

# **Council Meeting Agenda**

**15<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

**Hamilton Council Chambers**

## Notice of Meeting of Council – Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025

To Councillors,

In accordance with the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, Notice is hereby given, that an Ordinary Meeting of Central Highlands Council is scheduled to be held in the Council Chamber, **Hamilton** on **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2025**, 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 2015 Part 2, Division 1, a notice of the meeting was published on the Council website on 1 August 2024.

### 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 Hamilton this **10<sup>th</sup>** day of **July 2025**.



Stephen Mackey  
**Acting General Manager**

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The meeting commenced at \_\_\_\_ a.m.

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## **AUDIO RECORDING DISCLAIMER**

As per *Regulation 33 (2) (a) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, 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.

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## **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.

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## **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.

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## 1. PRESENT

### 1.1 IN ATTENDANCE

### 1.2 APOLOGIES

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## 2. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

### RECOMMENDATION 01/07.2025/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 2015.*

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 8 (6) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the Council by absolute majority may decide to deal with a matter that is not on the agenda if, where the General Manager has reported either:

- a) The reason it was not possible to include the matter on the agenda;
- b) That the matter is urgent; or
- c) That advice of a qualified person has been obtained and taken into account in providing advice to Council under Section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

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## 3. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST BY COUNCILLORS AND STAFF

### PURPOSE

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 8 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, 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.

#### 4. MINUTES

##### 4.1 CONFIRMATION OF DRAFT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES – 17 JUNE 2025

##### **RECOMMENDATION 02/07.2025/C**

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** the Draft Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 17 June 2025 be confirmed.

**Attachment – Draft Minutes**

##### **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.

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#### 5. NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOP(S) HELD

Nil

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##### 5.1 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(s).

**TBC**

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#### 6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

In accordance with the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the Council conducts a Public Question Time Forum to enable members of the public to ask question on Council related matters.

A period of 15 minutes, if required, will be set aside at the beginning of each Ordinary Council Meeting to conduct Public Question Time. If a response to a question cannot be provided at the meeting a written response will be provided as soon as practicable.

A member of the public may give written notice to the General Manager, 7 days before a meeting of a question to be put to the Meeting.

The Chairman may invite any member of the public present at a meeting to ask questions, without notice, relating to activities of the Council, subject to the provisions of Clause 2 below.

1. Once Question Time commences the Chairman will determine the order in which questions are heard.
2. Questions may relate to any business of the Council capable of being discussed in the open portion of the meeting, and which is not listed as an item for consideration on the Agenda for the Council Meeting.
3. Members of the public proposing a question are required to be present at the Council Meeting at which their question is to be read. Where a person submits a question for Public Question Time but fails to attend the meeting, the question will be treated as general correspondence and a written response will be provided at the earliest opportunity.
4. A person asking a question, when called upon by the Chairman is requested to:
  - Stand,
  - State their name and address,
  - Read out their question.
5. The Chairman retains the right to accept or decline questions and to determine if the question is to be answered at the meeting by the appropriate Councillor or employee or written down and taken on notice. The decision to take the question on notice may also be taken by the Councillor or employee to whom the question is directed. Questions taken on notice will be answered at a later meeting.
6. The Chairman may rule a question inappropriate, and thus inadmissible if in his or her opinion it has already been asked, is unclear, irrelevant, insulting, improper or relates to any matter which would normally be discussed in the closed portion of the meeting as defined in the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.
7. Public Question Time forum will be limited to a maximum of 15 minutes in duration and will be declared closed following the expiration of the allocated time period, or where all valid questions have been dealt with, whichever is the sooner.
8. Each question is to be asked by the proponent who will be allowed a maximum of three minutes in which to put the question.
9. The Chairman will **not allow** any discussion or debate on either the question or the response.
10. Where a person proposes more than one question at any one forum, and there are a number of persons wishing to lodge questions, the Chairman may take the questions in such order so as to hear as many members of the public as practical during the time allocated.
11. The minutes of the Council Meeting will contain a summary of each question asked by members of the public and the response given.
12. Public Statements (as opposed to questions) **will not** be accepted for the reason that statements could be considered a form of participation.

Pertaining to any Planning Authority agenda item within this agenda, Council will do so in accordance with Council's Policy 2017-49.

Both the Public Question Time Procedure above and Council's Policy 2017-49 'Public Comment on Planning Agenda Items' will be available for the public to view at the meeting.



**7. PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS****7.1 PETITIONS**

Nil

**7.2 DEPUTATIONS**

Nil

**7.3 PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

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**8. NOTICE OF MOTIONS****PURPOSE**

Under Regulation 16 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 relating to Motions on Notice. It states the following:

- (5) *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, to be included on the agenda of that meeting.*

## 8.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR D MEACHEAM

### RECOMMENDATION 03/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr D Meacheam

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** Council cost the installation (if any cost) of a TasWater drinking water fountain to be installed at Bothwell.

## NOTICE OF MOTION

*Under Division 2 – Motions, Section 16 (5) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, a Councillor may give to the General Manager, at least 7 days before a meeting, written notice of a motion, together with supporting information and reasons, to be included on the agenda of that meeting.*



<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	July 15, 2025
<b>Councillor Name:</b>	David Meacheam
<b>Proposed Motion:</b>	That Council cost the installation (if any cost) of a TasWater drinking water fountain to be installed at Bothwell.
<b>Background Details:</b>	<p>On 23/6/25 I attended online the Taswater AGM. In question time I asked when the fluoridation of the Bothwell water supply might progress. The answer was 'mid 2026', suggesting that it will happen before the end of the 25/26 financial year. The annual report otherwise presented gave a dazzling number of performance indicators, and forward estimates. I'm happy to respond to any questions in relation to the AGM and can forward a copy of the presentation made to the meeting.</p> <p>What caught my attention toward the end of the session was advice of the use of free water bottle refill stations over the State. The inference was that Taswater installs these stations gratis, as a PR measure. This motion is to verify any cost to CHC. If free I would move to have a station installed on the park edge, opposite the Bothwell caravan park. If there would be a cost to CHC, I'll make it subject to a budget proposal in 2026.</p>
<b>Signature:</b>	<i>David Meacheam</i>
<b>Date:</b>	23/6/25



## 8.2 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR D MEACHEAM

### RECOMMENDATION 04/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr D Meacheam

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** Council endorse me as a representative to the proposed LGAT Learning and Development subcommittee.

## NOTICE OF MOTION

*Under Division 2 – Motions, Section 16 (5) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, a Councillor may give to the General Manager, at least 7 days before a meeting, written notice of a motion, together with supporting information and reasons, to be included on the agenda of that meeting.*

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	July 15, 2025
<b>Councillor Name:</b>	David Meacheam
<b>Proposed Motion:</b>	That Council endorse me as a representative to the proposed LGAT Learning and Development subcommittee.
<b>Background Details:</b>	As all Councillors have been advised, the responsibility for supporting learning by councillors across the State has shifted from the Office of Local Government to LGAT. Ben Morris of LGAT has advised me that LGAT will soon initiate a learning and development sub committee to oversee the program. I ask for endorsement by Council to be a representative to this committee. If this nomination is successful my intention would be to, wherever possible, attend meetings via Zoom.
<b>Signature:</b>	<i>David Meacheam</i>
<b>Date:</b>	4/7/25

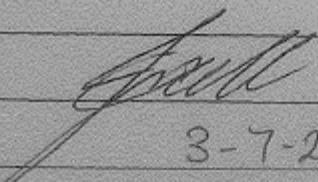
### 8.3 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR J HALL

#### RECOMMENDATION 05/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr J Hall

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** Council discuss the facilities at the Gretna Cricket Ground.

