/or to senior managers monitoring the situation.

The Regional Planner assists with arranging regional support to Council if required, and usually assists and advises the MC and MECC. The Regional Planner also briefs the Regional Controller (and other stakeholders as required).

The Regional Controller can activate broader emergency management arrangements as necessary to support response/recovery operations (refer to section 18 of the Act). Legislated emergency powers do not need to be activated for this to occur.

#### 3.3.2.2 Emergency powers

Emergency powers are established in the Act and summarised in Appendix 4 of the <u>TEMA</u>. If emergency powers are authorised, SES will support the coordination of regional activities authorised by the Regional Controller.

### 3.3.2.3 Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre (MECC)

The MECC provides a range of services to the community and is the centre for municipal decision-making and strategic direction (in conjunction with and to support emergency services) during and after an emergency. Council's General Manager is responsible for providing adequate staff and resources to operate the MECC. The MC is responsible for managing the MECC and for arranging for it to be opened.

A request to open the MECC may be made by: Regional Controller; SES Regional Planner or Regional Manager; Council's General Manager; the MC; or any other person nominated by the MEMC.

### **Primary MECC functions** are to:

- maintain information flow to and from WebEOC
- coordinate Council's emergency response support efforts, including the activation, deployment and management of Council and community resources
- coordinate requests from the Response Management Authority and Support Agencies for additional resources
- monitor operational activities and provide information to the Regional Controller, local community, etc
- identify additional emergency requirements (eg. the need to activate local or regional recovery arrangements).

The location of Council's **primary and secondary MECC** are identified at Appendix 5.

The MC leads Council's response to an emergency by establishing an Incident Management Team (IMT) within the MECC, if required. IMT structure and membership are determined by the size and complexity of the emergency, but typically comprise officers to fulfil the following functions:

- coordination of activities (typically the MC or DMC)
- communications
- administration
- logistics coordination
- recovery.

These arrangements are designed to be flexible and scalable. In smaller scale or less complex emergencies, or during the early phases of what may become a large or complex incident, one person may manage all or multiple functions. An IMT is created when functions are delegated to others.

If Council's capacity to support response is exceeded, the MC will seek regional support from SREMC through the Executive Officer (Regional Planner) or SES Regional Manager/Duty Officer (operational matters).

### 3.3.2.4 Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs)

EOCs are established to manage operational aspects of the relevant organisations' emergency response activities.

The location of **primary and secondary EOCs** are identified at Appendix 5.

EOC functions include:

- a management of operational tasking, personnel and resources
- b establishing and monitoring communication networks
- c coordination of response operations
- d management of requests for additional support
- e coordination of logistical support for EOC personnel.

#### 3.3.2.5 Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMC)

When an emergency occurs, the MC liaises with the MEMC Chairperson and the Regional Planner to confirm whether MEMC should meet.

When an emergency meeting is convened, MEMC is to consider:

- nature of the emergency
- resources available to deal with the event
- task prioritisation
- communications
- business continuity
- community engagement
- recovery.

MEMC members are responsible for providing strategic advice within their field of expertise to the MEMC Chairperson and the Regional Controller, and for coordinating and managing resources from their respective organisations to support MECC operations.

## 3.3.3 Resource-sharing and coordination

In an emergency affecting one or more municipalities, resource support may be available through MC liaison with other councils or by contacting SES, who can assist with requests for the provision of regional, state or national support resources. The availability of regional resources depends on the nature and scale of the emergency and resource priorities. Resources from other regions may be deployed if the event has not impacted those areas.

Council has arrangements with Tasmania Police, TFS, SES, Hydro Tasmania, Inland Fisheries Services, STT and TasWater. Council is able to access support resources from Derwent Valley, Southern Midlands and Northern Midlands Councils.

## 3.3.4 Consequence management

A key focus for the Regional Controller is consequence management (including public information strategies), in consultation with SREMC members, Liaison Officers and/or advisors representing other stakeholders. If further assistance is required, the Regional Controller may make requests for assistance to other regions or to the State Controller.

The Response Management Authority handles offers of assistance from organisations that are not usually part of response arrangements (for example, offers from the community, industry, celebrities, other regions/jurisdictions and interstate agencies), although these offers can be referred to a supporting agency, depending on the scale and nature of the event.

- Figure 3 summarises the general command, control and coordination arrangements for hazards affecting the municipal area. These show model arrangements and are applied as required for each situation.
- Table 6 summarises typical All-Hazard response actions undertaken by Council officers, which are used or adjusted as required.

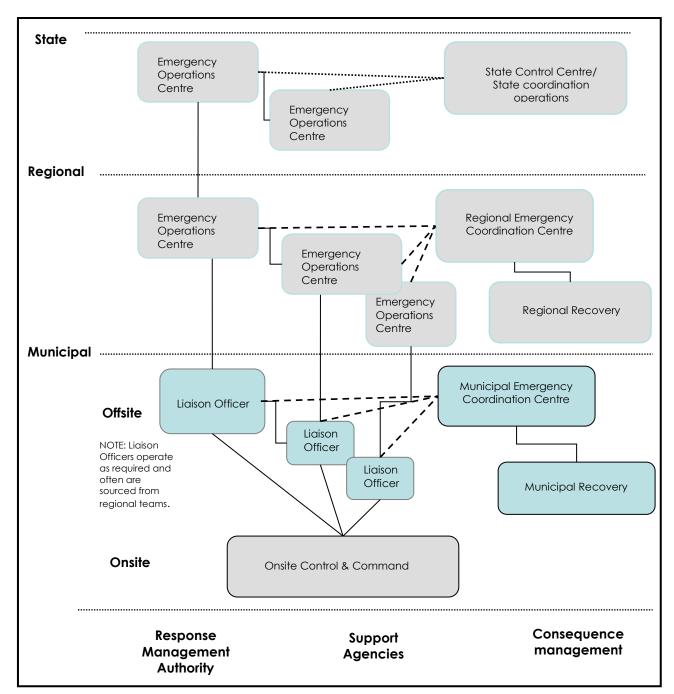


Figure 3: Response management structure

#### **LEGEND:**

Direct reporting relationship

Also works/communicates with

Table 6: All-Hazards response – typical Council actions

Row	Phase	Responsibilities	Council considerations/actions
1	Alert	<ul><li>Monitor situation</li><li>Brief stakeholders</li></ul>	<ul><li>Advise council stakeholders and MEMC</li><li>Monitor situation</li></ul>
2	Stand-by	<ul> <li>Prepare to deploy for response</li> <li>Arrange warnings (if relevant)</li> <li>Update stakeholders</li> <li>Nominate media/information officer and advise stakeholders</li> <li>Consider MEMC meeting</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Update stakeholders (Council, MEMC) and circulate latest Contact List/Action Cards</li> <li>Obtain approval of owners for use of potential centres and locate keys</li> <li>Draft staff rosters for centres/tasks for next 24 hrs</li> <li>Locate supplies likely to be needed in the first few hours eg. stationery, references (plans, map books, contact lists), extra equipment (phones, laptops, printers), tea/coffee</li> <li>Nominate media officer and advise response agencies</li> </ul>
3	Respond	<ul> <li>Assess emergency scene</li> <li>Establish command and control arrangements</li> <li>Review whether MEMC should meet</li> <li>Deploy resources and request extra assistance as required</li> <li>Assess impacts and effectives of response strategies</li> <li>Consider evacuation</li> <li>Provide further warnings and public information as required</li> <li>Provide information: SitReps and public information</li> <li>Conduct impact assessments and provide updates</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Establish and communicate MECC location for council resources/requests</li> <li>Manage requests for assistance/resources</li> <li>Open and manage centres as required eg. assembly or evacuation centres</li> <li>Provide community with information</li> <li>Ongoing assessment of impacts especially for: power supply, potable water, transport disruption, public/environmental health conditions and recovery needs</li> <li>Update stakeholders and Regional Controller as required</li> <li>Coordinate meals, relief/accommodation for Council workers</li> </ul>
4	Stand- down (including recovery handover)	<ul> <li>Assess effectiveness of response actions</li> <li>Plan for end of response</li> <li>Liaise with Council and MRC regarding the status of recovery operations and arrange handover</li> <li>Confirm end/close of response and stand-down</li> <li>Collate logs, costs etc and assess needs for resupply</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Confirm end/close of Council operations for response</li> <li>Liaise with recovery workers and assess needs</li> <li>Reinstate transport routes etc.</li> <li>Update stakeholders and Regional Controller and confirm ongoing points of contact</li> <li>Close centres as agreed</li> <li>Collate logs, costs etc. and assess needs for resupply</li> </ul>
5	Debrief	<ul> <li>Conduct internal debrief/s</li> <li>Participate in multi-agency debriefs as required and report to RC, MEMC and SREMC</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Conduct Council worker debrief</li> <li>Arrange for MEMC debrief and report to Regional Controller/SREMC</li> </ul>

## 3.3.5 Warnings

BoM warnings are issued for severe weather, flood, fire weather and tsunami. TFS publishes fire danger rating forecasts issued by BOM daily during the bushfire season. DoH (PHS) issues public health advice and alerts.

Warnings are sent to media outlets (radio and television) for public broadcast and may be preceded or accompanied by the Standard Emergency Warning Signal (**SEWS**). The Regional Controller can request use of SEWS in an emergency. See <u>TEMA</u> for more information about SEWS.

Response Management Authorities are responsible for interpreting warnings and communicating potential impacts and consequences to the community.

Council may support communications by relaying warnings in accordance with municipal responsibilities and/or assist other groups if requested by the:

- a Response Management Authority
- b Regional Planner, or
- c Regional Controller.

Council and relevant Management Authorities will work together to ensure that messages are consistent and coordinated. Radio, television and door-knocking may all need to be used.

**Emergency Alert** is a fee-for-service national capability that is used to send emergency warnings via message to mobile phones (SMS) and landlines (voice) within a particular geographic area. Emergency Alert warnings are coordinated by the Response Management Authority and TFS. If Council identifies a need to use the system, this may be arranged through the Regional Planner. Cost recovery for use of the service is coordinated at state level by TFS and the relevant Response Management Authority.

Table 7 summarises current warning arrangements and typical Council actions.

Table 7: Summary of warning systems and arrangements

Hazard Warning type/indication		Issuing agency	Method	Typical action by MC
Flood				
Flood watch	Alert, Watch or Advice of possible flooding, if flood-producing rain is expected in the near future. General weather forecasts can also refer to flood-producing rain.	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul><li>Relay warnings</li><li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li><li>Update stakeholders</li></ul>
Flood warnings	Warnings of Minor, Moderate or Major flooding in areas that BoM has specialised warning systems in place. Warnings identify the river valley, locations expected to be flooded, likely severity of flooding and when it is likely to occur.	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul><li>Relay warnings</li><li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li><li>Update stakeholders</li></ul>
Minor flood warning	Causes inconvenience. Inundation of low-lying areas next to watercourses may require the removal of stock and equipment. Minor roads may be closed and low-level bridges submerged.	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul><li>Relay warnings</li><li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li><li>Update stakeholders</li></ul>
Moderate flood warning	In addition to above, evacuation of some houses may be required. Main traffic routes may be covered. The area of inundation is substantial in rural areas, requiring the removal of stock.	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul> <li>Relay warnings</li> <li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews Update stakeholders</li> </ul>
Major flood warning	In addition to above, extensive rural and/or urban areas may be inundated. Properties and towns	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency	<ul><li>Relay warnings</li><li>Ensure availability of</li></ul>

Hazard	Warning type/indication	Issuing agency	Method	Typical action by MC
	are likely to be isolated and major traffic routes likely to be closed. Evacuation of people from floodaffected areas may be required.		services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul><li>outdoor crews</li><li>Update stakeholders</li><li>Consider MEMC meeting</li></ul>
Severe weather				
Severe weather warnings	Issued when severe weather is expected that is not directly related to severe thunderstorms, tropical cyclones or bushfires. Examples: land gales, squalls, flash flooding, dangerous surf or tides.	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul><li>Relay warnings</li><li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li><li>Update stakeholders</li></ul>
Damaging winds	Issued when expected gusts in excess of 100 km/h (75 km/h when wind is from the east or south, ie. an unusual direction), or destructive winds above 125 km/h	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul><li>Relay warnings</li><li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li><li>Update stakeholders</li></ul>
Dangerous surf	Issued when swell is expected to exceed: 6 metres about the north and east coasts; and 7 metres about the south-east coast.	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	• Nil
Abnormally high tides	Issued when tides are expected to be high enough to damage foreshore areas or disrupt foreshore and maritime activities. Generally when water level is expected to reach 40cm above normal spring tide level.	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul><li>Relay warnings</li><li>Update stakeholders</li><li>Place warnings at low-lying public carparks</li></ul>
Very heavy rain that may lead to flash flooding	Issued when rain falling over a one-hour period is expected to exceed the 1-in-5 or 1-in-10 year return period	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul><li>Relay warnings</li><li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li><li>Update stakeholders</li></ul>
Severe thunderstorm warnings	Issued when thunderstorms are expected to produce dangerous or damaging conditions:  • hail greater than 2cm diameter  • gusts greater than 100 km/h  • flash flooding  • tornadoes	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul> <li>Relay warnings</li> <li>Notify outdoor crews and check availability</li> <li>Update stakeholders</li> </ul>
Bushwalkers weather alert	Issued when conditions are likely to pose a danger to bushwalkers, ie. generally cold, wet, windy weather.	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	• Nil
Heatwave	Issued when heatwave conditions are forecast. Warning provides information on preparing for and coping with extreme heat.	DoH	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul><li>Relay warnings</li><li>Update stakeholders</li></ul>
Ice and frost on roads	Road weather alerts to advise of potentially dangerous driving conditions eg. fog, low visibility in heavy rain, gusty winds, widespread frost, snow	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	• Nil

Hazard	Warning type/indication	Issuing agency	Method	Typical action by MC
Fire				
Fire weather warning	Issued when fire danger rating is expected to exceed thresholds agreed with fire agencies, ie. when forest fire danger index exceeds 38 in Tasmania.	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul><li>Relay warnings</li><li>Update stakeholders</li></ul>
Advice	Bushfire Advice message advises that a fire has started but there is no immediate danger. Includes general, up-to-date information about developments.		Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul><li>Relay warnings</li><li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li><li>Update stakeholders</li></ul>
Watch and Act	Bushfire Watch and Act message advises of a heightened level of threat.  Conditions are changing and people in the area need to start taking action to protect themselves and their families.		Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul> <li>Relay warnings</li> <li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li> <li>Update stakeholders</li> <li>Have evacuation centre/s on standby</li> </ul>
mergency Warning	Bushfire Emergency Warning indicates that people in specific locations are in danger and need to take action immediately, as they will be impacted by fire.  May be preceded by an emergency warning signal (siren).		Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul> <li>Relay warnings</li> <li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li> <li>Update stakeholders</li> <li>Establish municipal IMT/MECC</li> <li>Have evacuation centre/s on standby</li> </ul>
Low-Moderate Fire Danger Rating (FDR 0-11)  LOW-MODERATE FDR 0-11	Fires breaking out today can be controlled easily. There is little risk to people and property.	TFS	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	• Nil
High Fire Danger Rating (FDR 12-24)	Fires breaking out today can be controlled.  People in the path of a fire are unlikely to be killed or seriously injured if they take shelter. Well-prepared and actively defended homes can offer safety.	TFS	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul><li>Relay warnings</li><li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li><li>Update stakeholders</li></ul>
Very High Fire Danger Rating  VERY HIGH FDR 25-49  (FDR 25-49)	Some fires breaking out today will spread rapidly and be difficult to control.  There is a possibility that people in the path of a fire will be killed or seriously injured. Some homes may be destroyed. However, well-prepared and actively-defended homes can offer safety.	TFS	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul> <li>Relay warnings</li> <li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li> <li>Update stakeholders</li> <li>Have evacuation centre/s on standby</li> </ul>

Hazard	Warning type/indication	Issuing agency	Method	Typical action by MC
Severe Fire Danger Rating (FDR 50-74)	Some fires breaking out today will spread rapidly and be uncontrollable. People in the path of a fire may be killed or seriously injured. Some homes are likely to be destroyed. However, well-prepared and actively-defended homes can offer safety.	TFS	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul> <li>Relay warnings</li> <li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li> <li>Update stakeholders</li> <li>Have evacuation centre/s on standby</li> </ul>
Extreme Fire Danger Rating (FDR 75-99)	Some fires breaking out today will spread rapidly and be uncontrollable.  People in the path of a fire may be killed or seriously injured. Many homes are very likely to be destroyed. Only well-constructed, well-prepared and actively defended homes are likely to offer safety.	TFS	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul> <li>Relay warnings</li> <li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li> <li>Update stakeholders</li> <li>Have evacuation centres on stand-by</li> <li>Consider MEMC meeting</li> </ul>
Catastrophic Fire Danger Rating (FDR >100)  CATASTROPHIC FDR 100+	Some fires breaking out today will spread rapidly and be uncontrollable.  There is a high likelihood that people in the path of a fire will be killed or seriously injured. Many homes are very likely to be destroyed. Even the best-prepared homes will not be safe.	TFS	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul> <li>Relay warnings</li> <li>Ensure availability of outdoor crews</li> <li>Update stakeholders</li> <li>Prepare evacuation centre/s</li> <li>Establish an IMT</li> <li>Consider MEMC meeting</li> </ul>
Tsunami				
No threat	An undersea earthquake has been detected. However it has not generated a tsunami, or the tsunami poses no threat to Australia and its offshore territories.	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	• Nil
Marine alert and land alert	Warning of potentially dangerous waves, strong ocean currents in the marine environment and the possibility of only some localised overflow onto the immediate foreshore.	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul><li>Relay warnings</li><li>Update stakeholders</li></ul>
Marine warning and land warning	Warning for low-lying coastal areas of major land inundation, flooding, dangerous waves and strong ocean currents.	ВоМ	Public: Multimedia Emergency services: SMS, phone, emails	<ul> <li>Relay warnings</li> <li>Update stakeholders</li> <li>Establish municipal IMT/MECC</li> <li>Consider MEMC meeting</li> </ul>

## 3.3.6 Public information

During an emergency, it is critical that information provided to the community is timely, accurate and informative. In a period of uncertainty, community anxiety and concern can be reduced by providing advice on what has happened, what needs to be done and where people can go for assistance. While the media will provide information on what has happened, their focus will not always provide the level of detail required to meet the needs of an affected community.

Council has a critical role in providing community leadership and ongoing information to reduce community anxiety and uncertainty, leveraging existing community communication

protocols and guidelines. These roles need to be initiated as soon as possible after an emergency occurs to reduce the potential for inappropriate community action or undue concern.

If the MECC is activated, Situation Reports (SITREPs) and information bulletins about facilities and emergency assistance will be provided to the community through the MECC, by an officer authorised by the MEMC. A system of twice-daily community briefings at published times may need to be provided during the emergency period, using the most effective communications channel/s available.

The Mayor has a pivotal role as community leader to coordinate community information and is chief spokesperson for Council and the affected community. The Mayor should be supported in this role by an experienced media liaison officer, who can prepare community and media statements for Mayoral endorsement. All Councillors and Council staff need to be aware that only the Mayor (or delegate) will speak on behalf of Council and the collective community. The MC will provide the Mayor with emergency-related information.

Media statements from Council should relate to community impact and Council actions: Council should not comment on matters that are the province of the Response Management Authority, emergency services, Support Agencies or post-emergency investigations. Statements made by people with knowledge of only a segment of the total emergency operations can cause public confusion and misunderstandings.

Any emergency that requires activation of this MEMP will necessitate a two-way flow of information and advice between the MC and the Regional Planner (and/or SES Regional Manager regarding operational matters).

Table 8 summarises arrangements for issuing public information about the emergency.

#### 3.3.6.1 TasALERT

TasALERT (<u>www.tasalert.com.au</u>) is Tasmania's official online emergency information source. In an emergency, the homepage of the website is updated to highlight current incidents. Each incident will have a dedicated page displaying all available information (mapped information, social media, new content etc.) specific to that incident.

The website also aggregates social media feeds from emergency services and Tasmanian Government departments, as well as using spatial (mapped) data to provide appropriate and authoritative emergency information.

### 3.3.6.2 Tasmanian Government Public Information Unit (PIU)

In an emergency of local, regional and/or state significance, the whole-of-government Public Information Unit (PIU) may be activated to support the preparation and distribution of timely, accurate and consistent information to all stakeholders – from government and community leaders, through to government agencies, members of the public and media outlets. PIU activation is required to support operation of the Tasmanian Emergency Information Service (refer to Section 3.3.6.2).

PIU activation may be requested due to:

- the scale, impact or longevity of the emergency
- the need for a coordinated, whole-of-government public information response
- insufficient resources within the Response Management Authority to manage all public information requirements in response to an emergency.

Council or the MC may request PIU support or activation by the Regional Controller through the Regional Planner. PIU may provide Council with assistance for developing a Public Information Document, Mayoral talking points, key messages and development of a single 'source of truth'.

If PIU support or activation is approved, public messaging and information will be developed through collaboration between Council and PIU staff.

#### 3.3.6.3 Tasmanian Emergency Information Service (TEIS)

When activated, the TEIS call centre provides an initial point of contact for the community to access information about an emergency. TEIS is activated and deactivated by DPAC's Office of Security and Emergency Management, on request from the relevant Response Management Authority or major Support Agency.

The decision to activate includes acceptance of responsibilities that include appointing:

- a a Liaison Officer to be located within TEIS for the duration of the activation, and
- b a supporting Information Manager.

Council or the MC may request TEIS activation by the Regional Controller through the Regional Planner. If TEIS activation is approved, scripts are developed consultatively through the whole-of-government Public Information Unit (PIU).

TEIS operates on a fee-for-service basis. More information is provided in TEIS Arrangements documentation (refer to Appendix 1).

### 3.3.6.4 Working with the media

Local and regional media outlets help disseminate public information about emergencies. Agencies involved in managing the emergency aim to provide comments through nominated spokespeople and/or media officers, limited to comments relevant to each agency's role in response/recovery activities. Queries outside this scope are referred to the Response Management Authority or the Regional Controller through the Regional Planner.

Media statements from Council will relate to community impact and action taken by Council. Council will not comment on matters that are the province of emergency services or post-emergency investigations.

Table 8: Summary of public information arrangements

Row	Location	Scope of information	Provided by	Developed by	Cleared by	Distribution methods
1	On-site	The emergency and its known impact	Response Management Authority (Support agencies may advise about their own roles)	Response Management Authority	Response Management Authority	Media Agency websites Emergency Alert
2	EOC/ECC	Actions/ responsibilities of the centre	Centre Coordinator	Centre Coordinator	Authorised Emergency Management Coordinator (eg. MC/MRC)	Media
3	Other centres eg. evacuation	Actions/ responsibilities of the centre	Centre Coordinator	Centre Coordinator	Authorised Emergency Management Coordinator (eg. MC/MRC)	Media TEIS
4	Municipal area	Impact of the emergency on local community	Mayor	Council media officer	Council media officer	Media Council website TEIS CALD
5	Within the Region	Impact of the emergency on	Regional Controller	Regional Planner	Regional Controller	Media Council
		the region	Response Management Authority	Regional Media Officer	Response Management Authority Regional liaison	website TEIS CALD
			Regional Social Recovery Coordinator	Regional Social Recovery Coordinator/ Media Officer	Regional Controller through the Regional Planner	
6	Rest of the State	Impact of the emergency on Tasmania, including relief arrangements	State Controller	SES Director DPFEM Media Unit Government Media Office	SES Director DPFEM Media Unit Government Media Office	Media Agency or event- specific website
			Response Management Authority	State Media Officer	Response Management Authority State liaison	TEIS CALD
			Premier or Minister	Government Media Office	Head of Government Media Office	

### 3.3.7 Other elements

In an emergency, Council's administrative and financial arrangements may be disrupted and staff impacted. Increased personal demands on staff to maintain usual services while contributing to Council's role of supporting response imposes conflicting requirements. Councils may wish to seek and obtain additional administrative support from other municipalities.

#### 3.3.8 Evacuation

Evacuation involves the movement of people threatened by a hazard to a safer location and, typically, their eventual, safe and timely return. To be effective, evacuation must be appropriately planned and implemented. Coordination and communication must be maintained across all stages of evacuation.

## 3.3.8.1 Management

While emergency management authorities have legislated power to order emergency evacuation, voluntary evacuation is the preferred strategy. Evacuation requires the participation and cooperation of multiple agencies and/or organisations. When evacuation planning involves significant change to traffic flows, road owners or managers should be involved, eg. Council, Department of State Growth.

<u>TEMA</u> and the *Tasmanian Emergency Evacuation Framework* (2018) provide more detailed information about the evacuation process, roles and responsibilities in *Tasmania*.

Council has primary responsibility for activating and managing an Evacuation Centre within the municipal area, if requested by the Regional Controller, including the registration of evacuees presenting, and the management of waste, environmental health and pollution at the site.

Council also has a number of support roles and responsibilities and the MC may be contacted for Council advice and assistance with:

- evacuation risk assessment and decision to evacuate
- withdrawal coordination
- traffic management
- alternative emergency accommodation
- animal welfare (pets, companion animals, livestock) if facilities are available
- decision to return.

If necessary, TASPOL will liaise with Council about concerns for the welfare of individuals or missing person enquiries.

Council maintains a register of appropriate facilities that may be used as short and long-term evacuation centres and provide services for displaced persons. Facility specifications and capabilities are provided in *Appendix 5 and Appendix 8*.

#### 3.3.8.2 **Decision**

The decision to recommend evacuation of people in and around at-risk areas rests with the Response Management Authority's Incident Controller, who consults with TASPOL, Council and others. If a decision to evacuate is made, public warnings will be issued.

#### 3.3.8.3 Withdrawal

TASPOL has a lead role in the withdrawal stage of evacuation. A TASPOL Evacuation Coordinator may be appointed to coordinate and manage the withdrawal process.

#### 3.3.8.4 Shelter

If evacuation of an area is indicated, the Regional Controller may contact the MC to ask Council to activate an Evacuation Centre.

Nearby Safer Places are places that provide 'last resort' shelter options and are identified in Community Protection Plans.

#### 3.3.8.5 Return

The Response Management Authority's Incident Controller is responsible for deciding when it is safe for evacuees to return to an area, in consultation with TASPOL and other experts. A TASPOL Evacuation Coordinator may be required to plan and manage the return of evacuees. Longer-term evacuees are managed by recovery agencies.

### 3.3.9 Registrations

Registration is an important system for recording relevant details of persons affected by emergencies or involved in emergency operations. Common groups requiring registration are:

- a affected people, such as evacuees and families
- b other stakeholder/affected groups, for example businesses
- c spontaneous volunteers
- d witnesses
- e potential donors/sponsors (equipment, services, supplies).

Registration may be established and coordinated by the Response Management Authority. When an Evacuation or Recovery Centre is activated, processes to support registration should be implemented at the Centre/s as soon as possible. If an Evacuation Centre is activated, Council is responsible for registering evacuees using the Evacuation Centre Registration Application. Registration data may need to be provided to Red Cross if TASPOL requests the activation of Register.Find.Reunite (RFR).

Registration data may be shared, as appropriate, with relevant stakeholders throughout emergency response, consistent with disclaimers provided to affected people at the time of data collection. For example, when providing personal information at the time of registration, affected people should be aware that the data they provide will be shared with the relevant government agencies (municipal/state/federal) for the purposes of providing relief and recovery assistance and services.

All personal information provided for registration purposes must be managed in accordance with the provisions and principles of the Personal Information Protection Act 2004.

## 3.3.10 Impact assessment

The Response Management Authority is responsible for coordinating rapid impact assessment and reporting on this assessment to other response and recovery agencies and the relevant municipal and/or regional recovery officers. GIS capability can assist with recording the outcomes of assessments and supporting broader consequence management planning.

Secondary impact assessments may be coordinated through a RECC and Council may be asked to assist with this work by providing data on request.

Impact and damage assessment factors include, but are not limited to:

- a number of injuries and deaths
- b housing/accommodation needs
- c energy supplies
- d potable water
- e transport networks and alternative route planning
- f telecommunications:
- g stormwater infrastructure and waterways; and
- h public/environmental health standards.

Where transport corridors provide access for other networks such as power, water and telecommunications, the relevant asset managers/owners will be involved in decision-making, as required.

## 3.3.11 Pandemic health emergencies

The Tasmanian Public Health Emergencies Management Plan (TPHEMP) is a State Special Emergency Management Plan (SSEMP) that supports the TEMA in planning for significant public health emergencies. The Tasmanian Health Action Plan for Pandemic Influenza (THAPPI) is an Associate Plan of the TPHEMP that outlines the framework that Tasmania will use to manage the health sector's preparedness and response to an influenza pandemic.

One element of a coordinated response to a large-scale health emergency, such as an influenza pandemic, is the establishment of community-based clinics to perform a number of critical and beneficial functions for the general community. The Tasmanian Health Service (THS) may call upon Council to provide a suitable venue for the establishment of clinic/s and to assist and support with the maintenance and operation of clinic/s during a pandemic emergency.

#### 3.3.12 Debriefs

Immediately after an emergency, some issues invariably require investigation and discussion to identify learnings and the need for changed or new processes and systems. These are best initially considered in an Operational Debrief forum, the main objectives of which are to:

- a acknowledge the input of all contributing organisations and individuals
- b gain constructive feedback from all involved on lessons identified
- c identify where gaps exist in training and planning systems
- d determine and program the best course of action for improving planning, management systems etc
- e foster sound interagency communication
- f identify the need for specific investigation of issues and further debriefing at an individual or organisational level.

Lessons identified are shared with stakeholders including the MEMC, SREMC and SRSRC.

MEMC is responsible for reviewing emergencies that are significant to the municipality. Where impacts extend beyond this area, the review may be conducted by SREMC so lessons can be shared easily with emergency management partners.

## 3.3.13 Administration: finance and cost capture

Records related to response are subject to the usual records management provisions and archiving legislation and treated accordingly. Logs, reports and briefings from response and recovery are collated progressively and stored centrally for future reference.

Organisations involved in response are responsible for retaining all invoices/records of expenditure and absorbing their own expenses. Some expenses may be recovered if national (Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA)) and state (TRRA) disaster funding arrangements are activated and eligibility criteria are met. Cost capture systems are established to align with the different types of eligible expenditure as follows:

DRFA category	Туре	Claimable expenses
Category A	Essential	Emergency food, clothing
		Repair or replacement of essential items and personal effects
		Essential emergency repairs to housing (to make residence safe and habitable)
		Demolition or rebuilding to restore housing
		Removal of debris from residential properties
		Extraordinary counter-disaster operations for the benefit of an affected individual
		Personal and financial counselling
		Evacuation Centre costs
Category B	Essential	Restoration or replacement of essential public assets (road, footpath, pedestrian bridge, stormwater, bridges, tunnels, culverts, rivulets, local government offices)  Counter-disaster operations for the protection of the general public

Category C	Non-Essential	No automatic coverage, however an affected area may apply for a Community Recovery Fund for reimbursement of eligible expenditure associated with repairs of non-essential infrastructure (eg. repairs to sportsgrounds, playgrounds, tracks, trails, etc)  A Fund may also include community awareness and education campaigns and other resilience building grants  Applications for Category C assistance are coordinated and submitted by OSEM for mandatory approval by the Prime Minister
Category D	Non-Essential	A Category D measure is an act of relief or recovery implemented to alleviate distress or damage in circumstances which are, according to the Minister, exceptional.  Applications for Category D assistance are coordinated and submitted by OSEM for mandatory approval by the Prime Minister

All expenditure that may be eligible for Government assistance under the TRRA *Natural Disaster Local Government Relief Policy* must be separately costed for consolidation and audit purposes. Normal maintenance and administration costs are not eligible for assistance. However, additional costs over and above normal operating budgets may be regarded as eligible expenditure (eg. plant hire and overtime).

Damage to any asset must be directly attributed to the event and should not include normal maintenance operations, particularly for assets that were in a poorly-maintained state at the time of the emergency. For auditing purposes, Council is required to supply records of maintenance on the items and assets in question.

Assistance may be provided to Council to restore an essential public asset to the equivalent of its pre-emergency standard, subject to current planning and developmental controls and building standards. Additional costs incurred by Council beyond that level in restoring or replacing an asset to a higher standard (improvement or betterment) are not eligible for assistance and must be borne by Council.

Where claims are to be made for TRRA relief reimbursement, the MC will discuss the matter first with OSEM (DPAC). Where appropriate, a written application will be developed and submitted to OSEM.

If the Premier announces TRRA activation for the Council area, Council will collate records accordingly and pursue cost recovery. Council claims under TRRA and Tasmanian Government claims under DRFA are subject to audit and assurance processes before acquittal. The TRRA and DRFA contain details about evidence that agencies and councils must collect and maintain. OSEM will provide information and advice on request.

## 3.4 Recovery arrangements

This section describes what is done to support short to longer-term recovery across the four main recovery domains.

#### 3.4.1 Overview

Recovery is the process of dealing with the impacts of an emergency and returning social, economic, infrastructure and natural environments to an effective level of functioning.

Recovery is most effective when communities are supported to lead and participate in processes and activities in their local area. Municipal committees, councils, community groups and local leaders all play a significant role in enabling and facilitating local engagement in recovery planning, and in coordinating the implementation of local recovery activities.

The State Recovery Plan and SREMP describe various state-level and regional-level recovery arrangements and should be read in conjunction with this plan.

Responsibilities for recovery rest primarily with Council. These responsibilities can be met in partnership and with the assistance or support of Tasmanian Government agencies and NGOs, coordinated through regional arrangements.

It is critical that activities are planned and coordinated across all recovery domains being:

- social
- economic
- infrastructure
- environment
- cross-domain

Typical recovery considerations include but are not limited to:

- a assessing recovery needs across all domains and prioritising actions required
- b developing, implementing and monitoring recovery activities that are aligned as much as possible with the Council's long-term planning objectives and goals
- c enabling community communication and participation in decision-making
- d wherever possible, contributing to future mitigation requirements or improvements to planning requirements (e.g. through debrief processes).

### 3.4.2 Current arrangements

Figure 4 shows typical All-Hazards recovery arrangements, showing the close relationship between response operation and recovery, spanning short to longer-term activities. Arrangements are applied as required and described in more detail in the following sections.

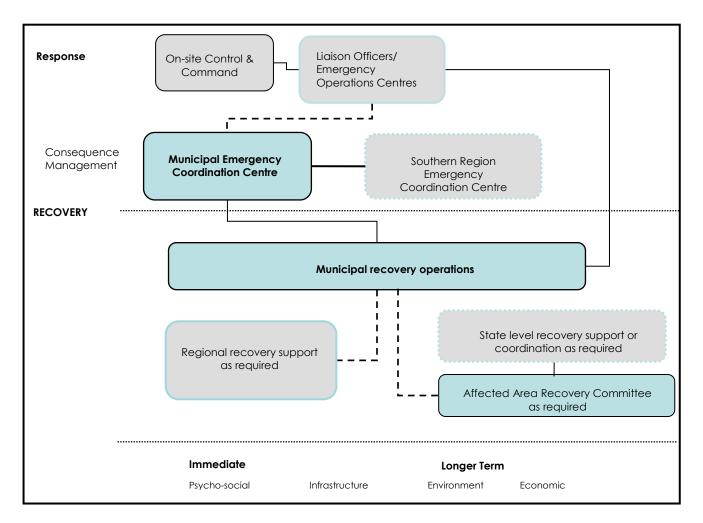


Figure 4: Community recovery management arrangements



## 3.4.3 Media and public information

In recovery, information may be communicated through a range of channels, including:

- RMA's website and social media
- TasALERT website and social media
- radio, television and print media
- public meetings, Evacuation and Recovery Centres and outreach visits.

Council has a critical role in providing community leadership and ongoing information updates to reduce community uncertainty. This role should be implemented as soon as possible after an emergency occurs to reduce the potential for inappropriate action or undue concern.

The Mayor has a pivotal role as community leader to coordinate community information and be the spokesperson for Council and the affected community. The Mayor will need to be supported by the media officer, who can prepare community and media statements. The MC or MRC will provide the Mayor with recovery-related information.

If the whole-of-government PIU is activated for an emergency, it will have dedicated resources tasked with coordinating recovery information and contributing to the development of documentation to guide transition from response to recovery, including development of a Recovery Communications Strategy.

# 3.4.4 At-risk groups of people

Council-specific roles and responsibilities support a collaborative stakeholder approach for meeting the emergency management and recovery needs of at-risk people.

Council's MRC is responsible for undertaking the following activities:

- a provide Evacuation Centres that are accessible to a broad cross-section of the community
- b maintain broad knowledge of relevant service providers within the municipality
- c promote community resilience as part of normal Council business
- d maintain a broad knowledge of the whereabouts of special facilities (schools, aged care facilities, childcare centres) within the municipality
- e provide local demographic information and advice to stakeholders as able and required
- f provide support to emergency management stakeholders with a statutory responsibility for vulnerable and at-risk people, as able and required
- g develop and maintain relationships with relevant stakeholders whose role it is to directly cater for the emergency management needs of vulnerable and at-risk people, as able and required.

## 3.4.5 Short-term recovery

In the immediate aftermath of an emergency, recovery services are delivered or coordinated by Council. After consultation with the Response Management Authority and other emergency management partners about impact assessment, recovery needs and capacity, local arrangements can be activated by the MC, supported by the Regional Planner.

Regional recovery coordination is activated by the Regional Controller through the Regional Planner at the request of Council. This may follow advice from the Response Management Authority and/or Regional Controller.

Council is responsible for operating facilities that provide access to recovery services for the community. The places currently identified as suitable for recovery centres/recovery functions are summarised in Appendix 8. Recovery facilities are activated on request or advice from:

- a MC
- b A Recovery Coordinator
- c Regional Planner, or
- d Regional Controller

Council is responsible for coordinating ongoing impact assessments, particularly as they relate to recovery. This informs appropriate governance structures for medium and long-term recovery. The MC (through an Emergency Recovery Committee, if formed) will arrange for impact assessments to be conducted.

Council registration processes must follow procedures or directions from the Regional Controller, comply with confidentiality and security of personal information requirements, and be compatible with Register. Find. Reunite. Registration data collected by Council must be provided to Tasmanian Government agencies for recovery purposes.

# 3.4.6 Long-term recovery

As the response phase draws to a close, recovery activities transition from short-term coordination to long-term arrangements designed to meet anticipated recovery needs.

Arrangements for the assessment of recovery needs and long-term recovery structures are documented in the *State Recovery Plan*. The State Recovery Advisor (DPAC) works in consultation with the MC, Regional Controller and Response Management Authority to advise the Tasmanian Government on appropriate long-term recovery arrangements.

Where recovery needs can be met within municipal capabilities, medium to long-term recovery is coordinated locally by the MEMC (Level 1). Recovery activities in this instance are

primarily supported by Council resources, business as usual services and community-based initiatives. The MC may seek support or raise emerging issues through SREMC.

After significant emergencies and/or where recovery needs exceed municipal capabilities and/or resources, additional state-level recovery support may be activated. Level 2 and Level 3 arrangements are detailed in the State Recovery Plan. State-supported recovery (Level 2) involves the Tasmanian Government supporting the coordination of recovery coordination at local or regional levels, usually through an Affected Area Recovery Committee (AARC). State-coordinated recovery (Level 3) involves the Tasmanian Government coordinating recovery through AARC/s, as well as appointing a Recovery Taskforce led by a Recovery Coordinator.

AARCs may be established under section 24E of the Act, in partnership with local government bodies, municipal committees and affected communities. AARCs may be established locally for one Municipality or regionally for multiple municipalities.

The purpose of an AARC is to coordinate recovery activities at regional and local levels through information-sharing, collaboration and collective decision-making. An AARC's role includes developing event-specific recovery plans, facilitating community engagement and participation in recovery, and guiding the implementation of local recovery projects and activities.

An AARC is usually chaired by the Mayor, the MC or another regional/local representative. AARCs can include representatives from affected communities, local government, state government agencies and other organisations with a significant recovery role. DPAC may support the administration of an AARC and coordinate multi-agency recovery efforts to support local and council-led activities.

An AARC will typically develop a recovery plan that:

- a takes account of Council's long-term planning and goals
- b includes assessment of recovery needs and determines which functions are required
- c develops a timetable for completing major functions
- d considers the needs of specific population groups within the community, including but not limited to youth, aged, disabled and non-English speaking people
- e allows full community participation and access
- f allows for monitoring of recovery progress
- g effectively uses the support of Tasmanian and Australian Government agencies
- h provides public access to information on proposed programs and subsequent decisions and actions
- i allows consultation with all relevant community groups.

The AARC is responsible for arranging and monitoring a communications program for the duration of the recovery program. It can include but is not limited to:

- a forums and information sessions for the community
- b debriefs for recovery workers
- c progress reports for Council, the community, SEMC, SREMC and any other agency/organisation as agreed and appropriate, including progressive summaries/analysis of records (financial and information).

In more localised events, the MC may consider it necessary to establish a Local Community Recovery Committee as soon as practicable. This group will include appropriate affected people, existing community groups and agencies to begin recovery discussions. No matter what the scale or severity of the event, it is important for local communities to have an avenue to discuss and share experiences.

## 3.4.7 Recovery functions

Council has municipal-level responsibilities across social, economic, infrastructure, environmental and cross-domain recovery functions. Council undertakes the primary role in providing recovery services in the immediate aftermath of an emergency and can be supported by a number of Tasmanian Government agencies and NGOs, depending on the capacity and presence of support services in the area.

## **Section 4: Plan administration**

### 4.1 Plan contact

This plan is maintained by the Central Highlands Municipal Coordinator for the Central Highlands MEMC.

Feedback on this plan should be provided in writing to:

Email: grogers@centralhighlands.tas.gov.au

Mail: Central Highlands Municipal Coordinator, PO Box 20 HAMILTON 7140

Phone: (03) 6259 5503

## 4.2 Review requirements and issue history

Section 34 of the Act requires that this MEMP is reviewed at least once every two years after approval by the State Controller.

In reviewing the MEMP, the MEMC shall take account of all suggested amendments provided by relevant stakeholders. The MEMP is to be reissued in full, upon confirmation by the State Controller, to all plan-holders, in accordance with the distribution list provided at Section 4.4 below.

This issue entirely supersedes the previous issue of this MEMP. Superseded issues are to be destroyed, or clearly marked as superseded, and removed from general circulation.

