



MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday 22nd October 2025
10.00 a.m.

Kempton Municipal Offices
85 Main Street, Kempton

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OPEN COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22ND OCTOBER 2025 AT THE KEMPTON MUNICIPAL OFFICES, 85 MAIN STREET, KEMPTON, COMMENCING AT 10.00 A.M.

In accordance with Regulation 8 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, Mayor Batt advised 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 Dennis Cousens recited prayers.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Mayor E Batt recited Acknowledgement of Country.

3. ATTENDANCE

Mayor E Batt, Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, Cllr D Blackwell, Cllr B Campbell and Cllr D Fish, Cllr F Miller.

Mr T Kirkwood (General Manager), Mr A Benson (Deputy General Manager), Mr D Richardson (Manager Infrastructure and Works), Mr G Finn (Manager Development and Environmental Services) and Ms J Crosswell (Executive Assistant).

4. APOLOGIES

Cllr A E Bisdee OAM

5. MINUTES

5.1 Ordinary Council Meeting

The Minutes (Open Council Minutes) of the previous meeting of Council held on 24th September 2025, as circulated, are submitted for confirmation.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Minutes (Open Council Minutes) of the Council Meeting held 24th September 2025 be confirmed.

DECISION

Moved by Cllr D Fish, seconded by Cllr B Campbell

THAT the Minutes (Open Council Minutes) of the Council Meeting held 24th September 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Cllr D Blackwell	✓	
Cllr B Campbell	✓	
Cllr D Fish	✓	
Cllr 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 Committees of Council, as circulated, are submitted for receipt:

- Woodsdale Community Memorial Hall AGM Minutes – 22nd September 2025
- Woodsdale Community Memorial Hall General Committee Meeting Minutes – 22nd September 2025
- Colebrook Memorial Hall Management Committee AGM Minutes – 25th September 2025
- Lake Dulverton & Callington Park Management Committee Minutes – 13th October 2025
- Woodsdale Cemetery Management Committee Meeting Minutes – 14th October 2025
- Campania Hall Management Committee General Meeting Minutes – 14th October 2025
- Campania Hall Management Committee AGM Minutes – 16th October 2025

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the minutes of the Special Committees of Council be received.

DECISION

Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Cllr D Blackwell

THAT the minutes of the Special Committees of Council be received.

CARRIED

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

5.2.2 Special Committees of Council - Endorsement of Recommendations

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

- Woodsdale Community Memorial Hall AGM Minutes – 22nd September 2025
- Woodsdale Community Memorial Hall General Committee Meeting Minutes – 22nd September 2025
- Colebrook Memorial Hall Management Committee AGM Minutes – 25th September 2025
- Lake Dulverton & Callington Park Management Committee Minutes – 13th October 2025
- Woodsdale Cemetery Management Committee Meeting Minutes – 14th October 2025
- Campania Hall Management Committee General Meeting Minutes – 14th October 2025
- Campania Hall Management Committee AGM Minutes – 16th October 2025

RECOMMENDATION

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

DECISION

Moved by Cllr D Fish, seconded by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon

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

CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
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)

Nil.

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.

One workshop has been held since the last Ordinary Meeting.

A workshop was held on the 13th October 2025 at the Council Chambers, Kempton commencing at 9.30 a.m.

Attendance: Mayor E Batt, Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, Ctrs A E Bisdee OAM, D Blackwell, D Fish and F Miller (remotely).

Also in Attendance: T Kirkwood, A Benson, D Richardson, G Finn, W Young, B Williams, A Townsend and M Webster.

Apologies: Ctr B Campbell.

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

1. Artist in Residence (AiRSpace) Program – Success So Far

The Heritage Engagement Officer (Michelle Webster) presented an overview of the AiRSpace program to-date, with the program having been fully booked since inception and with bookings (and a wait-list) a year ahead. Michelle spoke about some of the acclaimed artists that have been hosted and showed a Powerpoint of the extensive art collection that has been collected by Council as a direct result of this program.

There was general agreement that the collection should be displayed publically as much as possible (e.g. Council Chambers – Oatlands and Kempton).

2. Performing Residencies in Southern Midlands (PRISM)

Manager Heritage Projects (Brad Williams) provided an update on the 'PRISM' project which is to be based at Roche Hall. The presentation included photographs of the renovation works that are currently underway.

3. Publication – 'If the Walls Council Talk'

Senior Heritage Projects Officer (Alan Townsend) and Volunteer (Linda Clark) provided an overview of this proposal. This project aims at the publication of a book covering the social history behind historic wallpapers in Tasmania. The bulk of the content relates to historic finds in the Southern Midlands and tells the stories of the people who chose the wallpapers and the lives they lived. One example is 96 Stanley Street Oatlands, 'McDermott's Cottage', built about 1860 by James and Mary Ann McDermott, and home to about 76 different historic wallpapers. By highlighting these finds in the Southern Midlands.

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

4. TasWater – Price and Service Plan 5

Dominic Hughes (Stakeholder Relations Lead) attended the workshop to brief Council in relation to the TasWater Price and Service Plan 5.

5. *Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Bill 2025* – Exposure Draft Consultation

Copy of the Bill circulated with feedback sought by 17th November 2025.

The draft Bill is a further milestone in advancing the Tasmanian Government's Local Government Priority Reform Program. It follows the release of the *Discussion Paper – Targeted Amendments to the Local Government Act 1993* earlier this year.

Based on the feedback received in response to the initial Discussion Paper, adjustments have been made to some policy positions and these are further explained in a Consultation Report (also included as an attachment).

The intent of this session was to review the draft Bill and provide comment where necessary. These comments can form part of a submission to the Office of Local Government.

Key issues were highlighted at the workshop. Points noted for feedback and/or follow-up:

Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (TASCAT) – the referral process should enable TASCAT to review the actual Panel's decision. The current system only allows the Tribunal to review and confirm procedural fairness and natural justice etc. (i.e. not the decision).

TASCAT referral process Section 28ZX – Orders of the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal

28ZX (3) – Where the Tribunal determines that the councillor has not engaged in serious councillor misconduct, the Act needs to provide for the Tribunal not to take any action or make any order.

Note: This may be the case under 28ZX (4) but clarification required.

6. 11.45 a.m. – Kempton Recreation Ground – Master Plan

Background:

Refer attached Plan prepared by Andrew Benson.

Prior to commencing the consultation process with the local(s) in relation to the renewal/upgrade of the playground area, a general discussion was required to identify / confirm:

- a) what comments (and feedback) are currently being received? This will assist with the planning and scoping process; and
- b) what is envisaged from a Council perspective (based on the above)., including area, indicative budget (i.e. type of equipment); age focus etc.

As an outcome of the workshop discussion, it was confirmed that the Playground area was focused on the age group up to 10 years with the general location being the north-eastern corner of the property (includes the recently purchased adjoining property) and extending

back to the grandstand / changerooms building. Play equipment that involves climbing has been mentioned by younger persons within the community.

7. Other Matters:

7.1 Bus Stop (Main Street, Kempton)

Information prepared by the Department of State Growth circulated for information.

Following general discussion, the outcome was simply the installation of a sign indicating the location of the 'bus-stop' area. No other infrastructure required.

The workshop concluded at approximately 12.15 p.m.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

DECISION

Moved by Cllr D Blackwell, seconded by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon

THAT the information be received.

CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Cllr D Blackwell	✓	
Cllr B Campbell	✓	
Cllr D Fish	✓	
Cllr 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.

Clr B Campbell – Woodsdale Recreation Ground – Transfer of Ownership – update sought.

The General Manager confirmed that a Contract for Sale of Real Estate has been forwarded and not returned to date. The purchaser is also required to confirm who will act on its behalf for the conveyance process when the signed Contract is returned.

Clr B Campbell – Electrical Fires – Council employees training?

The General Manager advised that control of fires is the key responsibility of the Tas Fire Service and Council employees are not formally trained in this area.

Clr B Campbell – Whitefoord / Runnymede area – questioned ability to subdivide?

Manager Development & Environmental Services advised that subdivision is subject to property zone and the provisions of the Planning Scheme. Advice can be given if a specific property address is provided.

Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon – Councillor Photos – arrangements for photograph of current Council?

Aiming for the November meeting (scheduled at Oatlands) subject to availability of the photographer. Photos and framing of previous Councils is being progressed.

Clr F Miller – Telstra – did Council receive and further information following workshop held a number of months ago?

The General Manager confirmed that no information has come through and will follow-up.

Clr F Miller – Power Outages (High Wind Events) – falling trees and what responsibility does Council have?

Manager Infrastructure & Works advised that Tas Networks is the responsible agency. They have a proactive inspection and maintenance program. Council aims to address issues of unsafe trees within road reservations on an ongoing basis.

Mayor E Batt – Cecilia Button Trust – update?

General Manager provided comment. Further advice to be sought in relation to the options to 'wind-up' the Trust (i.e. process).

Mayor E Batt – Kempton Recreation Ground – consultation process for playground development – any progress?

General Manager advised that the community consultation process is yet to commence but will be progressed ASAP.

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*.

Nil.

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.

1. Interim Consultation Agreement between the Tasmanian Government and the Local Government Sector.

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

Moved by Clr D Fish, seconded by Clr D Blackwell

THAT Council resolve by absolute majority to deal with the supplementary item not appearing on the agenda, as reported by the General Manager in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
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 invited questions from members of the public in attendance.

Julia Jabour – Southern Midlands Regional News

Lake Dulverton – new rules relating to the management of dogs on the foreshore. When will the public be informed of the new requirements?

General Manger advised that the Lake Dulverton & Callington Park Management Committee is responsible for arranging signage and public notification. This will be progressed in November when Council officer returns from leave.

Horses – Parattah – commented about the reduction in the number of horses and acknowledged the issue was being addressed. Will Council review its processes to identify whether any improvements can be made if similar circumstances arise in the future?

Manager Development & Environmental Services advised that the circumstances will be reviewed and an assessment made as to whether any controls can be implemented through the Planning Scheme (or other means) to prevent similar issues arising. With the exception of environmental nuisances, it was noted that the primary responsibility rests with the Office of Racing Integrity (ORI).

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 Section 138 Land Titles Act 1980 - Vesting Order based on Long Possession pursuant to s 138W(4) Land Titles Act 1980.

Author: MANAGER – DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
 (GRANT FINN)

Authorised By: GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

Date: 10 OCTOBER 2025

Enclosure(s):

Blank Instrument Form

Detailed history of land ownership (circulated with closed session attachment)

Applicant: RL Rowlands & PK Clymo of Woodsdale Road, Runnymede

Land Owner: KJ Rowlands

Land: Land described as Lot 100 as shown on the annexed Plan of Survey
 (registered number P185287)

Appendices: Section 138Y Certificate compiled by Sam Padgett (Murdoch Clarke)

Proposal:

Applicants seek Council consent under Section 138Y (Avoidance of Subminimum Lot) of the *Land Titles Act 1980 (TAS)*, removing the requirement to arrange additional applications for the adverse possession of sub-minimum lots.

This proposal has some history and dating back to 2023 (initial correspondence dated 17/8/23) the applicants lawyer, Damian Egan (Murdoch Clarke), requested Council's approval for adhesion orders for four sub-minimum lots as part of an application for title by adverse possession of an adjacent block (Buckland 1:25000 series map ref 0508).

Council in email correspondence to Mr. Egan dated 31/8/23, advised that in principle Council "*has no objection to the adhesion of these existing sub-minimum lots to the adjoining freehold CT Vol 208540/1*".

This however would have resulted in the subject sub-minimum lots being adhered to the neighbouring lands and not the adjacent block in question being Lot 100.

The document '*Ken Rowlands land title*' compiled by the applicant details the applicants association with the subject land and forms part of the closed session attachments).

Section 138Y provides for the following:

138Y. Avoidance of sub-minimum lots

- (1) In this section, **sub-minimum lot** means a lot that does not have the qualities of a minimum lot as provided by [section 109 of the Local Government \(Building and Miscellaneous Provisions\) Act 1993](#).
- (2) If the Recorder is not sure whether the granting of an application under this Division would result in the continuation or creation of a sub-minimum lot, the Recorder may require the applicant to produce a certificate from the relevant council –
 - (a) that the application would not result in the continuation or creation of a sub-minimum lot; or
 - (b) that the council consents to the application.
- (3) If the applicant fails to produce a certificate required under [subsection \(2\)](#), the Recorder is not required to proceed with the application.

With respect to s.138Y(2) the application with would result in the discontinuation of the subminimum sized lot.

The acceptance of this Vesting Order is required for the Recorder of Titles to proceed with the application.

RECOMMENDATION:

Pursuant to Section 138Y of the *Land Titles Act 1980* that Council affix the Common Seal on the Vesting Order on behalf of RL Rowlands & PK Clymo for Lot 100 as shown on the annexed Plan of Survey.

DECISION

Moved by Clr B Campbell, seconded by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon

THAT pursuant to Section 138Y of the *Land Titles Act 1980* that Council affix the Common Seal on the Vesting Order on behalf of RL Rowlands & PK Clymo for Lot 100 as shown on the annexed Plan of Survey.

CARRIED

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

ENCLOSURE
Agenda Item 12.3.1

TASMANIAN LAND TITLES OFFICE

Blank Instrument Form
Land Titles Act 1980



DESCRIPTION OF LAND			
Folio of the Register			
Volume	Folio	Volume	Folio

Section 138Y Certificate for Lot 100 as shown on the annexed Plan of Survey

Application for Vesting Order based on long possession pursuant to Section 138W(4) the *Land Titles Act 1980* (Tas)

In the matter of Folio of the Register Volume 208540 Folio 1

To, The Recorder of Titles

Southern Midlands Council hereby issue this Certificate in accordance with Section 138Y(2)(b) of the *Land Titles Act 1980* (Tas) advising that Southern Midlands Council consent to lodgement of the Vesting Order on behalf of **Russell Leigh Rowlands** and **Philippa Katharine Clymo** for Lot 100 as shown on the annexed Plan of Survey.

