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MINUTES OF MEETING

Committee: Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Audit Panel
Chairperson: Heather Salisbury
Executive Officer: Greg Tory (CEO)
Meeting Date: Tue 2nd December 2025 09.30am
Location: Council Office Triabunna and online via Microsoft Teams

Invitees:

Heather Salisbury	Independent Panel member (Chair)	Present at this meeting
Ric De Santi	Independent Panel member	Present at this meeting
Clr Rob Churchill	GSBC Councillor Panel member	Present at this meeting
Dep Myr Clr Mike Symons	GSBC Councillor Panel member	Resigned prior to the meeting
Greg Tory	GSBC Chief Executive Officer (General Manager)	Apology for the meeting
Danielle Tuck	GSBC Acting Director Corporate & Financial Services	Apology for the meeting
Mary Oyeyiola	GSBC Accountant (Minutes Taker)	Present at this meeting
Marissa Walters	Consultant Accountant	Online Via Teams
Carole McQueeney	GSBC Councillor (Observer)	Present at this meeting

1. Preliminaries

a) Welcome

b) Apologies – Chief Executive Officer and the Acting Director Corporate & Financial Services.

- As the Chief Executive Officer was an apology for this meeting, the Director of Planning and Development attended this meeting in his capacity as the Acting Chief Executive Officer (Acting General Manager).

c) Conflict of interest declarations:

Person	Association	Risk/Conflict
Independent Panel member	Launceston City Council Audit Panel - Chair	Potential
	Hobart City Council Audit Panel – Member	Potential
	Brighton Council Audit Panel Chair	Potential
	South Australian Auditor General office audit committee member	Nil
	Glenorchy City Council Audit Panel – Chair	Potential
	Sorell Council Audit Panel - Chair	Potential

	Tasmanian Community Fund Southern Board member	Potential
	Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority – Director and Chair of the risk and governance Audit, Risk and Governance Committee	Nil
	Tasmanian Catholic Education Commission – Deputy Chair	Potential
	UTAS casual academic	Nil

d) Confirmation of previous minutes 30th September 2025. – Minutes confirmed, subject to amendment. Confirmed that the process is for draft Minutes (as approved by the Chair) to be included on the first available Council agenda. Minutes are then confirmed at the next Audit Panel meeting.

2. Actions arising from previous Minutes:

Meeting	Item	Action	Responsible Officer	Status
30 Sept 2025	4	Draft revised LTFMP (WIP) to Audit Panel	Consultant Accountant	On agenda 2 Dec 2025
30 Sept 2025	5	Draft Financial Statements – Marissa to review Panel suggestions	Consultant Accountant	Complete
30 Sept 2025	6	Draft IT policies to Audit Panel when completed	GSBC Acting Director Corporate & Financial Services	Underway
30 Sept 2025	6	Evaluation of external audit – Ric to provide pro forma surveys. Danielle to arrange distribution to Panel and relevant staff and collation for next AP meeting	Independent Panel member GSBC Acting Director Corporate & Financial Services Audit Panel	On agenda 2 Dec 2025
30 Sept 2025	7	Audit findings register – Ric to draft for Greg's consideration	Independent Panel member	Underway
30 Sept 2025	8	Risk and Opportunity Framework update for next AP agenda	GSBC Chief Executive Officer (General Manager)	Underway
30 Sept 2025	9	CoHealth update next agenda	GSBC Chief Executive Officer (General Manager)	On agenda 2 Dec 2025
30 Sept 2025	10	Audit Panel Annual Report to Council	Independent Panel member (Chair)	Complete
30 Sept 2025	11	Audit Panel Chairs mtg – LGO, LGAT, TAO slides to Panel	Independent Panel member	Complete
30 Sept 2025	11	Suggestions for professional development for AP members next meeting	Audit Panel	On agenda 2 Dec 2025

3. Financial Reports as of 31 October 2025

- Trending slightly better than budget although Enterprise Agreement outcome November 2025, not yet included.
- Capital report – 23 per cent spent with more work to commence in the next quarter.

4. Financial Statements 2024/2025 External Audit

- External audit findings discussed. Fair representation of GSB position. Unmodified opinion with no material or unadjusted differences. No evidence of fraud or regulatory non-compliance.
- The three findings related to internal control are low risk. They are as follows:

  1. Independent review of disposal of assets;

  2. Process for monitoring grant milestones; and

  3. Key processes for cash and finance and property, plant and equipment not sufficiently documented for the audit work.

  Evaluation of external audit – Senior staff understood the business but junior staff less so.

  Findings were very general and received late leaving little time for staff to provide feedback.

  Discussion in camera with External Auditor Tasmania Audit Office (TAO) – Mr. John Parkes

- Good cooperation from council – Good working papers were provided for testing.

  Controls - good range of control in terms of payroll, revenue, IT, and system controls.

Independent Panel members asked External Auditor (John) if there is a training package for their team, including familiarization with software applications commonly used by Councils. John agreed to take this suggestion into consideration.

For the future Audit Tas is planning to keep Council audits internal and not contract out too much. Timing – can they start earlier for the next FY? Enty interview /meeting with management of council.

No advice on signing officer for next financial year yet.

5. Long-Term Financial Management Plan and Financial Strategy

Consultant Accountant highlighted key elements of the draft Plan and advised that it is set on the basis of:

- What is the minimum rate needed?
- Additional funds set aside for new assets such as stormwater, parks and reserves.
- Capacity for asset management – risks include Prosser pipeline and marina.

- Loans getting paid off, principal repayments coming down.
- Large commercial development on land poses a risk of on-going cost, ongoing maintenance, and future replacement.
- The Acting Chief Executive Officer (Acting General Manager) advised that the Council was working with East Coast Tourism regarding future marina funding.

Independent Panel Member and Independent Panel member (Chair)

- Suggested considering an amendment to the definition of financial sustainability to make some reference to avoiding rate shocks.
- Diagram on page 7 of the LTMFP –suggested to include references to strategic planning, annual planning, and the budget, as well as Strategic Asset Management Plan.
- Having reserves of unrestricted cash available for asset replacement going forward.
- Some concern that operating surplus ratio close to minimum and trending down.
- The Acting Chief Executive Officer (Acting General Manager) raised concern about future risk in salaries and wages as currently GSB salaries are not competitive in the employment market.
- Asset consumption also drops from low risk to medium risk. Marissa hoping the revaluations will bring back to within low-risk range.
- Natural growth component – a drop from last year due to revaluations- might have to consider the rate increase to make up the variation.
- LTFMP –will go to council for adoption, likely Feb/March council agenda.
- Diagram in.

6. Risk and Opportunity Framework - update.

- Transfer to the next agenda.

7. Debtors - Summary of outstanding debts.

- Deferred.

8. Audit Findings Register

- Audit finding register - A tool to keep in tabs on audit findings, internal control, and performance audit activities. Ric to provide a draft for Council consideration.
- Consideration of internal audit opportunities at the next meeting.

9. General Manager's update – emerging risks:

- Update Senior Management Appointments.
    - Director of Corporate and Financial Services to commence Monday 19 January 2026;
    - Director Works and Infrastructure - interviews to be held Wednesday 3 December and Friday 5 December 2025; and
    - The Acting CEO flagged there is a multitude of recruitment underway and that to remain competitive in a competitive recruitment market, that the value of salary packages offered to preferred candidates is likely to/needs to increase.
- Update on CoHealth arrangements
    - The final year of the three-year funding arrangement that exists between Council and Cohealth ends in 2026.
    - Note that CoHealth sought additional funding from Council to upgrade IT equipment - the matter was deferred at the October Council meeting

10. Audit Panel Annual Report to Council

- Received and noted at November 2025 Council meeting

11. Audit Panel Chairs

- Sharing learning and exchanging information. Professional development for members particularly those without local government knowledge or background.
- Potential topics for discussion include cyber security framework, risk management sustainability frameworks, asset management, and long-term planning integration.
- Useful for sharing some basic tools used by audit panels.

12. Items referred to by the Audit Panel (if any)

None.

13. Other business and close of meeting

No other business.

Next meeting Date

Independent Panel member and Independent Panel member (Chair) to suggest dates and get back to the Accountant.

Concluded Meeting at 11.50am

Action Summary

Meeting	Item	Action Item	Responsible Officer	Status
30 Sep 2025	6	Draft IT policies to Audit Panel when completed	GSBC Acting Director Corporate & Financial Services	
02 Dec 2025	6	Review of the risk and opportunity framework	GSBC Chief Executive Officer (General Manager)	
02 Dec 2025	7	Debtors Summary	GSBC Acting Director Corporate & Financial Services	
30 Sep 2025	10	Audit findings register	Independent Panel member	underway
02 Dec 2025	8	Internal audit opportunities discussion at next meeting	Independent Panel member (Chair)	

Presented at the Council meeting dated:

Signed by Audit Panel Chairperson:

_____

Heather Salisbury Dated

Capital Works Detail

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
Budget 2025-26

Dept	Capital Item	Cost YTD	% Cost Spent	Status	Revised Budget 2026	Budget 2025/26	New Budget Adjusments	Actual Carried Rorward	Estimated Carry Fwd Amount	New Budget	Council Funded	Grant Funded
Roads, Footpaths, Kerbs												
	Resheet Program	19,996	10%	Underway	**200,000**	**200,000**				200,000	200,000	
	Pavement Renewal Program	518,146	94%	In progess	**550,000**	**500,000**	50,000	-	-	550,000	440,000	110,000
	Reseal Program	632,770	97%	In progess	**650,000**	700,000	- 50,000			650,000	190,000	500,000
	Swansea St Margaret's Court seal and kerb	39,182	131%	Completed	**30,000**	**30,000**				30,000	30,000	
	Fisheries Coles Bay	39,435	99%	Completed	**40,000**	**40,000**				40,000	40,000	
	Triabunna Tomorrow Streetscapes Year 2	67,749	5%	In progess	**1,359,420**	**445,000**	299,500	614,920	614,920	744,500	-	1,359,420
	Foothpath Seal to Bark mill	-	0%	Not Started	**30,000**	**30,000**				30,000	30,000	
	Foothpath & Disability Compliance Renewal Program	129,471	86%	In progess	**150,000**	**150,000**				150,000	150,000	
	Gulch Car Park Pavement Rehabilitation	25,381	100%	Completed	**25,381**	**25,000**	381			25,381	25,381	
	Morrison St Bicheno -cul-de-sac head	31,837	64%	Not Started	**50,000**	**50,000**				50,000	50,000	
	Cross St to Walpole install Kerb	43,812	100%	Completed	**43,812**	**40,000**	3,812			43,812	43,812	
	West Shelly cul-de-sac K&C	53,410	100%	Completed	**53,410**	**65,000**	- 11,590			53,410	53,410	
	Kerb & Channel Renenwal Program	56,611	57%	In progess	**100,000**	**100,000**				100,000	100,000	
	Nailer Avenue top to Gamble Crescent	5,790	10%	In progess	**60,000**	**60,000**				60,000	60,000	
	Design Allocation	8,524	9%	Commenced	**100,000**	**100,000**				100,000	100,000	
	Contingency	-		Not Started	**-**	**40,000**	- 40,000			-	- 40,000	
	Total Roads, Footpaths, Kerbs	**1,672,114**	**65%**		**3,442,023**	**2,575,000**	**252,103**	**614,920**	**614,920**	**2,827,103**	**1,472,603**	**1,969,420**
Bridges, Culverts												
	Wielangta Pipe Bridge	95,692	100%	Completed	**95,692**	**100,000**	- 4,308			95,692	95,692	
	Wielangta Sandspit Bridge Overflow	1,383	1%	Not Started	**170,000**	**100,000**	70,000			170,000	170,000	
	Redecking timber Bridges	80,642	81%	In Progress	**100,000**	**100,000**				100,000	100,000	
	Duck Park Bridge	32	0%	Tender Phase	**390,000**	**100,000**	290,000			390,000	390,000	
	Total Bridges, Culverts	**177,748**	**44%**		**755,692**	**400,000**	**355,692**	**-**	**-**	**755,692**	**755,692**	**-**
Parks, Reserves, Walking Tracks, Cemeteries												
	CDG Bicheno Triangle	513,668	100%	Completed	**515,668**	**620,190**	179,514	- 284,036	620,190	- 104,522		515,668
	Playground Renewals & Upgrade	4,521	2%	Underway	**200,000**	**200,000**				200,000	200,000	
	Playground Bicheno Lions Park	-	0%	IFC drawing	**300,000**	**90,000**	200,000	10,000	90,000	210,000	300,000	
	Orford Foreshore Masterplan	-	0%	Not Started	**218,400**	**218,400**			218,400		218,400	
	Our Park Precinct Plan	-	0%	Not Started	**10,000**	**10,000**			10,000		10,000	
	FAI Coles Bay History Plaques	-	0%	Not Started	**12,000**	**12,000**				12,000	12,000	
	Coles Bay Dump Point	-	0%	Not Started	**65,000**	**65,000**				65,000		65,000
	Deck/Boardwalk renewal outsde loo with a view	21,898	26%	In progress	**85,000**	**85,000**				85,000	85,000	
	Barbecue Replacement Program	52,122	69%	In progress	**75,000**	**75,000**				75,000	75,000	
	Bicheno Skate Park BBQ shelter	604	1%	Commenced	**45,000**	**45,000**				45,000	45,000	
	Total Parks, Reserves, Walking Tracks, Cemeteries	**592,813**	**42%**		**1,526,068**	**1,420,590**	**379,514**	**- 274,036**	**938,590**	**587,478**	**945,400**	**580,668**
Stormwater & Drainage												
	49 Rheban Rd design to West Shelley Bch Nautilus Detention Basin	-	0%	Not Started	**200,000**	**200,000**			200,000	-	200,000	
	Holkham Court	44,476	100%	Completed	**44,476**	**-**	3,717	40,759	40,759	3,717	44,476	
	Pit and Pipe Renewal Program	57,209	29%	In progress	**200,000**	**200,000**				200,000	200,000	
	Gordon St Bicheno Stormwater	-	0%	Not Started	**-**	**80,000**	- 80,000			-	-	
	Morrison St Stormwater replacement	-	0%	Not Started	**-**	**30,000**	- 30,000			-	-	
	Nautilus Drive - increased funding	-	0%	Not Started	**-**	**50,000**	- 50,000			-	-	
	SQID program	-	0%	Not Started	**-**	**25,000**	- 30,000	5,000	-	-	-	
	Total Stormwater & Drainage	**101,685**	**17%**		**444,476**	**585,000**	**- 186,283**	**45,759**	**240,759**	**203,717**	**444,476**	**-**
Building												
	Public Amenities - Loo with a View	43,785	100%	Completed	**43,785**		492	43,293	43,293	492	43,785	
	Bicheno Skate Park Toilet	50,173	66%	In progress	**75,479**			75,479	75,479			75,479
	Cranbook Hall	-	0%	In progress	**15,500**	**15,500**				15,500	15,500	
	Harold Street Reserve	-	0%	Not Started	**35,000**	**35,000**				35,000	35,000	

Capital Works Projects 2026-01

Capital Works Detail

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
Budget 2025-26

Dept	Capital Item	Cost YTD	% Cost Spent	Status	Revised Budget 2026	Budget 2025/26	New Budget Adjusments	Actual Carried Rorward	Estimated Carry Fwd Amount	New Budget	Council Funded	Grant Funded
	Muirs Beach Toilets	1,618	20%	In progress	**8,000**	**8,000**				8,000	8,000	
	Toilet Strategy Works	7,810	2%	Not Started	**320,000**	**320,000**				320,000	320,000	
	Bicheno Hall new stage lighting	23,982	100%	Completed	**23,982**	**27,500**	- 3,518			23,982	23,982	
	Bicheno Surf Club and Toilet Upgrade	11,334	5%	Not Started	**250,000**	**250,000**			250,000		100,000	150,000
	Triabunna Recreation Ground	-	0%	Not Started	**69,831**	**70,000**	- 169		70,000	- 169	69,831	
	Triabunna Tomorrow New Amenities	740	2%	Design underway	**46,606**	**50,000**	- 3,394		50,000	- 3,394		46,606
	Swansea Football Clubrooms	23,077	40%	In progress	**57,500**	**57,500**				57,500	57,500	
	Swansea Hall floor revarnish	-	0%	Not Started	**8,000**	**8,000**				8,000	8,000	
	Public Amenities Marina Toilets and Shower	676	0%	Not Started	**300,000**	**300,000**				300,000		300,000
	Bicheno Lunch room facility	36,805	100%	Completed	**36,805**	**35,000**	1,805			36,805	36,805	
	Triabunna Office Carpet Replacement	38,208	69%	Completed	**55,000**	**55,000**				55,000	55,000	
	Buckland Blackwater Upgrade	39,240	100%	Completed	**39,240**	**65,000**	- 25,760			39,240	39,240	
	Total Building	**277,447**	**21%**		**1,384,728**	**1,296,500**	**- 26,981**	**115,209**	**488,772**	**895,956**	**812,643**	**572,085**
Marine Infrastructure												
	Lighting Bicheno Boat Ramp	23,086	100%	Completed	**23,085**	**23,085**	**-**		-	23,085		23,085
	Marina Renew 6 Piles	-	0%	Not started	**54,000**	**54,000**	**-**		-	54,000	54,000	
	Saltworks Boat Ramp Upgrade	-	0%	Not started	**99,123**	**99,123**	**-**	**-**	99,123	-		99,123
	Total Marine Infrastructure	**23,086**	**13%**		**176,208**	**176,208**	**-**	**-**	**99,123**	**77,085**	**54,000**	**122,208**
Sewerage												
	Swanwick Waste System Pump Upgrade	9,131	23%	In progress	**40,237**	**15,000**		25,237	25,237	15,000	40,237	-
	Total Sewerage	**9,131**	**61%**		**40,237**	**15,000**	**-**	**25,237**	**25,237**	**15,000**	**40,237**	**-**
Plant Equipment & Other												
	Truck 16t tipper replace 2008 Hino16t A85NU Swansea	198,714	100%	Completed	**198,714**		**8,714**	190,000	190,000	8,714	198,714	
	Waste Chipper	181,903	99%	Completed	**183,571**			183,571	183,571		183,571	
	IT - Laptop & PC Replacements	8,978	30%	In progess	**30,000**	**30,000**				30,000	30,000	
	IT - Server, NAS and Backup Hard Drives	27,510	100%	Completed	**27,510**	**37,000**	**- 9,490**			27,510	27,510	
	Office Equipment	-	0%	Not started	**20,000**	**10,000**		10,000	10,000	10,000	20,000	
	Subaru replacement	-		Defer to Election	**-**	**40,000**	**- 40,000**			-	-	
	GM Vehicle replacement	54,669	100%	Completed	**54,689**	**60,000**	**- 5,311**			54,689	54,689	
	Waste Bulk Skip Bins	96,845	97%	Underway	**100,000**	**100,000**				100,000	100,000	
	Facilities Coordinator ute	43,888	100%	Completed	**43,888**	**48,000**	**- 4,112**			43,888	43,888	
	MUX replacement	43,237	102%	Completed	**42,237**	**50,000**	**- 7,763**			42,237	42,237	
	2 x tilt mower trailers	8,132	41%	In progess	**20,000**	**20,000**				20,000	20,000	
	Coles Bay WTS half container	7,308	100%	Completed	**7,308**	**9,000**	**- 1,692**			7,308	7,308	
	Swansea dual cab	48,650	100%	In progess	**48,650**	**48,000**	**650**			48,650	48,650	
	16 tonne - water cart	-	0%	In progess	**197,000**	**200,000**	**- 3,000**			197,000	197,000	
	Rapid Spray water tank	-	0%	Jnder Procurement	**59,800**	**37,000**	**22,800**			59,800	59,800	
	John Deere mower	29,227	100%	Completed	**29,227**	**32,000**	**- 2,773**			29,227	29,227	
	JCB replacement	104,921	100%	Completed	**104,921**	**130,000**	**- 25,079**			104,921	104,921	
	small plant	6,941	35%	In progess	**20,000**	**20,000**				20,000	20,000	
	New Vehicle - Director C&F		0%	Underway	**65,000**		**65,000**			65,000	65,000	
	New Pool Car		0%	Underway	**55,000**		**55,000**			55,000	55,000	
	Total Plant Equipment & Other	**860,922**	**99%**		**1,307,515**	**871,000**	**52,944**	**383,571**	**383,571**	**923,944**	**1,307,515**	**-**
Total Capital Works		**3,714,946**	**51%**		**9,076,947**	**7,339,298**	**826,989**	**910,660**	**2,790,972**	**6,285,975**	**5,832,566**	**3,244,381**

Profit and Loss

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
For the 7 months ended 31 January 2026

Account	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Budget Var	Var %	Annual Budget	Notes
Trading Income						
Rate Revenue	14,541,939	14,543,079	(1,140)	0%	14,543,079	
Statutory Charges	432,686	413,202	19,484	5%	703,968	
User Charges	562,896	696,669	(133,773)	-19%	922,390	1
Grants	408,044	408,626	(583)	0%	1,661,585	
Interest & Investment Revenue	607,471	450,591	156,880	35%	828,282	2
Other Revenue	441,417	475,521	(34,104)	-7%	827,915	
Total Trading Income	**16,994,453**	**16,987,688**	**6,765**	**0%**	**19,487,219**	
Gross Profit	**16,994,453**	**16,987,688**	**6,765**	**0%**	**19,487,219**	
Capital Grants						
Grants Commonwealth Capital - Other	600,000	0	600,000	0%	677,126	
Grants Commonwealth Capital - Roads to Recovery	0	0	0	0%	1,134,041	
Grants State Capital - Other	1,662,957	1,357,845	305,112	22%	1,975,574	3
Total Capital Grants	**2,262,957**	**1,357,845**	**905,112**	**67%**	**3,786,741**	
Other Income						
Net Gain (Loss) on Disposal of Assets	122,961	12,500	110,461	884%	50,000	4
Contributions	117,244	157,500	(40,256)	-26%	270,000	5
Other Revenue - Donations, Contributions NON CASH	330,000	0	330,000	0%	0	
Total Other Income	**570,205**	**170,000**	**400,205**	**235%**	**320,000**	
Operating Expenses						
Employee Costs	3,026,604	3,328,499	(301,895)	-9%	5,949,486	6
Materials & Services	4,686,973	5,292,737	(605,764)	-11%	8,518,015	7
Depreciation	2,447,178	2,373,182	73,996	3%	4,068,306	
Interest	64,624	64,624	(0)	0%	167,803	
Other Expenses	119,408	176,892	(57,484)	-32%	299,914	8
Total Operating Expenses	**10,344,786**	**11,235,934**	**(891,148)**	**-8%**	**19,003,524**	
Net Profit	**6,649,666**	**5,751,754**	**897,912**	**16%**	**483,695**	
Total Comprehensive Result (incl Capital Income)	**9,482,829**	**7,279,599**	**2,203,230**	**30%**	**4,590,436**	

NOTES OF BUDGET VARIANCES > $50k and >10%.

