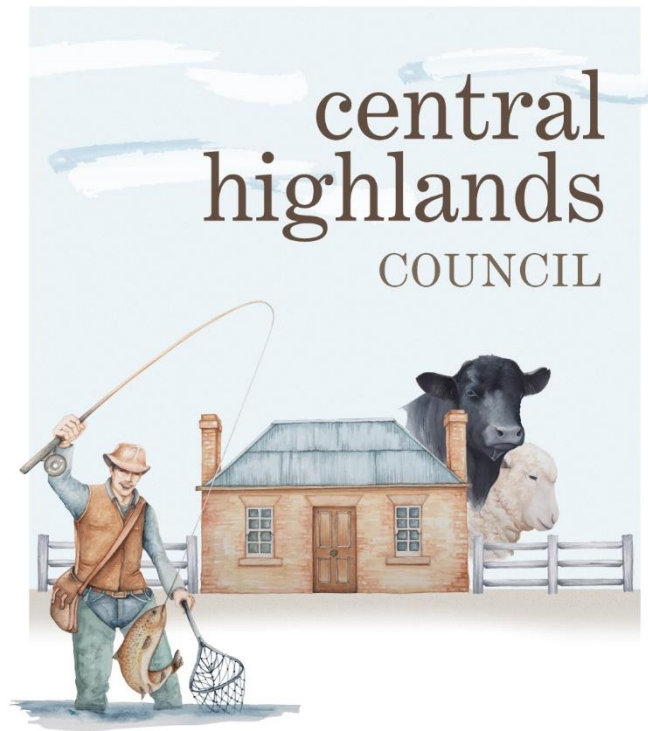




Council Meeting Agenda

21st July 2026

Hamilton Council Chambers

Notice of Meeting of Council – Tuesday 21st July 2026

To Councillors,

In accordance with the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, Notice is hereby given, that an Ordinary Meeting of Central Highlands Council is scheduled to be held in the Council Chamber, **Hamilton** on **Tuesday 21st July 2026**, commencing at **9.00am** with the business of the meeting to be in accordance with the following agenda paper.

In accordance with the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 Part 2, Division 1, a notice of the meeting was published on the Council website on 10 April 2026.

General Manager's Certification

PURSUANT to Section 65 (1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hereby certify, with respect to the advice, information and/or recommendation provided for the guidance of Council in this Agenda, that:

- A. such advice, information and/or recommendation has been given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice; and
- B. where any advice is given by a person who does not have the required qualifications or experience, that person has obtained and taken into account the advice from an appropriately qualified or experienced person.

Section 65(2) forbids Council from deciding any matter which requires the advice of a qualified person without considering that advice.

Dated at Bothwell this **16th** day of **July 2026**.



Stephen Mackey
General Manager

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1. LEGISLATIVE AND STANDARDS COMPLIANCE

The meeting commenced at ____ a.m.

1.1 AUDIO RECORDING DISCLAIMER

As per *Regulation 43 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, audio recordings of meetings will be made available to Councillors, staff and members of the wider community including Government Agencies at no charge and will be made available on Council's website as soon as practicable after each Council Meeting. Unlike Parliament, Council meetings are not subject to parliamentary privilege, and both Council and the individual may be liable for comments that may be regarded as offensive, derogatory and/or defamatory.

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 in accordance with Council's Policy 2017-50.

The Mayor also advises that members of the public are not permitted to make audio recordings of Council Meetings without prior approval being granted.

1.2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

I acknowledge and pay respect to the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as the traditional and original owners and continuing custodians of this land on which we gather today and acknowledge and pay respect to Elders, past, present and emerging.

1.3 CONDUCT OF COUNCIL MEETING

Central Highlands Council takes safety seriously. We have a duty to ensure that we provide a safe workplace for our Employees, Councillors, Contractors and members of the public while present at Council's workplaces.

These premises form part of the Council's workplace, and it is expected that everyone who attends Council meetings will behave in a polite and respectful manner. People should refrain from using offensive or derogatory language or comments and not be aggressive, threatening or speak in a hostile manner.

1.4 PRESENT

1.5 IN ATTENDANCE

1.6 APOLOGIES

1.7 CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION 01/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT the Council resolve by absolute majority to deal with any supplementary items not appearing on the agenda, as reported by the General Manager in accordance with the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025.

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 10 (7) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, A council by absolute majority at an ordinary council meeting, or a council committee by simple majority at a council committee meeting, may decide to deal with a matter that is not specifically listed on the agenda if –

- a) the general manager has reported the reason for which it was not possible to include the matter on the agenda; and
- b) the general manager has reported that the matter is urgent; and
- c) in a case where the matter requires the advice of a qualified person, the general manager has certified under [section 65](#) of the Act that the advice has been obtained and taken into account in providing general advice to the council.

1.8 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS AND STAFF

PURPOSE

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 10 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, the chairperson of a meeting is to request Councillors to indicate whether they have, or are likely to have, a pecuniary interest or conflict of interest in any item on the Agenda.

1.9 MINUTES

1.9.1 CONFIRMATION OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 16 JUNE 2026

RECOMMENDATION 02/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT the Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 16 June 2026 be confirmed.

[Attachment – Draft Minutes](#)

REPORT BY Katrina Brazendale, Executive Assistant

PURPOSE

The purpose of the report is to confirm the Council Minutes of the previous month. Copies of the minutes have been previously circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

1.9.2 BUSINESS ARISING – JUNE 2026 COUNCIL MEETING

RECOMMENDATION 03/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT the information be received.

4.5	THAT the Council with the funds raised by the community make an offer to purchase St Michael and all Angels Church Bothwell (title 104491/2) from the Anglican Dioceses of Tasmania on the following conditions. 1. That the purchase price be the sum raised by the community plus interest received on these funds. 2. That council work with a locally incorporated body that has been established to operate the church as a	Progressing
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	community facility and that will source all necessary funding for the ongoing maintenance of the Church. 3. That the incorporated body set up to manage St Michael and all Angels Church is to be make the church available for Funerals, Weddings and other religious events. 4. The purchase to include all outbuildings on the site and contents in the church.	
6.3	That Council allocate \$3,000 to the Arthurs Lake Fire Brigade towards insulating and lining the meeting room and kitchen area of their station.	Completed
6.4	That Council allocate \$1,000 to the St Andrews Anglican Church Ellendale towards entryway roof repairs	Completed

Matters still progressing from the May 2026 Council Meeting

10.1	Bushfest Working Group – Committee THAT Council set up a committee comprising the following councillors to work with the Bushfest co-ordinator to develop a long term - plan for this event and provide a report to council on measured to be put in place to control all cost associated with the conduct this event. • Mayor L Triffitt • Cr J Hall • Cr A Archer • Cr R Cassidy	Progressing
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Matters still progressing from the March 2026 Council Meeting

12.9	NOTICE OF MOTION – Cr D Meacheam THAT the special committee established to improve Telstra services on the Central Plateau have its remit extended to July 2026	Progressing
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Matters still progressing from the February 2026 Council Meeting

12.2	NOTICE OF MOTION – Cr R Cassidy That the Central Highlands Council's Mayor Loueen Triffitt and General Manager Stephen Mackey discuss with Council and Council	Progressing
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	Employees the concerns raised in the Tasmania Integrity Commission “Local Government Gifts and Donations Consultation paper”, dated 2 February 2026. a) Review Gifts and Donations Policy; b) Review and complete Gifts and Donations monthly register, individually; c) Council address each of the 13 questions raised and make a submission; and d) Give assurances to the Honourable Minister for Local Government, Director of Local Government and the Integrity Commission that Central Highlands Council is fully compliant, #1 with current legislative requirements and the intentions of the Commission “Local Government Gifts and Donations Consultation paper”, dated 2 February 2026, going forward.	
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Matters still progressing from the December 2025 Council Meeting

12.2	NOTICE OF MOTION – CR A Archer That the Mayor provide council with copies of correspondence forwarded and responses that have been received to date from the Premier to the letters requesting the holding of a cabinet meeting in Bothwell	Progressing
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Matters still progressing from the November 2025 Council Meeting

8.3	Notice Of Motion – Cr D Meacheam That Council establish a working group to progress the improvement of phone and internet services on the Central Plateau; THAT the group established has a ‘sunset’ date of March 2026; and THAT via our Facebook page and website, 2 interested community group members be invited to membership	Progressing
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REPORT BY Katrina Brazendale, Executive Assistant

PURPOSE

This report aims to provide an overview of the actions undertaken from the previous minutes.

1.10 NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOP(S) HELD

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, the Agenda is to include details of any Council workshop held since the last meeting.

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, the Agenda is to include details of any Council workshop held since the last meeting.

One workshop has been held since the last Ordinary Meeting. The workshop was held on the 7th July 2026 at the Council Chambers, Bothwell commencing at 9.00 a.m.

Attendance: Mayor L Triffitt, Deputy Mayor J Allwright, Cr A Archer, Cr R Cassidy, Cr J Hall, Cr J Honner, and Cr Y Miller.

Also in Attendance: Stephen Mackey (General Manager), Adam Wilson (Deputy General Manager) and Louisa Brown (Senior Planning Officer)

Apologies: Cr D Meacheam and Cr S Triffett

The workshop focussed on the following items for discussion:

- Thrive Group
- Policy no. 2013 - 19 Asbestos Policy (draft)
- Policy no. 2013 - 18 Employee Recruitment & Selection Policy (draft)
- Policy no. 2015 - 37 Information Management (recordkeeping) Policy (draft)
- Policy no. 2017 - 51 Staff Code Of Conduct Policy (draft)
- Policy no. 2025 - 67 Social Media Policy (draft)
- Policy no. 2025 - 68 Private Works Policy (draft)
- Policy no. 2015 - 06 Code For Tenders And Contracts Policy (draft)
- Policy no. 2014 - 22 Customer Service Charter (DRAFT)
- Policy no. 2013 - 08 Public Open Space Policy (draft)
- Mobile Food Vendor Policy
- Financial Hardship Assistance Policy
- Compliance Investigation Procedure Policy
- Caravan By Law
- ReCFIT

The workshop concluded at 11.45 a.m.

1.10.1 FUTURE WORKSHOP(S)

PURPOSE

The purpose of the report is for Councillors to note the Council Workshop date(s).

The proposed next Council Workshop will be held on the following date.

- 4th August 2026 at the Bothwell Council Chambers commencing at 9.00am

1.11 NOTICE OF MOTIONS

PURPOSE

Under Regulation 19 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 relating to Motions on Notice. It states the following:

- (1) *A Councillor may give to the general manager, at least 7 days before a meeting, give written notice of a motion, together with supporting information and reasons, for the inclusion of the motion on the next meeting.*
-

1.11.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR A ARCHER AND CR D MEACHEAM

RECOMMENDATION 04/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr D Meacheam

Seconded: Cr

THAT:

1. Council provide funds and a venue for delivery of accredited first aid and CPR HLTAID014 (Provide Advanced First Aid) and HLTAID015 (Provide Advanced Resuscitation) training on a weekend in September; and
2. as an incentive to attend, Council make available to those attending fuel vouchers to the value of \$50.00 each.

Date of Meeting:	July 21, 2026
Councillor Name:	Anthony Archer, David Meacheam
Proposed Motion:	1) That Council provide funds and a venue for delivery of accredited first aid and CPR [HLTAID014 (Provide Advanced First Aid) and HLTAID015 (Provide Advanced Resuscitation)] training on a weekend in September. 2) That as an incentive to attend, Council make available to those attending fuel vouchers to the value of \$50.00 each.
Background Details:	This motion has two major aims: 1) To attract trainees who might go on from the accredited training to become local ambulance volunteers. After the departure of key volunteer staff, the Bothwell service in particular needs more volunteers in its ranks. 2) The training will bolster the local workforce. A current first aid qualification will aid local jobseekers in securing employment across the CHC area, including Tarraleah and the looming St Patricks Plains construction phases. The following is also advised: • Weekend training at the Bothwell Recreation Centre or Council Chamber is preferred, as it will better accommodate weekday 9-5 workers. • The Tasmanian Ambulance Service requires recruits to hold a current Advanced First Aid qualification: https://www.health.tas.gov.au/hospitals/ambulance/volunteering-ambulance. • Advanced first aid and CPR training in Tasmania primarily centres on the nationally recognized HLTAID014 (Provide Advanced First Aid) and HLTAID015 (Provide Advanced Resuscitation) units. • Costs for 10 trainees: ≈\$4,000. • If the 10 training places aren't filled by community members, they could be offered to Council employees.
Signature:	<i>Anthony Archer, David Meacheam</i>
Date:	7/7/26

Attachments, possible providers of 1st aid and CPR instruction at Bothwell, September 2026.

St John Ambulance:



St John

**First Aid + Provide
Advanced
Resuscitation**

3 days, no pre-learning

HLTAID015 Provide
advanced resuscitation and
oxygen therapy



\$455

Book now

More info →

First Aid Pro:

Advanced First Aid Training Hobart

Advanced First Aid Course Hobart

Get Your Same Day Advanced First Aid Certificate In Hobart

Maintain your critical emergency response knowledge with our Advanced First Aid Course Hobart training. Designed for individuals seeking to strengthen their first aid capabilities, this Advanced First Aid Training Hobart course ensures your skills and knowledge align with current Australian Resuscitation Council guidelines and workplace safety standards. Our hands-on face-to-face Advanced First Aid Hobart programs provide a nationally recognised Statement of Attainment in advanced first aid or advanced resuscitation & oxygen therapy, helping you respond confidently to complex emergencies across a wide range of workplace and community settings throughout Australia.

- ✓ **Delivery Mode:** Blended (Online + In-Person)
- ✓ **Course Duration:** 5 Hours (HLTAID014) & 4 Hours (HLTAID015)
- ✓ **Location:** 393 Argyle Street, North Hobart TAS 7002

 HLTAID014 Provide Advanced First Aid	\$189	 HLTAID015 Provide advanced resuscitation and oxygen therapy	\$120
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Select Course ▼ Select Location ▼ **BOOK NOW**

Moreton Group: <https://moretongroup.com/courses/first-aid-courses/hltaid014-advanced-first-aid-tasmania/>. Quote

ABN: 31 807 603 871

Quote # 31822

6th July 2026

Central Highlands Council, 6 Tarleton Street, Hamilton TAS 7140

JOB DESCRIPTION: Proposed Training – Bothwell. HLTAID014 - Provide Advanced First Aid & HLTAID015 -

Provide Advanced Resuscitation and Oxygen Therapy. Date to be confirmed.

DESCRIPTION QTY UNIT PRICE TOTAL PRICE

HLTAID014 - Provided Advanced First Aid 1 \$430.00

HLTAID015 - Provide Advanced Resuscitation & Oxygen therapy 1 \$195.00

Course Set HLTAID014 & HLTAID015 1 \$620.00 SUBTOTAL: \$1,245.00. TOTAL: \$1,245.00

EMAIL:enquire@moretongroup.com

Allens Training , ProMed Tasmania: <https://promedtas.com.au/services/training/first-aid-training/nationally-recognised-training>

Provide Advanced First Aid HLTAID014 Nationally Recognised Training RTO: 90909 - Allens Training Face-to-Face: 16-hour face-to-face theory and practical session. Online with face-to-face assessment: 6 hours of online learning/theory and a 6-hour face-to-face practical session.	\$230		 Enquire
Provide advanced resuscitation and oxygen therapy HLTAID015 Nationally Recognised Training RTO: 90909 - Allens Training Face-to-Face: 6-hour face-to-face theory and practical session. Online with face-to-face assessment: 4 hours of online learning/theory and a 1.5-hour face-to-face practical session.	\$110		 Enquire

1.11.2 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR Y MILLER**RECOMMENDATION 05/07.2026/C****Moved:** Cr Y Miller**Seconded:** Cr

THAT from this meeting until after the Council elections the communications in the Highlands Digest is to be undertaken by the General Manager in Consultation with all Councillors.