NOTICE OF MOTION	
Under Division 2 – Motions, Section 16 (5) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, a Councillor may give to the General Manager, at least 7 days before a meeting, written notice of a motion, together with supporting information and reasons, to be included on the agenda of that meeting.	
Date of Meeting:	16-7-2025
Councillor Name:	JOHN HALL
Proposed Motion:	GREYNA CRICKET GROUND CHANGE ROOMS MALE & FEMALE.
Background Details:	FOR SOME TIME, THE CRICKET GROUND HAS HAD NINE TEAMS OF PLAYERS. I CAN UNDERSTAND THEIR FRUSTRATION, WE HAVE ONLY TWO ACTIVE SPORTS FIELDS IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS MUNICIPALITY, AND THEY HAVE ALSO BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL WITH GRANT FUNDING. IF UNSUCCESSFUL AGAIN, I BELIEVE WE MAY HAVE TO SUPPORT THEM AND GET IT BUILT.
Signature:	
Date:	3-7-2024

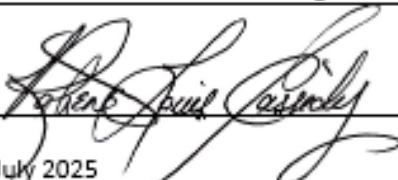
**8.4 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR R CASSIDY****RECOMMENDATION 06/07.2025/C****Moved:** Cr R Cassidy**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** Council write to the Minister of Local Government, Director of Local Government and President/CEO of LGAT to inform them that the Local Government Learning Modules should be conducted in a collegial, social, supportive environment, as during regular Council Workshops, where learning would be most effective and efficient use of a Councillor's time. Learning theory and practical application, though intertwined, is very different, in practice.



## NOTICE OF MOTION

*Under Division 2 – Motions, Section 16 (5) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, a Councillor may give to the General Manager, at least 7 days before a meeting, written notice of a motion, together with supporting information and reasons, to be included on the agenda of that meeting.*

<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	15 July 2025
<b>Councillor Name:</b>	Robert L. Cassidy
<b>Proposed Motion:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That Council write to the Minister of Local Government, Director of Local Government and President/CEO of LGAT to inform them that the Local Government Learning Modules should be conducted in a collegial, social, supportive environment, as during regular Council Workshops, where learning would be most effective and efficient use of a Councillor's time. Learning theory and practical application, though intertwined, is very different, in practice.</li> </ul>
<b>Background Details:</b>	<p>Consider the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of the approximately 300 Councillors among 29 Councils, across Tasmania, how many have an up-to-date home computer with the latest Operating System and web browsers or even a reliable and stable internet connection?</li> <li>• Of the approximately 300 Councillors among 29 Councils, across Tasmania, how many have sufficient computer or IT skills to use a computer, know how to troubleshoot a stalled web browser or have an alternative web browser?</li> <li>• Of the approximately 300 Councillors among 29 Councils, across Tasmania, how many have the additional time required to dedicate to sitting in front of their home computer to do the courses, followed by an examination.</li> <li>• Would attending a mandatory Council Workshop to cover the subjects of the Learning Modules serve the same purpose, where Councillors can ask questions and discuss to training?</li> <li>• Consider the state's budget deficit, why would it even consider employing additional personnel to manage the Local Government Learning Modules, purchase or create the software, set up a specific website, maintain internet servers, and provide client support, when it transfers it to LGAT to manage?</li> </ul>
<b>Signature:</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	7 July 2025



## **9. COUNCIL ACTING AS A PLANNING AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO THE LAND USE PLANNING AND APPROVALS ACT 1993 AND COUNCIL'S STATUTORY LAND USE PLANNING SCHEME**

### **RECOMMENDATION 07/07.2025/C**

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

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

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### **9.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION (DA-2024/44) FOR SOLAR FARM DEVELOPMENT WEASEL PLAINS, SUBMITTED BY COGENCY AUSTRALIA PTY LTD. OBO WEASEL SOLAR FARM PTY LTD**

### **RECOMMENDATION 08/07.2025/C**

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT**, in accordance with the provisions of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme – *Central Highlands* and section 57 of the *Land Use Planning & Approvals Act 1993*, Council APPROVE the Development Application (DA2024/55) for Solar Farm Development and associated infrastructure & facilities at land described as Weasel Plains and that a permit be issued with the following conditions:

#### **PERMIT CONDITIONS**

##### ***General***

1. The use or development must be substantially in accordance with the documents and drawings that comprise the Development Application No. DA 2024/55, except where modified below.
2. This permit shall not take effect and must not be acted on until 15 days after the date of receipt of this permit unless, as the applicant and the only person with a right of appeal, you notify Council in writing that you propose to commence the use or development before this date, in accordance with Section 53 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

##### ***Lighting***

3. Except in the case of an emergency, no external lighting of infrastructure associated with the facility, other than low level security lighting may be installed or operated without the further written consent of the General Manager.

##### ***Covenants***

4. Covenants or other similar restrictive controls that conflict with any provisions or seek to prohibit any use provided within the planning scheme must not be included or otherwise imposed on the titles to the lots created by this permit, either by transfer, inclusion of

such covenants in a Schedule of Easements or registration of any instrument creating such covenants with the Recorder of Titles, unless such covenants or controls are expressly authorised by the terms of this permit or the consent in writing of the Council's General Manager.

### ***Traffic Management Plan***

5. Prior to the development commencing a Pre-Construction Traffic Management Plan is to be submitted to Council for approval by the Department of State Growth and Council's Manager Works and Service. The Traffic Management Plan is to include:
  - An assessment from an Independent Engineer acceptable to the Central Highlands Council and the applicant of the condition and wear of roads, bridge and weir structures for transportation routes,
  - Details of any road closures,
  - Management of upgrades to infrastructure,
  - Traffic sign removal and reinstatement,
  - Speed limits, transport times and other restrictions during transport,
  - Management for the use of escorts for over-dimensional vehicles,
  - A public contact plan,
  - Procedures for incident management,
  - Details of permits required;
  - A maintenance program for affected roads; and
  - During construction the roads shall be maintained to their pre-construction standard to the Council's Manager Works and Service satisfaction.
6. The Design Report, Construction Environmental Management Plan, and Operational Environmental Management Plan, as required by the EPA, and/or outlined in the Development Proposal and Environmental Management Plan submitted with the application are to be submitted to Council's Manager Works and Service for approval prior to the commencement of works.

### ***Roadworks***

7. Works within the road reservation must be in accordance with the requirements of the Department of State Growth, and consistent with the following conditions:
  - a The proposed access points Weasel Plains Road – Primary Access, Construction and Emergency Access A, Construction and Emergency Access B and Tertiary and Emergency Access C are to be widened to suit the swept path of the largest vehicle expected to access the site (indicated as 19.0m semi-trailer and B-double trucks) and in accordance with TSD-R05-v3 (truck access to rural properties 'type A'). At Weasel Plains Road – Primary Access, extend the existing longitudinal culvert to suit widening.
  - b The proposed access points Weasel Plains Road – Primary Access, Construction and Emergency Access A, Construction and Emergency Access B, and Tertiary and Emergency Access C are to be upgraded and sealed from the edge of the State Road for a minimum of 30m.
  - c The existing transverse culvert opposite Weasel Plains Road – Primary Access is to be lengthened by 2 metres and backfilled to resolve narrowing of the unsealed shoulder at the junction.