THE COMMON SEAL of SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL
is affixed this day of under delegated
authority granted pursuant to a resolution of the Council passed on
the in the presence of:

Full Name:

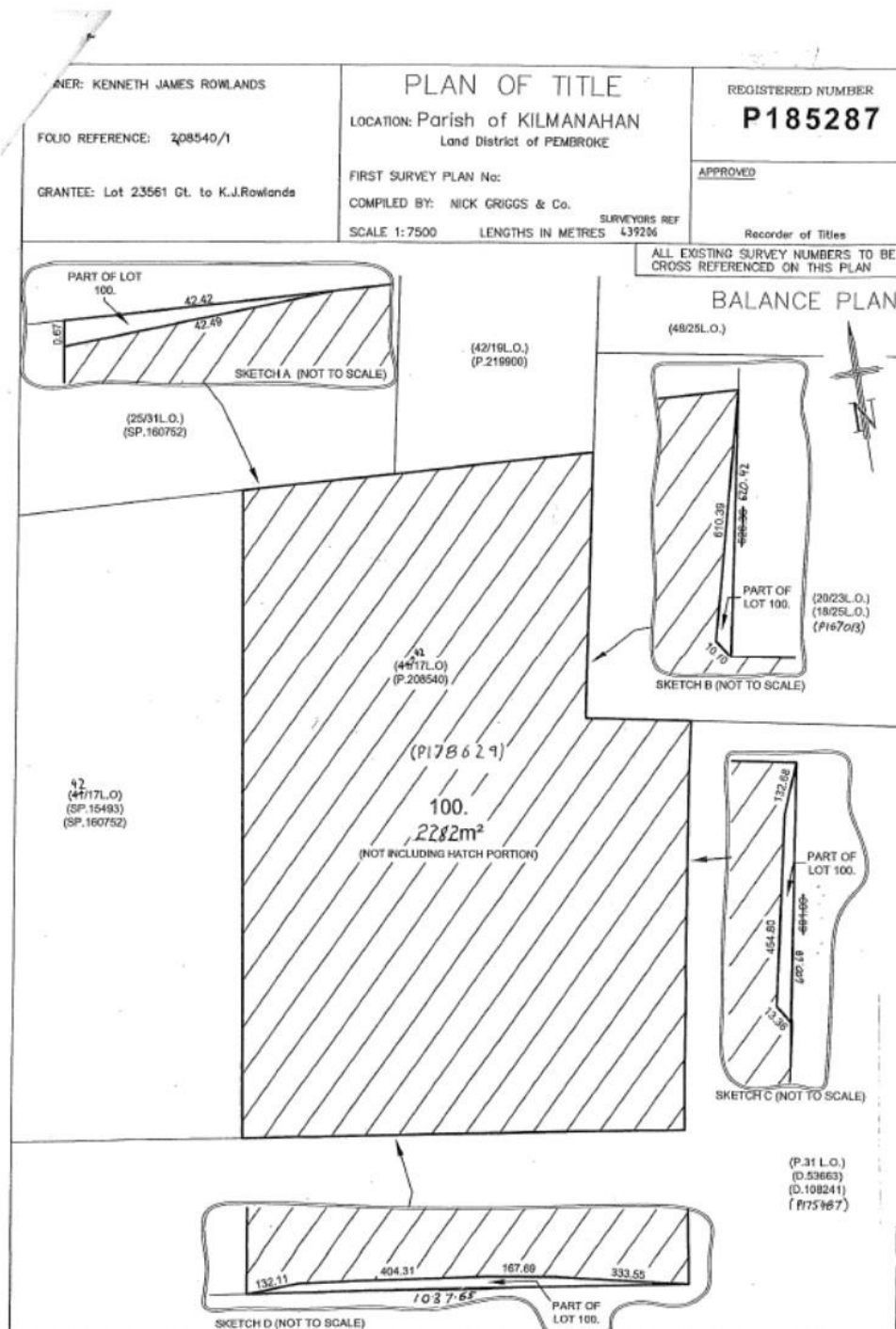
Office Held:

Land Titles Office Use Only

Version 1

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Created 5-Sep-2025 08:04AM

Duty



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12.4 Planning (Other)

12.4.1 Policy Development Update - Caravan Policy

Author: MANAGER – DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
(GRANT FINN)

Date: 17 OCTOBER 2025

Attachment(s)
Caravan Policy

Issue

At the September 2025 Council were presented with an updated version of the Caravan Policy and asked to consider any amendments prior to it being adopted.

The updating of the existing Policy to reflect both a change in Council's attitude and outline the requirements for those who wish to temporarily occupy a caravan on private land in the Southern Midlands municipal area.

Background

Council has an existing Policy which is a 2013 iteration and is subsequently due for a review.

The attached revised Policy has been compiled in conjunction with Council's Building Permit Authority, Community Development and Environmental Health teams.

In the absence of a By-law, this policy will assist Council to deliver a consistent approach to the consideration of temporary occupancy of caravans.

By-Laws provide detailed rules for managing specific Council responsibilities and activities that are not sufficiently covered by State legislation.

The majority of Council's in Tasmanian have legally binding By-laws that relate specifically to this matter.

Unfortunately Policies do not have the same legal standing and are simply internal guidelines, not laws that dictate how the Council will act.

This Policy will guide council officers and ensure consistent, transparent, and impartial management of Caravan Licences and their temporary occupation.

In addition, it was presented at a Council workshop on Monday 8th September 2025 where feedback from elected members was sought.

Discussion

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

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.

Human Resources and Financial Implications

The assessment and application of the Policy will require both officer time and other operational resources.

Policy Implications

Adoption of revised policy.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

- 1. Receive and note the report; and**
- 2. Adopt the revised Caravan Policy with no amendments.**

DECISION

Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Cllr D Blackwell

THAT Council:

- 1. Receive and note the report; and**
- 2. Adopt the revised Caravan Policy with no amendments.**

CARRIED

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

**[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.

13.1.1 2025 Transport Asset Management Plan

Author: MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS (DAVID RICHARDSON)

Date: 15 OCTOBER 2025

Attachment(s):

2025 Transport Asset Management Plan

ISSUE

Council to formally endorse the *2025 Transport Asset Management Plan*.

BACKGROUND

It is a requirement of the *Local Government Act 1993* to maintain long-term asset management plans for all major asset classes. Plans are to be at least for a ten-year period.

The attached *2025 Transport Asset Management Plan* relates to all transport assets, being roads; footpaths; kerb & gutter; and bridges.

DETAIL

Preparation of the Plan follows completion of the revaluation and condition assessment by Moloneys (which is focused on Roads; Footpaths; Kerb & Gutter) and the annual revaluation of Bridges by AusSpan.

The Plan has been redrafted to align with the most current valuations; asset condition and forward funding based on Council's Long-Term Financial Management Plan adopted in June 2025.

The draft report has been submitted for review by the Audit Panel at its meeting held 6th October 2025. The Panel has recommended adoption by Council without the need for amendment.

Human Resources & Financial Implications – In reference to the report, the projects costs over the next 10 years are \$55.5 million. This includes maintenance, renewal, and upgrade of existing transport assets and provision of improved assets to meet future demand.

The forecast budget over the same period is \$53.7 million meaning that there is a projected \$1.8 million shortfall over the ten-year period. This small shortfall can be factored into the next review of the Long-Term Financial Management Plan but the report does conclude that future maintenance and capital allocations are appropriate to maintain a balanced level of service over the next 10 years.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – The report does make reference to developing a community survey/consultation mechanisms to specifically target the assessment of Council's performance in transport asset and related service delivery.

This matter could be further considered going forward. One option could be for Council to fund an expansion of the Community Satisfaction Survey, conducted by the Local Government Association of Tasmania, to include a larger sample of the southern midlands population, with a specific focus on transport assets.

Policy Implications – N/A

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – N/A

RECOMMENDATION

THAT: Council receive a copy of the *2025 Transport Asset Management Plan*, and Subject to any amendment, it be adopted by Council.

DECISION

Moved by Clr B Campbell, seconded by Clr D Blackwell

THAT: Council receive a copy of the *2025 Transport Asset Management Plan*, and Subject to any amendment, it be adopted by Council.

CARRIED

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

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

Maintenance and improvement of the provision of waste management services to the Community.

Nil.

13.9 Information, Communication Technology

Strategic Plan Reference 1.9

Improve access to modern communications infrastructure.

Nil.

13.10 Officer Reports – Infrastructure & Works

13.10.1 Manager – Infrastructure & Works Report

Author: MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS (DAVID RICHARDSON)

Date: 17 OCTOBER 2025

Enclosure(s):

Capital Works Program 2025-2026 Projected Timeline as at 30 September 2025

This report outlines the current and upcoming works across the municipality. It provides an overview of ongoing projects, scheduled maintenance, and capital works to improve infrastructure and community facilities.

Roads Program

1. **Maintenance Grading:** Ongoing maintenance grading works will continue throughout the municipality.
2. **Pothole Repairs:** Both sealed and unsealed roads are being addressed for pothole repairs as resources permit.
3. **Culvert Cleaning & Drainage Works:** Drainage and culvert cleaning activities are underway in various locations. These works will continue as weather conditions allow.
4. **Annual Resealing & Stabilization Program:** Preparations have been completed for the Council's annual road resealing and stabilization program, which will commence shortly.
5. **Roads** Gravel re-sheeting works will continue where required.

Current Capital Works

1. **Melton Mowbray Park Development:** Development works continue at Melton Mowbray Park. Heritage Tas has granted approval for the Trough replacement.
2. **Mood food to Kempton walkway has commenced construction.**
3. **Bagdad Primary school to Bagdad Community Club walkway** has commenced.
4. **Campania Football Club change rooms are underway.** Works are progressing well
5. **Kempton Recreation Ground:**
 - Construction of a new pickle ball/basketball court is underway.
 - Work on new cricket nets has also commenced.

Parks and Reserves

1. **Recreation Grounds, Parks & Playgrounds:** Regular maintenance continues on recreation grounds, parks, and playgrounds as required.
2. **Scheduled Playground Inspections:** Inspections are being carried out to ensure compliance with safety and quality standards.
3. **Spring grass growth:** Grass growth will be a focus over the coming period.
4. **Tree planting:** has been completed at Tunbridge in both the park area and Main Street.

Bridge Works

1. **Bridge Maintenance:** Minor works on several bridges are currently in progress and will continue as required. A recent meeting with council's bridge consultants was positive in regards to feedback received on the progress of the minor rectification works completed to date by the works crews.

Building Services Unit

1. **Council Building Maintenance:** Ongoing maintenance works have been carried out on various council buildings and will continue.
2. **Construction of Campania Football Club Change Room Additions:** Construction work has commenced.
3. **Ceiling Repair at Roche Hall:** Repair works are in progress.

Planned Works

1. **Road Maintenance:**
 - Drainage and pavement repairs on various roads.
 - Edge break repairs across various roads.
2. **Bridge Maintenance:** Ongoing and planned bridge maintenance repairs.
3. **Kempton-Mood Food Pathway:** Construction works will continue.
4. **Building Maintenance:** Continued maintenance on various council buildings.
5. **Continued Development at Melton Mowbray Open Space Area:** Trough to be placed at the site.
6. **Continued Works at Kempton Recreation Ground:** Ongoing development of recreational facilities at Kempton.
7. **Stormwater Works** will commence shortly to pipe a section of open drain in Queen Anne street Oatlands.
8. **Bagdad community club to Bagdad school shared walkway.** Continue construction of walkway over the coming Month.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE TO MANAGER, INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS

Mayor E Batt – Melton Mowbray Park – Trough placement – update?

Manager Infrastructure & Works confirmed that relocation of the Trough is planned for 29th October 2025.

Clr B Campbell – Public Toilets (Male) – Placement of 'Please Flush' signs.

Manager Infrastructure & Works to address.

Clr B Campbell – Rhyndaston Road, Colebrook (Edge Breaks)

Manager Infrastructure & Works to inspect and take appropriate action.

Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon – Midland Highway, Lovely Banks area – made comment regarding the deteriorated pavement condition on the Midland Highway basically from Lovely Banks through to Kempton.

Manager Infrastructure & Works suggested that given the condition it should form part of the Department of State Growths sealing program this year.

Mayor E Batt – Huntington Tier Road, Dysart (section from Cliftonvale Road to Waste Transfer Station) – requires maintenance (i.e.. patching).

Manager Infrastructure & Works to inspect and take appropriate action.

RECOMMENDATION

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

DECISION

Moved by Clr B Campbell, seconded by Clr D D Fish

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

CARRIED

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

Capital Works Program 2025-2026 Projected Timelines
as at 30 September 2025

Project	Total Project Cost (\$)	2025						2026					
		July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June
Road Resheeting													
Road Resheeting Program	590,000												
Road Resealing - Sealed Roads													
Road Resealing Program	360,000												
Sealed Road Edge Breaks													
Various Roads	200,000												
Road Reconstruction & Seal													
Bagdad - Swan Street (700m)	137,000												
Tunnack - Eldon Road (700m)	110,000												
Woodsdale - Woodsdale Road (dig-out)	23,000												
Construct & Seal (Unsealed Roads)													
Mangalore - Blackbrush Road (1.3km section starting from seal Mangalore end)	195,000												
Mt Seymour - Blackgate Road (500m between end of seal & dust suppressant)	85,000												
Oatlands - Bentwick Street	20,000	Deferred pending development application											
Rhyndaston - Rhyndaston Road (1.35km of 2.7km starting at railway line)	202,500												
Other Works													
Bagdad - School Road (Traffic & Safety Improvements)	69,000												
Campania - Car Park Improvements (WIP)	100,000												
Campania - Reeve Street (Reconstruct Retaining Wall - Union St to Lee St)	40,000												
Campania - Structure Plan - Town Gateway and Streetscape	40,000												
Colebrook - Coalmine Bend Road (Redirect Drainage from Train Line - Piping)	25,000												
Oatlands - Hasting Street Junction WIP	15,000												
Oatlands - High Street (Traffic Island)	45,940												
Tunbridge - Main Street (Kerb & Gutter Renewal) WIP	40,000												
Footpaths													
Footpaths - General Streetscapes	46,500												
Bagdad - Midland Highway Pathway (Primary School north to Community Club) WIP	240,000												
Campania - Reeve Street (Hall St to Lee St)	57,740												
Colebrook - Richmond Road Asphaltting	3,500												
Kempton - Burnett Street to Mood Food WIP	425,565												
Kempton - Main Street (Southern End 300m)	75,000												
Oatlands - Church Street (High St to Esplanade both sides - Design Only)	10,000												
Oatlands - Church Street (Sth Parade to William St - north. side - Footpath - 130 m)	30,000												
Parattah - Streetscape (Stage 1)	50,000												
Tunnack - Streetscape (Year 1 of 3) WIP	100,000												

Southern Midlands Council

Minutes – 22nd October 2025

Project	Total Project Cost (\$)	2025						2026					
		July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June
Public Toilets													
Colebrook - History Room Toilets (Replace Septic Tank)	10,000												
Stormwater Drainage													
Bagdad / Mangalore - Hydraulic Assessment (Waterway improvements Bagdad Rec Precinct)	61,625												
Stormwater System Management Plans (Urban Drainage Act 2013)	50,000												
Oatlands - High Street / Church Street Jct (Pipe Replacement)	15,000												
Oatlands - High Street /Wellington Street Jct (New Pit)	4,000												
Oatlands - Queen Anne St (Pipe into existing Drain)	35,000												
Tourism													
Oatlands - Heritage Interpretation Panel renewal	2,000												
Heritage													
Jericho - Memorial Avenue - Plaques	20,000	Awaiting stakeholder input											
Kempton - Memorial Avenue Park - Interps	19,545												
Melton Mowbray - Recognition plaque JH Bisdee VC OBE (DVA Grant)	8,480												
Oatlands - Callington Mill - Structural Repair & External painting	40,000												
Oatlands - Court House (Wall Stabilisation)	100,000												
Oatlands - Gaolers Residence (Chimney Capping [complete] & Fireplace Repairs)	15,000												
Oatlands - Gaolers Residence (Lighting & Hanging System Upgrade)	5,000												
Oatlands - Gaolers Residence (Wingwall)	23,000												
Oatlands - Heritage Buildings (Security Upgrades)	10,000												
Oatlands - Heritage Collections Store	10,000	Seeking additional Grant Funding											
Oatlands - Roche Hall (Building Improvements for PRISM) WIP	90,000												
Oatlands - Roche Hall Forecourt (Interps - Planning Condition of Approval) WIP	40,000												
Natural													
Campania - Bush Reserve / Cemetery WIP	300,000												
Chauncy Vale - Day Dawn Cottage Improvements	12,000												
Chauncy Vale - Toilet & Interps Upgrade (Election Commitment)	80,000												
Regulatory - Development													
Property Purchase - 10 Barrack Street, Oatlands (Police Residence)	530,000												
Oatlands - Stanley Street Master Plan	20,000												
Animal Control													
Oatlands - Off-Lead Dog Park	35,000	Deferred											