Date of Meeting:	July 21, 2026
Councillor Name:	Yvonne Miller
Proposed Motion:	That from this meeting until after the Council elections the communications in the Highlands Digest is to be undertaken by the General Manager in Consultation with all Councillors
Background Details:	The reason for this is that it could be considered that the mayor could be seen as using the Highland Digest for campaign purposes when the mayors' communications does not provide all members of council with the recognition for the decisions made by council that they also deserve. It will also ensure that there is no conflict because council provides funding for the Highlands Digest.
Signature:	<i>Yvonne Miller</i>
Date:	13/7/2026

2. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION REPRESENTATION AND ENGAGEMENT

2.1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In accordance with the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, the Council conducts questions by member of the public to enable members of the public to ask question on Council related matters.

Questions by member of the public

- (1) The chairperson of an ordinary council meeting must ensure that, if required, at least 15 minutes of that meeting is made available for questions by members of the public.
- (2) A question asked by a member of the public under regulation 37 or 38 , and the answer given to that question, is not to be debated at the ordinary council meeting.
- (3) A council is to determine any other procedures to be followed in respect of public question time at an ordinary council meeting.

Questions without notice by member of the public

- (1) A member of the public may, on invitation by the chairperson of an ordinary council meeting, ask a question without notice at the meeting.
- (2) A public question without notice must relate to the activities of the council.
- (3) The chairperson of an ordinary council meeting may require a public question without notice to be –
 - a) put on notice in writing; and
 - b) answered at a later ordinary council meeting.

Questions on notice by member of the public

- (1) A member of the public may, at least 7 days before an ordinary council meeting, give written notice to the general manager of a question to which the member of the public seeks an answer at the meeting.
- (2) A public question on notice must relate to the activities of the council.
- (3) The chairperson of an ordinary council meeting may address a public question on notice.
- (4) The period referred to in subregulation (1) includes Saturdays, Sundays and statutory holidays, but does not include –
 - a) the day on which notice is given under that subregulation; or
 - b) the day of the ordinary council meeting.

2.2 PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS

2.2.1 PETITIONS

Nil

2.2.2 DEPUTATIONS

Nil

2.2.3 PRESENTATIONS

10.00 a.m. Paul Jackson and Trent Swindells (TasWaste South)

2.3 MONTHLY MAYORAL AND ELECTED MEMBERS ACTIVITY

RECOMMENDATION 06/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT the Council notes the Mayoral and Elected Members Activities.

REPORT BY Katrina Brazendale, Executive Assistant

IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

Strategic Plan	
Council Policy	Councillor Code of Conduct Policy
Legislative Context	Local Government Act 1993 Local Government (General) Regulations 2025 Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2024
Consultation	The community and stakeholders.
Impact on Budget/Resources	Not applicable.
Risk	Allocations for Councillor Conference attendance are included in the operational budget.

PURPOSE

This report aims to provide an overview of the Mayor and Elected Member's monthly activities.

BACKGROUND

The Mayor and Elected members can provide an activity report each month summarising any civic events they attend.

DISCUSSION

The Mayor and Elected Members represent the council at public and civic events and are the political interface between other bodies, governments, and the Council. In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, the Mayor is designated as the spokesperson for the Council

as well as a representative for the Council on regional organisations and at intergovernmental forums at regional, state, and federal levels. Reports below are provided outside the general functions of a Councillor, whereby Councillors meet with ratepayers and attend workshops.

Mayor Loueen Triffitt

15 June 2026	Inspections – Independent Living Units
16 June 2026	Ordinary Council Meeting Bothwell
22 June 2026	Hamilton 200 years Meeting Hamilton
7 July 2026	Workshop Thrive Village Bothwell
7 July 2026	Workshop Discussion Policy Bothwell
7 July 2026	Red Cross Function Ouse

- Business of Council - **18**
- Ratepayer and community members – communications - **17**
- Elected Members - communications - **24**
- Council Management communications - **3**
- Legal Communications - **0**

Deputy Mayor J Allwright

16 June 2026	Ordinary Council Meeting Bothwell
22 June 2026	Hamilton 200 years Meeting Hamilton
25 June 2026	TasWater General Meeting Launceston
7 July 2026	Workshop Thrive Village Bothwell
7 July 2026	Workshop Discussion Policy Bothwell

Cr A Archer

16 June 2026	Ordinary Council Meeting Bothwell
7 July 2026	Workshop Thrive Village Bothwell
7 July 2026	Workshop Discussion Policy Bothwell

Cr R Cassidy

16 June 2026	Ordinary Council Meeting Bothwell
7 July 2026	Workshop Thrive Village Bothwell
7 July 2026	Workshop Discussion Policy Bothwell
17 June – 10 July	Dark Sky email communications to stakeholders and interested parties

Cr J Hall

16 June 2026	Ordinary Council Meeting Bothwell
22 June 2026	Hamilton 200 years Meeting Hamilton
28 June 2026	CWA Fund Raising Bothwell
7 July 2026	Workshop Thrive Village Bothwell
7 July 2026	Workshop Discussion Policy Bothwell

Cr J Honner

16 June 2026	Ordinary Council Meeting Bothwell
16 June 2026	Meeting with Telstra and working group
7 July 2026	Workshop Thrive Village Bothwell
7 July 2026	Workshop Discussion Policy Bothwell

Cr D Meacheam

16 June 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting Bothwell
16 June 2026 Meeting with Telstra and working group
22 June 2026 meeting with State MP Carlo Di Falco re rating concerns.
30 June 2026 consult with Northern State RDA senior staff re rating concerns.

Cr Y Miller

16 June 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting Bothwell
22 June 2026 Hamilton 200 years Meeting Hamilton
7 July 2026 Workshop Thrive Village Bothwell
7 July 2026 Workshop Discussion Policy Bothwell

Cr S Triffett

16 June 2026 Ordinary Council Meeting Bothwell
22 June 2026 Hamilton 200 years Meeting Hamilton

2.4 MAYORAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND PARLIAMENTARY MEMBERS LETTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECOMMENDATION 07/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT the Council notes the Government Departments, Government Agencies and Parliamentary Members Letters and Announcements.

REPORT BY Katrina Brazendale, Executive Assistant



TW CM ref: 26/45041

1 July 2026

Owner's Representative

Via email

Dear Owner's Representative

Thank you for your engagement in our corporate planning process

On behalf of the TasWater Board, thank you for taking the time to meet with us online or in person on Thursday last week as part of our Corporate Planning process. The discussion was open, considered, respectful and genuinely valuable. The conversation reinforced the importance of the relationship between TasWater and our Owner Councils and State as we set the direction for the years ahead. Your contribution, and that of your fellow Mayors, General Managers and CEOs, helps ensure our planning reflects the priorities of the communities we collectively serve.

I particularly appreciated the candid feedback on dividends and the role they play in your own budgeting and financial planning cycles. We have heard clearly, and acknowledged at the General Meeting, that our communication this year about the potential impact of the Draft and Final PSP5 Price Determination on forecast dividends, did not meet Owner Councils' expectations and came too late for budgeting and planning cycles. Owner Councils have made clear that earlier visibility of forecast dividends is required to support budgeting and financial planning processes in future years.

As committed on the day, TasWater is taking proactive steps to respond to that feedback. First, The Economic Regulator has committed to a review of the regulatory framework. As part of that review, we will propose that the timing of future pricing determinations be brought forward by 6 months so decisions around target dividends are made earlier.

Second, we will improve how we engage with Owners on the Board's determination of dividends. We are committed to a more transparent, consultative approach that recognises the dual responsibility we hold, delivering the significant capital investment Tasmania's water and sewerage system requires for the benefit of our customers, while also providing a predictable and sustainable return to our Owners.

As a practical first step, we will begin earlier engagement in February each year, through the Half Year Briefing and discussion with the Owners' Representatives Group (ORG) on forecast dividends for the following financial year. This will give Owner Councils an earlier indication of target dividends ahead of their budget development process. We will work with the ORG and Council officers to confirm the most useful format and level

Tasmanian Water & Sewerage
Corporation Pty Ltd
ABN: 47 162 220 653

GPO Box 1393 Hobart Tas 7001
E: enquiries@taswater.com.au
Ph: 13 6992

of detail for that February engagement and the formal correspondence following that process.

Finally, we will consult the ORG on the Board's review of the Dividend Policy. TasWater's CEO, Geroge Theo, and his team are meeting with the LGAT TasWater Expert Advisory Group on Friday, 3 July 2026 to commence this discussion.

As required by TasWater's governance framework, dividends will continue to be determined by the TasWater Board.

Thank you again for your continued engagement and constructive feedback. How we work together matters now more than ever as we embark on this next chapter.

I look forward to continuing to strengthen our relationship as we work together to deliver for our communities.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Young', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kevin Young
Chair

30th June 2026

Dear Department of State Growth,

I am writing in support of Greg Ramsay's application to your Regional Tourism Loan Scheme to help fund these incredibly transformative projects for our community and region. Firstly I would like to congratulate and thank the State Government for this initiative; as we've seen with the Department's previous support to Bothwell's tourism - to fund the first restoration of Ratho's farm barns into luxury accommodation, the development of Nant Mill into a Distillery, and the TCF grant towards the Central Highlands Visitor Centre, all yield great returns to this area that might have once been considered "off the tourist map" but which is increasingly becoming a "must do" destination, thanks to State and our own Local Government support.

As the area's largest accommodation provider and tourism employer, with Australia's Oldest Golf Course, drawing the National Golf Museum to be located in Bothwell; the Ratho property and people, have already made many great contributions to our region. But Greg's vision for:

- a series of professionally run, iconic Winter / Spring Festivals to keep Bothwell's tourism businesses vibrant and viable through our off-season. This is a project the council would like to get involved supporting as well, just like we have built and benefitted from the Bothwell Bushfest each Spring.
- a centralised laundry service to create local employment, save unnecessary fuel-costs / pollution and provide options and cost-savings to local accommodation providers, is exactly the kind of flow-on benefits and economic opportunity that tourism creates in regional areas.
- a mix of new activities and attractions at Ratho itself and the Entrepreneurship program, to expand Ratho Farm as a destination beyond great golf and warm hospitality; into becoming a day-trip and day-time destination, is consistent with Central Highlands Council's own Strategic Plan, Tourism Tasmania goals for the state, and BrandTasmania's vision for the future of Tasmania's economy, tourism industry and dispersing the economic benefits of Tasmania's AFL team, around all the State into regional areas.

We are very supportive of this application and believe that the State Government's support for such profound benefits in and around Bothwell, will deliver ten-times-over, the positive impact that could have been envisioned from your excellent Regional Tourism Loan Scheme initiative.

All best,

Stephen Mackey
General Manager

Administration & Works & Services
Tarleton Street Tel: (03) 6286 3202
Hamilton, Tasmania 7140

Development & Environmental Services
Alexander Street Tel: (03) 6259 5503
Bothwell, Tasmania 7030 Fax: (03) 6259 5722

website www.centralhighlands.tas.gov.au

23rd June 2026

Mayor Michelle Dracoulis
Derwent Valley Council

Via email to (Mayor.MDracoulis@derwentvalley.tas.gov.au)

INVITATION TO JOIN 'CENTRAL TASMANIAN DARK SKY' JOINT STEERING GROUP

Dear Mayor Dracoulis (Michelle),

On 16 June Central Highlands Council passed a motion to further investigate the potential to seek International Dark Sky Place status for all or part of the Central Highlands Municipal Area, including inviting neighbouring Councils to consider joining an investigation process with a view to creating a larger Central Tasmania Dark Sky Reserve or Community area.

I therefore extend an invitation to your Council to consider joining a Joint Steering Group (JSG) with Central Highlands and other neighbouring Councils who wish to join.

International Dark Sky recognition would have significant socio-economic benefits for our local communities, particularly in regional tourism dispersal and boosting overnight stays. It would also have general quality of life benefits for our communities and protect the habitat of our nocturnal wildlife.

The purpose of the JSG will be to explore this initiative, which we envisage will involve several community consultation phases and a number of key decision points when each Council will need to determine whether to go on or cease involvement.

Attached is a draft Project Plan. One of the first tasks of the JSG will be to refine of the plan. As indicated, it is proposed that the exploration of this issue be largely done 'in-house' for the first 12 months by the partner Councils. Progressing to a formal application stage for International Dark Sky recognition in the second twelve months would likely require substantial resources, the size of which would be ascertained during the first year. Provision of these funds would then be considered by the partner Councils for the 2027/2028 financial year, through direct funding and/or through any grant opportunities that may be identified.

If your Council wishes to be a part of the Dark Sky Joint Steering Group, we request that you commit to:

- Provide one Councillor to sit on the JSG. Ideally, this councillor would be enthused by the Dark Sky initiative and prepared to be the local 'community champion' for it.
- Provide one council officer to sit on the JSG and assist with organisational tasks.
- Commit council in-kind resources, including officer time, use of council meeting facilities and community consultation avenues.
- Commit a cash budget of \$3,000 in the 2026/2027 financial year to cover the purchase of Sky Quality Meters, and other incidental expenses.

The intention is that the JSG commences work in July so that an agreed project plan can be finalised soon and the first introductory community consultation phase can occur before the October local government elections.

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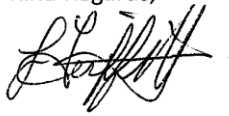
Attached, for your information, is the 'Dark Sky International Place Playbook', which provides information on the application process.

Your timely consideration of this request would be greatly appreciated. As indicated above, we intend to convene the first meeting of the JSG in July.

The Central Highlands' councillor on the Joint Steering Group will be Cr Robert Cassidy, and the officer will be Damian Mackey.

If you wish to discuss this initiative, please contact me or Cr Cassidy or, at officer level, Damian Mackey on 0499 782 584

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lou Triffitt', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mayor Loueen (Lou) Triffitt
Central Highlands Council

23rd June 2026

Mayor Mary Knowles
Northern Midlands Council

Via email to (mary.knowles@nmc.tas.gov.au)

INVITATION TO JOIN 'CENTRAL TASMANIAN DARK SKY' JOINT STEERING GROUP

Dear Mayor Knowles (Mary),

On 16 June Central Highlands Council passed a motion to further investigate the potential to seek International Dark Sky Place status for all or part of the Central Highlands Municipal Area, including inviting neighbouring Councils to consider joining an investigation process with a view to creating a larger Central Tasmania Dark Sky Reserve or Community area.

I therefore extend an invitation to your Council to consider joining a Joint Steering Group (JSG) with Central Highlands and other neighbouring Councils who wish to join.

International Dark Sky recognition would have significant socio-economic benefits for our local communities, particularly in regional tourism dispersal and boosting overnight stays. It would also have general quality of life benefits for our communities and protect the habitat of our nocturnal wildlife.

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Attached is a draft Project Plan. One of the first tasks of the JSG will be to refine of the plan. As indicated, it is proposed that the exploration of this issue be largely done 'in-house' for the first 12 months by the partner Councils. Progressing to a formal application stage for International Dark Sky recognition in the second twelve months would likely require substantial resources, the size of which would be ascertained during the first year. Provision of these funds would then be considered by the partner Councils for the 2027/2028 financial year, through direct funding and/or through any grant opportunities that may be identified.

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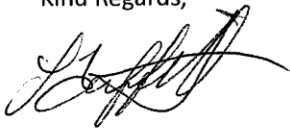
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Your timely consideration of this request would be greatly appreciated. As indicated above, we intend to convene the first meeting of the JSG in July.

The Central Highlands' councillor on the Joint Steering Group will be Cr Robert Cassidy, and the officer will be Damian Mackey.

If you wish to discuss this initiative, please contact me or Cr Cassidy or, at officer level, Damian Mackey on 0499 782 584

Kind Regards,

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Mayor Loueen (Lou) Triffitt
Central Highlands Council

23rd June 2026

Mayor Edwin Batt
Southern Midlands Council

Via email to (ebatt@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au)

INVITATION TO JOIN 'CENTRAL TASMANIAN DARK SKY' JOINT STEERING GROUP

Dear Mayor Batt (Edwin),

On 16 June Central Highlands Council passed a motion to further investigate the potential to seek International Dark Sky Place status for all or part of the Central Highlands Municipal Area, including inviting neighbouring Councils to consider joining an investigation process with a view to creating a larger Central Tasmania Dark Sky Reserve or Community area.