Table 9: Issue table

Issue No.	Year approved	Comments/summary of main changes
Issue 1	1994	Review
Issue 2	1997	Review
Issue 3	2006	Review and rewrite
Issue 4	2012	Reformat into PPRR format
Issue 5	2014	Review
Issue 6	2016	Review
Issue 7	2021	Incorporation of new TEMA, evacuation, recovery information; reformat

## 4.3 Consultation for this issue

Review of this issue was coordinated by the MC for the MEMC. This issue was updated/rewritten as part of the statutory two-yearly review schedule. MEMC invited comment from:

- a SES Regional Manager
- b SES Regional Planner
- c Southern Regional Social Recovery Coordinator
- d MEMC members.

#### 4.4 Distribution list

This plan will be available electronically through WebEOC after approval. Electronic copies will be provided as follows:

Table 10: Distribution list

Organisation	Position
Council	<ul><li>All MEMC members</li><li>Mayor and Councillors</li><li>General Manager</li></ul>
SES	<ul> <li>Unit Manager, Central Highlands SES</li> <li>Regional Manager (South)</li> <li>Regional Planner (for Regional Controller)</li> <li>SES Emergency Management Unit (for SES Director, State Controller, WebEOC)</li> </ul>
TASPOL	Officer in Charge, Bridgewater Police Station
TFS	District Officer, Midlands District
AT	<ul> <li>Manager – People &amp; Operational Performance Improvement, Southern Region</li> <li>Regional Manager, Southern Region</li> <li>Coordinator of Emergency Management</li> </ul>
Neighbouring councils	<ul><li>Southern Midlands Council</li><li>Derwent Valley Council</li></ul>
Other organisations	<ul> <li>Hydro Tasmania</li> <li>TasNetworks</li> <li>Sustainable Timber Tasmania</li> <li>Parks and Wildlife Service</li> <li>Inland Fisheries Service</li> <li>Red Cross</li> </ul>

### 4.5 Communications plan summary

When endorsed by Council and approved by the State Controller, update of this MEMP will be communicated as follows:

- a email copies sent to the positions listed in Table 10
- b submitted for noting by SREMC
- c endorsement by Council
- d published on Council's website
- e available to members of the public on request.

### 4.6 Validation of this plan

Arrangements in this plan will be validated within the two-year review cycle by:

- a participating, where able, in other municipal/regional exercises
- b conducting/participating in relevant debriefs
- c refer to Appendix 4.

### **Section 5: Appendices**

Appendices are part of this MEMP and as such are not to be updated or circulated as separate attachments without this MEMP being approved by the State Controller.

Appendix 1 – List of associated documents

Appendix 2 – Risk assessment report

Appendix 3 - MEMC terms of reference

Appendix 4 – MEMC resources, maintenance and activity schedule

Appendix 5 – Centres for emergency management

Appendix 6 – Duty cards

Appendix 7 – Standard operating procedures

Appendix 8 – Community centres

#### **APPENDIX 1: List of associated documents**

The documents listed here are relevant to this MEMP. When the MEMP is reviewed, current versions of these documents will also be checked. Other relevant documents that may also have been developed between issues will be included.

#### a Legislation

Legislation	Related hazard or function	Administration
Emergency Management Act 2006	All-Hazard statewide emergency management provisions	SES
Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993	Planning schemes	DoJ
Local Government Act 1993	Council responsibilities	DPAC

### **b** Plans and arrangements

Arrangements (TEMA)  5 Tasmanian Emergency Evacuation Framework  6 State Road and Bridge Emergency Management Plan  State Special Emergency Management Plans (SSEMP)  7 SSEMP – COVID 19  8 SSEMP – Dam safety DPIPWE  10 SSEMP – Hazardous materials DPAC SSEMP – Interoperability arrangements DPAC SSEMP – Pandemic influenza DoH SSEMP – Port safety (nuclear warships) SSEMP – Fire protection TFS SSEMP – Recovery DPAC SSEMP – Recovery DPAC SSEMP – Recovery DPAC SSEMP – Biosecurity DPIPWE SSEMP – Biosecurity DPIPWE DPAC DSG	able from	Version/date A	Custodian	Title	Row		
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25 SSEMP – Tsunami SES Issue 2 2020 (Mara	(March)	Issue 2 2	SES	SSEMP – Tsunami	25		
Other							
26 TFS Community Protection Plans TFS <u>TFS website</u>	<u>ebsite</u>	Ī	TFS	TFS Community Protection Plans	26		

### **APPENDIX 2: Risk assessment report**

#### a Tasmanian Government responsibilities – emergency risk management

Tasmania's commitment to emergency risk management is demonstrated through development of Tasmanian Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines (TERAG) and risk assessment workshops.

#### b Local government responsibilities and benefits – emergency risk management

Tasmania's local government authorities supported development of TERAG. The benefits of participating in this process include:

- demonstrates sound commitment to managing emergency risks within the community and a primary interest in community safety
- potentially reduces levels of risk within the community
- ensures the identification of risks that are the focus of emergency management planning
- ensures a focus on preventing emergencies rather than to reacting to them
- enables improved community understandings of emergency management and the risk management process
- improves governmental understanding of risks from a community perspective
- provides an opportunity to reduce the cost to communities from emergency impacts
- enables use of a best practice standard in risk management
- ensures and maximises access to national DRFA funding
- complements Council's existing practices and commitment to risk management.

The responsibilities of Council and the MEMC in relation to emergency risk management are summarised in *Table 3* and detailed in TEMA.

#### c Risks, recommended treatment strategies and timeframes

The following risk assessment includes a description of risks and treatment strategies. Sources of risk were reviewed and assessed with review of this MEMP.

Timeframes for undertaking treatment options are defined as:

- **Immediate:** action must be completed as soon as practical within current budget cycle (12 months)
- **Short-term**: action must be completed as soon as practical within the next budget cycle (12-24 months)
- Long-term: action must be completed within five years
- Ongoing: continuously monitor the adequacy of existing arrangements to mitigate the risk, or
- as described in the table.

#### d Responsibility for treatment

Council is responsible for managing the incorporation of treatment strategies that are either the responsibility of Council, or of both Council and other levels of government or agencies, into appropriate operational plans and/or partnership agreements, as required.

ID	Risk statement	Treatment/s	Responsibility for treatment	Timeframes
CE 01 FI	lood			
CE 01.08	There is a risk of damage to roads and bridges from flooding	Ongoing upgrades or replacement of timber and obsolete bridges	DSG/Council/Derwent Valley Council	Ongoing
CE 01.10	There is a risk of failure of the bridge over the Tyenna River on Meadowbank Road isolating the Meadowbank community	Identify alternative routes	Council	
CE 02 B	ushfire			
CE	There is a risk to residential property in the	Fire Management Plan	TFS/PWS/Council	Immediate
02.02	Great Lake area as a result of bushfire	Planning Scheme issues	Council	Short-term
		Emergency management plan	Council	Ongoing
CE	There is a risk of loss of life from bushfire	Fire Management Plan	TFS/PWS/Council	Immediate
02.05		Planning Scheme issues	Council	Short-term
		Emergency management plan	Council	Ongoing
		Education	TFS/PWS/Council	Ongoing
CE 06 P	ublic health epidemic			·
06.01 contagious diseas	There is a risk to the population from a contagious disease or contamination of	Continued support for public health programs	Council/DoH/PHS	Ongoing
	consumables	Continued implementation of public awareness	Council/DoH/PHS	Ongoing
		Undertake food-handling courses	Council	Ongoing
CE 08 E	xotic animal disease			·
CE 08.01	There is a risk that exotic animal disease will impact on the agricultural industry	Maintain quarantine standard	Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service/DPIPWE/Council	Ongoing
		Maintain animal testing	DPIPWE/industry	Ongoing
		Ongoing awareness of signs and symptoms program	Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service/DPIPWE/Council/industry	Ongoing
CE 08.03	There is a risk that exotic animal disease will impact on community wellbeing	Recovery plan	Council/DPIPWE/DoH/PHS/THS	Short-term

ID	Risk statement	Treatment/s	Responsibility for treatment	Timeframes
CE 21 Ir	nfrastructure failure			<u> </u>
CE	There is a risk that dam failure will impact	Maintain evacuation plan	Hydro Tasmania/Derwent Valley Council	Ongoing
21.01	downstream populations in neighbouring Derwent Valley municipality	Public awareness	Hydro Tasmania/Derwent Valley Council	Short-term
CE 21.02	There is a risk that wastewater treatment facility failure will result in public health	Maintain regular sampling/monitoring program	TasWater/Council/DoH/PHS	Ongoing
	concerns	Implement telemetry monitoring system	TasWater/Council/DoH/PHS	Ongoing
		Maintain maintenance program	TasWater/Council/DoH/PHS	Ongoing
CE 21.03	There is a risk that timber bridges will fail, resulting in community isolation and	Ongoing upgrades or replacement of timber and obsolete bridges	DSG/Council/Derwent Valley Council	Ongoing
	disruption	Identify alternative routes	Council	Short-term
CE 24 Ir	ndustrial accident	_	'	,
CE	There is a risk that a forest industry	Training	STT/industry	Ongoing
24.01	accident will result in loss of life or injury	Maintain Work Health and Safety standards	STT/industry	Ongoing
		Follow Forest Practices Codes	STT/industry	Ongoing
CE 25 P	ollution	_		,
	There is a risk that wastewater treatment facility failure will result in pollution of waterways	Maintain regular sampling/monitoring program	TasWater/Council/DoH/PHS	Ongoing
		Implement telemetry monitoring system	TasWater/Council/DoH/PHS	Ongoing
		Maintain maintenance program	TasWater/Council/DoH/PHS	Ongoing
CE 25.02	There is a risk of pollution of the waterways from runoff from forestry	Ensure compliance with Forest Practices Code	STT/industry/Council/DPIPWE	Ongoing
	harvesting	Introduce stricter code	STT/industry/Council/DPIPWE	Short-term
CE 26 T	ransport accident			·
CD 26.03	There is a risk of loss of life or injury from a road transport accident	Support road safety strategies	DSG/industry groups/Council	Ongoing
		J		

# Central Highlands Municipal Emergency Management Committee Terms of Reference



Committee Central Highlands Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMC)

Date and status Issue 7, 2021

**Enquiries** Executive Officer (Municipal Coordinator)

Central Highlands Council

**Review notes** These Terms of Reference are due for review in January 2023

General standards & practices

The Tasmanian Emergency Management Arrangements (TEMA) describes the framework for this MEMC and its usual practices are aligned with the guidelines maintained by the SES for emergency management committees (available from www.ses.tas.gov.au).

1. Authority & background

Section 20 of the *Emergency Management Act* 2006 (the Act) establishes the MEMC within the Tasmanian emergency management framework for the Southern Region.

2. Purpose

Section 22 of the Act outlines the MEMC's purpose and functions generally as: "...to institute and coordinate, and to support the institution and coordination of, emergency management in the municipal area, or in the case of a combined area, in the municipal are that constitutes the combined area, including the preparation and review of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan and Special Emergency Management Plans that relate to emergency management ..."

# 3. Role and functions

- 3.1.1 Institute and coordinate policy, arrangements and strategies for municipal emergency management, aligning activities where relevant with regional strategies and priorities.
- 3.1.2 Determine and review emergency management policy for the municipal area, including the performance of hazard risk assessment and management in accordance with current and relevant standards.
- 3.1.3 Enhance emergency management arrangements by reviewing the management of emergencies that have occurred in the municipal area, and identify excellence and opportunities for improvement.
- 3.1.4 Oversee management of emergencies in which Council resources are required to support response and recovery.
- 3.1.5 Report to the Regional Controller on any municipal matters that relate to the functions of the Regional Controller or the Southern Regional Emergency Management Committee.
- 3.1.6 At the direction of the MEMC Chairperson or Municipal Coordinator, assist them or Council with the performance/exercise of functions and powers under the Act.
- 3.1.7 Provide a municipal forum for organisations with emergency management responsibilities in the municipal area.
- 3.1.8 Coordinate at least one municipal emergency management exercise each year.
- 3.1.9 Support the activities of responding organisations during an emergency impacting the municipality.
- 3.1.10 Coordinate a post-emergency operational debrief for all organisations

involved in an emergency impacting the municipality.

#### 4. Reports to

Southern Regional Emergency Management Committee

#### 5. Membership

Section 21 of the Act establishes arrangements for this committee's membership, supplemented by the following practices:

- membership is reviewed every time the Terms of Reference are reviewed and members are confirmed in writing by the responsible officer/manager
- proxies may assume the member's role if the member is unable to attend the meeting or is unable to perform their usual role for the committee.

Invited guests support municipal emergency management as requested by the Chairperson, within their limits of safety and training.

Observers/guests may include interested members of the public.

At this stage, security clearances are not required.

#### 6. Chairperson

Mayor, Central Highlands Council

7. Executive Officer Municipal Coordinator, Central Highlands Council

#### 8. Members

- Mayor (Chair)
- Municipal Coordinator
- Deputy Municipal Coordinator
- General Manager (CHC)
- Municipal Recovery Coordinator
- Deputy Municipal Recover Coordinator
- Southern Regional Social Recovery Coordinator
- State Emergency Service Regional Planner; Regional Manager
- Tasmania Police Officer in Charge, Bridgewater
- Tasmania Fire Service District Officer
- Ambulance Tasmania
- Inland Fisheries Service
- Parks and Wildlife Service
- Sustainable Timber Tasmania
- **TasNetworks**
- Hydro Tasmania
- Aurora Energy
- Central Highlands Community Health Centre
- **Red Cross**

#### 9. Chairperson

The role of the MEMC Chairperson is to:

- chair the MEMC
- receive notification of emergency events from the Municipal Coordinator
- maintain contact with and support the Municipal Coordinator during an emergency event
- maintain regular contact/liaison with the Municipal Coordinator with regard to the administrative arrangements of the MEMC.

#### 10. Frequency of meetings

The MEMC aims to meet twice a year unless an emergency event occurs and a review of operational aspects of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP) is required. Meetings are scheduled by the Executive Officer.

#### 11. Sub-committee

Central Highlands Recovery Committee is a subcommittee of this MEMC

# APPENDIX 4: MEMC maintenance and activity schedule

Action	Responsibility	Frequency	Scheduled for conduct
Conduct meeting of the MEMC	Municipal Coordinator	Biannual	March / September
Conduct meeting of the Central Highlands Recovery Committee	Municipal Recovery Coordinator	Annual	March
Coordinate emergency management training for selected staff member/s on rotating basis and maintain training records	MEMC	Annual	As required
Plan, conduct and review a related exercise	MEMC	Every two years	As advised
Review MEMP and all appendices (including risk treatment strategies) Lodge plan with Regional Planner for approval	MEMC	Biennial	September 2022
Review and update contact lists	Municipal Coordinator	Biannual	March / September
Attend SREMC Meetings	Municipal Coordinator	Quarterly	As advised
Attend SRSRC Meetings	Municipal Recovery Coordinator	Quarterly	As advised
Review risk treatment options in conjunction with municipal strategic plan and budget	Municipal Coordinator	Annual	May-June

### **APPENDIX 5: Centres for emergency management**

#### a Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre (MECC)

The MECC is the focal point for coordinating municipal consequence management activities arising from the emergency, including the activation of Council and community resources. The MECC also monitors operational activities, coordinates the provision of information to local communities and identifies and coordinates local community recovery support.

	Municipal location	Contact	Regional location	Contact
Primary:	Central Highlands Council Chambers 6 Tarleton Street Hamilton	Municipal Coordinator	SES Southern Region Headquarters 1/28 Bathurst St Hobart	SES Regional Planner T: 03 6173 2700
Secondary:	Central Highlands Council Office 19 Alexander Street Bothwell	Municipal Coordinator	As above	As above

#### b Emergency Operations Centres (EOC)

EOCs are operational focus points for providing municipal resources and support at the request of the relevant Response Management Authority.

Organisation	Municipal location	Contact	Regional location	Contact
Council:	Central Highlands Council Chambers 6 Tarleton Street Hamilton	Municipal Coordinator	SES Southern Region Headquarters 1/28 Bathurst St Hobart	SES Duty Officer T: 03 6173 2700
TASPOL:	Hamilton Police Station 62 Franklin Place Hamilton	Officer in Charge T: 03 6122 2032	Bridgewater Police Station Green Point Road Bridgewater	T: 03 6173 2010 Police Radio Room 131 444
TFS:	Bothwell Fire Station 6 Barrack Street Bothwell	District Officer T: 0403 708 014	Southern Region Headquarters 1040 Cambridge Road, Cambridge	Regional Chief South T: 1800 000 699
SES:	Central Highlands Unit 223 Bradys Lake Road Bradys Lake	Unit Manager T: 02 6173 2700	SES Southern Region Headquarters 1/28 Bathurst St Hobart	SES Regional Manager T: 03 6173 2700
AT:	Miena Fire Station 55-57 Cider Gum Road Miena	Duty Manager, Northern Region: T 0439 317 747	Southern Region Headquarters 1-5 Melville Street, Hobart	Manager – People & Operational Performance Improvement, Southern Region T: 03 6166 1917

#### c Emergency Evacuation Centres

An Emergency Evacuation Centre is a facility that may be established to coordinate and meet the immediate needs of people evacuated from an emergency-affected area.

Selection of the most suitable site for an Evacuation Centre will be determined by the Recovery Coordinator and Municipal Coordinator after consultation with the MEMC. Prospective locations are listed at Appendix 8.

# CENTRAL HIGHLANDS MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY COORDINATION CENTRE (MECC) PLAN

#### Introduction

This sub-plan should be read in conjunction with the Central Highlands MEMP and is subject to the same authority and provisions of the MEMP.

#### **MECC functions**

The Central Highlands MECC is not the control centre for any emergency response; this function is undertaken by the relevant Response Management Authority.

The MECC is the focal point for coordinating support from Council and community resources, at the request of either lead agencies or members of the community, and performs the following functions:

- a maintains information flow to and from WebEOC
- b coordinates the activation and deployment and management of Council and community resources
- c monitors operational activities
- d coordinates information to local communities affected by the emergency
- e coordinates local recovery efforts and identifies any support that may be required by regional recovery resources.

#### **MECC** location

The MECC will be located in the Central Highlands Council Chambers at Hamilton, supported by existing resources and amenities. The alternative site is the Council Office at Bothwell. Any additional resources should be requested through SES.

#### **MECC** activation

#### **During business hours**

All local emergencies of significance are to be referred to the Municipal Coordinator (MC) or, in his/her absence, the Deputy MC. The MC will advise the MEMC Chairperson of the situation.

The MC will be responsible for coordinating an assessment of the emergency and determining if it is appropriate to establish the MECC. Generally, the MECC will be established if:

- a coordination of resources is required by external agencies, or
- b if is expected that significant community impact will result from the emergency.

The MC will advise all relevant staff of the emergency and that MECC staff are required to undertake the MECC staffing functions for which they have been trained.

#### After-hours activation

Upon notification of an emergency, the MC will be responsible for activating Council resources after hours, consistent with the procedures listed above.

#### **Council Reception**

Council's telephone receptionist is likely to be the first person to become aware that an emergency is causing concern for a large number of residents, due to the volume of phone calls received. If the volume of calls exceeds the capacity of those handling them (ie. extensions permanently busy, numerous calls on hold, etc), then the receptionist should:

a notify the MC that normal channels are unable to cope with call volume

- b direct calls relating to the emergency according to instructions provided by the MC
- c be aware that a MECC is likely to be established to handle emergency calls
- d route emergency calls to the MECC when instructed to do so
- e continue to route emergency calls to the MECC until advised otherwise by the MC
- f under no circumstances leave the switchboard unstaffed for any period of time.
- g liaise with the MC regarding after-hours switchboard operation under no circumstances is the switchboard to be 'night-switched' without full approval of the MC
- h not refer members of the public visiting Council Chambers to the MECC, but phone through and advise the MECC that a member of the public would like to speak with them
- i refer all media enquiries to the MECC or as instructed by the MC.

#### **MECC** staffing

All workers designated as having functions to perform in the MECC will undergo appropriate training, and skills will be validated on a regular basis.

Personnel required in the MECC will be determined by the MC, in consultation with the MEMC. Depending on the situation, the number and expertise of personnel will vary, but workers will generally include the MC, Deputy MC, Works Manager, Environmental Health Officer and administrative support staff. These workers will be expected to fulfil the roles or duties of any or all of the following:

#### **MECC Manager**

The MC, Deputy MC or an officer authorised to act in such appointments will:

- a be responsible for the overall management of emergency-related coordination activities
- b coordinate resources and activities in the MECC
- c liaise with emergency services
- d ensure the MEMC Chairperson is fully briefed.

#### **Communications Officer**

A staff member familiar with communications will be assigned to establish and oversee all necessary two-way radio and telephone communications to the on-site controller, support organisations, Council and SES Regional Headquarters, and maintain associated operations logs and status boards.

#### Administration Officer/s

Council will provide worker/s who will:

- a operate telephones and/or radios as required
- b undertake administrative tasks as required
- c ensure the needs of MECC staff are met, eg. welfare, nourishment and rostering
- d act as messengers, if required.

#### **Liaison Officers**

Each agency involved in providing operational support in an emergency may provide a Liaison Officer to the MECC, each of whom should have knowledge of their respective organisation's resources, capabilities and response times. Liaison Officers must be able to commit their organisation's resources in support of the operation.

#### Reporting structures and external linkages

The MECC Manager will provide regular reports to the MEMC Chairperson and the General Manager. All reports are to be logged by the Communications Officer.

External linkages to the MECC will include all government and non-government agencies whose officers are involved in management of the emergency.

### **APPENDIX 6: Duty Statements and Action Cards**

The following Duty Statements and Action Cards are designed to provide an abbreviated prompt to key emergency management personnel on the actions they need to consider when an emergency event occurs. These can be extracted from the Plan and kept in a readily available location.

These arrangements are designed to be flexible and scalable and one person may fulfil more than one function, dependent upon the size of the emergency. Should the event be larger than Council's capacity to respond, the MC will seek support from the Southern Regional Emergency Management Committee (SREMC), though the SREMC Executive Officer (Regional Planner).

### **MEMC Duty Statements**

#### Committee

When it meets prior to or during an emergency, MEMC is to provide strategic advice on the management of emergencies where Council resources are required to support response and recovery. MEMC shall also consider the following:

- nature of the emergency
- resources available to deal with the event
- task prioritisation
- communications
- business continuity
- · community engagement
- recovery.

### Chairperson

- 1. Chair the MEMC.
- 2. Arrange for reports to the Council, on an as needs basis, covering the activities of the MEMC and related emergencies.
- 3. Maintain regular contact/liaison with the Municipal Coordinator/General Manager regarding administrative arrangements of the MEMC.
- 4. Receive notification of emergency from Municipal Coordinator/General Manager.
- 5. If appropriate, during an emergency event, convene MEMC and support the Municipal Coordinator.

# Executive Officer (Municipal Coordinator)

1. Undertake the role of MEMC Executive Officer and carry out the administrative functions of that role.

#### Committee Members

- 1. Provide advice within respective field of expertise.
- 2. Coordinate and manage resources from respective organisations in support of the MEMC.



<u>Position</u> MAYOR

<u>Responsible to</u> Central Highlands Council

- a Receive notification of emergency from Municipal Coordinator
- b Advise and inform Councillors, if appropriate
- c Maintain contact with and support Municipal Coordinator
- d Manage ongoing information to Councillors
- e Undertake role of Council spokesperson for the community and for providing information to the community and media
- f Chair (or delegate chairing) Central Highlands Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMC) meetings
- g Establish and maintain links with Australian and Tasmanian Government Ministers, when appropriate
- h Manage public appeals, when appropriate
- i Establish and maintain community profile



<u>Position</u> COUNCILLORS

Responsible to Mayor

- a Deputise for and/or support the Mayor, as requested by him/her
- b Receive notification of emergency
- c Support the Central Highlands Emergency Management Committee (MEMC) Chairperson and Municipal Coordinator during the emergency



<u>Position</u> MEMC Chairperson

Responsible to Central Highlands Council

- a Receive notification of emergency
- b Convene and chair Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMC) meetings in response to the emergency
- c Support and liaise with the Municipal Coordinator during the emergency
- d Maintain contact and liaise with the Mayor and other Councillors, as required



<u>Position</u> GENERAL MANAGER

Responsible to Central Highlands Council

- a Establish and maintain contact with the Mayor (and Councillors if warranted)
- b Assist the Mayor with community and media information
- c Manage ongoing information to the community and media
- d Manage ongoing information to Council staff
- e Liaise with and provide support to the Municipal Coordinator
- f Ensure accurate records of financial expenditure associated with the emergency are kept



<u>Position</u> MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR

<u>Responsible to</u> General Manager/Mayor

### **Duties**

As prescribed in the Emergency Management Act 2006 and include:

- a Responsible for overall management of Council's role in supporting response to the emergency
- b Notify the Mayor, Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMC) Chairperson, General Manager and other MEMC members of the emergency or potential emergency.
- c Activate the Central Highlands Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre (MECC) plan
- d Coordinate resources and activities in the MECC
- e Assist and advise the MEMC Chairperson and liaise with MEMC members
- f Liaise with emergency services
- g Liaise with the Regional Controller
- h Assist with the allocation of Council resources
- i Liaise with the Municipal Recovery Coordinator and/or Southern Regional Social Recovery Coordinator



<u>Position</u> DEPUTY MUNICIPAL COORDINATOR

Responsible to General Manager/Municipal Coordinator

# **Duties**

As prescribed in the Emergency Management Act 2006 and include:

- a Assist the Municipal Coordinator in all duties
- b Act as Municipal Coordinator in his/her absence
- c Participate and contribute to the work of the Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMC) and Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre (MECC)



<u>Position</u> MUNICIPAL RECOVERY COORDINATOR

<u>Responsible to</u> Municipal Coordinator

- a Receive notification of emergency from Municipal Coordinator
- b Notify appropriate recovery organisations
- c Notify Southern Regional Social Recovery Coordinator
- d Maintain contact with and support Municipal Coordinator
- e Manage assessment of community needs with support from Southern Regional Social Recovery Committee
- f Maintain ongoing liaison with the Southern Regional Social Recovery Coordinator during the provision of services to the community
- g Record expenditure associated with the emergency
- h Participate and contribute to the work of the Municipal Emergency
  Management Committee (MEMC) and Municipal Emergency Coordination
  Centre (MECC)



Position MANAGER WORKS

Responsible to General Manager/Municipal Coordinator

- a Receive notification of emergency from Municipal Coordinator
- b Ensure identified resources and equipment are available
- c Coordinate required field operations
- d Maintain contact with and support Municipal Coordinator
- e Record expenditure associated with the emergency
- f Participate and contribute to the work of the Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMC) and Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre (MECC)

### **APPENDIX 7: Standard Operating Procedures**

When first advised of an emergency or potential emergency, the following roles and responsibilities will be followed.

#### First alert – Municipal Coordinator (MC)

When first alerted about an emergency or potential emergency the MC must:

- a assess the necessity to establish the MECC and/or a municipal EOC
- b contact response teams/supervisors and other potentially affected operational areas as deemed appropriate
- c notify Council's General Manager or Manager Governance and Performance (if appropriate)
- d contact those staff that may have a direct role in the emergency.

If the first alert is received outside usual working hours, the MC must re-assess and determine the appropriate people to contact. Such contact will depend on the type and extent of the incident.

#### Liaison with emergency services

In the event of an emergency within the municipal area that threatens life and/or property, the MC will liaise with all emergency services through SREMC, through the Regional Manager (operational matters), Regional Planner (consequence and emergency management matters) or Regional Controller.

The SREMC Executive Officer (Regional Planner) may arrange for briefings from the Response Management Authority. These briefings will identify the role of Council and the physical and human resources that may be required to assist.

The decision to recommend the evacuation of people in and around at-risk areas rests with the Response Management Authority (SES) Incident Controller, who consults with the Regional Controller, TASPOL, Council and the MC. If a decision to evacuate is made, public warnings will be issued.

#### **Bushfire**

The MC will be advised of severe fire weather days and this will provide the trigger to alert Council staff to be vigilant in identifying fire outbreaks, and monitoring the current situation through the TFS website (www.fire.tas.gov.au).

Should any Council employee become aware of a fire that may have the potential to threaten any part of the municipality, it will be reported immediately to TFS (phone 000) in the first instance, and then the MC.

Council's employees are not required to provide frontline firefighting capability, unless specifically requested. Their presence may place them at risk and potentially interfere with the work of emergency services.

#### Flood

SES has responsibility for receiving flood alerts and warnings from BoM and for conveying that advice to local government authorities that may be affected by potential floods. Council is responsible for supporting the community during a flood emergency. The MC will be provided with advice on the potential for flood events, the possible extent of flood inundation, and the resources available from SES to assist with flood mitigation actions.

#### Storm

SES has responsibility for receiving storm warnings from BoM and conveying that advice to local government authorities that may be affected by severe weather storms. The MC will be advised of any severe weather warnings that are issued by BoM that indicate an impact within the Taman municipal area.

SES provides initial response to any report of structural damage. In severe events, Council may be requested to support SES in responding to calls for assistance from the community. Requests will be received by the MC.

#### APPENDIX 8: Community centres

This list provides a summary of the facilities suitable for use as community centres in an emergency.

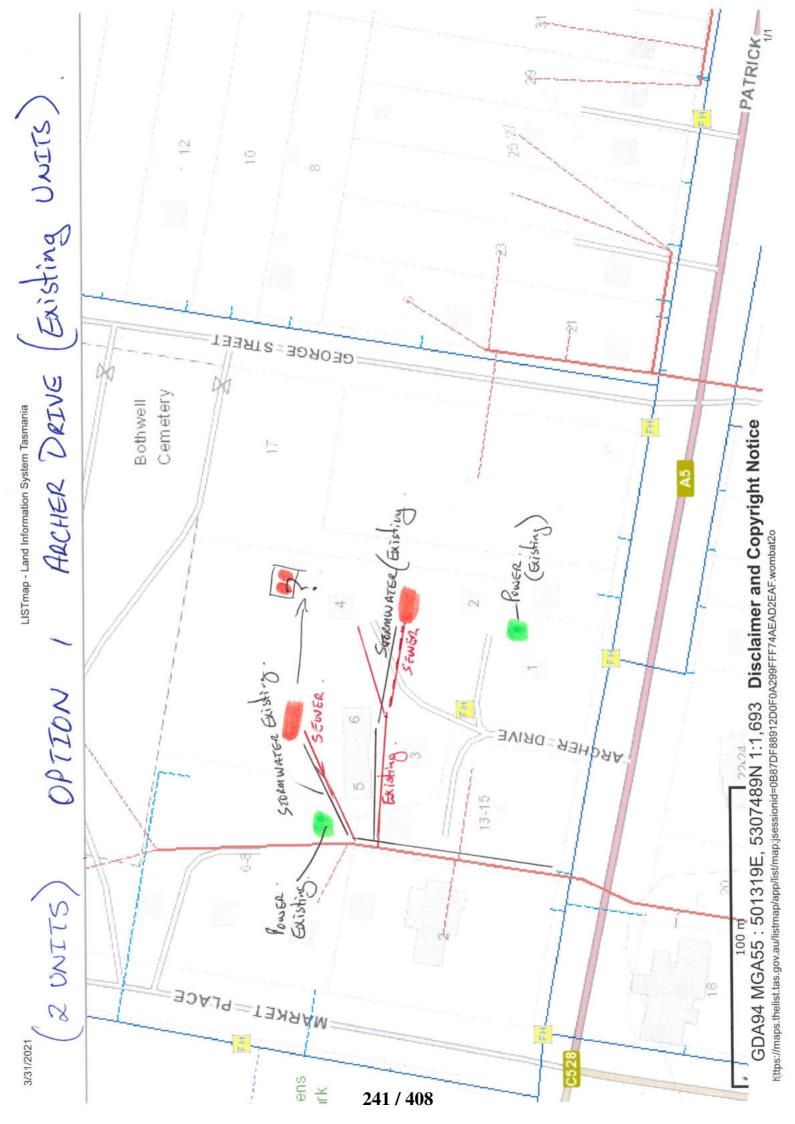
ID	Centre name and contact	Location	Facilities available	Normal usage	Could be used for	Comments
1	Miena Community Hall	55-57 Cider Gum Road, Miena	Toilets, disability access, kitchen, barbeques, parking facility, showers	Weekly	Assembly Evacuation Recovery	
	Contact: M/C, DMC					
2	Tarraleah Village	25 Oldina Drive Tarraleah	Camping, accommodation, hall, kitchen, offices, toilets,	Daily	Assembly Evacuation	
	Contact: M/C, DMC					
3	Bronte Park Village	378 Marlborough Road Bronte Park	Caravan park, toilets, disability facilities, accommodation, shop,	Daily	Evacuation Recovery	
	Contact: M/C, DMC		kitchen			
4	Derwent Bridge Hotel	15573 Lyell Highway Derwent Bridge	Toilets, kitchen, accommodation, camping area	Daily	Evacuation Recovery	
	Contact: M/C, DMC					
5	Ellendale Hall	937 Ellendale Road	Toilets, kitchen, hall	Weekly	Assembly Evacuation	
	Contact: M/C, DMC	Ellendale			Recovery	
6	Hamilton Hall	6 Tarleton Street, Hamilton	Toilets, kitchen, hall	Weekly	Assembly Evacuation	
	Contact: M/C, DMC				Recovery	
7	Bothwell Hall	19 Alexander Street, Bothwell	Toilets, kitchen, hall	Weekly	Assembly Evacuation	
	Contact: M/C, DMC				Recovery	
8	Ouse Hall	6955 Lyell Highway, Ouse	Toilets, kitchen, hall	Weekly	Evacuation Recovery	
	Contact: M/C, DMC				Recevery	
9	Wayatinah Hall	Third Street, Wayatinah	Toilets, hall	Weekly	Evacuation Recovery	
	Contact: M/C, DMC				Receivery	
10	Central Highlands Community Health Centre	6896 Lyell Highway Ouse	Kitchen, toilet, shower	Daily	Evacuation Temporary shelter	
	Contact: M/C, DMC					

# **APPENDIX 9: Works Department resources**

Council has the following resources available for use in an emergency.

Use of any of this equipment in an emergency by trained Council officers would be under instruction from the Response Management Authority only. Additional training may be required for use in response to an emergency.

Description	Number	Comment
10 Yard tip trucks	4	
Dog trailers	4	
Motor graders	3	
1,000 litre trailer-mounted water cart	3	
Backhoe	2	
Tractor and slasher	1	
10,000 litre water cart	2	
13 tonne excavator	1	
Light vehicles	15	Assortment of cars, utes and light trucks
Chainsaws	8	







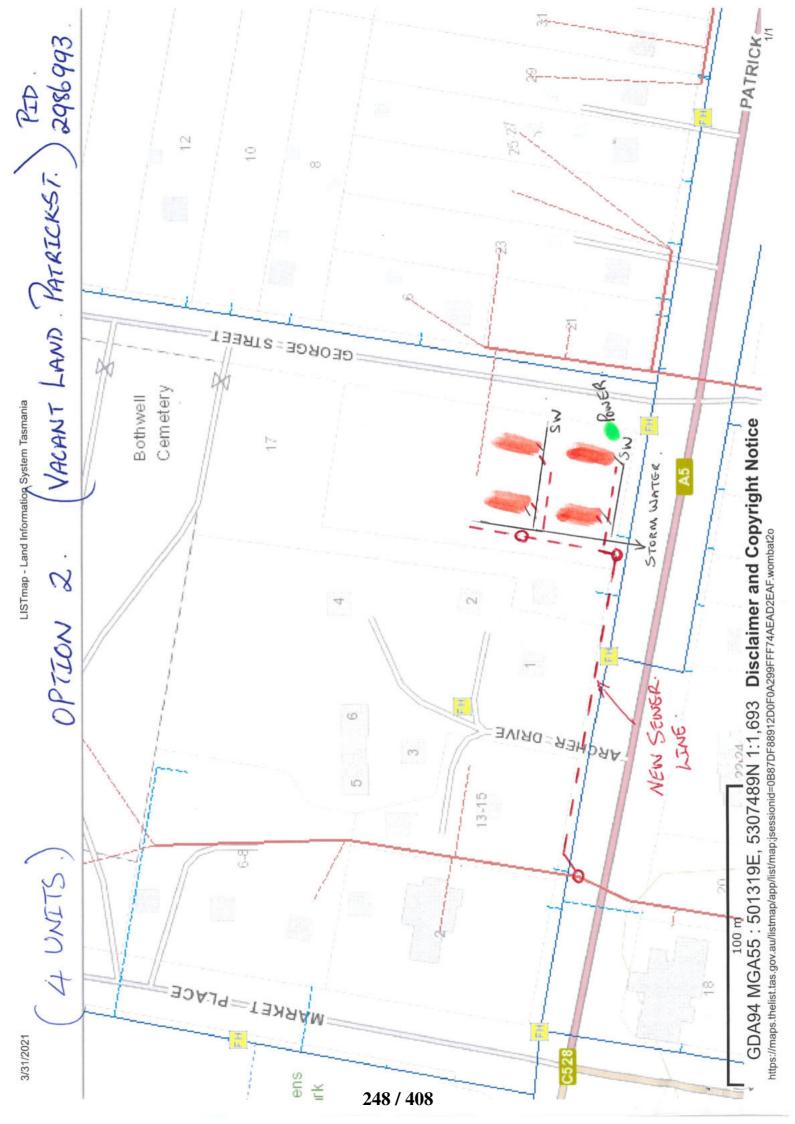








Sent from my iPhone



# **Graham Rogers**

From:

Sent:

Graham Rogers Tuesday, 6 April 2021 8:53 AM

To:

Graham Rogers



















Sent from my iPhone

# **Graham Rogers**

From:

Sent:

Graham Rogers Tuesday, 6 April 2021 8:55 AM

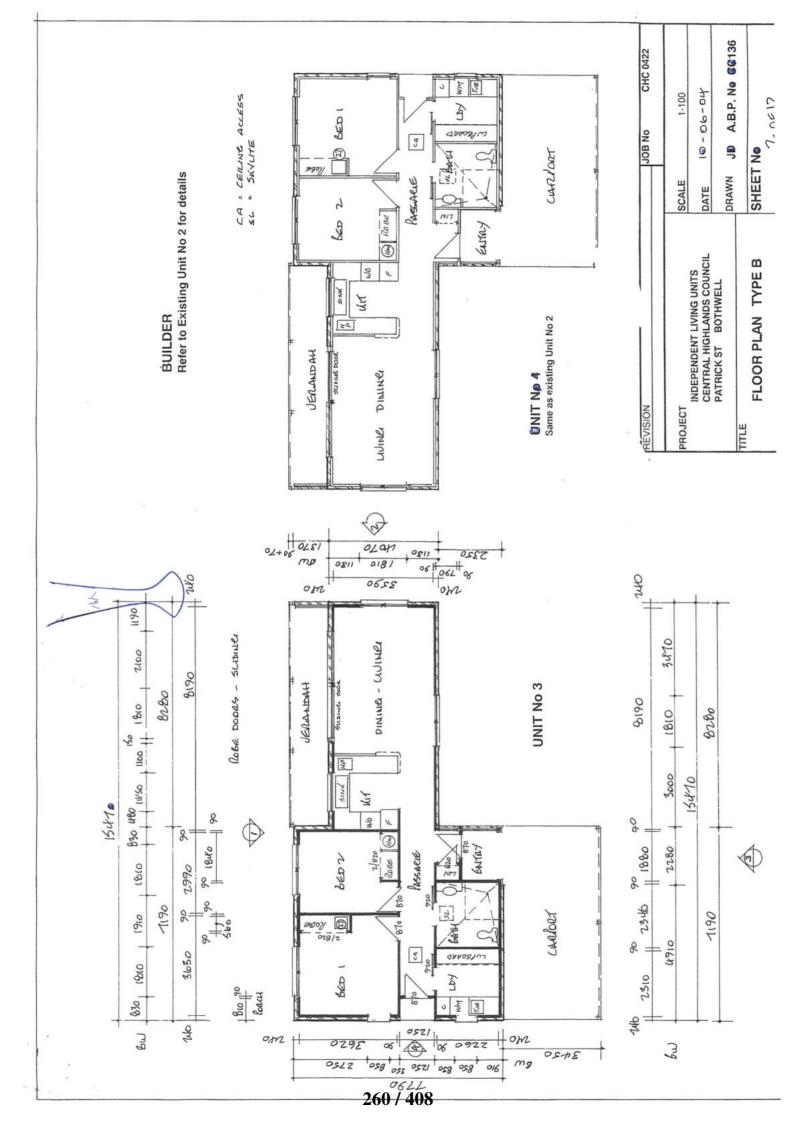
To:

