

SOUTHERN
MIDLANDS
COUNCIL



A G E N D A

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 27th August 2025
10.00 a.m.

Kempton Municipal Offices
85 Main Street, Kempton

INDEX

1. PRAYERS.....	5
2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY	5
3. ATTENDANCE	5
4. APOLOGIES.....	5
5. MINUTES	6
5.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING	6
5.2 SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL MINUTES	6
5.2.1 <i>Special Committees of Council - Receipt of Minutes</i>	<i>6</i>
5.2.2 <i>Special Committees of Council - Endorsement of Recommendations</i>	<i>7</i>
5.3 JOINT AUTHORITIES (ESTABLISHED UNDER DIVISION 4 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993).....	7
5.3.1 <i>Joint Authorities - Receipt of Minutes.....</i>	<i>7</i>
5.3.2 <i>Joint Authorities - Receipt of Reports (Annual & Quarterly).....</i>	<i>7</i>
6. NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS.....	8
7. COUNCILLORS – QUESTION TIME	10
7.1 QUESTIONS (ON NOTICE)	10
7.2 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE	11
8. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST	12
9. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS TO THE AGENDA	13
10. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (SCHEDULED FOR 10.30 A.M.).....	14
10.1 PERMISSION TO ADDRESS COUNCIL.....	14
11. MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN UNDER REGULATION 16 (5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2015	15
12. COUNCIL ACTING AS A PLANNING AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO THE LAND USE PLANNING AND APPROVALS ACT 1993 AND COUNCIL’S STATUTORY LAND USE PLANNING SCHEME	16
12.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS	16
12.2 SUBDIVISIONS.....	16
12.3 MUNICIPAL SEAL (PLANNING AUTHORITY)	17
12.3.1 <i>Councillor Information: - Municipal Seal Applied Under Delegated Authority to Subdivision Final Plans & Related Documents</i>	<i>17</i>
12.4 PLANNING (OTHER).....	18
13. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – INFRASTRUCTURE) ..	19
13.1 ROADS	19
13.2 BRIDGES	19
13.3 WALKWAYS, CYCLE WAYS AND TRAILS	19
13.4 LIGHTING	19
13.5 BUILDINGS	19
13.6 SEWERS / WATER	19
13.7 DRAINAGE	19
13.8 WASTE	20
13.9 INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY	20
13.10 OFFICER REPORTS – INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS.....	21
13.10.1 <i>Manager – Infrastructure & Works Report.....</i>	<i>21</i>
14. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – GROWTH)	23
14.1 RESIDENTIAL	23
14.2 TOURISM	23
14.3 BUSINESS.....	23
14.4 INDUSTRY	23
15. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME –LANDSCAPES).....	24

15.1	HERITAGE.....	24
15.1.1	<i>Heritage Project Program Report.....</i>	24
15.1.2	<i>Proposed Policy – Metal Detecting on Council Sites.....</i>	25
5.2	NATURAL.....	26
15.2.1	<i>NRM Unit – General Report.....</i>	26
15.3	CULTURAL	29
15.4	REGULATORY (DEVELOPMENT)	29
15.5	REGULATORY (PUBLIC HEALTH).....	30
15.6	REGULATORY (ANIMALS)	30
15.6.1	<i>Animal Management Report</i>	30
15.7	ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY	33
16.	OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – COMMUNITY).....	34
16.1	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING	34
16.2	RECREATION	35
16.2.1	<i>Oatlands Aquatic Centre – Coordinators Report</i>	35
16.2.2	<i>Woodsdale Recreation Ground (PID 5839745 – C/T 10138/1) – 2578 Woodsdale Road, Woodsdale - Sale of Property / Transfer of Ownership</i>	39
16.3	ACCESS.....	43
16.4	VOLUNTEERS.....	43
16.5	FAMILIES	43
16.6	EDUCATION	43
16.7	CAPACITY & SUSTAINABILITY	43
16.8	SAFETY	44
16.8.1	<i>Southern Midlands Municipal Emergency Management Plan (Issue 9)</i>	44
16.9	CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATION	46
16.9.1	<i>Campania District School – Traffic Issues in Campania.....</i>	46
17.	OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – ORGANISATION).....	51
17.1	IMPROVEMENT	51
17.1.1	<i>Review and Amendment of Mobile Food Vendors Policy.....</i>	51
17.1.2	<i>Information Technology (IT) Policies & Procedures – Information Security Policy; Acceptable Use Policy; Patch Management policy.....</i>	54
17.2	SUSTAINABILITY	55
17.2.1	<i>Tabling of Documents</i>	55
17.2.2	<i>Elected Member Statements.....</i>	55
17.2.3	<i>Nomination to Destination Southern Tasmania (DST) Board of Directors</i>	56
17.3	FINANCES.....	58
17.3.1	<i>Monthly Financial Statement (Period ending 31 July 2025)</i>	58
17.3.2	<i>2024/2025 Southern Midlands Council – Complete set of Financial Statements.....</i>	68
17.3.3	<i>2025/26 Budget – Australian Government Financial Assistance Grants to Local Government for 2025-26 (Information Only)</i>	76
18.	MUNICIPAL SEAL	78
19.	CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS TO THE AGENDA	79
20.	BUSINESS IN “CLOSED SESSION”	81
20.1	CLOSED COUNCIL MINUTES - CONFIRMATION	81
20.2	APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE	81
20.3	LAND PURCHASE – 1689 MIDLAND HIGHWAY, BAGDAD (PID 5020879; CT 111048/1 & 111048/2)	81
21.	CLOSURE	82



Dear Sir/Madam

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the next ordinary meeting of Council will be held on

Date: Wednesday 27th August 2025

Time: 10.00 a.m.

Venue: Kempton Municipal Offices, 85 Main Street, Kempton

The Local Government Act 1993 section 65 provides the following:

1. *A general manager must ensure that any advice, information or recommendation given to the council or a council committee is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation.*
2. *A council or council committee is not to decide on any matter which requires the advice of a qualified person without considering such advice unless –*
 - (a) *the general manager certifies, in writing –*
 - (i) *that such advice was obtained; and*
 - (ii) *that the general manager took the advice into account in providing general advice to the council or council committee; and*
 - (b) *a copy of that advice or, if the advice was given orally, a written transcript or summary of that advice is provided to the council or council committee with the general manager's certificate.*

I therefore certify that with respect to all advice, information or recommendation provided to the Council in or with this Agenda:

- (1) *The advice, information or recommendation is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation; and*
- (2) *Where any advice is directly given by a person who does not have the required qualification or experience, that person has obtained and taken into account in that person's general advice, the advice from an appropriately qualified or experienced person.*

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Kirkwood'.

Tim Kirkwood
GENERAL MANAGER

OPEN COUNCIL AGENDA

In accordance with Regulation 8 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, Mayor Batt is to advise all attendees that:

- a) this meeting is being recorded;
- b) all persons attending the meeting are to be respectful of, and considerate towards, other persons attending the meeting; and
- c) language and conduct at the meeting that could be perceived as offensive, defamatory or threatening to a person attending the meeting, or listening to the recording, is not acceptable.

1. PRAYERS

Reverend Karen Woolford to recite prayers.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet today, and recognise their continuing connection to the land, water and to community. We pay respects to Elders past and present.

3. ATTENDANCE

4. APOLOGIES

5. MINUTES

5.1 Ordinary Council Meeting

The Minutes (Open Council Minutes) of the previous meeting of Council held on 23rd July 2025, as circulated, are submitted for confirmation.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Minutes (Open Council Minutes) of the Council Meeting held 23rd July 2025 be confirmed.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

5.2 Special Committees of Council Minutes

5.2.1 Special Committees of Council - Receipt of Minutes

The Minutes of the following Special Committee of Council, as circulated, are submitted for receipt:

- Southern Midlands Emergency Management Committee – Meeting held 29th July 2025
- Bagdad Community Precinct Management Committee – Meeting held 20th August 2025
- Woodsdale Hall General Committee Meeting Minutes – 18th August 2025

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the minutes of the above Special Committee of Council be received.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

5.2.2 Special Committees of Council - Endorsement of Recommendations

The recommendations contained within the minutes of the following Special Committee of Council are submitted for endorsement:

- Southern Midlands Emergency Management Committee – Meeting held 29th July 2025
- Bagdad Community Precinct Management Committee – Meeting held 20th August 2025
- Woodsdale Hall General Committee Meeting Minutes – 18th August 2025

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the recommendations contained within the minutes of the above Special Committee of Council be endorsed.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

5.3 Joint Authorities (Established Under Division 4 Of The *Local Government Act 1993*)

5.3.1 Joint Authorities - Receipt of Minutes

Nil.

5.3.2 Joint Authorities - Receipt of Reports (Annual & Quarterly)

Report(s) prepared by the following Joint Authority, as circulated, are submitted for receipt:

- TasWaste South Quarterly Report – 30 June 2025

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report prepared by the above Joint Authority be received.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

6. NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

In accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the Agenda is to include details of any Council workshop held since the last meeting.

A workshop was held on the 11th August 2025 at the Council Chambers, Oatlands commencing at 9.30 a.m.

Attendance: Mayor E Batt, Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, Cllrs A E Bisdee OAM, D Blackwell, B Campbell (entered the workshop at 9.43 a.m.), D Fish and F Miller (remotely).

Also in Attendance: T Kirkwood, A Benson, W Young, B Williams and A Townsend.

Apologies: Nil.

The Workshop focussed on the following items for consideration and discussion:

1. EV Charging Station (Oatlands Aquatic Centre) – Proposed Transfer of Agreement from Electric Highways Pty Ltd to NRMA Electric Highways Pty Ltd

Clive Attwater (Managing Director – Electric Highway Tasmanian P/L) participated on line to provide an explanation for the proposed transfer; plus detail relating to the EV charging station at the Oatlands Aquatic Centre (i.e. summary of customer usage and benefits).

Refer Council Agenda Item.

2. Woodsdale Recreation Ground – Property Transfer

Refer attached Email, including copy of Project Plan. This was sent to all Councillors on 29th July 2025.

Active Tasmania has since confirmed that it has accepted the project plan provided by Woodsdale Football Club. From their perspective, the only condition precedent that is now outstanding, is the provision of “evidence of land ownership or occupancy arrangements”.

Refer Council Agenda Item which reports on the outcomes of the discussion.

3. Brad Williams / Alan Townsend - Heritage / Community Projects

- Melton Mowbray (C.L. Batt OAM Park) – circulated draft interpretation panels for comment and feedback. To be updated and further drafts to be circulated prior to referral for graphic design.
- Kempton Baptist Cemetery, possible subdivision – provided detailed comment in relation to the site and the process that needs to be undertaken to ensure compliance with the *Burial and Cremations Act 2019*. An article to be included in the Council Newsletter to inform the community of the proposed development and the reasoning for the investigative works.

4. Baden Hall Site – Interpretation / History Plaque

General consensus that Council should seek to introduce some type of interpretative structure and material to recognise the site of the old 'Baden Community Hall', including recognition of other significant sites and activities within the immediate Baden area. Consideration for budget next financial year, noting that investigation and drafting can be commenced internally.

5. Other Matters:

5.1 Information Item – Cecilia Button Medical Centre Trust

General Manager provided an update in relation to the Trust following an online meeting between representatives from the Department of Health; SMC General Manager and TPT Wealth (Trust Administrator). In the first instance, the Department of Health and TPT Wealth are to seek legal advice in respect to the proposal to 'wind-up' the Trust.

5.2 Kempton Recreation Ground – Playground Development

Council to initiate a community consultation process to identify the type of play equipment and other type of infrastructure desired. This will assist to identify layout of the site and area required.

5.3 Property – Hall Lane, Bagdad

Confirmed Real Estate Contract has been entered into with settlement due in approximately 60 days. Funding to be sourced through 'Public Open Space' contributions received from subdivision development within the immediate Bagdad/Mangalore area and possible sale of other property.

5.4 2025 Heritage and Bullock Festival (held 9th and 10th August 2025)

Commented on the success of the Festival with approximately 7,500 persons attending over the two days. Congratulations to the organising Committee, and in particular Wendy Young (Event Coordinator). Very positive feedback received.

The workshop concluded at approximately 12.00 noon.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

7. COUNCILLORS – QUESTION TIME

7.1 Questions (On Notice)

Regulation 30 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* relates to Questions on notice. It states:

- (1) A councillor, at least 7 days before an ordinary council meeting or a council committee meeting, may give written notice to the general manager of a question in respect of which the councillor seeks an answer at that meeting.*
- (2) An answer to a question on notice must be in writing.*

Nil.

7.2 Questions Without Notice

Section 29 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* relates to Questions without notice.