Southern Midlands Council

Minutes – 22nd October 2025

Project	Total Project Cost (\$)	2025						2026					
		July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June
Recreation													
Building Upgrades (Sites determined following inspections)	50,000												
Playground Upgrades (Sites determined following inspections)	50,000												
Bagdad - Bagdad Community Club (Precinct Plan & Property Transfer)	111,000			Subject to grant funding									
Bagdad - Iden Road Park Development	75,000	Deferred											
Bagdad - Acquisition 1689 Midland Highway Bagdad	309,870												
Campania - Flour Mill Park (Redevelopment)	68,000												
Campania - Recreation Ground (Landscaping & Tiered Seating)	270,000												
Campania - Recreation Ground (All abilities Car Parking)	26,750												
Campania - Recreation Ground (Upgrade Change rooms)	1,100,000												
Colebrook - Hall (Windows, Ramps, Double Doors)	10,000												
Kempton - Carriage Shed (External Repair & Repainting)	11,700												
Kempton - Recreation Ground (Site Dev)	24,250												
Kempton - Recreation Ground (Cricket Net, basket ball / pickle ball court)	80,000												
Melton Mowbray - Streetscape Works (Trough / Shelter etc)	90,000												
Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (Outdoor Area Seating)	4,000												
Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (Learn to Swim Equipment)	2,000												
Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (Gymnasium Equipment Upgrade)	5,000												
Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (Female Change Rooms / Shower Cubicles)	10,000												
Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (Pump Replacement)	10,000												
Oatlands - Gay Street, Hall (Air Lock & Heating) [heating complete, air lock to do]	40,000												
Oatlands - Gay Street, Hall (Kitchen Floor Repairs / Underpinning)	8,000												
Oatlands - Midlands Community Centre (External Painting - Front of Building)	8,000												
Oatlands - Old Swimming Pool (Staged demolition)	62,889												
Runnymede - Recreation Ground (Pitch Renewal)	8,000												
Tunnack - Recreation Ground (Kiosk Removal)	8,000												
Tunnack - Recreation Ground (Toilet Block Painting)	4,000												
Woodsdale Recreation Ground	45,000	Pending return of signed real estate contract											
Legend													
Scheduled	Infrastructure & Works												
Completed	Infrastructure & Works												
	Heritage Projects												
	Heritage Projects												

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: 22 OCTOBER 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:

- Further planning and liaison with the Australian Institute of Architects for the Open House Southern Midlands event in November. The program has been launched and the website is live. Council-owned buildings included in the program are Oatlands Town Hall, Roche Hall, Oatlands Gaol, Oatlands Supreme Couret House, AiRSpace, Oatlands Commissariat, Kempton Council Chambers and the Watch House. See <https://openhousehobart.org/southern-midlands/>
- Curating an Artist in Residence Retrospective Exhibition as part of the Southern Midlands Open House program.
- Titles have been finalised for the Melton Mowbray Park. Relocation of the trough is imminent. Interpretation panel designs are currently being finalised.
- Progressing Roche Hall works and conservation management plan.
- Researching and conservation planning for Eddington's Cottage, Bagdad.
- August's Artist in Residence is New Artist support – Neil Williams, a landscape painter from Victoria. Places for 2026 Have been offered
- Final work on 'go-live' for Council's online heritage collection database interface.
- Provision of a familiarisation tour of Oatlands heritage buildings to the guiding staff of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.
- Participation in Heritage Highway meetings and AGM.

RECOMMENDATION

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

DECISION

Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Cllr B Campbell

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

CARRIED

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

DECISION

Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Cllr B Campbell

THAT Council break for morning tea at 10.50 a.m.

CARRIED

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

DECISION

Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Cllr D Blackwell

THAT the meeting reconvene at 11.13 p.m.

CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Cllr D Blackwell	✓	
Cllr B Campbell	✓	
Cllr D Fish	✓	
Cllr 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

Authors: NRM PROGRAMS OFFICER (HELEN GEARD)
WEEDS OFFICER (MARY SMYTH)

Date: 14 OCTOBER 2025

DETAIL

- Maria has continued working on Lake Dulverton matters. As previously advised one of the issues has been dogs on the foreshore of the Lake. The community have had dogs being exercised on the foreshore for decades, however there was no formal approval ever provided by Parks. A letter was sent to Parks in December 2024 requesting the recognition and continuation of dogs begin exercised on the foreshore of the Lake. Parks have recently responded and dogs can be exercised on the foreshore however there are some changes to off lead and on lead areas. Signage and information related to the changes will now go out in due course.
- Helen and Maria spent time working with Mary as per her report below.
- Maria is on leave until Monday 3 November 2025.

Mary - Weeds Officer provided the following report for the period 16 September – 14 October 2025

Enquiries/feedback

Received an enquiry regarding willow control from a Tea Tree resident who is keen to get rid of these trees on his property. I compiled a list of various videos, online links, background information and contacts for a couple of relevant groups: the information was received with thanks.

Whilst undertaking some weed work at Levendale, a local man approached enquiring about the possibility of broom control on Weedings Road, Woodsdale. The site was visited and it will be incorporated into the woody weed control programme.

Site visits

With MW and HG, went to Chauncy Vale near the Meeting Room to meet up with Jo Rowley from Kempton office. Discussions and a walkabout ensued to look at some previous revegetation efforts and stream bank erosion. Maria later produced a PowerPoint with historical photos and recommendations for the future.

Annual boneseed control works at Bagdad and Dysart: about a day and a half was spent visiting various properties with Helen &/or Maria where boneseed has been pulled out in the past. 46 sites were visited and other areas checked fortunately the majority did not have plants present. There are still a couple of places to get back to, but it is very pleasing to note that boneseed numbers have been declining steadily for the last few years: **2023**: 213 plants removed. **2024**: 42 plants removed. **2025**: 21 plants so far.

Checked the plantings at Mangalore Recreation Ground; half the area is sloshy underfoot but only 1 banksia has died recently. This will be replaced by either a Melaleuca or a Tea tree (both of which are thriving in the seasonally damp conditions).

Other work-

- Checked the 2025 plantings at the Kempton Recreation Ground mounds; watered all the new plants and admired the weed control efforts.
- Re-started Spanish heath control work but the wind is still hampering efforts.
- Started some timely thistle, tree lupin, and horehound control work at Oatlands tip. Follow-up required to complete broad-leaf weed efforts in and around all the public areas.
- Controlled the small outlying Amsinckia population at the far end of Beards Road, Colebrook. Considerably fewer plants than last year.
- Visited the Stemless thistle core site and controlled another 421 plants ranging in size from 2cm to 40cm across. Density is reducing, but germinations are continuing.

Communication

Contributed a few comments about Spanish heath to the Tasmanian Weeds facebook page, in answer to someone's post where they said that Spanish heath was so pretty, why not leave it?

Assisted MW with the 2024/25 Annual Report.

Saw a local land manager in at the Kentish Café and was able to follow up on a pressing weed issue.

Weeds Action Fund Stage 3; Project 6

The isolated infestation of Stemless thistle is one of a number of weeds targeted in Project 6, and the only one relevant to SMC in this project. The contract went to Enviro-dynamics, and contact has now been made with the person who will be co-ordinating. It is likely that some control works will be able to be undertaken by a local contractor this year after all.

Roadside Woody Weeds

One more field trip completed with the majority of relevant roads now sighted. Results continue to be patchy.

Research

Whilst perusing the Tasmanian Weeds Facebook page, I came across a link to a video of a North American weeds researcher giving a talk on the recent invasiveness of the Ornamental pear (*Pyrus calleryana*) in the USA. Fascinating. Whilst this has not happened yet in Tasmania (to my knowledge), it pays to be informed and on the lookout.

Completed my Gallium (cleavers/sticky weed) research and provided a report to Council as requested.

Related and extra-curricular activities

Braved the atrocious weather on Friday the 10th October to attend the "Gardening for Biodiversity workshop & the launch of the Tamar Valley Weed brochure." This was run by Tamar NRM and there were 4 speakers plus a tour of the native gardens surrounding the venue at the Windsor Precinct, Riverside.

One of the speakers was Matt Baker from the Herbarium and after his talk I showed him a photo of a small, pretty plant which I had found in a garden not far from Jericho. This plant was showing invasive tendencies and I was keen to know what it was. Turns out it was a member of the ranunculus family, and has never been recorded in Tasmania! A specimen will soon be taken to the herbarium for the collection.

Worked with various colleagues to facilitate the installation of 7 street trees, a banksia hedge, and 4 extra shade trees in and around Tunbridge Park. The banksias were planted on the 1st September, and the rest on 9th October.

Discovered a small but dense roadside infestation of *Amsinckia* just off the SMC northern border in Tunbridge. I'll get to that in my own time when the wind dies down.

Data base assessments

As part of new planning procedures, Sophie has been forwarding various addresses to me for desktop declared weed assessments. I use two databases (Spectrum special and the Natural Values Atlas) plus my own knowledge of weed issues to reply to these requests. A total of 10 assessments completed this month.

Weed of the Week

Amsinckia, Pride of Madiera, Shepherd's purse and Whiteweed displayed at Oatlands front office this month.

In response to a Councillor enquiry I provide the following information.

Supplementary report to Council on Cleavers/Bedstraw/Sticky weed (*Galium aparine*).

There are 8 *Galiums* which have been introduced into Australia, and 6 of these have found their way to Tasmania. Two *Galiums* are listed as Declared weeds, *Galium spurium* (Flase cleavers) and *Galium tricornutum* (Three-horned bedstraw). Flase cleavers has not been recorded in Tasmania and bedstraw has only been recorded twice, once in 1896 at Sandy Bay, and the second time in 2004 near the Queen's Domain, Hobart. Interestingly, there are also 3 native *Galiums* in Tasmania, but it is only the common Sticky weed *Galium aparine* which will be dealt with here.

Sticky weed is native to Europe and central Asia, and is a scrambling annual herb with stems to 1.5m long. The plant is covered in hooked hairs which tend to stick to surfaces, and can cause mild allergies in some people. It has long been used in herbal medicine, but if left unchecked in home gardens, it can really go to town, covering much ground and clambering up other plants and structures. Like many weeds, it thrives in open and disturbed sites.

Sticky weed produces a lot of herbage from a very fine stem just above the yellowish roots. The trick to controlling this weed is to follow the leaves and stems down to the root and dig lightly to remove the root. If people simply pull the plant out at ground level, it will reshoot from the remaining whisp of stem. If people want to use a knockdown herbicide, they can try Glyphosate 360 at the rate of 20ml/L and that should do the trick. If a selective herbicide is needed, people can try KambaM at the rate of 10ml/L. I cannot personally vouch for the herbicides above as I only ever hand pull this weed in my garden, but regardless of the control method used, make sure to do it before the plant sets seed. Sticky weed can also impact crops but you'll need the advice from an agronomist to tackle this scenario.

RECOMMENDATION

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

DECISION

Moved by Clr D Fish, seconded by Clr D Blackwell

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

CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
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.

15.3.1 Oatlands Highlands Gathering Event March 2026

Author: DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER (ANDREW BENSON)

Date: 16 OCTOBER 2025

Attachment(s):

Event Summary & Evaluation - Oatlands Highland Gathering 2025

ISSUE

Building the viability of the Oatlands Highland Gathering to be an enduring annual summer event / festival in Oatlands with the proposal to purchase some ancillary equipment to add value to the event as well as other events across the Southern Midlands.

BACKGROUND

Council's Destination Action Plan (DAP) stated that Council should encourage significant events to be held in Southern Midlands and principally in Oatlands to boost economic activity for the High Street traders and other local businesses. The Oatlands Structure Plan articulated the same message.

Council officers harnessed the DAP recommendations and that is what gave rise to the creation of the Heritage & Bullock Festival in August each year. That festival started in 2018 and has been staged every year since, apart from the COVID year. It brings significant economic activity to Oatlands in that winter month of August, with approximately 7,800 people attending over those two days in 2025.

Prior to April 2025, Pipe Bands Tasmania have never held a Highland Gathering in Oatlands. In the past they have held events at Campbell Town, Ross or Longford. There were annual events held at Richmond, but they ceased a number of years ago.

The details surrounding the approach to Pipe Bands Tasmania by Council officers in seeking to establish a pilot for a significant summer festival/event are covered in the attached *Event Summary & Evaluation - Oatlands Highland Gathering 2025*. On the 5th April 2025 the event took place, which was the State-wide Tasmanian Pipe Band Championships in piping, drumming, drill/marching, and dress.

Callington Mill Distillery were also approached to provide sponsorship support for Pipe Bands Tasmania in bringing judges over from the mainland. Callington Mill Distillery embraced the opportunity, covering the travel arrangements for the judges and established a 'Barrel Race' (the first of our Highland Games offerings) along with prizes. They also created a unique Scottish menu, including haggis, for their patrons, as well as the judges during the event. The Broadmarsh Elderslie Progress Association provided a BBQ in the Drovers Hut for the community and participants.

DETAIL

The next Oatlands Highland Gathering is scheduled for 21st March 2026 and whilst there was a small group of attendees in April for the pilot event, numbering in the order of

approximately five hundred people, the future numbers can only grow as the intensity of attractions and participation broadens.

For example, Highland Heavy Games will form part of the next event. This will cover showcasing strength, skill, and athletic prowess, engrained in Scottish heritage. Competitions will include sheaf tossing, hammer throws, weight throws for distance and height, tossing the caber and stone puts, all designed to test competitors' power and technique. These games celebrate Scottish culture and provide a platform for contestants to demonstrate their physical capabilities. Of course they will be wearing their kilts as part of their kit during the event.

A portable Stage is a significant acquisition by Council to draw greater event participation in respect of the next Oatlands Highland Gathering where the Scottish Dancers are keen to come along and undertake their State Championships in Oatlands, after the success of the April 2025 Oatlands Highland Gathering. There will be approximately sixty six young dancers, under Highland Dance Tasmania, who will be accompanied by their parent(s) and also many grandparents come along to these competitions as well. This is a single element that will add significant attendee numbers to the event and hence an addition to the *value-add* for the Oatlands High Street traders.

In line with the effort to build the Oatlands Highland Gathering into a major annual summer event, the target is to have more attractions and a more diversified age group that sees value in attending cultural and community focused events. When Council are successful with the Dancers this coming year (2026), the organising committee will schedule a two day event for the following year (2027), it will grow at a similar pace as the Heritage & Bullock Festival, (approx. 7,800 attendees in 2025) with vibrance and enthusiasm.