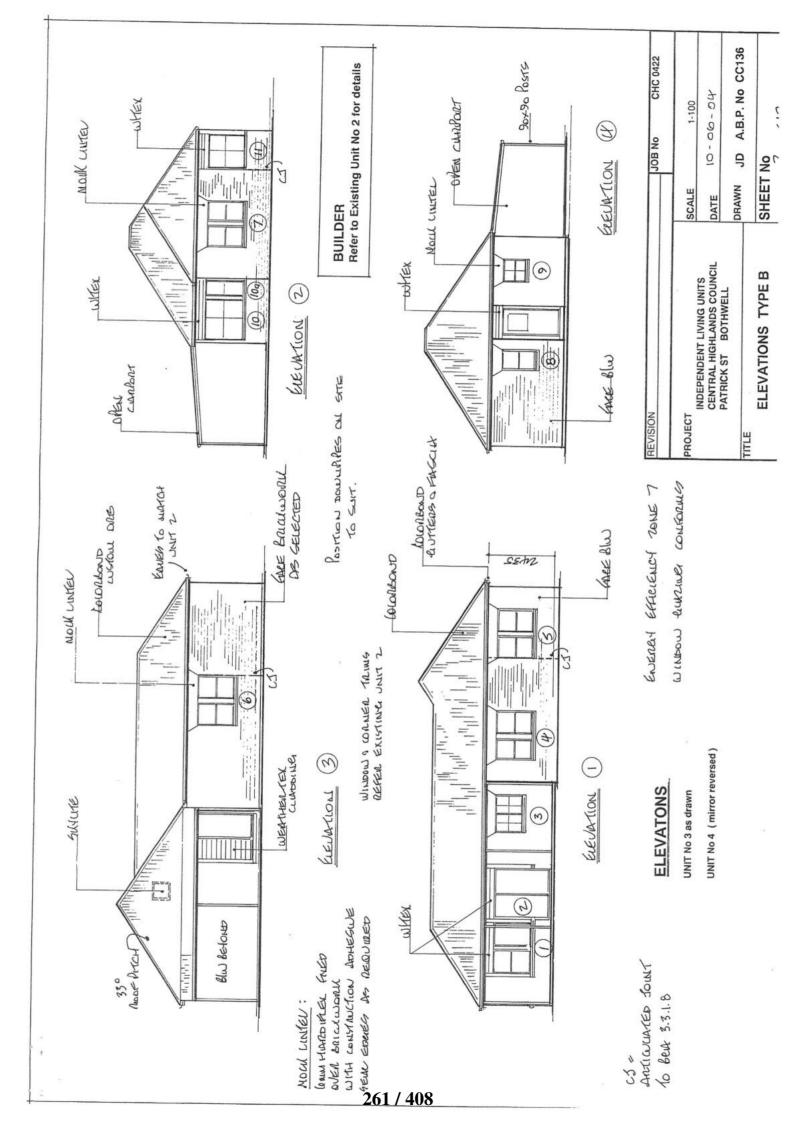
Graham Rogers

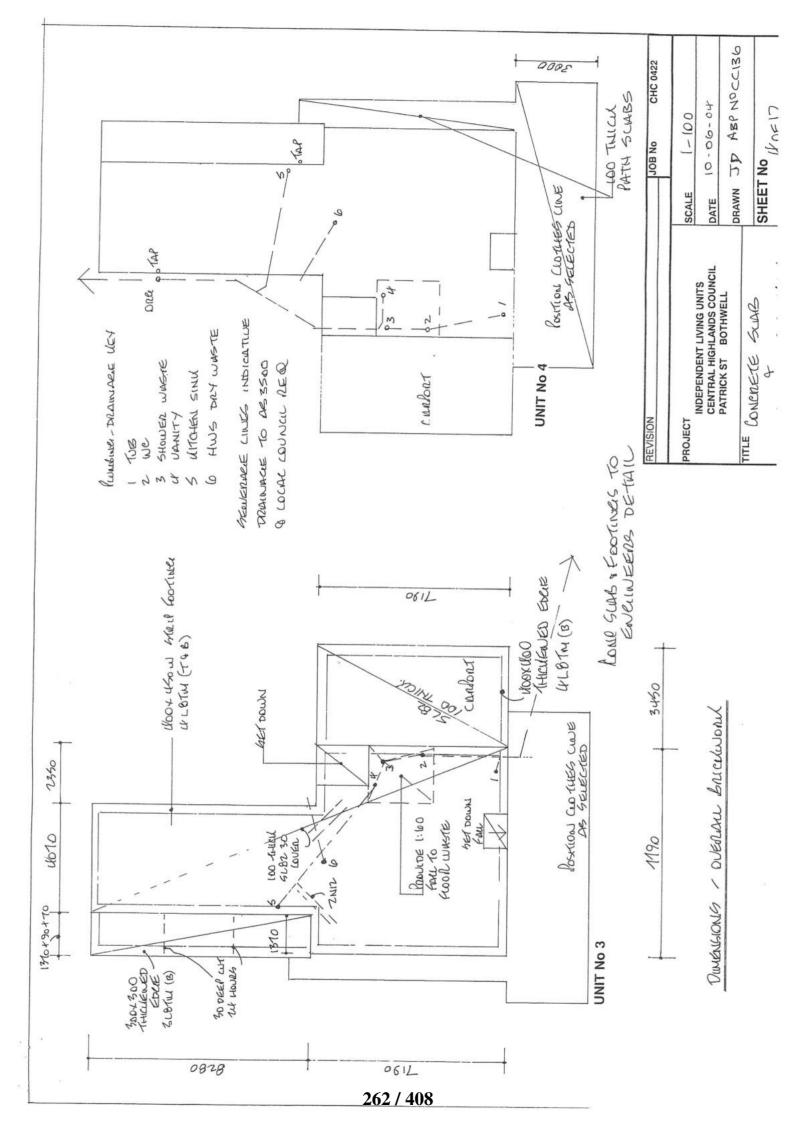


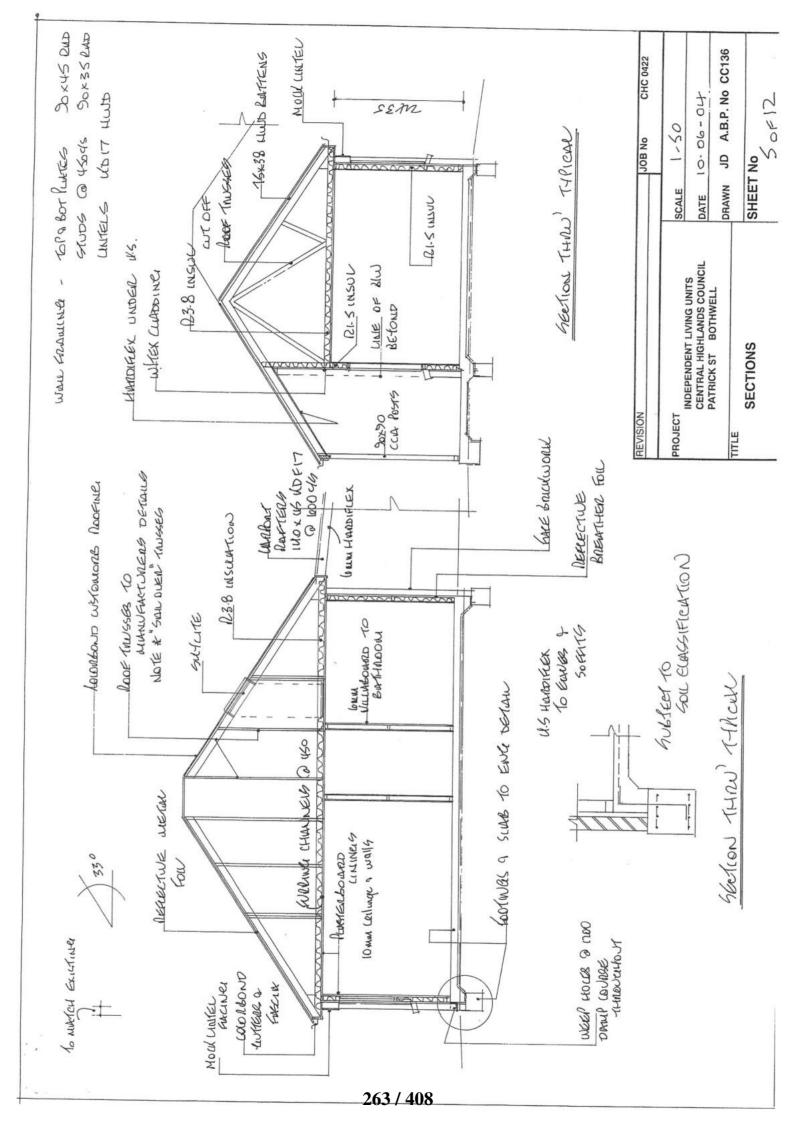
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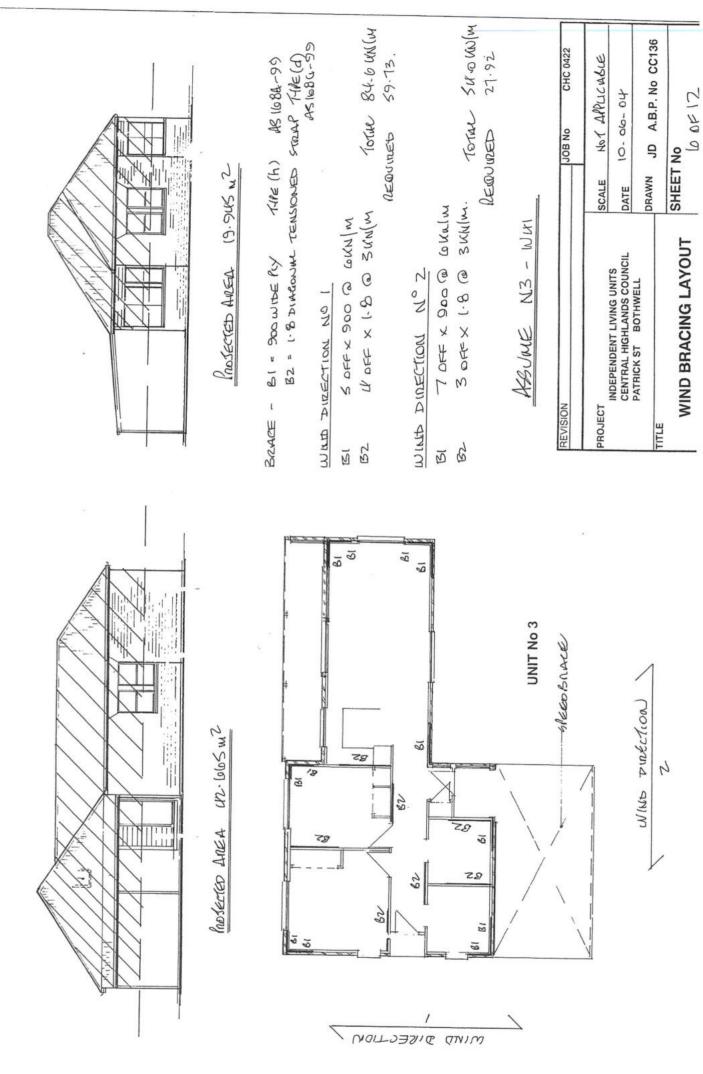


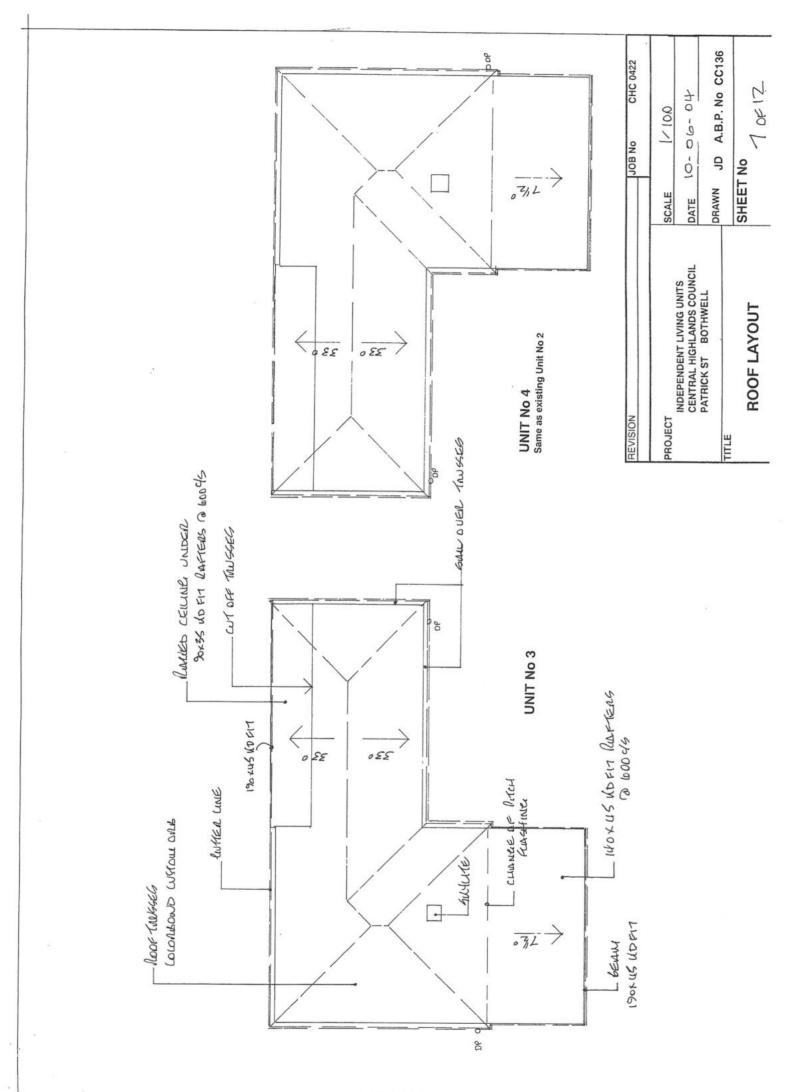


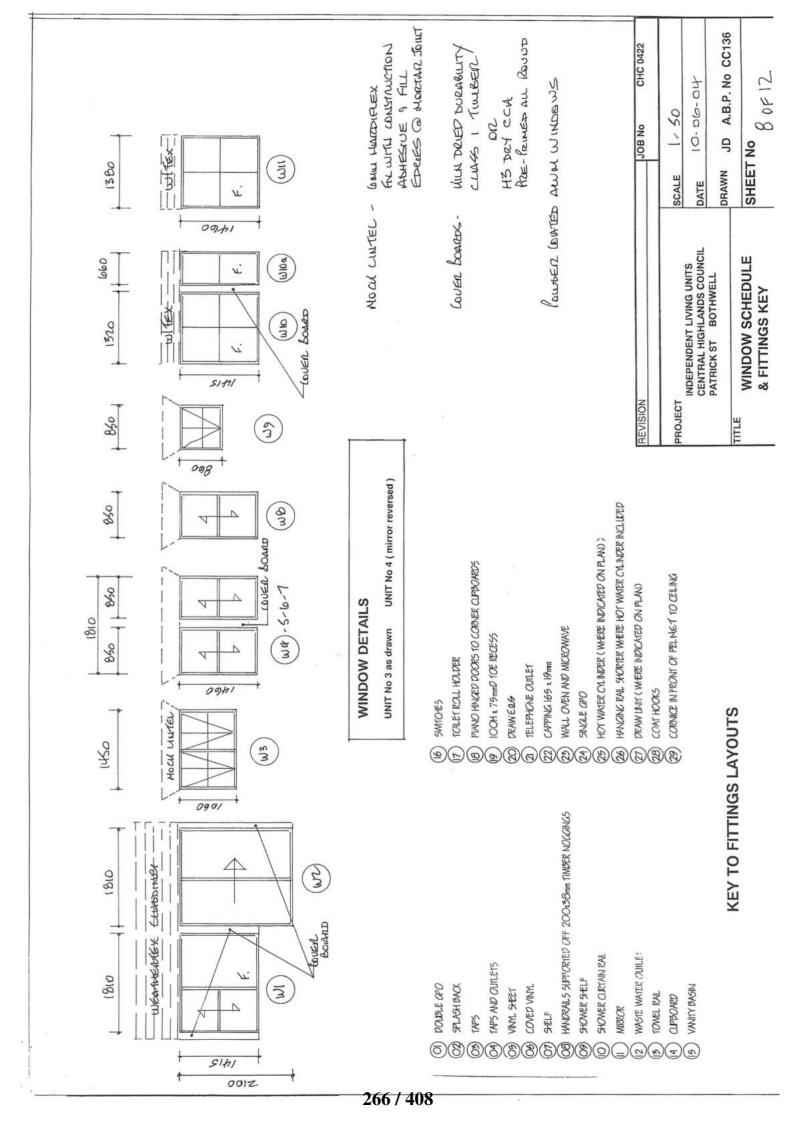


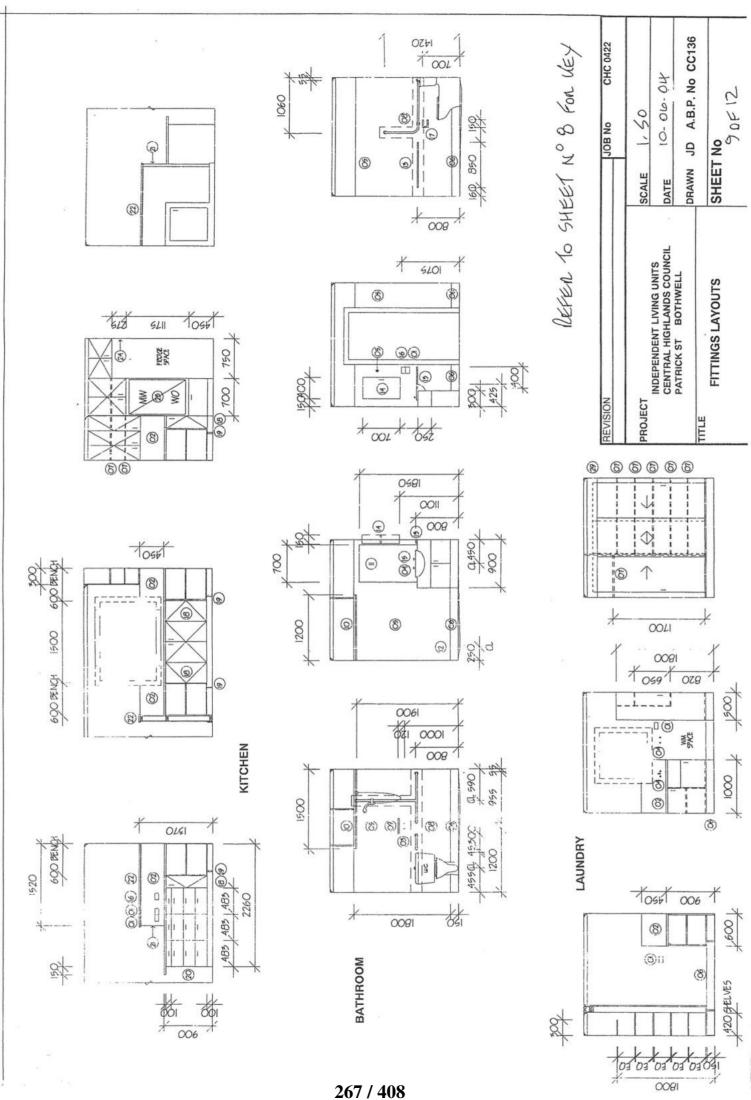


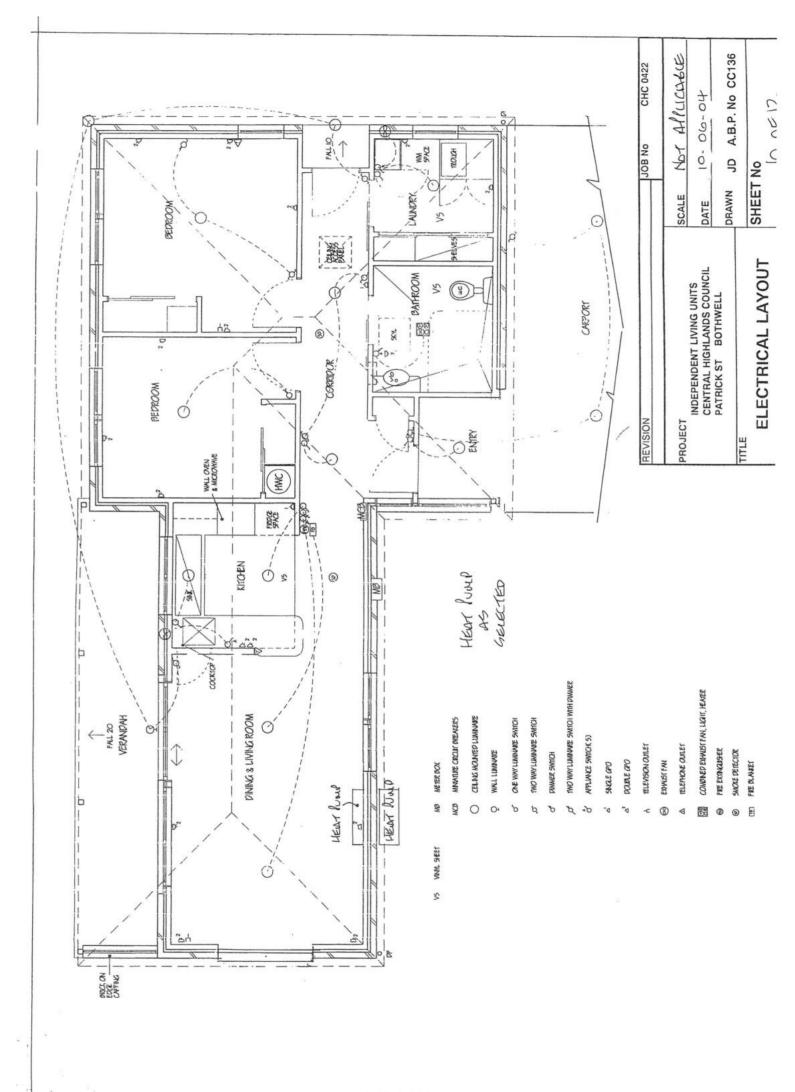


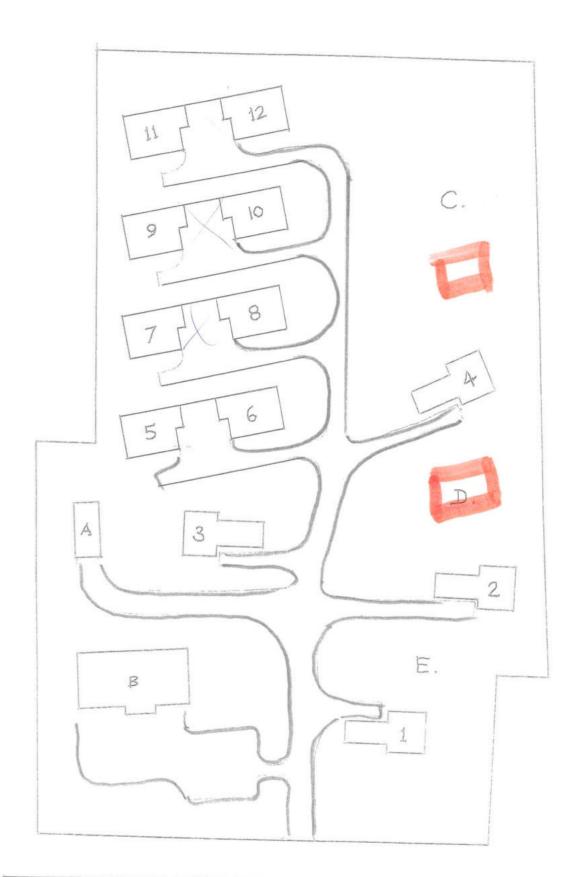












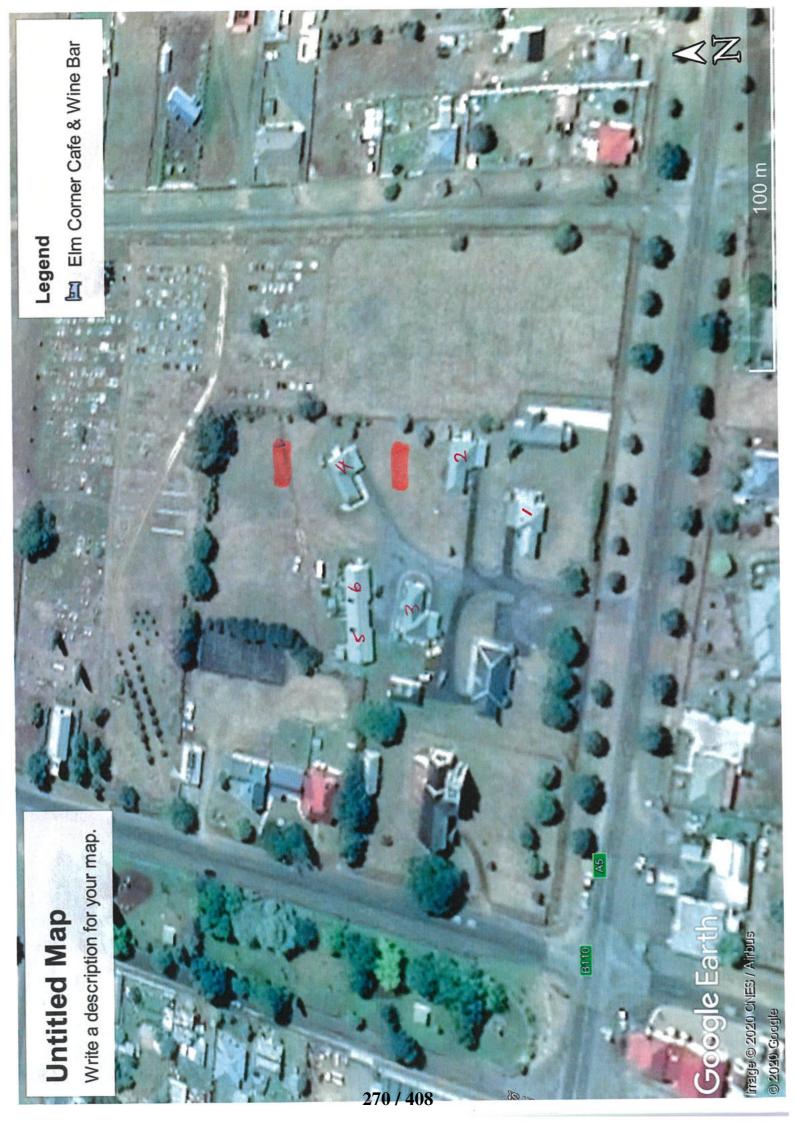
A. AMBULANCE STATION
B. COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE
UNITS 1-4 already constructed.
UNITS 5 & 6 funded - to be constructed 2007
UNITS 7-12 juture development.
ROADS INDICATIVE ONLY
C D P A.TUDO DEVELOPMENT

INDEPENDENT LIVING UNITS CENTRAL HIGHLANDS COUNCIL PATRICK ST, BOTHWELL.

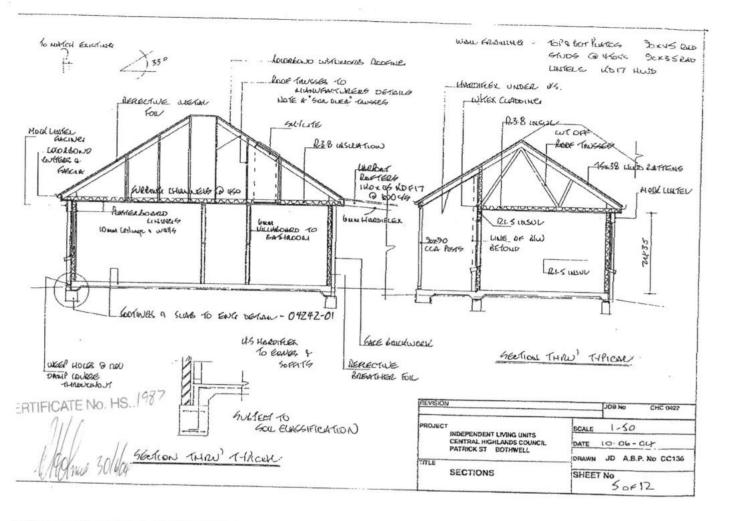
SITE PLAN

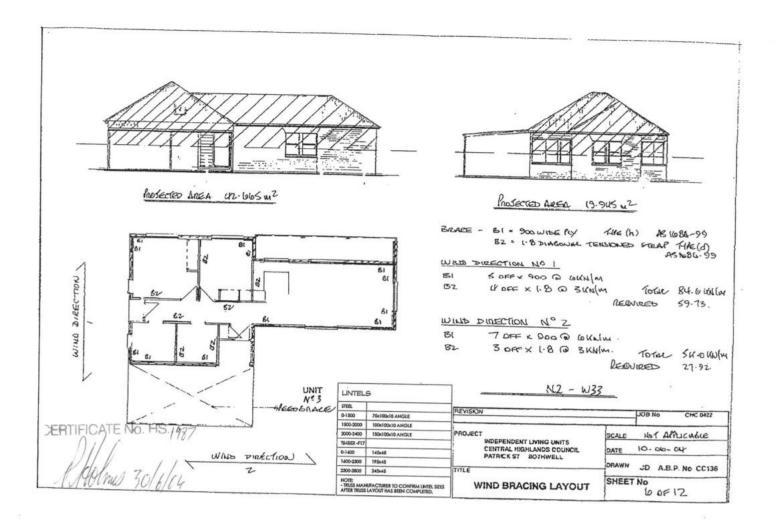
Scale 1:500

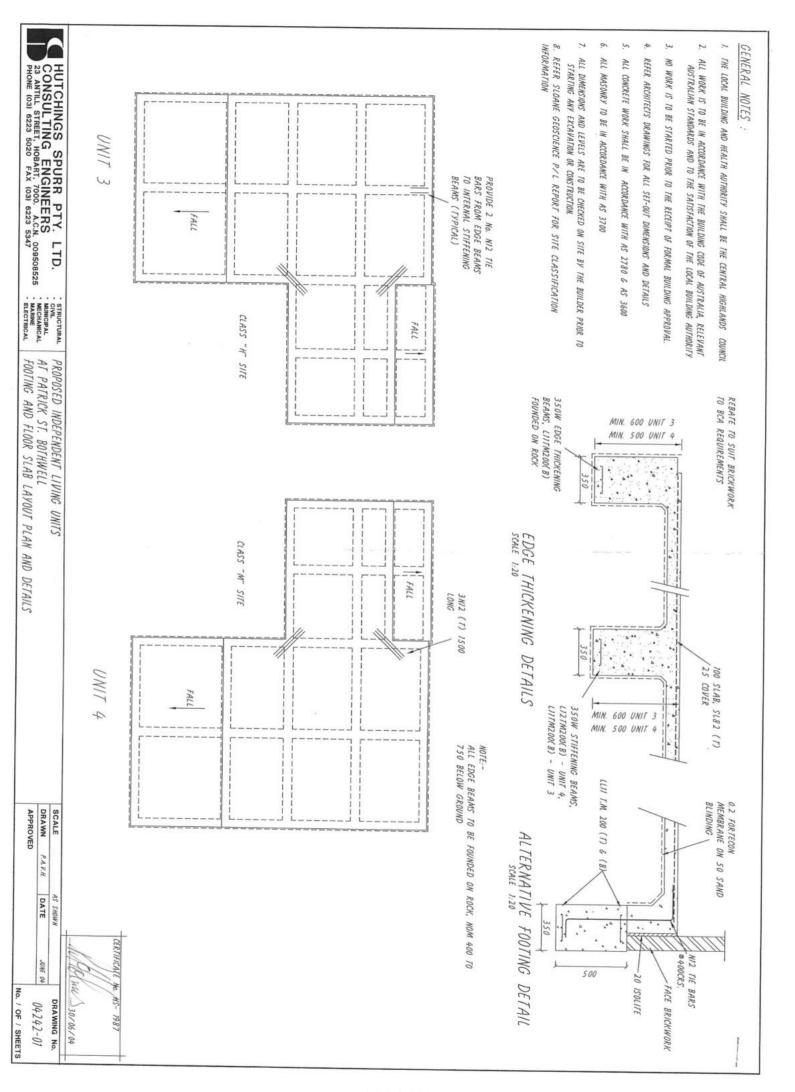
MEINE MILL DOOT

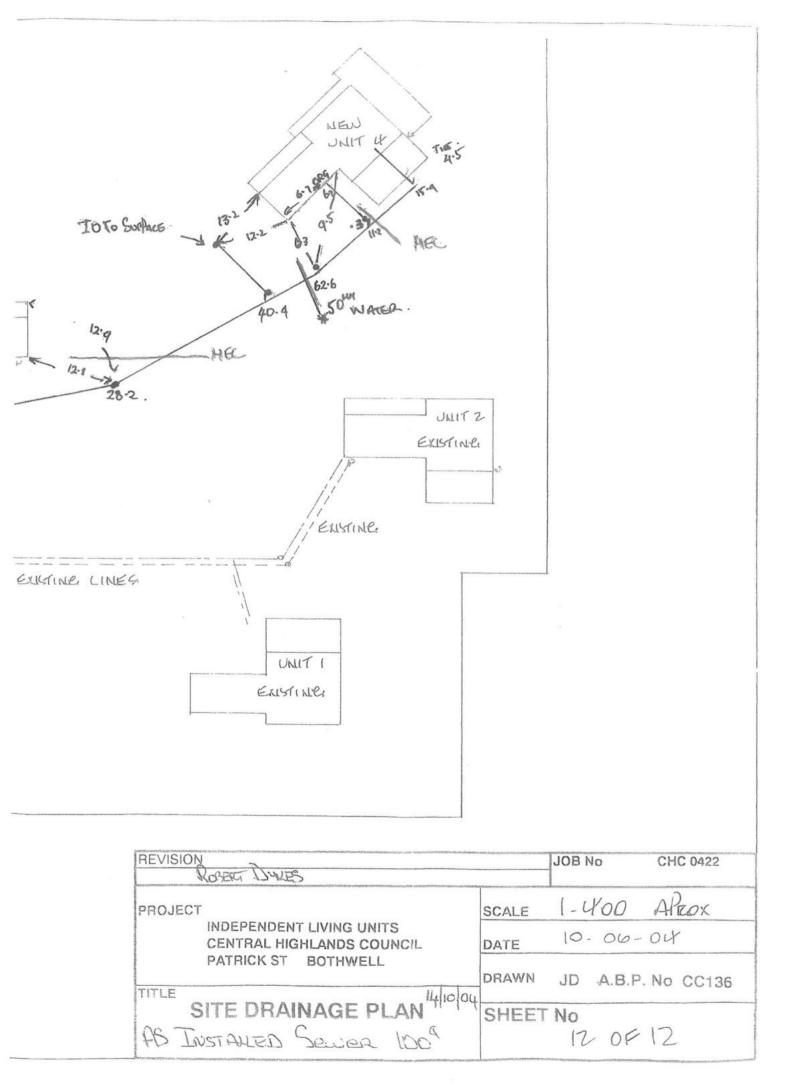


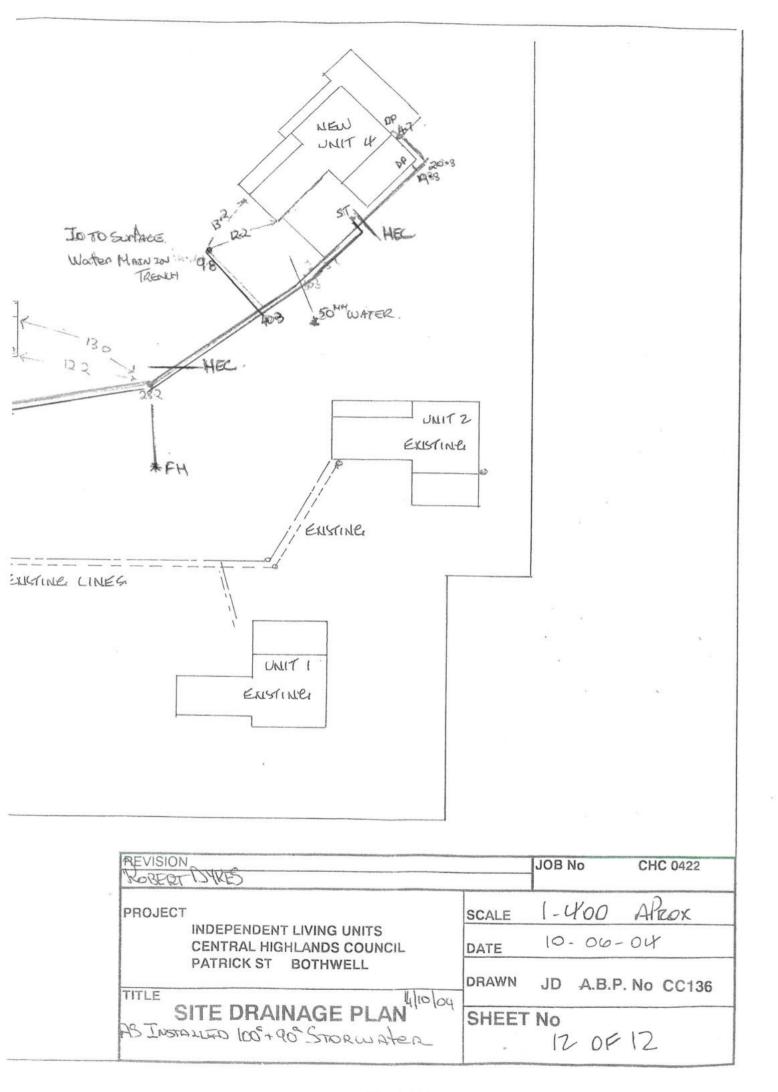


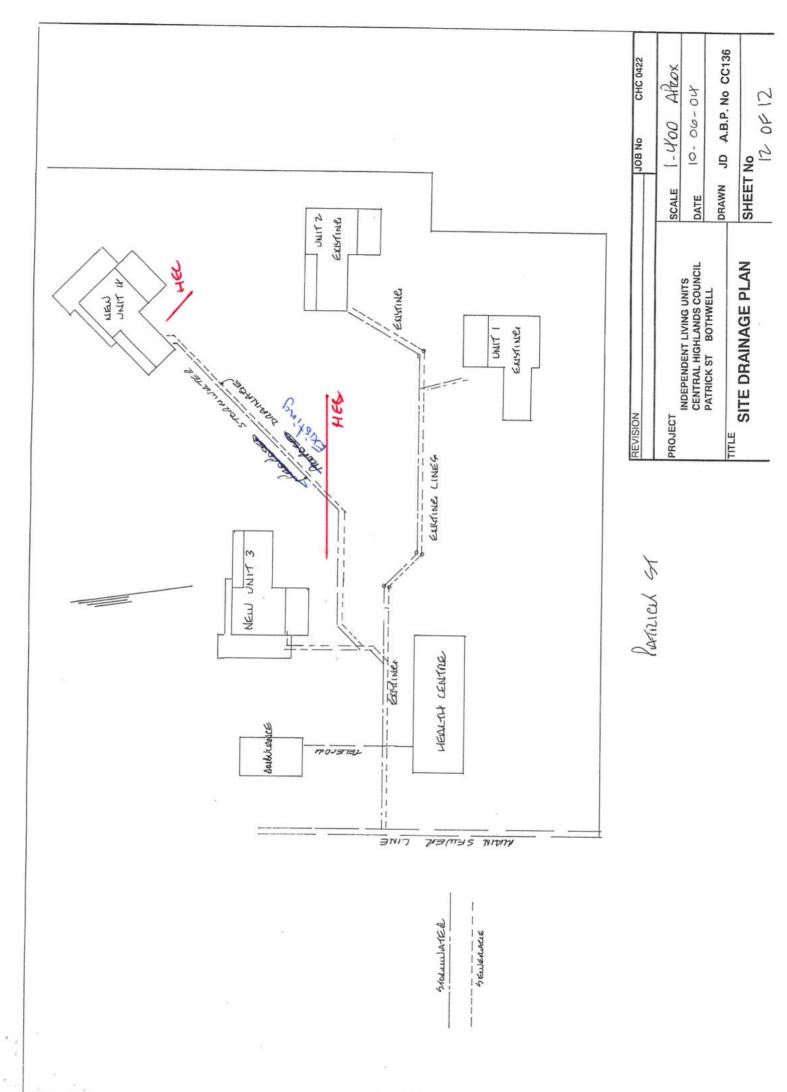












# COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN Events Template



## Complete the fields in this template to build your Events COVID-19 Safety Plan.

► Event description Outdoor Music Festival		
▶ Date of event 21- 23 0 5 2 0 2 1		
► Is the event outdoor or indoor? Outdoor		
► Will the event be seated? Yes No ●		
► Will the event have multiple employers? Yes No ●		
▶ Will there be one COVID-19 Safety Plan for the entire event or multiple plans? [one for each PCBU]		
Multiple		
▶ Who is responsible for overall control of the event? 'Ghetto Collective' Event Staff		
▶ What Public Health Directions apply? [see Managing risk below] Level 1 event: gathering and density limits		
▶ Date completed 0 9 0 4 2 0 2 1		
Keep your completed safety plan at your event: you do not need to submit this to WorkSafe Tasmania.		

## **MANAGING RISK: YOUR DUTY OF CARE**

# Managing the risks of COVID-19

Your COVID-19 Safety Plan will detail how you will reduce the risks of COVID-19 at your event. It is important when completing this template that you provide as much details as possible when describing how you intend to implement the various controls.

The minimum standards for managing the risks of COVID-19 have been determined by Public Health. For current Public Health Directions, see <u>coronavirus.tas.gov.au</u>.

Under the Work Health and Safety Act 2012, as a business, you must manage the risks of COVID-19 entering or spreading at your event. You may not be able to eliminate the risk completely. Instead, you will need to consider other ways to reduce the risk as far as reasonably practicable. This may involve the use of substitution, isolation, engineering or administrative controls.

You must use the most effective level of control, noting that you may need a combination of controls. You must also maintain and regularly review your control measures to ensure they remain effective.

This plan will help you to identify exactly what controls you will take to put in place to mitigate identified risks.

In a COVID-19 environment restrictions and risks change constantly, so you should review and think about ongoing health and safety regularly, in the lead up to your event and update your plan accordingly.

If you are changing your event operations and activities, your systems of work, or the work tasks your workers perform, you will need to update your COVID-19 Safety Plan.



## Multiple businesses/employers COVID-19 Safety Plans

Key things to consider:

For any event there must be at least one COVID-19 Safety Plan. If your event has multiple businesses/employers, you may require each of the businesses/employers to have their own COVID-19 Safety Plan. If this is the case, you need to consider how you will ensure that these plans are of a sufficient standard consistent with the event's overall COVID-19 Safety Plan.

You will need to see all plans that will apply to the event and ensure they are adequate to manage the identified risks and you will need to consider what criteria to undertake to assess businesses/employers.

You need to be clear who is responsible for implementing the various plans and what action will be taken if the plans are not being implemented effectively.

- ▶ Do businesses/employers need to submit their COVID Safety Plans to the event manager for approval? Yes ( No (
- ▶ How will the approval of COVID Safety plans from subordinated businesses/employers be managed? Reviewed in respects to current Public Health Directions relating to respective business activities
- ▶ Who is responsible for monitoring compliance with individual businesses/employers COVID Safety Plans? A BassFreqs Event Safety Marshalls, communicating back to event directors
- What action will be taken by the event controller if an approved COVID Safety Plan is not implemented appropriately by subordinate businesses/employers? A

Initially requested to rectify any deviation from Safety Plan, failing to do so will cease their operations

What controls are required to mitigate the above risks? [list controls]

### Preventative Controls:

- Provision by PCBU (e.g. Food Trucks) of individual COVID Safety Plans prior to event.
- Signed declarations that their operations are conditional upon following that Safety Plan



- Safety plans will be submitted to 'BassFreqs' event directors, reviewed in relation to current Public Health directions and subsequently altered where required. PCBUs will only be authored where these are received and and alterations accepted.
- Declarations will be distributed via email to PCBUs and their operations will be conditional upon the acceptance of that declaration with a signed version returned to 'Ghetto Collective'
- Dedicated event Safety Marshals, along with other staff will observe PCBUs and intervene where Safety Plans are beign violated or inform event directors such that they may intervene.

## Resource the COVID-19 Safety Plan

Key things to consider:

The plan is simply that, a plan. You need to ensure that sufficient resources are available to **implement** the plan.

If you fail to adequately resource your plan, controls may not be applied and risks not mitigated.

You need to consider who has responsibility for implementing the plan and ensure that they have the authority to take steps to ensure the plan is implemented.

## ▶ Who is responsible for implementing the COVID Safe Plan?

All event staff, namely Event Safety Marshalls

► What resources are available to implement the plan? ▲

Hand sanitiser, spray sanitiser, latex gloves, facemasks, wiping cloth rolls

▶ What is the minimum number of resources required to implement the plan?