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The Central Highlands' councillor on the Joint Steering Group will be Cr Robert Cassidy, and the officer will be Damian Mackey.

If you wish to discuss this initiative, please contact me or Cr Cassidy or, at officer level, Damian Mackey on 0499 782 584

Kind Regards,



Mayor Loueen (Lou) Triffitt
Central Highlands Council

2.5 GENERAL MANAGERS ACTIVITIES

RECOMMENDATION 08/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT the Information be received.

REPORT BY Stephen Mackey, General Manager

16 June 2026	STOWG (Southern Tasmanian Organic Waste) Teams Meeting
19 June 2026	ReCFIT Transport Routes & Community Benefits Scheme
22 June 2026	Meeting with Carlo Di Falco
29 June 2026	Teams Meeting Damian Mackey Planning Scheme Amendments
7 July 2026	Council Workshop Review of Policies
8 July 2026	Emergency Management Meeting
10 July 2026	Ouse Family Daycare meeting with the representative from Education Department.
14 July 2026	Teams Meeting with Shannan Aherne
14 July 2026	Teams meeting Alice Cox regarding lodging an appeal to the Valuer General.
17 July 2026	Meeting with Planner regarding the Community Benefit fund and grants.
17 July 2026	Meeting STCN (Southern Tasmanian Council Network)
20 July 2026	Meeting with Damian Mackey and Michael Edrich

3. STRATEGY, POLICY AND OPERATIONAL PLANNING

3.1 DERWENT CATCHMENT PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION 09/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT the Derwent Catchment Project Report be received.

REPORT BY Ella Weston, NRM Facilitator



Monthly Report for Central Highlands Council

6 June 2026 – 14 July 2026

General business

Winter marks a quieter period across the organisation, with many field-based restoration, conservation and weed management activities naturally slowing as weather conditions become less favourable. During this time, the team has shifted its focus to end-of-financial-year reporting, project administration, data management and planning for the year ahead. Staff have been reviewing completed projects, finalising reports, preparing budgets and scopes of work, and refining internal systems and processes to support efficient project delivery in 2026–27. The quieter season also provides an opportunity for staff to take well-earned annual leave before preparations commence for another busy spring field season.

Strategic Planning

Strategic Actions: 4.1 Continue to fund and support the Derwent Catchment Project and 4.7 Support and assist practical programs that address existing environmental problems and improve the environment.

Nature Repair Plan Pilot – funded by the Australian Government’s Local Environmental Projects Program.

Spatial modelling for the Nature Repair Pilot continues to advance, with high-resolution LiDAR, aerial imagery and machine learning being used to integrate datasets on forest loss, willow distribution, fire history, vegetation, soils, threatened species and communities, and topography. The modelling is providing valuable insights into landscape condition and restoration priorities, helping to guide future restoration planning and investment.

Agri-best practice programs

Strategic Actions 4.7 Support and assist practical programs that address existing environmental problems and improve the environment.

Climate Smart Farming

Ongoing monitoring of DCP's pasture species trials at Westerway and Bothwell has continued, with field assessments undertaken ahead of two pasture walks held at "Thorpe" (Bothwell) on 23 June and "The Back Run" (Westerway) on 30 June. The long-term trials, established between 2020 and 2022, are providing increasingly valuable insights into pasture persistence under grazing pressure, climatic variability and pest impacts, addressing a significant gap in long-term pasture performance data.



Figure 1. Field-walks with farmers in Bothwell and Westerway.

Recent assessments have highlighted clear differences in the persistence of cocksfoot cultivars, with Uplands continuing to demonstrate the strongest performance at the challenging north-facing sites. In contrast, Lazuly and Aurus have shown greater crown death and plant thinning, while Uplands has also exhibited the strongest recovery following significant corbie grub damage.

Phalaris performance continues to be monitored, with Fosterville currently appearing to be the most resilient cultivar. Although establishment has been slower than anticipated across all phalaris varieties, recent assessments indicate improving growth and encouraging resistance to corbie grub damage.

A new series of demonstration trials has also commenced to assess a biological soil amendment containing the naturally occurring fungus *Metarhizium*, a known pathogen of cockchafer (corbie) grubs. The trial will evaluate its potential as a long-term biological control option, with grub populations and pasture responses to be monitored over coming seasons.

Restoration and conservation

Strategic Actions: 4.1 Continue to fund and support the Derwent Catchment Project and 4.7 Support and assist practical programs that address existing environmental problems and improve the environment.

Clyde River Flood Resilience Project

On-ground works for the Clyde River Flood Resilience Project have now paused for the winter period and will recommence in spring when site conditions become suitable. During the reporting period, the team's new hydromulch unit was used for the first time at Croakers Alley to stabilise recently disturbed areas. The hydromulch mix included sterile ryegrass seed to provide rapid ground cover while native vegetation establishes, with natural regeneration already evident following late May rainfall.

Final clean-up works have also been completed throughout the Croakers Alley site, including the removal of remaining large logs, burn pile debris and other material from the river corridor. Restoration plantings for the season are now complete, with 17 caged vegetation islets established and planted between the Croakers Alley footbridge and Andrews Bridge.

It has also been encouraging to observe wildlife returning to the site, with recent sightings including platypus, rakali, wombats and evidence of Tasmanian devils. Work is continuing with GHD to refine the project's flood modelling, with updated modelling outputs to help inform future stages of the flood resilience works.



Figure 2. Riparian rushes and sedges going into the banks (left), and vegetation islets (right).

Derwent Native Plant Nursery updates

Internal and external nursery signage has now been installed, improving wayfinding and creating a more welcoming experience for visitors. As winter brings a quieter period for plant production, the nursery team is taking the opportunity to take some well-earned annual leave before preparations begin for the busy spring growing season.

Ground crews have shifted into a maintenance and infrastructure upgrade focus at the nursery, undertaking a range of improvements to support future operations. Works underway include constructing terraces, completing the new potting mix storage bay and undertaking general maintenance and repairs across the site.

The nursery's propagation hothouse is now fully operational, allowing propagation activities to continue throughout winter. This will enable the team to propagate native grasses and other species well ahead of the spring planting season, improving production capacity and helping ensure a reliable supply of local provenance plants for upcoming restoration projects.

Ouse follow-up willow control

Restoration plantings have now been completed across the Ouse River project sites at Ouse Township, Corinyah and Deep Bottom, marking a significant milestone for this season's works. Thousands of native trees, shrubs and groundcovers have been established to improve riverbank stability, enhance habitat and support the long-term recovery of the riparian corridor.

With this season's revegetation works now complete, the project will pause over winter before entering the next phase of works in spring. Follow-up willow control is scheduled to recommence as conditions become suitable, continuing efforts to reduce invasive willows and support the long-term restoration of the Ouse River.



Figure 3. Deep bottom plantings on the Ouse.

Weed management programs

Strategic Actions 4.4 Continue the program of weed reduction in the Central Highlands, and 4.7 Support and assist practical programs that address existing environmental problems and improve the environment.

With field conditions now less favourable for herbicide application, on-ground weed control activities have now largely concluded for the season, with colder temperatures and unfavourable weather conditions limiting effective treatment opportunities. The team has instead shifted its focus to maintaining previously restored sites, undertaking follow-up weeding and maintenance around recent revegetation projects to support plant establishment and maximise restoration outcomes.

Alongside field activities, the team has been focused on end-of-financial-year reporting, mapping, project administration and planning for the 2026–27 season. This has included preparing budgets and scopes of work, as well as continuing development of the Central Highlands Weed Management Plan 2026–2031, which will guide strategic weed management priorities across the municipality over the next five years.

Community engagement

DCP recently welcomed a group of Year 12 students from The Hutchins School to learn about river restoration and native plant production across the Derwent Catchment.



Figure 4. The Hutchins boys being shown the propagation process by Karen at the nursery.

The visit began at the Derwent Native Plant Nursery in Hamilton, where students were introduced to the process of growing local provenance native plants, from seed collection through to propagation. The group then travelled to Croakers Alley near Bothwell to see restoration works in action, learning about the Clyde River Flood Resilience Project and the transformation of the site following large-scale willow removal.



Figure 5. Running through the importance of different potting mixes/substrates.

Students also had the opportunity to contribute to the project by assisting with revegetation plantings, providing a hands-on experience of the restoration process and highlighting the importance of long-term environmental stewardship. The visit showcased the full restoration journey, from growing native seedlings in the nursery to establishing them in the landscape to restore healthy river ecosystems.



Figure 6. With Chris from the nursery, showing off the restoration work being done at Croaker's.

Preparations are also underway for a World Rivers Day event later this year in partnership with Bothwell District School. The event will provide students with a hands-on opportunity to participate in revegetation activities while learning about the importance of native vegetation, river health and landscape restoration within their local catchment.

Yours sincerely,

The Derwent Catchment Team

Key Contacts:

Josie Kelman (CEO) 0427 044 700

Eve Lazarus (Deputy CEO) 0429 170 048

Todd Holliday (Works Manager) 0428 192 728

Karen Phillips (Nursery Manager) 0400 039 303

Ella Weston (Weed program coordinator/NRM facilitator) 0400 953 220

3.2 POLICY NO. 2013-19 ASBESTOS POLICY

RECOMMENDATION 10/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council adopt Policy No 2013- 19 Asbestos Policy.

REPORT BY Jason Branch, Works and Service Manager

Attachments Policy No 2013-19 Asbestos Policy (DRAFT)

BACKGROUND

The previous asbestos policy was approved by Council in December 2024.

This policy is a new format which applies to all workers of the Central Highlands Council (Council) and has been put in place to ensure Council provides a safe place of work and a safe environment for all workers and others from the harmful effects of asbestos fibres, through the provision of regular building inspections and safe work procedures.

Council is committed to ensuring that asbestos containing material in Council owned facilities and buildings are managed and controlled to protect the health and wellbeing of workers, contractors and the community.

This policy provides a structure for the on-going management of asbestos-related risks within Council.

3.3 POLICY NO. 2015 - 06 CODE FOR TENDERS AND CONTRACTS POLICY

RECOMMENDATION 11/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council adopt Policy 2015 – 06 Code for Tenders and Contracts Policy.

REPORT BY Adam Wilson, Deputy General Manager

Attachments - Policy No. 2015 – 06 Code for Tenders and Contracts Policy (DRAFT)

BACKGROUND

A review has been undertaken to ensure the policy remain current, compliant with legislation, and aligned with contemporary local government practice and operational requirements. The *Local Government Act 1993* requires Councils to maintain a Code relating to tenders and contracts that is consistent with the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025*. This governs how a Council is to procure goods and services including the need to obtain quotes or tenders.

The proposed amendments to Policy No. 2015 – 06 Code for Tenders and Contracts Policy are the result of changes to the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025* which came into effect on 24 June 2025. The review, ensuring that the policy remains current, transparent, and consistent with legislative obligations and best practice. This policy is similar to the policies being used by Meander Valley Council, Central Coast Council, Burnie City Council, Circular Head Council and Kingborough Council.

Key updates in the draft policy are highlighted in yellow which include:

- Updated tendering and procurement thresholds.
- Strengthened probity, transparency, and reporting requirements.
- Inclusion of procurement principles to support efficient procurement practices.

At the Council Workshop on the 7 July 2026, it was suggested to include consideration of quotes and tenders received from local business or contractors which operate in the municipality. If a quote or tender is submitted from a local business or contractor Council may award a quote or tender to the local business or contractor where the price exceeds competing non local quotes or tenders by up to 5%.

These amendments demonstrate Council's commitment to effective governance, responsible resource management, and maintaining community confidence in Council decision making.

3.4 POLICY 2025 - 68 PRIVATE WORKS POLICY

RECOMMENDATION 12/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council adopt Policy 2025 - 68 Private Works Policy.

REPORT BY Adam Wilson, Deputy General Manager

Attachments - Policy 2025 - 68 Private Works Policy (DRAFT)

BACKGROUND

The draft policy has been modified from the current policy approved by Council with the removal of the reference of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* which is highlighted in yellow.

The *Trade Practices Act 1974* ended on the 31 December 2010.

The draft policy is like the policies used by Glamorgan Spring Bay Council, Brighton Council, Sorell Council, Circular Head Council, King Island Council and Kingborough Council.

This policy applies to all private works undertaken by Council on behalf of any applicant. Works may include the supply of labour, materials, plant and services.

The policy provides a framework for performing private works that is applicable to everyone, transparent, objective and consistent. To undertake private works at market prices ensuring an acceptable profit margin to Council that is consistent with anti-competitive requirements and the no advantage requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

3.5 POLICY 2017 - 51 STAFF CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY

RECOMMENDATION 13/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council adopt Policy 2017 – 51 Staff Code of Conduct Policy.

REPORT BY Adam Wilson, Deputy General Manager

Attachments - Draft Policy 2017 – 51 Staff Code of Conduct Policy (DRAFT)

BACKGROUND

The draft policy has been modified in part 6 and highlighted in yellow, with the removal of the reference of the *Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission Act 1986* and replace it with the *Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986*. The *Equal Opportunity Act 1995* (which is a Victorian statute) has been replaced with the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1998*.

The *Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission Act 1986* ended on the 4 August 2009. Other Council's policies were also reviewed including Southern Midlands Council, Break O'Day Council, Devonport City Council and Glamorgan Spring Bay Council.

The purpose of the Staff Code of Conduct Policy is to clearly state the standards of responsibility and behaviours expected by those representing or working for Central Highlands Council. Maintaining professional and ethical conduct always is the responsibility of every employee (permanent, temporary, part-time and casual employees) as well as volunteers, contractors working on-site, and work experience students – every person, every day.

The Staff Code of Conduct is designed to assist employees to understand how to undertake their duties and behave according to the values held at Council, reducing the risk of real or perceived conflicts between private and public interests, personal gain or unacceptable and/or unlawful behaviours.

3.6 POLICY NO. 2015 - 37 INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (RECORDKEEPING) POLICY

RECOMMENDATION 14/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council adopt Policy No. 2015 – 37 Information Management (Recordkeeping) Policy.

REPORT BY Adam Wilson, Deputy General Manager

Attachments - Policy No. 2015 – 37 Information Management (Recordkeeping) Policy (DRAFT)

BACKGROUND

The draft policy has been modified from the current policy approved by Council in line with current legislation and is like the policies used by Burnie City Council, Break O'Day Council, and Sorell Council.

In part 5 of the current policy the *Financial Transaction Reports Act* 1988 is stated, this act was officially repealed in January 2025. Hence, all non-relative legislation and related documents highlighted in yellow have been removed from the draft policy as they are not referred to within the policy.

The purpose of this policy is to provide an effective framework for Council's recordkeeping practices and document management procedures. It covers the creation of records, and their maintenance, storage, accessibility and retention, along with the individual responsibilities of Councillor's and staff with regard to their records management obligations.

4. REVENUE GENERATION AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

4.1 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT TO 30 JUNE 2026

No monthly finance report will be provided for 30 June 2026. All monthly figures cannot be finalised at this time due to end of financial year processing and auditing.

5. LAND USE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS

5.1 DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION 15/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT the Development & Environmental Services Report be received.

REPORT BY Kathy Bradburn, Senior Administration

Purpose of Report

This briefing provides Council with an update on key Development and Environmental Services activities for the reporting period, including planning permits issued under delegation, current animal control and environmental statistics.

Matters listed in this report are provided for information, noting that delegated planning decisions have been assessed in accordance with the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme – Central Highlands* and the relevant statutory requirements under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

Reporting Period - 5 June 2026 to 10 July 2026

Planning Permits Issued Under Delegation

The permits recorded below reflect a mix of discretionary, permitted and no permit required outcomes across the municipal area. This assists Councillors to monitor the type and location of development activity, while maintaining awareness of applications processed under delegation.