- d Install W5-22 Trucks entering or crossing sign with W8-17-1 NEXT 6km on Highland Lakes Road, 150 metres south of Access B, facing northbound traffic for the duration of the construction period.
  - e Install W5-22 Trucks entering or crossing sign with W8-17-1 NEXT 6km on Highland Lakes Road, 150 metres north of Access A, facing southbound traffic for the duration of the construction period.
  - f Reposition existing 'fingerboard' signage at Highland Lakes Road / Waddamana Road intersection. Signs to be relocated closer to fence line to prevent obstructing sight lines of vehicles exiting proposed Construction and Emergency Access A. Signs are to be erected at the same height as the existing signs and on the same number of posts (50mm NB posts with minimum footings of 450 x 650mm). New posts may be required as the existing posts are likely set directly into concrete footings and will need to be cut off at ground level and as such, will be too short to be reused.
8. The internal access roads and areas set-aside for parking and associated access and turning must be designed, constructed and maintained to avoid dust or mud generation, erosion and sediment transfer off site or de-stabilisation of the soil on site or on adjacent properties to the standard required by Council's Manager Works and Service.
9. The developer must pay the cost of any alterations, damages and/or reinstatement to Road Authority's Road assets, Council infrastructure, existing services or private property incurred as a result of the development. Any work required is to be to Road Authority or Council's specifications and undertaken by the authority concerned.
10. Upon practical completion the developer in conjunction with Road Authority must undertake a post construction condition assessment of roads, bridge and weir structures for transportation routes for submission to Council's Manager Works and Service. Any damage or wear and tear, which may be attributed to the development is to be made good at the developer's expense to the satisfaction of the Council's Manager Works and Service. A minimum of 200 tonnes per KLM at the end of project would be needed to meet this condition that the gravel be an acceptable size and standard to the Central Highlands Council.

### ***Engineering drawings***

11. Prior to the commencement of works, engineering design drawings prepared by a suitably qualified person, must be submitted for approval by Council's Manager Works and Service. Engineering design drawings must be prepared in accordance with *Australian Standard AS1100* and show;
- a. All road works and accesses required by this permit;
  - b. All existing and proposed services required or associated with this permit;
  - c. All storm water management and disposal works demonstrating how storm water from all new hard surfaces and access tracks will be disposed;
  - d. All proposed stormwater treatment including water sensitive urban design
  - e. Sight distance at road junctions and accesses demonstrating compliance with the minimum requirements of the road authority;
  - f. All vegetation to be retained and removed;
  - g. Cut, fill and retaining walls
  - h. All other work required by this permit.

The final layout and footprint of works should be determined with the consultation of Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania to minimise the risk of disturbance on a site recognised by the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1975*.

The engineering plans and specifications must be prepared and certified by a professional Civil Engineer approved by Council's Manager Works and Service. The engineer must supervise the construction works.

12. Approved Engineering Plans will remain valid for a period of 2 years from the original date of approval.

## ADVICE NOTES

### The following advice applies to this permit:

- A. This planning approval shall lapse at the expiration of two (2) years from the date of the commencement of planning approval unless the development for which the approval was given has been substantially commenced or extension of time has been granted. Where a planning approval for a development has lapsed, an application for renewal of a planning approval for that development may be treated as a new application.
- B. The issue of this permit does not ensure compliance with the provisions of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1975*. 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 Heritage Act 1975*.
- C. All roads and footpaths adjoining the construction site shall be kept clear of all construction materials and debris during the construction period.  
  
Any mud tracked onto the roadway or footpath during construction shall be properly cleaned off at least by the end of the relevant working day to council approval. Failure to do so may result in Council's Works Department undertaking the clean-up works, with all costs, plus overheads being invoiced directly to the applicant.
- D. This permit does not take effect until all other approvals required for the use or development to which the permit relates have been granted.
- E. This permit does not imply that any other approval required under any other legislation or by-law has been granted.

**REPORT BY** Trent Henderson, Principal Planner (*RED SEAL Urban & Regional PLANNING*)

**Attachments:** [Development Application Documents](#)

[Planning Report prepared by Red Seal Urban & Regional Planning](#)  
[Appendix A - Planning Authority Review of issues Raised in representations received during public consultation period.](#)

## 10. ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING RESUMED

### RECOMMENDATION 09/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

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

## 11. MONTHLY MAYORAL AND ELECTED MEMBERS ACTIVITY

### RECOMMENDATION 10/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** the Council notes the Mayoral and Elected Members Activities.

### IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

<b>Strategic Plan</b>	6.2 Ensure that Council members have the resources and skills development opportunities to effectively fulfil their responsibilities
<b>Council Policy</b>	Councillor Code of Conduct Policy
<b>Legislative Context</b>	Local Government Act 1993 Local Government (General) Regulations 2015 Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2024
<b>Consultation</b>	The community and stakeholders.
<b>Impact on Budget/Resources</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Risk</b>	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**

17 June 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting (Bothwell)  
24 June 2025 Council Function (Bothwell)

- Business of Council **9**
- Elected Members - communications **14**
- Council Management communications **3**

**Deputy Mayor J Allwright**

17 June 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting (Bothwell)  
1 July 2025 Discussions with Alex Simpson (Bothwell)

**Cr A Archer**

17 June 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting (Bothwell)  
24 June 2025 Council Function – Staff Farewell (Bothwell)

**Cr A Bailey**

1 July 2025 Discussions with Alex Simpson (Bothwell)  
24 June 2025 Council Function – Staff Farewell (Bothwell)

**Cr R Cassidy**

17 June 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting (Bothwell)  
24 June 2025 Council Function – Staff Farewell (Bothwell)  
1 July 2025 Discussions with Alex Simpson (Bothwell)

**Cr J Hall**

17 June 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting (Bothwell)  
24 June 2025 Council Function – Staff Farewell (Bothwell)  
1 July 2025 Discussions with Alex Simpson (Bothwell)

**Cr J Honner**

17 June 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting (Bothwell)  
24 June 2025 Council Function – Staff Farewell (Bothwell)

**Cr D Meacheam**

17 June 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting (Bothwell)  
23 June 2025 TasWater Annual General Meeting (Zoom)  
1 July 2025 Discussions with Alex Simpson (Bothwell)

**Cr Y Miller**

17 June 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting (Bothwell)  
24 June 2025 Council Function – Staff Farewell (Bothwell)

## 12. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – COMMUNITY WELL-BEING)

### Build capacity to enhance community spirit and sense of wellbeing

- 1.1 Continue to upgrade existing public open spaces and sporting facilities and encourage community use
- 1.2 Advocate for improved health, education, transport and other government and non-government services within the Central Highlands
- 1.3 Continue to strengthen partnerships with all tiers of government
- 1.4 Support and encourage social and community events within the Central Highlands
- 1.5 Provide support to community organisations and groups
- 1.6 Foster and develop an inclusive and engaged community with a strong sense of ownership of its area
- 1.7 Foster and support youth activities in the Central Highlands

## 12.1 HEALTH AND WELLBEING PLAN 2020-2025 – MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

### RECOMMENDATION 11/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

*THAT the Health and Wellbeing report be received.*

**REPORT BY** Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

### BACKGROUND

The following activities were performed during **June 2025**.

### IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

<b>Strategic Plan</b>	1.5 Provide support to community organisations and groups
<b>Council Policy</b>	Health & Wellbeing Plan 2020-2025
<b>Legislative Context</b>	<i>Local Government Act 1993</i>
<b>Consultation</b>	As required
<b>Impact on Budget/Resources</b>	As per Council's approved budget

<b>Risk</b>	The council must ensure that it meets its legislative and governance responsibilities in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993.
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<b>COUNCIL PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES</b>	
<b>External Grants applications</b>	Received first payment: Disaster Ready Fund (DPAC) Clyde River Flood Resilience partnership with Derwent Catchment Project.
	Awaiting response: Tas Active Infrastructure Grants (DPAC) Gretna Oval application. Response expected late August.
	Awaiting response (new); Tas Drought Ready Fund – application for funding childcare solutions Options Paper for Bothwell. Response expected late July.
	Associated discussions / meetings: DPAC, Cr Allwright, Council staff, DCP, TasFarmers, Tas Farm Innovation Hub, community.
	In development: Share the Dignity free period products dispensers, for Bothwell, as raised by Cr Meacheam
<b>Council website upgrade</b>	Planning for updates to website. Information about costing, and website models to go to Councillors once available.
<b>Council strategic Plan</b>	Workshop for draft of Strategic Plan.
<b>Community Grants Program</b>	Community Grant applications - Miena Seisun, Bothwell Golf Club.  Processing and communication for approved grants for Campdraft Tasmania, Playgroup Bothwell, school supports grants, and sports rep grant.
<b>Child Safety Policy update</b>	Working with Deputy General Manager and LGAT to review Child Safety Standards compliance and update relevant policies.
<b>ANZAC Day 2026</b>	Forward planning for bugle player for ANZAC day 2026.
<b>COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT</b>	
<b>Action Crew Roving Reporter project</b>	Children's Voices in Action - Popcorn Assembly at Westerway Primary School. Following on from the Action Crew Roving reporter project. Film created by local young people at Bush Fest last year was launched at Westerway Primary School 18 June.  Action Crew are aiming to work with local young people to continue film making over coming year.