It states:

“29. Questions without notice

(1) A councillor at a meeting may ask a question without notice –

- (a) of the chairperson; or*
- (b) through the chairperson, of –*
 - (i) another councillor; or*
 - (ii) the general manager.*

(2) In putting a question without notice at a meeting, a councillor must not –

- (a) offer an argument or opinion; or*
- (b) draw any inferences or make any imputations – except so far as may be necessary to explain the question.*

(3) The chairperson of a meeting must not permit any debate of a question without notice or its answer.

(4) The chairperson, councillor or general manager who is asked a question without notice at a meeting may decline to answer the question.

(5) The chairperson of a meeting may refuse to accept a question without notice if it does not relate to the activities of the council.

(6) Questions without notice, and any answers to those questions, are not required to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

(7) The chairperson of a meeting may require a councillor to put a question without notice in writing.

An opportunity is provided for Councillors to ask questions relating to Council business, previous Agenda items or issues of a general nature.

8. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 8 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the chairman of a meeting is to request Councillors to indicate whether they have, or are likely to have, a pecuniary interest in any item on the Agenda.

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

9. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

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 at an ordinary meeting to deal with a matter that is not on the agenda if the General Manager has reported –

- (a) the reason it was not possible to include the matter on the agenda; and
- (b) that the matter is urgent; and
- (c) that advice has been provided under section 65 of the Act.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT: 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 provisions of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

10. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (SCHEDULED FOR 10.30 A.M.)

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 8 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the agenda is to make provision for public question time.

In particular, Regulation 31 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* states:

- (1) Members of the public may give written notice to the General Manager 7 days before an ordinary meeting of Council of a question to be asked at the meeting.*
- (2) The chairperson may –*
 - (a) address questions on notice submitted by members of the public; and*
 - (b) invite any member of the public present at an ordinary meeting to ask questions relating to the activities of the Council.*
- (3) The chairperson at an ordinary meeting of a council must ensure that, if required, at least 15 minutes of that meeting is made available for questions by members of the public.*
- (4) A question by any member of the public under this regulation and an answer to that question are not to be debated.*
- (5) The chairperson may –*
 - (a) refuse to accept a question; or*
 - (b) require a question to be put on notice and in writing to be answered at a later meeting.*
- (6) If the chairperson refuses to accept a question, the chairperson is to give reasons for doing so.*

Councillors are advised that, at the time of issuing the Agenda, no Questions on Notice had been received from members of the Public.

Mayor E Batt to invite questions from members of the public in attendance.

10.1 Permission to Address Council

Nil.

**11. MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN UNDER
REGULATION 16 (5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING
PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2015**

Nil.

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

Session of Council sitting as a Planning Authority pursuant to the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 and Council's statutory land use planning schemes.

12.1 Development Applications

Nil.

12.2 Subdivisions

Nil.

12.3 Municipal Seal (Planning Authority)

12.3.1 Councillor Information: - Municipal Seal Applied Under Delegated Authority to Subdivision Final Plans & Related Documents

Author: SENIOR PLANNING OFFICER (LOUISA BROWN)

Date: 18 AUGUST 2025

APPLICATION OF MUNICIPAL SEAL

The following final plans and related documents, pertaining to subdivisions, boundary adjustments and the like within Southern Midlands have had the Municipal Seal applied by delegated officers in the period October 2023 to July 2025.

Owner	PID	Address	Description	Date
EC & MJ Batt	3548880	3452 Midland Highway, Melton Mowbray	3 Lot subdivision	24/07/2025
P M Miltenburg	9603154	14 Franklin Street, Colebrook	4 Lot Subdivision	27/03/2025
ED & JM Booth	9901123	Owens Hill Road, Bagdad	7 Lot Subdivision	27/03/2025
SH & DM McHenry	7561169	16 Mountford Drive, Mangalore	2 lot Subdivision	23/01/2025
ED & JM Booth	9901123	Lots 201 and 202 Owens Hill Road, Bagdad	Request to Amend Sealed Plan	22/01/2025
Profile Construction	9603582	176 Main Street, Kempton	Strata Plan (2 Lots)	16/10/2024
NG Grice	9840637	30A Climie Street, Campania	Strata Plan (3 Lots)	09/12/2024
A & P Macleod Super Pty Ltd	7563113	6 East Bagdad Road, Bagdad	Request to Amend a sealed Plan	15/08/2024
A & P Macleod Super Pty Ltd	7563113	6 East Bagdad Road, Bagdad	6 Lot Subdivision	15/08/2024
Hathaway Trading Co Pty Ltd	2216462	565 White Kangaroo Road, Campania	2 Lot Subdivision	29/11/2024
AJ & CA Scott	2901478	2168 Buckland road, Woodsdale	2 Lot Subdivision	18/11/2024
H & M McConnon	7882552	1313 Woodsdale Road,	2 Lot Subdivision	15/08/2024
B Croft	9540633	265 Ballyhooly Road, Mangalore	Adhesion order	15/02/2024
BT & C O'Reilly	7301383	24 Queen Anne Street, Oatlands	11 Lot Subdivision	08/07/2024
JD Woodward	5462175	30 Swan Street, Bagdad	2 Lot Subdivision	21/06/2024

RT & JA Wilson	9245014	76 Goodwins Road, Mangalore	2 Lot Subdivision (Boundary Reorganisation)	25/10/2023
DFY Investments Pty Ltd	7563105	10 East Bagdad Road, Bagdad	27 Lot Subdivision	21/07/2023
B J Campbell	3369487	Church Road, Broadmarsh	4 Lot subdivision	14/12/2023
S Wells	7166978	2 Reeve Street, Campania	14 Lot Subdivision	25/10/2023

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

12.4 Planning (Other)

Nil.

**[THIS CONCLUDES THE SESSION OF COUNCIL
 ACTING AS A PLANNING AUTHORITY]**

13. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – INFRASTRUCTURE)

13.1 Roads

Strategic Plan Reference 1.1

Maintenance and improvement of the standard and safety of roads in the municipal area.

Nil.

13.2 Bridges

Strategic Plan Reference 1.2

Maintenance and improvement of the standard and safety of bridges in the municipality.

Nil.

13.3 Walkways, Cycle Ways and Trails

Strategic Plan Reference 1.3

Maintenance and improvement of the standard and safety of walkways, cycle ways and pedestrian areas to provide consistent accessibility.

Nil.

13.4 Lighting

Strategic Plan Reference 1.4

Ensure adequate lighting based on demonstrated need / Contestability of energy supply.

Nil.

13.5 Buildings

Strategic Plan Reference 1.5

Maintenance and improvement of the standard and safety of public buildings in the municipality.

Nil.

13.6 Sewers / Water

Strategic Plan Reference(s) 1.6

Increase the capacity of access to reticulated sewerage services / Increase the capacity and ability to access water to satisfy development and Community to have access to reticulated water.

Nil.

13.7 Drainage

Strategic Plan Reference 1.7

Maintenance and improvement of the town storm-water drainage systems.

Nil.

13.8 Waste

Strategic Plan Reference 1.8

<i>Maintenance and improvement of the provision of waste management services to the Community.</i>
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Nil.

13.9 Information, Communication Technology

Strategic Plan Reference 1.9

<i>Improve access to modern communications infrastructure.</i>
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Nil.

13.10 Officer Reports – Infrastructure & Works

13.10.1 Manager – Infrastructure & Works Report

Author: MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS (DAVID RICHARDSON)

Date: 20 AUGUST 2025

Roads Program

Maintenance grading works will continue throughout the municipality.

Pot holes in both sealed and unsealed roads are being addressed as resources allow.

Culvert cleaning and drainage works are underway in various areas and will continue as weather permits.

Preparation works will commence for councils annual road resealing and stabilization program on various roads.

Current Capital Works

Melton Mowbray Park development works continue. (Currently waiting on Heritage Tas to approve the trough replacement)

Construction of a new toilet block is completed at Chauncey Vale Reserve.

New kerb construction has commenced at Tunbridge Main Road.

The Installation of an electronic scoreboard at Campania Oval is completed and operational.

Construction of a pickle ball/basketball court and cricket nets has commenced at Kempton Recreation Ground.

Parks and Reserves

Maintenance of recreation grounds, parks and playgrounds ongoing as required.

Scheduled playground inspections are being undertaken to ensure compliance.

Bridge Works

Minor works on some bridges are currently being completed.

Building Services Unit

Maintenance works have been carried out on various council buildings and will continue.

Construction of Campania Football Club change room's additions has commenced.

Ceiling repair works to Roche Hall.

Painting exterior of Campania Hall has been completed.

Planned Works

- Drainage and pavement repairs various roads;
- Undertake various bridge maintenance repairs;
- Commence construction works for Kempton-Mood Food pathway (when land access agreement is finalised);
- Continue Tunbridge kerb replacement works Main Road Tunbridge;
- Edge break repairs on various roads;
- Building maintenance works will continue;
- Continue works at Melton Mowbray open space area;
- Continue works at Kempton Recreation Ground.

Waste Management

Residents are advised that, commencing from 1st September 2025, Veolia will be the new contractor responsible for the collection of household waste and recycling. This change follows the expiration of the existing contract and the completion of a comprehensive tender process.

Please note that there will be no change to the collection days and times within the respective districts.

Council would like to take this opportunity to thank Thorp Waste for their dedicated service over the years.



Important Reminder:

Veolia will only be responsible for collecting the 240-litre bins with red and yellow lids. All other bins are outside the scope of this contract and will not be collected by Veolia.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE TO MANAGER, INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Infrastructure & Works Report be received and the information noted.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Cllr A E Bisdee OAM		
Cllr D Blackwell		
Cllr B Campbell		
Cllr D Fish		
Cllr F Miller		

14. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – GROWTH)

14.1 Residential

Strategic Plan Reference 2.1

Increase the resident, rate-paying population in the municipality.

Nil.

14.2 Tourism

Strategic Plan Reference 2.2

Increase the number of tourists visiting and spending money in the municipality.

Nil.

14.3 Business

Strategic Plan Reference 2.3

Increase the number and diversity of businesses in the Southern Midlands / Increase employment within the municipality / Increase Council revenue to facilitate business and development activities (social enterprise).

Nil.

14.4 Industry

Strategic Plan Reference 2.4

Retain and enhance the development of the rural sector as a key economic driver in the Southern Midlands / Increase access to irrigation water within the municipality.

Nil.

15. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – LANDSCAPES)

15.1 Heritage

Strategic Plan Reference – Page 22

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 3.1.1 | Maintenance and restoration of significant public heritage assets. |
| 3.1.2 | Act as an advocate for heritage and provide support to heritage property owners. |
| 3.1.3 | Investigate document, understand and promote the heritage values of the Southern Midlands. |

15.1.1 Heritage Project Program Report

Author: HERITAGE PROJECTS OFFICER (BRAD WILLIAMS)

Date: 27 August 2025

ISSUE

Report from the Manager, Heritage Projects on various Southern Midlands Heritage Projects.

DETAIL

During the past month, Southern Midlands Council Heritage Projects have included:

- Input into the successful Heritage and Bullock Festival, with all Council heritage buildings open.
- Launch event for the Institute of Architects Southern Midlands Open House program and continued liaison with organising.
- August's Artist in Residence is Carol-Ann Morrison, a Tasmanian Felt & Fibre Artist specialising in heritage breed wool from her own flock. She is supported by Lez Palfreyman & Jude Maslin - Ceramic Artists.
- The Royal Society of Tasmania's *Hidden Treasures* was launched and ran through the Heritage and Bullock Festival. The exhibition was attended by over 2500 people.
- Works continuing on Roche Hall ahead of the launch of the Performing Residencies in Southern Midlands program.
- The Tasmanian Heritage Council has provisionally registered the Melton Mowbray Trough, pending final sealing of titles. The trough will then be moved to the park. Finalisation of interpretation panels is imminent.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Heritage Projects Program Report be received and the information noted.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

15.1.2 Proposed Policy – Metal Detecting on Council Sites

Author: MANAGER HERITAGE PROJECTS (BRAD WILLIAMS)

Date: 27 AUGUST 2025

Attachment(s):

Proposed Policy – Metal Detecting on Council Sites

ISSUE

To seek Council endorsement of the proposed Metal Detecting on Council Sites Policy.

BACKGROUND

Council occasionally receives requests from members of the public for metal detecting on Council owned/managed sites. These include heritage sites/buildings, as well as other assets such as recreation grounds, halls etc. These requests are always refused due to the potential for excavation arising from metal detecting:

- Causing archaeological impact (and potentially requiring Tasmanian Heritage Council approval).
- Resulting in misappropriation of Council property (e.g. artifacts).
- Potentially damaging underground assets.
- Potentially damaging ground surfaces.
- Potentially causing a public hazard if not backfilled.