Hand sanitiser: ~20 bottles, spray sanitiser: 4 bottles, latex gloves: ~ 3 boxes of each size, facemasks ~.

► How will compliance with the plan be achieved?

Visual observation and intervention

What controls are required to mitigate the above risks? [list controls]

## Preventative Controls:

- Staff inductions; all staff will be informed of expectations they must fulfill in their roles.
- Additionally it will highlight the need for their own personal safety and the PPE that will be available for them to utilise.

- Inductions will take place prior to the commencement of any staff shifts, those inductions will highlight COVID related hygiene restrictions and guidelines, positioning of sanitising stations and other equipment locations to be utilised when required.
- Inductions will highlight the need for replenishing of resources throughout the event i.e. if a sanitiser bottle runs empty.
- Compliance with the plan is a responsibility of all staff, through visual observation staff will intervene with any violation of the COVID Safety Plan where practicable.
- This will include such things reminding patrons of density limits, hygiene practices, etc. Which will be further supported by signage throughout the event site.
- While this is a responsibility of all staff, as well as the patrons, Event Safety Marshalls will fulfill this dedicated role throughout the festival duration.

## Patron Management

Key things to consider:

Density limits apply to both indoor and outdoor venues. Venues must not have a density of more than one person per 2 square metres of floor space (known as the 2 square metre rule).

Refer to coronavirus.tas.gov.au for the current maximum gathering limits:

You need to have a method to ensure that the maximum number of people at the event is not exceeded. This could include having someone counting people on entry or through a ticketing system. The event organsier needs to know how many people are allowed on site and how many people **ARE** on site at any one time (including staff).

The maximum number of people allowed at an event is the smaller number of either:

- the maximum number of people for which there is 2 square metres per person
- the maximum gathering number specified for the type of venue/activity.

► How many people are allowed under the 1 person per 2 square metre rule	? >10,000pax
► What is the maximum number of people allowed at the event? [including staff]	400
▶ Will the event be ticketed? Yes No	



- ▶ Will the event have front of house/gate sales? ► How will patrons be advised of entry requirements? A Social media postings, email, signage, verbal
- Will personal details be collected on entry?
- ► How will this data be stored for 28 days post the event? A Check in TAS app, and paper records

What controls are required to mitigate the above risks? [list controls]

Preventative controls:

- Festival site selected based on the area calculated as > 20,000m<sup>2</sup>, given ample preventative control over meeting desired density limits.
- Level 1 event allows outdoor max of 2,000 people, max capacity 400.
- Signage describing 2m<sup>2</sup> rule.
- Max number will not be exceeded as this is a ticketed event, if not sold out some gate sales will be permitted, gate tickets available will be calculated as the remainder of available tickets in relation to max capacity.

- 300 tickets will be sold, access will be monitored by event staff at the entrance point (one road in), tickets will be checked against photo identification and wrist bands supplied to patrons.
- Other entrants will be performers, PCBUs, staff, etc. there attendance will be discussed prior via communication with 'Ghetto Collective'. Upon entry they will also be identified and provided with a wrist band.
- Entry requirements pertaining to density limits and COVID Safe Hygiene will be communicated via Facebook event posts, emails, physical signage throughout the event and verbal communication with staff upon entering the event site.
- Patrons will be required to either check in via the 'Check in TAS' app or provide personal details via paper where necessary. Personal data will also be collected through the ticketing process if post-event communication is necessary.

## Site Access/Egress

You should implement procedures to ensure physical distancing and avoid mixing of patrons as much as possible, and minimise direct contact between patrons by:

- taking measures or modifying venues to ensure staff and patrons can enter, exit, and move around the event safely, e.g. through one-way flow, separate entry and exit points
- managing dwell times to control the flow of patrons
- using physical barriers such as roping to manage high traffic areas
- ensuring accessibility requirements are considered when reconfiguring spaces and patron flow
- encouraging online and phone bookings, and limiting or eliminating the incidence of walk-in patrons

► Will the site be secured? [fenced/access restricted] Yes No ●
▶ What security arrangements are needed? ▲ Event Safety Marshalls
► How many points of entry for the site will be available? 1
► Will access and egress points be different? Yes No ●
► Will patrons need to queue to gain access? Yes No
► How will this queuing be managed?   A Staff will advise patrons to remain in cars for ticket checks
► Will patrons disperse on entry or remain confined? A Disperse throughout campsite

What controls are required to mitigate the above risks? [list controls]

## **Preventative Controls:**

- Site selection desirable in relation to singular entry point for managing known people on site, collecting personal details vocalizing density and hygiene expectations to patrons.
- Social media postings and email communication will express the need to remain in vehicles whilst cued.
- All bookings will be made online, refining COVID considerations to the event time frame.

- Event Safety Marshalls will be dedicated staff concerned with patron safety both in relation to COVID and immediate personal safety (violence, sexual harrassment, etc.). While safety will be a responsibility of all staff, having dedicated Safety Marshalls will ensure it is at a staff priority at any given moment.
- Event gate staff will request patrons remain in vehicles during ticket cross checking and wrist band distribution, these staff will be provided with gloves and face-masks. As face-masks aren't mandatory required under Public Health direction they will not be enforced, but available for personal safety if staff choose to utilise them.
- Once processed, patrons will then be directed to camping areas, signage will assist in this process and will be asked to keep density limits in mind when establishing camp sites for the weekend.

## **Facilities**

Key things to consider:

Depending on the event, there may be multiple rooms or facilities within the overall event. These areas must be managed and subject to appropriate controls.

Areas where alcohol is served can present additional challenges due to the need for patrons to be seated when consuming alcohol. Adequate seating will need to be provided. Queues must be managed.

Encouraging patrons to disperse or implementing zones to restrict movement are good ways to reduce the risk of excessive congestion.

<ul> <li>▶ Are there multiple rooms/facilities on site? Yes  No</li> <li>▶ Have room densities been calculated and permissable limits displayed at the entrance to each room/facility? Yes No</li> <li>▶ Will the event serve alcohol? Yes No</li> </ul>	
► Will patrons be able to be seated to consume food and alcohol? [will sufficient seating be available?] Yes No	
► How will wet areas be managed to ensure appropriate patron behaviour? ⚠	
Signage for density limits, vertical drinking + dancing permitted, subject to Public Health Directions	
► What will be the points of congregation during the event? ♠ [toilets/kiosks/displays/bars etc.]	
Toilets, market space and stages	
► How will theses points of congregation be managed? ▲	
Observations by event staff, namely Event Safety Marshalls	
► Will facilities be dispersed throughout the venue to minimise congregation and queuing? Yes • No	
► How will patron movement be managed during the event? ▲	
Primarily just at the entrance, though staff will intervene + direct if necessary throughout the event`	
► Will the event be split into zones to reduce patron mixing? Yes No	
► How will zones be controlled?  Observations by event staff, namely Event Safety Marshalls	
► Will patron numbers be limited in designated seated areas? Yes No	
What controls are required to mitigate the above risks? [list controls]	
Preventative Controls:	
<ul> <li>Camping space, markets, and stages are spread across &gt;20,000m^2 greatly reducing chances of density limits being breached.</li> <li>Signage highlighting density limits within specific facilities.</li> </ul>	

Describe in detail how these controls will be implemented [you need to address each of the items identified 🛕 above]

- If the COVID pandemic situation in Tasmania develops and updates from Public Health Directions restrict vertical drinking + dancing then this plan will be updated and appropriate actions will be taken to cater for any directions issued by the state.
- Primary congregation points will include stages + market stalls + toilets sanitiser and appropriate signage will be present in these areas.
- Staff, namely event Safety Marshalls, will be observing for any breach of the Safety Plan in relation to points of congregation and movement throughout the event site. Directing patrons where necessary, contacting event directors if needing assistance. Directing of patrons will likely be unnecessary given the large space and the comparatively small number of people, however staff will still be made aware of there requirements.
- On shift booth managers will ensure appropriate number of people per m<sup>2</sup> within stage booths.
- · Zones: Camping, market, stages are all greatly spread to reduce congregating, only zone "Chill Stage" will be enclosed and as such will have a maximum peoples limit with appropriate signage and being regulated by an on shift booth manager.

## Hygiene

Key things to consider:

The event organiser is to encourage good hygiene practices to provide hygiene measures to minimise the risk of exposure to, contracting or spreading COVID-19. Hand washing facilities, use of soap and water or the use of hand sanitiser, as appropriate for the circumstances.

While toilet areas provide a means to wash hands, other hand washing facilities may be needed. Hand sanitiser should be stationed strategically throughout the venue/event. This will assist in implementing necessary hygiene controls.

► Will sanitiser be available at key locations?



▶ What other hygiene controls will need to be available throughout the site? ▲

Hand sanitiser throughout site, face masks available to staff, spray sanitiser for high touch surfaces

▶ How will soap and sanitiser stock be monitored and replenished?

Event staff, namely Site Operations Crew

What controls are required to mitigate the above risks? [list controls]

Preventative Controls:

- Pre-event communication through social media and email regarding the necessary hygiene practices of patrons regarding; hand washing as well as cough and sneeze etiquette.
- Patrons will then be reminded upon entrance.
- -Signage will also be posted throughout the event site.

- Hand sanitiser bottles will be placed throughout the site, providing hygiene control to both staff and patrons, these will be strategically located in high traffic areas.
- Inductions will highlight the availability of face masks to staff who wish to utilise them.
- Booth managers will clean down high touch surfaces (shared performer equipment) between performances.

## Cleaning

Key things to consider:

The event organiser must prepare, implement and maintain a schedule for cleaning, and where appropriate disinfecting, that ensures the facilities at the event are routinely cleaned. This must include furniture, equipment and other frequently touched items.

The cleaning schedule should be in writing so all workers are aware of the requirements. The schedule should take into account the level of risk of exposure to, contracting or spreading COVID-19 within the event.

Cleaning frequently-touched surfaces is very important in reducing the risk of spreading COVID-19. For example, hand rails, EFTPOS machines and door handles all need to be disinfected frequently.

See How to clean and disinfect your workplace - COVID-19 (Safe Work Australia).

▶ Is there a cleaning schedule?



What are the cleaning requirements before, during and after the event?

Shared equipment at stages; DJ equipment + Microphones require sanitising between performers

Who is responsible for ensuring cleaning is undertaken in accordance with the cleaning schedule and to the required standard?

Event staff, namely the Booth Manager on shift

What cleaning and disinfectant consumables are to be used?

Spray sanitiser and cloth wipes

▶ Do the consumables meet the required standard for COVID 19?



▶ How will cleaning staff be trained in the safe use of cleaning products and cleaning standards? ▲

Staff inductions that highlight the cleaning practices and how to enhance their personal safety

What controls are required to mitigate the above risks? [list controls]

Preventative Controls:

Performers will be required to sanitise prior to their performance and use of equipment



- Cleaning equipment will be kept at stages, designated Booth Managers on shift will cleaning shared equipment between performances, they will be provided with gloves and face-masks if desired.
- Cleaning equipment provided will meet standards for COVID 19 (Spray sanitiser + cloth wipes)
- Site Cleaning Manager will induct all cleaning staff, ensuring they are aware of what surfaces to clean, when to clean and how to clean. This will occur prior to any shift commencement.
- Cleaning schedule will follow performer schedule and occur during changeovers, all of which will be in writing at each stage.
- Performers will be reminded by booth managers to sanitise prior to their performance.
- Staff inductions will highlight the correct and safe use of cleaning products for their own personal safety as well as thorough cleaning methods to ensure shared equipment is appropriately cleaned between performances. These inductions will occur prior to the commencement of any shifts.

## **Training**

Key things to consider:

The event organiser must provide each worker (including contractors and volunteers) with training on:

- the risks in relation to COVID-19, and
- the control measures to be implemented to mitigate those risks.

The requirements of this plan must be communicated to all workers who have a role in implementing the plan. Training in what is needed, when, how and by whom is key to implementing the plan.

The event organiser must ensure that ALL parties know what is expected of them and will be adequately skilled to undertake their tasks.

What training will be provided to workers, volunteers, exhibitors, caterers, suppliers etc. on how this plan is to be implemented?

Inductions will be provided to all staff at the event

Who is responsible for providing the training?

Trained COVID Safe Hygiene Marshall

What controls are required to mitigate the above risks? [list controls]

#### Preventative Controls:

- · Communication via email prior to the event commencing regarding COVID Safe Hygiene and the expectations that each staff member is required to meet.
- Risk Management strategies will be distributed to staff via email prior to the event.
- The COVID Saftey Plan will also be distributed.
- Physical copies of both will be retained on site at all times.



- One of our event directors has completed the NSW COVID Safe Hygiene Marshal training and will be inducting all staff prior to any shift commencement, regarding risks relating to COVID and our COVID Safety Plan.
- This will include information pertaining to hygiene, density limits and what is expected of them in their role. E.g. Site Operations Crew will be responsible for ensuring sufficient availability of hand sanitiser.

## Information and Instruction

An event organiser must provide information and instruction to patrons and ensure as far as is reasonably practicable in the circumstances that:

- each person, or group of people attending the event together, should remain separated from other individuals or groups at the event by maintaining a distance of at least 1.5 metres from each other. This also applies when entering or leaving the event, and
- the total number of people present in a single space, at any one time, does not exceed the number calculated according to the current density requirement. Refer to coronavirus.tas.gov.au for the latest requirements.

If it is not reasonably practicable to comply with the physical distancing requirements described above, then the employer must ensure that control measures are implemented in keeping with the requirements to manage the risks to health and safety relevant to COVID-19.

A person at, entering or leaving the event must ensure that they comply with the requirements of the physical distancing requirements of the

► How will patrons be advised not to attend the event if unwell? ∧

Social media postings, email, signage, vocally

▶ How will patrons be informed/instructed on COVID controls before and during the event ?▲

Social media postings, email, signage, vocally

Social media postings, email, signage, vocally

What controls are required to mitigate the above risks? [list controls]

#### Preventative Controls:

- Terms and conditions of ticket purchase will state that patrons should not attend if they are unwell. As well as communication through social media postings and email. Upon arrival gate staff will vocalise this requirement.
- The above method will also be applied for instructions regarding COVID controls before and during the event.



- Density limits of 1 person per m<sup>2</sup> will be described to patrons via the afore mentioned communication avenues.
- Hygiene controls regarding hand washing, sanitising and cough and sneeze etiguette will be described to patrons via the afore mentioned communication avenues.
- Signage will be posted throughout the event site in relation to these above controls.
- During the opening ceremony, this information will be conveyed vocally via microphone.

## Supervision

Key things to consider:

The event organiser must provide adequate supervision to ensure control measures are implemented for COVID-19.

Implementing COVID-19 Safety Plans require people to apply the controls. Those responsible for ensuring tht controls are applied must be supervised to ensure that the work that is being done is effective and performed to the desired standard.

The plan must detail how workers will be managed when implementing the plan.

- ▶ What organisation structure will apply to ensure the COVID Safety Plan is implemented effectively? ▲ Event directors > Event Safety Marshalls
- ▶ How will workers responsible for implementing the plan be supervised and instructed in performing their role?

Induction, event directors will supervise overall as well as specific team leaders on shift

► How will patrons be managed and supervised during the event? ▲

Visually, signage

▶ How will the event controllers ensure patrons remain separated and/or seated by 1.5 metres? ▲



Visual observation, intervening where necessary and where practicable, signage

What controls are required to mitigate the above risks? [list controls]

Preventative Controls:

- Pre-shift inductions to ensure staff are informed on their requirements to implement the COVID Safety Plan effectively
- Email communications prior to event providing Risk Management Strategies and COVID Safety Plan to staff to ensure information is readily available and understood.
- -Physical copies of Risk Management Strategies and COVID Safety Plan retained on site.



- Staff inductions will ensure they are aware of their personal role in implementing the COVID Safety Plan, highlighting their own personal safety and actions they need to perform.
- Shifts will be short to enhance performance of staff, increasing the efficacy of the COVID Safety Plan.
- Event staff, namely Event Safety Marshalls will visually observe patrons and intervene where necessary and practicable if the COVID Safety Plan is being violated (density limits and hygiene controls).
- Signage will assist staff in implementing the COVID Safety Plan.

#### Signage

Key things to consider:

The event organiser must ensure that information and instruction is provided to workers, volunteers, patrons, suppliers/contractors and others at the event about your COVID-19 control measures and the requirements of those people to apply the control measures as they are reasonably able.

The information and instructions are to be in a format that is reasonable to the circumstances: including plain English, pictures, and languages other

<b>\</b>	Will there	be	signage	at	entrances	and	congregation points?	
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Yes No

► Will audio messaging be used?

► What signs need to be placed around the event? ▲

Signs describing density limits and COVID Safe Hygiene requirements

What controls are required to mitigate the above risks? [list controls]

#### Preventative Controls:

- Pre-event communication to patrons and staff highlighting COVID controls
- Pre-event communication to staff providing Risk Management Strategy and COVID Safety Plan
- Physical copies of the afore mentioned

Describe in detail how these controls will be implemented [you need to address each of the items identified 🛕 above]

- Signage sourced from https://coronavirus.tas.gov.au/; "Keep on top of COVID" describing safe behaviours, hand washing and sanitising procedures, density limits including enclosed space maximum peoples limits.
- Lastly a "Stop do not enter sign" at the site entrance requesting anyone with COVID or flu-like symptoms to not enter.

#### **Emergency Procedures**

Key things to consider:

Emergency procedures are critical to any event. The event organiser needs to ensure that in the event of an emergency, patrons are not put at risk of COVID-19 exposure through the emergency procedures.

Event managers need to consider how many emergency egress locations will be available, how will they ensure that patrons are distributed across the various egress points and what will patrons do once they have exited the venue (will they disperse or congregate?).

▶ Do evacuation procedures ensure that in an emergency evacuation, large numbers of people do not congregate for extended periods in close proximity?



What controls are required to mitigate the above risks? [list controls]

#### Preventative Controls:

- Pre-event communication about the need to disperse following site evacuation in an emergency.
- Vocal communication during opening ceremony about this requirement as well as the evacuation procedure itself.

Describe in detail how these controls will be implemented [you need to address each of the items identified  $\triangle$  above]



- Some congregating will occur throughout evacuation, the need to evacuate will likely outweigh the need to remain socially distanced, however once evacuated patrons will be directed to disperse while remaining nearby for effective communication during an ongoing emergency.

Detail how other controls are to be applied.					
Detail how other	controls are to be appl	ied.			
	is stage, however ou			ent are live docume	nts and may
ffect the need for	or additions to be ma	ade within this s	pace.		

Review
As the situation with COVID-19 can change rapidly in the lead up to your event, make sure you regularly review your control measures to ensure they are still meeting the minimum requirements and are managing the risks in the best possible way for your event.
<ul> <li>Do you have a process for reviewing and adjusting the controls as circumstances change, and are you using that process?</li> <li>Yes No</li> <li>Briefly outline that process</li> </ul>
In the event of a developing situation, i.e. an outbreak of COVID 19 within Tasmania, the 'Ghetto Collective' Risk Officer will be consulted to discuss necessary changes to this Safety Plan. Postponing and cancellation will be options considered depending on the severity of the situation and the Public Health Directions that arise.
Manager approval of your COVID-19 Safety Plan
► Approved by

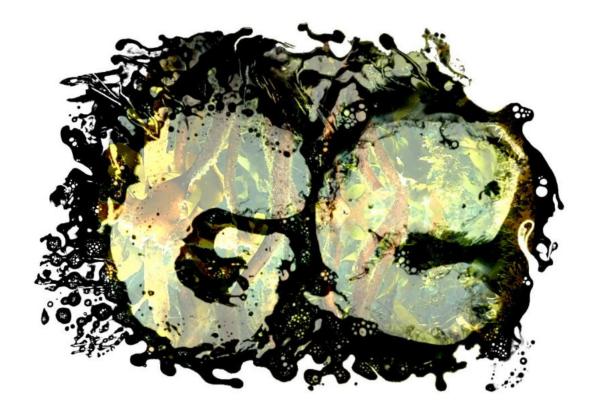
### Keep your completed safety plan at your workplace: you do not need to submit this to WorkSafe Tasmania.

▶ Signature

Date completed

To ensure this information is easy to understand, we refer to 'event organisers' and their responsibilities. However, under the work health and safety laws, duties apply to a 'person conducting a business or undertaking' (PCBU) which includes employers and also others who engage workers. See information about PCBUs for more detail.

## BassFreqs 2021 Event Plan



#### **Contact:**

ghettocollectivetasmania@gmail.com

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#### 3a. Description

BassFreqs is a 2-night, 3 day camping electronica festival hosted in collaboration between Ghetto Collective and Project:01 Music spanning from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2021. The festival will be a celebration of electronic bass music and community connection, it will feature performing artists, markets and workshops. Tickets will be sold only to adults; patrons may bring children under 12 subject to Ghetto Collective discretion and only following a discussion with relevant parent and/or guardian.

#### **3b.** Waste Management

BassFreqs is intended to be a zero trace event and will be marketed as such with patrons being strongly encouraged to embrace this ethos. Patrons will be provided bin bags to ensure campsites are kept clean, bins will be provided in high traffic areas at dancefloors, kitchens and market stalls. During bump-out; thorough surveys of campsites and surrounding areas will be conducted to ensure all removal of waste, we intend to leave the space cleaner than we find it.

Spill trays will be used when refilling any fuel reservoirs.

#### 3c. Power

The event will be self-sufficient in terms of power and will run from generators, any of which will be cordoned off and only event staff will operate them. Any fuel will be utilised and stored in compliance with the regulations of property services. All cabling will be managed appropriately and signed off by an electrician. Patrons will be allowed to utilise personal cooking facilities, subject to current TFS regulations.

#### 3d. Structures

A collection of temporary shelters will be erected:

Approx. 10 x 3x3m gazebos (Final count and location TBC, will be located at: Gate, Markets, First Aid and Kitchen and dancefloor.

- 1 x 4m diameter Adapt-A-Pod (Geodesic dome structure) (located main stage on map)`
- 1 x 4x8m marquee (located at chill stage)

Approximately 10 portaloo toilets (Subject to confirmation from council on required number)

Patron-provided tents, gazebos, tarpaulins etc. for personal accommodations.

#### 4a. Fires

Given the time of year, temperature ranges will create the need for fires of an evening to ensure patron saftey, fires will be provided by event staff onsite in key areas using our own provided firewood subject to TFS regulations. Fire extinguishers will be kept on hand see risk management plan for detailed plan regarding fires. Patrons will be asked not to burn any local vegetation, dead or alive, and any seen doing so will be stopped by event staff. Patrons will be asked not to light their own fires at their personal camps.

#### 4b. Event Safety

- The safety of patrons to our event is a primary priority.
- Qualified first aiders will be present, and appropriate communication devices to contact emergency services.
- Throughout the event there will be multiple Safety Officers in Hi-Vis, with a responsibility of patron care and informing organisers of any identified hazards including people engaging in antisocial behaviour.
- All staff will undertake an induction upon arrival of first shift, that will familiarise them with the site plan and operational procedures laid out within our risk management and COVID management plan.
- All active event staff will be in communication via 2-way radio.
- Emergency services will be notified of the event. Access to all areas in event site will be kept clear for emergency service vehicles.
- Patrons will be asked to bring sufficient drinking water for the duration of the event. However, drinking water will also be available if necessary.
- See risk management plan for detailed information on individual hazard reduction.

#### 4c. Vehicle Management

Upon entry, tickets will be confirmed, and staff will direct patrons toward camping areas, patrons will be required to drive at 5km/h with hazard lights on, signage will be posted to remind patrons of this. Parking will be at campsites, once parked patrons will be required to not operate their vehicles until they depart the festival. To aid in the safety of all patrons, music will be shut off at 10pm on the final evening to ensure patrons are well rested and mitigates risk of inhibited driving upon exit.

Staff will be posted along road during the final morning to remind patrons of the 5km/h rule and observe for any obviously inebriated drivers who will be encouraged to rest. Locals and visitors wishing to use the boat ramps contained within the site will be encouraged to use another one approx. 500m away outside the festival perimeter. If this is not suitable for any reason access will be allowed through the site.

#### 5a. Substance Policy

This will be a BYO alcohol event, no alcohol will be sold on site, patrons will be asked to not bring any glass vessels. Ghetto Collective do not condone the consumption of illicit substances at our events, we intend to undertake a harm reduction approach by providing non-judgemental support to any who may need it. Any persons found selling/providing illicit substances will be identified, and requested to leave the site, assuming it is safe for them to do so.

#### 5b. COVID-19

This event will be considered a level one event, allowing an outdoor maximum of 2,000 people, at any time there will be no more than approximately 400 people on site, well within capacity limit restrictions. An appropriate COVID management plan will be applied throughout the event. See attached documentation.

A COVID-19 Marshal with appropriate training will be onsite.

#### **5c. Community impact**

- Not all impact will be negative, the event will bring a small influx of local tourism to
  the area and the economic benefits associated. As well as attract some individuals that
  might not otherwise visit the area, deepening appreciation and cultural connections
  with such spaces enhancing public interest in their conservation.
- All nearby residences will be notified 3 weeks prior via letterbox drop/doorknock and invited to the event free of charge.
- Signage will be erected at entrance to the campgrounds 3 weeks prior to the event, notifying regular visitors of our intent, and providing our contact details for discussion. Alternative nearby campsites will be included on the sign.
- Music running times are outlined under 'performing artists' below in this document, we recognise that there will be some unavoidable impact to any local residences and wildlife in relation to sound. Given music will be for one weekend of the year and not running 24/7. Combined with the small size of the festival compared with other larger Tasmanian festivals, the level of geographic isolation provided, and the prior notice provided we believe this impact is minimised to the best of our ability and hope it will be acceptable.
- Refer to waste management header for mitigation of ongoing community impact after the event.

#### 6a. Site permissions

The use of the site will be approved by all relevant land management services, namely Property Services Tasmania and the Central Highlands Council. Prior event commencement, the site will be inspected by a building surveyor in order to gain a temporary occupancy permit.

#### 6b. Toilets

Portable toilet facilities will be provided in compliance with local council legislation, preexisting toilet facilities on site may be utilised subject to permission from the appropriate land management authorities.

#### 6c. Performing artists

The festival will feature local producers and DJs of electronic music, along with a collection of live hip-hop artists. These artists will perform between the main and the chill stage.

Main Stage – The main stage will be the centre of the event with a large sound system, many visual artwork and light displays and a spacious dancefloor. This will be operating at the following

21st - 12:00pm - 2:00am

22<sup>nd</sup> – 7:00am – 2:00am

23<sup>rd</sup> - 7:00am - 12:00pm

Chill Stage – The chill stage/lounge will be an ambient escape from the energetic atmosphere of the festival. This will be an enclosed space with artists playing ambient, relaxing music. There will be couches for seating and a blank canvas art space for people to paint on how they see fit. This will operate for 1 hour after the main stage each night.

Ensuring that music is turned off for a respite promotes a healthy festival culture, improving the safety of patrons throughout the event and minimising community impact.

#### 6d. Visual Art

Visual artists will produce temporary art exhibition pieces throughout the site, additionally, within the *Chill Stage* space, art supplies will be provided to patrons to engage in an interactive, collaborative experience, producing artistic works that will be displayed throughout the *Chill Stage*.

#### 7a. Market

Our market space will feature local stall holders selling handmade jewellery, sustainable clothing and other products. Stallholders will be self-sufficient and will submit their own risk management plans, necessary agreements with the property manage services and possess insurance where applicable.

#### 7b. Workshops

Several facilitators will run workshops in yoga, movement, circus, basket weaving and many other skills and artforms. Workshops involving inherently risky activities will hold their own public liability insurance, and those not including these activities will be included in our PL insurance. All workshop holders will submit their own risk management plans and possess insurance where applicable.

#### 7c. Filming

Filming and photography of the event will take place. Photographers wishing to operate drones will be expected to submit Public Liability Insurance and their Remote Pilot Licence to both event organisers and appropriate land management services. If this condition has not been satisfied, then operators will be disallowed from operating their drone.

#### 7d. Site Map



Page **7** of **7** 

#### Kathy Bradburn

From:

Kathy Van Dullemen <whisperinglandscapes@gmail.com>

Sent:

Wednesday, 14 April 2021 8:11 AM

To:

Kathy Bradburn

Subject:

Dance Party Dago Point

Kathy good morning, thanks for our conversation last week. I have not heard as yet from the Council Planner (Jodie). If I recall correctly she works Wednesdays. I am on the road a bit today, so I have put together this email. I would be most grateful if you could forward it to her. I would very much like to discuss this in more detail.

#### Proposed Dance Party Dago Point

I have been informed that a Dance Party of up to 800 people is proposed for Dago Point on Lake Sorell for late May

I live permanently on the Interlaken Road overlooking both Lakes Sorell and Crescent and have experienced three of these gatherings already. Although numbers were a lot smaller, they were patronised by up to 200 people. These gatherings provided noise pollution that impacted the three small shack communities of Interlaken, Dago Point and Laycock Drive.

The first one was held on private land late November 2017 and was sited down the end of the Silver Plains Road. This event went beyond the allocated weekend time slot and the land owners had to come and escort off the remaining participants that were still partying. The locked gate was compromised and due to the access issues, as I lived nearby, well after dark I was approached and coercion was attempted with the offer of beer and drugs to provide access.

The second and the third events were then located at the Crown Land/PWS campground of Dago Point. The last event was in May 2020, some Covid restrictions were still in place and I believe the Police were called. I cannot speak for others, however all events did create a lot of negative reactions amongst the permanent residents. At Dago Point, there are a number of club houses, including a safe haven for Vietnam Veterans. How will such an event impact on them, have they been consulted, are any of us going to be informed or consulted? For me personally, the disruption is so unpleasant I will have to leave my home with my pets for the weekend.

I wish to vehemently oppose such an event for the following reasons.

- Noise Pollution; The community has already experienced three of these 48 hour raves. The doof, doof noise that resonates across the water bodies is appallingly disruptive. The only time it stopes is when the generator runs out of fuel. You can hear the noise inside your own house. Dago Point Campground is elevated and due to the bodies of water, sound carries clearly for up to 5km. We all live up here and enjoy the natural environment as it is. I have also observed the impact of noise on livestock and pets, making animals very unsettled.
- Traffic; The roads up to the location of the event are all winding, narrow, elevated and gravel. Gravel roads
  take particular skill to drive, when dry, wet, frosty or snow covered. Lack of local knowledge, fatigue and
  substance use will affect party goers that access or leave the event. This puts the locals at additional risk
  sharing the roads when other drivers may well be impacted by these influences.
- Road Dust; The additional traffic created road users will create excessive dust. We all collect rain water off
  our rooves for household consumption. This additional dust will pose a higher health risk and impact on the
  personal water treatment processes we already have in place.
- Communication; There is no phone services available for public use for the management of an emergency.
- Toilet facilities and campfires; The toilet facilities are limited and appear to never have been designed for this type of event or campground use. Campfires are not permitted in this area, how will patrons keep

warm. There is also the risk of Hypothermia which could come about due to a cool night, excessive exertion and exhaustion under the influence of stimulants.

We all like to have a dance and listen to loud music from time to time. Locals have their own parties and the volume while it may be heard 1km away, keep appropriate hours. If we want more we patronise venues that cater for this in towns. I strongly believe the location is wrong for such an event. There are other places in the Central Highlands that have access via sealed roads, mobile phone service, large open areas, a helicopter pad, a variety of accommodation options and no adjacent large bodies of water or small communities to impact upon.

Jodie, I hope to hear from you today to discuss this further.

Many thanks

Kathy

Owner/Manager



Kathy Van Bullemen PO 80x 81 Bothwell 7030



P: 03 6254 1311 M: 0427 596 103

£: whisperinglandscapes@gmail.com

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Proposed New Roof for Existing Hamilton Council Chambers Building

at 6 Tarleton Street, Hamilton, TAS 7140, for Central Highlands Council

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5 of 5. LEPATORS



Chris L. Potter

CON SULTING ENGINEER

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CHAMBERS BUILDING at

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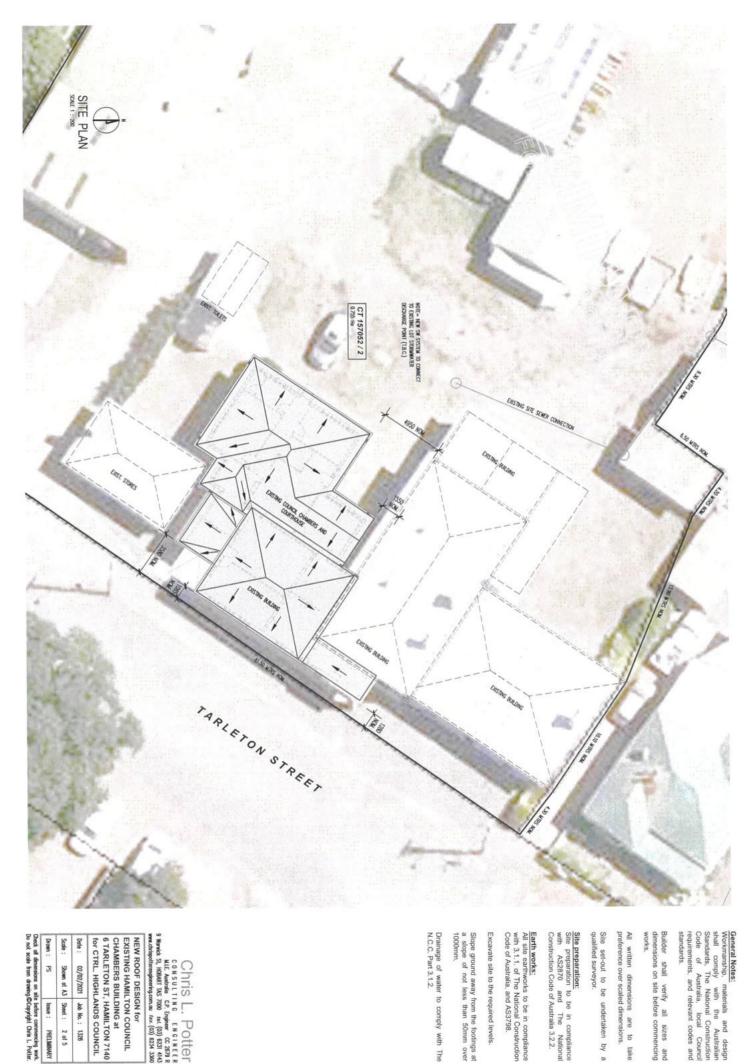
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Chris L. Potter

CONSULTING ENGINEER

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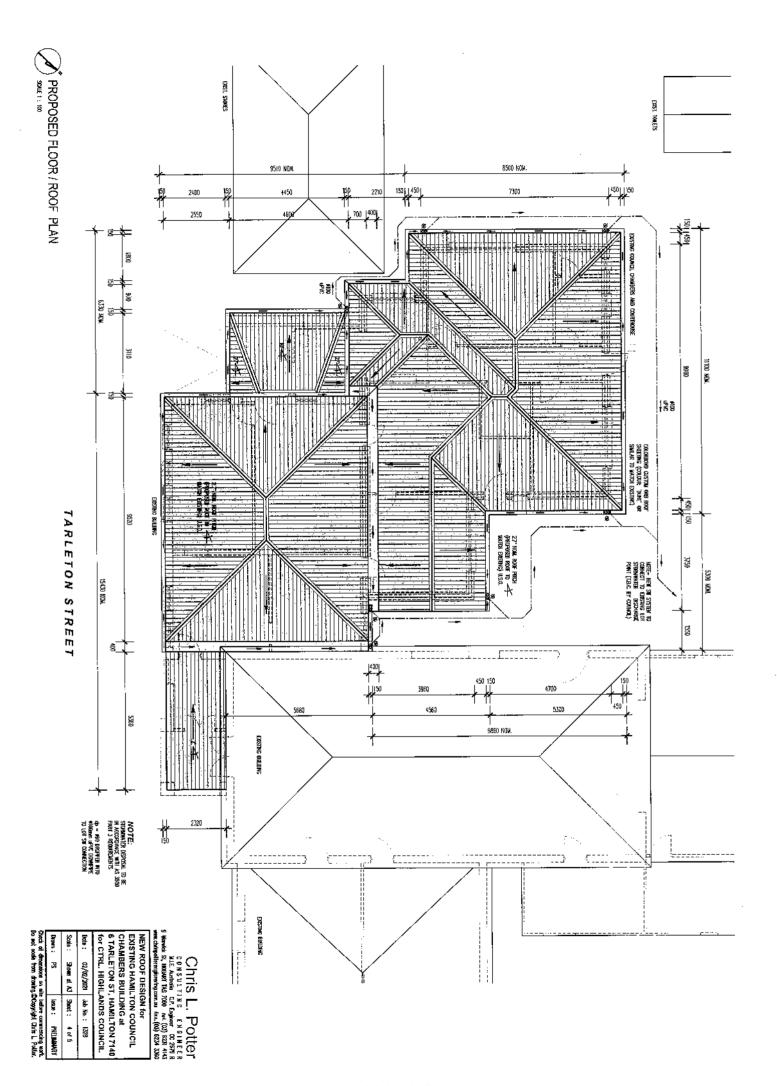
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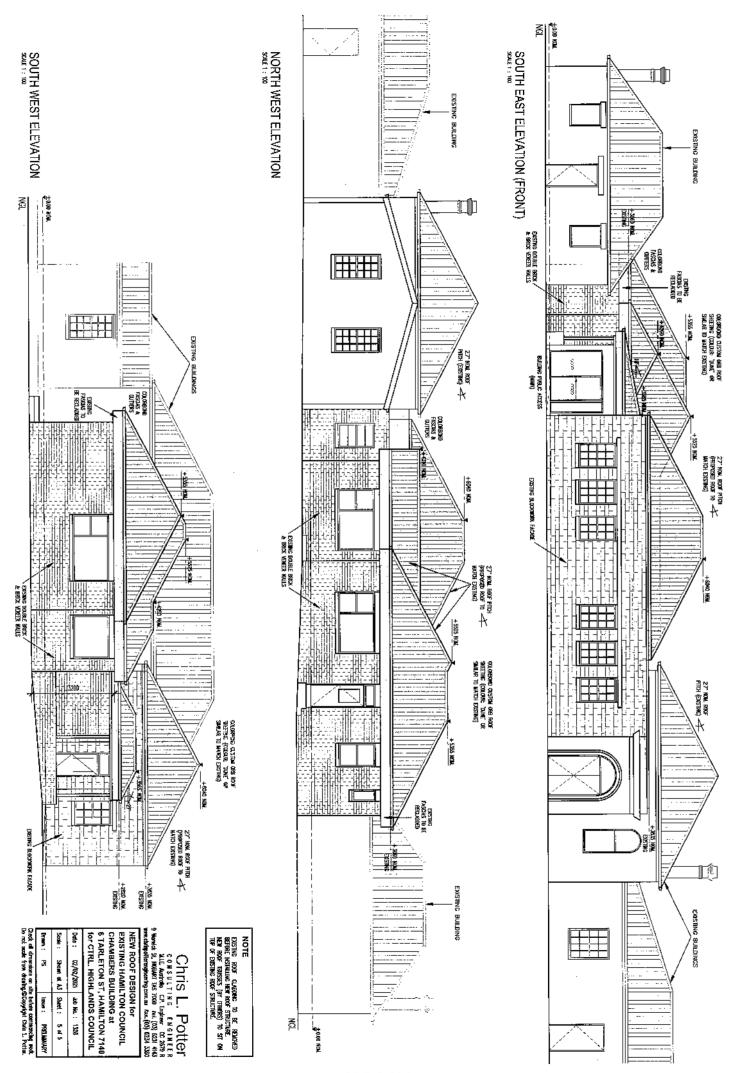
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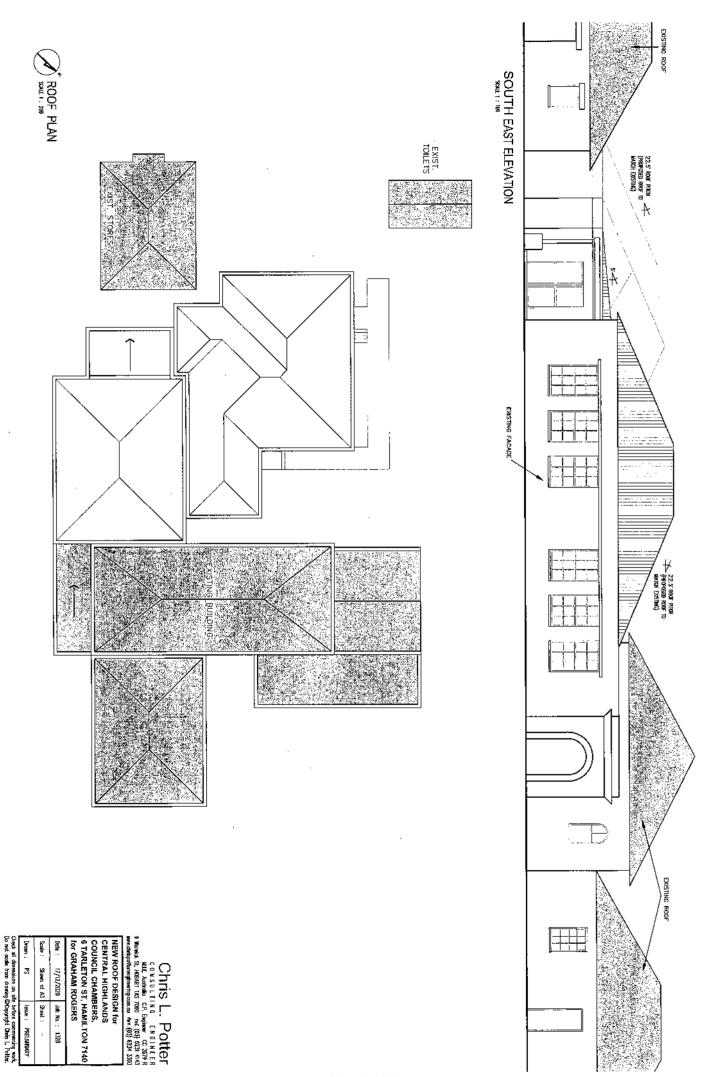
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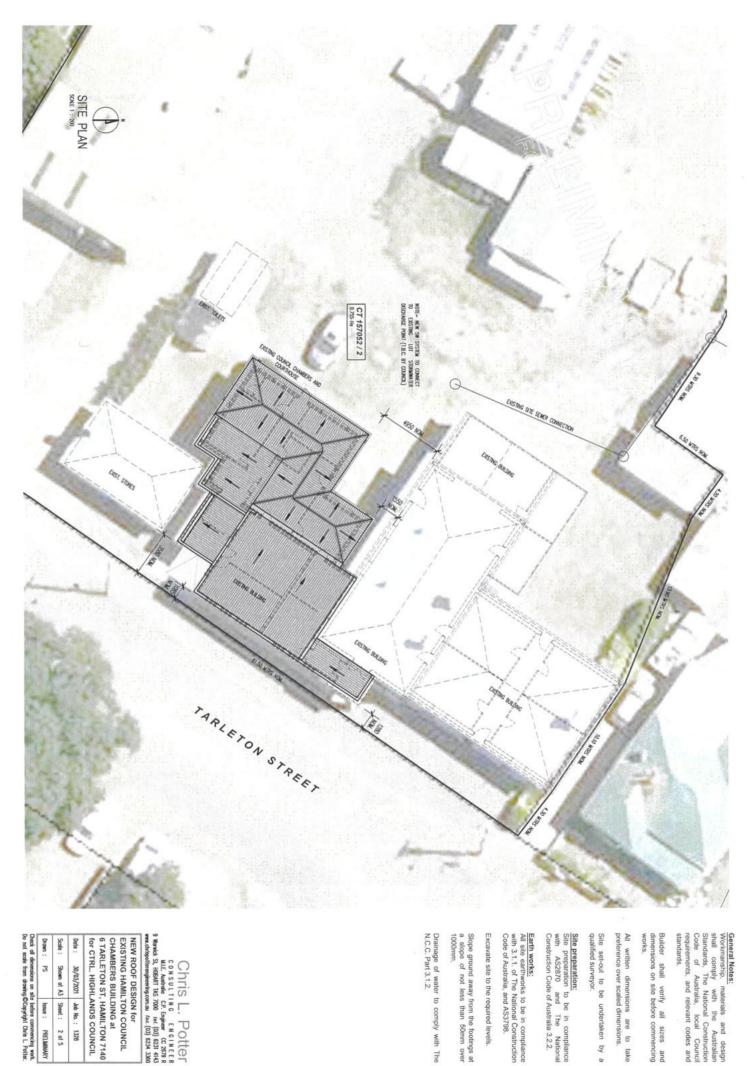