<b>Daycare Bothwell</b>	Working with Bothwell community to identify extent of need for long-daycare in Community.
<b>Central Highlands Community Health Centre — Innovative Model of Care project</b>	<p><u>Update</u> following restart of project with change in Primary Health Tasmania (PHT) project manager:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PHT is engaging with service providers to look at options for Primary Health in Ouse – including Derwent Valley Medical Centre, Bothwell Doctors, Oatlands and Brighton Doctors.</li> <li>• Tas Department of Health considering funding opportunity for Ouse. PHT have expressed interest in collaboration.</li> <li>• PHT remain interested in involving Council in the local project officer position and aims to define the role collaboratively.</li> </ul>
<b>RACT driver training</b>	<p>RACT learner driver training, funded to Council through Cattle Hill Wind Farm Grant round 2, continues to be delivered to community.</p> <p>10 lessons to be delivered to Ouse, Ellendale, Hamilton residents 15 &amp; 24 July. Final round to be delivered later in year to Bothwell.</p>
<b>School holiday programs</b>	Support for school holiday activities Ouse Online access centre. Meetings with Kids in the Valley to look at events for upcoming school holidays, with focus on Ellendale and Hamilton.
<b>South Central Workforce</b>	Supporting job networking event to be held Hamilton Hall 17 July.
<b>Rural Business Tasmania</b>	Supporting re-launch of rural financial counselling service being run out of Bothwell Council offices once a fortnight. Commencing 9 July, 30 July and 13 August. 10am to 4:30pm.
<b>Additional meetings</b>	Local Government Health and Wellbeing Network; Communities for Children Working Group; Osterley Church for a possible Christmas Service
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>	
<b>Rate notice annual newsletter</b>	Development of rates newsletter for 25-26
<b>New noticeboard Ellendale</b>	Support for activation, and communication with community.
<b>Journey to the Centre of the earth brochure</b>	Update, edit, and reprint for Tourism Brochure exchange
<b>Residents guide</b>	Finalisation of community information and layout for printing.

<b>Council social media</b>	Facebook account– 01-30 June net increase 10. Audience: 2,716. Posts: voting for Bothwell in top tourism town award, Ellendale noticeboard, Job vacancy: Hamilton Refuse disposal site caretaker, SWN jobs event, Bushfest.
<b>Market Place Noticeboard</b>	Working to update tourism contents of noticeboard opposite Visitors Centre, Bothwell.
<b>Highland Digest</b>	Liaising with Digest to include relevant council and community content monthly.

## 12.2 COMMUNITY GRANT REQUEST – BOTHWELL GOLF CLUB HIGHLANDS GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS

### RECOMMENDATION 12/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** Council allocate \$1,900 to Bothwell Golf Club and provide in-kind support for their annual Highland Championship event in July 2025.

**REPORT BY** Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

### BACKGROUND

The Bothwell Golf Club has submitted a Community Grant request for \$1,900 for their annual Highland Championship event in July 2025. The event will see up to 120 players attend a one-day event at the Bothwell Golf Course. In addition to providing opportunities for locals and non-local to gather for a social and sporting event, the Highland Golf Championship is a major fundraiser for the Bothwell Golf Club, allowing the club to continue running throughout the year.

Council has provided funding for this event in previous years. In 2024, a Community Grant of \$900 was provided for the event.

In addition to financial support, the Bothwell Golf Club are requesting the following in-kind support: **supply of six wheelie bins for collection of garbage and recycling**. This support has been offered in previous years.

There is currently \$15,000 remaining in the Community Grants budget for 25-26 financial year.



## 12.3 COMMUNITY GRANT REQUEST – FOLK FEDERATION TASMANIA MIENA SEISIUN

### RECOMMENDATION 13/07.2025/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 music event at Miena in February 2026.

**REPORT BY** Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

**Attachment** - Redacted grant application, including support letters from Great Lake Fire Brigade, Great Lake Community Centre and Session Players Tasmania and Media article for 2025 Miena Seisiún

### BACKGROUND

The Miena Seisiún (Irish word for session) committee has submitted a Community Grant request for costs associated with their annual event at the Great Lake Community Centre in February 2026.

The aim of the event is to provide an opportunity for players of traditional Celtic music from across Tasmania to meet and play together; and to provide an enjoyable concert and dance experience for the local community.

Miena Seisiún group was formed in 2023 with aim of conducting an annual event, which was sponsored by the Great Lake Hotel and originally formed part of the Tasmanian Highlands Gathering program. In 2025, after consultation with the musical participants, the coordinators decided to hold this as a stand-alone event, to be held in February. The event committee at this stage became a sub-committee of the Folk Federation of Tasmania.

The group are actively applying for additional grants for the remainder of the costs for the event.

Free tickets will be offered to any local young people who wish to attend.

There is currently \$15,000 remaining in the Community Grants budget for 25-26 financial year.

## 12.4 COMMUNITY DONATION REQUEST – REPTILE RESCUE

### RECOMMENDATION 14/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** Council provide a donation of \$500 to Reptile Rescue Inc for their running costs for delivery of rescue and relocation services.

**REPORT BY** Kat Cullen, Community Development Officer

**Attachment** - Letter requesting support from Reptile Rescue Inc

### BACKGROUND

Reptile Rescue Inc. is an incorporated, not for profit group that has been operating in Tasmania since 1999. It coordinates the removal of errant snakes in every municipality in Tasmania, relying on a network of trained and approved independent volunteer rangers.

In order that this service can function, they are requesting for financial assistance from every council throughout Tasmania.

Reptile Rescue receives approximately 8,000 calls per year. In the Central Highlands in the last summer season, there were approximately 10 calls outs, in an area covered by 5 local volunteer rangers.

The Community Grants budget currently has \$15,000 allocation available.

### 13. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – INFRASTRUCTURE AND FACILITIES)

#### Manage Council's physical assets in an efficient and effective manner

- 2.1 Develop and implement a 10 year Asset Management Plan for all classes of assets
- 2.2 Continue to lobby at regional and state levels to improve transport and infrastructure
- 2.3 Seek external funding to assist with upgrading of existing infrastructure and funding of new infrastructure and facilities
- 2.4 Ensure that the standard of existing assets and services are maintained in a cost effective manner

#### 13.1 WORKS & SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT – JUNE 2025

#### RECOMMENDATION 15/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** the Works & Services monthly report for June 2025 be received.