1. **TIMING:** Prosser Plains Raw Water Scheme(PPRWS) is down by 33k, floating strutcure down by 47k and Marina Fees 3 phase power of $34k was not in the budg
2. **PERMANENT**: Higher than expected interest on investments.
3. **TIMING**:Received capital grant earlier than budgeted.
4. **PERMANENT**: Net gain on assest sold
5. **PERMANENT**:Contribution for public open space down by $105k and stormwater up by $65k.
6. **PERMANENT**: Staff vacancies creating shortfall in work productivity.
7. **TIMING:** Some periodic charges not received for IT, medical, insurances, water, waste and infrastructure activities.
8. **TIMING:** Periodic charges not received for audit cost.

Statement of Financial Position

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
As at 31 January 2026

Account	31 Jan 2026	30 June 2025
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash & Cash Equivalents	13,766,334	12,794,856
Trade & Other Receivables	6,316,761	1,621,436
Other Assets	178,080	44,397
Total Current Assets	**20,261,175**	**14,460,689**
Non-current Assets		
Investment in Water Corporation	34,533,233	34,533,233
Property, Infrastructure, Plant & Equipment	220,239,317	222,374,169
Total Non-current Assets	**254,772,550**	**256,907,402**
Total Assets	**275,033,726**	**271,368,091**
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Trade & Other Payables	1,124,126	1,431,730
Trust Funds & Deposits	423,228	442,225
Provisions	666,372	666,372
Contract Liabilities	0	1,604,871
Interest bearing Loans & Borrowings	989,725	1,147,209
Trade & Other Payables - Debtor Suspense Account	258	0
Trust Funds & Deposits - Retention Monied Held	8,392	19,074
Total Current Liabilities	**3,212,101**	**5,311,481**
Non-current Liabilities		
Provisions	69,930	69,930
Interest Bearing Loans & Borrowings	4,287,484	4,287,484
Total Non-current Liabilities	**4,357,414**	**4,357,414**
Total Liabilities	**7,569,515**	**9,668,895**
Net Assets	**267,464,211**	**261,699,196**
Equity		
Current Year Earnings	5,767,883	3,823,579
Retained Earnings	103,282,218	99,458,639
Equity - Asset Revaluation Reserve	156,572,516	156,575,385
Equity - Restricted Reserves	1,841,594	1,841,594
Total Equity	**267,464,211**	**261,699,196**

Statement of Cash Flows

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
For the 7 months ended 31 January 2026

Account	YTD Actual	2025
Operating Activities		
Receipts from Customers	11,885,304	17,755,492
Operating Grants	408,044	1,677,967
Payment to employees and Suppliers	(7,659,596)	(13,630,277)
Other Payments	(129,792)	(244,092)
Finance Costs Paid	(102,438)	(182,876)
Rates Charged - Sewerage	45,599	0
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	**4,447,122**	**5,376,214**
Investing Activities		
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	151,544	189,055
Payment for property, plant and equipment	(4,000,419)	(4,979,253)
Receipts from capital grants	560,395	4,520,451
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	**(3,288,481)**	**(269,747)**
Financing Activities		
Trust funds & deposits	(29,679)	36,380
Proceeds from/ repayment of long term loans	(157,484)	(384,912)
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	**(187,163)**	**(348,533)**
Net Cash Flows	**971,478**	**4,757,934**
Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	12,701,948	7,944,014
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	13,673,426	12,701,948
Net change in cash for period	**971,478**	**4,757,934**

ACTION REGISTER

MEETING DATE	ITEM NO.	DECISION NO.	TITLE	ACTION OFFICER	DECISION	OFFICERS UPDATE	STATUS
23 September 2025	8.1	200/25	Sale of 50 Beattie Avenue land and Lions Park Playground Upgrade	DP&E	That Council 1. RESOLVE under section 178 of the Local Government Act 1993 (the Act) to form an intention to dispose, exchange or lease of public land, 50 Beattie Avenue, Bicheno (Title Ref: 62307/50) (the Land). 2. Proceeds with the playground construction for Lions Park, funding the budget shortfall from the land asset sales and public open space financial reserves.		April 2026
28 October 2025	7.3	218/25	Information Reports - Acting Director Works and Infrastructure, Darren Smith	DWI	That Council notes the information and endorses the budget adjustment for the purchase of Barrow Lights.		January 2026 – Completed.
28 October 2025	8.5	233/25	Community Small Grant Application - The Christmas Elves (Sub-committee of BCDA)	CDC	Council approve the application for Community Small Grant funding of $802.63 to The Christmas Elves a subcommittee of the Bicheno Community Development Association for community Christmas decorations.		Completed
28 October 2025	8.10	238/25	Event Support Grant Application - Spring Bay Rotary	CDC	That Council approve the application for event support of $1,850.		Completed
25 November 2025	8.2	256/25	Event Support Grant Application – Spring Bay Arts Group Inc	CDC	That Council approve the application for event support for $1,260.		Completed
25 November 2025	8.3	257/25	Event Support Grant Application – Request for Event Support	CDC	That Council approve the application for event support of $2,500.		Completed
9 December 2025	8.1	275/25	Event Support Grant Application – Request for Event Support	CDC	That Council approve the application of $1,000 for event support to the Maria Voices Inc for the Maria Voices Christmas Carols at Our Park, Orford.		Completed
9 December 2025	8.2	279/25	Nomination of Councillor to Tasmania Seafarers' Memorial Section 24 Special Committee	CEO	That Council accepts the nomination for Clr Jenny Walker to the Seafarers Memorial Section 24 Special Committee of Council, effective 9 December 2025.		Completed
9 December 2025	8.4	281/25	Event Support Grant Application – Request for Event Support	CDC	That Council approve the application for event support from Bicheno Community Development Association Incorporation in conjunction with Bicheno Lions Club for $1,500 towards the Annual Family Christmas Event.		Completed
27 January 2026	8.1	290/25	Capital Purchase of Two New Vehicles	GOV	That Council authorise an increase to the Capital Works Program for the 2025/2026 Financial Year of $115,000 to cover the purchase of a new Executive Vehicle and a new Pool.		In Progress
27 January 2026	8.2	291/25	Annual General Meeting - Notice of Motion/Question on Notice - John Heck	GOV	That Council does not proceed with the action stated in the motion 289/25 carried at the 9 December Annual General Meeting of 9 December 2025.		In Progress
27 January 2026	8.3	292/25	Local Government Amendment (Electoral Reforms) Bill 2025	GOV	That Council in relation to local government electoral reform and GSBC's submission: receive and note the report and the draft submission prepared following input by Councillors at the Workshop on 13 January 2026; note any further comments from Councillors on the draft submission are to be provided to the Acting CEO by Friday 6 February 2026; and a final draft submission is to be presented to Council at its 24 February 2026 meeting.		Completed
27 January 2026	8.4	293/25	Tas Water PSP5 - Letter of Support	GOV	That Council authorise the General Manager to provide the requested letter of support in response to the TasWater Price and Service Plan 5.		Completed

Capital Works Program
Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
Proposed Revised Budget 2025-2026

Infrastructure	Details	Actual YTD 31/01/2026	Original Budget Adopted June 2025			February Budget Revision		
			Estimated Carry Forward Amount	New Budget Items	Total Adopted Budget 2026	New Budget Adjustments	Carried Forward Adjustments	Total Revised Budget 2026
Roads footpaths and kerbs								
Resheet Program	Unsealed roads - underway	14,518		200,000	200,000		-	200,000
Pavement renewal Program	Work completed, invoicing to come in.	524,583		500,000	500,000	50,000	-	550,000
Reseal Program	Completed	649,955		700,000	700,000	(50,000)	-	650,000
Swansea	St Margarets Crt seal and kerb - completed, seal costs to be allocated	15,560		30,000	30,000		-	30,000
Fisheries Coles Bay	Concrete road corner - completed	39,435		40,000	40,000		-	40,000
Triabunna Tomorrow Streetscapes year 2	Charles St to Esplanade **Over 2 years**	67,749	100,000	345,000	445,000	299,500	614,920	1,359,420
Footpath seal to bark mill	182 x 2.5	-		30,000	30,000		-	30,000
Footpath & disability compliance renewal Program	Underway	129,471		150,000	150,000		-	150,000
Gulch car park pavement rehabilitation	Completed	25,381		25,000	25,000	381	-	25,381
Morrison St Bicheno - cul de sac head		31,837		50,000	50,000		-	50,000
Cross St to Walpole install kerb	ahead of reseal program - completed	43,812		40,000	40,000	3,812	-	43,812
West Shelly cul-de-sac K&C	ahead of reseal program - completed	53,410		65,000	65,000	(11,590)	-	53,410
Kerb & Channel Renewal Program	underway	56,611		100,000	100,000		-	100,000
Nailer Avenue top to Gamble Crescent	stage 1 of 4 - underway	5,790		60,000	60,000		-	60,000
Design allocation	Ryans Road	8,524		100,000	100,000		-	100,000
Contingency		-		40,000	40,000	(40,000)	-	-
		1,666,636	**100,000**	**2,475,000**	**2,575,000**	**252,103**	**614,920**	**3,442,023**
Bridges								
Wielangta pipe bridge	Bridge 53 - completed	95,692		100,000	100,000	(4,308)	-	95,692
Wielangta sandspit bridge overflow	Bridge 55	1,383		100,000	100,000	70,000	-	170,000
Redecking timber bridges	Underway	80,642		100,000	100,000		-	100,000
Duck Park (Foot) Bridge	Tender phase	32		100,000	100,000	290,000	-	390,000
		177,748	**-**	**400,000**	**400,000**	**355,692**	**-**	**755,692**
Buildings								
Cranbrook Hall	Renew Roof (urgent)	-		15,500	15,500		-	15,500
Harold Street Reserve	Renew BBQ area in Harold Street	-		35,000	35,000		-	35,000
Muirs Beach Toilets	Feasability study for failing toilet outflows	1,618		8,000	8,000		-	8,000
Toilet strategy works		7,810		320,000	320,000		-	320,000
Bicheno Hall	New Stage lighting - completed	23,982		27,500	27,500	(3,518)	-	23,982
Bicheno Surf Club and Toilet Upgrade	Carry forward	-	250,000		250,000		-	250,000
Triabunna Rec Ground	Carry forward - no matching grant funds as yet	-	70,000		70,000		(169)	69,831
Triabunna Tomorrow New Amenities	Carry forward	740	50,000		50,000		(3,394)	46,606

Capital Works Program
Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
Proposed Revised Budget 2025-2026