This report is seeking funding support from Council, for the purchase of a portable stage to be used at the Oatlands Highlands Gathering, as well as at other events in the Southern Midlands. It could be funded from the unexpended balance of the Southern Midlands Community Small Grants Program 2025. The amount being requested is \$7,045.00, which when added to the successful Community Small Grants Program of \$3,000.00 will provide sufficient funds to be able to purchase the components of the portable Stage. It is noted that the Stage suppliers Transtage, have provided a one off reduced purchase price with a \$1,000 discount, down to \$ 1,425.00/Stage unit.

There is a current balance of unspent funds from the Community Small Grants Program totalling \$8,352.00. Council approved at the September 2025 Council meeting an allocation of \$615.00 to support the Wine South Tasmania Community event with the purchase of signage flags. That left a balance of \$7,737.00. If the requested amount for the Oatlands Highland Gathering Stage of \$7,045.00 was to be approved by Council, from that balance, an amount of \$692.00 would be left in the Community Small Grants 2025 budget.

The portable Stage (configuration of 12 panels 2.4m x 1.2m x 450mm high) that can be used for outdoor festivals and events, across the Southern Midlands, such as the Oatlands Highland Gathering, Heritage & Bullock Festival, Kempton Festival and the like. It would also be suitable for inside use as well. In the same vein, a number of years ago Council purchased two portable grand stands which are used across many events in the Southern Midlands, and the Stage would be the same type of Community resource.

So the Stage will be a key asset for the further growth of these events. In the past the Dancers have in other parts of the State, hired a Stage and it costs them around \$2,000 for the day. With the purchase of the Stage and with it being stored by Council, it locks in the

Dancers into Oatlands. It will provide a professional and safe piece of equipment in adding value to the various events in which the Stage will be used.

Organisations such as Pipe Bands Tasmania, Highland Dance Tasmania and their affiliates, who are not-for-profit organisations with very low balances on their bottom line, that wish to undertake events in the Southern Midlands will be impressed that rather than having to hire a portable stage at great cost, they will realise that Council is supporting them in providing the Stage at no cost and therefore more events and participating organisations will *'enthusiastically beat a drum on their way to Southern Midlands'*.

CONCLUSION

At Southern Midlands we have an enviable built landscape, which is now being complemented, as we build a vibrant cultural landscape of events and activities that will continue to grow, adding economic value to our traders as well as enhancing our reputation as a responsive local authority meeting the needs of the Community. The addition of a portable Stage in Council's suite of assets, will go a long way in accelerating that growth.

The purchase of the portable Stage is commended to Council as a crucial investment decision.

Human Resources & Financial Implications – The value of the 'Grant' to the Oatlands Highland Gathering Project would be \$7,045.00 and could be drawn from the balance of the Community Grants Program 2025 budget as detailed within the report. This allocation was flagged in the report at the September 2025 Council meeting in respect of the Wine South Tasmania report.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – This allocation will significantly add to the building of the momentum for a significant annual summer festival in Oatlands, similar to the Heritage & Bullock Festival.

Policy Implications – It is appropriate that these funds be drawn from the Community Small Grants Program 2025, as it will be the Community in general and Community organisations in particular that will gain the advantages that the Stage will bring, to all events in the Southern Midlands.

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – As soon as possible.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council allocate \$7,045.00 ex GST, to add to the purchase of the portable Stage for Community use throughout the Southern Midlands, as detailed within this report and that the funds be drawn from part of the balance from the Southern Midlands Community Small Grants Program 2025.

DECISION

Moved by Clr B Campbell, seconded by Clr D Blackwell

THAT Council allocate \$7,045.00 ex GST, to add to the purchase of the portable Stage for Community use throughout the Southern Midlands, as detailed within this report and that the funds be drawn from part of the balance from the Southern Midlands Community Small Grants Program 2025.

CARRIED

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

15.4 Regulatory (Development)

Strategic Plan Reference 3.4

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

15.4.1 Flour Mill Park Redevelopment Project

Author: DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER (ANDREW BENSON)

Date: 13 OCTOBER 2025

Attachment(s):

Flour Mill Park Concept Design Report

ISSUE

Consideration of the final report, including Community Feedback on the Flour Mill Park Concept Design Project, at Campania.

BACKGROUND

In September 2024, Recreation/Landscape Architects, *Inspiring Place* were contracted to undertake the following tasks as part of the re-development of Flour Mill Park in Campania;

1. Undertake Community and Stakeholder engagement, including with the Campania District School;
2. Undertake a Consultation Survey;
3. Consider the Opportunities along with Constraints emanating from 1 and 2 above;
4. Consideration of the design principals of the site, whilst understanding the current and future uses of the site;
5. Develop a draft Concept Plan for the site; and
6. Following feedback from Council and the Community deliver a Final Concept Report.

At the May 2025 Council Workshop a review of the draft Concept Design Plan prepared by Inspiring Place was undertaken. There was wide ranging discussion about the site and the recommendations that Inspiring Place had put forward. Discussion also covered the Mill building which is owned by the Department of Education, Children and Young People (DECYP), and how that could be used in conjunction with the Park. Following investigation with DECYP it was noted that the building is used every day for school activities and therefore would not be available to provide any ancillary uses in respect of the Flour Mill Park.

DETAIL

Council were supportive of the draft Concept Design and requested Community feedback. That feedback has been included below.

Community feedback schedule		
Project: Flour Mill Park		
Date: 24.07.25		
Item	Community feedback 22.07.25	Inspiring Place feedback 24.07.25
Beven Family		
Implementation Plan: stage 6; upgrade path network, lighting and fencing	A. Are there any more details available regarding the style of fencing, how it will be fenced, parameters around the park, certain play zones and car park? Just wondering for a security, safety and access perspective.	Flour Mill Park is currently at the concept design stage where further details will be provided at the next stage on fencing, playspace, carparking etc. All details will be conscious of the security, safety and access needs for this site in accordance to Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles
"Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) has been addressed for Flour Mill Park to address previous incidents of serious vandalism, misconduct and misuse. Natural surveillance has been adopted to maximise visibility throughout Flour Mill Park. This is through minimising obstructions and clear sightlines through the proposed park facilities for crime prevention."	B. Can this paragraph please be explained more plainly - how will the landscape change and does this involve lighting for safety and security and assume it does not involve the use of cameras, but rather ensuring the trees and shrubs are manicured and maintained for better vision across the park space.	Lighting is proposed to primary pathways with controlled and limited operational hours during the evening. Use of cameras are not proposed at this stage. Existing trees and mass planting within Flour Mill Park will be reviewed for safety and surveillance. This includes pruning lower tree branches and tall shrubs to provide clear surveillance for users throughout the park. New planting will be considerate of safety and security
	C. With x2 turf kick around spaces (number 24 on the map), is there consideration to have one of these areas zoned off for a dog run, or are there any other proposals to have a space in Campania for one? If this were to be considered, perhaps the space where the current tennis court is would be better than the space near the Flour Mill/ pump track.	The dog park wasn't referenced as a priority during the consultation phase, however can potentially be addressed in Flour Mill Park. However, there should be consideration as to existing dog facilities within Council LGA as well as the needs within the park for the community.
	D. Are there details available that disclose the size of the area that the combined space of junior and youth play spaces, adventure and nature play and fitness equipment take up? It appears on the map to be quite close together, with a lot of "green" natural parkland with trees between this zone and the half basketball court. Is there a reason as to why this might be tightly consolidated to this one area? I note the reference to the scale at the bottom of page 13, although would be interested in more details.	The playspace has 2 main areas being junior and youth. These zones are located adjacent to each other for families and groups of people who may have children of varying ages. The playspace has been located amongst existing trees providing natural shade and integrating existing nature play opportunities. It is also located adjacent to the junior pump track, for ease of supervision for families. Area size can be confirmed in the following project stages after further design development. The fitness equipment is retained in place and nominated to be upgraded in the future. The half basketball court is creating a distinct youth precinct with supporting facilities, occupying the existing hardstand space of the existing tennis courts with upgraded surfacing materials.

Kobi Rybak – for the Campania Community Group		
	A. Overall, the plans are a welcome addition to the Campania community. The design includes a broad range of ideas for individuals and groups who may access the park, including younger children and adolescents. It would be good to ensure that any design includes access for those with disabilities and the elderly population	Inclusivity and accessibility has been considered during the concept design with a considered approach to access and circulation, disabled parking and the provision of accessible amenities for people of all abilities. Further design development will be undertaken at a later stage of the project
	B. - The park and grounds need to be well lit for security purposes and have structures which prevent vehicles from entering which may cause potential damage to property (ie fence or bollards). A gated fence would also ensure young children do not venture onto the road.	Primary access paths are proposed with controlled lighting with timed operational hours during the evening. Vehicle entry control will be detailed in the following project stage, for example retention of the large existing boulders along the car park edge. A playground fence and gate could be considered in the next project phase, particularly for the junior play area
	C. - Please ensure there are plenty of rubbish/ recycling bins and dog waste bags and bins	Noted, locations and quantities to be addressed at the next project phase
	D. - Sun safety is important so please ensure plenty of areas available with covering (for bad weather also)	3x picnic facilities are provided in the park with an all weather shelter The playspace location is proposed amongst existing mature trees providing natural shade
	E. - Consider incorporating 'train/railway' themed play equipment to link with Campania heritage; also link some of the town's history in with the park (eg 'history walk' around the perimeter of the park)- ties in with the heritage interpretation aspect of the design.	Flour Mill Park presents a great opportunity for heritage interpretation, with many ideas listed on page 11 of the Concept Design Report. Further design development on heritage will be undertaken at a later stage of the project
	F. - As the park will be a staged project, please consider seeking feedback along the way from primary stakeholders.	Noted, for Council to address during the project staging.
Campania District School		
	A. The concept designs for the Flour Mill look all good with the school.	Noted
Campania Community Hall Committee		
	A. President Robin Howlett and his Committee are very happy with the design	Noted

From the four sets of feedback, it is noted that two groups, ie the Campania District School and the Campania Committee Hall Committee (immediate neighbours to the Park) are happy and supportive of the design.

Design Consultants, Inspiring Place have commented on the Community Feedback and observed that most of the matters raised by the Community Feedback were matters that will be able to be addressed as Council travel the implementation / construction phases over the next few years. However, one of the matters that was raised by the Beven Family was that of an Off-Lead Dog Park and it is considered that Council could turn its mind to that matter now, if it had a mind to do so. If Council did wish to progress this matter, a Community

Survey could be undertaken in Campania to seek interest in the concept of an Off-Lead Dog Park. There is a viable location on the site that could fit at the southernmost end of the park.

CONCLUSION

There has been a comprehensive process of Community Consultation, from the very beginning of the project, through to the final Concept Design Plans. The end product is a design that has merit and can meet the Community needs for a number of years to come, with a regular commitment by Council through an annual budget allocation.

Human Resources & Financial Implications – Funds included in the 2025/2026 budget for the old tennis court removal, plus the construction of a half basketball court, overlaid with a pickle ball court.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – Extensive Community Consultation has been undertaken throughout the project.

Policy Implications - Nil.

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – Implementation from the 2025/26.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Adopt the Concept Design Report as prepared by Inspiring Place;
2. Proceed with the implementation of the Concept Design;
3. Note the Community Feedback; and
4. Implement a Community Consultation process to explore the notion of an Off-Lead Dog Park in Flour Mill Park.

DECISION

Moved by Cllr F Miller, seconded by Cllr D Fish

THAT:

1. Council defer a decision on the *Flour Mill Park Redevelopment Plan* pending advice or a response from the Department of Education regarding the Flour Mill Park building, and the possibility that Council could fund the construction of an alternate facility within the School property that could accommodate the current uses; and
2. Such an approach could enable the subsequent purchase of this Flour Mill Park building by Council, noting that this concept would be subject to the preparation and consideration of a Business Plan.

CARRIED

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

15.5 Regulatory (Public Health)

Strategic Plan Reference 3.5

Monitor and maintain a safe and healthy public environment.

15.5.1 Campania Cemetery – Establishment of Special Committee of Council (under section 24 of the *Local Government Act 1993*)

Author: GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

Date: 8 OCTOBER 2025

Attachment(s):

Draft Terms of Reference

Community Meeting - Discussion Notes (Meeting held 21st July 2025)

Informal Meeting – Discussion Notes (Meeting held 7th October 2025)

ISSUE

Council to:

- a) confirm the Terms of Reference for the Campania Cemetery Management Committee; and
- b) formally appoint the Council representative and community members to the Committee.

BACKGROUND

Council, at its meeting held 23rd July 2025, received a report on the outcomes of a community convened meeting relating to the possible establishment of a Special Committee of Council to assist with maintenance of the Campania Cemetery (Council owned).

The following decision was made:

“THAT:

- a) *Council support the recommendation from the community meeting to establish a Special Committee of Council for the Campania Cemetery; and*
- b) *Terms of Reference be drafted for the Committee for consideration by Council (and the proposed Committee members).”*

DETAIL

For information, the following is an extract from the Act:

“24. Special committees

(1) A council may establish, on such terms and for such purposes as it thinks fit, special committees.

(2) A special committee consists of such persons appointed by the council as the council thinks appropriate.

(3) The council is to determine the procedures relating to meetings of a special committee.”

Draft Terms of Reference (TOR) (as enclosed) were referred to a follow-up meeting of the Campania Cemetery group held 7th October 2025.

Councillors will note from the TOR that the Committee shall be comprised of the following:

- i) One representative of Council as determined from time to time by Council; and
- ii) At least eight community representatives as determined from time to time by Council.

The objects of the Committee shall be:-

- (a) To provide advice and recommendations to Council as the Cemetery Manager, particularly in relation to any site improvements that can be considered as part of the Council budget process;
- (b) To provide advice and recommendations to Council as the Cemetery Manager should any issues arise or be referred to the Committee for consideration; and
- (c) To develop, upgrade and maintain the property and its facilities.

The objectives confirm that the Management Committee does not have any delegated authority and is mainly an advisory body.

As an outcome of the meeting held 7th October 2025, the TOR were accepted (with no amendment) and the following persons were nominated to be appointed as members of the Management Committee by Council:

Name:
Colin Howlett OAM
Robin Howlett
Noel Beven OAM
Merle Moore
Leonie Parker
Michael Goldsmith
Rhonda Grice
Myles Dunbabbinn-Fazackerley

Human Resources & Financial Implications – to be considered.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – action in response to community input and feedback.