**REPORT BY** Jason Branch, Works & Services Manager

#### BACKGROUND

The following activities were performed during **June 2025** by Works & Services –

<b>Grading &amp; Sheeting</b>	Interlaken Road, Meadsfield Road, Green Valley Road, Waddamana Road, Victoria Valley Road, Bashan Road
<b>Maintenance Grading</b>	Norley Road, Woodmoor Road, Lanes Tier Road, Bethune Park Road, Montford Road
<b>Potholing / shouldering</b>	Weasel Plains Road, Rotherwood Road, Waddamana Road, Interlaken Road, Todds Corner Road, Green Valley Road, 14 Mile Road, Victoria Valley Road, Strickland Road, Meadowbank Road, Gully Road, Bridge Road, Tor Hill Road, Langloh Road
<b>Spraying:</b>	
<b>Culverts / Drainage:</b>	Clean culverts Waddamana Road Clean culverts Victoria Valley Road Clean culverts McGuires Marsh Road
<b>Occupational Health and safety</b>	Monthly Toolbox Meetings Day to day JSA and daily prestart check lists completed Monthly workplace inspections completed Playground inspections

	Traffic control training for all staff Recognition for prior learning on some plant ticket
<b>Bridges:</b>	
<b>Refuse / recycling sites:</b>	Cover Hamilton Tip twice weekly
<b>Other:</b>	2 x drum musters Repair Park gates Hamilton Remove graffiti from BBQ area Ellendale Park Replace Bannister Road street Sign Replace Wayatinah Street blade sign Cold mix holes Ellendale Road Repair defect Ellendale Road Remove carpet and furniture from Ouse housing unit 1 Pick up roadside rubbish Hollow Tree Road Pick up roadside litter Dawson Road Clean truck wash Repair cattle ramp Interlaken Road Repair roadside rubbish bins Lake Crescent. Coldmix holes Wayatinah Road Sign maintenance Torhill Road Install gate Ouse Park Clean drains Ellendale Clean drains Gretna
<b>Slashing:</b>	Pelham Road Mark tree Road Sonners Road
<b>Municipal Town Maintenance:</b>	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
<b>Buildings:</b>	Paint inside of housing unit number 1at Ouse, new locks and front door Repair taps Bothwell recreation ground Install rail and blind Bothwell medical centre
<b>Plant:</b>	PM726 John Deer tractor and slasher new bolts PM840 Toyota Hilux new tyres PM845 Kenworth service PM756 Kenworth service and new turbo PM794 JCB Backhoe new slides

	PM848 Ford Ranger serviced PM863 Triton new tyres PM864 JCB Backhoe service
<b>Private Works:</b>	Backhoe and truck hire Michael Brooks Gravel Rothermay Pastrol
<b>Casuals</b>	Toilets, rubbish and Hobart Hamilton general duties
<b>Program for next 4 weeks</b>	Sheeting and grading of Municipal Roads Cleaning of culverts Municipal Roads Cattle grid installation Green Valley Road Repair water leak Bothwell public showers

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### 13.2 COMMON SEAL ON GRANT DEED 2025-26 BLACK SPOT PROGRAM TOR HILL ROAD

#### RECOMMENDATION 16/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** Council authorise the Acting General Manager to use the Common seal for the signing of the Grant Deed Black Spot Funding for Tor Hill Road, Southwest Junction with Mansfield Road, West of Bothwell.

**REPORT BY** Stephen Mackey, Acting General Manager

#### DISCUSSION

Councils Works and Services Manager made application under the 2025-26 Black Spot Funding Program for \$200,000.00 to assist council to undertake works on a 400- metre-long section of the Tor Hill Road, south-west of the junction with Meadsfield Road, west of Bothwell.

The work will be delivered in accordance with the Black Spot Program Project brief including any recommendations contained in the Project Brief. The estimated cost of this project is \$225,600.00

This grant deed was countersigned by the Acting General Manager of State Roads on the 11<sup>th</sup> June

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### **13.3 COMMON SEAL ON GRANT DEED 2025-26 BLACK SPOT PROGRAM WADDAMANA ROAD**

#### **RECOMMENDATION 17/07.2025/C**

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** Council authorise the Acting General Manager to use the Common seal for the signing of the Grant Deed Black Spot Funding for a section of the Waddamana Road south of Waddamana.

**REPORT BY** Stephen Mackey, Acting General Manager

#### **DISCUSSION**

Councils Works and Services Manager made application under the 2025-26 Black Spot Funding Program for \$232,460.00 to assist council to undertake works on a 200- metre-long section of the Waddamana Road south of Waddamana.

The work will be delivered in accordance with the Black Spot Program Project brief including any recommendations contained in the Project Brief. The estimated cost of this project is \$258,060.00

This grant deed was countersigned by the Acting General Manager of State Roads on the 11th June 2025.

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### **13.4 COMMON SEAL ON GRANT DEED - ISOLATED COMMUNITIES RESILIENCE STREAM 2 AND 3**

#### **RECOMMENDATION 18/07.2025/C**

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** Council authorise the Acting General Manager to use the Common seal for the signing of the two Grant Deeds for the Isolated Communities Resilience Stream 2 and 3.

**REPORT BY** Katrina Brazendale, Executive Assistant

#### **DISCUSSION**

Council has been successful in receiving funding through the Isolated Communities Resilience Grant Program Stream 2 and 3 for a total amount of \$54,192.60. This funding has already been received by Council.

This funding is to be used for equipment and resources that can be used in the evacuation facilities, the larger items that have already been ordered are 2 x Portable Shower and Toilet Facilities along with Portable Fencing with blocks and brackets.

These items are to be made available for other Council's in any emergency situation, but as Central Highlands Council retains the ownership of the items, we will always get priority use.

There was however a shortfall of approximately \$2,000 for the freight costs associated with delivery, the amount will come from the budget allocation for recovery expenses.

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## **14. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY)**

### **Manage Council's finances and assets to ensure long term viability and sustainability of Council**

- 3.1 Manage finances and assets in a transparent way to allow the maximisation of resources to provide efficient and consistent delivery of services
- 3.2 Review annually, Council's Long Term Financial Management Plan and Council's Long Term Asset Management Plan
- 3.3 Where efficiency gains can be identified, resource share services with other local government councils
- 3.4 Endeavour to, and continue to lobby for, an increase in the level of grant income
- 3.5 Encourage development to expand Council's rate base
- 3.6 Identify revenue streams that could complement/substitute for existing resources
- 3.7 Develop and maintain sound risk management processes

### **14.1 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT TO 30 JUNE 2025**

No monthly finance report will be provided for 30 June 2023. All monthly figures cannot be finalised at this time due to end of financial year processing and auditing.



## 14.2 RATE RELIEF REQUEST – OUSE COMMUNITY COUNTRY CLUB

### RECOMMENDATION 19/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** Council;

- a) *grant a remission of \$539.79 – this being 50% of the general rate on property No 01-0810-03938 for Ouse Community Country Club; and*
- b) *grant a remission of \$697.86 – this being 50% general rate and total garbage charge on Property No 01-0805-03937 for Ouse Community Country Club.*

**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 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.

Ouse Community Club house; the other being Golf Course and Sheds. The current rates and suggested rates relief are as follows:

Rates, levies and rebate calculation – Ouse Country Club			
			Rebate
<b>Bowls Green &amp; Club House</b>  <b>PID 01-0810-03938</b>	General Rate:	\$1079.57	\$539.79 (50%)
	Garbage Rate:	\$654.00	
	Fire Levy Rate:	\$62.14	
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1795.71</b>	<b>\$539.79</b>
<b>Golf Course &amp; Sheds</b>  <b>PID 01-0805-03937</b>	General Rate:	\$963.71	\$481.86 (50%)
	Garbage Rate:	\$216.00	\$216.00 (100%)
	Fire Levy Rate:	\$50.00	
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$1229.71</b>	<b>\$697.86</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3025.42</b>	<b>\$1237.65</b>

## 15. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – NATURAL ENVIRONMENT)

### Encourage responsible management of the natural resources and assets in the Central Highlands.

- 4.1 Continue to fund and support the Derwent Catchment Project
- 4.2 Continue with existing waste minimisation and recycling opportunities
- 4.3 Promote the reduce, reuse, recycle, recover message
- 4.4 Continue the program of weed reduction in the Central Highlands
- 4.5 Ensure the Central Highlands Emergency Management Plan is reviewed regularly to enable preparedness for natural events and emergencies
- 4.6 Strive to provide a clean and healthy environment
- 4.7 Support and assist practical programs that address existing environmental problems and improve the environment

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### 15.1 DERWENT CATCHMENT PROJECT

#### RECOMMENDATION 20/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** the Derwent Catchment Project Report for June 2025 and the Chairmans report for 2024/2025 (included in the attachments) be received.