Infrastructure	Details	Actual YTD 31/01/2026	Original Budget Adopted June 2025			February Budget Revision		
			Estimated Carry Forward Amount	New Budget Items	Total Adopted Budget 2026	New Budget Adjustments	Carried Forward Adjustments	Total Revised Budget 2026
Buildings cont.								
Swansea Football clubrooms	Needs a section of the roof to be re done (urgent)	23,077		57,500	57,500		-	57,500
Swansea Hall	floor re varnishing, in the main hall	-		8,000	8,000		-	8,000
Public Amenities	Marina Toilets and shower	676		300,000	300,000		-	300,000
Bicheno Lunch room facility	WHS compliance - completed	36,805		35,000	35,000	1,805	-	36,805
Triabunna Office carpet replacement		38,208		55,000	55,000		-	55,000
Loo with a View	Carried forward - completed	43,785		-	-	492	43,293	43,785
Bicheno Skate Park Toilet	Carried forward	49,849		-			75,479	75,479
Buckland Blackwater upgrade	Completed	39,240		65,000	65,000	(25,760)	-	39,240
		265,789	**370,000**	**926,500**	**1,296,500**	**(26,981)**	**115,209**	**1,384,728**
Storm water								
Pit and Pipe Renewal Program	Underway	54,709		200,000	200,000		-	200,000
Gordon St Bicheno stormwater	215 metres - under consideration to defer to 2027	-		80,000	80,000	(80,000)	-	-
Morrison St stormwater replacement	30m across road - defer to 2027	-		30,000	30,000	(30,000)	-	-
49 Reheban Rd to West Shelley Beach Nautilus Detention Basin	carry forward all funds. Additional funds budgeted to pay for 50% of project - developer fundiung the rest, design and DA progressing. - defer to 2027	-	200,000	-	200,000		-	200,000
Nautilus Drive - increased funding	Council developer match funding - defer to 2027	-		50,000	50,000	(50,000)	-	-
Holkham Crt	Carried forward - completed	44,476		-	-	3,717	40,759	44,476
SQID program	TBC - defer to 2027, may require additional funding	-	25,000	-	25,000	(30,000)	5,000	-
		99,185	**225,000**	**360,000**	**585,000**	**(186,283)**	**45,759**	**444,476**
Parks & Reserves (public open space)								
Playground renewal & upgrade	Underway	4,521		200,000	200,000		-	200,000
Playground Bicheno Lions Park	IFC drawing unerway. Works to be completed in 2027. Funds to be allocated from Sale of Council Land at Beattie Ave.	-	90,000	-	90,000	200,000	10,000	300,000
Orford Foreshore Masterplan		-	218,400	-	218,400		-	218,400
Our Precinct Plan		-	10,000	-	10,000		-	10,000
FAI Coles Bay History Plaques	10 plaques - waiting on community consultation, work likely to be completed in 2027	-		12,000	12,000		-	12,000
Coles Bay Dump Point	co-locate	-		65,000	65,000		-	65,000
Deck/Boardwalk renewal outside loo with a view	deck needs renewing - deck completed, stone wall works to be completed	21,898		85,000	85,000		-	85,000
Bicheno Triangle	works completed	513,668	620,190	-	620,190	179,514	(284,036)	515,668
Barbecue replacement program	spring beach plus others - underway	52,122		75,000	75,000		-	75,000
Bicheno Skate Park	BBQ shelter - waiting on approvals	604		45,000	45,000		-	45,000
							-	
		592,813	**938,590**	**482,000**	**1,420,590**	**379,514**	**(274,036)**	**1,526,068**

Capital Works Program
Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
Proposed Revised Budget 2025-2026

Infrastructure	Details	Actual YTD 31/01/2026	Original Budget Adopted June 2025			February Budget Revision		
			Estimated Carry Forward Amount	New Budget Items	Total Adopted Budget 2026	New Budget Adjustments	Carried Forward Adjustments	Total Revised Budget 2026
Sewer								
Swanwick Waste System Pump Upgrade	Carry forward - underway	9,131	15,000	-	15,000		25,237	40,237
		9,131	**15,000**	**-**	**15,000**	**-**	**25,237**	**40,237**
Marine Infrastructure								
Lighting Bicheno Boat Ramp	2 light poles S/E side of ramp - completed	23,086		23,085	23,085		-	23,085
Marina	Renew 6 Piles	-		54,000	54,000		-	54,000
Saltworks Boat Ramp Upgrade	Carry forward	-	99,123	-	99,123		-	99,123
		23,086	**99,123**	**77,085**	**176,208**	**-**	**-**	**176,208**
Plant & Equipment								
IT - Laptop & PC Replacements		8,978		30,000	30,000		-	30,000
IT - Server, NAS and Backup Hard Drives		27,510		37,000	37,000	(9,490)	-	27,510
Office Equipment		-		10,000	10,000		10,000	20,000
Mayors car	Defer to election in 2026/2027	-		40,000	40,000	(40,000)	-	-
GM Vehicle replacement	Completed	54,669		60,000	60,000	(5,311)	-	54,689
Waste Bulk Skip Bins	5 x 40m3 bins - underway	96,845		100,000	100,000		-	100,000
Facilities Coordinator ute		43,888		48,000	48,000	(4,112)	-	43,888
MUX replacement	Completed	43,237		50,000	50,000	(7,763)	-	42,237
2 x tilt mower trailers	Underway	8,132		20,000	20,000		-	20,000
Coles Bay WTS half container	save on rental of secure shed - completed	7,308		9,000	9,000	(1,692)	-	7,308
Swansea dual cab		48,650		48,000	48,000	650	-	48,650
16 tonne - water cart	On order	-		200,000	200,000	(3,000)	-	197,000
Truck 16t tipper replace 2008 Hino16t A85NU Swansea		198,714				8,714	190,000	198,714
Rapid Spray water tank	Under procurement	-		37,000	37,000	22,800	-	59,800
John Deere mower	Completed	29,227		32,000	32,000	(2,773)	-	29,227
JCB replacement	Completed	104,921		130,000	130,000	(25,079)	-	104,921
New Executive Vehicle	Approved Jan Council meeting					65,000	-	65,000
New Pool Vehicle	Approved Jan Council meeting					50,000	-	50,000
Small plant	Underway	6,941		20,000	20,000		-	20,000
Waste Chipper	Transport costs to come	181,903					183,571	183,571
		860,922	**-**	**871,000**	**871,000**	**47,944**	**383,571**	**1,302,515**
Grand Totals		**3,695,310**	**1,747,713**	**5,591,585**	**7,339,298**	**821,989**	**910,660**	**9,071,947**

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Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014

Long Title

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Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014

Version current from 1 January 2016 to date (accessed 16 February 2026 at 16:35)

TASMANIA

Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014

I make the following order under section 85B(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 .

10 February 2014

BRYAN GREEN

Minister for Local Government

1. Short title

This order may be cited as the Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014 .

2. Commencement

This order takes effect on the day on which its making is notified in the *Gazette*.

3. Interpretation

(1) In this order –

Act means the Local Government Act 1993 ;

audit panel means an audit panel that a council is required to establish under section 85(1) of the Act;

independent person means a person who is not a councillor or employee of the relevant council.

(2) The Acts Interpretation Act 1931 applies to the interpretation of this order as if it were by-laws.

4. Functions of audit panel

(1) In this clause –

Part 7 plan means a strategic plan, an annual plan, a long-term financial management plan or a long-term strategic asset management plan of a council prepared under Division 2 of Part 7 of the Act.

(2) For the purposes of section 85A(1)(d) of the Act, the following matters are specified as the matters that an audit panel is to consider in a review of the relevant council's performance:

(a) whether the annual financial statements of the council accurately represent the state of affairs of the council;

(b) whether and how the Part 7 plans are integrated and the processes by which, and assumptions under which, those plans were prepared;

(c) the accounting, internal control, anti-fraud, anti-corruption and risk management policies, systems and controls that the council has in relation to safeguarding its long-term financial position;

(d) whether the council is complying with the provisions of the Act and any other relevant legislation;

(e) whether the council has taken any action in relation to previous recommendations provided by the audit panel to the council and, if it has so taken action, what that action was and its effectiveness.

5. Membership of audit panel

(1) The audit panel of a council is to be constituted by a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 members of whom –

(a) if the panel has 4 or 5 members, at least 2 must be independent persons; or

(b) if the panel has 3 members, at least one must be an independent person.

(2) Without limiting who may be members of an audit panel, the following persons are eligible to be members of an audit panel:

(a) a councillor, other than the mayor, of the relevant council;

(b) . . . . . .

(c) a member of an audit panel of another council, if he or she is an independent person in respect of the other council.

(2A) A councillor, or employee, of a council is not eligible to be a member of an audit panel of another council.

(3) A person who is an employee, or the general manager or the mayor, of a council is not entitled to be a member of the audit panel of that council.

(4) The council is to appoint the members of its audit panel.

(5) In appointing an independent person as a member of an audit panel, the council –

(a) is to ensure that the person possesses good business acumen and sound management and communication skills; and

(b) may take into account any other relevant knowledge, abilities and skills of the person including, but not limited to –

(i) knowledge and expertise in the areas of audit practices and financial management; and

(ii) knowledge of and experience in relevant industries; and

(iii) experience with governance processes including, but not limited to, risk management.

6. Chairperson of audit panel

(1) The chairperson of an audit panel may only be an independent person who is a member of the audit panel.

(2) If an audit panel includes more than one independent person as members, the relevant council is to appoint one of the independent persons as chairperson of the audit panel.

7. Term and conditions of appointment of audit panel members

(1) A member of an audit panel holds office for such period of not less than one year and not more than 4 years as is specified in the member's instrument of appointment and, if eligible, may be reappointed.

(2) A member of an audit panel who is an independent person is entitled to be paid the remuneration and allowances determined by the relevant council.

8. Notification of appointment of members of audit panel

The general manager of a council is to notify the Director of –

(a) the appointment of all the members of the council's audit panel, and the term of each of those appointments, as soon as practicable after establishing the panel; and

(b) the identity of the chairperson, and each independent member, of the audit panel; and

(c) of the appointment of each new member of the audit panel, and the term of that appointment, as soon as practicable after making that appointment.

9. Charter of audit panel

(1) A council may provide to its audit panel a charter relating to –

(a) the manner in which the audit panel is to perform its functions; and

(b) the procedure of the audit panel in respect of its meetings.

(2) A charter under subclause (1) may relate only to administrative matters.

10. Annual work plan

To assist the audit panel in performing its functions efficiently and effectively, the audit panel is to develop an annual work plan that includes, but is not limited to, a schedule of meetings and the known objectives for each meeting so scheduled.

11. Meetings of audit panel

(1) In this clause –

financial manager means the person, determined by the general manager of a council by notice provided to the person, to be responsible to the general manager in relation to the preparation of the council's financial statements (for the purposes of this clause only).

(2) An audit panel is to hold not less than 4 meetings in each financial year.

(3) At a meeting of an audit panel, a quorum is constituted by a majority of the total number of members appointed.

(4) Despite subclause (3) , if at least one member who is an independent person is not present at the meeting of the audit panel, there is no quorum present.

(5) The general manager of a council is to attend, or to ensure that his or her delegate attends, each meeting of the council's audit panel.

(6) The financial manager of a council is to attend, or to ensure that his or her delegate attends, each meeting of the council's audit panel.

(7) An audit panel may invite or allow any councillor of the relevant council or an employee of the relevant council to attend one or more meetings of the audit panel.

(8) Subclauses (5) , (6) and (7) do not apply in relation to a meeting of the audit panel if the audit panel determines that the meeting is to be held in private.

(9) Except as provided by this order or the charter provided to an audit panel under clause 9 , the audit panel may regulate its own proceedings.

(10) An audit panel is to provide a copy of the minutes of its meeting to the relevant council as soon as reasonably practicable.

12. Recommendation of audit panel

On conducting a review under section 85A of the Act, the audit panel is to provide the relevant council with a written report of its conclusions and recommendations, if any.

13. Resources of audit panel

A council is to provide secretariat support to, and all necessary funding required by, its audit panel.

Displayed and numbered in accordance with the *Rules Publication Act 1953*.

Notified in the *Gazette* on 19 February 2014

This order is administered in the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Minister for Housing and Planning
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
Minister for Local Government

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_8 DEC 2025

Dear Mayors and General Managers

As part of our *Local Government Priority Reform Program 2024-26*, the Tasmanian Government has today published an exposure draft Local Government Electoral Bill.

This draft Bill is an important step in establishing a standalone statutory framework for the conduct of local government elections.

The new Bill will introduce several important reforms, including:

- creating a more flexible format for future local government elections;
- strengthening the donations disclosure and electoral advertising requirements;
- improving the quality of public information at elections; and
- making changes to the eligibility to run for office, alongside a suite of changes intended to improve the integrity of elections

The Electoral Bill is also supported by a supplementary Local Government (Amendment) Bill which delivers supporting changes to the *Local Government Act 1993*, including:

- repealing existing electoral provisions from the Act;
- introducing reforms to better manage councillor interests; and
- introducing caretaker provisions for council conduct during an election.

The draft legislation, along with a supporting paper and an overview of provisions of both bills, is available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet's website at www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/local_government.