Tasmania has an avid community of metal detectorists, as evidenced by many social media pages which regularly exhibit valuable/heritage items retrieved from sites across the state. There appears to be a misconception that prospecting licenses issued by Mineral Resources Tasmania (MRT) allow metal detecting on any public land in Tasmania unless expressly prohibited (e.g. National Parks, designated fossicking areas and NRE owned historic sites).

The proposed policy seeks to gain Council's position on the matter of metal detecting, and to provide Council officers with a firm policy basis for enforcing the above

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. the information be received; and
2. Council review the draft Policy and consider for formal adoption at the September 2025 Council Meeting.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

5.2 Natural

Strategic Plan Reference – page 23/24

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 3.2.1 | Identify and protect areas that are of high conservation value. |
| 3.2.2 | Encourage the adoption of best practice land care techniques. |

15.2.1 NRM Unit – General Report

Author: NRM PROGRAMS MANAGER (MARIA WEEDING)

Date: 19 AUGUST 2025

DETAIL

- Southern Midlands Council officers Tim Kirkwood – General Manager, and Maria Weeding –NRM Unit Manager) met with Department of Natural Resources & Environment Deputy Secretary Sophie Muller and Parks & Wildlife General Manager of Operations Alice Holeywell – Jones on Monday 11th August. The purpose of the meeting was to further discuss the notion of either revising or deleting the 1980 Lake Dulverton Management Plan. The other issue discussed was the current condition of the lake in the section of the lake closest to the Oatlands township. There was an emphasis that both Parks and Council continue to work together.
- If funding could be secured it was proposed that a wetland ecologist / consultant would be tasked with examining the Lake environment, consulting with the community along the way and providing recommendations for any operational matters that may need to change to ensure the lake remains healthy. In recent times, particularly over the summer months, the Lake oxygen levels have become very low in this section of the Lake. There is a dominance myriophyllum currently occurring in the Lake over and above what has been noted in the past.
- Helen and Maria spent time at Callington Park repairing some railing on the sheep yards, ready for the Bullock Festival weekend. A new seat and a new table and seat combination were installed by some of the Work Dept staff, just in time for the festival weekend. The items had been purchased through donations to Callington Park from the camping area.
- Maria, Mary and Helen spent time working on another section of the Dulverton Walkway out on the edge of Tunnack Road. Work involved maintenance and clearing of an area where there was a lot of dead timber that had fallen from the trees, burning and making the area generally safer for users of the track and mowing in sections.
- Helen, Maria and Mary have been planting in various locations that needed replants – a few areas on the Lake Dulverton foreshore, council's Dog Pound on Wellington Street, Mangalore & Kempton. See report below.
- Helen has taken some annual leave.
- The Weeds Officer Mary proved the following report for Council to note:

15th July 2025-18th August 2025.

Enquiries/feedback

Some back and forth regarding an outlier Spanish heath plant on a property out past Tunnack.

Had weeds conversations and positive feedback from a couple of locals at Campania and Oatlands tip one weekend: both had read my latest Southern Midlands Regional newsletter article and one gentleman had managed to key out a weed that was concerning him using the rosette photographs included in the article.

Had further weed conversations at Oatlands tip with another local man regarding the extensive broom infestation on his property and what he can do about it. Follow-up to come.

Site visits

Total = 11+

Power outages for much of Monday 14th July saw Maria and me heading out to Des' Bank on the Dulverton Track to cut & paste Broom. Power outages again on Tuesday 15th led to a planting bee at the Pound, Oatlands, and further work along the Dulverton Track. Broom eradication along Des' Bank on the Dulverton Track completed (for now!).

Two planting bees at the Pound resulted in 18 replacement plants in the ground; all protected with weed mat, corflute tree guard and two stakes. Mulching will occur once all planting is completed. Thanks to SP for conducting weed control earlier in the year. The western side will require follow-up control for twitch before it can be replanted.

Expanded weed work along the Dulverton Track around Des' Bank area included Horehound and thistle control, and on another occasion Maria and Helen did a tidy-up along the track towards Andover Road whilst I took care of 206 broom plants.

On another two occasions, the NRM team pitched in to put in replacement plants, do some weeding and conduct general tidy-ups in some garden beds near the Oatlands bowling club.

About a dozen clumps of Gazania removed from the mowed areas near the pedestrian counter on the Esplanade (Gazania seeds probably from the roadside embankment opposite).

Planting bee at Mangalore Recreation Ground adjacent the arena. 14 plants needed replacing. Unlike when we put the original tubestock in last September, planting in late July was like working in a swamp for about half of the holes. Flooded bowls were drained, depth of new bowls reduced and buckets of clean soil were used to backfill. The swamp gums are absolutely booming and most are around 1.5 – 2m in height.

With the removal of four large trees (three Acacias and a Eucalypt) in Tunbridge Park over the last few months, the NRM team visited the park to assess possibilities for replanting/expanding the tree cover in the park. Discussions with a local (who was visiting the park at the time) led to the discovery that the perimeter plantings were conducted by Greening Australia about 25 – 30 years ago, and that the plantings originally encompassed the majority of the edge of the park (including the northern boundary where there is now only a single Sheoak that remains from this original effort. A plan (with costings) was drawn up and passed on to CB at the depot. Deciduous trees for around the playground area need to be bought and properly protected, but some local native tubestock can be reintroduced with materials to hand.

Undertook some targeted spraying of broadleaf weeds (predominantly thistles and hemlock) at Dysart tip. It is pleasing to note that no evidence was found of Patterson's curse (which was found previously at this site), but follow-up in a couple of months will pick up any seedlings that may germinate in the meantime.

Communication

Had a good chat with one of the Council's weed contractors at the Campania tip one Sunday morning, mostly about roadside weed spraying, woody weed frustrations and upcoming jobs.

Weeds Action Fund

No word yet on Stage 3 outcomes.

Roadside weeds

Spent an afternoon checking roadside weeds along Brodribbs Danby Road and Woodsdale Road between Runnymede and New Country Marsh Road, then on to Tunnack Road and back to Oatlands. Spanish heath needs attention but flowering is a bit late in many areas.

Research

The usual background research for articles, enquiries, specific weeds, plans and Tasmanian Weeds facebook page.

An email regarding an update on the "grow Local – a guide to local native plants suitable for gardens in southern Tasmania" booklet led to a comparison between the original edition (2008) and the proposed new edition. One plant in the booklet was found to have still been labelled with an old botanical name, and one nursery phone number was not up to date. The authors will be contacted.

Related and extra-curricular activities

The Weed Watch article published in the August Southern Midlands Regional News was about Spanish heath and a garden weeds rosette quiz.

Illustrated Ratepayers' Newsletter article submitted on Spring Weeds.

Weeds work at Chauncy Vale (separate account) continues. Spear and Slender thistles are the targets at the moment.

Weed of the Week

Gorse, Cootamundra wattle, Cape ivy and Shepherd's purse displayed in front office at Oatlands this month.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the NRM Unit Report be received and the information noted.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

15.3 Cultural

Strategic Plan Reference 3.3

Ensure that the cultural diversity of the Southern Midlands is maximised.

Nil.

15.4 Regulatory (Development)

Strategic Plan Reference 3.4

A regulatory environment that is supportive of and enables appropriate development.

Nil.

15.5 Regulatory (Public Health)

Strategic Plan Reference 3.5

Monitor and maintain a safe and healthy public environment.

Nil.

15.6 Regulatory (Animals)

Strategic Plan & Annual Plan

Southern Midlands Strategic Plan (2024-2034)

3.6 Regulatory – Animals

3.6.1 Create an environment where animals are treated with respect and do not create a nuisance for the Community.

3.6.1.1 Continue dog control. Regulatory, licensing and educational programs

3.6.1.2 Continue to conduct a public awareness/education program that informs the community of the need to contain livestock and the associated legal requirements within available resources.

3.6.1.3 Investigate the establishment of Off-Lead Dog Parks in Oatlands and Campania

3.6.1.3 Encourage the State Government to recognise the feral cat problem as distinct from the escaped/released/straying domestic cat problem and contribute to a State wide/regional strategy to meaningfully reduce the number of feral cats that now form a self-sustaining and very large population in rural areas

3.6.1.4 Review the endorsed 'Southern Tasmania Regional Cat Management Strategy 2021-2026' recognising that the Strategy is based on an 'opt-in' approach which would be reliant on available resources, and taking into account the extent of the problem within each municipal area

15.6.1 Animal Management Report

Author: ANIMAL MANAGEMENT OFFICER (RACHEL COLLIS)

Date: 21 AUGUST 2025

Enclosure(s):

Animal Management Statement 2025

ISSUE

Consideration of the Animal Management/Compliance Officer's report for August 2025

The purpose of the report is twofold:

1. To inform both Council and the community of infringements issued by Council Officers in relation to Animal Management for the period August; *and*
2. Provide a brief summary of actions and duties undertaken by Council Officers in relation to animal management.

This in turn informs the community of the requirements and expectations of the Council to uphold and enforce relevant legislation. This too reinforces the importance of responsible ownership of animals.

All infringements detailed in this report were issued under the *Dog Control Act 2000*.

Resource Sharing

Southern Midlands Council currently provide Animal Management services to the Central Highlands Council through resource sharing arrangements. Jobs of note are itemised in the enclosed statement.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Animal Management report be received and the information noted.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

ENCLOSURE

Agenda Item 15.6.1

Reporting period: 16 July -20 August 2025

Category/Area	Andover	Antill Ponds Woodbury	Baden Mt Seymour Whitefoord	Bagdad	Broadmarsh Elderslie	Campania	Colebrook	Dysart	Jericho	Kempton	Lemont Pawtella York Plains	Levendale Runnymede	Mangalore	Melton Mowbray	Oatlands	Parattah	Rekuna Tea Tree	Rhyndaston Tiberias	Stonehenge Swanston	Stonor	Tunnack	Tunbridge	Woodsdale	Reporting Period Total	2025-2026
Failing to ensure dog is not at large						1																			1
Dog attacking person or animal causing non serious injury - (menaced chicken)						1																		1	
Dog - Impounded													1											1	2
Reclaimed dogs													1											1	2
Adopted/Dogs Home																								0	
Euthanised																								0	
Lost dogs reported							1						1											2	
Barking complaints				1																				1	4
Animal Welfare							1						1											2	
Cat complaints received													1											1	
Stock on roads							2						1				1							4	
Impounded livestock																								0	
Infringement Notices Issued						1																		1	
Written letter - various matters				5		1	1			1								1						9	
Patrolled Areas				7		5	5					1	2		6	1					2			29	
Kennel Licence - Issued										1														1	
TOTAL																								53	

Registered 2025-2026 YTD	1262
Pending 2025-2026	458
Licences	65

15.7 Environmental Sustainability

Strategic Plan Reference 3.7

Implement strategies to address the issue of environmental sustainability in relation to its impact on Councils corporate functions and on the Community.

Nil.

16. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – COMMUNITY)

16.1 Community Health and Wellbeing

<p>Strategic Plan Reference 4.1 <i>Support and improve the independence, health and wellbeing of the Community.</i></p>
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Nil.

16.2 Recreation

Strategic Plan Reference 4.2

Provide a range of recreational activities and services that meet the reasonable needs of the community.

16.2.1 Oatlands Aquatic Centre – Coordinators Report

Author: OATLANDS AQUATIC CENTRE COORDINATOR (ADAM BRIGGS)

Date: 13 AUGUST 2025

ISSUE

Oatlands Aquatic Centre – Coordinator's Report for the month of June 2025.

DETAIL

The purpose of the report is twofold:

1. To report on the financial performance of the Centre compared to budget for the relevant month ending; and
2. To provide details regarding usage of the facility.