Discretionary Use

DA No.	Applicant	Location	Proposal
2026/30	Blueprint Planning	61 Thiessen Crescent, Miena	Outbuilding
2025/03	Whisky Downunder Pty Ltd	Brown Marsh Road, London Lakes (PID 5475056)	Extractive Industry (Peat)

Permitted Use

DA No.	Applicant	Location	Proposal
2026/37	GB Tobin	21 Warner Road, Breona	Visitor Accommodation
2026/41	T Sim	3411 Lyell Highway, Gretna	Outbuilding

No Permit Required Certificate

DA No.	Applicant	Location	Proposal
2026/40	CRE Lovell	4 North Street, Hamilton	Dwelling & Outbuilding
2026/39	C Archer	301 Dennistoun Road, Bothwell	Outbuilding (Farm Shed)

Animal Control Statistics

The animal control figures provide a snapshot of current registrations, re-registration and impoundment activity. These statistics assist Council in monitoring compliance and support responsible dog ownership across the municipal area.

Number of Dogs Impounded	1
Dogs currently registered	348
Dogs pending re-registration	574
Kennel licences issued	12
Kennel licences pending renewal	21

Food Premises & Private Water Suppliers

All food premises within the municipality must be registered in accordance with the *Food Act 2003* and renewed annually. Requirements and fees vary according to the premises' risk classification: low, medium or high.

Food Premises Risk Classification System	Number of premises
Low Risk	20
Medium Risk	24
High Risk	3
Community Organisation	5

There are currently 52 food premises and 12 private water suppliers / users registered, with renewals currently being processed.

drumMUSTER Program

The drumMUSTER program collects and recycles eligible, pre-cleaned agricultural and veterinary chemical containers. Once the containers have been collected, they are recycled into re-usable products such as wheelie bins, road signs, fence posts and bollards.

The drumMUSTER service benefits both the user, the environment, industry and the wider community by providing a reliable, cost effective and sustainable option for the recycling of empty eligible agvet chemical containers.

There are two collections sites located within the Central Highlands municipal area as follows:

- Hamilton Refuse Disposal Site, Mount Road, Hamilton; and
- Bothwell Waste Transfer Station, 1755 Highland Lakes Road, Bothwell

During the reporting period 64 containers were inspected and deposited at the Bothwell Site and 52 at Hamilton.

5.1.1 UPDATE ON WORKING WITH RENEWABLES, CLIMATE AND FUTURE INDUSTRIES TASMANIA (RECFIT)

RECOMMENDATION 16/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT the information be received.

REPORT BY Louisa Brown Senior Planning Officer

SUMMARY

This report provides Council with an update on the progress of officers working with colleagues at Building Tasmania's Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT) team. The report is for information.

BACKGROUND

ReCFIT and Community Power Agency prepared the Guidelines for Community Engagement, Benefit Sharing and Local Procurement published in May 2024. The Guidelines set out what is meant by social licence to operate renewable energy development and provides principles and practical questions to guide the process and key outcomes sought for:

- Community engagement: How local communities are consulted and involved in the process of site selection, feasibility, design, planning and approval, construction, operations, and decommissioning.
- Benefit sharing: How the benefits of development are shared to create lasting value for local people and communities that host the project.
- Local procurement: How local people and businesses are encouraged and enabled to participate in providing services and skills to new developments.

ReFIT are in the process of updating these Guidelines.

PROGRESS

Throughout 2026 ReCFIT and Council have collaborated to create a draft MOU which begins to define what a coordinated approach to benefit sharing in the Central Highlands might look like.

Council in partnership with ReCFIT will be hosting a co-design workshop on the 23rd of July for energy project operators and proponents to come together and progress the concept of a coordinated approach to benefit sharing in the Central Highlands LGA. The workshop aims to move from ideas and concepts to an agreed draft framework that can be circulated for review and input from all stakeholders. The Mayor and the Deputy Mayor have been asked to attend the workshop.

5.1.2 AMENDMENT PUBLIC OPEN SPACE (POS) POLICY

RECOMMENDATION 17/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT the information be received and the policy be amended accordingly.

REPORT BY Louisa Brown Senior Planning Officer

Attachment(s) - *Current POS Policy (with tracked changes) and Supreme Court of Tasmania - Dourias MGH Pty Ltd v Clarence City Council (2025)*

ISSUE

The *Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993* (the Act) provides Council with powers to require public open space for subdivisions, as either land for use as Public Open Space or a contribution of cash-in-lieu of the provision of land either in part or whole.

Council's current Policy states that POS contributions are to be charged as 5% of unimproved value on any land, not including the balance lot on any land that may have increase demand for public open space.

BACKGROUND

At a recent Supreme Court hearing *Dourias MGH Pty Ltd v Clarence City Council (2025) TASFC10* the matter of POS contributions was raised. The decision handed down 22nd December 2025 has provided clarification on how Council should calculate POS contributions.

- The balance lot in a subdivision should be included in the area of land to be valued;
- Payment in lieu of public open space should be made a condition of the permit in order to enliven ss.117(1), (2) and (3) of the Act;
- The date the land is to be valued is the date on which the final plan takes effect as a sealed plan under s 94 of the Act;

The market value is to be determined on the basis that the subdivision process has been completed, and the subdivided allotments will be available for individual sale. In light of the above it is recommended that Council amend its policy, as per the attached changes.

Human Resources and Financial Implications - The assessment and application of the Policy will require both officer time and other operational resources.

A calculation that includes improved value and balance lot will result in additional revenue for Council. This will benefit public open space acquisition and/or improvements in accordance with the Act.

Policy Implications - Minor amendment to existing Council Policy.

5.2 COUNCIL ACTING AS A PLANNING AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO THE LAND USE PLANNING AND APPROVALS ACT 1993 AND COUNCIL'S STATUTORY LAND USE PLANNING SCHEME

In accordance with Regulation 29(1) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, the Mayor advises that the Council intends to act as a Planning Authority under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, to be noted.

In accordance with Regulation 29, the Council will act as a Planning Authority in respect to those matters appearing under Item 5.2 in this Agenda, inclusive of any supplementary items.

RECOMMENDATION 18/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council now act as a Planning Authority.

5.2.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION (DA2026/27) FOR LAND APPLICATION (SPREADING OF BIOSOLIDS) AT 230, 2A & 66 HOLLOW TREE ROAD, BOTHWELL (C/T 167795/1, 124612/2, 124612/1, 124613/3, 124613/4 AND 211119/1) APPLICATION MADE BY JAKE GAUDION OF RMCG ON BEHALF OF TASWATER

RECOMMENDATION 19/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT pursuant to the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme – Central Highlands*, Council approve the development application DA2026/27 for Land Application (Spreading of Biosolids) at 230, 2A & 66 Hollow Tree Road, Bothwell (C/t 167795/1, 124612/2, 124612/1, 124613/3, 124613/4 and 211119/1), for the reasons outlined in the officer's report and a permit containing the following conditions be issued:

Conditions

General

- (1) The use and development approved by this permit must be carried out substantially in accordance with:
 - a) the application for planning approval, inclusive of all information supplied in response to requests made pursuant to section 54 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (Tas);
 - b) the endorsed drawings/documents; and
 - c) the conditions of this permit and must not be varied without the further written approval of Council (i.e. which may be given pursuant to section 56 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (Tas)).
- (2) Before the approved use commences on the property, an Environmental Protection Notice (EPN) must be issued from Council's Environmental Health Officer.

Services

- (3) The developer must pay the costs of any alterations and/or reinstatement to existing services, Council infrastructure, or private property incurred as a result of the development approved by this permit. Any work required is to be specified or undertaken by the authority concerned.

THE FOLLOWING ADVICE APPLIES TO THIS PERMIT

- A. Subject to subsections 53(3), 53(4) and 53(6) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (Tas), this permit takes effect at the expiration of 14 days from the day on which the notice of the granting of this permit was served on all persons who have a right of appeal (*Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (Tas), subsection 53(1)).
- B. Pursuant to subsection 57(7) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (Tas), this permit remains in effect until it:
- a) lapses under subsection 53(5) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (Tas); or
 - b) expires as a result of a condition or restriction contained in this permit; or
 - c) is cancelled under section 65G of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (Tas).
- C. An instrument creating restrictive covenants under the Nature Conservation Act 2002 applies to part of the property. It is the responsibility of the property owner to familiarise themselves with this and any restrictions therein.
- D. This permit does not imply that any other approval required under any other legislation, by-law or other regulatory regime has been granted.
- E. This permit does not take effect until all other approvals required for the use or development to which the permit relates have been granted (*Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (Tas), subsection 53(4)).
- F. The issue of this permit does not ensure compliance with the provisions of the *Threatened Species Protection Act 1995* (Tas) or the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Protection Act 1999* (Cth). The applicant may be liable to complaints in relation to any non-compliance with these Acts and may be required to apply to the Threatened Species Unit of the Department of Tourism, Arts and the Environment or the Commonwealth Minister for a permit.
- G. The issue of this permit does not ensure compliance with the provisions of the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975* (Tas). If any aboriginal sites or relics are discovered on the land, stop work and immediately contact the Tasmanian Aboriginal Land Council and Aboriginal Heritage Unit of the Department of Tourism, Arts and the Environment. Further work may not be permitted until a permit is issued in accordance with the *Aboriginal Relics Act 1975* (Tas).

REPORT BY Louisa Brown Senior Planning Officer

Applicant:	Jake Gaudion, RMCG on behalf of TasWater
Landowner	Rothamay Pastoral Company Pty Ltd
Subject Site:	230, 2A & 66 Hollow Tree Road, Bothwell (C/T's 167795/1, 124612/2, 124612/1, 124613/3, 124613/4 and 211119/1)
Proposal:	Land spreading – applying Biosolids to farmland for beneficial reuse as part of the existing agricultural use.

Planning Scheme:	Tasmanian Planning Scheme – Central Highlands
Zoning:	Agriculture
Applicable Codes/Overlays:	Attenuation Code
Other	Requires Environmental Protection Notice from Council's Environmental Health Officer (EHO)
Use Class:	Resource Development; “use of land for propagating, cultivating or harvesting plants or for keeping and breeding of livestock or fishstock.”
Discretions:	C9.5.1 P1 (a) and (b).
Public Notification:	Public advertising was undertaken between 25 th May and 9 th June 2026, one (1) extra day for a Public Holiday in accordance with section 57 of the <i>Land use Planning and Approvals Act 1993</i> .
Representation	Two (2) Representations
Attachments	A - Application Documents as exhibited B – Representation 1 C – Representation 2 D – Response from applicant to Representations
Recommendation	Approval with conditions
The Application	The application is supported by the following documents; Application for Planning Approval Use and Development Form Copy the Certificate of Title documents Biosolids Management Plan: Rothamay dated 1 April 2026 Appendix 1 Maps Appendix 2 Biosolids application signage Appendix 3 Further soil results Response to RFI emails dated June 2026

1. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

The purpose of this report is to enable the Planning Authority to determine development application number DA2026/27.

The relevant legislation is the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA). The provisions of LUPAA require a planning authority to take all reasonable steps to ensure compliance with the planning scheme.

The Planning Authority's assessment of this proposal should also consider the issues raised in any representations received, the outcomes of the State Policies and the objectives of Schedule 1 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act, 1993* (LUPAA).

This report details the reasons for the officer recommendation. The Planning Authority must consider this report but is not bound to adopt the recommendation. Broadly, the Planning Authority can either:

- (1) adopt the recommendation, or
- (2) vary the recommendation by adding, modifying, or removing recommended reasons and conditions or replacing an approval with a refusal (or vice versa).

Any alternative decision requires a full statement of reasons to comply with the *Judicial Review Act 2000* and the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*.

2. SITE ASSESSMENT

The property Rothamay is located to the south of the township of Bothwell and spans across the eastern and western sides of Hollow Tree Road. Franklin Street and Arthur Crescent form the northern property boundary.

The land to which the application relates represents a significant area of land within the property known as Rothamay. The total property area is 1,770ha however the applicable land area is proposed to be 776.4ha and excludes areas of cropping rotations and areas with conservation covenants.

The entirety of the property and surrounding titles are zoned agriculture pursuant to the Tasmanian Planning Scheme (The Scheme).

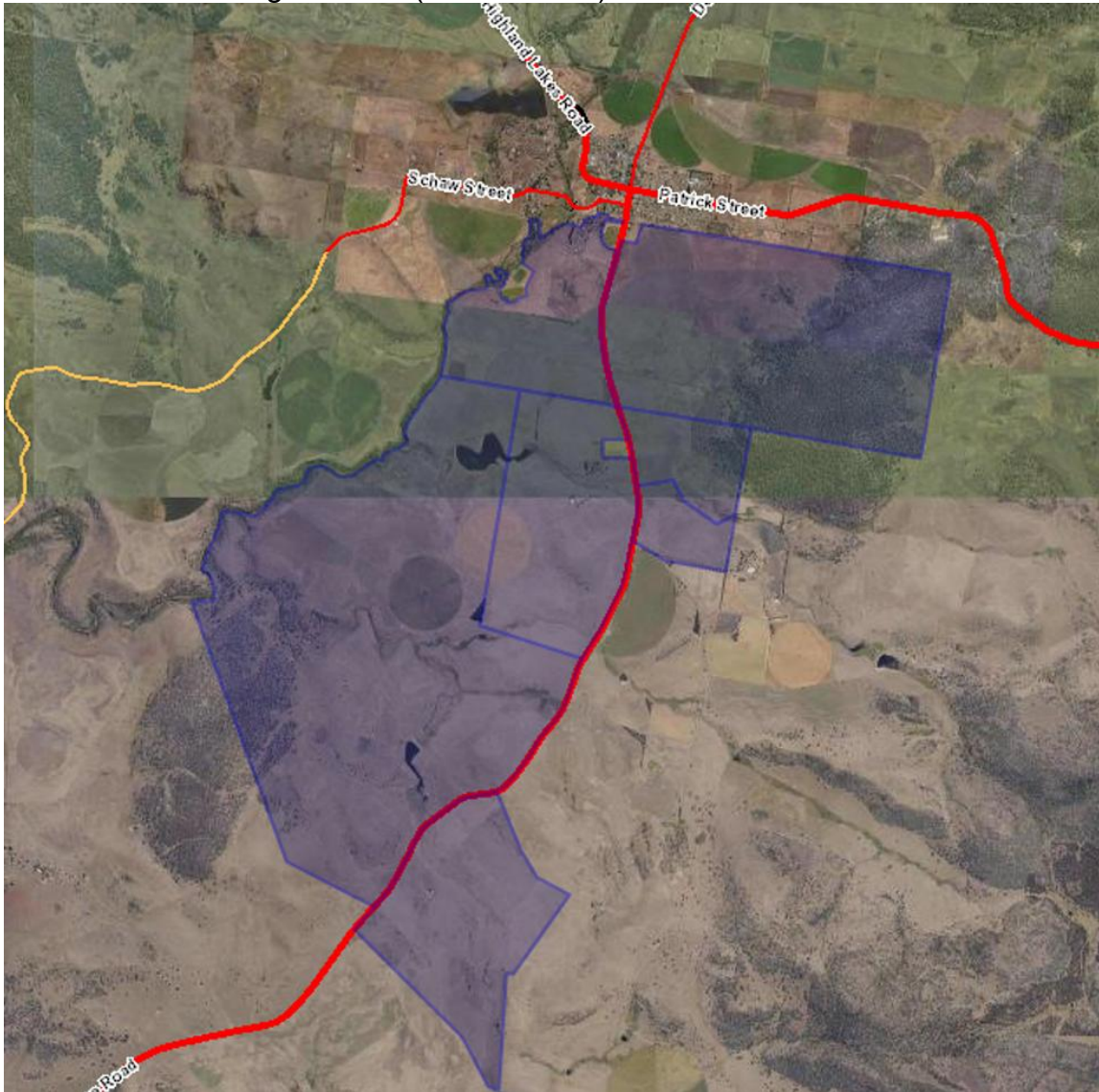


Figure 1. Aerial Image of the property, site shown in blue (source: The Listmap 6/7/2026)



Figure 2: Zone map from the Tasmanian Planning Scheme – Central Highlands, brown colour indicates Agriculture Zone, beige colour indicates Rural Zone, orange colour indicates Village Zone and pink colour indicates Rural Living Zone (source: The Listmap 6/7/2026)