Proposed New Roof for Existing Hamilton Council Chambers Building

at 6 Tarleton Street, Hamilton, TAS 7140, for Central Highlands Council



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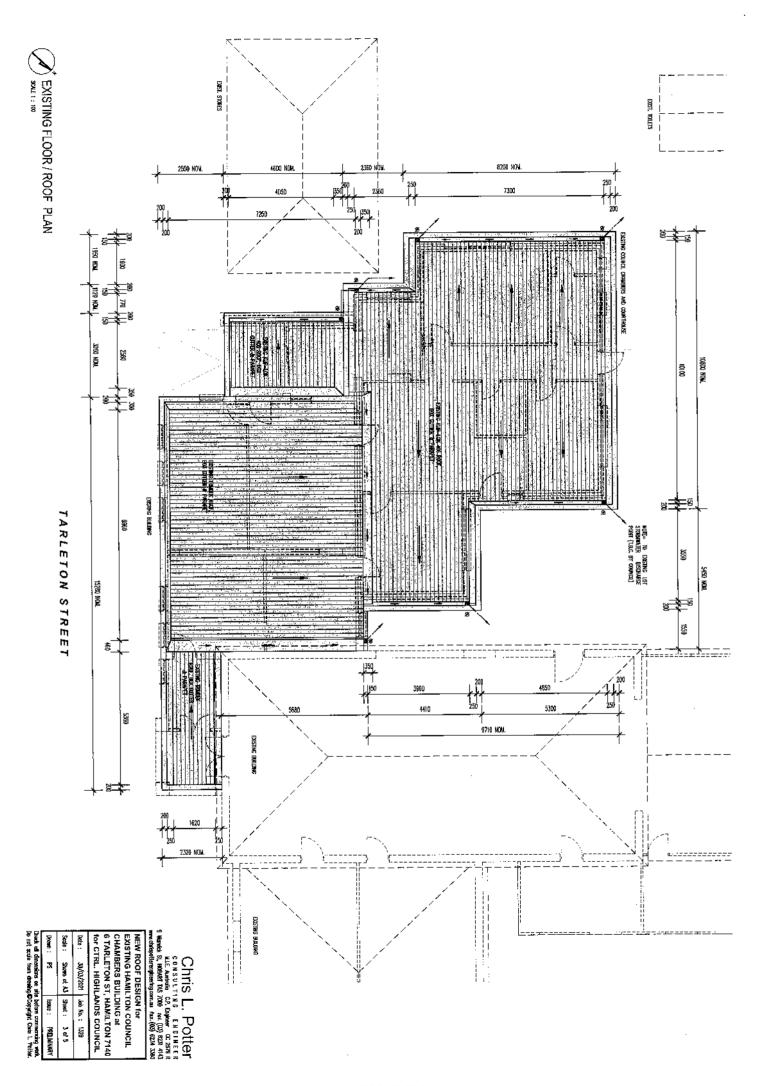


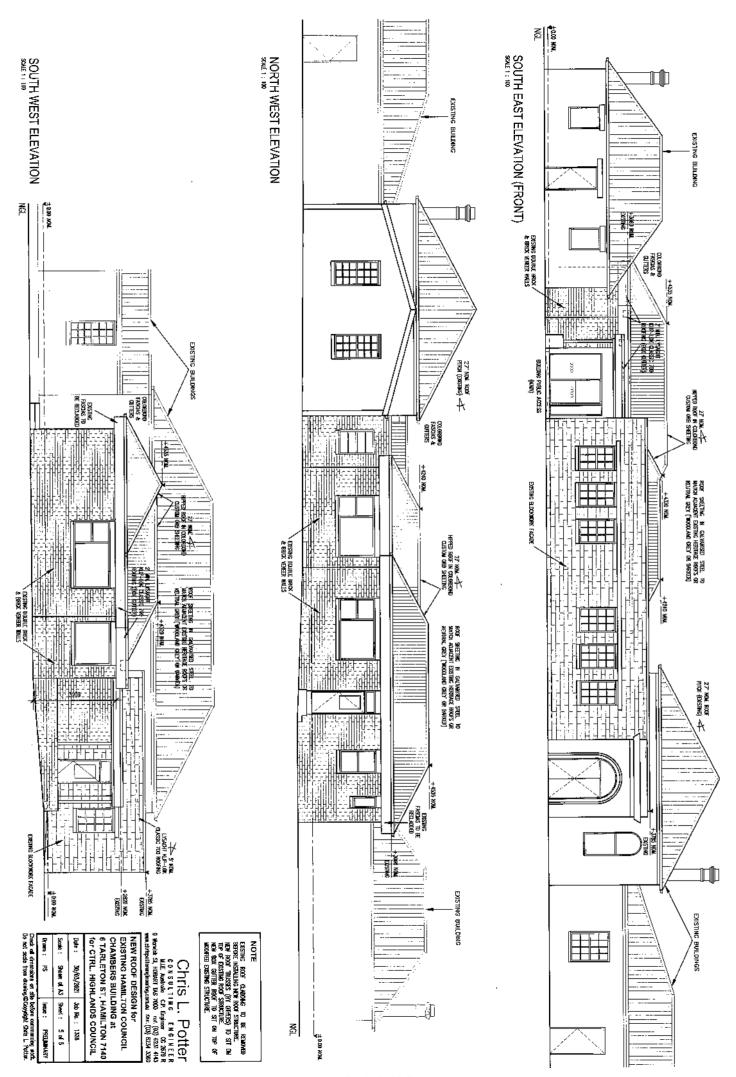
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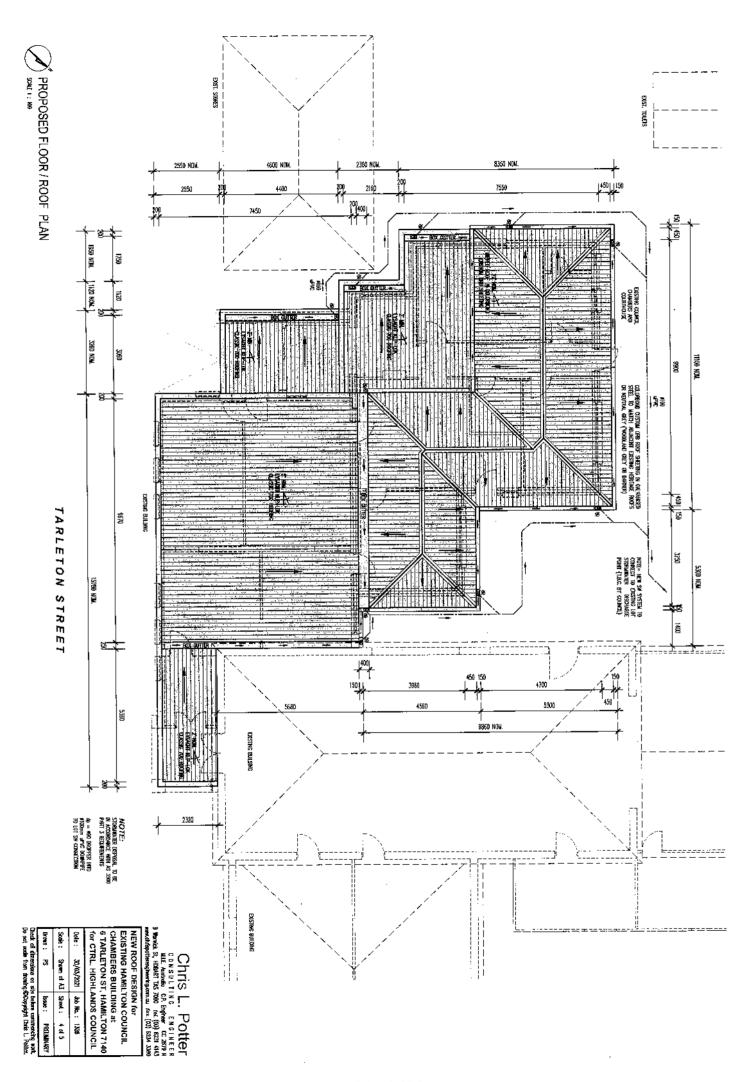
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## Ouse District School

**OUSE, TASMANIA, 7140** TELEPHONE: (03) 6287 1259 FAX: (03) 6287 1306 ABN 81 864 160 391



22 March 2021

#### SEEKING DONATIONS FOR UPCOMING FUNDRAISER

Ouse District School is fundraising for the Children's Tumour Foundation (CTF), an organisation that is very close to our hearts, and we'd love your support! The Children's Tumour Foundation is Australia's leading charity that connects and supports people living with Neurofibromatosis, a hard word to say - so we call it NF. NF is a genetic disorder that causes tumours to grow on the nerves throughout the body, including the brain and spine. Those diagnosed live a life full of uncertainty and anxiety; forced to fight tumours that can cause blindness, persistent pain, deafness, bone abnormalities, disfigurement and developmental delays. It can happen to anyone and there is currently no cure.

This cause means a lot to us as we have a student who has NF. We are aiming to raise \$2000 throughout Term 2, 2021 to contribute to the ongoing research and support that is desperately needed to improve the lives of those living with NF. In order to achieve the fundraising goal, we will be holding many events and we kindly ask for your support in the form of donations which we can use for prizes in our upcoming raffle. I am hoping to have donations for the raffle finalised by mid-April with the raffle to be drawn on June 25th.

Any support would be greatly appreciated.

Details are as follows:

Contact person: Vanessa Triffitt, Teacher at Ouse District School

Email: vanessa.triffitt@education.tas.gov.au

Phone: 6287 1259 (W) 0437 972 557 (M)

Address: 6993 Lyell Highway, Ouse TAS 7140

Yours sincerely,

Vanessa Triffitt

Proudly supporting



# Program Guidelines



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# Regional Tourism Projects Program

## I. Aim

The Regional Tourism Projects Program (RTPP) Special Release has been developed to promote tourism supply-side activity in regional Tasmania, and is managed by the Department of State Growth.

The RTPP Special Release aims to ensure local tourism operators and businesses stay connected and focus on the future of their destination during these challenging times.

Rounds I and 2 of the RTPP Special Release were highly successful and supported a total of 32 projects across Tasmania. A recent review of the program has led to minor revisions to the criteria in Round 3.

#### This RTPP Special Release Round 3 will focus on funding smaller projects across Tasmania that:

- Establish projects that align to Destination Action Plan outcomes that grow visitor numbers, increase lengths of stay, grow visitor expenditure, improve visitor travel around the regions and improve overall visitor satisfaction.
- Enable local tourism operators and businesses to stay connected and focus on improving the visitor experience during the COVID-19 crisis period and beyond.
- Create the opportunity for active tourism groups to implement initiatives that support industry recovery.
- Encourage collaboration and consultation with stakeholders at a local, regional and state level to broaden tourism product offerings.
- Fund projects that respond to demonstrated evidence-based need, and
- Are supported by the relevant Regional Tourism Organisation.

Projects will need to demonstrate clear linkages to a relevant Destination Action Plan (DAP), the Tasmanian Visitor Engagement Strategy, the Tasmanian Journeys Project, state and local regional tourism objectives and/or the recovery priorities in the T21 Tasmanian Visitor Economy Action Plan 2020-2022.

Grant applications for projects of up to \$10 000 are encouraged, and applications of up to \$20 000 will be considered. As funds are limited, value for money will be a consideration and a key priority to maximize the impact of the Special Release. Projects for more than \$10 000 will need to demonstrate how the request achieves greater value for money.

Round 3 of the program will allow for applications for feasibility studies to be submitted up to a value of \$10 000, but evidence of matched funding of at least 50% must be provided by the applicant by way of a letter of support from the funding organisation or financial statement demonstrating the receipt of the matched funds.

All applicants are required to discuss their project with, and provide a letter of support from, their Regional Tourism Organisation.

Regional Tourism Organisations are ineligible to apply for funding in Round 3, however for organisations that do not have an ACN or ABN they can act as the agent and apply for funding on behalf of the organisation.

It is anticipated that there will be a high number of applications submitted under this program with limited funding, meaning that not all eligible applicants will be able to be successful.

Applicants are encouraged to ensure they answer all questions, provide well thought out supporting evidence and documentation prior to submitting their application for the best chance of receiving grant funding.

The program will be continuously monitored to manage the program budget. Although the program is open until 25 June 2021, once the funding limit has been reached no further applications will be accepted and those applicants who were unsuccessful at that point will be notified.

Applications will be assessed in order of receipt against the eligibility and assessment criteria. For this reason applicants should ensure they receive an auto-generated email notification when they submit their application as confirmation that their application has been submitted. If no confirmation is received contact thsu@stategrowth.tas.gov.au

# 2. Eligibility criteria

If you are unsure about your ability to meet all aspects of the eligibility criteria you should contact us.

You may be asked to supply documentation to support your eligibility claims as part of the application process, or as part of an audit process to confirm your claims were true and correct.

Applicants who can apply must:

- 2.1 Have an ACN or ABN and be registered for GST.1
- 2.2 Be a key stakeholder actively engaged with your Regional Tourism Organisation, DAP Leadership Group, Local Tourism Association and/or a stakeholder involved in visitor engagement.
- 2.3 Provide a project budget that clearly identifies all project revenue streams. Applicants may be asked to provide evidence of other funding sources.

Regional Tourism Projects Program – Round 3

3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> If an organisation does not have an ACN or ABN or is not registered for GST, they will need to seek support from the relevant RTO to act as their agent.

- 2.4 Submit a grant request of no more than \$20 000 maximum noting this special release will preference small projects up to \$10,000 as funds are limited.
- 2.5 Demonstrate value for money (determined by anecdotal evidence and/or supporting data) as a key priority to maximize the impact of the special release.
- 2.6 Demonstrate projects are clearly aligned to a relevant Destination Action Plan (DAP), the Tasmanian Visitor Engagement Strategy, the Tasmanian Journeys Project, state and local regional tourism objectives and/or the recovery priorities in the T21 Tasmanian Visitor Economy Action Plan 2020-2022.

For feasibility studies, applicants are able to submit a grant request of **no more than \$10 000 maximum** and clearly demonstrate matched funding of at least 50% of the grant amount requested.

# 3. Ineligible applicants

The following activities are ineligible to receive funding from the Program:

- 3.1 Marketing, brand development, advertising or product promotion.
- 3.2 Engaging or paying employees.
- 3.3 Buying or leasing real estate of any type.
- 3.4 Administrative or running, maintenance and repair and upgrade costs that are normally the responsibility of state or local government or a not-for-profit organisation;
- 3.5 Activities where an applicant has not fully acquitted any previous Tasmanian Government support funding.
- 3.6 Feasibility studies where insufficient evidence of matched funding of at least 50% of the maximum grant amount (\$10 000) requested is provided.
- 3.7 Activities that are predominantly for the benefit of an individual business.

## 4. Assessment

Completed applications will be assessed in order of receipt.

Applications will not be assessed until all the required information is provided by the applicant.

Where an application has been submitted, the RTPP Assessment Panel may request further information from the applicant to facilitate assessment of their application. If further information requested is not provided within the required timeframe the application will not be considered.

A member of the RTPP Assessment Panel may seek to undertake a site visit to assist with the final acquittal and reporting process.

All applications will be assessed by a panel of experts including an external tourism expert and State Growth employees. Each application will be scored against the aims and objectives of the program and against each of the following assessment criteria (note criteria are all equally weighted).

Approved projects will enter into a formal Funding Agreement with the Tasmanian Government that will contain payment milestones with funding provided in instalments upon the successful completion and approval of those milestones.

Applications are open until all funds are fully committed or 25 June 2021, whichever occurs first. Applications will be processed on a first submitted, first assessed basis until funds are fully committed.

Each application will be competitively assessed using the evidence provided by each applicant against the following criteria.

Assessment Criteria	Weighting
4.1 Evidence that the proposed project has been discussed with their Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO), considers state, local and regional tourism objectives, and addresses an identified need.	20%
4.2 Demonstrates clear linkages to: a relevant Destination Action Plan (DAP); the Tasmanian Visitor Engagement Strategy; the Tasmanian Journeys Project; state and local regional tourism objectives; and/or the recovery priorities in the T21 Tasmanian Visitor Economy Action Plan 2020-2022?	20%
4.3 The applicant provided a sound risk assessment with adequate mitigations identified to ensure the viability and completion of the project.	20%
4.4 The proposed project demonstrates value for money.	20%
4.5 The application clearly demonstrates that the project does not replace existing funding and that the project is not able to be funded through other available funding programs.	20%

## 5. Timeframes

Round 3 RTPP Special Release will close on 25 June 2021. If the funding allocation is fully committed prior to the closing date for applications, the application period will close early and no further applications will be considered. If this happens, notification of the closure will be published on the Department of State Growth website and those that have already lodged an application will be advised.

To ensure everyone has an equal opportunity to apply for a grant, no late applications will be accepted after the closing date and time. For any extenuating circumstances that may prevent applicants meeting the deadline, applicants must contact us before the grant program closes to discuss further.

Applicants are advised to submit applications well before the closing date and time. All potential applicants must read the Program Guidelines carefully to determine their eligibility for funding under the program.

Description	Date
Program Guidelines - published for preview	17 March 2021 at 09:00 am
Program opens	25 March 2021 at 09:00 am
Program closes	25 June 2021 at 1:00pm
	Or once all funds are fully committed, whichever occurs first.
Applications assessed	As received
Applicants notified (estimated date)	Four weeks after application submission. This timeframe does not include requests for further information from applicants.

# 6. Application process

The Department of State Growth uses an online grants management system called SmartyGrants. This system is easy to use and accessible via mobile phones, tablets, laptops and personal computers.

The online platform allows you to apply for a grant at any time while the program is open. It also allows us to send you notifications throughout the grant application and funding process.

#### How to apply

Complete and lodge an application online via SmartyGrants from the Business Tasmania website www.business.tas.gov.au. Applicants who are unable to apply online via SmartyGrants can access a manual application by calling Business Tasmania on 1800 440 026.

Following the submission of your application via SmartyGrants you will receive an automatic receipt of your application. This receipt will include details of the application and a unique application ID.

All applications will be processed on a first submitted, first assessed basis until all funds are committed or the closing date is reached.

This is a competitive merit-based process. Meeting the eligibility criteria will not automatically result in a successful grant.

Read the guidelines carefully before starting an application. Consider how your project will address the eligibility criteria.

If you do not have internet access please contact us to discuss alternate options.

# 7. Appealing a decision

The Department of State Growth may reconsider a decision if the applicant can demonstrate a proven conflict of interest, error in process or discrimination.

If applicants have reason to believe that the proper process was not followed in assessment of an application, a request for review may be submitted.

Grounds for appeal are:

- 1. The persons making the decision had a direct or indirect financial interest in the outcome of the application.
- 2. The preparation of the application was affected adversely by incorrect advice provided by a staff member of the Department of State Growth.
- 3. The persons making the recommendations discriminated against the applicant on irrelevant grounds, such as cultural, religious or linguistic background; race; gender; marital status; sexual orientation; or disability.

All requests must be in writing and should be addressed to the Director or Manager of the business unit where the application was assessed.

Your request must be received within 28 days from the date of the Department of State Growth notifying you of the decision about your application

# 8. Acquittal

#### How to acquit for a grant

Successful applicants will be required to provide some information about the activities and purchases made along with providing evidence such as any quotes, invoices, receipts, statements, reports, etc. as evidence to support the acquittal. This requirement may be at various stages of the grant term and will be issued to you electronically as a link to an acquittal form. The form will clearly define what is required of you to complete the acquittal process.

#### Failure to complete an acquittal

Failure to lodge a valid acquittal by the due date will result in the grant funding being repaid back to the Department or may mean you are ineligible to apply for other grants administered by the Department until the acquittal is provided and approved.

# 9. Taxation and financial implications

Grants under the program attract Goods and Services Tax (GST). Grant payments to successful applicants, who are registered for GST, are increased to compensate for the amount of GST payable. A valid tax invoice must be supplied, by the successful applicant, to the department where GST applies to the grant funding.

The receipt of funding from this program may be treated as income by the ATO. While grants are typically treated as assessable income for taxation purposes, how they are treated will depend on the recipient's particular circumstances.

It is strongly recommended that potential applicants seek independent advice about the possible tax implications for receiving the grant under the program from a tax advisor, financial advisor and/or the Australian Taxation Office (ATO), prior to submitting an application. Information on invoices can be found on our Business Tasmania website: <a href="https://www.business.tas.gov.au/manage">https://www.business.tas.gov.au/manage</a> a business/invoices

# 10. Grant payments

Applicants will be asked for your bank account details so that we can process successful grant payments. Please ensure you check the Name, BSBV and Account details are correct when you submit as the recovery of funds process can result in significant delays in payment. This bank account must be in the same name of the person or business who applied for the grant. You may be asked to provide a copy of your bank statement or a letter from you bank to confirm your bank account details.

Please note – grants are provided for an approved purpose and you may be asked to repay some or all of your grant if you do not meet the terms of the Funding Agreement.

# II. Confidentiality

The Tasmanian Government may use and disclose the information provided by applicants for the purposes of discharging its respective functions under the Program Guidelines and otherwise for the purposes of the program and related uses.

The department may also:

- 1. Use information received in applications for any other departmental business.
- 2. Use information received in applications and during the performance of the project for reporting.

## 12. Administration and contact details

The program will be administered by the Department of State Growth on behalf of the Crown in the Right of Tasmania. Contact with the department for any of the following reasons can be directed to: <a href="mailto:thsu@stategrowth.tas.gov.au">thsu@stategrowth.tas.gov.au</a>.

- Further information or advice on the program
- Assistance in making an application
- Further feedback on the decision of the application
- · Request a review of the decision

#### Important note

All applicants must take care to provide true and accurate information. Any information that is found to be false or misleading may result in action being taken and grant funds, if already provided, will be required to be repaid to the department.



Department of State Growth

4 Salamanca Square, Salamanca Place HOBART TAS 7001 Australia

Phone: 1800 440 026

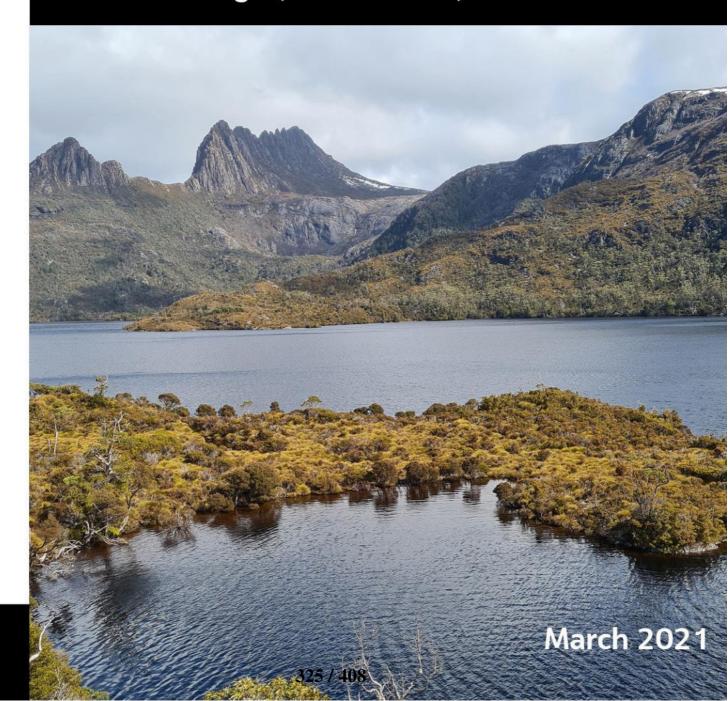
Email: <a href="mailto:thsu@stategrowth.tas.gov.au">thsu@stategrowth.tas.gov.au</a>

Web: www.business.tas.gov.au

# **Jacobs**

# Discussion Paper on Tasmania's Climate Change Act

Independent Review of the Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008





# Discussion Paper on Tasmania's Climate Change Act

Independent review of the Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008

# Jacobs ANZ Strategic Advisory Climate & Sustainability

Jacobs Group (Australia) Pty Limited ABN 37 001 024 095 100 Melville St Hobart, TAS 7000 GPO Box 1725 Hobart, TAS 7001 Australia www.jacobs.com

# Your feedback

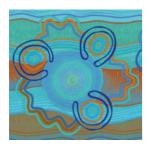
Questions are provided at the start of this discussion paper to prompt reflection and comment. The independent reviewers are keen to read your thoughts in response to any or all of these questions. Any other comments on issues relevant to the review's terms of reference are also welcomed.

Submissions made in response to this discussion paper will be made publicly available on the Tasmanian Climate Change Office (TCCO) website. Please include your name and the name of your organisation (if applicable) in your submission. If you would like your submission to be treated in confidence, please note this in your submission. Defamatory or offensive material will not be published.

Written submissions to this discussion paper and general enquiries to the independent review for the Climate Change Act should be provided in writing by Thursday 29 April 2021 by email to:

ConsultationTasmania@jacobs.com

# Acknowledgement of Country



Jacobs acknowledges and pays respect to the Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the traditional and original owners, and continuing custodians of this land and acknowledge Elders – past and present.



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Appendix A. Terms of Reference for the Independent Review
Appendix B. Objects of the Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008



# Discussion Questions for Stakeholder Feedback

Please read the discussion paper and provide your responses to any or all of the questions below. Please include your name, organisation (if applicable) and your responses and any additional comments by email to <a href="mailto:ConsultationTasmania@jacobs.com">ConsultationTasmania@jacobs.com</a>

If you would like your submission to be treated in confidence, please note this in your submission. Defamatory or offensive material will not be published.

# The Climate Change Act & State Government response to climate change

- 1. To what extent should climate change considerations (e.g. greenhouse gas emissions, climate change impacts, climate resilience) influence policies and decisions by State government agencies and government business enterprises?
- 2. How important is it to you that the Tasmanian government systematically assess and disclose the main risks associated with projected climate change?
- 3. How might the Act provide you with confidence that successive State governments will continue to act to contain/reduce Tasmania's emissions and build climate resilience?
- 4. How might the Act drive further decarbonisation of the Tasmanian economy (e.g. via setting/legislating targets for sectors of the economy, potentially including interim targets)?
- 5. If the Act were to espouse principles that would guide consideration of climate change by government, its agencies and business enterprises, what might they be?

# **Global Climate Action & Tasmania**

# 6. Within the context of global agreements to action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, what do you consider to be the main roles of the Tasmanian government and how effective do you believe the government has been?

7. What would Tasmania be like in 10 years' time if it was a national or international leader in climate change responses?

# **Emissions Targets**

- 8. What would you consider to be an appropriate long-term greenhouse gas emissions or emissions reduction target for Tasmania (in terms of date and level of emissions or emissions reduction)?
- 9. What (if any) value do you think targets for specific sectors of the economy would offer, including for the sector itself? If you agree with the concept of sectoral emissions targets, which sectors should have emissions targets? Why?
- 10. What key factors should influence Government decisions to set State, sectoral and/or interim targets?

# Low Carbon & Economy & Society

- 11. What do you consider to be the main risks and opportunities for Tasmania as it continues to transition towards a low/zero carbon economy and society? What risks and opportunities may arise if Tasmania transitions more slowly/more rapidly?
- 12. What do you consider to be the main roles for State government in supporting Tasmania's low/zero carbon transition?

# **Climate Resilience & Adaptation**

13. What do you consider to be the main roles for State government in supporting Tasmanian communities, infrastructure, economic activities and environments in becoming more resilient to projected climate change?



# 1. Overview

This discussion paper has been prepared to inform the third independent review of the *Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008* (the Act). It provides some background information on climate change action relevant to Tasmania to help you prepare written submissions to the independent review. It also includes feedback the review team have so far received from a survey and stakeholder workshops.

# 1.1 The Act and its Objectives

The purpose of the Act is to help Tasmania address the challenges of climate change and contribute to broader national and international responses to those challenges. The Act provides the legislative framework in Tasmania for action on climate change. Its primary objectives are to set and support action to achieve a target for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction. That target was to reduce the state's greenhouse gas emissions to 60% below 1990 levels by 31 December 2050. The Act includes provisions for regulation, measurement and reporting of emissions.

The Act also addresses climate change adaptation through its objects, although there are no specific targets, regulations or reporting requirements for this theme.

A four-yearly independent review cycle is incorporated into the Act, in December 2020 the Department of Premier and Cabinet commissioned Jacobs to deliver this third independent review.

# 1.2 The Independent Review

The review is to address requirements mandated in the Act, as well as matters directed by the Minister responsible for the Act (the Minister for Climate Change). Its scope includes:

- Evaluating the extent to which the objects of the Act are being achieved
- Consulting on options to revise Tasmania's emissions reduction target, based on the outcomes of the update to Tasmania's Emissions Pathway Review
- Assessing any additional legislative measures which may be necessary to achieve the targets set by the Act
- Examining whether the Act provides a sound foundation for action on climate change mitigation and adaptation by Tasmania's government, businesses and community
- Examining whether the Act provides a sound framework for consideration of climate-related risks and opportunities.

The review will consider these requirements in the context of international, national and State developments in climate change policy. Consistent with the Act, the review is being undertaken in consultation with relevant business, scientific and environmental organisation representatives, as well as members of the broader Tasmanian community.

Phase one of the consultation process focused on the role of the Act, emissions targets, transition to and opportunities in a low carbon economy, and impacts as a consequence of climate change. Engagement was undertaken through a survey, targeted discussions with key business, industry or community groups and on-line community workshops that were open to members of the public

Samples of input provided during a community-based workshop may be viewed by following the link below:

#### Community Workshop Sample

This discussion paper and the written submissions provided will form the second phase of the consultation process.

A Final Report comprising findings from consultation and the review team's own research and analysis, together with recommended actions for consideration by the Tasmanian government will be submitted in mid-2021 and will be tabled in Parliament.



# 1.3 The 2016 Independent Review of the Act

The <u>second review of the Act in 2016</u> made five recommendations to the Tasmanian State Government. These were to:

- 1. Set a target of net zero emissions (NZE) by 2050.
- Consolidate the objects of the Act around four themes, namely; targets and reporting, actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adaptation to projected climate change, and complementarity with national and international climate change initiatives.
- 3. Require state government agencies to consider the contents of the Act in relevant decision making.
- 4. Include a set of principles to give greater effect to intent of the Act and provide a set of expectations for government decision making.
- 5. Make a climate change action plan a statutory requirement.

These recommendations were accepted by the Tasmanian Government, recommendations #3 and #5 accepted in principle only.

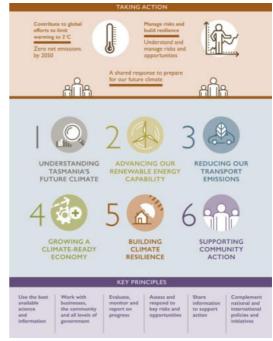


Figure 1. Climate Action 21 overview.

Following the review, the government commissioned an analysis of

the State's likely future emissions across key sectors to assess the state's capacity to achieve and maintain net zero emissions. The Tasmanian Government consulted Tasmanian Government agencies, business, industry and the community on the recommendations. There was strong community feedback to set an ambitious emissions reduction target for Tasmania. The 2016 recommendations will be considered as part of the current independent review of the Act, alongside recent climate change developments.

# 1.4 The Role of Sub-national Governments

The Paris Agreement recognises the important role of sub-national governments in responding to climate change.

State and Territory governments in Australia have some control or influence over many of the areas where mitigation action is possible, such as energy generation, rail and road transport, energy efficiency in the built environment, vegetation based carbon sequestration, water and wastewater treatment and waste management. Collectively, State and local governments are responsible for land use, infrastructure and environmental planning; water and natural resource management and the provision of health and emergency management services. As a result, they play an essential role in building the resilience of communities, the economy and natural environments to climate change.

The Subnational Global Climate Leadership Memorandum of Understanding ("<u>Under 2 MOU</u>") was developed ahead of COP21 in 2015 to build momentum for greater national ambitions on reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Under 2 MOU brings together sub-national governments who commit to reducing emissions to 80-95% below 1990 levels by 2050 or to achieving per capita emissions of less than two tonnes by 2050. Parties also commit to working collaboratively on a variety of issues of applicable to climate change mitigation and adaptation. South Australia, Victoria, Queensland, ACT, and Northern Territory are the Australian signatories to this agreement.

Currently, all Australian State and Territories have net zero commitments through legislation or other means.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Climate Group (2017). Under2 Memorandum of Understanding. Retrieved from theclimategroup.org: https://www.theclimategroup.org/under2-memorandum-understanding



# 2. Climate Change Legislation

# 2.1 National Climate Policy

Currently there is no national climate change legislation, however climate change related policies and initiatives have been introduced by the Australian Government that seek to address impacts of climate change. These include:

- The Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) which states Australia's commitment under the Paris Agreement. This includes the setting of the national economy-wide target of reducing GHG emissions by 26 – 28% below 2005 levels by 2030
- Establishment of the Climate Change Authority which is independent statutory body that provides expert advice to the Australian Government on climate change matters.
- The Climate Solutions Package which includes; the Climate Solutions Fund (formerly the Emissions Reduction Fund) which provides financial incentives for businesses, landholders and communities to reduce emissions, support towards energy efficiency measures across homes, businesses and communities, funding toward a national strategy for electric vehicles, and further support for pumped-hydro projects such as Marinus Link.

The Australian Government has introduced other legislation that contributes to, in varying ways, the national response to climate change. Such legislation has led to the establishment of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation, the Australian Renewable Energy Agency, and the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme.

# 2.2 Climate Change Legislation in Australian States and Territories

Tasmania is one of four Australian jurisdictions (with South Australia, Victoria and ACT) with specific legislation to promote action: on the abatement of greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation); and to reduce the impacts of actual or projected climate change (adaptation). While there are differences in the scope and emphasis of legislation in each jurisdiction, some or all share these key features:

- Economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets: several jurisdictions set additional targets, with South Australian legislation specifying a renewable energy generation target and ACT legislation setting interim and per person targets. Victoria makes use of a carbon budgeting process in which to address interim emissions reductions.
- Common objectives: legislative or policy objectives have consistent themes of: target-setting; assisting communities and business to take action and capture opportunities; reporting on progress; and alignment with national and international developments. The objects of South Australian climate change legislation are similar to Tasmania's in respect of energy conservation, R&D and consultation with community and business to facilitate action. Victorian climate change legislation places particular emphasis on managing risk, building resilience and adaptation.
- Inter and intra-generational equity: South Australian and Victorian legislation is underpinned by concept of equity within and between generations, with decisions to be based on the precautionary principle and best available science.
- Governance: South Australian, Victorian and ACT legislation, to varying extents, specify the functions of the Minister and how they are required to discharge their responsibilities under their Acts. Legislation in South Australia and ACT also establish independent bodies to advise the Minister on climate change issues.
- Sector agreements: for emissions reductions are provided for under ACT and South Australian climate change legislation. Victorian legislation provides for "pledges" by State government to reduce sectoral emissions and for local government authorities to pledge to reduce their own emissions.
- Parliamentary reporting: legislation in each jurisdiction requires that progress on climate change periodically report to parliament. This reporting includes reports on greenhouse gas emissions and operation of their respective Acts.



Table 1. Examples of Australian state climate change legislation and policy.

Jurisdiction	Key legislative features	Emissions Targets	Legislative mechanisms for Climate Change Mitigation	Legislative mechanisms for Climate Change Adaptation
Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008 (Tasmania) <sup>2</sup>	<ul> <li>The Objects of the Act emphasise four main themes;</li> <li>GHG emissions targets and reporting including the setting of a whole-of-State emissions target and allowing for interim and sectoral targets; and provides for progress towards emissions targets being reported to parliament.</li> <li>Actions to reduce GHG emissions where the Act specifically refers to promotion of energy efficiency and conservation and development of low emissions and carbon sequestration technologies. Support for action by businesses and communities in taking advantage of these technologies is provided for in the Act also.</li> <li>Adaptation to projected climate change through supporting adaptation to climate-related risks and encourages action (including research) to take advantage of any opportunities.</li> <li>Complementarity with national and international climate change developments</li> <li>Please refer to Appendix B for the full list of the Objects.</li> </ul>	60% below 1990 levels by 2050 Non-legislated State Government commitment for NZE by 2050		
Victorian Climate Change Act 2017 <sup>3</sup>	<ul> <li>Purpose of the Act includes:</li> <li>Setting of a long-term emissions reduction target and interim targets</li> <li>Embed climate change considerations in government decision making and setting of policy objectives</li> <li>Development of strategic responses to climate change; including the development of a climate change strategy every 5 years</li> <li>Clarity of information collection and reporting</li> <li>Contribute to carbon sequestration efforts</li> </ul>	State NZE target by 2050  Setting of 5-yearly interim targets	Pledge model created where Ministers responsible for whole-of-government operations and key sectors are to include policy measures that government will implement to reduce emissions reductions.  • Emissions reduction pledges must be prepared describing actions and their estimated emissions reductions	Adaptation action plans to be developed by the relevant Minister every 5 years for the following systems:  • The built environment  • Education and training  • Health and human services  • The natural environment  • Primary production  • Transport

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Department of Premier and Cabinet. (2014, September 14). Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008. Retrieved from legistaltion.tas.gov.au: https://www.legislation.tas.gov.au/view/whole/html/inforce/current/act-2008-036

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> State Government of Victoria. (2020, June 1). Climate Change Act 2017. Retrieved from content.legislation.vic.gov.au: https://content.legislation.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-05/17-5aa005%20authorised.pdf



Jurisdiction	Key legislative features	Emissions Targets	Legislative mechanisms for Climate Change Mitigation	Legislative mechanisms for Climate Change Adaptation
	Provide for the creation of forestry, carbon, and soil carbon rights and relevant Agreements		This model includes the provision of voluntary pledges for local governments, organisations, businesses and members of the public community Establish a framework for forestry, carbon sequestration, and soil carbon rights as well as Carbon Sequestration Agreements	The water cycle
Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act 2007 (South Australia) <sup>4</sup>	<ul> <li>Objects of the Act include: <ul> <li>Setting of emissions reduction and renewable energy targets</li> <li>Promotion of commitment within the State to address climate change</li> <li>Encourage energy efficiency and conservation</li> <li>Promote research and development (R&amp;D) towards climate change mitigation and adaptation</li> <li>Encourage commercialisation of renewable energy and mitigation technologies</li> <li>Encourage and facilitate business and community consultation and action on climate change</li> <li>Support adaptation measures</li> <li>Complementarity with national and international developments in climate change</li> </ul> </li> <li>Sector Agreements for partnership between State Government and entities on climate action</li> <li>Establish the Premier's Climate Change Council</li> </ul>	60% below 1990 levels by 2050 ***Govt commitment NZE 2050, 50% by 2030 against 2005 levels	<ul> <li>Renewable energy targets set as follows:         <ul> <li>20% renewable energy generation by 2015</li> <li>20% renewable energy consumption by 2015</li> </ul> </li> <li>Preparation of reports against the progress and operation of the Act every two years, including:         <ul> <li>Assessment of emissions reduction strategies and their progress and effectiveness</li> <li>Progress against emissions reduction and renewable energy targets</li> <li>Summary of emissions reduction and removal technologies</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Preparation of reports against the progress and operation of the Act every two years, including any relevant developments on current and expected future climate change impacts
Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas	The Objects of the Act include:  • Setting of emissions reduction and renewable energy use and generation targets	NZE by 2045 with interim targets:  • 40% by 2020  • 50 to 60% by 2025	Target set for the use of renewable electricity in the ACT of 100% by 2020 Sector agreements seek to reduce energy use, increase use of renewable energy	Included in the Objects (c) and (d) of the Act in developing policies and programs, and encouraging

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Office of Parliamentary Counsel. (2007). Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007. Retrieved from legislation.sa.gov.au: https://www.legislation.sa.gov.au/LZ/C/A/CLIMATE%20CHANGE%20AND%20GREENHOUSE%20EMISSIONS%20REDUCTION%20ACT%202007.aspx



Jurisdiction	Key legislative features	Emissions Targets	Legislative mechanisms for Climate Change Mitigation	Legislative mechanisms for Climate Change Adaptation
Reduction Act 2010 (ACT)⁵	<ul> <li>Provide for the monitoring and reporting on progress against targets</li> <li>Facilitate the government's development of policies and programs to meet the targets and adapt to climate change</li> <li>Encourage private entities to take action to address climate change, and to recognise such action</li> <li>Establishment of a Climate Change Council and sector agreements are also featured in this Act</li> </ul>	• 65 to 75% by 2030 • 90 to 95% by 2040 The Act also sets a GHG emissions produced per person target to peak in 2013	sources, or carry out avoidance or mitigation activities.	private entities to address and adapt to climate change. The Climate Change Council is to advise the Minister on addressing, and adapting, to climate change.

# 2.3 International Legislation

The following examples of international climate change legislation and policy help to benchmark climate change legislation enacted by Australian state governments.