Financial Reporting:**OATLANDS AQUATIC CENTRE - OPERATING BUDGET**

INCOME		Annual Budget 2025/26	July 2025	July 2024	2025/26 Year to Date	2024/25 Year to Date	% of Budget 2025/26
Admission Fees		\$235,000	\$17,526	\$14,785	\$17,526	\$14,785	7.5%
Sale of Goods		\$15,000	\$1,288	\$986	\$1,288	\$986	8.6%
Charging Station Energy Use Reimbursement		\$20,000	\$5,097	\$0	\$5,097	\$0	25.5%
Sub-Total		\$270,000	\$23,910	\$15,771	\$23,910	\$15,771	8.9%

EXPENDITURE		Annual Budget 2024/25	July 2025	July 2024	2025/26 Year to Date	2024/25 Year to Date	% of Budget 2025/26
Salaries (incl. On-Costs)		\$495,348	\$36,670	\$38,265	\$36,670	\$38,265	7.4%
Operating Costs - Other		\$279,563	\$28,657	\$27,124	\$28,657	\$27,124	10.3%
Total Expenditure		\$774,911	\$65,327	\$65,390	\$65,327	\$65,390	8.4%

Budgeted Deficit		-\$504,911	-\$41,417	-\$49,619	-\$41,417	-\$49,619	8.2%
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Group Bookings & Programs – July (16/7/25 - 12/8/25):

Event / Booking	School / Group	Participation Numbers
Physio Rehab Sessions	Annabel Butler – Physiotherapist	13 individual bookings
GYM / Lane Hire	Fitness Program – GYM & Pool	3 pool individual bookings 4 GYM individual bookings 30 participants
GYM / Lane Hire	Corumbene Program – GYM & Pool	3 pool individual bookings 3 GYM individual bookings 18 participants
Centre Visits	Clarence City Council – Youth Group	11 participants
Centre Visits	Campbell Town Thrive Group	8 participants
Centre Hire	Oatlands District – Learn to Swim 3-6	56 participants
Centre Visits	Birthday Party	20 participants
Centre Hire	Oatlands District – Learn to Swim K-2	67 participants
Centre Visits	Fitness Passport	16 participants (July)
Lane Hire	Midlands Swimming Club	2 individual bookings

USAGE FOR THE PERIOD 16/7/2025 – 12/8/2025

PAID UPFRONT

Type	Units
Gym	
PAYG – Gym (17 years)	9
PAYG – Gym (Concession)	13
Gym/Pool Combo	
Gym/Pool Pass 10 Sessions (17 years)	3
Gym/Pool Pass 10 Sessions (Concession)	10
PAYG – Gym/Pool Combo (17 years)	0
PAYG – Gym/Pool Combo (Concession)	0
Learn to Swim (Total Numbers)	
Term 3, 2025 Program Enrolments (Currently)	165
Pool	
Upfront 6 Months Pool Membership (17 +)	0
Upfront 6 Months Pool Membership (Concession)	2
Upfront 6 Months Pool Membership (Family)	0
PAYG – Pool (4 years and under)	83
PAYG – Pool (5-16)	179
PAYG – Pool (17)	232
PAYG – Pool (Concession)	109
PAYG – (Family)	22

DIRECT DEBITS – Current Numbers

Type	Units
DD Pool/Gym	9
DD Gym	7
DD 6 Months Pool – 17 years +	3
DD 6 Months Pool – Child/Concession	21
DD 6 Months Centre – Family	1

Grant Applications & General Information

See below an update on new programs and projects implemented during July:

- No new programs to report at this stage.

Human Resources & Financial Implications – Refer above detail.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – Not applicable.

Policy Implications – N/A

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received and noted.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

**16.2.2 Woodsdale Recreation Ground (PID 5839745 – C/T 10138/1) – 2578
Woodsdale Road, Woodsdale - Sale of Property / Transfer of Ownership**

Author: GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

Date: 20 AUGUST 2025

ISSUE

To:

- a) provide Council with an update relating to the possible transfer of ownership of the Woodsdale Recreation Ground to the 'Woodsdale Recreation & Community Hub Inc.; and
- b) Seek Council confirmation of the terms and conditions for transfer and entering into a Real Estate Contract.

BACKGROUND

Reference is made to the decision made at the Council Meeting held 23rd October 2024. The following is an extract from the Minutes:

“THAT:

1. *Council confirm the following offer to be submitted to the Woodsdale Football Club Inc. or the newly created Incorporated Entity (subject to finalising the public notification and sale of public land process):*
 - *Along with transferring ownership of the property to the Woodsdale Football Club Inc. (or the newly created Incorporated Entity), Council to provide a 'one-off' non-refundable grant amount of \$45,000 (less deductions referred to below). Council's contribution will be contingent upon the Woodsdale Football Club Inc. (or the newly created Incorporated Entity) providing confirmation that the external sources of funding have been secured to enable upgrade of the facility to a standard that is consistent with its expectations and achieves compliance with the Building Code of Australia and other applicable legislation.*
 - *Transfer the property for a peppercorn amount (say \$1.00).*
 - *Stamp Duty to be paid by Council and deducted from the one-off grant (estimated value of \$1,222.50)*
 - *The property is to be sold on an 'as is where is' basis and from the date of transfer Council will cease to have any responsibility for future maintenance (e.g. mowing; building maintenance; waste removal); insurance or other costs associated with the property (e.g. electricity);*
 - *Each party to engage their own legal representative and meet the associated legal costs (excluding stamp duty payable on the sale transaction);*
 - *Following completion of the upgrade to be undertaken by the Woodsdale Football Club Inc. (or the newly created Incorporated Entity), and subject to the property being used as a recreation ground for the purpose of playing organised sport, Council will provide an annual operating grant of \$1,000 (to be indexed by the annual Hobart March CPI percentage to be applied for the following financial year);*
 - *The Club will be liable for annual service charges and levies only, with an entitlement to be exempt from the General Rate.*

- *The Woodsdale Football Club Inc. (or the newly created Incorporated Entity) would be entitled to a part premium reimbursement for Public Liability Cover relating to the property under Council's 'Donations and Community Support Policy'. (50% of the policy premium capped at \$500.00)*
 - *The Woodsdale Football Club Inc. (or the newly created Incorporated Entity) would still be entitled to make application for any financial assistance through Council's Community Small Grants Program;*
 - *Should the ground cease being used by the Woodsdale Football Club Inc. (or the newly created Incorporated Entity), then the property is to be sold. As a 'not-for-profit organisation' it is likely that the Club's constitution provides direction for its resources should the Association be 'wound-up'. In this relation to this, Council would seek to have the net sale proceeds returned to the Southern Midlands Council for re-distribution within the local community.*
2. *This offer must be accepted (or rejected) 'in-principle' by no later than 30th November 2024 or the offer is to be withdrawn and Council will then determine the preferred method of disposal at that time; and*
3. *If the offer is accepted 'in-principle', then the transfer of ownership is to be finalised by the end of April 2025 (unless an extension of time is mutually agreed by the parties). This includes the requirement for the Woodsdale Football Club Inc. (or the newly created Incorporated Entity) to provide confirmation that the external sources of funding have been secured to enable upgrade of the facility to a standard that is consistent with the Football Club's expectations and achieves compliance with the Building Code of Australia and other applicable legislation."*

DETAIL

The following provides an update:

1. The sale of public land process has been completed with no objections. Council is now in a position to proceed with transfer of ownership.
2. The Woodsdale Football Club has prepared and submitted a Project Plan to Active Tasmania which has been accepted. Grant funding of \$148,750 will be released once the Woodsdale Football Club (as the Grant recipient) has provided evidence of land ownership or confirmed occupancy arrangements.
3. The Woodsdale Football Club has obtained Development Approval for the following works:
 - Upgrade existing changeroom facilities including repair of concrete slab, installation of new shower cubicles;
 - Extension of existing changeroom to include toilets and hand basins for home and away changeroom and construction of new disabled access bathroom facility and umpires changeroom
 - installation of new concrete paths;
 - Upgrades to existing clubroom facility to comply with BCA / NCC 2022;
 - Upgrade of wastewater treatment system.
4. Plans have been submitted for Plumbing approval.

5. Confirmation has been received from the Building Surveyor (Nigel Grice) that submission of the building plans is imminent. This will provide certification that the proposed works will be consistent with its expectations and achieves compliance with the Building Code of Australia and other applicable legislation.
6. The initial offer stated that should the ground cease being used by the Woodsdale Football Club Inc. (or the newly created Incorporated Entity), then the property is to be sold. As a 'not-for-profit organisation' it is likely that the Club's constitution provides direction for its resources should the Association be 'wound-up'. In this relation to this, Council would seek to have the net sale proceeds returned to the Southern Midlands Council for re-distribution within the local community.

The newly created Association (Woodsdale Recreation & Community Hub Inc.)'s constitution includes the following Clause:

“DISSOLUTION

(a) In the event of the dissolution of the Committee all funds and assets shall be sold with the funds donated to local non-for-profit organisations at the discretion of the Committee.

Whilst Council's interest specifically related to the property (as opposed to any other funds that the Association may have accumulated), the existing wording of the Dissolution Clause does not require any funds to be returned to Council. Although it does stipulate that the funds will be donated to 'local not-for-organisations'.

As an alternative to seeking an amendment to the Constitution, Council considered the option of including a 'reversionary clause' on the Title to achieve the desired position. A clause could read something like:

“The estate and interest in the Land determines and reverts to the Southern Midlands Council upon the occurrence of any of the following:

- a) The Land is not or no longer being used for the Permitted Purpose; or*
- b) The Transferee enters into an agreement with any other person to sell or otherwise transfer the Land (or any part thereof)*

The Permitted Purpose means the use of the Land for community use and all reasonable ancillary purposes.

Legal advice has since confirmed that this is not an option available to local government. It is limited to Crown owned properties.

Having said that, a similar outcome can be achieved through either a Covenant being placed on the Title, or through a Part 5 Agreement under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

Each of these options, together with requiring an amendment to the WCRH Inc. Constitution, are being considered and legal advice will be available prior to the meeting.

Under each (or any option), it will clarify that Council has no liability (assumed or otherwise) and there is no entitlement to any compensation for improvements etc. It will also be specified that the property is to be sold.

Finally, recognising that the initial offer suggested that the transfer of ownership be finalised by the end of April 2025 (unless an extension of time is mutually agreed by the parties), then Council should formally extend this period as part of its decision.

Note: It is confirmed that the 'Woodsdale Recreation & Community Hub Inc.' is a registered Association through the Department of Justice (Registration Number IA14282).

Human Resources & Financial Implications – refer comment above.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – refer comment above.

Policy Implications – N/A.

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – Refer milestones mentioned in the report.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

1. the information be received and noted;
2. other recommendations to be submitted following receipt of legal advice.
3.
4.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

16.3 Access

Strategic Plan Reference 4.3

Continue to explore transport options for the Southern Midlands community / Continue to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act.

Nil.

16.4 Volunteers

Strategic Plan Reference 4.4

Encourage community members to volunteer.

Nil.

16.5 Families

Strategic Plan Reference 4.5

Ensure that appropriate childcare services as well as other family related services are facilitated within the community / Increase the retention of young people in the municipality / Improve the ability of seniors to stay in their communities.

Nil.

16.6 Education

Strategic Plan Reference 4.6

Increase the educational and employment opportunities available within the Southern Midlands

Nil.

16.7 Capacity & Sustainability

Strategic Plan Reference 4.7

Build, maintain and strengthen the capacity of the community to help itself whilst embracing social inclusion to achieve sustainability.

Nil.

16.8 Safety

Strategic Plan Reference 4.8

Increase the level of safety of the community and those visiting or passing through the municipality.

16.8.1 Southern Midlands Municipal Emergency Management Plan (Issue 9)

Author: GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

Date: 31 JULY 2025

Attachment(s)

Southern Midlands Emergency Management Plan (Issue 9)

ISSUE

Council to endorse the revised Southern Midlands Emergency Management Plan (Issue 9) and submit to the State Emergency Service for formal approval and sign-off.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the *Emergency Management Act 2006*, each Municipal Committee is required to prepare a plan for emergency management in the municipal area or municipal areas in respect of which the Municipal Committee has the responsibility of instituting and coordinating emergency management.

The Municipal Committee last reviewed the Plan in March 2021 (Issue 8), which was subsequently endorsed by Council and submitted for formal approval and sign-off. Confirmation was received that the Southern Midlands Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEM) Issue 8 was approved and signed by Commissioner Darren Hine on 26th April 2021.

A review of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan has been deferred for a considerable period pending advice as to whether a new template was being introduced by the State Emergency Services. This has not eventuated.

DETAIL

Prior to submitting the revised Plan to the Southern Midlands Emergency Management Committee, a draft was forwarded through to the SES Regional Emergency Management Coordinator (South) for assessment.

Councillors will note that the Southern Midlands Emergency Management Committee met on 29th July 2025 (Minutes submitted to this Council Meeting). As an outcome of that meeting, the Committee provided a recommendation that the Southern Midlands Municipal Emergency Management Plan (as amended) be endorsed and submitted to the State Emergency Service for formal approval and sign off.

Human Resources & Financial Implications – Not applicable.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – to be considered.

Policy Implications – N/A

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – The Plan will come into effect from the date of final approval by the State Controller / Commissioner of Police.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

- a) the information be received and noted; and
- b) Council endorse the revised Southern Midlands Emergency Management Plan (Issue 9) for submission to the State Emergency Service for formal approval and sign-off.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

16.9 Consultation & Communication

Strategic Plan Reference 4.8

Improve the effectiveness of consultation & communication with the community.

16.9.1 Campania District School – Traffic Issues in Campania

Author: DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER (ANDREW BENSON)

Date: 19 AUGUST 2025

ISSUE

The Campania School Association have requested some traffic management changes in order to improve road safety in Campania.

DETAIL

Council received the following correspondence from the Campania School Association.

From: Julie Jensen <juliescljensen@gmail.com>
Date: 18 March 2025 at 20:59:42 GMT+11
To: Andrew Benson <abenson@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Road safety Campania

Hi

I am writing on behalf of the Campania district school association committee where we have been discussing road safety and school zones for the safety of our community kids walking to and from school every day.