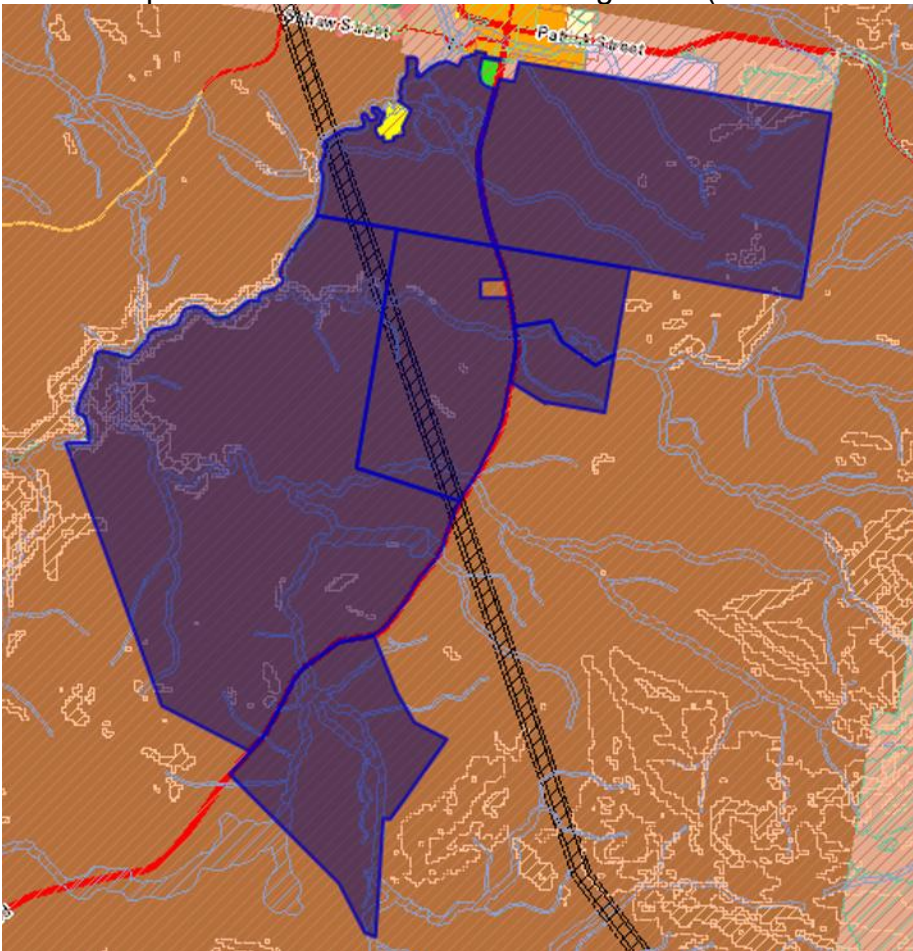


Figure 3: Code Overlay map from the Tasmanian Planning Scheme – Central Highlands, brown lines indicate Busfire Prone Area, beige lines indicate Landslip Hazard Code and blue

lines indicate Natural Assets Code (Waterway & Coastal Protection Area) (source: The Listmap 6/7/2026)

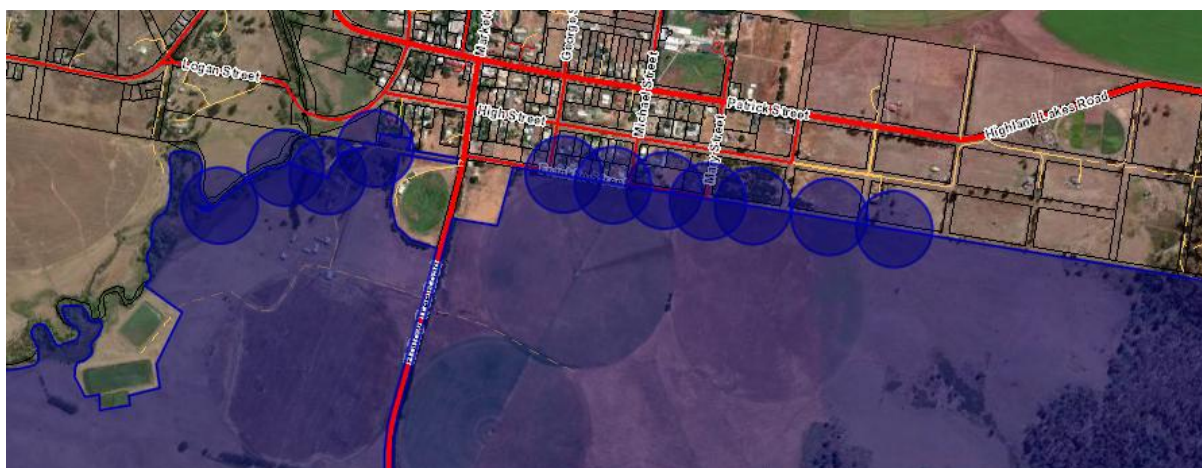


Figure 4: Blue circle indicate the attenuation distance of 100m radius from Romathay property boundary, being the shortest distance from the boundary of the site on which the activity is located to a sensitive use (source: The Listmap 10/7/2026)

Background

Biosolids are a by-product of wastewater treatment. They contain useful amounts of organic matter and nutrients. When applied to farmland, they can help reduce fertiliser costs and improve structure and fertility of soils. In this Development Application, Biosolids means sewage sludge that has been sufficiently stabilised and can therefore be used beneficially for its nutrient, soil conditioning, and/or energy qualities. The reuse of biosolids is subject to the requirements of the Tasmanian Biosolids Reuse Guidelines 2020 and the Approved Management Method for the Reuse of Biosolids (AMM).

The land application of biosolids is a regulated activity in Tasmania. The Reuse Guidelines inform and underpin regulatory settings for biosolids re-use by establishing a classification system that limits the use of biosolids according to level of risk.

PROPOSAL

Biosolids will be sourced from seven (7) of TasWater's southern Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs). Spreading will be conducted by TasWaters designated spreading contractor (Spectran Environmental Management (Spectran)). Within Tasmanian the land application of Biosolids and associated activities are conducted within the Tasmanian Biosolids Reuse Guidelines 2020 (TBRG) and the Approved Management Method (AMM) to ensure compliance with the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994 (EMPCA). The proposed biosolids will be applied to areas of land within the property, as indicated on the maps in Appendix 1 of the Biosolids Management Plan document.

The development application for Rothamay proposes to spread biosolids at a higher rate than the AMM, therefore following approval from Council, an application to the EPA and a Regulation 21 application will be made by the applicant.

Once the Planning Permit is issued, Council's Environmental Health Officer (EHO) will also issue an Environmental Protection Notice (EPN). The notice will include a schedule of conditions and a timeframe for the application of Biosolids.

The application states that an additional 250m buffer will be provided between the land application area on the property and sensitive uses on adjoining properties. The application areas are identified in Figure 5 below.

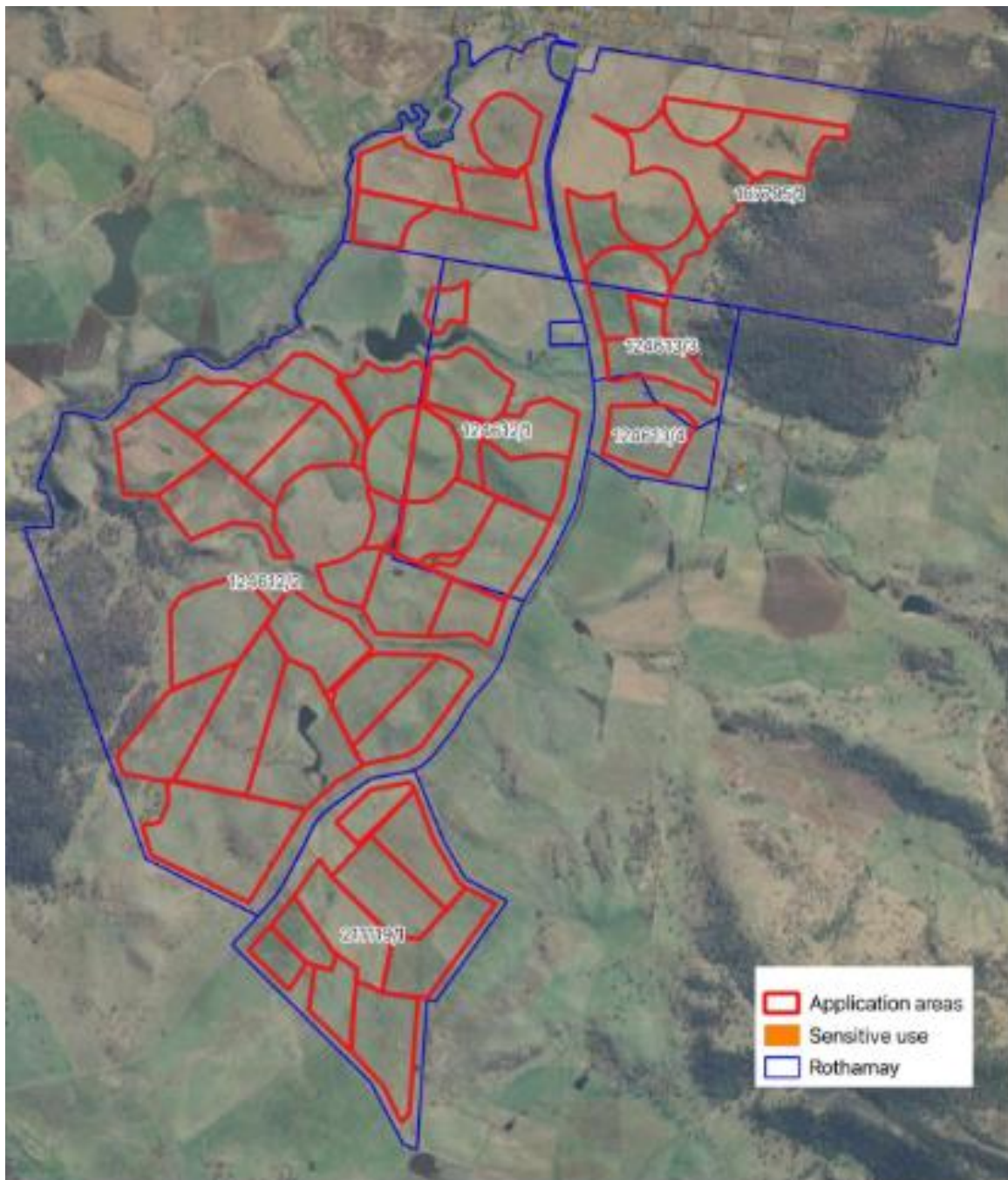


Figure 5: Land application area of the Biosolids taken from Appendix 1; Maps of the BMP

3. PLANNING SCHEME ASSESSMENT

Compliance with Applicable Standards:

- 5.6.1 A use or development must comply with each applicable standard in the State Planning Provisions and the Local Provisions Schedules.
- 5.6.2 A standard is an applicable standard if:
- (a) the proposed use or development will be on a site within:
 - (i) a zone;
 - (ii) an area to which a specific area plan relates; or
 - (iii) an area to which a site-specific qualification applies; or
 - (b) the proposed use or development is a use or development to which a relevant applies; and

- (c) *the standard deals with a matter that could affect, or could be affected by, the proposed use or development.*
- 5.6.3 *Compliance for the purposes of subclause 5.6.1 of this planning scheme consists of complying with the Acceptable Solution or satisfying the Performance Criterion for that standard.*
- 5.6.4 *The planning authority may consider the relevant objective in an applicable standard to determine whether a use or development satisfies the Performance Criterion for that standard.*

Determining applications (clause 6.10.1):

- 6.10.1 *In determining an application for any permit for use or development the planning authority must, in addition to the matters required by section 51(2) of the Act, take into consideration:*
- (a) *all applicable standards and requirements in this planning scheme; and*
- (b) *any representations received pursuant to and in conformity with section 57(5) of the Act,*
- but in the case of the exercise of discretion, only insofar as each such matter is relevant to the particular discretion being exercised.*

Use Class

The Use Class is categorised as Resource Development under the Scheme. Resource Development is a “No Permit Required” use in the Agriculture Zone.

Attenuation Code

The application is discretionary due to the assessment against the Performance Criteria of clause C9.5.1 Activities with potential to cause emissions. The application includes sensitive uses and land zoned village within the 100m attenuation distance, where the attenuation distance is measured as the shortest distance from the boundary of the site (Rothamay) on which the activity (biosolids) is located.

As the proposed use is discretionary, it must then be consistent with the purpose of the Code:

C9.1 Code Purpose

The purpose of the Attenuation Code is:

- C9.1.1 To minimise adverse impacts on the health, safety and amenity of sensitive use from activities which have the potential to cause emissions.
- C9.1.2 To minimise the likelihood for sensitive use to conflict with, interfere with, or constrain, activities which have the potential to cause emissions.

Compliance with Performance Criteria

The proposal does not meet the following relevant Acceptable Solution of the Scheme.

C9.5.1 Activities with potential to cause emissions

Objective:	
That an activity with potential to cause emissions is located so that it does not cause an unreasonable impact on an existing sensitive use.	
Acceptable Solution	Performance Criteria
A1 The attenuation area of an activity listed in Tables C9.1 or C9.2 must not include: (a) a site used for a sensitive use which is existing;	P1 An activity listed in Tables C9.1 or C9.2 must not cause: (a) an unreasonable loss of amenity or unreasonable impacts on health and safety of a sensitive use

(b) a site that has a planning permit for a sensitive use; or (c) land within the General Residential Zone, Inner Residential Zone, Low Density Residential Zone, Rural Living Zone A, Rural Living Zone B, Village Zone or Urban Mixed Use Zone.	which is existing, or has a planning permit; or (b) unreasonable impacts on land within the relevant attenuation area that is in the General Residential Zone, Inner Residential Zone, Low Density Residential Zone, Rural Living Zone A, Rural Living Zone B, Village Zone or Urban Mixed Use Zone, having regard to: (i) operational characteristics of the activity; (ii) scale and intensity of the activity; (iii) degree of hazard or pollution that may be emitted from the activity; (iv) hours of operation mean the hours that a use is open to the public or conducting activities related to the use, not including routine activities normally associated with opening and closing or office and administrative tasks of the activity; (v) nature of likely emissions such as noise, odour, gases, dust, particulates, radiation, vibrations or waste; (vi) existing emissions such as noise, odour, gases, dust, particulates, radiation, vibrations or waste; and (vii) measures to eliminate, mitigate or manage emissions from the activity.
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Biosolids application to land Class 2 biosolids as classified in accordance with the requirement of Sections 4 and 5 of the <i>Tasmanian Biosolids Reuse Guidelines 1999</i> – emissions such as odour, noise and disease vectors.	100m	100m
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Figure 6: extract from Table C9.1 Attenuation Distance for level 1 and level 2 activity, The Scheme

Planning Assessment

A sensitive use as defined in the Tasmanian Planning Scheme means “a residential use or use involving the presence of people for extended periods except in the course of their employment”. In this case, the sensitive use are dwellings on adjacent properties located on Franklin Street, High Street and Hollow Tree Road.

It could be considered that an unreasonable loss of amenity from the proposal could include an offensive odour. Suitably treated biosolids are considered stabilised and stabilised biosolids do not generate an offensive odour. However, it is noted that stabilisers used in the process such as lime, can have odours associated with them. A 500m distance will be applied between lime amended biosolids and adjacent sensitive uses.

In addition, the application proposes that a distance of at least 250m between the biosolids application area and sensitive uses, including land in the village zone is met. In addition, within the application documents Table 7-2 Managing odorous biosolids lists eight (8) measures to resolve odorous biosolids delivered to the property.

It is considered that there will be no unreasonable impacts on the health and safety of residences, as biosolids are highly regulated by management plans, guidelines and environmental protection notices. Land-applied biosolids have a history of safe and effective performance.

An increase in vehicle movements may also create an unreasonable loss of amenity in the short term. It is noted that the applicant states that up to 6 trucks per day during the week will be at the property between the hours of 8am and 4pm. Although this will increase traffic, the number of vehicles will vary on a daily basis and across the property. The property is an agricultural site and as such regularly has various agricultural heavy vehicles associated with agricultural uses working on the land.