We are inviting feedback from the sector and the community until midnight on Saturday 28 February 2026. Feedback can be provided by email to LG.Consultation@dpac.tas.gov.au.

It is important to note that due to the technical complexity of moving to a new electoral framework, the new Local Government Electoral Act is expected to have a phased implementation. A crucial focus of this consultation will be identifying the highest priority reforms for implementation prior to the next elections.

This will inform which provisions the Government will seek to 'turn on' with sufficient lead time to allow for education, system updates, and readiness ahead of the October 2026 local government elections.

I encourage this to be a focus of your council's consideration and feedback of the Bill.

Your feedback on the draft Electoral Bill will help us ensure the Tasmanian community can make an informed and meaningful choice at voting time.

Yours sincerely

Hon Kerry Vincent MLC
Minister for Local Government

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Local Government Electoral Reforms

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Local Government Electoral Bill 2025

Overview of key reforms by Part

Part	Key Reform
2 - ELECTION OF MAYORS, DEPUTY MAYORS AND COUNCILLORS	Provides for the election of the Deputy Mayor 'around the table' by councillors, rather than by direct elector ballot. This must be done by vote of the council (simple majority), and within the first two general meetings of council. The Bill allows councils to determine the term of deputy mayor to be either the term of council or a lesser period.
4 - ELECTORS AND ELECTORAL ROLLS	Amends the definition of "occupier" for enrolment purposes, to refer to actual occupation and use, and clarify that tenants and licensees are occupiers for the purposes of the Act.
	Preserves a supplementary roll ('general manager's roll') for electors not entitled to be on the House of Assembly (HoA) Roll in respect of an electoral area, as well as clear and consistent criteria for applying to be on this roll. This supplementary roll is now named the Local Government Electoral Roll. This roll is for persons with property-based entitlements (landowners/occupiers, corporate bodies) and non-citizen electors *who have lived in the electoral area for a continued period of at least 12 months.* Provides that responsibility for keeping and maintaining the supplementary rolls for electoral areas is to transfer to the TEC (currently council General Managers must maintain their council's supplementary rolls).
	Tightens the criteria for who can nominate to vote on behalf of corporate bodies, including that they: • Must not be a director or the secretary of the corporate body • Must not be already enrolled on the HoA roll for the electoral area • Not be the corporate body nominee for another corporate body in the same area.
	Provides for 'one vote, one value' by providing that each elector is entitled to one vote in an election for an electoral area.

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Part	Key Reform
	This changes the current situation where a person may have up to two votes (e.g. one in their own right, and one on behalf of a body corporate).
5 – COMPULSORY VOTING	Preserves compulsory voting for those on the HoA roll (status quo). Voting remains optional for electors on the supplementary Local Government Electoral Roll.
6 – ISSUING AND RECEIVING PLACES, POLLING PLACES AND ELECTION OFFICIALS	Reduces prescription and introduces flexibility to 'future proof' elections, allowing the Electoral Commissioner to determine the method of voting at an election. This can include one or more methods, including attendance voting at a polling place and/or postal voting (including provision and receipt of ballots in person and by mail). These provisions provide flexibility for the Commissioner to determine multiple methods of voting, supporting the position of moving to a hybrid postal electoral format, allowing for continued mail voting, with provision of pre-polling and polling places for in-person completion of ballots. The provides for the postal method (allowing for and encouraging for hand returns) as the default election method and allows for an attendance ballot only where the Commissioner is satisfied available postal services are inadequate to ensure the reliable conduct of the election by postal ballot, a postal ballot would be more expensive to conduct than an attendance ballot. The Commissioner will be required to issue a notice as to the chosen method of election at least six months in advance of the notice of an election.
	Preserves issuing and receiving places, which allow for issue and return of ballots during mail (or hybrid) elections. Provisions from the *Local Government Act 1993* are expanded for accessibility, including allowing the Electoral Commissioner to appoint a hospital, convalescent home, nursing home or other similar place at which a mobile facility may be operated as an issuing and receiving place – similar to polling place provisions in the *Electoral Act 2004*.
	Allows for appointment of polling places, pre-poll polling places and mobile polling places in the event of an attendance ballot. Accessibility provisions mirror those for issuing and receiving places. There is also an additional clause (35) which provides for

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Part	Key Reform
	assistance to vote at a polling place to be provided for those who need it.
PART 7 – NOTICES OF ELECTIONS AND NOMINATIONS	Provides that a local government election or by-election may not be held such that the polling period overlaps the date of a Tasmanian or Australian Government parliamentary election.
	Provides for continuation of non-citizen voting via the supplementary roll, while requiring candidates for council to be Australian citizens eligible to vote in parliamentary elections.
	Retains a single-phase nomination process, with additional requirements in the notice of nomination – including: • A statement as to whether or not the candidate is formally endorsed by a registered party or is running under a group name not associated with a party. • An attestation that a candidate has completed the proposed mandatory pre-election training module. (does not apply to incumbent councillors). A notice of nomination must also be signed by at least 30 electors or 1% of electors in the municipal area (whichever is smaller). Currently a notice of nomination must be signed by only two electors.
	Requires the TEC to publish and distribute a candidate information package. This is currently done as a matter of convention and is the primary way electors become aware of the range of candidates, their reasons for seeking election, views and propositions. However, this is currently not a part of the formal legislative framework. At a minimum, this will include for each candidate - the candidate's name, a personal statement (if provided), and whether the candidate is endorsed by a registered party, running under a group name or is an independent candidate. This information is gathered as part of the notice of nomination.
PART 8 - BALLOTS	Provides guidance around ballot material, and provisions on issuing, completing and returning ballots based on various election methods enabled under Part 6.
PART 10 – ALTERNATIVE VOTING PROCEDURES	This is a broad Part which allows the Electoral Commission to approve and deliver alternative voting procedures for classes of electors who face barriers to traditional means of voting. This includes, but is not limited to electronic voting methods such as online voting or voting by telephone.

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Part	Key Reform
	This supports universal franchise principles, consistent with recent reforms to the State *Electoral Act 2004*.
	Requires the TEC to approve procedures which enable and support accessible voting practices for electors with additional barriers to participation. The TEC is also required to publish after each election a statement on the implementation of the accessibility principles.
PART 13 – OFFENCES RELATING TO ELECTIONS	Introduces a range of offences related to polling and conduct at polling places consistent with the *Electoral Act 2004*, while also retaining offences relating to elections under the LG Act. It also contains offences relating to electoral bribery and treating and intimidation.
PART 14 – INVESTIGATORY POWERS	Provides standard investigatory powers for the Electoral Commissioner (or authorised officers) – consistent again with the *Electoral Act 2004.* This includes: • Power to enter and inspect places • Power to require production of documents or information • Power to seize and detain • Power to require attendance and questioning
PART 15 – ELECTORAL ADVERTISING AND PUBLICATION OF ELECTORAL MATTER	Introduces new prohibitions on the dissemination of misleading and deceptive statements (corresponding to the Electoral Act Review Final Report and the amended section 197 of the *Electoral Act 2004*).
	Repeals an existing provision that prohibits the publication of a candidate's name or image without their consent. This aligns local government elections with state and federal practices where no such restriction applies.
	Updates and clarifies what constitutes "electoral advertising" to ensure consistency and legal certainty. Seeks to align definitions with the *Electoral Act 2004* and reduce ambiguity for candidates and regulators.
	Requires electoral advertising to include information identifying who authorised the material. Aims to promote transparency and accountability in campaign communications.

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Part	Key Reform
PART 16 – ELECTORAL EXPENDITURE	Limits electoral expenditure to the candidate, intending candidate, or their formally nominated agent. Aims to prevent unregulated third-party campaigning and increase transparency.
	Replaces current advertising-specific limits with an overall cap on total electoral expenditure. Aligns local government elections with Legislative Council spending rules. Expenditure caps are as follows: • for a candidate for election to the Hobart City Council, Clarence City Council, Glenorchy City Council, Kingborough Council or Launceston City Council – $16 000 plus the applicable annual increment for that financial year. • for a candidate for election to any other council – $10 000 plus the applicable annual increment for that financial year. The annual increment is a cumulative increase to this limit of $500 every year for the councils referred to in the first bullet point, and $300 for all other councils, applying annually from 1 July 2027.
	Requires candidates to report not only their own spending but also any expenditure made on their behalf. Confirms that shared advertising must be fully attributed to each candidate featured.
	Prevents third parties from incurring expenditure on behalf of a registered party to influence election outcomes (strengthens transparency and restricts indirect or unregulated campaign spending).
PART 17 – GIFTS AND DONATIONS	Extends gift and donation disclosure obligations to all candidates. Maintains the $50 threshold and introduces disclosure via the TEC website during the election period.
	Prohibits indirect donations through intermediaries or third parties (ensuring all electoral donations are transparent and reported through candidates).

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Local Government Amendment (Electoral Reforms) Bill 2025

Overview of key reforms by Part

Part	Key Reform
5 – PECUNIARY INTERESTS	Expands the definition of a close associate to a councillor to include: • a person who has provided a gift or donation (as defined in the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*); • a relative of the councillor or member who resides with that councillor or member on a regular basis.
	Establishes defence provisions for a councillor where they believe a pecuniary interest (where they receive or expect to receive a pecuniary benefit) is one held with a substantial proportion of electors in the municipality (meaning at least 5% or 1 000 electors, whichever is the lesser). This defence also applies to an application or request for approval, authorisation, licence, permit, exemption or other right, or beneficial interest in shares of a company or other body.
	Requires that the existing register of pecuniary interests kept by the general manager to be published on a council's website.
5B – PERSONAL INTEREST RETURNS	This is an entirely new Part which requires a councillor to lodge a personal interest return (PIR) with the general manager, within 28 days after a certificate of election is issued.
	A PIR is to be made by Ministerial Order – and may specify a range of matters including: • the assets and classes of assets to be disclosed, including real property and financial interests; • the liabilities and classes of liabilities to be disclosed; • the associated persons and classes of persons whose interests are to be disclosed, including individuals, bodies corporate and trustees; • employment, offices and other sources of income to be disclosed; • gifts, donations or contributions to other entities, and the classes of such gifts, donations or contributions, to be disclosed; • memberships of associations, including trade or professional associations, political parties and other organisations to be disclosed;

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Part	Key Reform
	• thresholds for disclosure and time periods to which the disclosures relate; • management strategies to be documented by councillors for managing actual, potential or perceived pecuniary interests or non-pecuniary interests arising from the matters disclosed. As with all Orders pertaining to councils, the Minister must consult with councils before amending, revoking or substituting the PIR. *Note: a draft PIR has been released alongside the consultation draft legislation package.*
	The general manager must publish each personal interest return, and any revised personal interest return, on the council's official website as soon as practicable after it's lodgement.
	The general manager must not provide to a councillor any information, other than information included on a public agenda or otherwise available to members of the public, if it is reasonably apparent to the general manager, from a personal interest return or other information known to the general manager, that the councillor has a pecuniary interest in the matter. Likewise, a councillor must not seek to obtain any information on the above grounds.
	The council must retain each personal interest return, and each revised personal interest return, until 2 years after the expiration of the term of the council during which the return was lodged.
	Offence provisions are included for providing false information, omitting known information, or refusal to lodge a PIR.
PART 5C - Conduct of Council During Election Period	This Part introduces 'caretaker' provisions related to the conduct of councils during election periods. During an election period a council cannot make any decision defined as a 'prohibited decision'. This includes a decision: • that relates to the appointment, reappointment or the remuneration of a general manager, other than the appointment, reappointment or remuneration of an acting general manager • that relates to the termination of a general manager • to enter into a contract, arrangement or agreement the total value of which exceeds whichever is the greater of – ○ $100 000; or

Part	Key Reform
	○ 1% of the council's revenue from general and service rating and fees and charges in the preceding financial year • that would enable the use of council resources in a way that is intended to influence, or is likely to influence, voting at a council election. A council may, if they determine it is necessary and in the public interest for a prohibited decision to be made during an election period, make an application to the Minister for an exemption. Prohibited decisions do not apply to decisions or actions required by councils under statutory timeframes.
	This Part also prohibits the use of any council resources or publication of information promoting or advantaging a particular candidate or group of candidates. It also prohibits councils from making resources available that advantage a candidate which are not equally available to all candidates. Information in relation to an election can only be published if it has been published by the Electoral Commission.
PART 6 – PETITIONS, POLLS AND PUBLIC MEETINGS	The threshold for petitions requesting elector polls or public meetings has been raised to 20% of electors (from 5% or 1,000 electors, whichever is lesser).
GENERAL CHANGES	Electoral parts are repealed and replaced by the new standalone *Electoral Bill* – including: • Part 4 – Elections • Part 15 – Council elections.