We have come up with a suggestion to extend the 40 zone and establish marked crossings where we see dangerous situations happening regularly.

I have attached our proposal to this letter, as agreed by the school association committee members.

I hope you are able to take these suggestions into consideration when planning maintenance and safety compliance of our roads or redirect this email to the relevant person in charge of the area.

thank you very much for your time and consideration

*Kind regards
Julie A. Jensen*

The Manager Infrastructure & Works, David Richardson arranged a meeting with Department of State Growth (DSG) Officers to inspect the site and consider the suggestions in Julie Jensen's correspondence.

Following the site meeting the email below was received from DSG.

From: Head, Alex <Alex.Head@stategrowth.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 16 May 2025 4:18 PM
To: Andrew Benson <abenson@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Road safety Campania

Hi Andrew,

In response to an email received via Council from Julie Jensen (on behalf of the Campania district school association committee), officers from the Department met Council officers on site to discuss speed limits and pedestrian facilities in Campania.

It was noted there has been increased residential development in Campania in recent times and the level of roadside development on Colebrook Road (Reeve Street), between Climie Street to the end of the 60km/h zone

at the southern end of the town, shares similar characteristics with some other towns in Tasmania that have a 50km/h speed limit.

While the Department does not have strong views on the matter, if Council desires a reduction in the speed limit through Campania to 50km/h south of Climie Street (approximately 950m), it is expected the Transport Commissioner would support this request. As there is less roadside development north of Climie Street, it is considered this should remain at 60km/h.

No change in the length of the existing 40km/h school zone is proposed.

Observations of pedestrian and vehicle numbers elsewhere near the school, do not appear to warrant school crossing facilities.

Please let me know if you would like to discuss this further.

Regards,

Alex Head | Traffic Engineering Technical Officer | Traffic Engineering (south)
State Roads | Department of State Growth
76 Federal St, North Hobart Tas 7000
Phone: (03) 6165 5205 | alex.head@stategrowth.tas.gov.au
www.transport.tas.gov.au

From: Andrew Benson <abenson@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 16 May 2025 5:35 PM
To: Head, Alex <Alex.Head@stategrowth.tas.gov.au>
Cc: David Richardson <drichardson@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Road safety Campania

Thanks Alex

We appreciate you reviewing the situation as a response to Julie's letter obo the School Association.

I will chat with Dave Richardson and then respond to Julie's correspondence.

Best regards

AB

Andrew Benson
Deputy General Manager



Management responsibilities for
Strategic Projects and HRM

Following discussions with the Manager Infrastructure & Works, it was resolved that we seek a view from the Campania Community Group then a report would be provided to Council recommending that the speed limit at the southern end of Reeve Street Campania be reduced to 50km/h. The Campania Community Group advised that at their meeting the matter of speed limits was discussed and that they would like to see the 50 km/h extended to Alexander Circle, due to the amount of traffic entering the service station/post office.



CONCLUSION

It is noted that not all of the matters requested by the Campania School Association were able to be accommodated by DSG, remembering that the Road Authority responsible for Reeve Street is DSG. However, there is one matter detailed in Item 1 below which has the DSG Traffic Engineering Technical Officer's support and the matter in Item 2, does not have support, but the Manager Infrastructure & Works as well as the Deputy General Manager see merit in putting it forward for further consideration.

That Council seek the Transport Commissioner's approval for the following speed limit reductions in Reeve Street Campania, namely:

1. The reduction of the speed limit in Reeve Street, from Climie Street to the southern Campania Town Boundary from 60km/h to 50km/h, acknowledging that there is an active 'school hours limit' of 40km/h that already exists in part of this section of Reeve Street. There has been a significant increase in residential development in this area and a reduced speed limit would be desirable in providing greater protection for vulnerable road users in the area; and
2. The reduction of the speed limit in Reeve Street from Climie Street to the northern Town Boundary of Campania, from 60km/h to 50km/h, because of the residential use as well as the commercial activity along with the increased number of traffic

movements around the Post Office. Community member's ingress and egress of the post office is increasing, given the population increase, noting that roadside delivery of postal services is not possible in Campania. The existence in this location of the Service Station / Post Office / shop, as well as the rural supplies servicing depot on the opposite side of the road from the Service Station does potentially increase traffic conflict and a reduction of the speed limit in this area could well reduce road trauma events.



Human Resources & Financial Implications – The project works that have been undertaken with footpaths in Campania over recent months is adding to the general awareness of motorists, of the presence of the increased foot traffic throughout the Village.

The additional signage would be minimal costs.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – The Community in Campania have talked about speed reduction over a number of years. Council have reduced many accident/incident locations with moving the bus stops from the corner of Reeve Street and Climie Street, as well as improving the Climie Street corner with Reeve

Street. This was all made possible through Vulnerable Road User Grants with the support of DSG in assisting create a safer road network.

The Campania Community Group were formally consulted with as part of this process.

Policy Implications – Nil at this time

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – Commence as soon as possible.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

- 1. Receive and note the Report;**
- 2. That Council seek the Transport Commissioner's approval for the following speed limit reductions in Reeve Street Campania, namely:**
 - a. The reduction of the speed limit in Reeve Street, from Climie Street to the southern Campania Town Boundary from 60km/h to 50km/h, acknowledging that there is an active school hour's limit of 40km/h that already exists in part of this section of Reeve Street. There has been a significant increase in residential development in this area and a reduced speed limit would be desirable in providing greater protection of vulnerable road users; and**
 - b. The reduction of the speed limit in Reeve Street from Climie Street to the northern Town Boundary of Campania, from 60km/h to 50km/h, because of the residential use as well as the commercial activity along with the increased number of traffic movements around the Post Office. Community member's ingress and egress of the post office is increasing, given the population increase, noting that roadside delivery of postal services is not possible in Campania. The existence in this location of the Service Station / Post Office / shop, as well as the rural supplies servicing depot on the opposite side of the road from the Service Station does potentially increase traffic conflict and a reduction of the speed limit in this area could well reduce road trauma events.**

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

17. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – ORGANISATION)

17.1 Improvement

Strategic Plan Reference 5.1

Improve the level of responsiveness to Community & Developer needs / Improve communication within Council / Improve the accuracy, comprehensiveness and user friendliness of the Council asset management system / Increase the effectiveness, efficiency and use-ability of Council ICT systems / maintain the Business Process Improvement & Continuous Improvement framework

17.1.1 Review and Amendment of Mobile Food Vendors Policy

Author: DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER (ANDREW BENSON)

Date: 22 AUGUST 2025

Attachment(s)

Draft Revision – Mobile Food Vendors Policy - Version 4

ISSUE

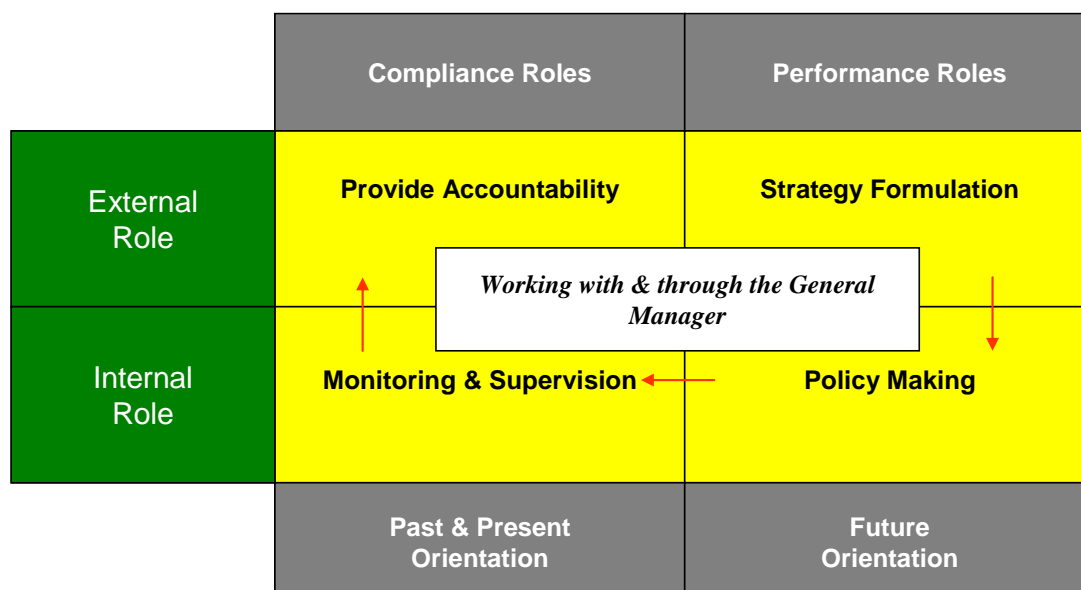
Council are required to review and update its various policies from time to time. The nominated policy has been reviewed, amendments made, and now requires consideration, then adoption by Council.

BACKGROUND

[EXTRACT Minutes of the July 2025 Council Meeting]

FRAMEWORK FOR ANALYSING COUNCIL'S GOVERNANCE FUNCTION

The diagram below along with its explanation has been the subject of previous presentations to Council; however, it is meaningful to reflect on this governance framework when policy documents are presented to Council.



DETAIL

This draft revision of the Mobile Food Vendors Policy is submitted for Council's consideration. The review is seeking to add an additional location in Campania to the Schedule of approved locations. Considering the development for Flour Mill Park that Council is implementing, it is considered that a Mobile Food Vendor location in the Park has the ability to add value to the Flour Mill Park community space.

Given the proposed location the Chairman of the Campania Hall Committee, Robin Howett has been contacted and he was provided with a copy of this draft policy in June 2025 for review on the impact of the activities that the Hall Committee runs from time to time. The Chairman was contacted again on the 16th July 2025 and confirmed that there would be no conflict between a Mobile Food Vendor and the Campania Hall Committee in the proposed location as shown in the Policy Schedule of approved locations.

As Councillors are aware, the process for any policy document is, that it is tabled at one meeting and then "lays on the table" until the next meeting, to enable Councillors sufficient time to work through and consider all of the ramifications of the strategy/policy, before the document is finally considered for adoption at the following meeting, subject to any amendments agreed by Council.

The draft revision of the Mobile Food Vendor Policy is attached and shows some the changes to the document as discussed above. There are no changes required by legislation.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council

1. **Receive and note the report;**
2. **Consider draft version 4 of the Mobile Food Vendors Policy in preparation for the adoption of the revised policy, at the August 2025 Council meeting, subject to any Council amendments.**

DECISION

Moved by Clr A E Bisdee OAM, seconded by Clr D Blackwell

THAT Council

1. **Receive and note the report;**
2. **Consider draft version 4 of the Mobile Food Vendors Policy in preparation for the adoption of the revised policy, at the August 2025 Council meeting, subject to any Council amendments.**

CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr B Campbell	✓	
Clr D Fish	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

[END OF EXTRACT Minutes of the July 2025 Council Meeting]

DETAIL

With this policy having been available for consideration by Council since the July 2025 Council Meeting, the proposed draft version of the *Mobile Food Vendors Policy version 4*, as attached and any final recommendations for amendment, may be discussed and if agreed, included within the document.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – The Chairman of the Campania Hall Committee was briefed as detailed in the report.

Policy Implications – This policy review will now allow an additional location in Campania.

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – Commence as soon as possible.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Receive and note the report;
2. Consider the revised version 4 of the *Mobile Food Vendors Policy* for adoption, subject to any Council amendments.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

17.1.2 Information Technology (IT) Policies & Procedures – Information Security Policy; Acceptable Use Policy; Patch Management policy

Author: GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

Date: 22 AUGUST 2025

Attachment(s):

Information Security Policy

Acceptable Use Policy

Patch Management Policy

ISSUE

Adoption of policies.

BACKGROUND

These draft Policies were submitted to the July 2025 Council Meeting.

DETAIL

No amendments have been identified and the Policies are submitted for final adoption.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – Nil.

Policy Implications – Nil.

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – Commence as soon as possible.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

- 1. Receive and note the report;**
- 2. Adopt the Information Security Policy, Acceptable Use Policy and Patch Management Policy (subject to any Council amendments).**

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

17.2 Sustainability

Strategic Plan Reference 5.2

Retain corporate and operational knowledge within Council / Provide a safe and healthy working environment / Ensure that staff and elected members have the training and skills they need to undertake their roles / Increase the cost effectiveness of Council operations through resource sharing with other organisations / Continue to manage and improve the level of statutory compliance of Council operations / Ensure that suitably qualified and sufficient staff are available to meet the Communities need / Work co-operatively with State and Regional organisations / Minimise Councils exposure to risk / Ensure that exceptional customer service continues to be a hallmark of Southern Midlands Council

17.2.1 Tabling of Documents

Nil.