Table 2. Examples of international climate change legislation and policy.

Jurisdiction	Key legislative features	Emissions Targets	Legislative mechanisms for Climate Change Mitigation	Legislative mechanisms for Climate Change Adaptation
Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 (New Zealand) <sup>6</sup>	<ul> <li>The Purpose of the Act is to:</li> <li>Contribute to the global effort under the Paris Agreement to limit the global warming to 1.5°C</li> <li>Allow New Zealand to prepare for, and adapt to, the effects of climate change</li> <li>Establishment of an independent Climate Change Commission</li> <li>Consideration is to be made to First Nations (iwi and Māori) in the nomination and appointment of</li> </ul>	NZE by 2050 (excl biogenic methane)  • Setting of 5 yearly carbon budgets  • Biogenic methane targets:  • 24-47% by 2050  • 10% by 2030	Preparation of an emissions reduction plan for meeting the next carbon budget – following its determination and prior to the commencement of its period. The plan is to include:  • Sector-specific strategies for emissions reductions and removals  • Multi-sector strategies  • Strategy to mitigate any impacts caused by mitigation action  • Any other matters the Minister deems necessary	A national climate change risk assessment is to be completed no later than 6 years following the release of the previous assessment A national adaptation plan must be prepared in response to the climate change assessment and include;  • The Government's objectives for adaptation  • The Government's strategies, policies, and proposals for meeting these objectives

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> ACT Parliamentary Counsel. (2019, June 15). Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act 2010 . Retrieved from legislation.act.gov.au: https://www.legislation.act.gov.au/a/2010-41/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Parliamentary Counsel Office. (2019, November 13). Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019. Retrieved from legislation.govt.nz: https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2019/0061/latest/LMS183736.html



Jurisdiction	Key legislative features	Emissions Targets	Legislative mechanisms for Climate Change Mitigation	Legislative mechanisms for Climate Change Adaptation
	the preparation of an emissions reduction plan, and the preparation of a national adaptation plan.		Climate Change Commission to report annually on results from monitoring on progress against targets and budgets	<ul> <li>Time frames for implementing strategies, policies, and programs</li> <li>Measures and indicators enabling monitoring and reporting of progress</li> </ul>
Climate Change Act 2008 (UK) <sup>7</sup>	Establishment of a Committee on Climate Change to provide advice on the relevance of the 2050 target, the setting and meeting of carbon budgets, emissions from international aviation and shipping, and reporting on progress towards budgets and targets.	NZE by 2050 (excl. international aviation and shipping)  • 68% interim target for 2030  • Setting of 5-yearly carbon budgets	Proposal and policies are to be developed for meeting carbon budgets and must be reported on. An annual statement of UK emissions must be completed.  Domestic carbon trading scheme for limiting, reducing and removal of emissions	Assessment of the risks of current and predicted impacts of climate change to be completed every 5 years with an adaptation programme to be developed following the assessment
The Climate Act 2019 (Denmark) <sup>s</sup>	Comprehensive Climate Programme developed for Parliament on an annual basis Independent Danish Council on Climate Change (successive candidates are elected by the Council)	<ul> <li>NZE by 2050</li> <li>Interim target of 70% by 2030</li> <li>Rolling interim 5-year targets set 10 years in advance and cannot be less ambitious than the last target set</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Climate Programme is to include;</li> <li>short-term and long-term initiatives (and their projected effect),</li> <li>R&amp;D of new initiatives</li> <li>status against national and international targets</li> </ul>	Climate Programme is to include; • Status report on climate science • R&D of new climate initiatives
Global Warming Solutions Act 2006 (California) <sup>9</sup>	Implementation of this law led by the California Air Resources Board (CARB) and is supported by the Climate Action Team made up of relevant state agencies	NZE by 2045 Return to 1990 levels by 2020 40% below by 2030	Cap-and-trade multi-sector emissions trading scheme	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> UK Government. (2008). Climate Change Act 2008. Retrieved from legislation.gov.uk: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Danish Ministry of Climate, Energy and Utilities. (2020, June 26). Climate law. Retrieved from retsinformation.dk: https://www.retsinformation.dk/eli/lta/2020/965

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Legislative Counsel. (2006, September 27). AB-32 Air pollution: greenhouse gases: California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. Retrieved from leginfo.legislature.ca.gov: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\_id=200520060AB32



Jurisdiction	Key legislative features	Emissions Targets	Legislative mechanisms for Climate Change Mitigation	Legislative mechanisms for Climate Change Adaptation
Clean Energy Package 2019 (Washington) <sup>10</sup>			<ul> <li>100% Clean energy by 2030</li> <li>First of its kind energy standard for new and existing commercial buildings</li> <li>Incentivising uptake of EVs and charging infrastructure</li> </ul>	

# Stakeholder Feedback we have heard on Climate Change Legislation

- The Act should seek to decarbonise across all sectors
- The Act should consider the value of its carbon sinks and native forests
- The Act should be more detailed, clear and direct to ensure it drives climate action
- Ensure the Act enables Tasmania to become a leader on climate change
- The Act needs to promote and drive effective climate adaptation

<sup>10</sup> Inslee, J. (2018). POWERED BY INNOVATION, WASHINGTON CAN FIGHT BACK AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE. Retrieved from https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/climate-change-package-overview-policy-brief.pdf



# 3. Global Climate Action

# 3.1 Developments since the Paris Agreement

Global action on climate change is pursued under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), an agreement among 197 countries ("Parties" to the Convention) to prevent "dangerous" human interference with the climate system. Most countries have created laws which specifically address climate change mitigation and three-quarters of the world's annual greenhouse gas emissions are now covered by national targets. While the level of "stretch" in targets varies between nations, many countries are actively pursuing policies to achieve their emissions reduction target.

A landmark UNFCCC Conference of the Parties (COP21 in Paris, December 2015) achieved an in-principle agreement to:

- Reach the peak in global greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible
- Pursue rapid reductions in emissions to limit global warming to less than 2°C above pre industrial levels; and
- Pursue efforts to limit temperature increases to 1.5°C. The Paris Agreement calls for net zero emissions to be reached during the second half of the 21st Century.

The United Kingdom will host COP26 in Glasgow in November 2021. World leaders will report on progress since the Paris Agreement and seek to further advance global climate action.

The setting of net zero emissions pledges and targets by national governments surged during 2020,

Canada

Canada tabled net zero target legislation in November 2020

Status of net zero policy

In law

Proposed Legislation
In Policy Document
Target Under Discussion
No discussion
No

Figure 4. Net Zero Policy Global Map. (Climate Action Tracker, 2020)

including by some of the world's largest economies, such as; USA, China (NZE 2060), Japan, the European Union, Canada, South Africa and South Korea. If realised, these commitments would reduce projected global warming by a 0.5°C to 2100.<sup>11</sup>

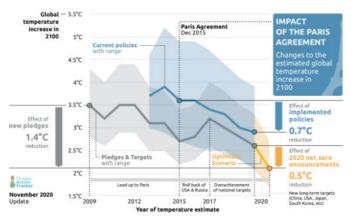


Figure 2. Impact of the Paris Agreement. (Climate Action Tracker, 2020)

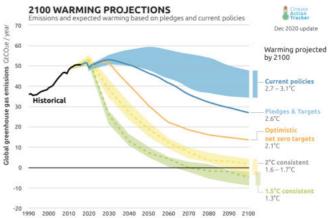


Figure 3. 2100 Warming Projections. (Climate Action Tracker, 2020)

<sup>11</sup> Climate Action Tracker (2020, December 1). Global update: Paris Agreement Turning Point. Retrieved from https://climateactiontracker.org/publications/global-update-paris-agreement-turning-point/



# 3.2 Developments in Climate Science

Scientific evidence of the need to act on climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with human activities has been building for decades. In their <u>Fifth Assessment Report</u><sup>12</sup> (AR5), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) asserted that there is "unequivocal" evidence of increased concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and consequent warming of the climate system. Most observed changes in the global climate system since the mid-20th century are attributable to human influences. The IPCC found that continued emissions of greenhouse gases will cause further warming and changes in all components of the climate system. Global warming of more than 2°C above 1850–1900 levels is considered to constitute "dangerous climate change".

The IPCC released a Special Report in 2018 on 'Global Warming of 1.5°C'<sup>13</sup> the level of warming which is likely to be reached, on current trends, between 2030 and 2052. It is also the "stretch" target for the Paris Agreement. The report highlights the differences in climate characteristics and impacts, even between 1.5°C and 2°C of warming. These include;

- Robust differences in climate characteristics (increased mean temperatures, hot extremes in most inhabited regions, increased rainfall intensity, increased drought conditions)
- Greater impacts to marine and terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystems, including species loss
- Increased climate-related risks to health, livelihoods, food security, water supply, human security, and economic growth; and
- Heightened adaptation needs that may be countered by limits to adaptation and adaptive capacity for some human and natural systems.

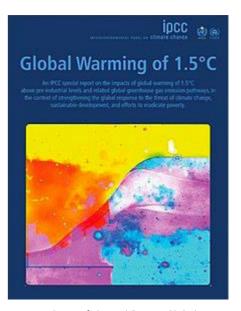


Figure 5. Cover of "Special Report: Global Warming of 1.5°C". (IPCC, 2018)

The modelled emissions pathways that would limit warming to 1.5°C have net emissions declining by about 45% from 2010 levels by 2030 and reaching net zero by about 2050. These pathways require rapid and far-reaching transitions in energy, land, urban, infrastructure, and industrial systems and imply deep emissions reductions in all sectors. They all include varying degrees of removal of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.

The IPCC is set to release its <u>Sixth Assessment Report</u> (AR6)<sup>14</sup> from 2022. Reporting will update science on the physical basis of climate change, climate change impacts and adaptation and climate change mitigation.

# 3.3 Responses from Business and Industry

Developments in scientific knowledge and global advancements on climate change policy, such as the Paris Agreement, have led to increased private sector focus on climate change. Recognising this, the international body responsible for the health of the global financial system, the G20's Financial Stability Board, established the industry led <u>Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures</u> (TCFD) in 2015. Their role was to identify the information necessary for appropriately assessing and pricing climate-related risks and to develop voluntary climate-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (2014). AR5 Synthesis Report: Climate Change 2014. Retrieved from ipcc.ch: https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/syr/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> IPCC, 2018: Summary for Policymakers. In: Global Warming of 1.5°C. An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty [Masson-Delmotte, V., P. Zhai, H.-O. Pörtner, D. Roberts, J. Skea, P.R. Shukla, A. Pirani, W. Moufouma-Okia, C. Péan, R. Pidcock, S. Connors, J.B.R. Matthews, Y. Chen, X. Zhou, M.I. Gomis, E. Lonnoy, T. Maycock, M. Tignor, and T. Waterfield (eds.)]. In Press.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. (2021). AR6 Synthesis Report: Climate Change 2022. Retrieved from ipcc.ch: https://www.ipcc.ch/report/sixth-assessment-report-cycle/



related disclosures that would be useful for investors and others in understanding material risks and promote more informed financial decision making.

In 2017, the TCFD released its <u>final recommendations 15</u> which provide a framework for companies and other organisations to develop more effective climate-related financial disclosures through existing reporting processes. The TCFD recommend organisations appropriately account for climate-related risks, highlighting the potential financial implications of climate change resulting from potential physical impacts of amplified natural hazards and the widespread transition to a low carbon economy (e.g. stranded assets).

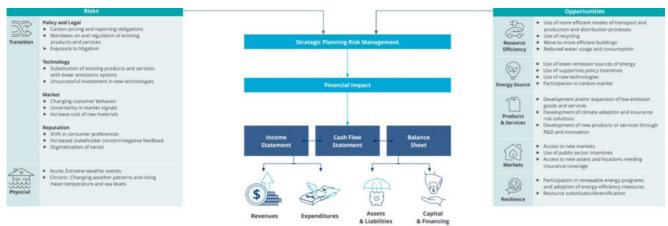


Figure 6. Climate-Related Risks, Opportunities, and Financial Impact. (Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures, 2018)

The Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) in early 2020 released a <u>letter to all APRA-regulated entities <sup>16</sup></u>, encouraging the adoption of the TCFD and other voluntary frameworks to better assist entities with assessing, managing and disclosing their financial risks associated with climate change.

APRA highlight that there is a need to address the climate data deficit, to quantify the likely impact of the physical, traditional and liability risks of climate change and accurately assess and appropriately price these risks. APRA note that business entities should be proactive in taking steps to assess and mitigate climate change financial risks now, and not delay action until further guidance from APRA is released.

The Centre of Policy Development also discuss the necessity of response to climate change from the private sector, noting the obligations on company directors to recognise and manage impacts of physical, transition and litigation risks resulting from climate change. In this <u>Supplementary Memorandum of Opinion</u> (2019)<sup>17</sup> it is noted that there is a profound and accelerating shift in the way that Australian regulators, firms and the public perceive climate risk and that there is acute interest in climate change issues from investor groups. As time passes, the benchmark



Figure 7. Recommendations and Supporting Recommended Disclosures. (Task Force on Climaterelated Financial Disclosures, 2018)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures. (2018). Recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures. Retrieved from fsb-tcfd.org: https://www.fsb-tcfd.org/recommendations/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Summerhayes, G. (2020, February 24). Understanding and managing the financial risks of climate change. Retrieved from apra.gov.au: https://www.apra.gov.au/understanding-and-managing-financial-risks-of-climate-change

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> The Centre for Policy Development. (2019, March 26). Supplementary Memorandum of Opinion. Retrieved from cpd.org.au: https://cpd.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Noel-Hutley-SC-and-Sebastian-Hartford-Davis-Opinion-2019-and-2016\_pdf.pdf



for consideration to climate change risks by firms and their directors is rising.

This Memorandum of Opinion concludes that it is increasingly obvious that climate change is and will inevitably affect the economy and, as such, the exposure of individual directors to "climate change litigation" is increasing, probably exponentially, with time. Australia has had over 100 climate change cases heard and are primarily focused around human rights violations and being part of strategies against fossil fuel companies and large emitters. Organisations such as larger corporate entities, utility providers, and government business enterprises can be exposed, without undertaking an appropriate level of climate action, to shareholders, individuals and regulatory bodies who view their failure to act, or adverse impacts, on positive climate action.

International ratings agencies are now assessing how jurisdictions are considering climate change impacts as part of its process to determine credit ratings.

# 3.4 Climate Action by the Commonwealth Government

Australia's commitment under the Paris Agreement, to reduce economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 26-28% below 2005 levels by 2030, has led to the introduction of a suite of climate change related strategies and initiatives at a federal level which seek to meet this target but also provide for supporting climate resilience.

The statements contain wow emissions technologies identified to provide cost-effective, emissions reduction outcomes for Australia. The first statement was released in 2020 and outlines a vision centred around:

- Delivery of more affordable, clean and reliable energy;
- Job creation and reducing emissions from primary industries;
- Expanding onshore manufacturing and capturing new export markets for low emissions products and commodities;
- Scaling geological and biological carbon sequestration.

This statement builds on other Commonwealth Government initiatives such as the Climate Solutions Package and the National Hydrogen Strategy, with the roadmap highlighting clean hydrogen as a priority investment technology.

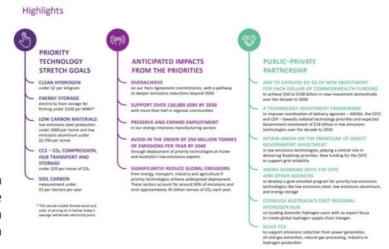


Figure 8. Highlights of the Technology Investment Roadmap.

Through vehicles such as the Clean Energy Finance Corporation and ARENA, the Commonwealth Government has been able to finance and drive investment in renewable energy projects and technologies as well as low-emissions solutions across agriculture, clean technologies, energy generation and storage, infrastructure, property, transport and waste.

The Commonwealth Government is currently developing its national Long-term Emissions Reduction Strategy, which will be taken to COP26 in Glasgow later in 2021. In 2015, the Australian Government released a <u>National Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy</u><sup>19</sup>, assessing how Australia is managing the risks presented by climate change and identifying a set of principles to guide climate change adaptation and building resilience in the country.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources. (2020). Technology Investment Roadmap: First Low Emissions Technology Statement 2020. Retrieved from industry.gov.au: https://www.industry.gov.au/data-and-publications/technology-investment-roadmap-first-low-emissions-technology-statement-2020

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment. (2015). National Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy. Retrieved from environment.gov.au: https://www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/adaptation/strategy



# 4. Emissions Targets

# 4.1 State Emissions Profiles and Targets

With the Northern Territory announcing its net-zero emissions by 2050 target in July 2020, all Australian States and Territories have now committed to achieving net zero emissions by or before 2050. Victoria and the ACT are the only jurisdictions to enshrine their net zero emissions targets in legislation. Legislated targets for Tasmania and South Australia are currently 60% below 1990 emissions levels by 2050.

The emissions profile and trajectory for each Australian State and Territory varies. Energy is the leading source of emissions in all jurisdictions, with agriculture generally next placed. Emissions associated with the land use change forestry sector vary widely, with large net emissions in Queensland and the Northern Territory and net sequestration in all other jurisdictions. The Northern Territory and Western Australia are the only jurisdictions in which emissions levels in 2018 exceed those in 1990.

Emissions from the Agriculture, Waste and Industrial Process and Product Use (IPPU) sectors have been relatively stable since 1990 in all the jurisdictions, except the ACT.

Table 3. Australian jurisdiction committed and legislated emissions reduction targets.

Jurisdiction	Legislated	Government Commitment / Policy
Tasmania	60% below 1990 levels by 2050	NZE by 2050
New South Wales		Climate Change Policy Framework includes NZE by 2050; Net Zero Plan includes 30% by 2030
ACT	NZE by 2045 & interim targets for 2020, 2025, 2030 and 2040	
Queensland		NZE by 2050 and 30% by 2030
Victoria	NZE by 2050 & 5 yearly interim targets	
South Australia	60% below 1990 levels by 2050	NZE by 2050 and 50% by 2030
Western Australia		NZE by 2050
Northern Territory		NZE by 2050

# 4.2 Analysis of Tasmania's Emissions

Tasmania has a unique emissions profile within the Australian context, due to the extent of carbon sequestration (absorption of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere) by its native forests and forestry plantations and its almost complete reliance on renewable energy for electricity production.

Changes in forest policy in Tasmania have led to significant increases in carbon sequestration. The area of native forest harvested in Tasmania's has decreased, which has paved the way for regeneration and regrowth and has increased sequestration rates. This has resulted in the land use change forestry sector moving from being an emissions source to a major carbon sink, offsetting the emissions from other key sectors in Tasmania.



The Tasmanian Government has commissioned Point Advisory to undertake a review of the State's future emissions pathway. To accompany this Discussion Paper, Point Advisory have provided the 'Net zero emissions pathway options for Tasmania – Background paper' in Section 7 of this Discussion Paper.

The paper provides an overview of the analysis undertaken for the Tasmanian Government to support the development of a new, more ambitious emissions reduction target for the state, and includes the following:

- A discussion of Tasmania's current emissions profile, and the business-as-usual trajectory for the state's emissions.
- An overview of emissions reduction opportunities available to Tasmania, with a description of their impact on Tasmania's emissions and its economy, as well as the costs and benefits of implementation.
- A discussion of the net zero target pathway options available to Tasmania, including a comparison with other Australian states and territories, and with other countries and several key questions related to target setting for Tasmania.

# 4.3 State Target

The setting of quantitative emissions targets on a whole-of-economy basis helps governing bodies and their communities define their intent and path towards the target. Targets facilitate monitoring and reporting and help ensure accountability for actions or initiatives that are intended to drive progress towards them.

Critical factors that should be considered in determining suitable emissions targets include:

- Ambition: does the target accurately reflect the expectations of the jurisdiction's communities, business interests and other stakeholders? Does the target express the appropriate level of urgency required to address climate change impacts? Will the target drive action to reduce emissions?
- Achievability: can the target be achieved and sustained, based on the jurisdiction's economy, communities, infrastructure, and natural environment and emissions trajectory and abatement opportunities?
- Cost and economic impact: what are the direct and indirect upfront and long-term costs of targets at various levels of ambition? What are the economic impacts (positive and negative) that may be realised with the kinds of low carbon transition anticipated by the target? For example on communities, businesses and industry?
- Aligned with science: does the target appropriately reflect the best available scientific data on the need to reduce emissions?
- Alignment with national and global developments: does the target ensure Tasmania's response to climate change is consistent with its counterparts abroad?

Engagement with government, business and industry, and communities to understand stakeholder sentiment towards the settings of emissions targets has assisted in developing a view of important considerations to appropriately set Tasmania's next emissions target. A snapshot of some perspectives is provided below:

- A 2050 NZE target is too conservative and is not consistent with broader responses to climate change. Conservative setting of targets can result in climate inaction due to the lacking sense of urgency.
- It is not appropriate to primarily rely on carbon sequestration from the LULUCF sector in achieving emissions targets.
- Targets must be considered in a practical sense to ensure adverse impacts are not placed on the State's economy and communities.



# 4.4 Interim Targets

Interim targets, or periodic emissions budgeting (carbon budgets), are useful in providing nearer-term, more tangible goals and means for measuring progress against emissions reduction efforts. They also serve as a way conveying greater urgency for action on climate change mitigation and adaptation, driving government accountability and implementation of necessary policies and measures in order to meet an interim target or avoid exceeding an emissions budget range.

Jurisdictions such as the Victoria, New Zealand, Denmark, and the United Kingdom require carbon budgets to be for five-yearly periods, aligning with the timing of UNFCCC COP meetings and allowing consideration to developments in climate science, ensuring consistency with global developments in climate change.

# 4.5 Sectoral Targets

Several Australian jurisdictions' climate change legislation provides for sector-based targets for emission reductions, although these are not enshrined in legislation.

The South Australian Government may enter into voluntary sectoral agreements with specific business entities, community groups, nongovernment organisations (NGOs), local governments and regions. These agreements can relate to improving energy efficiency, reducing energy consumption, promoting the use of renewable energy, R&D and innovation, raising awareness and behavioural change programs, and climate adaptation opportunities from particular projects or programs, or to part or the whole of an organisation or region. A number of individual local governments, and various local government consortiums have entered into sector agreements with the South Australian state government. An example is the <u>Carbon Neutral Adelaide</u> initiative, Figure 9 shown provides highlights of this sector agreement.

Similarly, Victoria has established a pledging model where the state government will describe actions, policies, and programs that it is taking to reduce emissions through pledges regarding its own operations and five-yearly sector pledges across its key sectors. Voluntary pledges can also be made by local governments, businesses, community and educational organisations, individuals and families. So far, five councils have made pledges under this model.



Figure 9. Carbon Neutral Adelaide highlights.

The United Kingdom Government has climate change agreements (CCA), which thus far have included umbrella agreements for energy or carbon efficiency targets for various sectors and the participation of 53 business sectors in the CCA scheme. CCAs encourage energy use and emissions reductions through providing discounts to a tax on fossil fuel consumption, requiring operators to measure and report energy use and emissions against agreed targets every two years. A high proportion of operators under the CCA scheme have successfully met their targets and achieved emissions reductions, although it has been recognised that an "awareness effect" has driven further success through operators realising the potential of cost-effective energy efficiency improvements.

ACT climate change legislation has similar provisions, although no voluntary sectoral agreements have yet been made. In part, this reflects the lack of emissions-intensive industries, for which voluntary emissions reductions could significantly affect the jurisdiction's emissions profile.

Imposing emissions target on sectors can have significant impacts on the performance and health of sectors where emissions abatement opportunities are limited, require significant capital investment, or are reliant on emerging technology. Partnerships, collaboration and support from government can assist in addressing such concerns for sectors.



# Stakeholder feedback we have heard on Emissions Targets

- A net zero emissions target by 2050 for the state of Tasmania is too conservative
- When setting targets, careful consideration is required towards economic impacts to businesses, and financial- and human-related costs
- Sector based targets ensure the state target isn't reliant on any particular sectors
- Sectoral targets should consider emissions abatement potential, opportunities, and complexity for each sector
- 5-yearly interim targets drive action and ensures accountability in pursuing emissions reductions



# 5. Lower Carbon Economy and Society

# 5.1 Tasmania's Economy and its Emissions

Tasmania is among the least polluted regions in the world, about half its land area is reserved for nature conservation and an even larger area retains native vegetation cover. Typically, 100% of Tasmania's electricity is generated from renewable sources and its per capita greenhouse gas emissions are lower than in every other Australian jurisdiction. The state produces a rich variety of high quality food, fibre and beverages, and boasts natural beauty in its forests, mountains, and coastal regions. This "clean and green' image" has helped lead economic and population growth in Tasmania. Remote working opportunities due to the COVID-19 pandemic have added to this appeal and growth.

Tasmania's economic growth and associated emissions

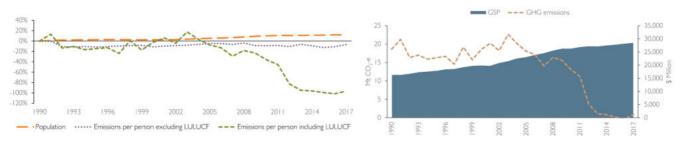


Figure 10. Percentage change from 1990 baseline in Tasmania's population and emissions per person – 1990 to 2017.

Figure 11. Change in Tasmanian emissions and real Gross State Product – 1990 to 2017.

Tasmanian Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report, 2019

Tasmania has seen steady economic growth over the past several years. With its renewable energy powered electricity grid and net carbon sequestration in the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector, Tasmania has reduced the emissions intensity of its economy. Excluding the net carbon sequestration of LULUCF, there is a more gradual downward trend.

The Tasmanian Government's population growth policy could also alter the direction of the State's emissions. The State Government's Population Growth Strategy (2015) sets a target for 650,000 people in Tasmania by 2050. Recent ABS data published in June 2020 record Tasmania's population at approximately 540,000 persons, suggesting population growth is in-line with this target.

Through job creation and workforce development, migration and liveability, the State's population growth policy sets out an approach for a sustainable, balanced growth which will be leveraged for economic growth in the State. Without concerted efforts towards emissions abatement in population-related sectors (i.e. transport, stationary energy, and waste), it can be expected that the State's emissions will increase as a result of this population growth.

The Tasmanian Government has also introduced the ambitious goal to increase the annual value of its agricultural sector to \$10 billion by 2050. Being a relatively emissions-intensive sector, growth in agricultural production could lead to increased emissions. It is recognised that the agriculture sector is a complex sector in which to achieve emissions reductions. The National Farmers Federation (NFF) issued its own climate change policy in 2020, declaring support for a national economy-wide net-zero emissions target. The NFF acknowledges that the agriculture sector must play its part in reducing emissions, provided that viable decarbonisation pathways are identified and legislation is equitable and advantageous and does not provide unnecessary regulatory impediment. Some other agricultural organisations have set ambitious emissions reduction targets for their sector such as the Meat & Livestock Australia (carbon neutral by 2030).



#### 5.2 Low Carbon Developments in Tasmania

Leveraging Renewable Power

Tasmania's renewable energy generation infrastructure has been a key driver of its low emissions status and economic growth. The states recently released Renewable Energy Action Plan and 200% renewable energy target anticipate an increased contribution to the economy from renewable energy generation. The Government plans to drive investment renewable energy projects and double renewable energy production by 2040.

With the realisation of the Battery of the Nation initiative and Project Marinus and its pipeline of renewable energy projects, Tasmania is on track to begin exporting additional renewable energy to mainland Australia. The Renewable Energy Action Plan also addresses the production of "green" hydrogen and pursuing its export from 2030.

Promote energy efficiency and conservation

Several initiatives have been undertaken in Tasmania to improve the energy efficiency of businesses and communities. In the time since the last review of the Act, the Tasmania Government:

- In partnership with Aurora Energy, and Westpac Bank delivered the Tasmanian Energy Efficiency Loan Scheme (TEELS) for homes and small businesses to access no-interest finance to purchase eligible energy efficient products.
- Commenced the Power\$mart Businesses program offering funding for energy efficiency audits for eligible businesses.
- Commenced the Power\$mart Homes program which has provided 146 low-income households with energy efficiency assessments and upgrades (now discontinued due to public health risk caused by COVID-19).



Figure 12. Power\$mart Homes logo.

- Completed energy efficiency audits across nine aged care facilities.
- Development of an online interactive energy management and self-audit tool for farm operators.
- Delivered state-wide workshops for financial counsellors to better assist vulnerable clients in managing their energy use and power bills.

Promoting early action by business and community

The Act seeks to promote consultation and early action on climate change by business and community. In line with this objective, the Government has been involved in the promotion of:

- Low emissions transport including:
  - The establishment of the Electric Vehicle Working Group in 2017 which brings together key partners to develop a coordinated approach to support the uptake of EVs.
  - Raising community awareness of EVs through 'try and drive', demonstration, and expo events.
  - The ongoing rollout of the Electric Vehicle ChargeSmart Grants Program which has provided over \$600,000 in grant funding in support of the installation of 14 fast- and ultrafast

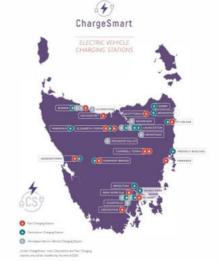


Figure 13. Charge Smart electric vehicle charging stations.

charging stations at strategic locations across the State as well as 20 destination charging stations.



- Smarter Fleets Program which provides guidance on improvements in fleet fuel efficiency and the use of alternative technologies (eg. hydrogen and electric vehicles).
- Supporting uptake of public transport through the rollout of the Southern and Northern bus networks and planned North-West bus network, and development of two new Park and Ride facilities in Hobart.
- Resource efficiency through the completion of the Business Resource Efficiency Program in which 11 businesses across a range of sectors underwent waste audits and subsequent waste minimisation projects were identified for each business, with support provided in their implementation.
- Low emissions fertiliser practices via the Fert\$mart initiative, in partnership with DairyTas, where 200 Fert\$mart plans have been developed for approximately 50% of the State's dairy farms. Financial assistance was provided to support the installation of necessary infrastructure associated with the implementation of Fert\$mart plans which seek to reduce fertiliser-related emissions and costs.
- Provision of subsidised training and workforce development necessary for a skilled workforce required for the Battery of the Nation initiative and renewable energy sector.

## Promoting research and development

The Act seeks to promote research and development in climate change mitigation and the following has been undertaken to further advance technologies or practices that reduce or limit GHG emissions in Tasmania:

- The Tasmanian Government has been involved in the promotion of Tasmania's renewable energy advantages, and support of for a number of renewable energy projects.
- Release of a Renewable Hydrogen Action Plan to activate industry development and advance the production of renewable hydrogen in Tasmania.
- The Enterprise Suitability Mapping project allows Tasmanian farmers to access soil and climate data to inform more robust decision making on different types of crops and produce. As a result, farm management practices can lead to increased soil health and soil carbon storage due to a greater understanding of soil characteristics.

# 5.3 Transitioning to a Low Carbon Economy

Since the Paris Agreement, a global transition to a low-emissions future has been building momentum, and with the recent surge in climate action and ambition in major world economies, it can be expected that this transition will begin to accelerate. The Australian Government's Climate Change Authority noted in its 2020 Climate Policy Toolkit for 'Prospering in a low-emissions world' that Australia will need to respond to changing global circumstances, or risk getting left behind; identifying that the upcoming long-term national emissions reduction strategy should:

- Consider trade and investment strategies that utilise Australia's competitive advantages in a low-emissions world.
- Support a global response to climate change through growing international demand for emerging Australian low-emissions export industries.
- Ensure Australian low-carbon industries, products and services are able to benefit from increased international green investment flows.
- Support regions and communities position for new low emissions technologies and economic opportunities.

As national and international climate action progresses towards lower carbon economies and communities, Australian States and Territories will need to ensure that their communities, businesses and industries are carbon



conscious and in a position to benefit from this transition. Tasmania Is well-placed to do so, with its carbon sinks and renewably powered electricity grid laying the foundation for a low carbon economy.

Changing investor and consumer sentiments will place pressures on industry sectors as demand for low emissions products and services grows. As such, transitioning at a pace consistent with the context of climate action nationally and internationally, minimises the risks stranded assets can present to an economy and its communities.

A low carbon transition will need to be carefully executed, considering the impact on communities and businesses that are dependent on emissions-intensive resources and operations. Careful consideration and appropriate planning and policy can allow for a just transition for impacted industries and dependent communities. A low carbon emissions future also reduces the risk of increased occurrence of natural hazards and climate-related disasters, helping to safeguard communities and livelihoods from the shocks and stresses climate change can present.

An economy-wide transition to a lower carbon Tasmania can have many co-benefits, including:

- Less polluted air which decreases rates of illness and death through reducing fossil fuel consumption, and cleaner waterways through more efficient rates of fertiliser application and precision agriculture. This is reflective of, and enhances, Tasmania's "clean and green" brand.
- New research and learning, and the adoption of low emissions technologies can result in innovation and the
  emergence of alternative technologies that can open up new markets and access previously untouched
  markets for Tasmanian businesses and industries.
- Paving the way for realisation of new and additional investment opportunities in Tasmania. For example, the production of bioenergy and renewable hydrogen for use in the manufacturing and transportation sectors, or the development of zero carbon products that can be exported.
- Positively contributing to and influencing national and international responses to climate change.



# 5.4 Stakeholder Feedback and Sector Considerations for a Lower Carbon Economy

Stakeholder feedback has been collected as part of this review to further understand the transitional risks and opportunities for key economic sectors in Tasmania becoming a lower carbon economy.

Table 4. Sectoral feedback on the transition to a low carbon economy.

Agriculture	Transport	Stationary Energy	Industrial Processes and Product Use	Land Use Change Forestry
<ul> <li>A complex sector for emissions abatement, with large numbers of relatively small business operators. Any emissions reduction pursuits must consider impacts on farm profitability.</li> <li>Further research and investment is required to develop viable low emissions solutions.</li> <li>The significant planned growth for the sector can have implications on the natural environment as well as farm business and health.</li> <li>Climate action carried out through collaboration and partnerships, and driving awareness and education, is critical for the sector to make progress against climate change.</li> <li>Potential emissions reduction opportunities include; seaweed to mitigate enteric fermentation, transitioning away from fossil fuel consumption, regenerative agriculture, and agroforestry and income diversification of crops and produce.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Policy reform to remove barriers, and introduce incentives to aid the transition to a low emissions transport network. Consideration to vulnerable communities is critical to ensure access is available to low carbon transport options.</li> <li>Transition away from fossil fuel consumption in the transport network through electrification and uptake of low emissions fuels such as hydrogen and renewable biodiesel.</li> <li>Increase uptake of EVs and public and home charging infrastructure through removal of cost barriers and business and community awareness raising.</li> <li>Increase the uptake of public and active transport, with alignment between land use and public transport planning.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Development of a strategy for the transition away from fossil fuel us towards alternative fuels and energy sources such as be energy and hydrogen.</li> <li>Consider electrification as a substitute for fossifuel energy use, with planning accounting for impact on demander from the electricities grid.</li> <li>Energy efficiency the built environment.</li> </ul>	pressure for low emissions products and services.  • Electrification and the transition away from fossil fuel consumption.  • Improving energy efficiency across industrial operations and processes (e.g. demand reduction measures).	<ul> <li>The net carbon sequestration from native forests and plantations is likely to plateau and decrease over time.</li> <li>A major bushfire risk could significantly affects stocks of carbon stored in forests and plantations.</li> <li>There is large potential for the production of bio-energy from forest waste and residues.</li> </ul>

# 6. Climate Resilience

# 6.1 Tasmania's Climate and Projected Impacts

With climate change, Tasmania's future climate is projected to be characterised by increased temperatures, changes to annual rainfall patterns and an increase in the frequency of extreme weather events. Increasing temperatures (and decreased humidity inland) are likely to lead to increases in evaporation and, with reduced rainfall in north-west and central Tasmania, may lead to changes in water resource availability.

Tasmania's average temperature rise is slightly moderated relative to many other areas of Australia due to the influence of surrounding oceans. However, the surrounding oceans will continue to warm and acidify and sea levels are projected to continue to rise. IPCC upper range sea level rise projections for 2100 now exceed 1 metre and some peer-reviewed science suggests that sea levels will rise much faster than this. Erodible coasts are expected to retreat in response to changing sea levels.

Projected climate change to 2030 is effectively locked in by greenhouse gases already in the atmosphere and the carbon intensity of existing industrial and transportation systems. The opportunity exists to contain the change in global mean temperature to less than 2°C, but only through aggressive global reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, in line with the Paris Agreement.

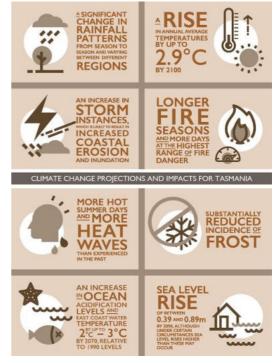


Figure 14. Projected climate changes by 2100 from Climate Futures for Tasmania.

However, even if the drive to abate the growth in greenhouse gas emissions is successful, significant action will still be required to adapt to the direct and indirect impacts of even a 2°C increase in temperature.

#### Natural hazards and climatic events

Tasmania's ability to anticipate and adapt to climate extremes and future climate change is underpinned by the level of climate resilience in the community. Climate resilience is a journey involving analysis of climate change projections and impacts and the prioritisation and implementation of measures to better cope with climate risks.

Tasmania has experienced significant bushfire events in 2016 and 2018-19 and the worst state-wide flooding in 40 years. Tasmania was indirectly impacted by the Black Summer event from bushfire smoke and emergency services being sent to support the national effort on the mainland.



Climate Futures for Tasmania projects that in addition Figure 15. Tasmanian bushfires.

to changes in average rainfall and temperature, there

will be changes in the frequency and intensity of extreme climate events such as bushfires, heatwaves and flooding, and these events have already begun manifesting.

## Community impacts

Projected climate change may also affect the physical and mental health of Tasmanians. Such impacts are likely to result from the direct impacts of extreme climate events such as drought, bushfires, heatwaves and flooding and, for some affected people and communities, the on-going trauma associated those events.

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Climate conditions associated with bushfire or other events can cause or contribute to a variety of acute and chronic health issues. Acute conditions range from irritated eyes to severe heat or respiratory distress. These are linked to increased deaths in the elderly population. Vulnerable population groups (e.g. children, elderly, socially disadvantaged) may also have a higher risk of negative physical and mental health outcomes during and following natural disasters according to the <u>Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements Report</u>. <sup>20</sup>

Stakeholder and community discussions during the review's consultations flagged overarching concerns for health impacts from climate change. Comments noted:

- The health co-benefits of climate action such as cleaner air and waterways, and increased connection to the natural environment.
- A lack of strategies or action planning for the healthcare sector to address the growing pressures climate change will place upon it.
- Addressing the emergence and rapidly growing issue of climate anxiety and distress being experienced within the community, but more prevalent in younger demographics.

# 6.2 Measures to help Tasmania deal with and adapt to climate change

Development of climate-related data and information

To develop appropriate and adequate adaptation responses to the physical impacts presented by climate change now and into the future, a sufficient amount of scientific data and information is required to accurately understand and predict these impacts. Having such data and information available informs more targeted and effective adaptation strategies and initiatives to be implemented.

There are three main sources of scientific information used by the Tasmanian Government to understand climate change impacts and risks. Climate Futures for Tasmania results from Tasmanian Government investment and is an important source of climate change projections and data for the state. Downscaled modelling for Climate Futures for Tasmania suggests that temperatures will continue to rise, but at a slower rate than mainland Australia, total annual rainfall will reduce and there have been shifts in climate drivers. LISTmap (Land Information System Tasmania) provides map overlays of climate change, natural hazards, biodiversity, primary industries and geology projections on an interactive map, for three time periods and for differing carbon emission scenarios.

With the aim of improving community resilience, RiskReady allows Tasmanian businesses and communities the ability to understand the level of risk that various natural hazards present to specific locations, such as their properties. Utilising data available from the LISTmap, the <u>RiskReady platform</u> displays up-to-date climate hazard information in an accessible and understandable format, while providing advice to users on how to mitigate impending risks.

Also utilising the function of the LISTmap, Enterprise Suitability Mapping has been updated to incorporate climate change projects to better help farmers understand climate-related risks of various crop and produce types based on soil and climate information.

The Tasmanian Government has also supported research to further develop climate scientific knowledge and understanding of climatic and extreme weather events through the Climate Research Grants Program and Compound Extreme Events research project.

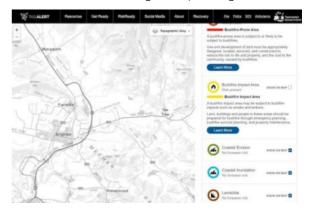


Figure 16. RiskReady platform.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements. (2020, October 28). Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements Report. Commonwealth of Australia. Retrieved from natural disaster.royal commission.gov.au: <a href="https://naturaldisaster.royalcommission.gov.au/system/files/2020-">https://naturaldisaster.royalcommission.gov.au/system/files/2020-</a>

<sup>11/</sup>Royal% 20 Commission% 20 into% 20 National% 20 Natural% 20 Disaster% 20 Arrangements% 20-% 20 Report% 20% 20% 5B accessible% 5D. pdf

Resilience of Tasmania's Communities, Economy & Environment

Climate-related data and information has helped to underpin various programs and initiatives that facilitate and contribute to climate adaptation and building climate resilience in Tasmanian communities, businesses and natural environments. State and local government, industry, and communities have been involved in such programs and initiatives as:

- The Tasmanian Climate Symposiums for networking, sharing of learnings and further development of climate change responses.
- The Climate Change and Health Roundtable held in 2019 to help identify opportunities to build resilience against health risks caused by climate change.
- Climate Resilient Councils project which sought to better understand climate-related risks relevant to Tasmanian local governments. Climate change governance was analysed of participating Councils and subsequent reports of the analysis and recommendations provided.
- Coastal Hazards Management for Existing Settlements and Values Project whereby information gathering workshops were conducted to inform approaches to managing coastal hazards.
- Disaster Planning and Recovery for Tasmanian Businesses project supported 48 businesses to undertake continuity planning to prepare for and respond to extreme climatic events.
- Skills Tasmania and Energising Tasmania Training Fund has provided subsidised training to prepare Tasmania's workforce for the impacts of climate change on industries.
- Community Flood Planning Pilot has provided households in certain locations to better assist the community, prepare and plan for floods.

# 6.3 Stakeholder Feedback and Opportunities in building resilience in Tasmania

As with the transition to a low carbon economy in order to reduce emissions, opportunities are numerous and hold numerous co-benefits when addressing climate change and adapting to its expected consequences.