Given that Biosolids entering the property should not emit odours and if odorous biosolids are detected, the applicant's contractor will take measures to manage the odour, no unreasonable loss of amenity of a sensitive use or land within the village zone is expected. Also, as the nature of the activity is similar to that of existing agricultural activities on the property in terms of the number of vehicle movements across the site, operating times, small scale intensity and operational characteristics of the activity are considered to be reasonable for an agricultural area.

Accordingly, the PC is satisfied.

4. Referrals

Environmental Health Officer

The application was referred to Council's Environmental Health Officer who will prepare the ENP and liaise with the EPA if required.

5. Representations

Two representations were received during the statutory public exhibition period between 25th May and 9th June 2026 (which was extended by one day for the Kings Birthday public holiday). A full copy of the representations are in the Appendix to this report, a summary of the matters raised in the representations are provided below;

Representor/Issues	Planning Response
Representor 1	
Concerns that the stockpiles may emit odours and ask what redress available?	Biosolids are considered stabilised and therefore do not emit an odour. The BMP at table 7-2 lists measures to be taken if odorous biosolids are present. The applicant has responded to the concern and states that Biosolid stockpiles will be located 1km away from nearest occupied dwellings. If an odour is detected, the stockpile will be moved
How many vehicle movements a day?	
Effect on roads and will rate payers have to pay for the upkeep?	

Any impact on the value of properties adjoining the property?	to alternate location with an even larger attenuation distance to neighbouring properties given. The applicant states that up to six trucks per day can be expected on weekdays between 8am and 4pm. The biosolids are transported in fully sealed bins which can hold up to 10 tonnes. It is considered that the vehicle movements are consistent with existing agricultural activities of the property and surrounding area. Road maintenance is the responsibility of the road authority, which is Central Highlands Council and Building Tasmania. The Planning scheme does not take into consideration property value.
Representor 2	Response from Applicant
Acknowledge the benefits of biosolid reuse and the application complies with Reuse Guidelines. Concerns with the level of PFAS (PFOS+PFHxs and PFOA) and concentration thresholds and suggests that different management approaches may be appropriate for higher concentrated streams. Concerns that PFAS contained in biosolids applied to land can be transferred into the environment and may create ecological and human exposure. Has TasWater considered secure landfill disposal for the higher PFAS streams? What measures are Taswater taking to reduce the PFAS entering the wastewater system? Should additional soil, groundwater and surface water monitoring be undertaken, so to better understand any long term consequences of repeated PFAS loading?	As these comments are technical, please find a response from TasWater/RMCG to the points raised in the representation below. <i>"TasWater has taken a more conservative approach to PFAS management than required by the PFAS National Environment Management Plan (NEMP 3.0) guidelines, by adopting a Margin of Safety (MoS) of 2 instead of the minimum MoS 1. This means when we calculate our contaminant-limiting biosolids application rate (CLBAR) values for PFAS for biosolids from each STP, we are automatically incorporating an additional 50% risk reduction on the already conservative criteria which have been derived using backwards risk calculations.</i> <i>These thresholds have been determined by experts in toxicology and chemical pathways using the best available scientific data and applying conservative values to account for any uncertainties and or assumptions. In applying these conservative PFAS thresholds, TasWater has diverted biosolids from two STPs to landfill at significant additional cost. This demonstrates our commitment to minimising environmental harm whilst also</i>

maximising the beneficial reuse of our treatment byproducts (as we are required to by EPMCA legislation – under Waste Hierarchy requirements).

TasWater's internal Biosolids PFAS Management Framework adheres strictly to the NEMP 3.0 Biosolids Supporting Document. We assess the biosolids from each STP against the requirements of this framework. Sites with levels that exceed MoS 2 restricted use thresholds have the Contaminant Limiting Biosolids Application Rate (CLBAR) determined, and if the limiting rate is assessed as not providing a nutrient benefit to the land, these sites are immediately excluded from the land spreading program and we will seek approval from EPA to dispose of to landfill.

For biosolids that meet the MoS 2 restricted use thresholds and/or the calculated CLBAR will provide a nutrient benefit, these sites will be utilised for reuse and applied at an optimal application rate which best benefits the soils whilst also minimising contaminants. As mentioned, TasWater has diverted biosolids from two STP's to landfill where they do not meet prescribed criteria. Decision framework is shown below:

It's important to note that the weighted average PFAS CBLAR for biosolids being applied to land in the south is 166 wet t/ha and we proposing to apply up to 60 wet t/ha (all zones are below this) which is well below the PFAS CBLAR. This provides a further layer of PFAS risk reduction.

Any biosolids which don't meet the MoS 2 max thresholds and CLBAR for PFAS provides no nutrient benefit, are sent to landfill with EPA approval and at significant additional cost. Self's Pt and Rosny biosolids meet the NEMP 3.0 requirements and are assessed as being suitable for beneficial reuse.

TasWater has recently undertaken comprehensive investigations of the catchments with highest PFAS levels to

	<i>determine likely sources and instigate mitigation measures. For all of the sites investigated, the PFAS could be traced back to areas where historical firefighting training was conducted with PFAS foams. The likely pathway is therefore contaminated groundwater infiltrating into our sewerage networks through leaking pipes. We are now conducting inspections of the sewer pipelines within these areas to determine if relining could prevent contaminated ground water from entering our systems.</i> <i>Under the current guidelines biosolids can only be reapplied to agricultural land every 3 years and only after soil testing has been conducted to determine soil contaminant limits and associated maximum application rates. Once we have completed land-spreading at Rothamay we won't be able to return to this farm for 3 years and soil testing would have to be conducted prior to us determining if we can apply there again. This soil testing would include PFAS."</i>
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6. Conclusion

The proposal for Land Application (Spreading of Biosolids) at 230, 2A & 66 Hollow Tree Road, Bothwell (C/t 167795/1, 124612/2, 124612/1, 124613/3, 124613/4 and 211119/1) satisfies the relevant provisions of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme – Central Highlands, and as such is recommended for approval.

5.3 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING RESUMED

RECOMMENDATION 20/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council no longer act as a Planning Authority and resume the Ordinary Council Meeting.

6 ORGANISATIONAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND BUSINESS RELATIONS ADVOCACY AND FACILITATION

6.1 HEALTH AND WELLBEING – MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

RECOMMENDATION 21/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT the Health and Wellbeing monthly report for June 2026 be received.

IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

Strategic Plan	
Council Policy	Health & Wellbeing Plan 2020-2025
Legislative Context	<i>Local Government Act 1993</i>
Consultation	As required
Impact on Budget/Resources	As per Council's approved budget
Risk	The council must ensure that it meets its legislative and governance responsibilities in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993.

REPORT BY Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

BACKGROUND

The following activities were performed during the month prior to the **June 2026** meeting.

COUNCIL PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES	
GP service - Centre Ouse.	Engagement with the Director of the GP Practice, and Primary Health Tasmania to develop a business case and identify areas where critical support and action are required to enable the provision of a locum medical service at the Central Highlands Community Health Centre (CHCH). Discussions are focused on addressing workforce challenges, service sustainability and opportunities to improve access to primary healthcare for the local community.
Childcare Project	Negotiations are underway with the owners of a residential property in Ouse for Council to enter into a five-year lease agreement. The property is proposed to be used to relocate the Ouse Family Day Care service from its current location at Ouse School. The Department for Education, Children and Young People (DECYP) has committed to funding any required retrofit works and capital improvements to ensure the property is fit for purpose and compliant for use as a family day care service. An initial site inspection involving representatives from Council, DECYP and Brighton Family Day Care is scheduled for 24 July. The visit will assess the suitability of the property and identify any modifications required to support the relocation of the service and

	maintain ongoing access to early childhood education and care within the community.
Sports and Recreation Strategic Plan	To position Council to apply for future grant opportunities in sport, recreation and open space, and to support the strategic planning of assets in alignment with Council's plans and community priorities, it is proposed that Council seek grant funding to develop a Municipal Sport and Recreation Plan. Preliminary planning has commenced to ensure that, when a suitable funding opportunity becomes available, Council is well placed to submit a competitive grant application.
State Government Grant – Gretna Oval changerooms	The Building Surveyor has authorised the Start Work Notice and works have commenced on-site. Likely timeframes and key milestones will be reported following discussions with contractor.
Community Benefits Scheme	Contributing to MOU & Community Benefits Fund aims and focus areas.
Bothwell Ambulance service	Council is working collaboratively with Ambulance Tasmania to host a thank-you event recognising the valuable contributions of outgoing volunteers, while also supporting coordinated efforts to recruit new volunteers for the Ambulance Service and strengthen local volunteer capacity into the future.
Council House Ouse	Liaising with Tasmanian Health Service and Ambulance Tas for Council property at 3 Victoria Valley Rd, regarding new lease.
Community Grants	Coordination of community grants programs

MEETINGS and REPRESENTATION

- Monthly meeting with Kids and Teens in the Valley to collaborate on planning for a youth project in the Central Highlands.
- Meeting with a Disability Gateway representative from the Benevolent Society to discuss information and services available to residents and explore opportunities to promote these resources within the community.
- Community Benefit Scheme (CBS) Workshop Planning – review of the draft agenda with Council staff and RECFIT.
- Meeting with Council's Planning Officer to discuss funding priorities through the CBS and identify external grant opportunities.
- Meeting with Ambulance Tasmania's Volunteer Coordinator to plan a volunteer recognition event and coordinate collaborative volunteer recruitment initiatives.
- Weekly project planning meeting with Walker Designs regarding the redevelopment of Council's website.
- Regular meeting with Tracey Turale.
- Staff workshop to identify and develop fundable project ideas for the Central Highlands.
- Participation in The Funding Network training workshop on impact storytelling.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT	
Hamilton Information board & Street library	The owners of the Hamilton Inn have requested the removal of the community noticeboard and mini library currently located in front of the post office box area in Hamilton. This request follows the relocation of the post office boxes to the hotel frontage and planned landscaping works adjacent to the old barn. Council's Works Crew has safely removed and stored both items at the Council depot while future arrangements are considered. The Community Development Officer is currently gathering information and community feedback on potential alternative locations for the noticeboard and mini library. A summary of options and community feedback will be presented to Councillors at the August Council Meeting to assist in determining whether these items should be relocated and, if so, identifying the most suitable location within the township.
School Holidays programs	Support for Action Crew Central Highlands in the delivery of school holiday programs throughout 2026. Planning is underway for the next round of school holiday activities, which are scheduled to be held in Bothwell and Ellendale, providing local children and young people with opportunities to participate in engaging recreational and community-based activities.
Ouse Hall Hire	Liaising with Ouse Table Tennis club and HATCH Exercise classes around long-term lease arrangements, co-use, third-party use, cleaning and improvements at Ouse Hall.
Miena – First Aid Course	Responding to community request for FA training in Miena.
COMMUNICATION ACTIVITY	
Rates Newsletter	Finalisation of community information and layout for printing, as guided by the General Manager
Website	Uploading content new website.
Council social media	Facebook followers: 3,057 Social media post development: Child and Family Learning Centre information, Local candidate information session, census employment opportunities, Hamilton 200, BushFest, Give Up Smoking Campaigns.
Councillor info session	Creation of Flier

Ouse Hall information	Procurement of new noticeboard for Ouse Hall and creation of community calendar promoting weekly events.
Highland Digest	Provision of relevant council and community content.

6.2 ASH COTTAGE – MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

No report received

6.3 SPORTS REPRESENTATION GRANT – FOR SUPPORT FOR REUBEN STOTT TO ATTEND THE INTERSTATE NATIONAL INDOOR CRICKET CHAMPIONSHIPS

RECOMMENDATION 22/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council allocate \$500 to Reuben Stott to attend National Indoor Cricket Championships in Victoria.

REPORT BY Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

Attachment - Redacted sports representation funding request

BACKGROUND

Council have received a Sports Representation grant application from the family of Reuben Stott, from Ellendale, who has been selected to play for the U18 Tasmania team at the upcoming National Indoor Cricket Championships.

The event is due to occur 5-12 July. This application was received on the day following the June Council meeting and so could not be included in the previous agenda.

There is currently \$10,000 remaining in the Community Support and Donations budget for the 26-27 financial year.

6.4 SPORTS REPRESENTATION GRANT – FOR SUPPORT FOR HUDSON STOTT TO ATTEND THE INTERSTATE NATIONAL INDOOR CRICKET CHAMPIONSHIPS

RECOMMENDATION 23/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council allocate \$500 to Hudson Stott to attend National Indoor Cricket Championships in Victoria.

REPORT BY Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

Attachment - Redacted sports representation funding request**BACKGROUND**

Council have received a Sports Representation grant application from the family of Hudson Stott, from Ellendale, who has been selected to play for the U16 Tasmania team at the upcoming National Indoor Cricket Championships.

The event is due to occur 5-12 July. This application was received on the day following the June Council meeting and so could not be included in the previous agenda.

There is currently \$10,000 remaining in the Community Support and Donations budget for the 26-27 financial year.

6.5 COMMUNITY GRANT REQUEST – FOLK FEDERATION TASMANIA: MIENA SEISIÚN**RECOMMENDATION 24/07.2026/C****Moved:** Cr**Seconded:** Cr

THAT Council allocate \$2,000 to Miena Seisiún, a subgroup of the Folk Federation of Tasmania Inc for their annual Celtic music event at Miena in February 2027.

REPORT BY Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

Attachments - Grant application cover letter, Redacted grant application and budget and support letters: Great Lake Fire Brigade, Great Lake Community Centre, local residents.

BACKGROUND

The Miena Seisiún Committee has applied for funding to assist with costs associated with its annual traditional Celtic music event at the Great Lake Community Centre in February 2027. NB Seisiún means session in the Irish language.

Established in 2023, the event provides an opportunity for traditional Celtic musicians from across Tasmania to gather and perform, while also offering a concert and dance experience for the local community. Since 2025, the event has operated as a stand-alone gathering and is now managed as a sub-committee of the Folk Federation of Tasmania.

Council provided Community Grants of \$2,000 in both 2025 and 2026. The committee is actively seeking additional funding to meet remaining event costs and will offer free tickets to local young people wishing to attend. The application aligns with the objectives of Council's Community Grants Program by supporting community participation, cultural activities and visitation to the Great Lake area.

There is currently \$15,000 remaining in the Community Grants budget.

6.6 RATE RELIEF REQUEST – OUSE COMMUNITY COUNTRY CLUB 2026-2027**RECOMMENDATION 25/07.2026/C****Moved:** Cr**Seconded:** Cr

THAT Council grant a remission of \$571.49 – this being 50% of the general rates - for property comprising of the Ouse Community Country Club Bowls Green and Clubhouse and grant a remission of \$791.22 – this being 50% of the general rates and the total garbage charge - for property comprising the Ouse Community Country Club Golf Course and Sheds.

REPORT BY Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

Attachment - Redacted Community Grant application – used to apply for rate relief

REPORT BY Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

BACKGROUND

Council have received a rate relief request from Ouse Community Country Club for their two properties comprising the clubhouse, bowls green, and golf course.

Council has previously assisted the Club with a 50% reduction in rates for both properties, and full rebate for garbage rates at the golf course property in the following financial years: 2011, 2014, 2016, 2018, 2019, 2023, 2024, and 2025.

Ouse Community Country Club is a volunteer-run organisation. Providing relief for rates will allow the organisation to continue to serve the local community and provide a valuable sporting and social facility in the town.

The current rates and suggested rates rebate are as follows:

Rates, levies and rebate calculation – Ouse Country Club			Rebate
Bowls Green & Club House PID 01-0810-03938	General Rate:	\$1,142.98	\$571.49 (50%)
	Garbage Rate:	\$745.00	
	Fire Levy Rate:	\$62.33	
	Subtotal	\$1,950.31	\$571.49
Golf Course & Sheds PID 01-0805-03937	General Rate:	\$1,020.44	\$510.22 (50%)
	Garbage Rate:	\$281.00	\$281 (100%)
	Fire Levy Rate:	\$52.00	
	Subtotal	\$1,353.44	\$791.22
	Total	\$3,303.75	\$1,362.71

6.7 NEW COUNCIL WEBSITE UPDATE

RECOMMENDATION 26/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council accept this report providing an update on the development of the new Central Highlands Council website.