**Attachment** – Chairmans report for 2024/2025



## Derwent Catchment Project Council Report June-July 2025

### General business

We have confirmed our AGM will be in the Derwent Valley this year (as last year it was held in the Central Highlands). The AGM will be held at Derwent Estate wines on September the 26th at 5pm. Please come along. We will update you with details closer to the event.

#### Nature Repair Plan Pilot

The inception meeting with representatives from the Australian Government's Biodiversity Division at the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water to progress the Nature Repair Pilot project was held in late June. The next step in the process is to prepare a grant application (although) its non-competitive to define the project and funding milestones. There are 31 environmental projects across Australia that have received funding through election commitments that fall within this funding stream. The portal for applications will open in August with the intent that funds will begin to flow in this calendar year.

### Agri-best practice programs

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

#### Carbon outreach program – Workshop on Emissions reporting, Carbon & Biodiversity

This workshop explored the intersection of agriculture, climate change, and emerging environmental markets. It covered:

- The growing importance of emissions reporting in agriculture, driven by market and regulatory pressures.
- Key greenhouse gases from farming and how measuring a farm's carbon footprint can help farmers reduce emissions intensity and meet supply chain expectations.
- Overview of carbon farming opportunities in Australia, including reforestation, plantation forestry, and soil carbon projects, highlighting eligibility, costs, and potential benefits.

- Introduction to nature and biodiversity markets, explaining concepts like natural capital and the Nature Repair Market, and outlining how farmers might earn income from conservation and restoration activities.
- Practical guidance on using carbon calculators, setting baselines, and identifying actions to reduce on-farm emissions before considering offsets.
- Emphasis on integrating stewardship with revenue by viewing natural assets as part of farm business strategy.

Overall, the session aimed to demystify carbon and biodiversity markets, encourage proactive emissions tracking, and help land managers prepare for future market opportunities and compliance requirements.

#### Pasture Network

June was a busy month for the Pasture Network, carrying out a range of activities:

- A trial site assessment
- Field walk at Westerway,
- Presentation on the results of previous work at Hamilton with a meet and greet BBQ
- Development of four pasture management factsheets
- Development and delivery of native pasture workshop content
- Finalisation of a baseline report collating farmer feedback informing future activities and demonstrations.

The trial walk at Westerway and results presentation at Hamilton addressed the key observations based on the assessments of Phalaris and cocksfoot pasture species that were affected by the corbie grub damage in October 2024. Phalaris plots experienced little grub impact, whilst all cocksfoot cultivars experienced significant damage and subsequent loss of plant density. Currently, only Uplands cocksfoot appears to be recovering from the corbie damage. The phalaris plots have continued to improve, largely unaffected.

To help deliver this information, we created four fact sheets about corbie grub damage, highlighting the interaction between sowing success and site preparation across five direct-drilled trial sites, assessing pasture condition, and understanding the limiting factors. These have been further developed for publication as part of our Climate Smart agriculture project being delivered for NRM South. Farmer interviews conducted for this project have been collated to guide future activities, identify topics of interest and value, and scope appropriate management practices suitable for practical demonstration trials. One topic raised has been the management of native and naturalised pastures. Workshop content has been developed and was delivered at a workshop with NRM North in Campbell Town/Ross. We will apply this content within local network activity.

## Weed Management Programs

### Central Highlands Weed Management Plan

*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.*

The team has been working hard to complete reports (see attached) and get final approval for this year's programs, while making sure all the required data is uploaded to the state database. Now that these programs are finished, we're turning our focus to next year. We're starting conversations with our stakeholders to look at what's been achieved, talk about what's needed next, and work together to create a plan for the year ahead.

## 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.*

### Hamilton Native Plant Nursery

More plants continue to be delivered to our river restoration sites, helping to support ongoing revegetation efforts. Karen has been working alongside new staff, providing valuable training on how to set out plantings and what to consider when choosing suitable locations for each species. Large-scale orders are also still being prepared and dispatched to meet current demand. Final preparations for the remaining components of the nursery expansion are being finalised to support future growth. Additionally, discussions have begun with TAFE and other local nurseries to plan seed collection activities for the spring.

## Rivers

### Tyenna River Recovery

We've recently wrapped up a review of the willow treatment program, which has helped shape a new plan for the 2025–26 season. The plan builds on what's been done so far and aims to tackle willows over a wider area. Plantings are lined up for three key sites, and machine works are expected to kick off in Westerway once winter is over. We're also casting the net wider to find and treat willows on private land further from the river, helping to reduce the chance of them coming back.

### Clyde River – Flood Resilience Project

We are currently in the initial planning phases undertaking a GIS analysis using LIDAR data to ensure we have a good understanding of choke points and high risk erosion sites.

## Grant applications

Tasmanian Regional Drought Resilience – Quick Wins Grants Program 2025. The project, titled "**Voices of Resilience**," seeks to collect and share stories of drought, climate change, and adaptation from farmers and community members in Tasmania's Central Highlands and Derwent Valley. Outputs include a podcast series distributed online and via local radio, and a community BBQ to encourage further dialogue and connection.

The total amount requested for the project was **\$13,000**. (Pending)

Yours Sincerely,  
The Derwent Catchment Team

#### *Key Contacts:*

Josie Kelman (CEO) 0427044700

Eve Lazarus (Deputy CEO) 0429170048

Morgan McPherson (Operations Manager) 0418 667 426

Karen Phillips (Nursery Manager) 0400 039 303

## 16. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT)

### Encourage economic viability within the municipality

- 5.1 Encourage expansion in the business sector and opening of new market opportunities
- 5.2 Support the implementation of the Southern Highlands Irrigation Scheme
- 5.3 Continue with the Highlands Tasmania and Bushfest branding
- 5.4 Encourage the establishment of alternative industries to support job creation and increase permanent residents
- 5.5 Promote our area's tourism opportunities, destinations and events
- 5.6 Support existing businesses to continue to grow and prosper
- 5.7 Develop partnerships with State Government, industry and regional bodies to promote economic and employment opportunities
- 5.8 Work with the community to further develop tourism in the area

### 16.1 DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

#### RECOMMENDATION 21/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

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

**REPORT BY** Kathy Bradburn, Senior Administration

#### PLANNING PERMITS ISSUED UNDER DELEGATION

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

#### **NO PERMIT REQUIRED**

DA NO.	APPLICANT	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
2025/00032	B J Banks	10 Nielsen Crescent, Morass Bay	Outbuilding
2025/00033	D H Raffaele	11 Ruby Road, Miena	Outbuilding

**PERMITTED**

DA NO.	APPLICANT	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
2025/00031	D Bluett	728 Arthurs Lake Road, Arthurs Lake	Change of Use to Visitor Accommodation

**DISCRETIONARY**

DA NO.	APPLICANT	LOCATION	PROPOSAL
2025/00027	Goldwind Australia Pty Ltd	1839 Bashan Road, Waddamana	Meteorological Mast

**ANIMAL CONTROL**

Total Number of Dogs Registered in 2024/2025 Financial Year – 966

Total Number of Kennel Licences Issued for 2024/2025 Financial Year – 52

2025/2026 Dog Registration Renewal have been issued and are due by 31 July 2025.

<b>Statistics as of 04 July 2025</b>	
Number of Dogs Impounded during last month	0
Number of Dogs Currently Registered	164
Number of Dogs Pending Re-Registration	771
Number of Kennel Licence Renewals Issued	6



## 16.2 TOWNSHIP STRUCTURE PLANNING PROJECT – FINAL STRUCTURE PLANS

### RECOMMENDATION 22/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** the Final Structure Plans for Bothwell, Hamilton and Ouse as attached be endorsed.