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Local Government Electoral Reform

Exposure Draft Legislation and Prior Consultation Report

December 2025

Office of Local Government
Department of Premier and Cabinet

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Tasmanian Government

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Introduction

In February 2025, the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) released a Discussion Paper outlining proposed reforms to how local government elections operate in Tasmania. The reforms are a key element of the Tasmanian Government's *Local Government Priority Reform Program 2024-26*. They will modernise the local government electoral framework and address longstanding challenges around accessibility, integrity, franchise eligibility, electoral advertising, and the growing limitations of a universal postal ballot model. The reform program aims to deliver a more adaptable legislative framework to support attendance, postal, hybrid and future electronic voting formats, in anticipation of the next council elections scheduled for October 2026.

Submissions on this initial phase of consultation have been reviewed, with feedback informing the development of **two** draft Bills related to Tasmania's local government electoral system:

1. A Local Government Electoral Bill 2025 which establishes a standalone statutory framework for the conduct of local government elections, and implements key reforms which aim to modernise Tasmania's local government electoral framework.
2. A supplementary Local Government Amendment (Electoral Reforms) Bill 2025 which repeals existing electoral provisions from the *Local Government Act 1993*, and delivers electoral reforms related to council operations including caretaker provisions and the management of pecuniary interests.

This paper provides information on how people can provide feedback on the draft Bills, and an overview of feedback received in response to the prior discussion paper and how this feedback has been incorporated into the draft legislation. Finally, this paper provides an overview on reforms related to the management of interests of elected members.

The paper is structured in three parts:

1. An overview of the current consultation process for the draft legislative package, including key matters we are seeking feedback on.
2. A report on the feedback received in response to the prior consultation, and a description of how this feedback has been incorporated into the draft legislation.
3. An overview of the proposed new management of councillor interests framework.

Current Consultation

The Tasmanian Government has now released the draft legislation for a 13-week consultation period – inviting feedback from the sector, community and key stakeholders until midnight on **28 February 2026.**

General comment is invited on:

- The **workability and implementation** of the provisions contained in the draft Electoral Bill.
- Whether the provisions **accurately reflect the intended policy direction**.
- How the draft Electoral Bill **responds to issues raised** during the initial consultation on the Discussion Paper.
- The **renewed framework for managing interests** included in the Local Government (Managing Interests, Caretaker and Electoral Provisions) Bill 2025, including the draft Personal Interest Return included in Appendix B.

Specific consultation matter – implementation priorities

Due to the technical complexity of moving to a new electoral framework, and delays in developing legislation caused by the 2025 State election, the Local Government Electoral Bill 2025 is expected to have a phased implementation once it becomes law.

A crucial focus of this consultation is identifying (through sectoral, peak body and expert feedback) the highest priority reforms for implementation prior to the next elections. This will inform which provisions the Tasmanian Government will seek to 'turn on' with sufficient lead time to allow for education, system updates, and readiness ahead of the October 2026 local government elections.

This is an important opportunity for the public, councils, and stakeholders to help shape Tasmania's future local government electoral system and ensure the legislation is practical, fair, and fit for purpose.

You can make a submission by email or post to:

Email: LG.consultation@dpac.tas.gov.au

Post:

Office of Local Government
Department of Premier and Cabinet
PO Box 123
Tasmania 7001

In accordance with the Tasmanian Government Public Submissions Policy, submissions will be treated as public information and will be published on our website at www.dpac.tas.gov.au after they have been considered. No personal information other than an individual's name or the organisation making a submission will be published.

For further information, please contact localgovernment@dpac.tas.gov.au.

Important information to note

In the absence of a clear indication a submission is intended to be treated as confidential (or parts of the submission), the Department of Premier and Cabinet will treat the submission as public.

If you would like your submission treated as confidential, whether in whole or in part, please indicate this in writing at the time of making your submission. Clearly identify the parts of your submission you want to remain confidential and the reasons why. In this case, your submission will not be published to the extent of that request.

Copyright in submissions remains with the author(s), not with the Tasmanian Government.

The Department of Premier and Cabinet will not publish, in whole or in part, submissions containing defamatory or offensive material. If your submission includes information that could enable the identification of other individuals then either all or parts of the submission will not be published.

The *Right to Information Act 2009* and confidentiality

Information provided to the Tasmanian Government may be provided to an applicant under the provisions of the *Right to Information Act 2009* (RTI). If you have indicated you wish all or part of your submission to be treated as confidential, your statement detailing the reasons may be taken into account in determining to release the information in the event of an RTI application for assessed disclosure. You may also be contacted to provide further comment.

Prior Consultation – Analysis and Outcomes

Scope of Consultation

The consultation on local government electoral reforms forms part of the Tasmanian Government's commitment to deliver a fit-for-purpose, flexible, and contemporary electoral framework for Tasmanian councils. The reforms build on prior work undertaken during the Local Government Legislation Review and reflects the Government's policy position that local government electoral laws should be structured as standalone legislation.

The purpose of the previous Discussion Paper released in February 2025 was to invite feedback on the design of the proposed electoral reforms ahead of drafting of new legislation. The paper presented high-level reform options in five key areas:

1. voting method flexibility
2. franchise and candidacy eligibility
3. access to electoral information
4. donation and advertising transparency
5. election integrity.

Stakeholders were encouraged to provide feedback on the feasibility and clarity of the reforms, and to raise any practical implementation considerations. With the exception of several key reform proposals, the consultation was not intended to re-examine the underlying policy direction or rationale, but rather to ensure the proposed design of reforms was robust and deliverable.

Approach to Consultation

The Discussion Paper was released in February 2025, with submissions invited until Thursday 4 April 2025. The Office of Local Government (OLG) advised all Tasmanian councils and key sector stakeholders of the consultation period. The paper was made available online via the Department of Premier and Cabinet website, alongside a summary version.

OLG provided an online consultation session for councillors on 25 March 2025, where they were invited to ask questions about the Local Government Electoral Bill reform discussion paper.

OLG also briefed the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) and coordinated targeted engagement with relevant government agencies. These included the Tasmanian Electoral Commission (TEC), whose operational input as

electoral administrator was essential to assessing the feasibility of the proposed reforms.

Submissions Received

21 submissions were received in response to the Discussion Paper. This included:

- 15 submissions from Tasmanian councils
- three (3) submissions from organisations and peak bodies
- three (3) submissions from individual community members, including councillors.

All submissions were reviewed in detail and thematically analysed to identify support, concerns, and implementation risks.

All submissions are available on the Department of Premier and Cabinet website.

A detailed summary of the technical reforms, feedback and the Tasmanian Government's response are in Appendix A.

Stakeholder Feedback – The Future Format of Local Government Elections

The Discussion Paper proposed two scenarios to guide the future delivery of local government elections in Tasmania, reflecting the need to modernise the electoral framework in response to declining postal service reliability, evolving voter expectations, and increasing delivery costs. Submissions were sought on the merits and limitations of each scenario: Scenario A (attendance voting) and Scenario B (a hybrid model).

Scenario A – Attendance Voting

Scenario A proposed a full move to attendance voting, either via a single polling day or a polling period, supported by limited access to postal and telephone voting for eligible electors. This scenario received limited support across the sector. A small number of submissions expressed support for reintroducing mandated in-person voting, citing perceived increases in vote security, alignment with state and federal electoral models, and improved oversight of ballot handling.

However, the majority of councils, individuals, and organisations opposed Scenario A. The primary concern was accessibility (particularly for voters in rural and remote areas, people with disability, older electors, and those without reliable access to transport). Stakeholders warned that the removal of mail-based voting options would disproportionately impact marginalised communities and would undermine the inclusivity of the voting system.

Submissions also highlighted cost and feasibility barriers, including the significant investment required to deliver and staff in-person polling locations across the state, along with the likely need for public education to shift voter expectations and behaviour. Several respondents noted that such a transition would not be achievable by the 2026 local government elections.

The TEC also did not support Scenario A, citing substantial logistical challenges and unsustainable costs without significant investment in new infrastructure and systems.

Scenario B – Hybrid Voting Model

Scenario B proposed maintaining postal delivery of ballot papers while encouraging in-person return at issuing places, such as council offices or public service centres. This model was strongly supported by most stakeholders and is regarded as a practical evolution of the current system. It was seen as a way to retain broad accessibility while addressing challenges with postal reliability and late returns under the compulsory voting model.

Councils viewed Scenario B as a measured and achievable step forward that could be implemented in time for the 2026 elections, subject to sufficient lead time for community education and investment in issuing place infrastructure. Stakeholders noted that this model would preserve the benefits of mail delivery, while providing additional flexibility to voters who prefer, or need, to return their votes in person. The inclusion of continued access to telephone and assisted voting services for eligible electors was welcomed as a necessary safeguard for inclusion.

The TEC expressed willingness to work with OLG on the development of a hybrid model for future elections.

Some submissions raised implementation concerns, including the need for clarity in the legislation around the roles and operating rules for issuing places, and the potential cost and staffing implications of managing these sites.

Based on the strong and consistent support for Scenario B during consultation, the Tasmanian Government has determined to proceed with this model as the preferred approach for the 2026 local government elections. Scenario B strikes an appropriate balance between accessibility, integrity, and practicality, and will be further developed in collaboration with the TEC and local government stakeholders.

While Scenario B will be adopted as the default delivery model, the legislative framework will retain the flexibility for the TEC to adapt electoral procedures over time, ensuring future models can respond to emerging challenges, technology, and voter needs. To enable this flexibility, the Electoral Commissioner will be given the ability to determine that local government elections are to be held by attendance ballot, but this method of election would only be activated in certain circumstances

(such as when the Electoral Commissioner believes it is not viable to use the hybrid postal model).

Stakeholder Feedback – New Reform Directions

The Discussion Paper sought targeted feedback on three potential reform directions that, if adopted, would depart from previously agreed outcomes of the Local Government Legislative Review. These proposals were included to test current sector and community sentiment, particularly in light of changing election delivery expectations, rising costs, and increasing participation.

The two directions tested were:

1. Whether non-citizens should retain a limited entitlement to vote in local government elections, with eligibility to nominate for council continuing to be restricted to those enrolled on the House of Assembly roll (Australian citizens and eligible British subjects).
2. Whether the deputy mayor should continue to be directly elected by the public or instead be elected by councillors “around the table”.

1. Continuing Non-Citizen Voting Rights

Stakeholders expressed a range of views on whether Tasmania should continue to permit non-citizen residents to vote in local government elections. The proposal in the Discussion Paper was to allow this entitlement to continue under a revised model, requiring at least 12 months of continuous residence in Tasmania (or personal ownership of property) prior to enrolment.