There are many presently available opportunities within Tasmania that will improve the state's climate resilience. Thus far, stakeholder engagement undertaken for this review has heard from representatives across scientific organisations, key economic sectors, business and industry, and the community, with the following potential opportunities identified:

- Partnering with local governments and empowering the community.
- Planning for bushfires and mitigating their impacts, developing effective bushfire response methods.
- Climate adaptation and resilience to be approached in collaboration with Tasmanian Aboriginal people.
- Proactive planning for existing and projected climate change impacts minimises economic impacts caused by a changing climate.
- Alignment of the various levels of government for consistency in climate adaptation approaches to build resilience and adaptive capacity across all communities.
- Clearly define roles and responsibilities in emergency management through climate change legislation to prepare for expected impacts of climate change.
- Establishment of an adaptation committee to focus on adaptation and resilience outcomes.
- Collaborative partnerships between various levels of government and communities to identify and implement priorities to improve adaptive capacity and strengthen climate resilience in vulnerable communities.

7. Net zero emissions pathway options for Tasmania – Background paper



# Net zero emissions pathway options for Tasmania

**Background paper** 

Prepared for:

Tasmanian Department of Premier and Cabinet
19 March 2021



# THIS PAPER

The purpose of this paper is to provide background information and preliminary analysis on Tasmania's emission profile, pathways and opportunities to set a more ambitious net zero emissions target.

This paper provides an overview of the analysis undertaken to date for the Tasmanian Government to support the development of a new, more ambitious emissions reduction target for the state, and includes the following:

- a discussion of the net zero target pathway options available to Tasmania, including a comparison with other Australian states and territories, and with other countries;
- a discussion of Tasmania's current emissions profile, and an indication of how this profile could look in the future; and
- an overview of different emissions reduction opportunities available to Tasmania, their impact on Tasmania's emissions to 2050, how these may impact the economy and the overall costs and benefits of implementation.

The insights provided in this paper reflect:

- preliminary analysis of Tasmania's current emissions profile using 2018 State and Territory Greenhouse Gas Inventory (STGGI) data published by the Australian Government;
- the findings of emissions pathway modelling undertaken by Point Advisory and Indufor in 2019 using 2016 STGGI data (the most current emissions data available for Tasmania at that time); and
- consideration of new government policies and technological advances contributing to emissions reductions.



# **NET ZERO EMISSIONS PATHWAY OPTIONS FOR TASMANIA**

There is now overwhelming evidence that our climate is changing as a result of human-induced emissions of greenhouse gases. The resulting rising temperatures will have a significant impact on rainfall, evaporation and sea level, among many other things. These changes are likely to make our climate more varied and result in more frequent and severe extreme weather events.

To address this situation, in 2015, countries from around the world signed up to the Paris Agreement. This commits countries to keeping global temperature rise to well below 2 degrees Celsius, and to make every effort to keep them below 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels. In practical terms, this means that greenhouse gas emissions need to peak now and reach net zero by 2050 at the latest. The Paris Agreement recognises the important role of sub-national governments in responding to climate change, however meeting this challenge is a shared responsibility that will require action from communities, businesses and governments from around the world.

Under the existing *Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008* (the Act), Tasmania passed a legally binding target to reduce emissions by at least 60% below 1990 levels by 2050. Through the release of Climate Action 21, the Tasmanian Government has committed to a target of net zero emissions by 2050. As part of the independent review of the Act that is currently underway, the Tasmanian Government is seeking to set a more ambitious emissions reduction target for Tasmania, aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

At the domestic level, all states and territories in Australia now have some form of net zero commitment by 2050. Most notably, Victoria has a legislated target to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, and the ACT has a net zero target by 2045. At the international level, a number of countries have set net zero emissons targets by 2050 (or earlier), including many that are enshrined in law.

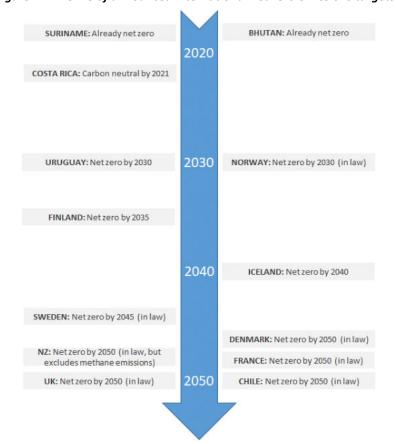


Figure 1. Timeline of announced international net zero emissions targets<sup>1</sup>

Note that New Zealand's overall net zero emissions target for 2050 excludes methane emissions from agriculture and waste. Methane emissions from these two sectors represent over 40% of New Zealand's current emissions.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Source: Based on Energy & Climate Intelligence Unit's Net zero tracker: https://eciu.net/analysis/briefings/net-zero/net-zero-the-scorecard



They are covered by a separate target of at least 24-47% reduction below 2017 levels by 2050, with an interim target of 10% reduction by 2030.

With its significant forest estate and low carbon electricity sector, Tasmania is well placed amongst Australian states and territories to achieve net zero emissions at a relatively low cost. Our analysis indicates that Tasmania could achieve and maintain net zero emissions much earlier than 2050, whilst continuing to grow the economy.

Tasmania has the opportunity to position itself as a climate change leader, at both the national and global level, by setting a target to achieve and maintain net zero emissions earlier than 2050. Four target timeframes have been suggested in Table, and outline the relative benefits and risks of each option. Importantly, the ability to achieve these targets is largely influenced by the LULUCF sector maintaining removals at levels broadly aligned with those seen over the past five years. It is expected that this trend will continue into the future under most-likely conditions.

Table 1. Potential emissions reduction target setting options – benefits and risks

Target option	Ben	efits	Ris	ks
Net zero by 2035		Would be the most ambitious state- level net zero emissions target in Australia.	•	Could be seen as too difficult / costly to achieve, which may make stakeholders hesitant to commit.
		Highly ambitious at the global level, outside of countries that have extensive forest resources and low emissions electricity sectors.	•	Likely to require significant investment and research and development to support businesses to transition.
		Aligned with climate science, and therefore robust and defensible.		
	•	First mover advantage.		
Net zero by 2040		Would be the most ambitious state- level net zero emissions target in Australia.	•	Could be seen as not being ambitious enough given Tasmania's unique position of already having achieved net zero
	•	Ambitious at the global level.		emissions since 2015, and its significant advantages compared with other states.
		Aligned with climate science, and therefore robust and defensible.	•	There is the risk that if Tasmania waits too long to set a net zero emissions targets,
	•	First mover advantage.		the state may miss the opportunity to catalyse innovative research and development and practices, and the associated additional economic activity arising from being a global leader in new technologies and systems.
Net zero by 2045		Would be aligned with ACT's net zero emissions target so still very ambitious at the national level.	•	As for 2040 target.
	•	Ambitious at the global level.		
		Aligned with climate science, and therefore robust and defensible.		
Net zero by 2050 (current emissions reduction target policy position)		Aligned with climate science, and therefore robust and defensible.	•	As for 2040 target.



# TASMANIA'S EMISSIONS PROFILE

# Tasmania's greenhouse gas emissions today

Tasmania's emissions profile is unique among Australian states and territories, as it has maintained net zero emissions since 2015. This achievement has helped to establish Tasmania as an Australian climate change leader.

The achievement of net zero emissions is primarily because of Tasmania's large forest estate (which absorbs a significant amount of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere each year), and because the state generates a high proportion of zero emissions renewable electricity.

Since 2015, total emissions from the energy, industry, agriculture and waste sectors were less than the amount of carbon dioxide absorbed by the land-use, land-use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector. Figure shows the contribution of each these sectors to the state emissions profile in 2018 (the most recent published data).

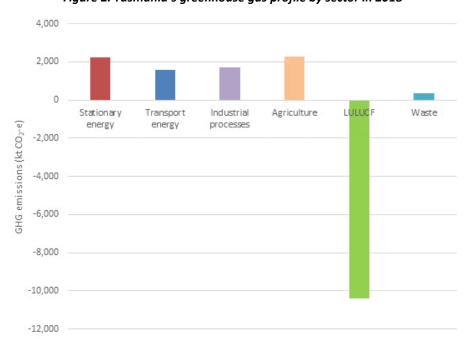


Figure 2. Tasmania's greenhouse gas profile by sector in 2018

# Tasmania's "business as usual" emissions

Despite its current net zero emissions profile, Tasmania's emissions out to 2050 are not fixed under most-likely conditions, unless it takes further action to reduce emissions. There are three key drivers that will influence business-as-usual (BAU) emissions to 2050:

- Policy drivers including national and state policies that are in force or are expected to come into force in the coming decades. For example, under the Tasmanian Government's AgriVision 2050 plan<sup>2</sup>, the scale of production from the agriculture sector is expected to increase significantly between now and 2050, which may increase emissions. Conversely, the achievement of the objectives of the Tasmanian Renewable Hydrogen Action Plan<sup>3</sup> will likely provide opportunities for emissions reductions across the stationary energy and transport sectors.
- **Economic drivers** including changes in demand for commodities. For example, increases in demand for meat and dairy products may drive up emissions from agriculture. Conversely, Sustainable Timber Tasmania projections for yield harvesting in public native forests show that timber harvesting will stay at a similar level for the next 6-7 years, then drop back progressively through to 2050.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://dpipwe.tas.gov.au/agriculture/growing-tasmanian-agriculture-research-development-and-extension-for-2050

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au/news/archived\_news/the\_tasmanian\_renewable\_hydrogen\_action\_plan



 Technology drivers including predicted technological progress in energy efficiency and electrification of stationary energy and transport, and in low-emissions agricultural practices.

Modelling undertaken in 2019 using the 2016 STGGI data (the most current emissions data available for Tasmania at that time) suggests that under BAU conditions, Tasmania's annual emissions in 2050 could be anywhere between a net source of 6,000-7,500 kt  $CO_2$ -e, and a net sink of 3,500-5,000 kt  $CO_2$ -e (Figure ). Within this range, there is a plausible scenario that emissions remain above net zero between now and 2050. This demonstrates the need for Tasmania to identify additional emissions reduction opportunities to achieve and maintain net zero emissions into the future.

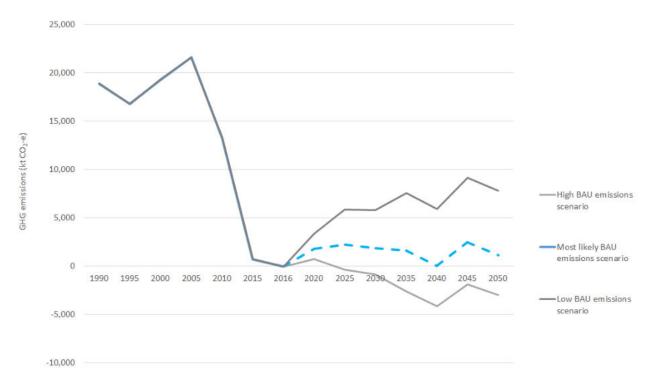


Figure 3 Tasmania's business as usual net emissions forecast to 2050 with uncertainty bands<sup>4</sup>

**Source:** Previous modelling undertaken by Point Advisory and Indufor, 30 January 2019 (to be updated by mid-2021). Please note: this modelling uses emissions data from 2016 STGGI, which was the most current emissions data available for Tasmania at that time.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> There is a clear risk of major bushfires in Tasmania over the next 30 years, and further climatic changes make it likely that these will occur at a higher frequency and with greater severity than in the past. To account for this risk, the business as usual scenarios include major bushfire events, modelled to occur every ten years in in 2025, 2035 and 2045 (see Figure 2).



# **OPPORTUNITIES TO REDUCE EMISSIONS**

Table presents a set of "best-fit" emissions reduction opportunities for Tasmania to adopt in coming years. These opportunities were selected in collaboration with a range of Tasmanian Government agencies based on how achievable they are likely to be in the current policy context. While some of these opportunities align with existing government policy priorities, other opportunities - if pursued - would require further analysis in consultation with key industry sectors as they are likely to involve significant capital investment, research and development and undergo cost benefit analysis. Opportunities that involved new technologies that are still in development or costly were not included.

Table 2. Potenital 'Best-fit' emissions reduction opportunities for Tasmania

Emissions sector	Opportunity	Relative size of expected emissions reductions in 2050*	Timeframe for implementation	Co-benefits
	Reduce conversion of plantations to other land uses following plantation harvesting	Small	Next five years	<ul> <li>Ongoing revenue from increased sales of hardwood and softwood plantation logs.</li> <li>Diversification of revenue streams for private landowners from carbon credits.</li> <li>Revenue from increased sales of domestic wood products.</li> </ul>
LULUCF	Increased plantations including agroforestry	Small	Next five years	<ul> <li>Ongoing revenue from increased sales of hardwood and softwood plantation logs.</li> <li>Revenue from increased sales of domestic wood products.</li> <li>Improved crop yields and higher animal productivity from tree planting in shelterbelts.</li> </ul>
	Increased proportion of forestry logs go to long term wood products, and increased domestic processing	Small	Next five years	<ul> <li>Increased revenue from additional domestic processing of long-term wood products.</li> <li>Job creation in the domestic timber processing sector.</li> </ul>
	Introduce measures to reduce the risk of major bushfires	Medium <sup>5</sup>	5-10 years	<ul> <li>More jobs in the fire management workforce.</li> <li>Reduced impact of bushfires on communities, wildlife and other forest values.</li> </ul>
	Reduction of diesel consumption in the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors	Small	Next five years	<ul> <li>Productivity gains could add additional value to Tasmania's GSP.</li> <li>Brand advantage.</li> </ul>
Stationary	Demand reduction and energy efficiency measures for manufacturing	Medium	Next five years	<ul> <li>Operational energy cost savings for manufacturers.</li> <li>Revenue stream for manufacturers from carbon credits.</li> </ul>
energy	Fuel switching: electrification of boilers for manufacturing	Medium	5-10 years	<ul> <li>Increased revenues for electricity generators and retailers from increased electricity consumption.</li> <li>Revenue stream for manufacturers from carbon credits.</li> </ul>
	Fuel switching: Use of bioenergy / renewable	Large	>10 years	Forestry industry sees potential for increased revenue from increased demand for biomass residues.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Note the emissions reduction potential of this opportunity is variable due to the uncertain nature of bushfires.



Emissions sector	Opportunity	Relative size of expected emissions reductions in 2050*	Timeframe for implementation	Co-benefits
	hydrogen for manufacturing			<ul> <li>Manufacturing industry sees reduced costs of energy switching from natural gas to hydrogen and/or biomass.</li> <li>Revenue stream for manufacturers from carbon credits.</li> </ul>
	Increase low emissions vehicle uptake in passenger fleet, including EVs	Large	Next five years	<ul> <li>Long term cost savings for vehicle owners.</li> <li>Health improvements through reduced air pollution.</li> <li>Electricity generators and retailers grow revenue from additional electricity consumption.</li> <li>Energy security.</li> </ul>
Transport energy	Decarbonise the heavy transport fleet via EVs, hydrogen, drop-in hydrocarbon fuels	Medium	5-10 years	<ul> <li>Long term fuel cost savings for vehicle owners.</li> <li>Health improvements through reduced air pollution.</li> <li>Electricity generators and retailers grow revenue from additional electricity consumption from electric vehicles.</li> </ul>
	Increased uptake of public and active transport	Small	Next five years	<ul> <li>Possible cost savings for car owners who decide to take active transport compared with private transport.</li> <li>Health improvements through promotion of a healthier lifestyle and less air pollution.</li> </ul>
Industry	Use Cement substitutes / Low-emissions cement variants	Large	10-20 years	Operational savings for cement producers via reductions in energy consumption.
Agriculture	Reducing agricultural soil emissions through precision agriculture	Small	Next five years	<ul> <li>Livestock and crop productivity gains could deliver significant additional revenue for farmers.</li> <li>Operational cost savings on things like fertilizer for farmers.</li> <li>Water savings.</li> </ul>
Waste	Cut methane emissions from landfills by diverting more organic waste from landfills	Medium	Next five years	<ul> <li>Landfill operators realise energy savings from capturing and combusting additional landfill gas.</li> <li>Landfill operators generate revenue through carbon credits.</li> <li>Creates additional potential revenue streams, e.g. through compost sales.</li> </ul>

<sup>\*</sup>The size of emissions reductions is calculated based on the relative magnitude of expected emissions reductions compared across these opportunities.

small	<125 kt CO <sub>2</sub> -e per year					
medium	125-250 kt CO <sub>2</sub> -e per year					
large	250-450 kt CO <sub>2</sub> -e per year					



#### **ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF THE NET ZERO EMISSIONS PATHWAY**

Point Advisory analysed, at a high level, the impact of the best-fit pathway on the different sectors of Tasmania's economy (as defined by the Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) economic divisions).

Our analysis showed that the transition to a net zero carbon economy could deliver economic benefits across most sectors, including agriculture, forestry and aquaculture, and manufacturing.

In addition to economic benefits, broader economic co-benefits associated with a transition to net zero emissions include:

- Improvements in energy efficiency and productivity leading to reduced costs for energy users and a relative "insulation" from fluctuations in commodity prices.
- An earlier transition to a low carbon economy minimises the risk of stranded assets particularly for Tasmania's manufacturing sector as international demand for low-emission products and services increases.
- The positioning of Tasmania as a key player in the renewable hydrogen space through the Tasmanian Renewable
  Hydrogen Action Plan helps ensure that Tasmania is well placed to benefit from the emerging global hydrogen industry.
  This could create opportunities including fuelling the heavy vehicle fleet in Tasmania with hydrogen and enabling
  commercial exportation of renewable hydrogen by 2030.
- The creation of additional investment opportunities for Tasmania. For example, the relocation of Australia's data centres to Tasmania due to its affordable low-carbon electricity and milder climate requiring less cooling.

Furthermore, by achieving a successful transition to a low-emissions economy, Tasmania can have a positive influence on other Australian states and other countries in pursuing a low-emissions economy, by demonstrating leadership.



#### Appendix A. Terms of Reference for the Independent Review

Pursuant to subsection 18(2) of the Act, the review will address:

- 1. the extent to which the objects of the Act are being achieved;
- 2. the extent to which additional legislative measures, if any, are considered necessary to achieve the targets set by the Act within the periods contemplated by the Act, including the introduction of performance standards or other mandatory requirements; and
- 3. such other matters as the Minister may consider relevant to the review of the Act.

Pursuant to subsection 18(2)(c) of the Act, other relevant matters to be addressed by the review include to:

- 1. examine whether the Act provides a sound foundation for action (by the Tasmanian Government, business and community) on both climate change mitigation and adaptation;
- 2. examine whether the Act provides a sound framework for consideration of climate-related risks and opportunities relevant to the Tasmanian Government, businesses and community;
- 3. consult on the options to revise Tasmania's emissions reduction target based on the outcomes of Tasmania's Emissions Pathway Review. As outlined in the Objects of the Act (section 4 of the Act) this is to include consideration of interim targets and sectoral targets;
- 4. take into account the international, national and State climate change policy context (as outlined in the Context) including:
  - recent climate change developments:
    - o climate-related financial and liability risks to government;
    - o Tasmania's latest greenhouse gas figures (the 2018 Australian Government's STGGI);
    - o the global transition to a low carbon economy; and
    - o the impact of COVID-19 on climate change action in Tasmania.
  - key Australian Government strategies including:
    - o Australian Government National Strategy for Electric Vehicles;
    - o Australia's Australian Government's National Strategy for Electric Vehicles; and
    - o National Hydrogen Strategy:
  - key Tasmanian Government strategies including:
    - o Tasmanian Renewable Energy Action Plan and Tasmanian Renewable Energy Target;
    - o Tasmania's Population Growth Strategy;
    - Tasmanian Infrastructure Project Pipeline; and
    - o Agrivision 2050 and White Paper: Growing Tasmanian Agriculture Research, Development and Extension for 2050.
  - the 2016 review of the Act: and
  - the Tasmanian Government's Climate Action 21 and development of the next action plan post-2021.

Subsection 18(3) of the Act stipulates that reasonable steps should be taken to carry out the review of the Act in consultation with relevant business, scientific, environment and community bodies. It is expected that, as part of the review of the Act, reasonable time and processes are built in to ensure broad input.



#### Appendix B. Objects of the Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008

- a) to help Tasmania respond to the challenges of climate change by addressing issues associated with that phenomenon and, in particular, by providing for the setting of a target for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the State as part of the national and international response to climate change; and
- b) to promote a commitment to action on climate change issues in Tasmania by providing for the development of
  - i. interim State targets for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in the State; and
  - ii. suitable targets and interim targets, having the same aim, for specific sectors of the State's economy; and
- c) to help Tasmania take advantage of the new social, economic and environmental opportunities that climate change will present; and
- d) to provide for reporting and Parliamentary oversight of progress being made towards achieving the State's 2050 target and other targets; and
- e) to promote energy efficiency and conservation; and
- f) to promote research and development in the development and use of technology for reducing or limiting greenhouse gas emissions or for dealing with and adapting to the expected consequences of climate change, including technology for removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere; and
- g) to promote and facilitate business and community consultation and early action on climate change issues; and
- h) to identify, promote and support measures to help Tasmania deal with and adapt to the expected consequences of climate change; and
- i) to promote a Tasmanian response to climate change issues that is as far as practicable consistent with national and international schemes addressing those issues, including any schemes for emissions trading and emissions reporting; and
- j) to enhance Tasmania's willingness and capacity to contribute and respond, constructively and expeditiously, to national and international developments in climate change issues



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TW HPE ref: 21/24710

7 April 2021

Owner's Representative Via email

Dear Owner's Representative

TasWater's draft Corporate Plan FY2022-26

We are pleased to present our draft Corporate Plan FY2022-26 (Plan) for your review and feedback by 5 May 2021. The draft Plan outlines our priorities and focus areas over the next five years to deliver towards our vision "to be a trusted and respected provider of essential services that is making a positive difference to Tasmania".

Whilst our overall strategic direction does not differ from the FY2021-25 Plan, we have updated our strategies and strategic initiatives in some areas to reflect the lessons learned during our COVID-19 response. We have also consolidated our strategies where appropriate and expanded our strategic focus into new areas, including a proposed Environment Strategy that will provide a long-term strategic approach to managing our resources and broader environmental obligations.

The section on measuring our success in the Plan includes a number of new key performance indicators that will measure the experience our customers have with TasWater, the number of high -risk sewerage systems, the percentage of unaccounted for water and the rate of notifiable injuries to our people. In addition to the key performance indicators included in the Plan, we will continue to report against a range of other metrics in the Owners' Representatives Group Quarterly Report in areas noted as important in our quarterly meetings with owners.

As a result of the decision at the General Meeting (Reporting) on 4 November 2020 to defer the General Meeting (Planning) to June 2021, draft financial projections for the next five years have also been included in the Plan. This reflects a departure from the process followed in previous years and addresses feedback provided by some Owners as part of the development of the FY2021-25 Plan.

The financial projections reflect the necessary balance between continued investment in our capital program, delivery of our strategic initiatives, dividends for Owner Councils and ensuring that we remain financially sustainable over the long-term. The projections are based on a number of assumptions and will be updated in the final version that is provided for approval at the General Meeting (Planning) in June 2021.

As the financial projections in the Plan demonstrate a sustained recovery from the financial impacts of COVID-19, provision has been made for an ordinary dividend of \$20M to be paid in each year of the Plan. Provision has also been made for a special dividend of \$4M to be targeted in each year of the Plan to repay previously foregone dividends of \$20M and honour our MoU commitment to our Owners.

Tasmanian Water & Sewerage Corporation Pty Ltd

GPO Box 1393 Hobart Tas 7001 Email: enquiries@taswater.com.au

Tel: 13 6992

ABN: 47 162 220 653



Given the range of factors that could have a material impact on our financial projections, all dividends are subject to there being sufficient underlying profits and our financial position at the time. To the extent that underlying profits and our financial position support these payments, it is anticipated that the ordinary dividend will be paid in quarterly instalments, whilst the special dividend will be considered by the Board for approval and payment at the end of each financial year. Additional information on the projected divided payments is available within the Message from the Chairman and CEO on page 4 of the Plan and within the financial tables presented on pages 28, 36 and 38.

We look forward to receiving your feedback on our draft Plan **by Wednesday 5 May 2021**. The Board will consider all feedback received from Owners' Representatives and will provide its response to each matter in accordance with the process under section 8.4 of the Shareholders' Letter of Expectations.

Please submit your feedback to Ailsa Sypkes, Company Secretary, via email at <a href="mailsa.sypkes@taswater.com.au">ailsa.sypkes@taswater.com.au</a>. If you have any queries regarding this matter, please contact Ailsa directly on 0437 881 672.

Yours sincerely

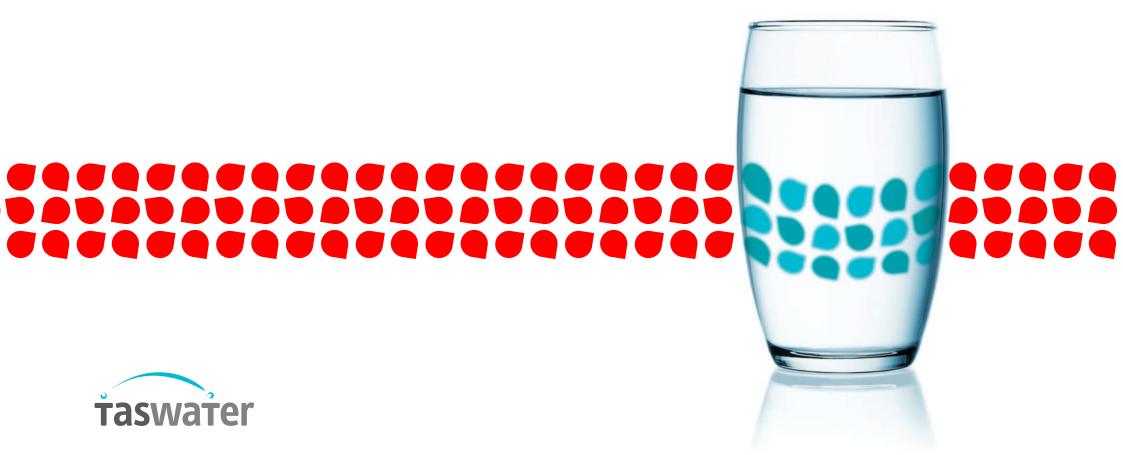
Dr Stephen Gumley AO

**Board Chairman** 

# DRAFT 9 APR 2021

# **Corporate plan**

Financial years 2022 to 2026



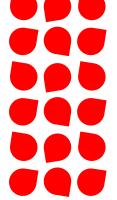
**TasWater proudly** acknowledges the traditional and original owners of this land lutruwita, the **Tasmanian Aboriginal** people, pays respect to those who have passed before us, and acknowledges today's **Tasmanian Aboriginal** people who are the custodians of this land



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Dr Stephen Gumley AO
Chairman







# Message from our Chairman and CEO

This Corporate Plan FY2022-26 (the Plan) is targeted towards supporting the economic and social prosperity of the state while making a positive difference to our customers and the Tasmanian community over the next five years and beyond.

The Plan outlines the means by which impacts of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic will be mitigated, the capital program accelerated, customer experiences enhanced and people kept safe at work.

When COVID-19 emerged in early 2020, a rapid transition took place to ensure reliability and continuity of service during what was proving to be a disruptive and uncertain time for our customers. We are proud of how our team responded, with the motivation to put customers first demonstrated across the whole business.

Employees were quick to adapt to new ways of working in order to continue with their day-to-day responsibilities. Several innovations emerged in the delivery of initiatives to support TasWater's vision—"to be a trusted and respected provider of essential services that is making a positive difference to Tasmania".

A positive impact from COVID-19 was the sudden need to develop and implement new technology, which accelerated the pace of digital transformation in some areas. To maintain momentum in this area, an enhanced Digital Strategy is

currently being developed to facilitate further leveraging of digital technologies for the benefit of customers and employees.

More broadly, the lessons learned from COVID-19 have been embedded into operations while ensuring effective plans are in place to respond to any further disruptions over the life of the Plan.

In 2017, an ambitious target was set to deliver \$1.7 billion' total capital expenditure over 10 years. A Capital Delivery Office (CDO) was established in 2018 to lead the delivery of the program.

While several major milestones have been achieved so far, process improvement opportunities have been implemented to support the delivery outcomes of the accelerated capital program.

In early 2021, the business resumed direct responsibility for simpler, lower cost infrastructure projects that require a level of urgency. This change provides the CDO with the opportunity to focus on the larger projects for which it is best suited.

Over the next five years, capital expenditure is forecast to reach \$1.3 billion (inclusive of external funding contributions of \$164.1 million). This incorporates an estimated \$244 million for the Bryn Estyn water treatment plant upgrade – being our largest infrastructure project to date. This considerable investment will help ensure key promises made to customers are delivered upon

<sup>1 \$1.7</sup> billion is the total capital expenditure committed, with a stretch target of \$1.8 billion reflected in the Memorandum of Understanding under which the Tasmanian Government became a shareholder of TasWater

and provide much needed economic stimulus for the Tasmanian business community well into the future.

The Plan includes a refresh of business strategies and practices to accommodate key environmental considerations, such as climate change and drought. A new overarching Environment Strategy is being developed to outline how key environmental matters will be addressed and provide a long term strategic approach to the management of our resources and broader environmental obligations.

To ensure customers remain at the heart of the business, a new Customer Experience Strategy has been developed and roll out commenced. This strategy promotes customer-centred decision making at all levels of the business, empowering staff to see interactions from the customers' point of view and increasing understanding that valuing customers means valuing their own time, effort and resources as well.

Over the next five years, continued investment in our people will ensure we have the necessary culture and capability to make a positive difference to Tasmania. Of note, the Blue Bus Revolution program that was deferred as a result of COVID-19 will recommence in FY2021-22. This program will support the move to a more constructive organisational culture and the attainment of higher levels of business performance.

While health and safety performance has improved in FY2020-21, it is recognised that there is further work to do in this area. Becoming a Zero Harm organisation will remain a key strategic focus through the delivery of the Health and Safety Improvement Plan.

In the FY2021-25 Corporate Plan, several adjustments were made to the forward targets of key performance indicators to reflect the anticipated impacts of COVID-19 and reduced funding for strategic and operational initiatives. The focus over the next five years will be to recover to the original targets.

Like most businesses, the FY2020-21 budget was impacted by COVID-19. Recognising the considerable uncertainty at the time that budget was developed, a conservative financial outlook was adopted following scenario modelling that was based on independent research.

As a result, the difficult decision was made to suspend dividend payments to owner councils for FY2020-21. While this decision was considered necessary at the time, financial performance in FY2020-21 has been better than expected, which allowed for an interim dividend payment to be made in February 2021. A further dividend payment will be considered in June 2021 based on the financial performance at that time.

Looking ahead, the projections included in the Plan demonstrate a sustained financial recovery over the next five years. In particular, underlying net profit is forecast to increase from \$26.0 million in FY2021-22 to \$37.7 million by FY2025-26.

At this stage, payment of special dividends over and above the agreed target of \$20.0 million per year are anticipated to provide for dividends that were previously foregone by owners. The targeted increase in dividend levels are however subject to the realisation of underlying profits sufficient to support these increased payments and approval by the TasWater Board.



In summary, this Plan represents TasWater's commitment to our customers, the Tasmanian community, our people and owners. TasWater is dedicated to realising its vision and making a positive difference to Tasmania in everything that it does.

**Dr Stephen Gumley AO**Chairman

Michael Brewster Chief Executive Officer

#### Our purpose

TasWater is an incorporated company providing water and sewerage services to homes and businesses across Tasmania. We source, treat and deliver reliable, quality water to our customers. We collect, transport and treat sewage and safely return it to the environment.

TasWater was established under the *Water and Sewerage Corporation Act 2012* and the *Corporations Act 2001*, and commenced operations on 1 July 2013. The 29 Tasmanian councils and the Tasmanian Government are the shareholders of TasWater.

#### **About the plan**

#### What is the purpose of the Plan?

The Plan outlines our priorities and focus areas for the FY2022-26 period to deliver towards our vision "to be a trusted and respected provider of essential services that is making a positive difference to Tasmania".

#### How was it developed?

The Plan incorporates analysis of our internal and external environment, reviews of current performance and responses to community, stakeholder and owner feedback.

#### What has changed?

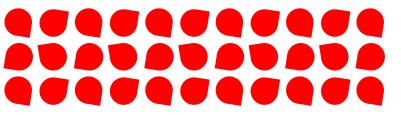
The Plan reflects the updated initiatives focused on achieving our vision.

While the overall strategic direction does not differ from the previous Corporate Plan, we have considered the lessons we learned during our COVID-19 response and have taken the opportunity to leverage from this experience and update our strategies and strategic initiatives where appropriate.

We have also made several changes to our strategic framework to consolidate strategies where appropriate and expand our strategic focus into new areas.

Last year, we made several necessary budget and performance adjustments to support our COVID-19 response. We remain confident that the budget forecast and expected performance outcomes will recover to be close to their pre-COVID-19 targets by the end of the Plan period. We will continue to monitor the ongoing impact of COVID-19 and make informed decisions to guide our business recovery.

5



#### **About us**

We operate under a range of legislative and regulatory instruments, including:

- Water and Sewerage Corporation Act 2012
- Corporations Act 2001
- Water and Sewerage Industry Act 2008
- Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994
- Public Health Act 1997
- Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993
- · Water Management Act 1999
- TasWater's Constitution
- TasWater's Shareholders' Letter of Expectations.

#### The key regulators are:

- The Tasmanian Economic Regulator
- · The Environment Protection Authority
- $\cdot \quad \text{The Department of Health} \\$
- The Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment.

We also have key stakeholder relationships with several other regulatory bodies, including ShellMap.



#### Key facts as at 30 June 2020

Provided water and sewerage services to more than 431,515 customers<sup>2</sup>

Delivered 65,643 mega litres of drinking water

Treated 51,918 mega litres of sewerage

Supplied 6,199 mega litres of recycled water

Note: this data is placeholder only – will be updated with data as at 31 March 2021 (when available).

187,583 connections x 2.3 residents per connection (census 2017). Remaining connections are businesses and are excluded from population calculation

**Note:** this data is placeholder only – will

#### **Strategic framework**

#### Vision

Our strategic vision is "to be a trusted and respected provider of essential services that is making a positive difference to Tasmania". This vision guides our strategic decision-making both now and into the future.

#### **Long Term Strategic Plan**

The Long Term Strategic Plan (LTSP) provides direction to the whole business by identifying the strategic outcomes we expect to achieve over the long term to realise our long term strategic vision.

The first LTSP was developed in 2017 and was refreshed in April 2021 to inform the preparation of our Price and Services Plan 4 (PSP4). The refreshed LTSP considers the progress we have made since 2017 as well as the broadening of our strategic focus and priorities since that time.

#### **Strategy and strategic priorities**

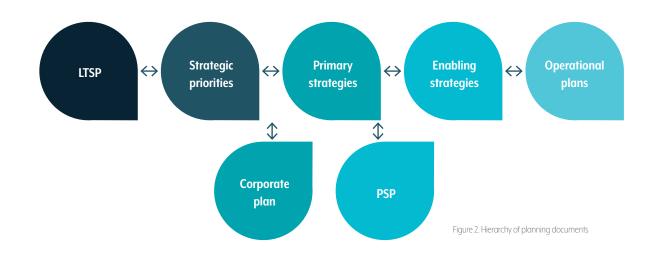
Our organisational strategy is underpinned by four key strategic themes: Customer and Community, Water and Environment, People and Culture, and Commercial and Economic. For each theme, there are customer promises and outcomes that we expect to deliver, as well as primary and enabling strategies to realise them.

#### Price and Service Plan 4

Our pricing and service levels are set in a Price and Service Plan that is approved by the Tasmanian Economic Regulator (TER).

We are currently developing our proposed PSP4 for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2026. We will submit our proposal to the Tasmanian Economic Regulator (TER) on 30 June 2021 for investigation and review.





# Our strategy



#### **Our vision**

To be a trusted and respected provider of essential services that is making a positive difference to Tasmania

#### **Our values**

- · Taking ownership
- · Honest and straight forward
- Working together
- · Getting it right
- · Long term thinking

#### **Our primary strategies**

#### **Customer and community**

- · Customer experience strategy
- · Community and stakeholder strategy

#### Water and environment

- Drinking water strategy
- Environment strategy

#### People and culture

- · Health and safety strategy
- · People, culture and capability strategy

#### **Commercial and economic**

- · Asset management strategy
- · Financial sustainability strategy

#### **Our enabling strategies**

- · Digital Strategy
- · Risk management framework





# Customer and community



#### What you expect

- · You are satisfied with our service
- · You find it easy to do business with us
- · You are kept informed



#### Our promise

• Deliver a positive customer experience to you



#### **Our priorities**

- Identifying and closing critical customer service gaps
- Improving our customer engagement and understanding



#### **Our primary strategies**

- · Customer expericence strategy
- · Community and stakeholder strategy



#### **Customer and community**

# Supporting our customers through COVID-19

While Tasmania's economy performed well throughout 2020, it is not yet clear that the full financial, economic and social impacts of COVID-19 have been experienced by our customers.

The strength in Tasmania's economy has been largely attributed to the relatively higher proportion of the state's population being supported by Australian Government assistance. This assistance ended in March 2021, and there has been concern that the Tasmanian economy would be the most heavily impacted as a result.

Recognising that COVID-19 is expected to present a risk for some time, we will continue increased communications to customers about our hardship policy, expanded customer support program and what we and our owners are doing to mitigate the financial effects of the pandemic.

We have reflected the lessons learned from our COVID-19 response in our customer-related strategies and remain committed to providing support to our customers who need it the most.

#### **Enhancing the customer experience**

Initial research in late 2016 showed that our customers held a largely negative view of TasWater and its services. Overall customer satisfaction at that time was between 49 and 51 per cent. However, as a result of our focus in this area, we were able to increase customer satisfaction to 68 per cent just prior to the onset of COVID-19.

As a result of COVID-19, the primary focus of many customers turned to the reliability of our services, the safety of the community and, for some customers, the need for greater financial and hardship support.

However, beyond COVID-19, the needs and expectations of customers continue to evolve. This includes the way customers want to interact with service providers, with an increasing number of customers seeking to connect through digital platforms and manage transactions in the way that is most convenient for them.

Research by both Deloitte and the Water Services Association of Australia shows that the utility customer of the future will expect a personal relationship with their service provider and a data-driven experience that provides flexibility in how they manage their account and services.

Like other utilities across Australia, we will need to respond in a timely manner to these expectations to remain relevant to our customers. To do this, we need to better understand the





kind of experiences our customers want from us and respond with appropriate solutions.

The aim of our Customer Experience Strategy is to implement a best-in-class approach to customer experience under which the sequence of interactions with our customers is well-managed, cohesive and positive.

We will continue to implement this strategy and improve customer satisfaction over the life of the Plan by focusing on 'fixing the basics', including root cause analysis of customer complaints, keeping our customers informed and removing pain-points. We will also explore how we can improve and streamline our processes to create a better customer experience, without 'over servicing' and placing upward pressure on prices.

# Engaging with our owners, stakeholders and the broader community

In recent years, significant progress has been made in building stakeholder engagement and demonstrating our value and purpose to the communities we serve. Community satisfaction with TasWater rose from 52 per cent in December 2017 to 62 per cent in 2019 with updated research results expected to be made available in mid-2021.

Our improvement in this area has been driven by an increased focus on using interactions with our owners, stakeholders and the community to raise awareness of our role as an essential service provider, engaging with key community opinion leaders and participating in community events.

Over the period of the Plan, we will continue to develop and maintain relationships with our owners, stakeholders and communities and foster greater sharing of information through the execution of our Community and Stakeholder Strategy.

This will include continued engagement with peak bodies to better understand the needs of their members and work closely with key business customers to allow us to consider the individual opportunities and the pressure they face. We will also continue to build our understanding of identified customer segments to deliver services in ways that meet their needs and expectations while at the same time improving their understanding of our business.

This engagement will inform our decisions and contribute to our broader long term policy settings. We will also continue to participate in community events to demonstrate that we care for the community, encourage mutual trust and respect and build the social license for our activities.



# Water and environment



#### What you expect

- Your drinking water is clean and safe to drink
- You have a reliable supply of water
- Your sewage is efficiently collected and transported
- Your sewage is treated and disposed of with minimal impact to the environment and its users



#### Our priorities

- Meeting agreed regulatory compliance targets
- Optimising system performance



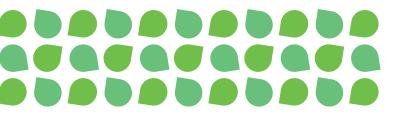
#### **Our promise**

 Provide you with safe drinking water and responsibly manage your sewage



#### **Our primary strategies**

- · Drinking water strategy
- Environment strategy



#### Water and environment

#### **Climate change**

By 2030, it is predicted that the Earth will be at least 1.5 degrees warmer than pre-industrial times. Extreme climatic events are already increasing in both frequency and magnitude.

The changing climate remains one of the biggest strategic risks facing TasWater and the broader water industry. We need to better understand how it will affect the way we work now and into the future.

Taken together with a growing population, the lower rainfall and higher temperatures anticipated from climate change is likely to have a material impact on our ability to provide a reliable supply of drinking water over the longer term.

In addition, customers, regulators and governments are increasingly demanding that companies assist in contributing to the mitigation of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions. We will need to demonstrate to our customers that TasWater is a responsible environmental custodian to achieve our strategic vision.

To recognise the strategic risks associated with climate change and acknowledge our social obligations and stakeholder expectations, we are currently developing a Climate Change Strategy and Adaptation and Mitigation Plan to establish a coordinated approach to the mitigation of climate change risk and identify options to reduce our climate impact.

The development of this strategy and plan will continue into FY2021-22 and includes a risk and vulnerability assessment, high-level scenario planning, identification of priority areas for investment and the development of an opportunity map in relation to potential investment in renewables and energy efficiency initiatives.

## Water security and competition for water resources

Alongside the changing climate, seasonal tourist booms and steady population growth are expected to continue to put pressure on water supplies both now and into the future.

While the state's tourism industry was heavily impacted by COVID-19 in 2020, over 3.5 million tourists and other visitors arrived in Tasmania between July 2018 and June 2019. Many travellers arrive during summer months, placing short term pressure on our water supplies in regional areas. The Tasmanian Government has also set a target to grow the state's population to 650,000 by 2050, which will place greater demands on our aging infrastructure.

More broadly, competition is also increasing for access to our water resource from industrial and commercial users, established industries such as agriculture, and emerging industries such as hydrogen production. Growth in these sectors will also require significant investment in infrastructure to support the supply of water to meet this type of large-scale industrial demand.



It is likely that service introductions or augmentation will be required, as well as investment in alternative water supplies, to meet increasing demands for water supply and maintain water security.