**REPORT BY** Damian Mackey, Planning Consultant

**Attachment** – Bothwell, Hamilton and Ouse Final Structure Plans

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to present the final township Structure Plans for Bothwell, Hamilton and Ouse for endorsement by Council.

### **BACKGROUND**

The project to develop Structure Plans for the townships of Bothwell, Hamilton and Ouse has progressed to the final stage in which endorsement from full Council is now sought.

This work has been ongoing since early 2024 and has involved a number of Councillor workshops and community consultation phases.

Community consultation initially included online surveys, intercept surveys, interviews with key stakeholders, infrastructure providers & community groups and a 'community workshop' held in each town.

By October 2024, drafts of the three plans had been developed to the stage where Council endorsed them for the next phase of community consultation. This started in November 2024 and was initially scheduled to end prior to the Christmas break. However, due to increasing levels of community awareness and interest, Council extended this community consultation phase to the end of February 2025, which in practice further extended into March with submissions still be being received in that month.

In May 2025, a Council workshop was held to considered all the points made in the submissions, in conjunction with the project consultants. The various issues had been analysed in a briefing paper and Council was able to resolve its position on each of them. It should be noted that a number of issues were challenging to resolve, as some were complex and various community members expressed different, sometimes opposing, viewpoints.

The consultant team, led by Niche Studio and including Entura and Urban Enterprise, conducted extensive research and data analysis, and produce a Background Report and an Economic Report. The latter was supplemented with a municipality-wide, future-oriented report 'Socio-Economic Futures: A Strategic, Dynamic Analysis & Directions', by Creating Preferred Futures. These, together with the various community consultation reports, formed the foundations of the Structure Plans.

The outcomes of the May Council workshop have now been synthesised into the structure plans and final versions have been produced for Council endorsement.

**WHAT WILL ENDORSING THE STRUCTURE PLANS MEAN?**

Structure Plans are 'strategic plans' developed by Councils in consultation with local communities, with the assistance of professional external planning consultants and with input from key stakeholders and infrastructure providers. They inform Council decisions going forward on a range of matters. These pertain to planning scheme amendments, Council's operational plans and budgets, the way Council works with community groups, desirable upgrades to community infrastructure and new community infrastructure projects, economic development initiatives that fall within Council's purview and Council's lobbying efforts to higher levels of Government.

Within the Tasmanian Planning System, 'Structure Plans' have no statutory weight. For example, structure plans may identify desirable planning scheme zone changes, however the local Council will still need to make a determination (as statutory planning authority under the *Land Use Planning & Approvals Act 1993*) to initiate the usual planning scheme amendment process, undertake the statutory public notification, assess any submissions received, and then pass the matter over the Tasmanian Planning Commission for the normal public hearing and final determination process. The fact that a proposed planning scheme amendment is supported by a Structure Plan endorsed by the local Council will carry substantial weight, but it will not automatically mean that the Planning Commission will approve the planning scheme amendment.

Similarly, when Council is determining its next budget and operational plans, the endorsed Structure Plans will provide strong direction. Whether a particular project is funded and undertaken in a particular year will be up to the Council at the time.

Overall, the most beneficial aspect of Structure Plans developed in close consultation with the community is that their 'vision' and final recommendations represent the collective wishes of the community, tempered by the reality of financial and infrastructure constraints. The process of their development is an important mechanism through which these things are captured and any competing or opposing points of view are resolved by the democratically elected representatives of the people, with independent expert advice.

**THE DRAFT STRUCTURE PLANS**

The three final Structure Plans are enclosed for Councillor's consideration.

The appendices, (the supporting reports and community consultation analyses), have previously been provided.

For each town the Structure Plans include a vision, opportunities & constraints, land use values & hazards, infrastructure and infrastructure constraints, existing and desirable community facilities, heritage values, and implementation strategies.

They represent the end product of an 18-month project which has involved extensive community consultation and several Councillor workshops at critical junctures.

The resolution of the various issues and suggestions raised during the most recent community consultation, as resolved at the May 2025 Councillor workshop, have been incorporated into the documents. The three Structure Plans are considered suitable for Council endorsement.

## 17. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP)

### **Provide governance and leadership in an open, transparent, accountable and responsible manner in the best interests of our community**

- 6.1 Ensure Council fulfils its legislative and governance responsibilities and its decision making is supported by sustainable policies and procedures
- 6.2 Ensure that Council members have the resources and skills development opportunities to effectively fulfil their responsibilities
- 6.3 Ensure appropriate management of risk associated with Council's operations and activities
- 6.4 Provide a supportive culture that promotes the well-being of staff and encourages staff development and continuous learning
- 6.5 Provide advocacy on behalf of the community and actively engage government and other organisations in the pursuit of community priorities
- 6.6 Consider Council's strategic direction in relation to resource sharing with neighbouring councils and opportunities for mutual benefit
- 6.7 Support and encourage community participation and engagement
- 6.8 Ensure that customers receive quality responses that are prompt, accurate and fair
- 6.9 Council decision making will be always made in open council except where legislative or legal requirements determine otherwise.

### 17.1 COLLABORATIVE NETWORKS OF SOUTHERN TASMANIAN COUNCILS

#### **RECOMMENDATION 23/07.2025/C**

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

**THAT** Council:

1. Endorse the Collaborative Network of Southern Tasmanian Councils, which would be delivered through Regional Development Australia (Tasmania) and replace the regional collaboration role previously provided by the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority.
2. Request the Southern Tasmanian Council Authority Board to commence a wind up process in accordance with the rules of the Joint Authority.

**REPORT BY** Stephen Mackey, Acting General Manager

**Attachment** – Potential Population Based Fee Schedule additional information December 2024 and RDAT Proposal to STCA Dec 24

**Report Summary and Key Issue**

- 2.1. The purpose of this report is for the Council to consider its support for a new operating model to facilitate Local Government collaboration within the Southern region.

**BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**

2.2. The Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA) was established in 2006 to enable the 12 Southern Councils to work together to facilitate and coordinate agreed regional development strategies and actions for the Southern Region.

2.3. The STCA initially comprised the twelve (12) Councils included: Brighton, Central Highlands, Clarence City, Derwent Valley, Glamorgan/Spring Bay, Glenorchy City, Hobart City, Huon Valley, Kingborough, Sorell, Southern Midlands and Tasman.

2.3.1. The Board of the STCA comprises the Mayor of each member or an elected representative of that member as the Mayor's nominee. The General Manager/CEO of each member may attend Board meetings and act in place of the Mayor or nominee of their council if the Mayor or the nominee is absent from a Board meeting.

2.3.2. The Authority is auspiced by City of Hobart for the provision of employment and accounting services.

2.4. The membership of the STCA has been in decline over many years with Glenorchy, Kingborough and Clarence having previously withdrawn and Glamorgan Spring Bay and Derwent Valley Councils withdrawing last year.

2.5. Given the withdrawal of the above Councils it means that the STCA is now only representing only seven (7) of the twelve (12) Southern Council areas, which includes around 40% of the population of the Southern Tasmania

2.6. The withdrawal of the Derwent Valley Council last year occurred at the same time of the resignation on the former STCA Executive Officer, and this series of events culminated in the members appointing Regional Development Australia (RDA) (Tasmania ) to deliver executive support to the authority to facilitate a full review of STCA in 2024.

2.7. The review has explored a variety of options for delivering a workable regional collaboration model for southern Tasmania, however, it is important not to simply follow the mistakes of the past.