A number of councils and organisations supported continuing this entitlement, particularly for permanent residents, refugees, and long-term community members. These submissions noted that all residents interact with local government services and decisions regardless of citizenship, and argued that voting in local elections can foster civic inclusion and democratic participation.

However, some councils and individuals opposed continuing the franchise to non-citizens, raising concerns about electoral integrity and administrative feasibility. Stakeholders questioned the TEC’s capacity to verify immigration status and warned of potential misuse of the supplementary roll, particularly in areas with large temporary or seasonal populations.

Despite these differences, many submissions accepted the 12-month residence test as a workable alternative to assessing visa types and supported its use as an objective eligibility requirement. Stakeholders also generally agreed that such voters

should not be eligible to nominate to run for office unless they are enrolled on the House of Assembly roll.

From an administrative perspective, the TEC noted it is not desirable for the TEC to review or verify the immigration status of electors or make determinations based on visa categories, which may change.

Having considered the feedback, the Tasmanian Government will proceed with a revised model allowing for continued non-citizen voting rights, subject to a requirement of 12 months' continuous residence in Tasmania or personal property ownership. This approach balances inclusivity with electoral integrity and avoids placing administrative burden on the TEC to assess visa status.

There was strong support for the proposal to restrict nomination rights to those enrolled on the House of Assembly roll, thereby requiring Australian citizenship (or eligible British subject status). This position was seen as a fair and proportionate measure that upholds the responsibilities of elected representatives, while maintaining an inclusive franchise for voting (noting the above proposal for non-citizen voting in certain circumstances).

Submissions noted that local councillors exercise formal powers over public budgets, land use planning, and infrastructure decisions, and that those powers should be entrusted to individuals who are full participants in Australia's civic and legal framework. The reform was also viewed as aligning Tasmania with Victoria and South Australia, which apply a similar model.

The Tasmanian Government will proceed with the proposal to limit eligibility to nominate for council to those enrolled on the House of Assembly roll. This ensures that those holding elected office are fully part of Australia's civic and legal framework, while maintaining a broad franchise for voters.

2. Changing How the Deputy Mayor is Elected

The proposal to move away from popular election of the deputy mayor and instead allow councillors to elect the deputy from among their number received mixed feedback.

Most councils and many individuals opposed the change, citing what they see as the democratic value of a directly elected deputy mayor and the visibility of the role in public representation. Submissions emphasised that the deputy mayor often steps into the mayoral role in times of absence or transition and argued that the community should retain a say in selecting that person. Some also viewed direct election as a safeguard against factionalism in closely divided councils.

A smaller number of submissions supported reform, citing the significant cost associated with running an additional direct election, and the limited independent

authority held by the deputy mayor. Supporters of the change argued that the deputy mayor's role is essentially supportive and procedural, and that it makes sense for the council to select their own internal leadership at the beginning of the term. It was also noted that Tasmania is the only jurisdiction in Australia that directly elects its deputy mayors, and that casual vacancies in the role are already filled "around the table".

Preliminary estimates from the TEC suggest that the direct election of deputy mayors accounted for approximately $285,000 in 2022, or about seven per cent of total election delivery costs. These costs are expected to grow in future elections, particularly under compulsory voting and enhanced participation.

Having considered the feedback and the rising cost and complexity of local government elections, the **Tasmanian Government has included the reform in the draft Bill for further consultation**. The proposed new framework will provide for the deputy mayor to be elected by councillors at the first ordinary meeting following a general election. This approach aligns with some other jurisdictions, allows councils to select their own leadership, and supports a more efficient and cost-effective electoral process. The Tasmanian Government considers this change to be proportionate and consistent with the functional role of the deputy mayor – which is to act in the mayor's absence and provide support; not to independently lead or exercise executive power.

With a strong level of feedback from councils now received, the Tasmanian Government is seeking further input from the broader community on how this model should operate. This includes whether once elected by councillors, the deputy mayor should serve for the full council term or for a shorter fixed period. The draft legislation as it stands provides that councils are given the flexibility to appoint for a full term of for a shorter period.

Stakeholder Feedback – Technical Reforms

The Discussion Paper presented 33 technical reform proposals to modernise and improve the integrity, transparency, and efficiency of local government elections in Tasmania. These proposals built on reforms initiated through the Local Government Legislative Review and aligned with changes introduced through the *Electoral Disclosure and Funding Act 2023*. The reforms addressed matters including election delivery, campaign finance, advertising and nomination processes.

Stakeholders were asked to consider the design and practical impact of each proposal, and to provide feedback on implementation, administrative feasibility, and alignment with existing electoral processes.

A More Flexible and Accessible Format for Local Government Elections

Stakeholders broadly supported reforms aimed at creating a more flexible, modern electoral framework for local government elections. There was a strong appetite for reducing legislative prescription and allowing the TEC to approve and adapt electoral procedures under a principles-based model.

This flexibility was viewed as essential to "future-proofing" the electoral system and accommodating diverse voter needs, particularly in the context of increasing participation and technological advancements.

Reform proposals to enable voting by alternative means (such as telephone or electronic voting) for specific elector classes were also welcomed. Submissions noted the importance of improving access for voters with disability, those living remotely, and interstate or overseas electors. The TEC supported the direction of the reform but raised practical challenges, including the cost and complexity of implementing secure, independent and verifiable alternative voting channels. In response, the Tasmanian Government will proceed with these reforms, acknowledging that postal voting will remain available and that any new methods will be implemented with caution and clarity.

The proposal to legislate universal franchise principles also received conceptual support. Stakeholders, including councils, agreed with the importance of ensuring all electors can vote in an independent, secret and verifiable manner. However, the TEC noted that this standard may not always be achievable in practice, particularly for some alternative voting methods. The Tasmanian Government agrees the principles should guide future development, and will work with the TEC to ensure they are applied pragmatically outside the statutory framework.

The proposal for the Electoral Commissioner to publish post-election accessibility reports was supported by councils and the TEC. It was viewed as a valuable accountability measure to track progress in improving accessibility and participation across the system. The Tasmanian Government will proceed with this reform, with reporting requirements aligned to TEC's existing data practices and operational capabilities.

A Better Voting Franchise for Electors and Changes to Eligibility to Run for Office

This group of reforms focused on clarifying and strengthening the eligibility framework for enrolment and candidacy, particularly in relation to the General Manager's Roll (GMR), and ensuring candidates have sufficient knowledge and community backing.

There was strong support for reforming the GMR to improve integrity, verification, and consistency. Transferring responsibility for the GMR from councils to the TEC was

widely supported to reduce administrative burden on councils and centralise electoral oversight. Proposed changes to tighten the eligibility criteria for GMR enrolment including strengthening verification requirements and clarifying the definition of "occupier" also received broad backing, with submissions noting these steps would improve public trust and align enrolment with genuine community connection.

The reform to prohibit dual enrolment was similarly well supported and seen as a necessary step to uphold the "one person, one vote" principle. The TEC confirmed its capacity to monitor and enforce the provision.

The proposal to increase the nomination threshold to 30 electors (or one per cent of electors, whichever is the smaller) drew mixed views. While many considered it a reasonable way to confirm genuine candidacy and public support, others, particularly from smaller communities, raised concerns that it may discourage participation. The Tasmanian Government considers the threshold modest and proportionate and will proceed with the reform.

Finally, the proposal to introduce required pre-nomination training for new candidates received limited support. While the benefits of informed candidacy were acknowledged, feedback was mixed on its implementation and scope. Some called for the training to apply to all candidates. The Tasmanian Government will proceed with this reform, by expanding requirements for an intending candidate's notice of nomination to require an attestation that they have completed a pre-election training course. This training will be designed to be accessible and practical.

Better Quality of Public Information at Elections

Reforms in this category aimed to improve the quality, clarity, and accessibility of information available to voters during local government elections. Submissions reflected a broad commitment to supporting an informed electorate but revealed differing views on how best to achieve that goal.

Stakeholders generally supported the proposal to require the TEC to provide all candidates with the opportunity to submit a candidate information statement. While the TEC noted this is convention and questioned the need for a legislative requirement, other submissions suggested formalising the obligation would promote consistency and voter confidence. The Tasmanian Government will not enforce a mandatory requirement for a candidate information statement. The choice and responsibility for preparing and submitting statements will remain with candidates.

In contrast, there was strong concern about the proposal to allow the Director of Local Government to publish council performance information during the election period. Feedback highlighted risks of perceived political interference and the potential to undermine the neutrality of elections. As a result, the Tasmanian Government will

not proceed with this reform and will instead explore options for improving transparency outside the caretaker period.

Two reforms proposing to allow identification of political parties or candidate teams on ballot papers received mixed feedback and were not supported by the TEC. Submissions raised concerns about the risk of increasing partisanship in local government, administrative challenges, and a lack of enforceable naming standards. The Tasmanian Government has determined not to proceed with these reforms. However, it intends to provide for the inclusion of information about formal party endorsement and group affiliation in the official candidate information booklet to ensure voters continue to have access to relevant context when casting their vote.

Strengthened Donations Disclosure and Electoral Advertising Requirements

Stakeholders generally supported the suite of reforms aimed at increasing transparency and integrity in campaign financing and electoral advertising. Several proposals drew strong backing due to their alignment with existing State electoral laws, especially those introducing new prohibitions on misleading and deceptive statements (Reform 15), requiring authorisation on electoral material (Reform 19), and establishing clear rules on who can incur electoral expenditure (Reform 18 and 22). These changes were seen as necessary modernisations that bring local government elections into closer alignment with accepted electoral standards across Australia and with State elections.

There was also general support for changes that clarify and update definitions and thresholds for advertising and donations (Reforms 16, 17, 20 and 21). These changes were recognised as contributing to a clearer, more consistent and enforceable electoral framework. Where stakeholders requested additional guidance (such as on reporting shared campaign costs or calculating spending under a general cap) the Tasmanian Government will work with the TEC to ensure clear, practical resources are provided to candidates and parties.

The Tasmanian Government considers that, taken together, these reforms will deliver a significant uplift in electoral transparency and public confidence while balancing the practical realities of administering and participating in local government elections.

Other Changes to Support the Integrity of Elections

A number of proposed reforms aiming to reinforce the overall fairness and transparency of local government elections received strong support during consultation. Stakeholders broadly welcomed the introduction of a formal caretaker framework (Reforms 29–32), noting this would align local government practices with those of other levels of government and help maintain neutrality during election periods.

Councils supported the introduction of clear limits on decision-making during the caretaker period, particularly in relation to major financial or staffing decisions and the use of council resources. While some clarification was requested on what constitutes "routine operational" activity, stakeholders endorsed the principles underpinning these changes. The Tasmanian Government will proceed with these reforms and provide detailed guidance to ensure consistent and practical application.

Proposals to strengthen the enforcement powers of the TEC also received widespread support (Reforms 27–28). Submissions acknowledged that enabling the TEC to investigate potential breaches and aligning electoral offences with the *Electoral Act 2004* would promote greater accountability and legal consistency. These reforms will proceed as proposed.

Reforms to prevent the overlap of local government and parliamentary elections (State and Federal) (Reform 26) were similarly well received, with stakeholders recognising the need to reduce voter confusion and administrative strain. The Tasmanian Government will proceed with this reform as a practical safeguard for electoral delivery and public confidence.

The proposal to tighten the threshold and scope of elector polls (Reform 33) attracted more mixed views. While many stakeholders supported clearer criteria and higher thresholds to ensure elector polls are used appropriately, others expressed concern about the potential to limit community participation. The Tasmanian Government will proceed with this reform on the basis that elector polls should be focused on matters within council control and reflect broad community interest, particularly given the costs associated with running these polls. Guidance will support councils and communities in understanding how the provisions apply in practice.