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – immediate.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

- a) confirm the Terms of Reference for the Campania Cemetery Management Committee (as enclosed);

- b) formally appoint the Council representative; and
- c) formally appoint the following community representatives to the Campania Cemetery Special Committee:

Name:
Colin Howlett OAM
Robin Howlett
Noel Beven OAM
Merle Moore
Leonie Parker
Michael Goldsmith
Rhonda Grice
Myles Dunbabbinn-Fazackerley

DECISION

Moved by Cllr B Campbell, seconded by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon

THAT Council:

- a) confirm the Terms of Reference for the Campania Cemetery Management Committee (as enclosed);
- b) formally appoint the General Manager (Tim Kirkwood) as its representative; and
- c) formally appoint the following community representatives to the Campania Cemetery Special Committee:

Colin Howlett OAM
Robin Howlett
Noel Beven OAM
Merle Moore
Leonie Parker
Michael Goldsmith
Rhonda Grice
Myles Dunbabbinn-Fazackerley

CARRIED

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

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: 16 October 2025

Enclosure(s):

Animal Management Statement 2025

ISSUE

Consideration of the Animal Management/Compliance Officer's report for October 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 October; *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

Moved by Cllr D Fish, seconded by Cllr D Blackwell

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

CARRIED

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

ENCLOSURE

Agenda Item 15.6.1

Reporting period: 18 September - 16 October 2025

Category/Area	Andover	Antill Ponds Woodbury	Baden Mt Seymour Whiteford	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
																								0	
Failing to ensure dog is not at large																								0	2
Dog attacking animal causing serious injury or death																								0	1
Dog - Impounded																								0	5
Reclaimed dogs																								0	5
Adopted/Dogs Home																								0	
Euthanised																								0	
Lost dogs reported										1														1	2
Barking complaints						1																		1	6
Animal Welfare															1	1								3	3
Cat complaints received																								0	1
Stock on roads												1												1	10
Impounded livestock																								0	
Infringement Notices Issued																								0	1
Written letter - various matters				1		3	1					1				1								6	15
Patrolled Areas				4		6	2	2		1		1			4	1						1		21	42
Kennel Licence - Issued																								0	1
TOTAL																								34	

Registered 2025-2026 YTD	1595
Pending 2025-2026	77
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

Strategic Plan Reference 4.1

Support and improve the independence, health and wellbeing of the Community.

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: 15 OCTOBER 2025

Oatlands Aquatic Centre – Coordinator's Report for the month September, 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.

Group Bookings & Programs – September (17/9/25 - 14/10/25):

Event / Booking	School / Group	Participation Numbers
Physio Rehab Sessions	Annabel Butler – Physiotherapist	8 individual bookings
GYM / Lane Hire	Fitness Program – GYM & Pool	2 pool individual bookings 2 GYM individual bookings 40 participants
GYM / Lane Hire	Corumbene Program – GYM & Pool	2 pool individual bookings 2 GYM individual bookings 18 participants
GYM Hire	Private Booking – Fitness Assessment	6 participants
Centre Hire	Swansea Primary School	2 individual bookings 50 participants
Centre Visits	Parkside Support Program	7 participants
Centre Visits	St Brigid's School – Holiday Program	28 participants
Lane Hire	Oatlands District School	13 participants
Centre Visits	Home Care – Ouse Community Group	5 participants
Lane Hire	Geneva Christian School	24 participants
Centre Visits	Birthday Party	3 individual bookings 55 participants
Centre Visits	Fitness Passport	12 participants (September)
Lane Hire	Midlands Swimming Club	2 individual bookings

USAGE FOR THE PERIOD 17/9/2025 – 14/10/2025

PAID UPFRONT

Type	Units
Gym & Classes	
Gym Class Pass 10 Sessions	16
PAYG – Gym Class	10
PAYG – Gym (17 years)	20
PAYG – Gym (Concession)	20
Gym/Pool Combo	
Gym/Pool Pass 10 Sessions (17 years)	1
Gym/Pool Pass 10 Sessions (Concession)	8
PAYG – Gym/Pool Combo (17 years)	3
PAYG – Gym/Pool Combo (Concession)	4
Learn to Swim (Total Numbers)	
Term 3, 2025 Program Enrolments	165
October Holiday Private Program Enrolments	25
Pool	
Upfront 6 Months Pool Membership (17 +)	0
Upfront 6 Months Pool Membership (Concession)	1
Upfront 6 Months Pool Membership (Family)	0
PAYG – Pool (4 years and under)	176
PAYG – Pool (5-16)	518
PAYG – Pool (17)	279
PAYG – Pool (Concession)	199
PAYG – (Family)	79

DIRECT DEBITS – Current Numbers

Type	Units
DD Pool/Gym	9
DD Gym	10
DD 6 Months Pool – 17 years +	2
DD 6 Months Pool – Child/Concession	20
DD 6 Months Centre – Family	1

Grant Applications & General Information

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

- Corumbene “Health & Wellbeing Program” for 2026:**
 Corumbene sessions have been extended to continue into 2026. The Water & GYM exercise groups will continue on a Wednesday for a further 10 weeks during Term 1, 2026.
- Aqua Aerobics & GYM Fitness Classes:**
 Our new Aqua Aerobic and Gym Fitness classes on Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday have now commenced with Bonnie Headlam as of Term 4, 2025. Classes this week have been well attended, with future weeks also filling up quickly, the classes are on

a trial bases for the remainder of 2025 with a review to take place at the conclusion of the year.

- **Ticket to Wellbeing Program for 2025/26:**

Oatlands Aquatic Centre has been informed this week the State Government Program called “Ticket to Wellbeing” will be on offer again by the end of November. This program allows eligible participants over the age of 65 years to access 2x \$100.00 vouchers to be put towards Club/Centre Membership costs over a financial year period. These vouchers will be suitable for either GYM/Pool 10 Visit Cards or 6 month memberships. This program has a major upside for the Centre and making it even more accessible to the Community.

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

Moved by Cllr B Campbell, seconded by Cllr D Blackwell

THAT the information be received and noted.

CARRIED

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

Financial Reporting:

**OATLANDS AQUATIC CENTRE - 2025/26 OPERATING EXPENDITURE
TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2025**

INCOME		Annual Budget 2025/26	Actual Sep 2025	Budget Sep 2025	Actual YTD to 30 Sep 2025	Actual YTD to 30 Sep 2024	% Annual Budget 2025/26
Admission Fees		\$235,000	\$26,254	\$19,583	\$63,888	\$45,452	27.2%
Sale of Goods		\$15,000	\$1,436	\$1,250	\$3,975	\$2,858	26.5%
Charging Station Energy Use Reimbursement		\$20,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,097	\$4,168	25.5%
Sub-Total		\$270,000	\$27,690	\$20,833	\$72,960	\$52,478	27.0%

EXPENDITURE		Annual Budget 2024/25	Actual Sep 2025	Budget Sep 2025	Actual YTD to 30 Sep 2025	Actual YTD to 30 Sep 2024	% of Budget 2025/26
Salaries (incl. On-Costs)		\$495,348	\$40,775	\$38,104	\$119,988	\$94,417	24.2%
Operating Costs - Other		\$279,563	\$59,578	\$41,166	\$115,617	\$108,667	41.4%
Total Expenditure		\$774,911	\$100,353	\$79,270	\$235,605	\$203,084	30.4%

Budgeted Deficit		-\$504,911	-\$72,662	-\$58,436	-\$162,645	-\$150,606	32.2%
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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.

Nil.

16.9 Consultation & Communication

Strategic Plan Reference 4.8

Improve the effectiveness of consultation & communication with the community.

Nil.

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 Regional Development Australia – Tasmania (RDAT) and Southern Tasmanian Councils Network (STCN)

Author: GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

Date: 15 OCTOBER 2025

Enclosure(s):

Draft Service Agreement

ISSUE

Council to review and approve the draft Service Agreement between Regional Development Australia - Tasmania (RDAT) and Southern Tasmanian Councils Network (STCN).

BACKGROUND

Council, at its meeting held 25th February 2025, provided 'in-principle' support for the establishment of the proposed Southern Tasmanian Council Network and approved the funding model as presented.

The decision to support the new model recognised that the Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA) had struggled to be effective in representing all 12 southern councils and facilitate regional collaboration. This was due to a range of factors, including the cost of running a standalone organisation and meeting the requirements of a legislated authority with the corresponding administrative overhead. The STCA experienced the withdrawal of five (5) of the southern councils and accordingly was representing less than half of the southern population. The need for change was clearly evident.

DETAIL

The Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority (STCA), at its meeting held in December 2024, unanimously supported a motion proposing the formation and funding of a Southern Tasmanian Council Network (STCN) which was to be hosted by RDA Tasmania for an initial 2-year period as a replacement of the STCA.

This motion was subsequently supported by all twelve (12) southern Councils: Brighton, Central Highlands, Clarence, Derwent Valley, Glamorgan-Spring Bay, Glenorchy, Hobart, Huon Valley, Kingborough, Sorell, Southern Midlands and Tasman.

Following this, the specifics of an Agreement have now been developed and are circulated for review and approval by Councils. It is emphasised that for the STCN to be successful, it must be supported and funded by all 12 southern councils.

As mentioned in the draft Agreement, the focus of the network is to:

- **Facilitate Collaboration:** Provide a structured platform for councils to exchange knowledge, align priorities, and foster partnerships
- **Leverage Data and Insights:** Enable evidence-based decision-making by sharing regional data, analytics, and trends
- **Drive Strategic Projects:** Support collaborative projects that address regional challenges and opportunities
- **Enhance Governance:** Provide administrative, financial and logistical support
- **Regional Communication:** Provide a point of contact for stakeholders to engage at a southern scale.

The draft Service Agreement is self-explanatory and details the key purposes and objectives of the arrangement between the two parties.

The 12 Southern Councils have agreed for RDA Tasmania to perform administrative tasks as well as employ a resource dedicated to coordination (within the network and with external parties as required), communication and engagement and facilitating network gatherings and occasional activities arising.

RDA Tasmania will invoice each Southern Council upon signing this agreement.

This service agreement will be a two-year contract with an annual review.

Human Resources & Financial Implications – The proposed annual budget has remain unchanged since the February 2025 report, with the total budget being calculated on each Council's population.

Council	Amount
Brighton	\$6,500
Central Highlands	\$3,000
Clarence	\$9,500
Derwent Valley	\$4,000
Glamorgan-Spring Bay	\$4,000
Glenorchy	\$9,500
Hobart	\$9,500
Huon Valley	\$6,500
Kingborough	\$9,500
Sorell	\$6,500
Southern Midlands	\$4,000
Tasman	\$3,000
TOTAL	\$75,500

Council budgeted an amount of \$2,666 in 2025/26 as its annual contribution, however this was just a base line amount that enabled the Southern Tasmanian Council Authority structure to be maintained. The variation is minimal.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – N/A.

Policy Implications – Policy position.

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – Immediate effect.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

- a) Council confirm its support for the formation and funding of a Southern Tasmanian Council Network (STCN); and
- b) Approve the draft Service Agreement (subject to any amendment).

DECISION

Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Clr D Blackwell

THAT:

- a) Council confirm its support for the formation and funding of a Southern Tasmanian Council Network (STCN); and
- b) Approve the draft Service Agreement with no amendment.

CARRIED

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

ENCLOSURE

Agenda Item 17.1.2



**Regional Development Australia – Tasmania (RDAT) and Southern
Tasmania Councils Network (STCN)
Service Agreement**

1. Background

Southern Tasmanian Councils share overlapping priorities and challenges, including economic development, infrastructure, community well-being, and sustainable growth. A coordinated approach is crucial to maximise resources, improve efficiencies, and address shared challenges effectively.

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

2. Parties

Current Parties

The STCN comprises of the 12 Southern Councils: Brighton, Central Highlands, Clarence, Derwent Valley, Glamorgan-Spring Bay, Glenorchy, Hobart, Huon Valley, Kingborough, Sorell, Southern Midlands and Tasman.

Future Parties

The parties acknowledge that the purpose and objectives stated in this document may, from time to time, include parties or stakeholders to be involved including representative agencies of the Commonwealth / State Government.

3. Purpose

This agreement outlines how RDA Tasmania will act as the Secretariat for STCN. The network aims to foster quarterly collaboration forums and joint policy setting focused on data and insights as well as managing shared service opportunities and regional project collaboration on an as needs basis.

4. Objectives

- **Facilitate Collaboration:** Provide a structured platform for councils to exchange knowledge, align priorities, and foster partnerships
- **Leverage Data and Insights:** Enable evidence-based decision-making by sharing regional data, analytics, and trends
- **Encourage Efficiency:** Identify shared service opportunities and streamline resource allocation
- **Drive Strategic Projects:** Support collaborative projects that address regional challenges and opportunities
- **Enhance Governance:** Provide administrative and logistical support to ensure forums are effective and outcomes focused
- **Regional Communication:** Provide a point of contact for stakeholders to engage at a southern scale.



5. Roles of Parties

RDA Tasmania

- Secretariat Services including meeting facilitation (base funding)
- Advocacy and Reporting (base funding)
- Data and Insights (some as base funding and more detailed work funded separately)
- Strategic Project Support (as required and funded separately)
- Shared Service Opportunities (as requested and funded separately)

6. Governance Structure

- Membership: CEO/GM or delegate from each Southern Tasmanian Council
- Chairperson: rotational leadership among council's supported by RDA Tasmania
- Secretariat: RDA Tasmania as the operational support of the network
- Working Groups: Ad-hoc groups formed for specific initiatives or projects

7. Governing Law

This agreement is intended to be governed by the law of Tasmania if, and to the extent that, it becomes necessary to determine its legal effect.

8. Terms and Conditions

The 12 Southern Councils have agreed for RDA Tasmania to perform administrative tasks as well as employ a resource dedicated to coordination (within the network and with external parties as required), communication and engagement and facilitating network gatherings and occasional activities arising.

RDA Tasmania will invoice each Southern Council upon signing this agreement.

This service agreement will be a two-year contract with an annual review.

9. Funding

The annual budget for this role is \$75,500, with additional project funding and grants being pursued on an agreed and case-by-case basis. This cost will be shared across the Southern Councils and payment has been calculated on each Council's population.

Council	Amount
Brighton	\$6,500
Central Highlands	\$3,000
Clarence	\$9,500
Derwent Valley	\$4,000
Glamorgan-Spring Bay	\$4,000
Glenorchy	\$9,500
Hobart	\$9,500
Huon Valley	\$6,500
Kingborough	\$9,500
Sorell	\$6,500
Southern Midlands	\$4,000
Tasman	\$3,000
TOTAL	\$75,500



10. Signing Page

Signed by the parties as a legally binding service agreement.