2.8. The primary reason that the STCA has been subjected to such a 'rocky' history is the fact that the region has been asking too much of it as an organisation. It has been expected to provide a regional development service that can reasonably meet the needs and demands of the numerous City Councils, while also meeting the needs and demands of the regional

Councils, which vary in size, needs and capacity. History has demonstrated that this is not achievable as a majority of the City Councils have withdrawn their membership as they have identified that their needs are vastly different to those of the majority of STCA members and they believe that membership in the STCA is detrimental to their respective interests.

2.9. There is an ongoing need for the southern Council to engage closely particularly in respect to the southern regional land use strategy and other regional priority areas.

2.10. Accordingly, an alternative approach to regional engagement between the southern Councils is required in which the needs of regional Councils can be balanced against the needs of the Metropolitan Councils, and the regional projects such as the Southern Regional Land Use Strategy (and others), can continue to be regionally managed.

2.11. The review has identified that RDA (Tasmania) is ideally placed to support the development of a regional collaboration model in Southern Tasmania as it is consistent with the overall purpose and mission of the organisation. RDA is well versed in managing conflicting interests in their advocacy and engagement work and, given that it is an existing organisation, would prevent the need to establish a new regional organisation.

2.12. At its meeting on 16 December 2024, the STCA Board unanimously supported the formation and funding of a proposed Southern Tasmanian Council Network which would be supported by RDA Tasmania.

2.13. As previously mentioned, RDA (Tasmania) has been successfully supporting the STCA, through secretariat support, over the last twelve months and has provided a proposal to support a collaborative network of Southern Tasmanian councils in lieu of a formal STCA model, which is attached.

2.14. The collaborative network would aim to foster quarterly collaboration forums and joint policy setting focused on data and insights as well as managing shared service opportunities and regional project collaboration on an as needs basis.

2.15. The Southern Tasmanian councils share overlapping priorities and challenges, including economic development, infrastructure, community well-being, and sustainable growth.

2.15.1. A coordinated approach is crucial to maximise resources, improve efficiencies, and address shared challenges effectively as well as more effective advocacy for shared priorities.

2.16. RDA Tasmania, with its expertise in regional collaboration, strategic planning, and data-driven decision-making is well positioned to support this initiative.

2.17. The objectives of the collaborative network would be to:

- Facilitate collaboration by providing a structured platform for councils to exchange knowledge, align priorities, and foster partnerships
- Leverage data and insights to enable evidence-based decision-making by sharing regional data, analytics, and trends
- Encourage efficiency by identifying shared service opportunities and streamline resource allocation

- Drive strategic projects by supporting collaborative projects that address regional challenges and opportunities
- Enhance governance by providing administrative and logistical support to ensure forums are effective and outcomes focused
- Regional communication by providing a point of contact for stakeholders to engage at a southern scale.

2.18. The governance structure for the new model would include the Chief Executive Officer/General Manager or delegate from each Southern Tasmanian council with the role of chairperson rotating amongst the councils and supported by RDA Tasmania.

2.19. Elected Members would be engaged in the business of the Network via their respective CEO's/General Managers and ultimately would be responsible for making decisions in respect to their respective Councils involvement and/or expenditure on regional collaboration initiatives.

2.20. It is proposed to hold regional Elected Member forums periodically to consider matters of regional importance with a **Council of Mayors** (or elected delegate) to be held once a year in conjunction with the CEO's/General Managers..

2.21. RDA Tasmania would provide secretariat support for the network and working groups would be formed on an ad-hoc basis for specific initiative or projects.

2.22. Terms of reference would be developed to underpin the network and include annual reporting and financial statements.

2.23. The benefits of the network include:

- Stronger regional collaboration and shared vision
- Enhanced capacity for data-driven decision-making
- Cost savings through shared services and coordinated efforts
- Increased success in securing funding for joint projects
- A unified voice in advocating for regional priorities
- Efficiency of using existing NFP entity and regional capacity.

2.24. The proposal being presented by RDA Tasmania is for a two-year commitment, with an annual review with a view to the network becoming self supporting subsequently.

### 3. Legal, Risk and Legislative Considerations

3.1. Support of the recommendation would signal to the STCA Board that the Joint Authority is to be wound up.

3.2. As the STCA is a joint authority established under the Local Government Act 1993, section 37 of the Act states that:

(2) A joint authority may be wound up –

(b) on the decision of the majority of participating councils

(3) The winding-up of a single authority or joint authority is to be notified in the Gazette by the council or one of the participating councils.

3.3. Furthermore, the STCA Rules provides for the distribution of any assets or moneys remaining after payment of the expenses of the Authority, between the Members.

### Strategic Planning and Policy Considerations

3.4. The City of Hobart's Strategic Plan provides for the following outcome which is consistent with the proposed new network:

- Ensure the needs of the community are well represented through effective advocacy and strong collaborative partnerships with key stakeholders and all levels of government (8.1.2).

### Financial and Economic Considerations

Financial Considerations:

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Revenue</b>				
Existing Revenue				
Additional Revenue				
<b>Total Revenue</b>				
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Operating		9,500	9,500	
Capital				
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>9,500</b>	<b>9,500</b>	
<b>Net Cost</b>				
<b>FTE Impact</b>				
	<b>2024-25</b>	<b>2025-26</b>	<b>2026-27</b>	<b>2027-28</b>

Change in FTE

*Detail the change in the level of full-time equivalents within the group should the requested level of additional funding be required.*

3.4.2. The proposed annual budget for the collaborative network is \$75,500 with additional project funding and grants being pursued on an agreed and case-by-case basis.

3.4.3. The total cost would be shared across the Southern councils and would be based on population and range from \$3,000 to \$9,500.

3.5. Consultants

3.5.1. As advised above, the proposed annual budget for the collaborative network is \$75,500 with additional project funding and grants being pursued on an agreed and case-by-case basis which may include the engagement of consultants.

### **Implementation and Communications Plan**

If the Council resolves to support the new collaborative network across the Southern councils, advice will be provided to RDA Tasmania and the matter considered at a future STCA Board meeting. *As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.*



## 18. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

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## 19. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

### RECOMMENDATION 24/07.2025/C

**Moved:** Cr

**Seconded:** Cr

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

<b>Item Number</b>	<b>Matter</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b>2.1</b>	<i>Confirmation of the Minutes - Closed Session of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 17 June 2025</i>	<i>Regulation 15 (2)(G) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 – information of a personal and confidential nature or information provided to Council on the condition it is kept confidential.</i>
<b>4.1</b>	<i>Rates Remission</i>	<i>Regulation 15 (2)(G) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 – information of a personal and confidential nature or information provided to Council on the condition it is kept confidential</i>
<b>4.2</b>	<i>Update – General Manager</i>	<i>Regulation 15 (2)(G) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 – information of a personal and confidential nature or information provided to Council on the condition it is kept confidential</i>
<b>4.3</b>	<i>Recruitment Options – General Manager</i>	<i>Regulation 15 (2)(G) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 – information of a personal and confidential nature or information provided to Council on the condition it is kept confidential</i>

### PURPOSE

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

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

**MEETING CLOSED** to the public at \_\_\_\_ am/pm.

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**20. RE-OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

The meeting re-opened to the public at \_\_\_\_am/pm.

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**21. PUBLIC RELEASE ANNOUNCEMENT(S)**

The Chairperson announced that pursuant to Regulation 15(8)(9) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 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:

<b><i>Item Number</i></b>	<b><i>Matter</i></b>	<b><i>Decision</i></b>
<b><i>2.1</i></b>	<i>Confirmation of the Minutes - Closed Session of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 17 June 2025</i>	
<b><i>4.1</i></b>	<i>Rates Remission</i>	
<b><i>4.2</i></b>	<i>Update – General Manager</i>	
<b><i>4.3</i></b>	<i>Recruitment Options – General Manager</i>	

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**22. CLOSURE**

Mayor Triffitt thanked everyone for their contribution and declared the meeting closed at \_\_\_\_am/pm.