REPORT BY Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

BACKGROUND

In November 2025, Council engaged Walker Designs to undertake a comprehensive redevelopment of the Central Highlands Council website.

Walker Designs is a Tasmanian-based company with extensive experience in website design and development, having successfully delivered projects for organisations including Launceston Airport, Bell Bay, Bank of Us, TasBuilt Homes, and several local government authorities including Meander Valley, George Town, Dorset and Northern Midlands Councils.

Walker Designs has developed the overall structure, navigation and design framework for the new website. To ensure the site is user-friendly, relevant and delivered within the approved budget, the Community Development Officer has been responsible for reviewing, updating, consolidating and migrating content from the existing website to the new platform.

This process has involved a comprehensive review of Council's current website content, identification of information gaps, creation of new content, and substantial rewriting of existing material to improve accessibility, consistency and usability. The project has required significant staff time and resources.

CURRENT STATUS

The website is currently in the final stages of development and testing. The Community Development Officer meets weekly with Walker Designs to review progress, undertake user testing and road-testing of site functionality, and address any outstanding issues prior to the anticipated launch date of 31 August 2026.

A significant amount of content development remains underway, particularly within community-focused sections where a large proportion of new information is being developed.

Website Development Stage progress			
PROJECT STAGE	DETAILS	COMPLETION	STAGE LEADER
1. Project Scope	Identification and planning of website features, functionality and project requirements.	COMPLETE	Council / Walker Designs
2. Wireframe & Development	Creation of a blueprint for website structure, page layouts and user journey mapping prior to design and development.	COMPLETE	Walker Designs
3. Back-end Development	Development of server-side functionality, databases, content management systems, search capabilities and application logic required for website operation.	COMPLETE	Walker Designs
4. Front-end Development	Development of the visual and interactive elements of the website, including navigation, menus, forms, buttons, graphics and user interface design.	30% complete	Walker Designs / Council
5. Content Creation & Migration	Review, rewriting, consolidation and development of website content, including migration of information from the existing website.	54% complete	Council
6. Testing & Deployment	Staff training, final testing and website launch.	Scheduled 31 August	Walker Designs / Council
7. Website Hosting & Support	Ongoing continuous improvement, hosting, system updates, licence renewals, performance monitoring, SEO reporting and future enhancements.	ONGOING	Walker Designs

Current project stage: Content Creation

As of 14 July 2026, an estimate of 54% of the content has been migrated into the new website, with the completion status of the major website sections as follows:

Website Section Title	COMPLETION
Homepage	90%
‘Planning, building, and business’	75%
‘About us’	60%
‘Residents and ratepayers’	50%
‘Things to Do’	30%
‘Community Services’	20%

Breakdown of Content Creation Task Area

Website Section	Main Subsections	Content creation
Homepage	• Make a Payment • Register Your Pet • Emergency Information • News and Events • Contact Us	This section has involved a complete redesign and creation of new content.
Planning, Building and Business	• Building information • Planning scheme • Forms • Business information	• 60% existing content • 20% rewritten content • 20% new content
Residents and ratepayers	• Waste and Recycling • Emergency Preparedness • New Residents Information • Pets and Animal Management • Environmental Health • Rates and Payments	• 45% existing content • 10% rewritten content • 45% new content
About us	• Your Council • Our Staff and Organisation • Careers • Council Meetings • About the Central Highlands municipality • Major Projects • Contact Information	• 40% existing content • 10% rewritten content • 50% new content
Things to Do	• Tourism and Visitor Information • Events • Volunteering • Clubs and Community Organisations • Libraries	• 30% existing content • 10% rewritten content • 60% new content
Community Services	• Health and Wellbeing • Children and Families • Youth • Seniors • Grants and Awards • Community Facilities	• 15% existing content • 25% rewritten content • 60% new content

Key Features of the New Website

In addition to a modernised design and improved navigation structure, the new website will include several new features aimed at improving accessibility and community engagement, including:

- A searchable Council meeting and agenda database, allowing users to quickly locate specific agenda items, reports, decisions and meeting minutes without needing to manually open and search individual PDF documents.

- Enhanced search functionality across the entire website to improve access to information and services.
- A dedicated community page where local organisations and community groups can submit events for inclusion in Council's community calendar.
- Improved mobile responsiveness and accessibility features.
- Simplified navigation and service-based pathways to help users find information more efficiently.
- Improved emergency information and community notifications.
- Enhanced online forms and service request capabilities.
- Significant improvement in the efficiency in which Council officers can update information.

NEXT STEPS

Priority work over the coming six weeks will focus on:

- Completing remaining content development and migration.
- Finalising page layouts and navigation pathways.
- Testing accessibility and mobile responsiveness.
- Undertaking quality assurance and user acceptance testing.
- Resolving any technical issues identified during testing.
- Preparing communications and promotional material for launch.

Following the launch, further enhancements and continuous improvements will be undertaken as part of an ongoing program of work. Additional functionality, content expansion and user experience improvements are expected to continue throughout 2027, ensuring the website remains current, accessible and responsive to community needs.

ONGOING COSTS

The 2026–2027 Budget includes provision for ongoing website management and maintenance, including:

- Annual hosting, updates and licence renewals: \$885 per annum
- Quarterly website performance and SEO reporting and recommendations: \$2,160 per annum

CONCLUSION

The website redevelopment project continues to progress towards the anticipated launch date of 31 August 2026. While a significant amount of content development remains to be completed, particularly within community-facing sections, the project is entering its final development and testing phase and will provide the community with a modern, accessible and user-focused online platform for accessing Council information and services.

6.8 COUNCIL SUPPORT – FIRST AID TRAINING MIENA

RECOMMENDATION 27/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council provide funding up to \$1,468 for up to 12 participants to complete First Aid Training at the Great Lake Community Centre during September 2026.

REPORT BY Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

BACKGROUND

Council has received a request from the Great Lake Community Centre seeking support to deliver accredited First Aid training for residents of Miena and the surrounding Great Lake area.

The Great Lake community is geographically remote, and access to emergency and health services can be limited. Increasing the number of residents with current first aid and CPR qualifications will strengthen community resilience, improve emergency preparedness, and contribute to positive health and wellbeing outcomes. The training will also provide an opportunity for community members to come together and build local connections.

The Great Lake Community Centre has offered to provide the venue and catering for participants.

Quotes have been obtained from First Aid Pro for onsite delivery of training at the Great Lake Community Centre. The most cost-effective option is the HLTAID011 – Provide First Aid course, which includes CPR training.

Course details are as follows:

- Cost: \$99 per participant
- Maximum participants proposed: 12
- Total training cost: \$1,188
- Minimum participant requirement: 7 participants
- Where fewer than 7 participants enrol, a minimum daily charge of \$650 applies.
- A remote area training fee of \$280 applies

Providing financial support for First Aid training in Miena will increase local emergency response capacity, strengthen community resilience, and improve access to accredited training for residents who may otherwise face significant travel barriers. The proposed funding of up to \$1,468 will enable the delivery of training for up to 12 participants and support a valuable community-led initiative.

Strategic Alignment

Supporting local access to first aid training contributes to community wellbeing, safety, resilience, and capacity building outcomes. It aligns with Council's commitment to supporting healthy, connected, and resilient communities, particularly in remote areas of the municipality.

Financial implications

Item	Cost
HLTAID011 First Aid Training (12 participants @ \$99)	\$1,188
Remote area travel fee	\$280
Total	\$1,468

Funding can be accommodated within the Community Development budget through the Community Support and Donations project area which currently has \$5,000 available.

6.9 COUNCIL IN-PRINCIPLE SUPPORT REQUEST – LOCAL RUNNING EVENT

RECOMMENDATION 28/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council provides in-principle support for the proposed Afterglow running event and associated temporary road closures, subject to the submission of a satisfactory Traffic Management Plan and completion of the required approval processes.

Attachments - Afterglow Event Business Case proposal and Support letters: Destination Southern Tasmania

REPORT BY Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's consideration of a request from local event organisers for in-principle support for the proposed **Afterglow** running and hospitality event, including support for progressing the approvals process associated with temporary road closures required to safely conduct the event.

SUMMARY

Local organisers, consisting of Chris Cosgrove, Brett Gleeson, Sam Ashton-Jones and Will Chapman, have approached Council seeking support for a proposed new destination event currently operating under the working title Afterglow.

The event is proposed for 18 April 2027 and aims to combine distance running, premium local food and beverage experiences, music and agricultural heritage within the Ouse area. The proposed event precinct would be centred around the historic Lawrenny shearing shed, with running routes traversing local roads and farmland.

The organisers have advised that temporary road closures are critical to the delivery of the event and have requested Council provide an early indication of support to allow marketing, sponsorship and event planning to proceed.

At this stage the organisers are seeking in-principle support only. Detailed traffic management arrangements, road closure approvals and operational plans would be developed and assessed through the normal approval processes.

BACKGROUND

Council has received a Business Case from the event organisers outlining the concept for Afterglow and the support sought from Council.

The event is proposed to:

- Attract participants who are seeking to have a premium, luxury experience
- Commence and conclude at the Lawrenny shearing shed precinct.
- Include a half marathon, 10km run, 5km run and walking component.
- Showcase local agricultural landscapes, food producers and tourism experiences.
- Attract up to 600 participants in its inaugural year.

The organisers have advised that road closures on sections of Ellendale Road, Dawsons Road and the Dunrobin Bridge area would be required for approximately three hours to ensure participant safety. Detailed traffic management planning has not yet been undertaken but would be prepared by an appropriately qualified provider should the event proceed.

The organisers have indicated that confirmation of Council's support is required during 2026 to enable promotion and participant registrations to commence.

Strategic Alignment

The proposal has potential to contribute to several Council strategic objectives, including:

- Promotion of the Central Highlands as visitor destinations.
- Support for tourism-related economic development.
- Encouragement of events that increase visitation and local expenditure.
- Strengthening community identity and regional profile.
- Supporting local businesses and producers through increased visitation.

Destination Southern Tasmania has provided a letter of support noting the event's capacity to generate visitor spending, regional exposure and tourism growth.

DISCUSSION

Economic and Tourism Benefits

The organisers anticipate the event will attract participants from outside the local area, generating expenditure on accommodation, hospitality, fuel, groceries and tourism experiences. While recognising the inaugural event will be relatively modest, the organisers

have identified the longer-term objective of establishing a distinctive annual event that contributes to visitation and the regional economy.

The proposal includes commitments to local procurement where possible, including engagement with local food producers, hospitality operators, accommodation providers and other service businesses.

Community Benefits

Potential community benefits identified by the organisers include:

- Increased positive exposure for the Central Highlands.
- Opportunities for volunteers, community group participation.
- Community pride and place activation.
- Enhanced recognition of local agricultural heritage and landscapes.

Road Closure Considerations

A key component of the proposal is the temporary closure of sections of the event route to ensure participant safety. The event coordinators have sought advice around Traffic Management from an approved company, who have advised that road closures on sections of Ellendale Road, Dawsons Road and the Dunrobin Bridge area would be required for approximately three hours to ensure participant safety. These roads are all under the management of the Central Highlands Council.

Any future road closure approval would require:

- Preparation of a detailed Traffic Management Plan.
- Assessment by relevant authorities.
- Consultation with affected residents and stakeholders.
- Emergency service consultation.
- Compliance with all regulatory requirements.

Risk Assessment

Potential risks associated with the event include:

- Community concerns regarding temporary road access restrictions.
- Traffic impacts on residents and visitors.
- Event cancellation due to weather or operational issues.
- Reputational impacts if the event is not managed appropriately.

These risks would be further assessed through the event planning and approval process, including review of traffic management, safety and operational plans.

Financial Implications

The current request is primarily for in-principle support. No direct financial contribution is recommended as part of this report. Should the organisers seek financial assistance, or additional Council resources, a separate report may be presented for Council consideration.

Consultation

Consultation undertaken by the organisers includes engagement with:

- Destination Southern Tasmania (DST), which has provided a formal letter of support.
- Derwent Valley and Central Highlands Tourism Association, which has verbally indicated support for the concept.

Further consultation with residents, affected landowners, emergency services and regulatory authorities would be required should the event proceed.

CONCLUSION

The proposed Afterglow event presents an innovative opportunity to establish a new destination event that promotes the Central Highlands, supports local businesses and contributes to regional tourism development.

The organisers are seeking Council's early indication of support, particularly in relation to progressing the approvals process for temporary road closures that are essential to delivery of the event.

Providing in-principle support would allow the organisers to continue detailed planning while ensuring all road closure approvals, traffic management requirements and stakeholder consultation processes remain subject to future assessment and approval.

7. RECURRENT OPERATIONS AND SERVICES

7.1 WORKS & SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT – JUNE 2026

RECOMMENDATION 29/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT the Works & Services monthly report for June 2026 be received.

REPORT BY Jason Branch, - Works & Services Manager

BACKGROUND

The following activities were performed during **June 2026** by Works & Services –

Grading & Sheeting	Interlaken Road, Tunbridge Tier Road, Old Mans Head Lane Tier, Tot Hill Road, Bashan Road, Victoria Valley Road, Macclesfield Road, Nant Lane
Maintenance Grading	Waddamana Road, Jean Banks Road
Potholing / shouldering	Wihareja Road, Dennistoun Road, Laycock Drive, Bluff Road, Interlaken Road, Strickland Road, 14 Mile Road, Victoria Valley Road, Meadowbank Road, Dawson Road, Todds Corner, Wilberville Road, Wetheron Road, Green Valley Road, Humble Road,
Spraying:	
Culverts / Drainage:	Drainage Bothwell Clean culverts Victoria Valley Road
Occupational Health and safety	Monthly Toolbox Meetings Day to day JSA and daily prestart check lists completed Monthly workplace inspections completed Playground inspections Drum Muster and Bag Muster training
Bridges:	Pothole around bridges 14 Mile Repair guard rail and posts on bridge at Victoria Valley
Refuse / recycling sites:	Cover Hamilton Tip twice weekly
Other:	Completion of Waddamana Roadworks (BlackSpot) Complete hotmix works Ellendale footpath Install new sewer line Hamilton Works Depot Winter treat swimming pool 3 x Drum Musters Picked up dumped tyres from Mark Tree road Picked up dumped rubbish from Mark Tree Road Remove tree and dirt from bridge site at Ouse River Repair bird bath in Queens Park Cold mix holes Ouse Cold mix holes Ellendale

	Repair Damaged signs Pelham Road Remove fallen tree Ellendale Road Replace guide posts Victoria Valley and Pelham
Slashing:	Hollow Tree Road
Municipal Town Maintenance:	Collection of town rubbish twice weekly Maintenance of parks, cemetery, recreation ground and Caravan Park. Cleaning of public toilets, gutters, drains and footpaths. Collection of rubbish twice weekly Cleaning of toilets and public facilities General maintenance Mowing of towns and parks Town Drainage
Buildings:	Repairs to units at Bothwell Repairs to units at Ouse
Plant:	PM843 Toyota Hilux serviced PM676 Kobelco excavator new final drives PM745 Kenworth truck new hydraulic hose PM821 Komatsu grader diverter valve
Private Works:	Ramsey Ag gravel purchase Billy Arnot gravel pick up Greg Ramsey gravel drop off Harry Triffett gravel pick up Gayleen McCaferty mower hire Danny Bailey pick up of gravel Bothwell Golf Club gravel delivery Stornoway gravel purchase
Casuals	Cleaning toilets and gardening
Program for next 4 weeks	Grading and Re-sheeting of Municipal Roads Edge breaks Ellendale Road Tree removal Dennistoun Road Potholing of Municipal Roads

7.2 REQUEST TO CART PLANTATION TIMBER ON HOLLOW TREE ROAD

RECOMMENDATION 30/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT :

1. Council grant permission for the cartage of timber along Hollow Tree Road from the Wetheron turnoff north for 3km into Bothwell for a 3-month period and then to be reviewed.
2. any defects that occur on Hollow Tree Road and the Den Road are to be repaired by the contractor; and
3. in conjunction with all conditions out lined in Orana's letter sent to Council dated 2nd July 2026.