17.2.2 Elected Member Statements

An opportunity is provided for elected members to brief fellow Councillors on issues not requiring a decision.

17.2.3 Nomination to Destination Southern Tasmania (DST) Board of Directors

Author: GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

Date: 15 AUGUST 2025

Enclosure(s):

Destination Southern Tasmania Letter dated 8th August 2025

ISSUE

Under Destination Southern Tasmania's constitution, two (2) Directors are to be appointed by the Board from nominees sought from Councils of Southern Tasmania, for a two year term.

DST are seeking nominations for this year's vacancies, either elected representatives or Council officers to fill the positions that are becoming vacant this year.

The successful nominees will be appointed at the Destination Southern Tasmania Annual Meeting to be held on Thursday 2 October 2025.

Nominations must be received by Wednesday 17 September 2025.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – Nil.

Policy Implications – Nil.

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – Commence as soon as possible.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council consider nominating a representative to the Destination Southern Tasmania Board of Directors.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

ENCLOSURE
Agenda Item 17.2.3

08 August 2025
Mayor Edwin Batt
Tim Kirkwood, General Manager
Southern Midlands Council



RE : nomination to Destination Southern Tasmania (DST) Board of Directors

Dear Mayor Batt and Mr Kirkwood

I trust this finds you both very well.

Under Destination Southern Tasmania's constitution, two (2) Directors are to be appointed by the Board from nominees sought from the Councils of Southern Tasmania, each serving a two-year term.

We are now seeking nominations from the Councils of Southern Tasmania, either elected representatives or council officers, to fill the positions becoming vacant this year.

The successful nominees for this year's vacancies will be appointed at the Destination Southern Tasmania Annual General Meeting, to be held on Thursday, 2 October 2025 at 4:00 pm at Drysdale.

It is important for Destination Southern Tasmania to maintain strong and constructive relationships with our local government partners, ensuring that the voice of local government informs and guides our strategic focus. We are seeking individuals who:

- Have experience in overseeing tourism or economic development activities,
- Possess a strong understanding of the visitor economy, and
- Are able to commit to six (6) Board meetings annually, each of approximately three (3) hours in duration.

Nominations should include a brief biography of the nominee and a statement outlining their relevance to Destination Southern Tasmania's work. Please forward nominations to DSTadmin@southerntasmania.com.au by Wednesday, 17 September 2025.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to strengthening our collaboration over the coming year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anne Hardy".

Professor Anne Hardy
Chair
Destination Southern Tasmania

17.3 Finances

Strategic Plan Reference 5.3

Community's finances will be managed responsibly to enhance the wellbeing of residents / Council will maintain community wealth to ensure that the wealth enjoyed by today's generation may also be enjoyed by tomorrow's generation / Council's financial position will be robust enough to recover from unanticipated events, and absorb the volatility inherent in revenues and expenses.

17.3.1 Monthly Financial Statement (Period ending 31 July 2025)

Author: FINANCE OFFICER (MANDY BURBURY)

Date: 8 AUGUST 2025

ISSUE

Provide the Financial Report for the period ending 31st July 2025.

BACKGROUND

The Operating Expenditure Report includes a Year to Date (YTD) Budget Column, with variations (and percentage) based on YTD Budgets.

Note: Depreciation is calculated on an annual basis at the end of the financial year. The budget and expense for depreciation are included in the June period.

DETAIL

The enclosed Report incorporates the following: -

- Statement of Comprehensive Income – 1 July 2024 to 31 July 2025.
- Operating Expenditure Report – 1 July 2024 to 31 July 2025.
- Capital Expenditure Report – 1 July 2024 to 31 July 2025.
- Cash Flow Statement – 1 July 2024 to 31 July 2025.

OPERATING EXPENDITURE (OPERATING BUDGET)

Overall operating expenditure to end of July was \$895,162 which represents 83.9% of the Year to Date Budget.

Whilst there are some variations within the individual Program Budgets (refer following comments), expenditure is consistent with the Budget.

Strategic Theme - Infrastructure

Sub-Program – Bridges - expenditure to date (\$7,303 – 110.91%). Increased operating expenditure on bridges is due to a continued focus on bridge maintenance prior to the commencement of our road asset capital works program. It is anticipated that bridge operating expenditure will decrease once resources are utilised on capital projects.

Strategic Theme – Growth

Nil.

Strategic Theme – Landscapes

Nil.

Strategic Theme – Community

Nil.

Strategic Theme – Organisation

Nil.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM

Capital expenditure projects are colour coded to signify the grant program and show the completion deadlines. A legend of the colour coding is as below:

Legend – Source and completion deadlines for grant funded projects

Roads to Recovery	It is the Government's intention that the full allocation is budgeted and spent in the year allocated
Other Specific Purpose Grants	Completion date as per grant deed or approved extension date

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Financial Report be received and the information noted.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 July 2025

	Annual Budget \$	Year to Date Actual \$	%	Comments
Income				
Rates	7,810,961	7,727,825	98.9%	Includes Interest & Penalties on rates
User Fees (refer Note 1)	1,536,868	197,411	12.8%	Includes Private Works
Interest	520,000	33,066	6.4%	
Government Subsidies	11,700	0	0.0%	Heavy Vehicle Licence Fees
Other (refer Note 2)	332,400	145	0.0%	Includes TasWater Distributions
Sub-Total	10,211,930	7,958,446	77.9%	
Grants - Operating	4,744,884	0	0.0%	
Total Income	14,956,813	7,958,446	53.2%	
Expenses				
Employee benefits	-6,024,988	-428,708	7.1%	Less Roads - Resheeting (Capitalised)
Materials and contracts	-4,195,550	-453,587	10.8%	Less Roads - Resheeting (Capitalised), Includes Land Tax & Private Works
Depreciation and amortisation	-4,738,700	-402,465	8.5%	Percentage Calculation (based on year-to-date)
Finance costs	-2,223	-2,223	100.0%	Interest
Contributions	-296,700	0	0.0%	Fire Service Levies
Other	-184,841	-10,644	5.8%	Audit Fees and Councillor Allowances
Total expenses	-15,443,002	-1,297,627	8.4%	
Surplus (deficit) from operations	-486,189	6,660,820	-1370.0%	
Grants - Capital (refer Note 3)	1,064,853	0	0.0%	
Sale Proceeds (Plant & Machinery)	0	29,182		
Sale Proceeds (Land & Buildings)	0	0		
Sale Proceeds (Other Assets)	0	3,750		
Net gain / (loss on disposal of non-current assets)	0	0		
Surplus / (Deficit)	578,664	6,693,751	1156.8%	

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 July 2025

	Annual Budget \$	Year to Date Actual \$	%	Comments
NOTES				
1. Income - User Fees				
- All other Programs	1,176,420	171,798	14.6%	
- Private Works	360,449	25,613	7.1%	
	<u>1,536,868</u>	<u>197,411</u>	12.8%	
2. Income - Other				
- TasWater Distributions	182,400		0.00%	
- Public Open Space Contributions	150,000		0.00%	
- Blue Gum Rovers donation to Tunnack Rec. Ground	0	145.00		
	<u>332,400</u>	<u>145</u>	0.0%	
3. Grants - Capital				
- Aust Govt (Roads To Recovery)	1,064,853		0.00%	
	<u>1,064,853</u>	<u>0</u>	0.00%	
4. Grants - Operating				
- FAGS 2024/25	4,744,884	0	0.00%	
	<u>4,744,884</u>	<u>0</u>	0.0%	

SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL : OPERATING EXPENDITURE 2025/26 SUMMARY SHEET

PROGRAM	ACTUAL (to 31 Jul 25)	BUDGET (to 31 Jul 25)	YTD VARIANCE	YTD %	FULL YEAR BUDGET - INC. GRANTS & OTHER
INFRASTRUCTURE					
Roads	143,892	138,777	- 5,116	103.69%	4,410,593
Bridges	7,303	6,584	- 718	110.91%	653,390
Walkways	15,337	20,486	5,149	74.87%	273,165
Lighting	6,657	7,828	1,171	85.04%	93,936
Public Toilets	7,633	11,285	3,652	67.64%	140,739
Sewer/Water	-	-	-	-	-
Stormwater	140	2,590	2,450	5.39%	89,081
Waste	60,298	130,403	70,105	46.24%	1,592,340
Information, Communication	-	1,667	1,667	0.00%	20,000
INFRASTRUCTURE TOTAL:	241,260	319,621	78,361	75.48%	7,273,244
GROWTH					
Residential	-	-	-	-	-
Tourism	7,876	9,659	1,783	81.54%	41,276
Business	26,397	26,380	17	100.07%	316,556
Industry	-	-	-	-	-
GROWTH TOTAL:	34,273	36,039	1,766	95.10%	357,832
LANDSCAPES					
Heritage	28,906.67	51,076.77	22,170.10	56.59%	501,173
Natural	22,549.70	22,553.03	3.33	99.99%	257,515
Cultural	0.00	1,333.33	1,333.33	0.00%	16,000
Regulatory - Development	71,741.92	85,758.82	14,016.90	83.66%	1,101,058
Regulatory - Public Health	2,185.29	2,181.67	-3.62	100.17%	26,180
Regulatory - Animals	9,034.98	10,938.48	1,903.50	82.60%	140,975
Environmental Sustainability	0.00	416.67	416.67	0.00%	5,000
LANDSCAPES TOTAL:	134,418.56	174,258.77	39,840.21	77.14%	2,047,901
COMMUNITY					
Community Health & Wellbeing	32,229.49	34,212.09	1,982.60	94.20%	378,545
Recreation	113,603.46	146,371.96	32,768.50	77.61%	1,256,464
Access	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	0
Volunteers	0.00	1,250.00	1,250.00	0.00%	45,000
Families	0.00	833.33	833.33	0.00%	10,000
Education	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	0
Capacity & Sustainability	670.40	2,500.42	1,830.02	26.81%	55,505
Safety	400.92	1,662.50	1,261.58	24.12%	19,950
Consultation & Communication	0.00	2,141.67	2,141.67	0.00%	25,700
LIFESTYLE TOTAL:	146,904.27	188,971.97	42,067.70	77.74%	1,791,164
ORGANISATION					
Improvement	0.00	10,949.74	10,949.74	0.00%	131,397
Sustainability	335,477.10	334,076.99	-1,400.11	100.42%	3,445,765
Finances	2,828.71	3,641.64	812.93	77.68%	395,700
ORGANISATION TOTAL:	338,305.81	348,668.37	10,362.56	97.03%	3,972,862
TOTALS	\$895,162	\$1,067,559	\$172,397	83.9%	\$15,443,003

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2025-26
As at 31 July 2025

		BUDGET \$	EXPENDITURE \$	BALANCE \$	COMMENTS	COMPLETION DEADLINE
INFRASTRUCTURE						
ROAD ASSETS						
Resheeting Program	Roads Resheeting	590,000	31,426	558,574		
Reseal Program	Roads Reseal Program	300,000	0	300,000	Roads to Recovery - \$200,000	30 June 2026
	Sealed Road Edge Breaks					
	Campania - Brown Mountain Road	100,000	0	100,000		
	Colebrook - Eldon Road	100,000	0	100,000		
Reconstruct & Seal	Bagdad - Swan Street (700m)	160,000	0	160,000	Roads to Recovery - \$160,000)	30 June 2026
	Tunbridge - Scott Street (300m)	60,000	0	60,000	Roads to Recovery - \$60,000)	30 June 2026
	Tunnack - Eldon Road (700m)	135,000	0	135,000	Roads to Recovery - \$135,000)	30 June 2026
Construct & Seal	Mangalore - Blackbrush Road (1.3km section starting from seal Mangalore end)	195,000	0	195,000	Roads to Recovery - \$195,000)	30 June 2026
	Rhyndaston - Rhyndaston Road (1.35km of 2.7km starting at railway line)	202,500	0	202,500	Roads to Recovery - \$202,500)	30 June 2026
Minor Seals (New)	Mt Seymour - Blackgate Road (500m between end of seal & dust suppressant)	60,000	0	60,000	Roads to Recovery - \$60,000)	30 June 2026
	Oatlands - Bentwick Street	20,000	0	20,000	Budget c/f	
Other Works	Bagdad - School Road (Traffic & Safety Improvements)	69,000	0	69,000	Grant application submitted for \$34,430	
	Campania - Car Park Improvements	100,000	72,112	27,888	\$60K Budget C/F WIP \$72,112	
	Campania - Reeve Street (Reconstruct Retaining Wall - Union St to Lee St)	40,000	0	40,000		
	Campania - Structure Plan - Town Gateway and Streetscape	40,000	0	40,000	Budget C/F	
	Colebrook - Coalmine Bend Road (Redirect Drainage from Train Line - Piping)	25,000	0	25,000		
	Oatlands - Hasting Street Junction	15,000	959	14,041	WIP \$959	
	Oatlands - High Street (Traffic Islands)	45,940	0	45,940	Grant application submitted \$22,300 RTR \$23,640	
	Tunbridge - Main Street (Kerb & Gutter Renewal)	40,000	4,186	35,814	WIP \$4186.12	
		2,297,440	108,683	2,188,757		
WALKWAYS						
	Footpaths - General Streetscapes	50,000	0	50,000		
	Bagdad - Midland Highway Pathway (Primary School north to Community Club)	240,000	1,130	238,870	Election Commitment - \$150,000 WIP \$1,130	
	Campania - Hall St to Lee St (50% Contribution - Subject to VRUP)	57,740	0	57,740	VRUP Application submitted \$28,620	
	Kempton - Burnett Street to Mood Food	425,565	5,332	420,233	Better Active Transport \$278K WIP \$5332	30 June 2025
	Kempton - Main Street (Southern End 300m)	75,000	0	75,000		
	Oatlands - Church Street (High St to Esplanade both sides - Design Only)	10,000	0	10,000		
	Oatlands - Church Street (Sth Parade to William St - north. side - Footpath - 130 m)	30,000	0	30,000	Budget C/F	
	Parattah - Streetscape (Stage 1)	50,000	0	50,000		
	Tunnack - Streetscape (Year 1 of 3)	100,000	73,251	26,749	WIP \$73,042	30 June 2025
		1,038,305	79,713	958,592		
PUBLIC TOILETS						
	General Public Toilets - Upgrade Program	14,616	0	14,616	Budget c/f	
	Colebrook - History Room Toilets (Replace Septic Tank)	10,000	0	10,000		
		24,616	0	24,616		