RDA Tasmania		James McKee	
Organisation	Date	Name	Signature
Brighton Council			
Organisation	Date	Name	Signature
Central Highlands Council			
Organisation	Date	Name	Signature
City of Clarence			
Organisation	Date	Name	Signature
Derwent Valley Council			
Organisation	Date	Name	Signature
Glamorgan-Spring Bay Council			
Organisation	Date	Name	Signature
Glenorchy City Council			
Organisation	Date	Name	Signature
City of Hobart			
Organisation	Date	Name	Signature
Huon Valley Council			
Organisation	Date	Name	Signature
Kinborough Council			
Organisation	Date	Name	Signature
Sorell Council			
Organisation	Date	Name	Signature
Southern Midlands Council			
Organisation	Date	Name	Signature
Tasman Council			
Organisation	Date	Name	Signature

17.1.2 Council Policy Review

Author: DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER (ANDREW BENSON)

Date: 16 OCTOBER 2025

Attachment(s)

Draft Revision – Bullying, Harassment and Violence Policy

Draft Revision – Workplace Health & Safety Policy

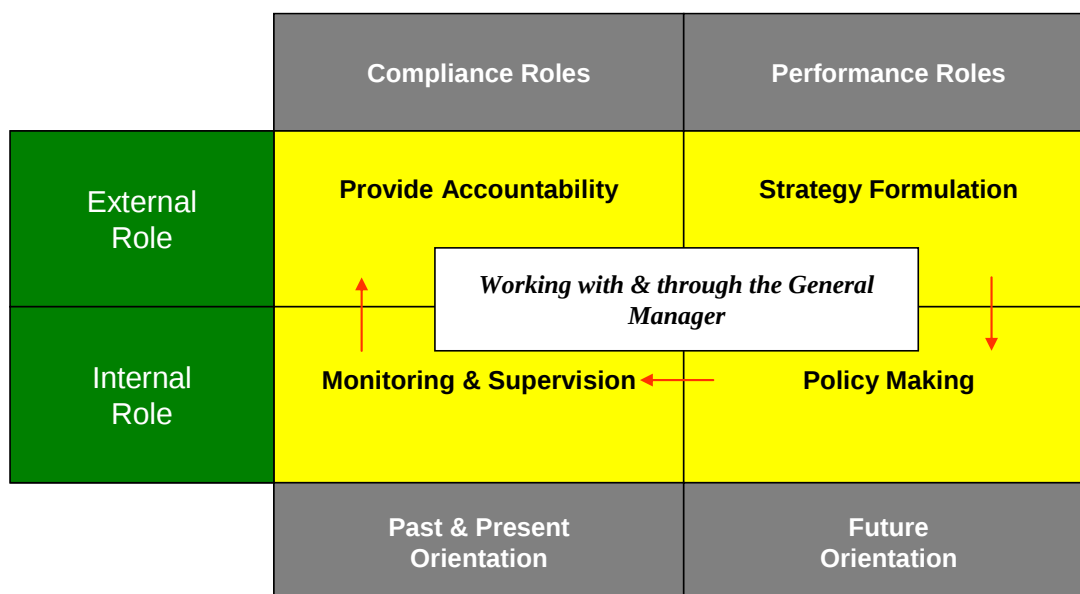
ISSUE

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

BACKGROUND

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 three attached policies have been submitted for Council's consideration. There are no major changes to these policies and this is merely an 'end of period review and the application of an extension of time' seeking authority for adoption for the next four years.

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 revisions of the *Bullying, Harassment and Violence Policy* as well as the *Workplace Health & Safety Policy*, are attached and show some minor changes to the documents as discussed above. There are no changes required by legislation.

Human Resources & Financial Implications – .No financial implications with minor policy updates and extension of time.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – Nil

Policy Implications – Standard review for extension of time with no legislative changes.

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – Following the November 2025 Council meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Receive and note the report;
2. Consider draft version 2 of the *Bullying, Harassment and Violence Policy* in preparation for the adoption of the revised policy, at the November 2025 Council meeting, subject to any Council amendments;
3. Consider draft version 2 of the *Workplace Health & Safety Policy* in preparation for the adoption of the revised policy, at the November 2025 Council meeting, subject to any Council amendments.

DECISION

Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Cllr B Campbell

THAT Council:

1. Receive and note the report;
2. Consider draft version 2 of the *Bullying, Harassment and Violence Policy* in preparation for the adoption of the revised policy, at the November 2025 Council meeting, subject to any Council amendments;
3. Consider draft version 2 of the *Workplace Health & Safety Policy* in preparation for the adoption of the revised policy, at the November 2025 Council meeting, subject to any Council amendments.

CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Cllr D Blackwell	✓	
Cllr B Campbell	✓	
Cllr D Fish	✓	
Cllr 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.

Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon – Campania Fire Brigade - Michael Goldsmith and Robin Howlett were recently honoured at the Tasmania Fire Service Southern Region Medal Ceremony. Robin Howlett receiving a National Medal Clasp for 55 years of service.

17.2.3 Local Government Shared Services – Quarterly Update – Information Only

Author: FINANCE OFFICER (MANDY BURBURY)

Date: 15 OCTOBER 2025

Enclosure(s):
2025/2026 Shared Services to 30 September 2025

ISSUE

To inform Council of the Common Services Joint Venture activities for the period July - September 2025.

BACKGROUND

There are seven existing members of the Common Services Joint Venture Agreement, with two other Council's participating as non-members.

Members: Brighton, Central Highlands, Glenorchy, Huon Valley, Sorell, Southern Midlands and Tasman.

Council now include a standard internal report for Council's information on SMC hours on a quarterly basis.

DETAIL

Refer enclosed summary of services provided by and provided to the Southern Midlands.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.

DECISION

Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Cllr D Blackwell

THAT the information be received.

CARRIED

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

ENCLOSURE
Agenda Item 17.2.3

**2025/26 Shared Services Report
to 30 September 2025**

PROVIDED BY SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL					Total Hours Sep 2025 Quarter
Council	Fortnight Ending	Officer	Service Provided	Hours	
Central Highlands	13/07/25	D Mackey	Regulatory	21.00	
		L Brown	Regulatory	12.50	
		R Collis	Animal Management	5.00	
	27/07/25	D Mackey	Regulatory	10.00	
		L Brown	Regulatory	17.00	
		R Collis	Animal Management	3.00	
	10/08/25	D Mackey	Regulatory	10.00	
		L Brown	Regulatory	39.00	
		R Collis	Animal Management	3.00	
	24/08/25	D Mackey	Regulatory	14.00	
		L Brown	Regulatory	16.25	
	07/09/25	D Mackey	Regulatory	19.00	
		B Williams	Heritage	2.00	
		L Brown	Regulatory	15.00	
		P Krause	Regulatory	3.00	
		R Collis	Animal Management	4.25	
		J Rowley	Animal Management	3.25	
		21/09/25	D Mackey	Regulatory	
	L Brown		Regulatory	13.00	
	R Collis		Animal Management	4.00	
					230.25
Derwent Valley	13/07/25	D Mackey	Regulatory	13.00	
	27/07/25	D Mackey	Regulatory	2.00	
		B Williams	Heritage	9.00	
	10/08/25	D Mackey	Regulatory	16.00	
	24/08/25	D Mackey	Regulatory	9.00	
		B Williams	Heritage	2.00	
	07/09/25	D Mackey	Regulatory	8.00	
	21/09/25	D Mackey	Regulatory	12.00	
					71.00
Tasman	13/07/25	P Krause	Plumbing Surveying	15.50	
	27/07/25	P Krause	Plumbing Surveying	16.75	
	10/08/25	P Krause	Plumbing Surveying	8.25	
	24/08/25	P Krause	Plumbing Surveying	5.00	
	07/09/25	P Krause	Plumbing Surveying	14.25	
	21/09/25	P Krause	Plumbing Surveying	11.50	
					71.25
Total Hours Provided by Southern Midlands					372.50

2025/26 Shared Services Report to 30 September 2025

PROVIDED TO SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL					Total Hours Sep 2025 Quarter
Council	Period Ending	Officer	Service Provided	Hours	
Brighton	06/07/25	L Wighton	Development Engineering	2.75	4.50
	03/08/25	L Wighton	Development Engineering	0.50	
	14/09/25	L Wighton	Development Engineering	0.75	
	28/09/25	L Wighton	Development Engineering	0.50	
Glenorchy	08/06/25		EHO Services	13.00	275.75
	22/06/25		EHO Services	26.00	
	06/07/25		EHO Services	59.00	
	20/07/25		EHO Services	18.00	
	03/08/25		EHO Services	25.00	
	17/08/25		EHO Services	34.00	
	31/08/25		EHO Services	22.50	
	14/09/25		EHO Services	39.00	
	28/09/25		EHO Services	39.25	
Total Hours Provided to Southern Midlands					280.25

17.2.4 SMC External Grant Projects - Quarterly Update

Author: DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER (ANDREW BENSON)

Date: 17 OCTOBER 2025

Enclosure(s):

Report to Council on Various SMC Grant Projects as at 30th September 2025

ISSUE

Council have a quite a number of external grants that are in various stages of implementation and it is meaningful to provide Council with a status report in respect of the external grants on a quarterly basis.

BACKGROUND

The application of grants is a major contributor to Council's infrastructure budget. Some grants are fully funded by the Grant body, for example 'election promises realised', others require part funding, ie Active Tasmania (former Dept. of Communities, Sport & Recreation - Tasmanian State Government), and with a minimum of 50% funding by Council, and others require various funding contributions by Council. Some with no funding contributions by Council.

All Council Business Units are focused on bringing in funded projects that meet the objectives of the Strategic Plan and that add value to our Community. That way the budget goes further and we are able meet, to some extent, the expectations of the Community.

DETAIL

This update is provided for Councillors information only and will be updated on a quarterly basis.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received.

DECISION

Moved by Clr B Campbell, seconded by Clr D Blackwell

THAT the information be received.

CARRIED

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

ENCLOSURE

Agenda Item 17.2.4

Report to Council on Grant Funded Projects as at 30th September 2025

Project Title	Brief Description	Grant Body	Project Value Grant Funds	Project Value SMC Funds	Project Manager	Current Project Status (% complete)	Anticipated Completion Date	Remarks
Bagdad Shareway	Construction of a 2.5m wide shareway between Bagdad School and Hall Lane	Active Transport (DSG)	\$150,000	\$90,000	Andrew Benson (Project Grant) David Richardson (Project Delivery)	1%	2 nd March 2026	Contractor to start on site 13.10.25
Chauncy Vale Interps & Infrastructure	Construction of an accessible toilet and signage at Chauncy Vale Sanctuary	Active Tasmania (DSG)	\$80,000	\$20,000	Phil Krause	90%	June 2026	Almost completed
Sporting Infrastructure Upgrades Campania Rec Grd	Retaining wall/seating, Scoreboard and all weather access	Active Tasmania (DSG)	\$253,000	\$91,625	David Richardson	33%	June 2026	Electronic Score Board installed and working; Retaining wall and DDA parking to wait until Change rooms completed.
Sporting Infrastructure Upgrades Kempton Rec Grd	Half-court basketball / Pickle Ball court plus new cricket practice nets	Active Tasmania (DSG)	\$80,000	\$0	Andrew Benson	80%	June 2026	Half court surface finish WIP footing for cricket nets installed
Oatlands Aquatic Centre	Development of the proposed Aquatic Centre in Oatlands	1. Australian Government 2. Tasmanian Government 3. Station Child Care Centre 4. Loan Funds by SMC	\$2,000,000 \$2,000,000 \$80,350	\$5,920,000	Tim Kirkwood (Project Financials) Andrew Benson (Project Delivery)	99%	Changed	A couple of minor other issues. Negotiating with Vos on costs from Extension of Time
South Central Sub-region – Workforce Development	The submission of grant for a workforce coordinator for the Southern Midlands.	Tasmanian Community Fund	\$400,000 over three years	\$15,000	Andrew Benson	100%	July 2023	Contract targets of people to be employed were significantly

Report to Council on Grant Funded Projects as at 30th September 2025

Project Title	Brief Description	Grant Body	Project Value Grant Funds	Project Value SMC Funds	Project Manager	Current Project Status (% complete)	Anticipated Completion Date	Remarks
Coordinator Project	Central Highlands, Brighton and Derwent Valley to (three year contract).							exceeded, plus working with schools and employers on a range of activities
	The State Government through Jobs Tas to operate a Jobs Hub for the Sub Region. This is a partnership with the three other Councils.	Jobs Tasmania	\$1,625,000	\$0		Triannual funding depending on Annual reviews 70%	Nov 2024	The project is currently exceeding expectations
		Jobs Tasmania	\$2,100,000	\$0 Plus In-kind		Extension of Funding Agreement	Dec 2024 to Nov 2027	Deed of Agreement has been executed and the regular Progress Reports have been submitted and accepted.
Southern Midlands Drought Weeds Grant 2020 – Support for Farmers	\$30,000 for on ground works, \$25,000 for wages.	State Government of Tasmania	\$55,000	\$0	Mary Smyth Weeds Officer and Maria Weeding	80%	Ongoing-until funds run out.	Limited funds remaining – may use for some Stemless Thistle follow up works. (High Priority for SMC)
Better Active Transport in Tasmania Rd 1	Bagdad Concrete Shareway/Walkway	Department of State Growth	\$370,000	\$270,000	David Richardson (Project Delivery) / Andrew Benson (Project Grant Management)	100%	December 2024	Completed awaiting acquittal
Better Active Transport in Tasmania Rd 2	Footpath connection between Mood Food and Kempton	Department of State Growth	\$278,000	\$146,310 cash	David Richardson (Project Delivery) / Andrew Benson	15%	June 2025 Subject to EoT	Construction started.

Report to Council on Grant Funded Projects as at 30th September 2025

Project Title	Brief Description	Grant Body	Project Value Grant Funds	Project Value SMC Funds	Project Manager	Current Project Status (% complete)	Anticipated Completion Date	Remarks
					(Project Grant Management)			
Bus Stops Program	Upgrade Campania Bus Stop outside the War Memorial Hall	Department of State Growth	\$26,246	\$14,450	Andrew Benson (Project Grant) David Richardson (Project Delivery)	100%	June 2025	Completed. awaiting acquittal
Bus Stops Program	New Bus Stop High Street Oatlands (north bound)	Department of State Growth	\$13,000	\$15,300	Andrew Benson (Project Grant) David Richardson (Project Delivery)	100%	June 2025	Completed. awaiting acquittal
Active Tas Development Grant	Funding support for Lifeguards Project	Active Tasmania	\$30,000	\$0	Andrew Benson	85%	June 2026	Project partnership with the Jobs Hub to train and support 40 lifeguards over two years. Training through the Oatlands Aquatic Centre
Saluting Their Service	Recognition (sign, plaque & sandstone) of JH Bisdee VC OBE	Department of Veterans Affairs	\$7,480	\$1,00 in-kind	Andrew Benson	100%	July 2025	Preparing acquittal
Vulnerable Road User Program 2024	RC Footpath along Reeve St adjacent to Flour Mill Park, from Opposite Lee St (TasRail entrance) to Community Hall at Campania	Department of State Growth	\$58,616	\$41,593 cash \$10,000 in-kind	Andrew Benson (Project Grant) David Richardson (Project Delivery)	100%	June 2025	Completed. Awaiting acquittal
Vulnerable Road User Program 2024	RC Footpath along Reeve St, adjacent to Rec Grd from entrance to	Department of State Growth	\$36,258	\$14,900 cash \$5,000 in-kind	Andrew Benson (Project Grant)	100%	June 2025	Completed. Awaiting acquittal

Report to Council on Grant Funded Projects as at 30th September 2025

Project Title	Brief Description	Grant Body	Project Value Grant Funds	Project Value SMC Funds	Project Manager	Current Project Status (% complete)	Anticipated Completion Date	Remarks
	Campania Rec Grd to Villeneuve St				David Richardson (Project Delivery)			
Vulnerable Road User Program 2024	Pedestrian Crossing of railway line at Climie St Campania	Department of State Growth	\$35,250	Design \$6,429 (paid) Cash \$6,000 In kind \$1,000	Andrew Benson (TasRail sub contracted)	100%	June 2025	Completed. awaiting acquittal
LGAT Open Space Program (Rd 2)	Campania Rec Grd Change Rooms	LGAT/DPaC	\$400,000	\$700,000	Andrew Benson (Project Grant) David Richardson (Project Delivery)	25%	April 2026	Construction underway.
Vulnerable Road User Program 2025	Road improvements at School Rd, Bagdad Primary School	Department of State Growth	\$34,430	\$34,570	Andrew Benson (Project Grant) David Richardson (Project Delivery)	5%	June 2026	Grant Application Approved moving to design stage
Vulnerable Road User Program 2025	Road Pedestrian Crossing at High Street, Oatlands	Department of State Growth	\$22,300	\$23,640	Andrew Benson (Project Grant) David Richardson (Project Delivery)	5%	June 2026	Grant Application Approved moving to design stage
Vulnerable Road User Program 2025	Concrete Footpath between Lee St and Hall St, Campania	Department of State Growth	\$28,620	\$29,120	Andrew Benson (Project Grant) David Richardson	5%	June 2026	Grant Application Approved moving to design stage