REPORT BY Jason Branch, - Works & Services Manager

BACKGROUND

A request to Council from Orana has been made for the cartage of plantation hardwood timber on a 3km section of Hollow Tree Road from Wetheron (Abyssinia) turn off into Bothwell on to the Highland Lakes Road as there is no other suitable route at this stage.

The forest operation is on the property owned by the McShane family; If the cartage route was to go along the Den Road east to the Highland Lakes Road this section of road has some geometry issues that will require bulk earthworks, road realignment and management to rectify.

**ORANA ENTERPRISES PTY LTD**Contact Email: administration@oranaenterprises.com.au

Contact Phone: +61 400 198 438

ABN: 95 120 017 843

02/07/2026

The Councillors
Central Highlands Council
6 Tarelton Street
Hamilton, TAS 7140

To the Councillors of the Central Highlands Council,

I write to you requesting a temporary exemption to log truck traffic exclusion on Hollow Tree Road between the junction of Abyssinia Road ("Wetheron" Road) and Patrick Street, Bothwell.

Introduction:

Orana Enterprises Pty Ltd is a Tasmanian family-owned timber harvest and haulage business operating out of Legana in the North of Tasmania.

Our business employs around 130 direct full-time staff members across our harvest, haulage and mechanical services businesses statewide. Our company carries out contract timber harvest and log transport services for Forico Pty Limited, Midway Tasmania and Sustainable Timber Tasmania. We also manage the haulage operations of BW Haulage Pty Ltd, another Midway Tasmania contractor.

Our operational focus is primarily on the harvest and haulage of debarked eucalyptus log products in both long and short lengths. Timber we harvest and/or transport is processed locally at chipping facilities for pulpwood fibre export; it is exported in whole log form to be used as sawn timber, peeled for veneer or plywood, and our highest grade products are processed right here in Tasmania at local sawmills and down-stream processing facilities across the state.

The Orana business holds current harvest contracts with our customers totalling approximately 825,000t/pa of annual volume. We operate this volume over 13 individual active harvest crews spread across the state. Our transport business delivers around 1,350,000t/pa of wood from our own harvest operations and the operations of other timber harvesting contractors.

All Orana Enterprises and BW Haulage trucks are actively GPS tracked by MT Data telematics systems; all loads are delivered using electronic delivery dockets ensuring Chain of Custody compliance; our entire fleet of trucks are fitted with dash cameras, ABS and EBS systems, daytime running lights and approved frontal underrun protection devices (FUPD bars). Our business is accredited under the National Heavy Vehicle Accreditation Scheme for both Mass Management, Maintenance Management and Basic Fatigue Management.

Head Office
23a Legana Park Drive
Legana TAS 7277

North-West Workshop
10 Tom Moores Road
Wynyard TAS 7325

Postal
PO Box 162
Riverside TAS 7250

Online
www.facebook.com/oranaenterprises/
www.youtube.com/@oranaenterprises

YOUR PARTNERS IN FORESTRY

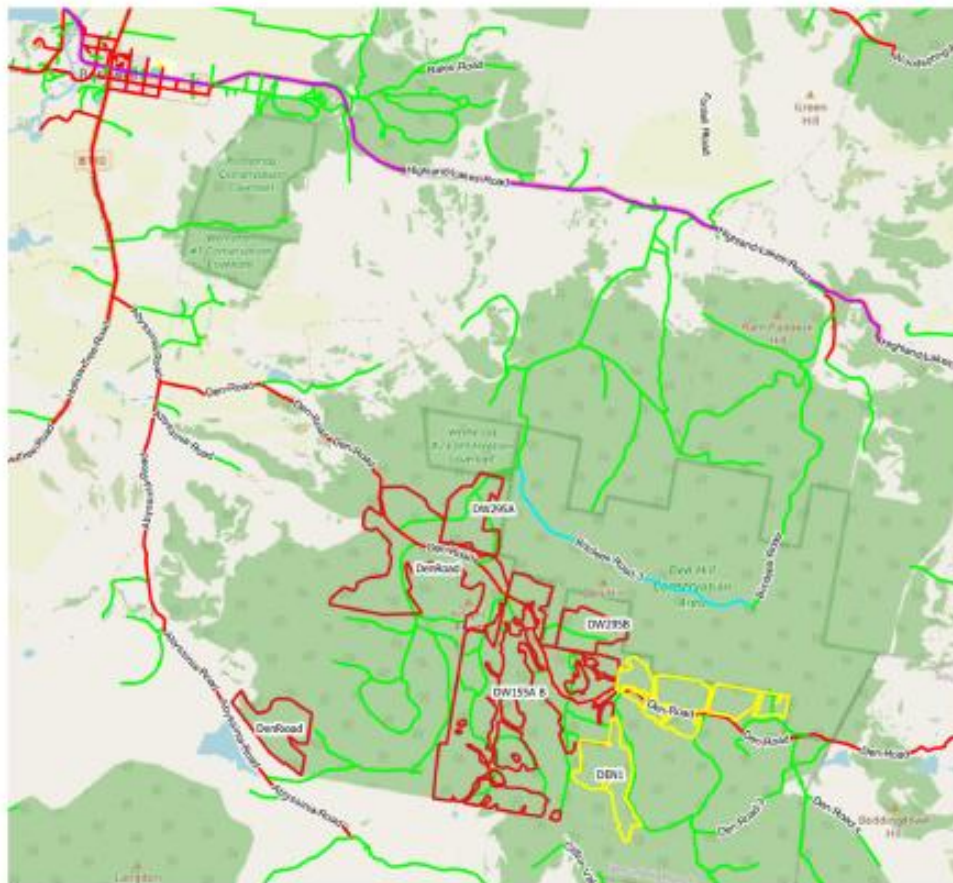
**Submission:**

Our business has been engaged by Midway Tasmania (contact person Mark Sweet 0418 361 464) to carry out haulage work for another timber harvesting contractor to take plantation hardwood from a private property on Den Road south of Bothwell to their chipping facility in Bell Bay.

There are two distinct operational areas to be harvested during this operation. This harvest and haulage operation is similar to works we carried out in late 2022, early 2023 and the nature of our need in this case is identical to the previous time.

Below is a screenshot of the operational area with highlighting in YELLOW. The harvest site, known as DEN1, will be accessed via multiple private access tracks coming onto Den Road.

Transport of harvested product will be West on Den Road, North on Abyssinia Road, North on Hollow Tree Road, then East onto Highland Lakes Road through to Midland Highway.



YOUR PARTNERS IN FORESTRY



As indicated in our submission to council in 2022, our preferred option would be to cart timber East on Den Road bypassing all need to use Hollow Tree Road or bring trucks through the township of Bothwell. However, the eastern end of Den Road has a few challenging sections that make the safe transport of logs through this road exceptionally difficult including:

- Significant areas of very steep up and down hill pulling;
- Very difficult road alignment and corners at the following GPS locations:
 - [-42.4540674, 147.0868265](#)
 - [-42.4566554, 147.0972946](#)
 - [-42.4606635, 147.1323110](#) (this is a Southern Midlands Council managed section)
 - [-42.4580901, 147.1418205](#) (this is a Southern Midlands Council managed section)
- Narrow pavement/road width and lack of safe locations where trucks and cars can pass one another with drop offs in some areas to the side of the road.

With the abovementioned points in mind, it is the view of our company and risk assessor that it is not safe for our drivers or the general public for us to proceed with transporting this resource via a cartage route that satisfies the ban on log truck traffic on Hollow Tree Road.

Hence, I write to Council requesting that a temporary exemption to the log truck ban be granted to our business for an operational period.

The request is for approximately 3km of Hollow Tree Road between Patrick Street Bothwell and Abyssinia Road ("Wetheren" Road).

To demonstrate good-will toward council and the residents of Bothwell we offer the following conditions to assist Councillors in their decision making:

- **Noise:** All drivers will be instructed to not use engine brakes on any part of Hollow Tree Road or on Patrick Street, Bothwell.
- **Speed:** Orana Enterprises will set up active geofences within our MT Data tracking system that will alert drivers to defined speed limits on roads highlighted over the page. We propose maximum truck speeds of 60kph unless otherwise signed.
- **Roads:** In cooperation with Jason Branch of CHC we would be willing to conduct a pre-cartage dilapidation survey of Hollow Tree Road to ensure traffic over the road does not degrade the surface during the exemption period.
- **Period:** To allow for safe and efficient cartage of this resource we require a 3-month operational window commencing 20/07/2026.

For further comments or to discuss the matter with us please feel free to contact me by mobile or email.

Regards,
Dwayne Kerrison
General Manager
0400 198 438
dwayne.kerrison@oranaenterprises.com.au

YOUR PARTNERS IN FORESTRY

8. CAPITAL INVESTMENT AND LEVERAGE

8.1 FRESH VALUATION OF THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS MUNICIPALITY

RECOMMENDATION 31/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council appoint the General Manager as the nominee for the Office of the Valuer General Tender Committee.

REPORT BY Adam Wilson, Deputy General Manager

BACKGROUND

The Office of the Valuer General has advised Council on the 9 July 2026 that tenders for the fresh valuation of the following municipalities of Central Highlands, Devonport, Hobart, Huon Valley, Kentish, Kingborough, Latrobe, Southern Midlands, West Coast and West Tamar pending internal review processes are intended to progress in October 2026.

The Office of the Valuer General reason for writing is to seek your nomination for the Tender Committee that will consider tenders and select the valuation contractor that will undertake the work.

The person you nominate should be able to speak on behalf of the council, particularly in relation to financial matters.

Section 11 of the Valuation of Land Act 2001 requires the Valuer-General to make valuations of the Land Value, Capital Value and Assessed Annual Value for all lands within each Municipal Area, including Crown lands that are liable to be rated in accordance with Part 9 of the Local Government Act 1993.

Section 9 and 10 of the Valuation of Land Act 2001 explains the makeup of the Tender Committees and their functions. The Valuation of Land (Tender Committee) Regulations 2022 governs the conduct of the Tender Committees.

The Committee consists of

- the Valuer-General;
- a representative of the relevant Council;
- a representative from the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT);
- a person nominated by the Treasurer who has special knowledge of, and experience in the administration of the Land Tax Act 2000;
- an independent chairperson

As such the Office of the Valuer -General requires a Council Nominee for the purposes of Tender Committee to be held in November 2026.

9. COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

Nil

10. MONITORING, REPORTING AND EVALUATION

10.1 PROTECTING LOCAL POST OFFICES ACROSS TASMANIA

RECOMMENDATION 32/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council at the LGAT Conference in August 2026 vote in support of the motion by Hobart City Council in regard to protecting local post offices across Tasmania.

REPORT BY Stephen Mackey, General Manager

DISCUSSION

The supporting documentation for this motion by Hobart City Council and the motion that was tabled at their meeting of the 29 June 2026.

The notice of motion that was unanimously supported, was as follows:

“That the following motion be submitted to the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) for consideration at its next general meeting on 19 August 2026:

“That on behalf of councils, the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT):

1. Write to express concerns to AUSTRALIA Post about the continued closure of Licenced Post Offices around the State; and
2. Write to the relevant Federal Ministers (Hon Anika Wells, Minister for Communications and b Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher, Minister for Government Services) to express these concerns and request that they refer to issue to the relevant Parliamentary Committee with a request that they review the Australian Postal Corporations Act 1989 and associated regulations with a view of ensuring Australia Post maintains, restores and expands a suitably distributed network of post offices to service the full range of communities that have come to rely upon a much greater range of community services beyond the letter service.”

10.2 REVIEW OF SECTION 11 (3), LAND USE PLANNING AND APPROVALS REGULATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 33/07.2026/C

Moved: Cr

Seconded: Cr

THAT Council support the following motion from Break O'Day Council that is to be discussed at the General Meeting of the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) on the 19 August 2026.

REPORT BY Stephen Mackey, General Manager

DISCUSSION

That Local Government Tasmania:

1. Advocate to the Tasmanian Government for the review and amendment or removal of Section 11 (3) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Regulations 2024: and
2. Support a framework that enables councils to set cost-reflective fees for permitted visitor accommodation applications.

BACKGROUND COMMENT

PURPOSE

To seek the support of Local Government Tasmania to advocate to the Tasmanian Government for the review and potential removal or amendment of Section 11(3) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Regulations 2024.

Section 11(3) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Regulations 2024 prescribes a maximum application fee of \$250.00 for permitted change of use applications for visitor accommodation within specified zones.

This provision was introduced to reduce barriers to entry for short-stay accommodation and streamline lower-risk applications.

ISSUE

Permitted applications for visitor accommodation:

- Still require full statutory assessment against the planning scheme
- Often involve site-specific considerations, including access, parking, servicing, and amenity
- Regularly generate community concern, even where no discretion exists
- Require Compliance Resource where complaints are received.

Despite this, councils are legislatively restricted to a maximum fee of \$250.00 for these applications.

DISCUSSION

The current framework results in a structural inequity within the planning fee system, where:

- Councils retain flexibility to set fees for other application types
- But are constrained in charging a fee for service relating to additional use application of existing dwelling to be used for Visitor Accommodation Use class.

IMPORTANTLY

- The volume of permitted visitor accommodation applications has increased significantly
- Even where applications are “permitted”, they are not impact-free in terms of workload
- The capped fee does not scale with demand or complexity

This is particularly relevant in municipalities experiencing:

- Growth in short-stay accommodation
- Increased pressure on housing availability
- Heightened community sensitivity to land use change

PROPOSAL

That Local Government Tasmania:

1. Advocate to the Tasmanian Government for a review of Section 11(3) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Regulations 2024
2. Seek amendment to:
 - Remove the prescribed maximum fee, or
 - Provide discretion for councils to set fees for permitted visitor accommodation applications through their adopted Fees and Charges

Financial and Resource Implications

- The capped fee results in a consistent cost to Council’s operations due to the maximum fee;
- With increasing application volumes, the cumulative financial impact is increasing.
- Reform would:
- Improve cost recovery
- Reduce reliance on ratepayer subsidy
- Support sustainable resourcing of Development Services

CONCLUSION

While Section 11(3) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Regulations 2024 was intended to streamline applications, it now creates an unintended inequity within the fee framework.

A review is warranted to ensure:

- Fairness and consistency across application types
- Appropriate cost recovery
- Long-term sustainability of local government service delivery

11. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEMS TO THE AGENDA**12. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC****RECOMMENDATION 34/07.2026/C****Moved:** Cr**Seconded:** Cr

THAT pursuant to Regulation 17 (1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, Council, by an absolute majority, close the meeting to the public to consider the following matters in Closed Session:

<i>Item Number</i>	<i>Matter</i>	
2.1	<i>Confirmation of the Minutes - Closed Session of the Meeting of Council held on 16 June 2026.</i>	<i>Regulation 17 (2)(h) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 – information of a personal and confidential nature or information provided to Council on the condition it is kept confidential.</i>
5.1	<i>Wildlife Reserve Pty Ltd (general rate exemption)</i>	<i>Regulation 17 (4)(a) legal action taken by, or involving, the council.</i>
5.2	<i>Notice Of Motion – Cr A Archer</i>	<i>Regulation 17 (2)(g) proposals for the council to acquire land or an interest in land or for the disposal of land</i>

PURPOSE

Under Regulation 17 (1) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025* 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 17 (1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, this motion requires an absolute majority.

MEETING CLOSED to the public at ____ p.m.

13. RE-OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

The meeting re-opened to the public at ____ p.m.

14. PUBLIC RELEASE ANNOUNCEMENT(S)

The Chairperson announced that pursuant to Regulation 17(6)(7) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 and having considered privacy and confidential issues, the Council authorised the release to the public of the following discussions, decisions, reports or documents relating to the closed meeting:

<i>Item Number</i>	<i>Matter</i>	<i>Decision</i>
<i>2.1</i>	<i>Confirmation of the Minutes - Closed Session of the Meeting of Council held on 16 June 2026.</i>	
<i>5.1</i>	<i>Wildlife Reserve Pty Ltd (general rate exemption)</i>	
<i>5.2</i>	<i>Notice Of Motion – Cr A Archer</i>	

15. CLOSURE

Mayor Triffitt thanked everyone for their contribution and declared the meeting closed at ____ p.m.