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2025-26
As at 31 July 2025

		BUDGET \$	EXPENDITURE \$	BALANCE \$	COMMENTS	COMPLETION DEADLINE
DRAINAGE	Bagdad / Mangalore - Hydraulic Assessment (Flood Mapping)	61,625	0	61,625	Budget C/F	
	Stormwater System Management Plans (<i>Urban Drainage Act 2013</i>)	50,000	456	49,544	WIP \$456	
	Oatlands - High Street / Church Street Jct (Pipe Replacement)	15,000	0	15,000		
	Oatlands - High Street /Wellington Street Jct (New Pit)	4,000	0	4,000		
	Oatlands - Queen Anne St (Pipe into existing Drain)	35,000	0	35,000		
		165,625	456	165,168		
WASTE	Wheelie Bins and Crates	10,000	0	10,000		
		10,000	0	10,000		
GROWTH TOURISM	Oatlands - Heritage Interpretation Panel renewal	2,000	0	2,000		
	Oatlands Accommodation Facility	0	42,283	-42,283	WIP \$42,283 (Offset by Barrack Street Property)	
		2,000	42,283	-40,283		
LANDSCAPES HERITAGE	Jericho - Memorial Avenue - Plaques	20,500	4,300	16,200	Budget c/f WIP \$4,300. Offset by donation of \$500.	
	Kempton - Memorial Avenue Park - Interps	19,545	0	19,545		
	Melton Mowbray - Recognition plaque JH Bisdee VC OBE (DVA Grant)	8,480	6,309	2,171	Saluting Their Service Grant \$7,480	30 April 2025
	Oatlands - Callington Mill - Structural Repair & External painting	80,000	0	80,000	\$40K Budget C/F	
	Oatlands - Court House (Wall Stabilisation)	15,000	4,764	10,236	WIP \$1,187	
	Oatlands - Gaolers Residence (Chimney Capping & Fireplace Repairs)	5,000	866	4,134	Budget C/F	
	Oatlands - Gaolers Residence (Lighting & Hanging System Upgrade)	5,000	0	5,000		
	Oatlands - Gaolers Residence (Wingwall)	23,000	0	23,000	Budget C/F	
	Oatlands - Heritage Buildings (Security Upgrades)	10,000	0	10,000		
	Oatlands - Heritage Collections Store	10,000	3,700	6,300	WIP \$3,700	
	Oatlands - Roche Hall (Building Improvements for PRISM)	150,000	30,883	119,117	\$90K Budget C/F WIP \$19,644	
	Oatlands - Roche Hall Forecourt (Interps - Planning Condition of Approval)	40,000	7,820	32,180	WIP \$7,820	
		386,525	58,641	327,884		
NATURAL	Campania - Bush Reserve / Cemetery	300,000	96,942	203,058	WIP \$93,346	
	Chauncy Vale - Day Dawn Cottage Improvements	12,000	10,015	1,985	WIP \$8,557	
	Chauncy Vale - Toilet & Interps Upgrade	80,000	33,028	46,972	Election Commitment \$80,000 WIP \$22,570	
		392,000	139,985	252,015		

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2025-26
As at 31 July 2025

		BUDGET \$	EXPENDITURE \$	BALANCE \$	COMMENTS	COMPLETION DEADLINE
LANDSCAPES						
REGULATORY - DEVELOPMENT	Master / Structure Plans (Bagdad / Mangalore / Campania)	50,000	115,415	-65,415	Includes Flour Mill Park Master Plan	
	Kempton Council Chambers - Structural Damage	0	16,650	-16,650	External Contractor Liable for damage	
	Property Purchase - 10 Barrack Street, Oatlands (Police Residence)	530,000	0	530,000	Budget C/F	
	Oatlands - Stanley Street Master Plan	20,000	172	19,828	Budget c/f WIP \$172	
		600,000	132,237	467,763		
ANIMAL CONTROL						
	Oatlands - Off-Lead Dog Park	35,000	1,947	33,053	WIP \$1,947	
		35,000	1,947	33,053		
COMMUNITY						
RECREATION	Facilities & Recreation Committee	40,000	0	40,000		
	Building Upgrades (Sites determined following inspections)	50,000	0	50,000		
	Playground Upgrades (Sites determined following inspections)	50,000	0	50,000		
	Bagdad - Bagdad Community Club (Precinct Plan & Property Transfer)	111,000	95,003	15,997	\$35K Budget c/f WIP \$95,003	
	Bagdad - Bagdad Community Club (Redevelopment)	0	49,706	-49,706	WIP \$49,706	
	Bagdad - Bagdad Community Club (Sports Pavilion)	0	211,856	-211,856	WIP \$211,856 Subject to Funding	
	Bagdad - Bagdad Community Club (Multi-purpose Sports Hall)	0	252,160	-252,160	WIP \$252,160 Subject to Funding	
	Bagdad - Bagdad Community Club (Oval Relocation)	0	26,500	-26,500	WIP \$25,500 Subject to Funding	
	Bagdad - Bagdad Community Club (Wastewater System)	200,000	0	200,000		
	Bagdad - Iden Road Park Development	75,000	0	75,000	Budget C/F	
	Campania - Flour Mill Park (Redevelopment)	68,000	0	68,000		
	Campania - Hall (External Painting)	36,800	39,696	-2,896	WIP \$39,696	
	Campania - Recreation Ground (Electronic Scoreboard)	47,875	48,507	-632	WIP \$48,043	
	Campania - Recreation Ground (Landscaping & Tiered Seating)	270,000	374	269,626	Election Commitment - \$200K WIP \$374	30 June 2026
	Campania - Recreation Ground (All abilities Car Parking)	26,750	0	26,750	Election Commitment - \$18K	30 June 2026
	Campania - Recreation Ground (Upgrade Change rooms)	1,100,000	109,266	990,734	LGAT Open Space \$40K / SMC - \$700K WIP \$59,138	
	Colebrook - Hall (Windows, Ramps, Double Doors)	10,000	0	10,000		
	Kempton - Carriage Shed (External Repair & Repainting)	11,700	0	11,700		
	Kempton - Recreation Ground (Site Dev) (Boundary Fence)	24,250	14,118	10,132	Budget c/f WIP \$14,118	
	Kempton - Recreation Ground (Cricket Net, basket ball / pickle ball court)	80,000	3,142	76,858	Active Tas - Election Commitment WIP \$2,886	30 June 2026
	Melton Mowbray - Streetscape Works (Trough / Shelter etc)	90,000	92,616	-2,616	\$60K Budget C/F WIP \$85,022	
	Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (Outdoor Area Seating)	4,000	0	4,000		
	Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (Learn to Swim Equipment)	2,000	0	2,000		
	Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (Gymnasium Equipment Upgrade)	5,000	0	5,000		
	Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (Female Change Rooms / Shower Cubicles)	10,000	0	10,000		
	Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (Pump Replacement)	10,000	0	10,000		
	Oatlands - Gay Street, Hall (Air Lock & Heating)	40,000	14,432	25,568	\$30K of Budget C/F WIP \$14,432	
	Oatlands - Gay Street, Hall (Kitchen Floor Repairs / Underpinning)	8,000	0	8,000		
	Oatlands - Midlands Community Centre (External Painting - Front of Building)	8,000	0	8,000	Budget C/F	
	Oatlands - Old Swimming Pool (Staged demolition)	62,889	0	62,889	Balance Budget C/F	
	Oatlands Recreation Ground (Redevelopment)	0	174,791	-174,791	Subject to Funding WIP \$172,521	
	Runnymede - Recreation Ground (Pitch Renewal)	8,000	256	7,744		
	Tunnack - Recreation Ground (Kiosk Removal)	8,000	0	8,000		
	Tunnack - Recreation Ground (Toilet Block Painting)	4,000	0	4,000		
	Woodsdale Recreation Ground	45,000	0	45,000	Budget C/F	
	Water Bottle Refill Stations	7,980	0	7,980	Budget C/F	
		2,514,244	1,132,424	1,381,821		

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2025-26
As at 31 July 2025

		BUDGET \$	EXPENDITURE \$	BALANCE \$	COMMENTS	COMPLETION DEADLINE
CAPACITY & SUSTAINABILITY	Property Purchase - 9 Barrack Street, Oatlands (Police Residence)	73,248	50,009	23,238	Budget \$519,490 less \$446K spent in 22/23	
		73,248	50,009	23,238		
ORGANISATION SUSTAINABILITY	WIFI Equipment	7,000	0	7,000	Budget C/F	
	Council Website Upgrade	40,000	0	40,000	Budget C/F	
	Communications Link Upgrade	5,000	0	5,000		
	Computer / Network Upgrades	18,000	0	18,000		
	Kempton - Council Chambers (Office Furniture & Equipment)	7,500	0	7,500		
	Oatlands - Town Hall (Office Furniture & Equipment)	7,500	0	7,500		
	Oatlands - Town Hall (Replacement Heat Pump)	5,500	0	5,500		
	Oatlands - Town Hall (Toilet Upgrade / Air lock / Lift) Year 1 of 5 \$300K per annum	400,000	17,794	382,206	\$100K Budget C/F WIP \$8,437	
		490,500	17,794	472,706		
WORKS	Kempton - Works Depot (Toilet / Shower Upgrade)	30,000	0	30,000		
	Kempton - Works Depot (Security Cameras)	5,000	0	5,000		
	Minor Plant Purchases	12,000	0	12,000		
	Radio System	5,000	0	5,000		
	Plant Replacement Program					
	Heavy Vehicles - Gross Amount	889,370	126,117	763,253		
	(Trade Allowance - \$254K)					
	Light Vehicles - Gross Amount	515,179	0	515,179		
	(Trade Allowance - \$299K)					
		1,456,549	126,117	1,330,432		
	GRAND TOTALS	9,486,051	1,890,288	7,595,763		

CASH FLOW 2025/2026	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) July 2025 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Aug 2025 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Sep 2025 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Oct 2025 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Nov 2025 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Dec 2025 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Jan 2026 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Feb 2026 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Mar 2026 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Apr 2026 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) May 2026 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Jun 2026 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) (Total 2024/25) \$
Cash flows from operating activities													
Payments													
Employee costs	(654,876)												(654,876)
Materials and contracts	(987,152)												(987,152)
Interest	(2,223)												(2,223)
Other	(28,004)												(28,004)
	(1,672,254)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1,672,254)
Receipts													
Rates	722,648												722,648
User charges	1,376,627												1,376,627
Interest received	33,066												33,066
Subsidies													0
Other revenue grants													0
Other	70,371												70,371
	2,202,712	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,202,712
Net cash from operating activities	530,458	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	530,458
Cash flows from investing activities													
Payments for property, plant & equipment	(197,080)												(197,080)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant & equipment	32,932												32,932
Proceeds from Capital grants													0
Proceeds from Investments													0
Payment for Investments													0
Net cash used in investing activities	(164,148)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(164,148)
Cash flows from financing activities													
Repayment of borrowings	(109,510)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(109,510)
Proceeds from borrowings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net cash from (used in) financing activities	(109,510)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(109,510)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	256,800	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	256,800
Cash at beginning of reporting month	11,895,902	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11,895,902
Cash at end of reporting period	12,152,702	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,152,702

17.3.2 2024/2025 Southern Midlands Council – Complete set of Financial Statements

Author: GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)
FINANCE OFFICER (A BURBURY)

Date: 12 AUGUST 2025

Attachment(s):

Southern Midlands Council – Financial Statements – 2024/2025 Financial Year
Heritage Education & Skills Centre Ltd – Year Ended 30 June 2025 (Information Only)

ISSUE

Tabling of Financial Statement(s) in accordance with section 84 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

BACKGROUND

Section 84 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) requires the General Manager to prepare and forward to the Auditor-General a copy of the council's financial statements for each financial year in accordance with the *Audit Act 2008*.