In response to the difficult summer period experienced in FY2019-20 and the growing importance of water security as a strategic issue for our business, a significant body of work has been completed over the last twelve months to ensure that we continue to appropriately manage our water supplies, including:

- Development of a Demand Management Strategy
- Completion of a water surety risk assessment and development of draft restriction "trigger points" for all systems
- Development of an urban water supply master planning framework to guide source augmentation investment decisions
- Formal submission to the Tasmanian Government's Rural Water Use Strategy
- Development of a strategy to reduce the percentage of unaccounted for water
- Review of water allocations and extraction licences to inform discussions to update water licences in line with demand projections
- Commencement of a program of technical assessments focused on improving surety of supply on the east coast of Tasmania and other stressed communities, including Bridport.

During FY2021-22, we will continue to develop an overarching Water Surety Strategy aimed at establishing agreed levels of service and guiding development of an overall portfolio of integrated and coordinated actions in relation to both supply enhancement and augmentation and demand management.

We are also embarking on a Water Surety Communications and Engagement Strategy aimed at raising awareness among policymakers, stakeholders and customers regarding water surety and the importance of looking after the water we all share.

We will continue to engage proactively with the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment on water resource management.

#### **Broadening our environmental focus**

To date, our primary Water and Environment strategies have been focused on the delivery of safe drinking water and responsible sewerage services to our customers.

While there is further work to do in these areas, we have achieved several milestones, including realising full microbiological compliance for two years in succession and major improvements in sewage treatment.

To be trusted and respected by our customers, we recognise that we need to broaden our strategic focus beyond the provision of drinking water and management of sewerage.

Accordingly, we are developing an overarching Environment Strategy to outline our long term goals and priorities in relation to the natural environment.

The strategy will provide the framework for a number of new and existing strategies across several key environmental focus areas, including sewerage system management, climate change adaptation and mitigation, catchment management, emissions reduction and changing customer expectations, biosolids and trade waste.

#### **Catchment management**

Catchment management remains a key strategic issue for TasWater. Unlike most other Australian water utilities, we do not own or manage water catchments or, in most cases, the land around water storages or extraction points. Nevertheless, we rely on the health of our drinking water catchments to provide reliable and safe drinking water.

We will continue to advocate for the protection of our natural resources and work to better understand the impacts of emerging challenges on drinking water catchments. This includes working constructively with key catchment management groups, landowners and the Tasmanian Government.







# **People and culture**



#### What you expect

- Our work is conducted safely to protect our people, contractors and the communities we serve
- Our culture and capabilities enable us to make a positive difference to Tasmania



#### Our promise

• Build culture and skills for the long term benefit of Tasmania



#### **Our priorities**

- A relentless focus on safety (Zero Harm)
- Enhancing workforce capability and culture



#### **Our primary strategies**

- Health and safety strategy
- People, culture and capability strategy



#### **People and culture**

#### Improving health and safety results

After disappointing health and safety results in FY2019-20, we have delivered an improvement in our performance during FY2020-21 as a result of escalating our focus and resourcing in this area.

However, we recognise that there is still more work to do to achieve our goal of becoming a Zero Harm company. We will continue to seek further improvement over the period of the Plan through the implementation of our Health and Safety Strategy and Health and Safety Improvement Plan.

Our primary focus is on the major hazard areas of our business that have the potential for a serious injury or fatality. We are progressing initiatives related to our fatal risk control standards, chemical management, fatigue management and contractor management.

Over 80 per cent of the injuries experienced by our people are soft tissue injuries from manual and physical tasks. Through our Soft Tissue Injury Taskforce, we will continue to focus on developing solutions and redesigning work processes to reduce exposure to tasks that can produce these types of injuries.

We will also continue to encourage our staff to participate in safety conversations to promote the importance of safe work practices.

#### **Ongoing effects of COVID-19**

COVID-19 has driven significant change in the way we conduct our business, requiring us to implement physical distancing and new ways of working to continue to deliver services to our customers and keep our people and the community safe.

We acted quickly when COVID-19 emerged, and our response has been independently assessed as being effective.

Accordingly, we are confident in our ability to manage a further outbreak or disruption of similar magnitude in the future.

Nevertheless, COVID-19 continues to present risk. Tasmania has fared relatively well to date, but further outbreaks in the state and disruption to our operations are still possible. Although a COVID-19 vaccine is currently being rolled-out, it is expected that we will be required to observe public health measures and maintain COVID-safe behaviour for the foreseeable future.



#### Investing in people, culture and capability

Our people are fundamental to our success. We remain committed to investing in our organisational culture and capability to ensure that our people have the mindsets and capabilities to reach their career aspirations and deliver outcomes consistent with our strategic objectives.

We have simplified our strategic focus in this area by consolidating several existing strategies into a People, Culture and Capability Strategy.

The key objectives of this strategy are to:

- Create a culture that enables our people to pursue a standard of excellence, work cooperatively, 'have a go', and implement change together to support higher levels of business performance
- Build capabilities that drive the greatest benefits for customers and financial outcomes for the business while providing opportunities for our people to learn, develop and reach their full potential.

Recognising that our ability to innovate and share knowledge is fundamental to realising these objectives, this strategy is now directly supported by our Innovation and Knowledge Management strategies.

Over the period of the Plan, our key focus areas will be to:

- Recommence the Blue Bus Revolution and Leader as Coach programs that were suspended as a result of COVID-19
- Develop and implement leadership competency and accountability matrices linked to our values, behaviours and the constructive styles
- Review performance and development processes to encourage a greater focus on goal setting that is aligned to our purpose and customer outcomes
- Continue our trainee, graduate and intern programs while developing targeted initiatives to enable career pathways and planning to support various needs and segments across the employee lifecycle
- Continue to cultivate innovative mindsets to help us meet the evolving expectations of our customers
- Establish an online virtual workplace for our people to collaborate, innovate, communicate and share knowledge.

We will continue to conduct pulse and engagement surveys over the life of the Plan to measure our progress and ensure we remain focused on our key strategic aims.

# Greater flexibility in working arrangements

The need for staff to work from home during COVID-19 has led to an acceleration in the adoption of more flexible working arrangements. Many employees have a strong desire to maintain these arrangements beyond COVID-19.

Recent research from Boston Consulting Group found that between 41 and 60 per cent of Australians prefer to work from home two to three days a week. A global study from Atlassian showed that nearly 70 per cent of workers had experienced an increase in job satisfaction since shifting to remote work, with most study participants also reporting an increase in productivity.

While occupancy levels at our sites have increased since July 2020, it is unlikely that we will revert fully to traditional working arrangements where all staff are on-site every day. Employees see flexible working arrangements as a key consideration in determining their employer, and employers will need to meet these expectations to remain competitive.



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# Commercial and economic



#### What you expect

- The local economy benefits from our investment and capacity building
- · Pricing is sustainable



#### **Our priorities**

- Delivering Price and Service Plan commitments
- · Achieving further efficiencies



#### Our promise

 $\cdot \quad \text{Give you value for money} \\$ 



#### **Our primary strategies**

- · Asset management strategy
- Financial sustainability strategy



#### **Commercial and economic**

#### **Accelerating our capital program**

In 2017, we made the decision to increase the investment in our infrastructure to \$1.7 billion over 10 years. This ambitious and significant program is now also playing an important role in Tasmania's recovery from the economic impacts of COVID-19.

Over the next five years, we are forecasting total capital expenditure of \$1.3 billion. Major projects to be progressed during this time include the Bryn Estyn water treatment plant upgrade, the Launceston Sewerage Improvement Program, Launceston Combined System project, the Forth water treatment plant upgrade and the Macquarie Point sewage treatment plant relocation.

In December 2020, we resumed direct responsibility for simpler, lower-cost works, particularly those that require a level of urgency. This decision is expected to assist the acceleration of our capital program and provide the TasWater Capital Delivery Office (CDO) with additional capacity to focus on delivering medium and large-scale projects.

In response to industry feedback, we have worked with our alliance partners to re-balance the allocation of risk in several key areas in contracts used for projects delivered through the CDO. With a portion of our broader capital program to be delivered under direct arrangements between TasWater and contractors, we have also revised our own contracts to better represent our requirements for less complex projects and take into account feedback from the industry.

#### **Enhancing our financial sustainability**

Financial sustainability was an important consideration in the establishment of TasWater in 2013 and has been highlighted again recently due to the financial impacts of COVID-19.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under which the Tasmanian Government became a Shareholder of TasWater in early 2019, and the associated equity contributions since that time along with agreed lower returns to owner councils, have provided significant benefits to customers through capped price increases up to FY2024/25, accelerated infrastructure upgrades and a joint focus on major projects of significance for Tasmania.

Our long-term financial modelling performed to inform the MoU indicated that a period of capped price increases and increased capital investment was achievable subject to receiving the planned equity injections from the Tasmanian Government. Our financial performance had been materially consistent with this modelling until the onset of COVID-19, which could not have been reasonably anticipated at the time the MoU was entered into.

While to date we are fortunate to have maintained a relatively strong balance sheet throughout COVID-19, we have experienced a considerable impact on our long-term financial plan, most notably through a reduction in revenue and the potential for higher bad debts. Despite the recent financial impacts of COVID-19 on our revenue and profitability, we are intending to honour the price cap commitment under the MoU. This commitment however assumes that there are no further



material impacts arising from COVID-19 for the period of the MoU.

At the conclusion of the MoU period, it will be necessary to put in place a pricing path transition that ultimately recovers the full cost of providing contemporary water and sewerage services. Achieving full cost recovery will enable us to sustainably meet customer expectations and regulatory obligations long term while providing owner councils with a commensurate return on their investment which they can utilise for the benefit of the communities they serve.

More broadly, a key measure of financial sustainability is to ensure that our debt financing can be serviced adequately. In this regard, we have established a Financial Sustainability Strategy that sets a target of 55 per cent for our gearing ratio. Our financial modelling indicates that our gearing levels have increased as a result of the downward revaluation of our infrastructure assets in FY2019-20 and are projected to be above this target in the last two years of this Plan. The exceedance is only minor and importantly exists for a relatively short period. It is not considered to be a major risk to our financial sustainability, however, it will require an increase in our gearing loan covenant with TasCorp.

# Finalisation and implementation of Price and Service Plan 4

As a result of COVID-19, the Tasmanian Government approved a deferral in the submission of our proposed Price and Service Plan 4 (PSP4) from 30 June 2020 to 30 June 2021.

PSP4 will govern the maximum prices we can charge over the four-year period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2026 and outline

how we will maintain the delivery of clean and safe drinking water, improve environmental outcomes and secure enhanced customer service results, while keeping customer bills as affordable as possible.

Our priorities for PSP4 have been informed by feedback from an extensive customer consultation process. Our approach to engagement included testing willingness to pay for certain services. The innovative nature of this approach was showcased at the Ozwater'21 conference in May 2021.

Once our proposal is submitted, we will work with the Tasmanian Economic Regulator during FY2021-22 as it undertakes a detailed investigation of our proposal, including a public consultation process.

# Realising sustainable productivity savings

In the first half of FY2020-21, we took part in our third Water Services Association of Australia (WSAA) benchmarking exercise, comparing our overall performance against participating water utilities across Australia.

Tasmania's rugged topography, the wide dispersion of our assets and the lack of economies of scale associated with previous distributed ownership and other factors make it difficult to compare our performance to other Australian water utilities in some areas. However, the results from the benchmarking exercise show that we have improved our performance in several key areas compared to the most recent study in 2018.

Realising sustainable productivity savings is of critical importance to funding our operational and strategic priorities.

# Commercial and economic



The outcomes of the benchmarking exercise will help inform a refreshed five-year Productivity Improvement Plan that will be implemented over the period of the Plan.

#### **Digital transformation**

The rate of change in technological developments has continued to increase in recent years and has accelerated further since COVID-19.

In addition to allowing service providers to meet the evolving needs and expectations of their customers, these technologies provide an opportunity for businesses to improve the efficiency of service delivery, enhance safety for workers, remove inefficiencies and reduce costs.

The water industry has been relatively slow to embrace technology compared to other industries, such as banking and telecommunications. However, research suggests that the adoption of new technologies in the water industry is now increasing, particularly in areas such as remote sensing, predictive analytics, artificial intelligence and virtual reality.

While our digital transformation plan for 2020 was impacted by COVID-19, we have continued to pursue, adapt and deliver initiatives to improve our operations, support our workforce to operate remotely and deliver improved services to our customers.

To maintain momentum in this area, we are currently developing an enhanced Digital Strategy to provide the foundation for further digital transformation of the business, underpinning our ability to deliver our strategic outcomes and customer promises.

This strategy will focus on using digital technology to meet evolving customer expectations as well as extending the life of

our assets through intelligent networks, improved data and enhanced decision-making tools.

We recognise that, as the reliance on technology grows, so does the opportunity for systems to be compromised.

In June 2020, the Department of Defence and the Australian Cyber Security Centre issued a critical alert advising that Australian private and public sector organisations were being targeted in a sophisticated cyber-attack by a foreign entity.

It is likely that cybersecurity risk will continue to rise over coming years. Our challenge will be to leverage emerging technologies that benefit our customers without compromising the security of our operations.

#### **Asset management**

Our infrastructure assets are core to the services we provide and in recent years we have made considerable progress to adopt contemporary asset management practices aligned to leading industry practice.

During FY2020-21, we took part in the WSAA Asset Management Customer Value (AMCV) benchmarking exercise alongside 19 other water utilities from across Australia.

The results from the exercise showed that we have improved considerably against peer organisations since the previous exercise in relation to asset management maturity, with six key areas for further improvement identified.

Project champions have been engaged to develop and implement initiatives to action the AMCV recommendations and bring us closer into line with best practice methodologies implemented by several of our interstate counterparts.



### **Measuring our success**

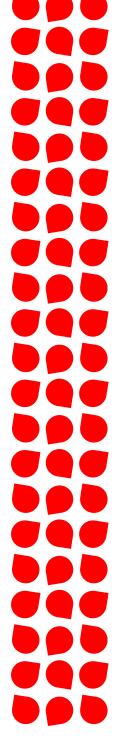
To ensure we remain accountable to our customers and owners, we work towards a set of key performance indicators (KPIs) and targets aligned to our strategic themes, our customer promises and what is expected of us. Our measures are aligned to our Long Term Strategic Plan, our strategic priorities, our drive to be a high performing organisation and the delivery of our strategies.

OUR PRIORITIES	MEASUREMENT	ACTUAL	TARGET	TARGET	TARGET	TARGET	TARGET
Customer and Community  – Deliver a positive customer experience to you		FY2020-21	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25	FY2025-26
Identify and close critical customer	Customer experience percentage <sup>3</sup>	62%	64%	66%	68%	70%	72%
service gaps	Customer satisfaction percentage	66%	68%	70%	72%	74%	75%
	Brand perception percentage	58%	60%	62%	64%	66%	68%
Improve our community engagement and understanding	Community and stakeholder feedback percentage	62%	68%	75%	75%	75%	75%
Water and Environment  - Provide you with safe drinking water and responsibly manage your sewage		FY2020-21	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25	FY2025-26
Meet agreed regulatory compliance targets	Customers supplied by drinking water systems meeting best practice risk mitigation (per cent)	5.0%	12.6%	31.6%	69.9%	70.8%	70.8%
	Number of dams above the ANCOLD Limit of Tolerability	4	2	0	0	0	0
	Number of wastewater systems considered high risk to the environment	22	20	17	15	14	13
	Real Losses: water mains (kL/km water main/day)	11.4	10.0	9.0	8.0	7.5	7.0
Optimise system performance	Number of critically notifiable spills (less than or equal to)	5	4	2	2	1	1
	Treated wastewater compliant with EPA requirements (flow-weighted) percentage	89.0%	89.0%	89.0%	91.3%	93.7%	96.1%

<sup>3</sup> Customer experience combines two metrics: customer interaction, which measures the quality of an interaction, and customer effort which measures how easily an issue was addressed and resolved.

## **Measuring our success** (continued)

OUR PRIORITIES	MEASUREMENT	ACTUAL	TARGET	TARGET	TARGET	TARGET	TARGET
People and Culture  - Build culture and skills for the long term benefits of Tasmania		FY2020-21	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25	FY2025-26
Enhance workforce capability and culture	Fifty per cent constructive styles by 2023	Material improvement in pulse cultural survey results	Constructive styles to be between the 25th and 50th percentile. Defensive styles at or below the 50th percentile	Material improvement in pulse cultural survey results	Constructive styles to be at the 50th percentile or better. Defensive styles at or below the 25th percentile	Improvement in constructive styles year on year	Constructive styles to be above the 50th percentile. Defensive styles below the 25th percentile
Relentless focus on safety (Zero Harm)	Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) – (less than or equal to)	≤12	8.5	5.5	3.0	≤3.0	≤2
	Notifiable Injury Frequency Rate	≤1.1	≤0.8	≤0.4	≤0.4	≤0.4	≤0.4
Commercial and Economic  – Give you value for money		FY2020-21	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25	FY2025-26
Deliver Price and Service Plan commitments	Capital expenditure	176.5M	229.9M	285.9M	291.1M	229.2M	230.5M
Achieve further efficiencies	EBIDTA	151.4M	163.7M	173.2M	183.4M	195.3M	205.5M
	Interest cover ratio	2.61	3.33	3.22	2.93	2.95	2.92



#### **Financial forecasts**

#### **Overview**

The table below highlights the key information contained in our financial and capital forecasts for the Plan:

FINANCIAL SUMMARY	FY2020-21 BUDGET	FY2021-22 FORECAST	FY2022-23 FORECAST	FY2023-24 FORECAST	FY2024-5 FORECAST	FY2025-26 FORECAST
NPAT \$M	39.1	55.1	61.0	58.3	63.3	67.9
Capital Expenditure \$M	176.5	229.9	285.9	291.1	229.2	230.5
Distributions						
Dividends \$M	10.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0	20.0
Special Dividend Target SM	_	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
Total Distributions \$M	10.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0	24.0
Debt \$M	649.7	721.6	815.4	896.0	985.7	1,069.0
Gearing	43.4%	46.0%	49.3%	51.5%	55.4%	58.7%
Interest Cover (times)	2.61	3.33	3.22	2.93	2.95	2.92

<sup>4</sup> Special dividends are provided for within the Plan so as to return foregone dividends during COVID-19 to owner councils. As with all dividend payments, they are subject to the underlying financial performance and position supporting these payments.

#### Forecast growth and demand

Forecast growth and demand assumptions for FY2021–22 are consistent with the Price and Service Plan 3 (PSP3) which was extended for an additional year as a result of COVID-19. Growth and demand assumptions for FY2022–23 to FY2025–26 reflect those proposed for inclusion in our Price and Service Plan 4 (PSP4) submission to the Tasmanian Economic Regulator. These assumptions will be reviewed during FY2021–2 as our submission is considered by the Tasmanian Economic Regulator.

#### **Revenue assumptions**

Revenue assumptions reflect the targeted outcomes of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tasmanian Government, the underlying assumptions and financial projections of which were included in the Information Memorandum of 16 July 2018 (Information Memorandum).

A key feature of the MoU was to cap price increases from FY2020–21 through to FY2024–25 at the lesser of 3.5 per cent and the price determination made by the Tasmanian Economic Regulator. The revenue assumptions in the Plan reflect this price cap.

No new income has been assumed from any potential reintroduction of developer charges for expansion (formerly known as headworks) that may be proposed in PSP4.

#### **Interest expense assumptions**

For the period of the Plan, the average interest rate for the loan portfolio is 3.4 per cent.

#### Non-interest expense assumptions

Cost increase assumptions have been predominantly based around the projected Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase of 1.25 per cent. The following assumptions underpin the expenses contained in the Plan:

- CPI is assumed to be 1.25 per cent for FY2021–22 then increasing steadily to 2.25 per cent over the remaining four years of the Plan.
- A modest allowance for fixed wage increases have been included, recognising that new Enterprise Agreements are currently being negotiated to commence in FY2021–22.
- Power expenses have been modelled by an external consultant and are based on network tariff outcomes, current contracts and forward price projections for recontracting. As a result of proactive recontracting of electricity parcels, we have delivered a material reduction in power costs that will continue to be of benefit in FY2021–22.
- Operational cost increases have been partially offset by anticipated productivity savings in each year of the Plan.

In relation to bad and doubtful debts, the risk of non-collection of debt remains present due to the uncertainty of the actual impact of COVID-19. Due to the continued uncertainty, it has been assumed that the level of bad debt experienced each year in the short term does not revert fully to pre-COVID levels.

## Comparison to the Information Memorandum financial forecasts

The financial forecasts provided in the Plan vary from the financial forecasts included in the Information Memorandum in the first three years of the Plan, largely as a result of the ongoing impacts of COVID-19. No new COVID-19 impacts of a material nature are forecast over the life of the Plan.

In the later years of the Plan, our financial results are forecast to more closely align with or exceed the targets in the Information Memorandum and the long term financial performance goals as outlined in our Financial Sustainability Strategy.

Our total revenue is budgeted to be lower primarily due to the ongoing impact of the unanticipated price freeze in FY2020–21. Development revenue has been increased from the budgeted FY2020–21 levels as the expected reduction in activity has not materialised.

Expenditure remains higher than the Information Memorandum targets, largely due to the continuation of variances from prior years including employee costs, program management expenses, information technology costs and insurance premiums. These increases have been offset to a degree by decreases in connection costs, electricity costs and targeted productivity savings.

Investments in business improvements aimed at improving our performance and realising our vision have also reverted to pre-COVID-19 levels.



## **Our organisational risks**

The TasWater Board and senior management team regularly review risks, controls and assurance levels. When our strategies alter, or we predict changes in our operating environment, we assess uncertainties that may have a material impact on our risk profile or require changes to risk controls. These controls are typically reflected in the primary and enabling strategies developed to deliver our customer outcomes.

Relative to the FY2021-25 Corporate Plan, the number of strategic risks that will be actively reviewed has been reduced from 15 to nine to reflect changes in the assessed level of risk and the impact and robustness of controls that have been implemented since that time. The remaining risks will continue to be monitored at the operational level and managed through our primary and enabling strategies, with reporting to the Board by exception only.

Over the last 12 months, there have been increases in the assessed level of risk for the financial sustainability risk and the cybersecurity risk, reflecting the impact of COVID-19 on our business and recent cybersecurity attacks experienced in Australia. Despite this increase, the robustness of existing controls and audit programs related to our financial sustainability risks, ensures that this risk will still be managed at an operational level. The cybersecurity exposure will still be managed at a strategic level, as noted in the following table.



STRATEGIC RISK TITLE	DESCRIPTION	KEY CONTROLS	STRATEGIC PRIORITY AND KEY FOCUS AREA
Customer and Community – delive	r a positive customer experience to you		
Contractor conduct risk	out core business activities on behalf of TasWater in a manner that is detrimental to the organisation, our reputation, the individual or customer outcomes  • Corporate Governance Framework • Procurement Policy and Contract Management Guidelines • Ongoing investment in culture • Complaints, Enquiries and Dispute Management Policy • Corporate Code of Conduct • Clear policies relating to behaviour and conduct		Investing in people, culture and capability
Water and Environment – provide y	you with safe drinking water and responsibly mane	age your sewage	
Environmental / third party risk	Failure of sewerage system process or infrastructure, or business activity causing environmental harm	Sewerage Strategy     Operation and maintenance manuals     Inspection regimes     Automated monitoring and control systems (including the Operations Centre)     Inflow and infiltration reduction programs     Renewals and relining programs     Incident and Emergency Management Plan	Broadening our environmental focus
Water quality / public health risk	Provision of unsafe drinking water resulting in serious public health incident	<ul> <li>Drinking Water Strategy</li> <li>Drinking Water Quality Risk Management Plan</li> <li>Protocol for provision of non-drinking water supplies</li> <li>Automated monitoring and control systems (including the Operations Centre)Incident and Emergency Management Plan</li> </ul>	Catchment management
Supply and demand risk	Inability to provide for water supply security or demand for sewerage services (short and long term)	<ul> <li>Drinking Water Strategy</li> <li>Demand modelling</li> <li>Business Continuity Plans and critical asset contingency plans</li> <li>Water restrictions policy and guideline</li> <li>Water Supply Security Strategy and implementation plans</li> <li>Water Supply Demand Management Steering Group</li> <li>Growth and Capacity/System Master Plans</li> </ul>	Water security and competition for water resources
Climate change risk	Failure to consider and manage impacts from climate change on all aspects of the business	Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy     Climate prediction scenario modelling	Climate change risk

STRATEGIC RISK TITLE	DESCRIPTION	KEY CONTROLS	STRATEGIC PRIORITY AND KEY FOCUS AREA
People and Culture – build culture	and skills for the long term benefit of Tasmania		
Worker and public safety risk	Injury to worker or member of the public	<ul> <li>Health and Safety Strategy</li> <li>Safety committees</li> <li>Inductions and ongoing training</li> <li>Policy and procedures</li> <li>Fatality risk profile and associated management plans</li> <li>Ongoing investments in safety culture and implementation of Health and Safety Plan initiative</li> </ul>	Improving health and safety results
Commercial and Economic – give y	you value for money		
Cybersecurity risk	Unauthorised access to TasWater systems leading to loss of confidentiality, integrity, control or availability	<ul> <li>Technology and Innovation Strategy</li> <li>Information Security and Acceptable Use Policy</li> <li>Business Continuity Planning (including regular testing)</li> <li>Incident and Emergency Management Plan</li> <li>Enhanced internal cybersecurity expertise</li> </ul>	Digital technology
Operational systems capability risk	Operational technologies and employee capability do not result in the provision of efficient, reliable and responsive practices to deliver on customer promises	<ul> <li>Technology and Innovation Strategy</li> <li>Supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) Strategy</li> <li>Data Quality Policy</li> <li>Operations Centre</li> <li>Information management policies</li> </ul>	Digital technology
Capital program delivery risk	Inability to deliver the proposed capital program on time and on budget with the intended business benefits and customer outcomes (i.e. deliver value for money)	Asset Management Strategy     Strategic Asset Management Plan     Capital management processes, including procurement     Asset Management Information System     Capital Delivery Office	Accelerating our capital program

### **Capital expenditure**

#### **Background**

In 2017, we made the decision to increase the investment in our infrastructure to \$1.7 billion over a 10-year period with a best endeavour aim to deliver \$1.8 billion as agreed in the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tasmanian Government.

In line with this commitment, we are forecasting total capital expenditure of \$229.9 million (including external funding contributions of \$29.4 million) in FY2021-22. This investment will deliver important benefits to our customers and the Tasmanian community and support the state's economy in its recovery from COVID-19.

In determining our capital program, it is important that we balance the scale of the program against price affordability for our customers and compliance commitments. As such, our capital program is guided by a prioritisation model that includes a weighting to emphasise the outcomes that our customers and stakeholders advised us were most important.

Currently, projects aimed at improving drinking water quality are given the highest weighting in the prioritisation model.

Projects aimed at improving environmental compliance and dam safety outcomes are given the second highest weighting, followed by projects aimed at improving service reliability for critical assets in sensitive environments.

The key plans that underpin our capital expenditure program and are subject to the approval of regulators include:

- The Drinking Water Quality Risk Management Plan regulated by the Department of Health
- The Wastewater Risk Management Plan regulated by the Environment Protection Authority
- The Dam Safety Management Plan regulated by the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment
- The Price and Services Plan
- · Internal asset class plans.

#### **Overview**

In total, we are proposing capital expenditure of \$1.1 billion (excluding external funding contributions) over the Plan period (\$1.8 billion over the 10 year MoU period). This program, together with our investment to date, will keep us on track to deliver better customer outcomes by improving water

quality, service reliability and environmental outcomes and minimising risks that have the potential to impact the delivery of our services.

The majority of the projected investment over the Plan period is targeting compliance improvements in water quality, dam safety and environmental outcomes. However, it is important to recognise that a portion of this expenditure is also associated with the renewal of assets and growth in our system, with total capital expenditure on a project allocated to its primary cost driver only.

Major projects to be progressed over the period of the Plan include the Bryn Estyn WTP upgrade (\$180.6 million), North-West Water Supply Upgrade (\$125.1 million), Launceston Sewerage Improvement Plan (\$79.1 million), Hobart Sewerage Improvement Plan (\$45.8 million) and Macquarie Point STP Relocation (\$39.3 million).

While our approach to capital investment is highly structured, we have the flexibility to rapidly address unexpected issues that have the potential to significantly impact our services.

We regularly reassess our priorities to realise optimisation opportunities and reposition the focus of our capital program to align with the needs of our operating environment.

	FY2021–22 FORECAST (\$M)	FY2022-23 FORECAST (\$M)	FY2023–24 FORECAST (\$M)	FY2024–25 FORECAST (\$M)	FY2025-26 FORECAST (\$M)	TOTAL (\$M)
Capital expenditure program	200.5	225.4	222.2	227.9	226.5	1,102.5
Capital expenditure program – including external funding	229.9	285.9	291.1	229.2	230.5	1,266.6

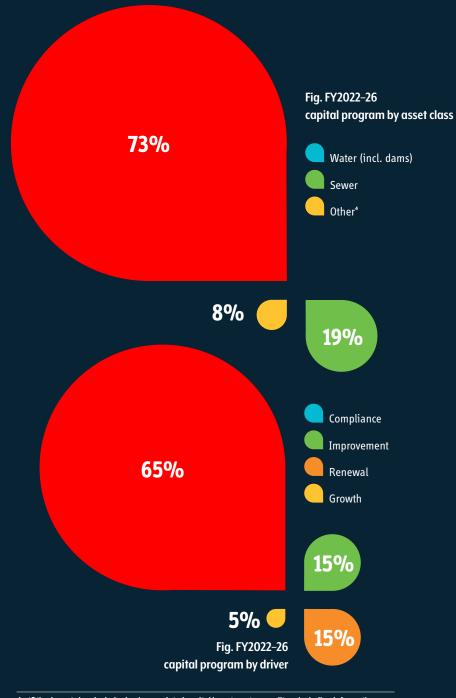
# **Externally funded capital expenditure projects**

To provide value for money, we need to minimise price increases for our customers and deliver water and sewerage services that meet community expectations. From time to time we need to consider projects where, while they provide benefits to Tasmania, we are unable to recover the associated costs from our customers. For these projects, external funding support is sought.

Historically, we have not included projects that are dependent upon external funding in our financial forecasts until a signed grant deed has been executed. This is due to the uncertainty surrounding the scope and timing of these projects, which is not entirely within our control. However, we have elected to include the Macquarie Point STP project (funded by TasWater and the Tasmanian Government) and the Tamar Estuary Health Action Plan project (funding provided by the Australian Government, Tasmanian Government, City of Launceston and TasWater) within the financial projections in the Plan due to the advanced status of the draft grant deeds for these projects. If either of these projects does not proceed, we will consider the budget impacts with a view to issuing a revised Plan.

We will continue seeking further external funding, with the Tasmanian Government's support, from the Australian Government for other important projects, where considered appropriate.





<sup>4 &#</sup>x27;Other' asset class includes business-related capital investment expenditure including information technology, fleet, safety, facilities, electrical, and supervisory control and data acquisition



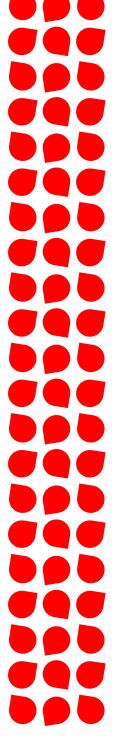
## **Appendices**

#### **Income statement**

	FY2020-21 BUDGET	FY2021-22 FORECAST	FY2022-23 FORECAST	FY2023-24 FORECAST	FY2024-25 FORECAST	FY2025-26 FORECAST	
Revenue							
Fixed Charges	255.9	264.7	278.3	291.3	304.0	317.4	
Volumetric Charges	71.8	75.0	78.6	82.3	86.2	90.2	
Services & Consulting Revenue	7.6	3.8	3.9	4.1	4.3	4.5	
Contributed Assets	28.6	29.1	29.4	29.7	30.0	30.3	
Other Revenue	6.6	3.5	3.1	3.0	29.3°	4.8	
Total Revenue	370.4	376.1	393.3	410.4	453.8	447.2	
Expenses							
Chemicals, Power & Royalties	25.0	24.1	26.5	29.4	32.7	35.0	
Materials & Services	38.8	32.8	34.7	36.2	37.8	38.8	
Salaries & Related Personnel Expenditure	96.6	103.2	107.2	110.6	113.5	117.3	
Administration Costs	58.5	52.3	51.7	50.8	74.5 7	50.6	
Total Expenses	219.0	212.4	220.1	227.0	258.5	241.7	
Earnings before interest & depreciation	151.4	163.7	173.2	183.4	195.3	205.5	
Interest Expense	18.9	16.7	18.2	22.9	25.1	28.0	
Depreciation	93.4	91.9	94.0	102.2	106.9	109.6	
Net Operating Profit	39.1	55.1	61.0	58.3	63.3	67.9	

<sup>6</sup> Includes \$24.4M grant for operational costs relating to the Macquarie Point STP capital upgrade

<sup>7</sup> Includes \$24.4M in decommissioning and rehabilitation costs for the Macquarie Point STP



#### **Cash flow statement**

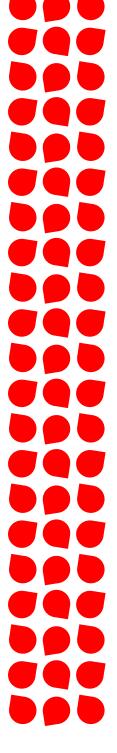
	FY2020-21 BUDGET	FY2021-22 FORECAST	FY2022-23 FORECAST	FY2023-24 FORECAST	FY2024-25 FORECAST	FY2025-26 FORECAST	
Cash flows from operating activities							
Receipts from Customers	07.9	347.1	359.9	370.7	383.4	394.4	
Payments to Suppliers and Employees	(231.1)	(228.6)	(233.6)	(236.0)	(236.3)	(240.7)	
Government Grants	3.5	0.5	0.0	0.0	20.0	0.0	
Interest Paid	(20.3)	(21.2)	(21.7)	(26.3)	(28.6)	(31.6)	
GST Refund from the ATO	26.1	27.5	25.8	28.1	26.2	30.3	
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	86.1	125.3	130.4	136.5	164.7	152.4	
Cash flows from investing activities							
Payments for Property, Plant and Equipment	(176.5)	(229.9)	(285.9)	(291.1)	(229.2)	(230.5)	
Government Grants	12.0	17.8	36.9	49.3	0.0	20.0	
Equity Contributions	20.0	40.0	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0	
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	(144.5)	(172.1)	(199.0)	(191.8)	(229.2)	(210.5)	
Cash flows from financing activities							
Proceeds from Borrowings	70.1	72.0	93.8	80.5	89.7	83.3	
Dividends Paid	(10.0)	(20.0)	(20.0)	(20.0)	(20.0)	(20.0)	
Special Dividends <sup>®</sup>	_	(4.0)	(4.0)	(4.0)	(4.0)	(4.0)	
Repayment of Lease Liabilities	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	(1.2)	
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	58.9	46.8	68.6	55.3	64.5	58.1	
Net Movement in Cash for the Year	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Opening Cash Balance	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	
Closing Cash Balance	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	

<sup>8</sup> Special dividends are provided for within the Plan so as to return foregone dividends during COVID-19 to owner councils. As with all dividend payments, they are subject to the underlying financial performance and position supporting these payments.



#### **Balance sheet**

	FY2020-21 BUDGET	FY2021-22 FORECAST	FY2022-23 FORECAST	FY2023-24 FORECAST	FY2024-25 FORECAST	FY2025-26 FORECAST
Assets						
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
Receivables	42.4	44.6	45.2	46.1	49.1	50.1
Inventories	7.8	7.6	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7
Property, Plant & Equipment	2,210.2	2,377.2	2,598.5	2,817.1	2,944.8	3,096.0
Other	3.3	4.1	3.9	2.7	3.1	3.2
Total Assets	2,266.2	2,436.0	2,656.8	2,875.1	3,006.2	3,158.5
Liabilities						
Borrowings	649.7	721.6	815.4	896.0	985.7	1,069.0
Employee Benefits	31.0	33.0	34.1	35.0	37.6	40.0
Payables	27.9	33.2	35.2	38.4	38.6	39.3
Unearned Income	40.5	57.4	94.3	143.5	141.8	160.0
Other	24.8	27.5	27.5	27.6	28.6	32.3
Total Liabilities	773.9	872.7	1,006.5	1,140.5	1,232.3	1,340.6
Net Assets	1,492.3	1,563.3	1,650.3	1,734.6	1,773.9	1,817.9
Equity						
Retained Earnings	(389.8)	(358.8)	(321.8)	(287.5)	(248.2)	(204.2)
Reserves	294.3	294.3	294.3	294.3	294.3	294.3
Contributed Capital	1,587.8	1,627.8	1,677.8	1,727.8	1,727.8	1,727.8
Total Equity	1,492.3	1,563.3	1,650.3	1,734.6	1,773.9	1,817.9



#### **Owner distributions**

	FY2020-21 BUDGET	FY2021-22 FORECAST	FY2022-23 FORECAST	FY2023-24 FORECAST	FY2024-25 FORECAST	FY2025-26 FORECAST
Dividend	(10.0)	(20.0)	(20.0)	(20.0)	(20.0)	(20.0)
Special Dividends <sup>o</sup>	_	(4.0)	(4.0)	(4.0)	(4.0)	(4.0)
Total Distribution	(10.0)	(24.0)	(24.0)	(24.0)	(24.0)	(24.0)

<sup>9</sup> Special dividends are provided for within the Plan so as to return foregone dividends during COVID-19 to owner councils. As with all dividend payments, they are subject to the underlying financial performance and position supporting these payments.

### Capital projects - Top 25 major capital projects (by value \$Millions)

PROJECT TITLE	SYSTEM TYPE	DRIVER	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25	FY2025-26	TOTAL
Bryn Estyn Major Upgrade	Water	Compliance	93.7	77.6	8.4	0.7	0.0	180.6
North West Water Supply Upgrade	Water	Compliance	0.6	2.2	25.4	50.3	46.6	125.1
Launceston Sewer Improvement Plan	Sewer	Compliance	0.4	1.0	2.5	11.0	64.1	79.1
Hobart Sewer Improvement Plan	Sewer	Improvement	0.0	2.0	4.8	7.5	31.6	45.8
Macquarie Point STP Relocation	Sewer	Compliance	0.5	4.7	15.4	15.6	3.3	39.3
Pitt Water Sewerage Strategy	Sewer	Compliance	0.0	1.0	1.0	23.0	9.2	34.2
Tamar Estuary River Health Action Plan (TERHAP)	Sewer	Improvement	6.4	12.2	13.9	0.0	0.0	32.5
Pardoe Sewer Improvement Plan	Sewer	Compliance	0.4	1.4	3.1	22.6	1.5	29.0
Ridgeway Upgrade (Ridgeway Dam Safety – Anchor Replacements)	Dams	Compliance	0.5	1.3	12.7	8.6	2.5	25.7
Launceston water supply surety	Water	Growth	0.8	0.5	1.2	6.9	12.5	21.9
Regional Towns Water Supply Program Stage 4 – WPI (Bothwell, Dover, St Marys, Oatlands, Coles Bay)	Water	Compliance	0.0	3.5	12.5	4.4	0.0	20.5
Bridport Water Surety	Water	Growth	0.6	0.8	9.6	6.5	0.2	17.6
Davis St, Smithton Sewer Pump Station Upgrade	Sewer	Compliance	2.3	4.1	7.3	2.0	0.0	15.6
Pet Dam Safety Upgrade	Dams	Compliance	0.4	5.1	5.7	1.7	0.0	12.8
UV Program stage 2 – Campbell Town/Ross, Fingal, Queenstown, South Esk, Swansea, Triabunna, Tullah, West Tamar and Zeehan	Water	Compliance	2.6	7.9	1.2	0.0	0.0	11.6
Lake Mikany Dam Upgrade	Dams	Compliance	6.9	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.4
Geeveston Outfall	Sewer	Compliance	1.5	5.6	1.5	0.0	0.0	8.6
UV Program – Stage 1 – Phase 1 (Burnie, Distillery, North Esk)	Water	Compliance	7.4	1.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.6
Northern Midlands Sewerage Improvement Plan – Longford STP Upgrade	Sewer	Compliance	8.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.1
Tasman Highway, Orford – Trunk main	Water	Growth	1.4	1.5	5.1	0.0	0.0	8.0
Cygnet outfall	Sewer	Compliance	0.5	3.2	3.6	0.0	0.0	7.3
Bicheno STP Recycled Water Scheme Expansion	Sewer	Compliance	0.6	1.3	2.4	2.6	0.0	6.9
Scottsdale STP Optimisation	Sewer	Improvement	0.4	0.5	5.8	0.0	0.0	6.7
Orford Sewage Pump Stations & Network Upgrade	Sewer	Improvement	0.4	2.0	1.2	2.6	0.0	6.2
Smithton Sewer Treatment Plant Upgrade	Sewer	Compliance	0.3	0.3	3.7	1.6	0.0	5.9

### Capital projects – external funding contributions (by value \$Millions)<sup>10</sup>

PROJECT TITLE	FY2020-21	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25	FY2025-26	TOTAL
Macquarie Point STP Relocation"	0.0	3.6	23.6	39.6	1.3	4.0	72.1
Tamar Estuary River Health Action Plan (TERHAP)	4.0	25.8	36.9	29.3	0.0	0.0	96.0

#### **Capital programs** - Top 10 capital programs (by value \$Millions)

PROGRAM TITLE	SYSTEM TYPE	DRIVER	FY2021-22	FY2022-23	FY2023-24	FY2024-25	FY2025-26	TOTAL
Water Main Renewals	Water	Renewal	3.5	3.4	3.8	3.6	5.5	19.8
Non-network Other - Fleet	Other	Renewal	3.0	3.6	4.0	3.9	3.9	18.4
Non-network IT	Other	Renewal	3.6	3.2	3.2	3.8	3.8	17.5
SCADA Program	Other	Improvement	2.4	2.8	3.4	3.2	5.6	17.4
Electrical Program	Other	Renewal	3.2	1.7	1.7	3.8	3.8	14.2
Metering Program	Water	Renewal	2.6	2.6	2.6	3.1	3.1	14.0
Sewer Treatment Plant Program	Sewer	Renewal	2.5	2.5	2.5	3.0	3.0	13.7
Sewer Main Renewals	Sewer	Renewal	2.8	2.1	2.1	2.6	2.6	12.2
Sewer Pump Station Renewals	Sewer	Renewal	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.4	10.8
IT Business initiatives	Other	Improvement	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.4	2.4	10.7

40

Note: The programs identified above contain multiple projects.

<sup>10</sup> Excludes TasWater funding contributions

<sup>11</sup> The total amount of funding provided by the Tasmanian Government is \$100 million. The \$72.1 million reflected in this table is the capital component





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