Report to Council on Grant Funded Projects as at 30th September 2025

Project Title	Brief Description	Grant Body	Project Value Grant Funds	Project Value SMC Funds	Project Manager	Current Project Status (% complete)	Anticipated Completion Date	Remarks
					(Project Delivery)			
UNSUCCESSFUL GRANTS APPLICATIONS								
Annabel Butler's Healthy Community Grant	To engage local seniors in safe and accessible exercise that promotes healthy lifestyles and consistent habits.	Healthy Tasmania Healthy Focus Grant	\$30,000	\$0	Annabel Butler (SMC holding funds A Benson)			Unsuccessful this time
Bagdad Recreation Precinct Redevelopment	New Pavilion New Club Rooms Oval Reconstructed New Waste Water management system	Growing Regions Program Round 2 (Australian Government)	\$ 10,624,973	\$4,478,561 Bagdad Community Club Inc. \$75,000	Tim Kirkwood (Project Financials) Andrew Benson (Project Delivery)	Application submitted and as the project is required to be shovel ready at the signing of the Grant Deed. BA/PA and Tender documentation is underway	Submission date 10.10.24	Unsuccessful
Oatlands Regional Sports & Wellbeing Centre	At Oatlands Rec Grd major refurbishment of existing clubrooms. New change rooms and amenities building	Growing Regions Program Round 2 (Australian Government)	\$2,000,000	\$800,000	Tim Kirkwood (Project Financials) Andrew Benson (Project Delivery)	Application submitted and as the project is required to be shovel ready at the signing of the Grant Deed. BA/PA and Tender documentation is underway	Submission date 10.10.24	Unsuccessful
RECENTLY COMPLETED PROJECT(S)								
Wombat Woodland Walk	Nature interpretation and adventure trail for children at Chauncy Vale	Healthy Tasmania Fund	\$29,250	\$10,000	Graham Green	100%		All work completed

Report to Council on Grant Funded Projects as at 30th September 2025

Project Title	Brief Description	Grant Body	Project Value Grant Funds	Project Value SMC Funds	Project Manager	Current Project Status (% complete)	Anticipated Completion Date	Remarks
Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Grant Program	Bagdad/Mangalore hydraulic assessment	Australian Government Attorney General's Department	\$80,830	\$80,830	Andrew Benson	100% original 100% revised Consultants/Engineers Report received, reviewed, & <i>shape</i> files loaded on Planning Scheme maps	April 2024 Revised to Dec 2024	Submitted Final Report and Acquittal Approved
Road Infrastructure Upgrade	Reconstruction of Interlaken Road from Oatlands to Central Highlands Council boundary	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, communities and the Arts	\$5,346,180	\$300,000	David Richardson / Craig Whatley (<i>Project Delivery</i>) M Burbury (<i>Grant Management</i>)	100%	Dec 2024	Completed.

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 30 September 2025)

Author: FINANCE OFFICER (MANDY BURBURY)

Date: 6 OCTOBER 2025

ISSUE

Provide the Financial Report for the period ending 30th September 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 30 September 2025.
- Operating Expenditure Report – 1 July 2024 to 30 September 2025.
- Capital Expenditure Report – 1 July 2024 to 30 September 2025.
- Cash Flow Statement – 1 July 2024 to 30 September 2025.

OPERATING EXPENDITURE (OPERATING BUDGET)

Overall operating expenditure to end of September was \$2,552,737 which represents 87.3% 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

Nil.

Strategic Theme – Growth

Sub-Program – Business - expenditure to date (\$111,015 – 140.3%). Additional expenditure relates largely to a higher than anticipated value of private works (offset by an increase in private works income).

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

Moved by Cllr B Campbell, seconded by Cllr D Fish

THAT the Financial Report be received and the information noted.

CARRIED

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

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
for the period 1 Jul 2025 to 30 Sep 2025

	Annual Budget \$	Year to Date Actual \$	%	Comments
Income				
Rates	7,810,961	7,776,870	99.6%	Includes Interest & Penalties on rates
User Fees (refer Note 1)	1,536,868	685,683	44.6%	Includes Private Works
Interest	520,000	119,996	23.1%	
Government Subsidies	11,700	0	0.0%	Heavy Vehicle Licence Fees
Other (refer Note 2)	332,400	70,284	21.1%	Includes TasWater Distributions
Sub-Total	10,211,930	8,652,832	84.7%	
Grants - Operating	4,744,884	608,726	12.8%	
Total Income	14,956,813	9,261,558	61.9%	
Expenses				
Employee benefits	-6,024,988	-1,215,154	20.2%	Less Roads - Resheeting (Capitalised)
Materials and contracts	-4,195,550	-1,293,429	30.8%	Less Roads - Resheeting (Capitalised), Includes Land Tax & Private Works
Depreciation and amortisation	-4,738,700	-1,194,412	25.2%	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	-41,932	22.7%	Audit Fees and Councillor Allowances
Total expenses	-15,443,002	-3,747,150	24.3%	
Surplus (deficit) from operations	-486,189	5,514,409	-1134.2%	
Grants - Capital (refer Note 3)	1,064,853	0	0.0%	
Sale Proceeds (Plant & Machinery)	0	62,818		
Sale Proceeds (Land & Buildings)	0	0		
Sale Proceeds (Other Assets)	0	5,244		
Net gain / (loss on disposal of non-current assets)	0	0		
Surplus / (Deficit)	578,664	5,582,471	964.7%	

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
for the period 1 Jul 2025 to 30 Sep 2025

	Annual Budget \$	Year to Date Actual \$	%	Comments
NOTES				
1. Income - User Fees				
- All other Programs	1,176,420	526,011	44.7%	
- Private Works	360,449	159,672	44.3%	
	<u>1,536,868</u>	<u>685,683</u>	44.6%	
2. Income - Other				
- TasWater Distributions	182,400	41,800	22.92%	
- Public Open Space Contributions	150,000	0	0.00%	
- Blue Gum Rovers donation to Tunnack Rec. Ground	0	275.00		
- JLT Group Interest Disbursement	0	1,578		
- Campania Halls Committee Contribution to External Painting	0	15,000		
- Colebrook Hall Committee Closure of Bank Account	0	3,510		
- Woodsdale Cemetery Committee Closure of Bank Account	0	8,121		
	<u>332,400</u>	<u>70,284</u>	21.1%	
3. Grants - Capital				
- Aust Govt (Roads To Recovery)	1,064,853	0	0.00%	
	<u>1,064,853</u>	<u>0</u>	0.00%	
4. Grants - Operating				
- FAGS 2024/25	4,744,884	603,391	12.72%	
- State Govt (Resilience & Recovery Grant)	0	5,335		Southern Midlands Farmers Group Drought Resilience (Establishing Governance)
	<u>4,744,884</u>	<u>608,726</u>	12.8%	

**SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL : OPERATING EXPENDITURE
2025/26
SUMMARY SHEET**

PROGRAM	ACTUAL (to 30 Sep 25)	BUDGET (to 30 Sep 25)	YTD VARIANCE	YTD %	FULL YEAR BUDGET - INC. GRANTS & OTHER
INFRASTRUCTURE					
Roads	380,951	406,330	25,380	93.8%	4,410,593
Bridges	14,726	19,753	5,028	74.5%	653,390
Walkways	57,207	61,459	4,251	93.1%	273,165
Lighting	19,266	23,484	4,219	82.0%	93,936
Public Toilets	24,459	33,856	9,396	72.2%	140,739
Sewer/Water	-	-	-	0.0%	-
Stormwater	140	7,770	7,630	1.8%	89,081
Waste	278,804	391,210	112,406	71.3%	1,592,340
Information, Communication	-	5,000	5,000	0.0%	20,000
INFRASTRUCTURE TOTAL:	775,553	948,862	173,309	81.7%	7,273,244
GROWTH					
Residential	-	-	-	-	-
Tourism	7,876	25,226	17,350	31.2%	41,276
Business	111,015	79,139	31,876	140.3%	316,556
Industry	-	-	-	0.0%	-
GROWTH TOTAL:	118,891	104,365	14,526	113.9%	357,832
LANDSCAPES					
Heritage	95,055.91	134,530.32	39,474.41	70.7%	501,173
Natural	52,240.48	60,387.10	8,146.62	86.5%	257,515
Cultural	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.0%	16,000
Regulatory - Development	206,410.47	257,276.46	50,865.99	80.2%	1,101,058
Regulatory - Public Health	4,825.64	6,545.00	1,719.36	73.7%	26,180
Regulatory - Animals	30,420.41	32,815.44	2,395.03	92.7%	140,975
Environmental Sustainability	0.00	1,250.00	1,250.00	0.0%	5,000
LANDSCAPES TOTAL:	388,952.91	496,804.31	107,851.40	78.3%	2,047,901
COMMUNITY					
Community Health & Wellbeing	77,850.87	98,636.28	20,785.41	78.9%	378,545
Recreation	367,354.13	421,615.87	54,261.74	87.1%	1,256,464
Access	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%	0
Volunteers	0.00	3,750.00	3,750.00	0.0%	45,000
Families	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.0%	10,000
Education	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%	0
Capacity & Sustainability	30,453.61	31,501.25	1,047.64	96.7%	55,505
Safety	1,027.04	4,987.50	3,960.46	20.6%	19,950
Consultation & Communication	0.00	6,425.00	6,425.00	0.0%	25,700
LIFESTYLE TOTAL:	476,685.65	569,415.91	92,730.26	83.7%	1,791,164
ORGANISATION					
Improvement	7,167.69	32,849.21	25,681.52	21.8%	131,397
Sustainability	730,605.50	715,137.98	-15,467.52	102.2%	3,445,765
Finances	54,882.25	55,924.92	1,042.67	98.1%	395,700
ORGANISATION TOTAL:	792,655.44	803,912.11	11,256.67	98.6%	3,972,862
TOTALS	\$2,552,737	\$2,923,359	\$370,622	87.3%	\$15,443,003

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2025-26
As at 30 September 2025

		BUDGET \$	EXPENDITURE \$	BALANCE \$	COMMENTS	COMPLETION DEADLINE
INFRASTRUCTURE						
ROAD ASSETS						
Resheeting Program	Roads Resheeting	590,000	182,688	407,312		
Reseal Program	Roads Reseal Program	25,000	0	25,000		
	Jericho - Jericho Road (1500m)	45,000	0	45,000	Roads to Recovery \$45,000	30 June 2026
	Kempton - Cliftonvale Road (1500m)	65,000	0	65,000	Roads to Recovery \$65,000	30 June 2026
	Oatlands - High Street (500m)	55,000	0	55,000	Roads to Recovery \$55,000	30 June 2026
	Woodbury - Glenmore Road (Two Sections 1700m)	47,000	0	47,000	Roads to Recovery \$47,000	30 June 2026
	Woodbury - Woodbury Road (500m)	35,000	30,288	4,712		
	Woodsdale - Woodsdale Road	48,000	0	48,000	Roads to Recovery \$48,000	30 June 2026
	Tunbridge - Scott Street (300m)	40,000	25,920	14,080	Originally in Reconstruct & Seal \$60K	
	Sealed Road Edge Breaks	200,000	as below	172,559		
	Campania - Brown Mountain Road		0			
	Campania - Native Corners Road		9,473			
	Colebrook - Eldon Road		0			
	Colebrook - Franklin Street		1,000			
	Rhyndaston - Rhyndaston Road		0			
	Jericho - Lower Marshes Road		3,552			
	Woodsdale - Woodsdale Road		13,416			
Reconstruct & Seal	Bagdad - Swan Street (700m)	137,000	0	137,000	Roads to Recovery \$137,000	30 June 2026
	Tunnack - Eldon Road (700m)	110,000	0	110,000	Roads to Recovery \$110,000	30 June 2026
	Woodsdale - Woodsdale Road (dig-out)	23,000	0	23,000	Roads to Recovery \$23,000	30 June 2026
Construct & Seal	Mangalore - Blackbrush Road (1.3km section starting from seal Mangalore end)	195,000	15,326	179,674	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)	85,000	0	85,000	Roads to Recovery \$85,000	30 June 2026
	Oatlands - Bentwick Street	20,000	0	20,000	Budget c/f	
Other Works	Bagdad - School Road (Traffic & Safety Improvements)	69,000	128	68,872	VRUP Funding \$34,430	30 April 2026
	Campania - Car Park Improvements	100,000	72,440	27,560	\$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	11,173	13,827		
	Oatlands - Hasting Street Junction	15,000	959	14,041	WIP \$959	
	Oatlands - High Street (Traffic Islands)	45,940	128	45,812	VRUP Funding \$22,300 RTR \$23,640	30 June 2026
	Tunbridge - Main Street (Kerb & Gutter Renewal)	40,000	46,290	-6,290	WIP \$4186.12	
		2,297,440	412,781	1,884,659		

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2025-26

As at 30 September 2025

		BUDGET \$	EXPENDITURE \$	BALANCE \$	COMMENTS	COMPLETION DEADLINE
WALKWAYS	Footpaths - General Streetscapes	46,500	0	46,500		
	Bagdad - Midland Highway Pathway (Primary School north to Community Club)	240,000	3,930	236,070	Election Commitment - \$150,000 WIP \$1,130	2 March 2026
	Campania - Reeve Street (Hall St to Lee St)	57,740	128	57,612	VRUP Funding \$28,620	30 June 2026
	Colebrook - Richmond Road Asphaltting	3,500	3,500	0	Funded from footpaths general budget	
	Kempton - Burnett Street to Mood Food	425,565	29,842	395,723	Better Active Transport \$278K WIP \$5332	
	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	417	29,583	Budget C/F	
	Parattah - Streetscape (Stage 1)	50,000	417	49,583		
	Tunnack - Streetscape (Year 1 of 3)	100,000	73,251	26,749	WIP \$73,042	
		1,038,305	111,483	926,822		
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		
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	9,799	201		
		10,000	9,799	201		
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		

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2025-26

As at 30 September 2025

		BUDGET \$	EXPENDITURE \$	BALANCE \$	COMMENTS	COMPLETION DEADLINE
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	Budget C/F	
	Melton Mowbray - Recognition plaque JH Bisdee VC OBE (DVA Grant)	8,480	8,904	-424	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	973	4,027		
	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	53,805	96,195	\$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	85,132	301,393		
NATURAL	Campania - Bush Reserve / Cemetery	300,000	97,936	202,064	WIP \$93,346	
	Chauncy Vale - Day Dawn Cottage Improvements	12,000	10,311	1,689	WIP \$8,557	
	Chauncy Vale - Toilet & Interps Upgrade	80,000	41,420	38,580	Election Commitment \$80,000 WIP \$22,570	30 June 2026
		392,000	149,666	242,334		
REGULATORY - DEVELOPMENT	Master / Structure Plans (Bagdad / Mangalore / Campana)	50,000	131,046	-81,046	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	147,868	452,132		
ANIMAL CONTROL	Oatlands - Off-Lead Dog Park	35,000	1,947	33,053	WIP \$1,947	
		35,000	1,947	33,053		