The following is an extract from the *Local Government Act 1993*:

“84. Financial statements

(1) *The general manager is to prepare and forward to the Auditor-General a copy of the council's financial statements for each financial year in accordance with the [Audit Act 2008](#).*

(2) *Any financial statement for a financial year is to–*

(A)

(b) *specify any interests as notified to the general manager of any councillor in respect of any body or organisation with which the council has major financial dealings; and*

(c) *contain a comparison between the council's actual and estimated revenue and expenditure for that financial year; and*

(d) *contain a statement of any revenue and expenditure of a council committee, a special committee or a controlling authority; and*

(da) *contain a statement of the operating, capital and competitive neutrality costs in respect of each significant business activity undertaken by the council during that financial year together with a statement of the revenue associated with that activity; and*

(db) *contain financial management indicators, and asset management indicators, specified in an order under [subsection \(2A\)](#); and*

(e) *contain any other information the Minister determines.*

(2A) *The Minister, by order, may specify –*

(a) *financial management indicators; and*

(b) *asset management indicators –*

to be included in the financial statements of councils.

(2B) *The Minister is to consult with councils as to the matters to be included in an order under [subsection \(2A\)](#) .*

(3) *The general manager is to certify that, in accordance with this Act and any other relevant Act, the financial statements fairly represent –*

(a) the financial position of the council; and

(b) the results of the council's operations; and

(c) the cash flow of the council.

(4) *The general manager is to ensure that the certified financial statements are tabled at a meeting of the council as soon as practicable.*

(5) *In this section –*

competitive neutrality costs *means the costs required to be taken into account under the competitive neutrality principles.”*

The *Audit Act 2008* requires the statements to be lodged with 45 days after the end of each financial year.

DETAIL

Refer attached copies of the 2024/2025 Financial Report(s).

Note: Heritage Building Solutions Pty Ltd - a report wasn't required for 2024/2025 as there was a nil opening balance for equity and no transactions prior to the entity being formally 'wound-up' on 23rd October 2024.

With regard to Heritage Education and Skills Centre Ltd, the Directors' Declaration was signed for the Financial Statement on 12th August 2025. The report is provided for information purposes, noting that the figures are consolidated into the Southern Midlands Council Statements.

It is confirmed that the Southern Midlands Council's Statement(s) were lodged with the Auditor-General (Tasmanian Audit Office) on Tuesday 12th August 2025 which is within the legislative timeframe of 45 days as required by the *Audit Act 2008*.

The draft Statements, which are still subject to audit, will be presented to Council's Audit Panel's meeting to be held in September 2025.

The following information details some of the more significant variances in the 'Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income':

	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	Comments
Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income				
RECURRENT INCOME				
Rates and charges	7,375	7,512	137	Growth in the rate base exceeded budget estimates.
User Fees	1,304	1,551	247	Volunteer Contributions of \$159K are not budgeted but recognised as Income – offset in Expenses Regulatory fees were \$70K higher than budget.
Grants - Recurrent	4,562	3,189	-1,373	In 2023/2024 we received 85% of the 2024/25 FAGS grant in advance. Our budget was based on receiving the same percentage of grant in advance, however In 2024/25 Council only received 50% of the 2025/26 FAGS grant in advance, resulting in reduced actual income for the year.
Other Income	62	408	346	Other income includes items not included in the budget, including a \$100K donation from CAC for the GP Accommodation Units, a \$75K contribution from the Bagdad Community Club Committee on transfer of ownership and a \$156K contribution from the Broadmarsh / Elderslie Progress Association as a reimbursement of expenses associated with “The Haven”.

	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	Comments
NET CAPITAL INCOME				
Grants - Capital	5,006	4,542	-464	Grant funding of \$534K had been included in the budget but not received in 2024/25. This is offset by \$321K received but not budgeted (i.e. Included in previous years or received after setting the budget). Capital Grant revenue is also adjusted to include only funds expended in the financial year, with income not yet expended held in the Statement of Financial Position as Contract Liabilities.
Contributions	15	2,610	2,595	Actual contributions income relates to gifted assets including the Bagdad Community Centre land and buildings \$1.8m, Stormwater assets associated with subdivisions \$760K and land gifted for the Kempton Memorial Avenue Park \$50K.
Net gain on disposal of property, plant, equipment and infrastructure	290	94	-196	The net gain on disposal of Land in Church Street to Dept. Health (\$131K) was offset by a loss on sale of plant (\$1K) and \$35K costs associated with the disposal of the South Parade lots (sale income reported in 2023/24).
EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS				
Employee Benefits	5,770	5,303	-467	Reduced operating costs are due to employee resources used for capital projects during the reporting period and an extended period of leave without pay for a manager. Offset by an increase in 'materials and contracts' as an alternative to casual labour.
Materials and Contracts	3,997	4,048	51	Although there were some variations within individual Programs, overall expenditure on Materials and Contracts was consistent with budget, taking into account the above comment re: use of contractors.

	Budget \$'000	Actual \$'000	Variance \$'000	
Depreciation	4,120	4,687	567	Increased depreciation expense consists of a \$388K increase due to revaluation of roads, an \$84K increase due to revaluation of bridges, a \$20K increase due to revaluation of Stormwater, \$32K amortisation of valuation fees, along with minor variations in other asset classes.
Other Expenses	174	504	330	<p>Audit fees were \$16K higher than budget which was partly due to audits of special purpose grants.</p> <p>The balance of the variance is due to actual expenditure for Private Works \$239K; Councillor expenses & reimbursements \$31K; and rates discounts and remissions \$43K. The budget for these items are included in the 'Materials and Contracts' line item.</p>

	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2025 \$'000	Variance \$'000	Comments
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	14,553	11,901	-2,652	Cash and cash equivalents has reduced from \$14,553K (30 June 2024) to \$11,901K (30 June 2025). Contributing to the reduction is an increase in Trade and other receivables, a decrease in Trade & other payables of \$633K and a decrease in Trust funds and deposits of \$145.
Trade and other receivables	993	2,299	1,306	Trade and other receivables has increased from \$993K to \$2,299K largely due to an open invoice for Dept. State Growth \$1,176K for the Post Completion claim for Interlaken Road RRUP
Other assets	358	183	-175	A decrease in Stores and materials
Investment in Water Corporation	12,673	12,920	247	Council's equity share in TasWater increased by \$247K in 2024/25.
Property, plant, equipment, infrastructure and intangibles	145,055	166,298	21,243	<p>The increase in the value of assets of \$21m includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital acquisitions (including work in progress) of \$9.3m; • Gifted Assets (increase of \$2.6m); • Revaluation of Roads (increase of \$9.6m); • Revaluation of Bridges (increase of \$4.0m); • Revaluation of Stormwater (increase of \$518K; • Disposal of Land and Buildings \$59K (including old Oatlands Pool buildings); • Disposal of Plant \$103K; and • Depreciation and Amortisation of \$4.8m

Southern Midlands CouncilAgenda – 27th August 2025

	30 June 2024 \$'000	30 June 2025 \$'000	Variance \$'000	
Trade and other payables	1,573	940	-633	Trade Creditors at 30 June 25 was \$728K higher than 30 June 2024 (i.e. an increase in value of June 2025 invoices actually paid in July)
Contract Liabilities	593	924	331	Contract liabilities are capital grants received but not expended in the financial year. The 2024/25 Contract Liabilities consists of State Government funding for the Kempton Pathway, election commitments and Bus Stop Program (totaling \$923K) and Australian Government funding for Melton Mowbray DVA Grant (\$1K).

The General Manager and/or Finance Officer will provide any further explanation required and respond to any questions.

Human Resources & Financial Implications – Taking into account the above comments, Council reported an underlying surplus of \$89K. The underlying result is calculated by deducting recurrent expenditure from recurrent income.

Note: Recurrent income excludes income received for specifically new or upgraded assets, physical resources received free of charge or other income of a capital nature.

The intent of the underlying result is to show the outcome of a council's normal or usual day to day operations.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – Not applicable.

Council Web Site Implications - A copy of the audited Statement will be included on the website as part of the 2024/25 Annual Report when completed.

Policy Implications – N/A.

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – Report completed and submitted to the Auditor General within the statutory timeframe.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council receive the following:

1. **Southern Midlands Council - Complete set of Financial Statements 2024/25; and**
2. **Heritage Education and Skills Centre Ltd - Financial Statements for Year Ended 30 June 2025.**

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

17.3.3 2025/26 Budget – Australian Government Financial Assistance Grants to Local Government for 2025-26 (Information Only)

Author: GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

Date: 20 AUGUST 2025

ISSUE

To inform Council of the Southern Midlands Council's approved allocation through the distribution of the 2025-26 Australian Government's Financial Assistance Grant.

BACKGROUND

The Tasmanian State Grants Commission has confirmed that the Australian Government has recently approved the Commission's 2025-26 Financial Assistance (FA) Grant recommendations. The Commission is now able to advise councils of the 2025-26 FA Grant Allocations.

Note: The State Grants Commission is responsible for making recommendations to the Australian Treasurer regarding the distribution of the financial assistance grants to local government. The Commission is an independent statutory body, established by State legislation

DETAIL

The Southern Midlands Council has been granted a total of \$4,790,582 for 2025/26. This is made up of the Base Grant component of \$2,373,758 and the Road Grant component of \$2,416,824. In addition, an amount of \$23,779 will be received as a result of a positive adjustment to the 2024/25 Grant amount.

Total to be received \$4,814,361.

This compares to an approved grant amount of \$4,562,388 allocated in 2024/25 (not including the prior year adjustment).

Note: Council received an additional \$83,417 in 2024/25 which was the 2023/24 adjustment payable.

The percentage difference in **approved grant** is a 5% increase compared to a budgeted percentage increase of 4% - meaning an additional \$69,477 will be received (this includes the 2024/25 adjustment).

The 25/26 budgeted grant amount of \$4,744,884 was based on a 4% increase.

For information, the Southern Midlands Council receives approximately 4.5% of the total Tasmanian entitlement.

Human Resources & Financial Implications – Council received \$2,400,797 of the 2025-26 grant in advance (paid 23/6/25). The remaining \$2,413,564 will be paid by quarterly instalments, generally August, November, February and May.

The surplus grant amount of \$69,477 (i.e. amount in excess of budget) will not be allocated for any purpose at this stage, and can effectively reduce the overall 2025-26 budgeted deficit to \$416,712.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – N/A

Policy Implications – Nil.

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – 2025/26 Budget and reporting period.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

18. MUNICIPAL SEAL

Nil.

19. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

RECOMMENDATION

THAT in accordance with Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the following items are to be dealt with in Closed Session.

Matter	<i>Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 Reference</i>
<i>Closed Council Minutes - Confirmation</i>	15(2)(g)
<i>Applications for Leave of Absence</i>	15(2)(h)
<i>Land Purchase</i>	15(2)(f)

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

RECOMMENDATION

THAT in accordance with Regulation 15(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, Council move into Closed Session and the meeting be closed to members of the public.

DECISION(MUST BE BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY)		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

CLOSED COUNCIL AGENDA

20. BUSINESS IN “CLOSED SESSION”

20.1 Closed Council Minutes - Confirmation

In accordance with the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the details of the decision in respect to this item are to be kept confidential and are not to be communicated, reproduced or published unless authorised by Council.

Item considered in Closed Session in accordance with Regulation 15(2)(g) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

20.2 Applications for Leave of Absence

In accordance with the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the details of the decision in respect to this item are to be kept confidential and are not to be communicated, reproduced or published unless authorised by Council.

Item considered in Closed Session in accordance with Regulation 15(2)(h) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

20.3 Land Purchase – 1689 Midland Highway, Bagdad (PID 5020879; CT 111048/1 & 111048/2)

In accordance with the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the details of the decision in respect to this item are to be kept confidential and are not to be communicated, reproduced or published unless authorised by Council.

Item considered in Closed Session in accordance with Regulation 15(2)(f) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council move out of “Closed Session”.

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt		
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon		
Clr A E Bisdee OAM		
Clr D Blackwell		
Clr B Campbell		
Clr D Fish		
Clr F Miller		

OPEN COUNCIL AGENDA

21. CLOSURE