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2025-26
As at 30 September 2025

		BUDGET \$	EXPENDITURE \$	BALANCE \$	COMMENTS	COMPLETION DEADLINE
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	
	Bagdad - Acquisition 1689 Midland Highway Bagdad	309,870	309,870	0		
	Campania - Flour Mill Park (Redevelopment)	68,000	0	68,000		
	Campania - Hall (External Painting)	36,800	41,470	-4,670	WIP \$39,696	
	Campania - Recreation Ground (Electronic Scoreboard)	47,875	50,165	-2,290	WIP \$48,043	
	Campania - Recreation Ground (Landscaping & Tiered Seating)	270,000	631	269,369	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	208,250	891,750	LGAT Open Space \$40K / SMC - \$700K WIP	
	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	15,744	64,256	Active Tas - Election Commitment WIP \$2,886	30 June 2026
	Melton Mowbray - Streetscape Works (Trough / Shelter etc)	90,000	103,948	-13,948	\$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	726	62,163	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	396	7,604		
	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	
		2,824,114	1,569,764	1,254,349		
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		

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2025-26

As at 30 September 2025

		BUDGET \$	EXPENDITURE \$	BALANCE \$	COMMENTS	COMPLETION DEADLINE
ORGANISATION						
SUSTAINABILITY	WIFI Equipment	7,000	0	7,000	Budget C/F	
	Council Website Upgrade	40,000	5,925	34,075	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	23,719	466,781		
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	220	4,780		
	Plant Replacement Program					
	Heavy Vehicles - Gross Amount	889,370	432,775	456,595		
	(Trade Allowance - \$254K)					
	Light Vehicles - Gross Amount	515,179	134,888	380,291		
	(Trade Allowance - \$299K)					
		1,456,549	567,883	888,666		
GRAND TOTALS		9,795,921	3,172,793	6,623,128		

Southern Midlands Council
Minutes – 22nd October 2025

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)	(424,204)	(370,607)										(1,449,687)
Materials and contracts	(987,152)	(399,774)	(459,970)										(1,846,896)
Interest	(2,223)	0	0										(2,223)
Other	(28,004)	(82,892)	(68,686)										(179,583)
	(1,672,254)	(906,870)	(899,264)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(3,478,388)
Receipts													
Rates	722,648	431,037	2,387,961										3,541,647
User charges	1,376,627	109,039	268,268										1,753,934
Interest received	33,066	36,362	50,568										119,996
Subsidies	0	0	0										0
Operating Grants	0	603,391	5,335										608,726
Other	70,371	159,430	49,262										279,064
	2,202,712	1,339,260	2,761,394	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,303,366
Net cash from operating activities	530,458	432,390	1,862,130	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,824,978
Cash flows from investing activities													
Payments for property, plant & equipment	(197,080)	(549,583)	(616,036)										(1,362,699)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant & equipment	32,932	35,131	0										68,063
Proceeds from Capital grants	0	0	0										0
Proceeds from Investments	0	0	0										0
Payment for Investments	0	0	0										0
Net cash used in investing activities	(164,148)	(514,453)	(616,036)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1,294,637)
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	(82,063)	1,246,095	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,420,832
Cash at beginning of reporting month	11,895,902	12,152,702	12,070,639	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11,895,902
Cash at end of reporting period	12,152,702	12,070,639	13,316,734	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13,316,734

17.3.2 Request for Rate Remission – Oatlands District Historical Society – 107 High Street, Oatlands (PID 5842354)

Author: SOPHIE BLYTH (PROPERTY & RATES OFFICER)

Date: 9 OCTOBER 2025

Enclosure(s):

Letter from Oatlands District Historical Society dated 28th September 2025.

ISSUE

Council to consider a request from the Oatlands District Historical Society for a remission of rates and charges for the 2025/2026 financial year.

BACKGROUND

Reference is made to section 129 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. It states:

129. Remission of rates

“(1) A ratepayer may apply to the council for remission of all or part of any rates paid or payable by the ratepayer or any penalty imposed or interest charged under [section 128](#).

*(2) An application is to be –
(a) made in writing; and
(b) lodged with the general manager.*

(3) A council, by absolute majority, may grant a remission of all or part of any rates, penalty or interest paid or payable by the ratepayer.

(4) A council, by absolute majority, may grant a remission of any rates, penalty or interest paid or payable by a class of ratepayers.

(5) The general manager is to keep a record of the details of any remission granted under this section.”

DETAIL

The Oatlands District Historical Society has been granted a remission of rates and charges over the last five years.

As part of that decision, it was determined that the Society would need to make application on an annual basis.

In reference to the attached letter dated 28th September 2025, the Historical Society has submitted a formal request for a rate remission.

Human Resources & Financial Implications –

Rates and Charges:

Description	2025/26
General	\$531.07
Garbage	\$272.00
Waste Levy	\$305.00
Fire	\$50.00
Total	\$1,158.07
<i>Interest & Penalties imposed</i>	<i>\$15.76</i>
Total Outstanding	\$1,173.83

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – Nil

Policy Implications – Policy position

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – Ongoing.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT, in accordance with section 129 of the *Local Government Act 1993*:

- Council, by absolute majority, grant a remission of rates and charges to the Oatlands District Historical Society for its property at 107 High Street, Oatlands (PID 5842354); and
- The remission relates to the 2025/2026 financial year, inclusive of penalty and interest.

DECISION

Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Clr D Blackwell

THAT Council defer a decision on the request for a remission, and request the Oatlands District Historical Society to submit its most recent financial report for Council's information, with the matter to be reconsidered following receipt of this information.

CARRIED

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

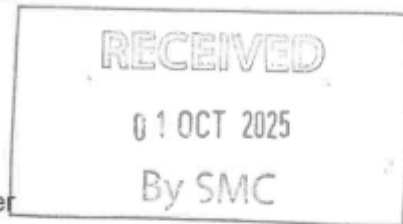
ENCLOSURE

Agenda Item 17.3.2



OATLANDS DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC.
«Preserving Our Heritage»

107 High Street,
Oatlands TAS 7120



28 September 2025

The General Manager
Mr. T. Kirkwood
Southern Midlands Council
Oatlands

RE: RATE REBATE 1 July 2025 - 30 June 2026

Dear Tim,

Again, we are formally writing to you seeking a rate rebate for the Oatlands District Historical Society Inc.

We are a not-for-profit organisation providing a service to many historians, authors and researchers, both local and Australia wide. We have also developed a tourism information service to our business, thus hopefully offering tourists a better experience of our town and surrounds.

Our museum is one of the few attractions in Oatlands that is open seven days a week, and we have received many favourable comments from local, inter-state as well as international visitors.

In light of the above, we would greatly appreciate the Southern Midlands Council's assistance in the above matter, keeping in mind their assistance in the past.

Kind regards

Charles Burbury
Treasurer

18. MUNICIPAL SEAL

Nil.

19. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS TO THE AGENDA

19.1 Interim Consultation Agreement between the Tasmanian Government and the Local Government Sector

Author: GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

Date: 21 OCTOBER 2025

Enclosure(s):

Interim Consultation Agreement between the Tasmanian Government and the Local Government Sector

ISSUE

Council is requested to review and provide feedback on the draft *Interim Consultation Agreement* to the Local Government Association of Tasmania.

BACKGROUND

This draft agreement has been developed following a sector resolution in late 2024 and LGAT's continued advocacy for improved consultation from the State Government on legislative and policy matters affecting local government.

DETAIL

This draft agreement was presented at a recent meeting of the Premier's Local Government Council.

The Association has been asked to consider the draft at its General Meeting scheduled for November before it is provided to Cabinet for endorsement.

The following issues have been highlighted by the LGAT:

1. This is an interim agreement only. It seeks to trial the agreement and implementation ahead of a formal charter being developed as part of the Targeted Amendments to the LG Act (new clause 20 in the draft Bill).
2. It only deals with State Government legislative and policy reform and does not seek to capture broader State Government support or engagement, such as timeframes for agencies to respond to council queries or formal processes like Parks or Crown Land response times. The charter will include these broader elements (refer to cl 20 (2)(d) of the draft Bill).
3. Its implementation will be led by the OLG through things like:
 - a. Communication with State Agencies on the agreement and principles within it.
 - b. Providing a central advisory and coordination point for State Agencies to understand and coordinate the volume of current and planned consultations between the State and Local Government sectors.
 - c. Providing practical guidance and examples on what may constitute a minor, moderate or major consultation.
 - d. Undertaking a 12-month review.

The LGAT has also indicated that they have been providing the Office of Local Government feedback on various iterations of this agreement and they think it has landed in a reasonable spot and there is a genuine willingness from the Minister and DPAC for this to work.

General Manager's Comment:

The agreement is purposefully high-level to allow flexibility in its trial phase.

The minimum five-week consultation period is an important provision. This enables Councils to participate formally and effectively in significant reform processes through formal Council meeting processes.

Human Resources & Financial Implications – Not applicable.

Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications – Nil

Policy Implications – Policy position

Priority - Implementation Time Frame – This interim agreement is a trial run on the formal charter (to be developed in August 2026). It provides the local government sector with the opportunity to see how it works to determine what further measures might be required in the charter.

The Association has requested feedback or identification of critical concerns by Friday 14 November to enable any amendments to the interim agreement ahead of formal consideration at the November General Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT:

- a) The information be received; and
- b) In the absence of any specific concerns, Council inform the LGAT that it supports the draft Interim Consultation Agreement as presented.

DECISION

Moved by Cllr D Blackwell, seconded by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon

That:

- a) The information be received;
- b) Council inform the LGAT that it supports the draft Interim Consultation Agreement as presented; and.
- c) Council request the LGAT to include a statement advocating that the State Government be required to consult with the relevant Council if there is an intention to provide funding to a 'User Group' occupying a Council facility, and the intent of the funding is for facility upgrade or works relating to the property itself.

CARRIED

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

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INTERIM CONSULTATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SECTOR

PREAMBLE

The Tasmanian Government and the Local Government Sector, represented by the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT), share a commitment to effective governance and collaboration to serve Tasmanian communities. This interim agreement outlines principles for consultation and engagement, fostering a partnership built on mutual respect, good faith, and shared responsibility. It recognises the important role local government has in informing State policy and legislation given its unique role in local implementation and acknowledges the need for improved and consistent engagement processes from the State Government while recognising the diverse priorities and stakeholders involved in State policy and decision-making. It also recognises that on occasions (such as pandemic) there may be a need by the State Government for expedited consultation to implement policy and decisions that are in the best interest of the state.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR ENGAGEMENT

1. Partnership and Good Faith

Both parties commit to working collaboratively, engaging respectfully, and acting in good faith. Both the State and Local Government will seek to facilitate meaningful consultation, and undertake to contribute constructively, raise concerns through appropriate channels (e.g., local government raising matters directly with relevant agencies or Ministers), and support collaborative problem-solving. Both parties commit to communicating in good faith about the purpose, scope and - where feasible - the potential range of outcomes of each consultation.

2. Early Engagement

State agencies and Councils will engage each other early in policy, legislative, or programme development, particularly where proposals are likely to impact council functions or Agency responsibilities, to better understand and address potential implications, and to help inform effective, efficient, and appropriate consultation approaches and methods.

3. Reasonable and Practical Timeframes

Consultation processes will provide reasonable timeframes that respect council decision-making cycles and competing priorities for State Agencies, while balancing the urgency and complexity of reform proposals. Timeframes will be tailored to the nature of the proposal and the needs of all stakeholders.

4. Tailored and Flexible Engagement

Engagement approaches will reflect the scale and impact of proposals, ranging from notification for minor changes to more involved iterative consultation for significant reforms. Flexibility ensures practicality and responsiveness to broader objectives of the State or Local Government.

5. Coordinated and Consistent Efforts

State agencies and Local Government sector (through LGAT) will, where feasible, coordinate and seek feedback on proposed consultation approaches and timing across agencies or the sector to ensure consultation is as effective and efficient as possible.

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6. Shared Accountability for Effective Engagement

While the State is responsible for initiating consultation on State reforms, councils and LGAT share a role in providing timely, constructive feedback, identifying impacts, and supporting sector-wide coordination. Both parties commit to supporting processes to resolve issues through dialogue.

ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

Engagement will be guided by the above principles and tailored to the context of each proposal. Recognising that each circumstance is unique, the broad categories of engagement and approach taken in each circumstance are:

- **Minor Changes** (e.g., technical amendments): Notification to councils and/or LGAT, with opportunities for feedback via submissions or briefings.
- **Moderate Changes** (e.g., policy shifts and legislative changes with operational implications): Direct engagement through discussion papers, webinars, or targeted briefings, with more extended timeframes to allow for council input.
- **Major Reforms** (e.g., structural or legislative changes with significant implications for councils' operations or resourcing arrangements): Multistage collaborative processes, such as workshops, discussion papers and draft legislation, to accommodate sector-wide input into the policy formation and final reform proposals.

The appropriate level of engagement will be determined based on the proposal's scale, impact, urgency, and the range of stakeholders involved, ensuring local government has sufficient time to consider the proposal alongside other priorities. Where sectoral submissions are sought, consultation processes will, as a minimum, respect the historical practice of a 5-week minimum consultation period, with timeframes tailored as appropriate to the circumstances of each proposal and, wherever possible, other State Government initiated reforms local government is responding to

COMMITMENT TO IMPLEMENTATION

The Tasmanian Government, led by the Premier, is committed to fostering improved engagement with the Local Government Sector. Implementation will target coordinated, consistent consultation as standard practice across all State agencies. This consultation agreement will be shared with Heads of Agencies to guide their agencies engagement practices. They will also inform the development of the Local Government Charter as part of the Priority Reform Program 2024-2026, in response to the Future of Local Government Review.

REVIEW AND ONGOING COLLABORATION

Both parties commit to ongoing dialogue to refine engagement practices and address challenges collaboratively.

SIGNATORIES

- **Tasmanian Government**
Represented by the Premier of Tasmania
- **Local Government Sector**
Represented by the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT)

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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.

DECISION

Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Cllr B Campbell

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	Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 Reference
Closed Council Minutes - Confirmation	15(2)(g)
Applications for Leave of Absence	15(2)(h)
Audit Panel Minutes	15(2)(b)

CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Cllr D Blackwell	✓	
Cllr B Campbell	✓	
Cllr D Fish	✓	
Cllr 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

Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Cllr B Campbell

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.

CARRIED

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

CLOSED COUNCIL MINUTES

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 Audit Panel Minutes

20.3.1 Audit Panel Receipt of Minutes

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)(b) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

20.3.2 Audit Panel Endorsement of Recommendations

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)(b) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council move out of “Closed Session”.

DECISION

Moved by Cllr D Blackwell, seconded by Cllr B Campbell

THAT Council move out of “Closed Session”

CARRIED

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

OPEN COUNCIL MINUTES

21. CLOSURE

The meeting closed 12.43 p.m.