Managing Councillor Interests

Context

Recognising the strong thematic alignment between electoral integrity and the transparent management of councillor interests, the Tasmanian Government has determined to introduce reforms to the councillor interests framework in the *Local Government Act 1993* at the same time as the Local Government Electoral Bill is delivered.

In 2023, the Tasmanian Government released a detailed discussion paper outlining significant proposals to reform how councillors disclose and manage their personal interests. The intent of these reforms is to ensure greater transparency and consistency in managing conflicts of interest across the local government sector.

These initial proposals were ambitious, aiming for comprehensive integration of interest management under the Local Government Act, including continuous disclosures, establishing a dedicated Principal Officer role, and detailed legislative management of perceived and potential conflicts.

A subsequent position paper, released in 2024, reaffirmed the Tasmanian Government's commitment to high standards of transparency, accountability, and integrity within local government. This is essential for maintaining public confidence in local governance and decision-making processes.

The Framework

Following extensive consultation and careful deliberation, the Tasmanian Government has now refined its approach to balance administrative practicality with robust governance requirements. The revised legislative framework, outlined in the supplementary Local Government Amendment Electoral Reforms) Bill 2025, enhances transparency and accountability without imposing unnecessary burdens on councillors.

The Bill introduces provisions addressing the following key areas:

- **Clear separation of interests**: Pecuniary interests involving direct financial implications will continue to be explicitly managed within the *Local Government Act 1993* to ensure rigorous oversight. Non-pecuniary interests (typically personal, social, or community-related) will continue to be effectively managed under the existing, more flexible Code of Conduct framework. This will be supported with further guidance and definitions on types of interests, including actual, potential and perceived interests.

- **Introduction of Personal Interest Returns (PIR)**: Councillors will now formally lodge an initial PIR within 28 days of their election, followed by annual submissions. These returns will transparently document relevant pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests and include proactive strategies to manage potential conflicts. This structured yet simplified approach significantly enhances transparency and accountability.
- **Practical conflict management approach**: Councillors will proactively manage conflicts through documented strategies such as declaring interests, recusing from discussions or decisions, and outlining clear mitigation steps. Definitions of conflicts have been clarified and strengthened to support consistent interpretation and effective management.
- **Balanced transparency and privacy**: PIRs will be publicly accessible, but sensitive details, including exact monetary values, residential addresses, and commercial information, will be explicitly protected. This approach balances transparency with necessary privacy protections, responding directly to stakeholder feedback.
- **Simplified and targeted compliance**: The compliance framework strategically targets deliberate breaches, such as knowingly submitting false disclosures or failing to lodge required returns. Minor or inadvertent breaches will primarily be addressed through education and administrative guidance, ensuring appropriate use of regulatory resources and encouraging proactive and voluntary self-identification of non-compliance.

Elements No Longer Proceeding and Reasons

- **Integration of non-pecuniary interests into primary legislation**: Initially proposed for inclusion within the *Local Government Act 1993*, non-pecuniary interests will remain under the Code of Conduct framework. This decision acknowledges the flexibility and responsiveness of the existing Code of Conduct process for dealing with non-pecuniary matters.
- **Regulation of perceived pecuniary interests**: Stakeholder feedback indicated that perceived pecuniary interests would be difficult to regulate effectively. Consequently, provisions relating specifically to perceived pecuniary interests have been removed from the draft Bill and the focus has shifted to how potential and actual interests can be more effectively managed.
- **Continuous or rolling disclosures**: Originally intended for real-time transparency, continuous disclosures raised practical and administrative feasibility concerns. The revised framework replaces this with structured annual disclosures, addressing stakeholder concerns without compromising transparency.

- **Legislated Principal Officer role**: Initially proposed to manage disclosures and conflicts, this role was deemed unnecessary following consultation. Existing responsibilities, particularly those of General Managers, already effectively manage these functions.

Next Steps

The Framework represents a balanced approach that ensures essential transparency and accountability without excessive administrative complexity. Clear separation of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest management, introduction of formal PIRs, pragmatic conflict management strategies, and targeted compliance measures reflect stakeholder feedback and practical governance considerations.

The Tasmanian Government invites further feedback from stakeholders and the broader community on this refined legislative framework, recognising that ongoing engagement is vital to upholding integrity and accountability standards in Tasmanian local government.

To support consultation, the Tasmanian Government has developed a draft Personal Interest Return form for feedback, which gives a clear picture of the types of information to be provided by councillors. This is in Appendix B of this paper, and also on the consultation page of the Department of Premier and Cabinet's website.

Appendix A: Technical Reforms Summary

A more flexible and accessible format for local government elections

Reform 1: Reduce prescription in the statutory framework to enable the Tasmanian Electoral Commission to approve the electoral process.

Reform Overview	• Simplifies legislative requirements for election procedures. • Shifts detail from prescriptive legislation to TEC-approved procedures under a more flexible, principles-based model. • Aims to future-proof the electoral framework and support flexibility in delivery.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support for a more modern, adaptable system. • Some concern about reduced transparency when procedures are not set in legislation. • Recommended TEC guidance and clear reporting to support public confidence.
Department Response	• Proceeding as proposed. • Transparency concerns will be addressed through formal TEC guidance and clear public reporting requirements.

Reform 2: Enable the Tasmanian Electoral Commission to approve procedures for voting, including by telephone and electronic means, for interstate and overseas electors and electors with impediments to ordinary participation, or for other classes of person prescribed by regulation.

Reform Overview	• Allows TEC to authorise alternative voting methods (such as telephone, electronic) for specific elector groups. • Will improve accessibility for voters unable to use postal or attendance voting. • Applies to electors with disabilities, remote voters, and others prescribed by regulation.
Summary of Feedback	• General support for enhancing voting accessibility and flexibility. • TEC supports the reform but noted challenges with secrecy, verification, and delivery costs.

	• Some feedback stressed the need for clear eligibility criteria and secure systems. • Some concern about resource implications and consistency with other electoral laws.
Department Response	• Proceeding with reform. • TEC will determine eligible voter categories and implement secure methods. • Postal voting will remain available as a complementary option.

Reform 3: Legislate that the Tasmanian Electoral Commission is required to approve procedures in accordance with universal franchise principles, namely all electors, including electors with additional barriers to participation, are to be afforded an opportunity to vote in an independent, secret and verifiable manner.

Reform Overview	• Embeds principles of electoral access in legislation. • Requires that voting procedures approved by the TEC ensure all electors can vote independently, secretly, and verifiably. • Supports equitable participation in elections.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support for the principle of universal franchise. • TEC raised concerns about how some methods (such as telephone voting) may fall short of full independence or verifiability, and pragmatic application will be necessary in some cases. • Councils supported the principle but called for flexibility in implementation. • Some feedback noted this reform may create high compliance expectations that are hard to deliver in all cases.
Department Response	• Proceeding as proposed. • Framework will ensure TEC has latitude to apply the principles in a pragmatic and context-sensitive way.

Reform 4: Require the Electoral Commissioner to publish after each election a statement on the implementation of the accessibility principles, after information, including relevant statistics and initiatives undertaken to promote universal participation in the election.

Reform Overview	• Introduces a requirement for the TEC to report publicly on accessibility and inclusion measures after each election. • Aims to improve transparency and accountability for how elections support all electors, especially those facing participation barriers.
Summary of Feedback	• Support from councils and stakeholders. • Submissions noted it will promote continuous improvement and build public trust.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Reporting requirements will be designed to align with TEC's operational practices and existing data collection to minimise additional reporting burden while ensuring transparency around compliance with principles.

A better voting franchise for electors and changes to eligibility to run for office

Reform 5: Require that a person lodging a notice of nomination must have it supported by 30 electors entitled to vote in the relevant election.

Reform Overview	• Increases the nomination threshold to require 30 signatures (or one per cent of electors) supporting each candidate. • Aims to ensure candidates have a basic level of community backing and commitment before nominating.
Summary of Feedback	• Mixed feedback from the sector. • Some feedback stated the higher threshold as a reasonable filter for genuine candidates. • Concerns were raised that it may deter candidates in smaller communities or create an unnecessary barrier.

	• TEC raised concern around the increased administration workload to check enrolment. It has indicated that it is feasible but may impact timeframes and costs.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • The proposed increase in threshold is considered a modest and reasonable standard that affirms community support for nominees without creating undue burden or introducing a nomination fee.

Reform 6: Transfer responsibility for the maintenance of the General Manager's Roll to the Tasmanian Electoral Commission.

Reform Overview	• Shifts responsibility for the General Manager's Roll (GMR) from councils to the TEC and creates a new Local Government Electoral Roll. • Seeks to improve consistency, accuracy, and public confidence in the administration of local government elections.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support across councils, TEC, and stakeholders. • TEC supported the reform and noted alignment with their broader role in maintaining electoral integrity. • Councils welcomed the removal of administrative burden and supported centralised oversight.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • The TEC will be responsible for developing operational protocols to support the transition and ensure roll integrity.

Reform 7: Amend the definition of "occupier" for enrolment purposes, to refer to actual occupation and use, and clarify that tenants and licensees are occupiers for the purposes of the Act.

Reform Overview	• Clarifies the meaning of "occupier" for the purpose of enrolment on the General Manager's Roll. • Ensures eligibility includes tenants and licensees with genuine rights of occupation, not just property owners.

Summary of Feedback	• Widespread support for the reform. • Councils and individuals welcomed the clarification to improve fairness and remove ambiguity. • TEC supported the change.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • The updated definition will support consistent enrolment practices and inclusive participation across all councils.

Reform 8: Strengthen verification requirements for applications for enrolment on the General Manager's Roll.

Reform Overview	• Requires the TEC to apply more rigorous verification processes for enrolment on the General Manager's Roll. • Aims to ensure accuracy and integrity of the roll by confirming eligibility and preventing duplication.
Summary of Feedback	• Widespread support for the reform. • Stakeholders endorsed the need for improved verification to support trust in the electoral process. • Some submissions noted the importance of ensuring verification requirements remain proportionate and accessible.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • TEC will establish verification processes that balance roll integrity with administrative practicality and equity of access.

Reform 9: Expressly prohibit dual enrolment, and require a person enrolled on both the House of Assembly roll and the General Manager's Roll to be removed from the latter.

Reform Overview	• Prevents individuals from being enrolled on both the House of Assembly roll and the General Manager's Roll. • Ensures the principle of "one person, one vote" applies consistently in local government elections.

Summary of Feedback	• Broad support from councils, individuals, and TEC. • Submissions emphasised fairness, integrity, and democratic equality. • A small number of submissions called for further restriction of eligibility to exclude corporate nominees altogether. • TEC confirmed it can implement controls to enforce single enrolment.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Legislative provisions will reinforce one vote per person and support TEC compliance and enforcement systems.

Reform 10: Require new candidates to complete a pre-nomination training course approved by the Director of Local Government.

Reform Overview	• Requires all intending candidates (except incumbent councillors) to complete a prescribed training module before nominating. • Aims to improve candidate preparedness and understanding of local government roles and responsibilities.
Summary of Feedback	• Limited support across submissions. • Submissions highlighted the benefits of informed candidacy and improved governance. • Suggested the training be accessible online and available in multiple formats. • Some called for training to be required for all candidates, including incumbents, at the first election following the reform.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Training will be designed to be practical and inclusive, with consideration given to transitional arrangements for incumbent councillors.

Better quality of public information at elections

Reform 11: Require that the Tasmanian Electoral Commission provides all people submitting a notice of nomination the opportunity to provide a candidate information statement (in an approved format, providing prescribed information) and that the Commission is to publish candidate information through appropriate means.

Reform Overview	• Mandates the TEC to offer all candidates the opportunity to submit a candidate statement. • Requires the TEC to publish these statements in an accessible format to inform voters.
Summary of Feedback	• TEC noted it already provides this opportunity in practice and questioned the need to legislate it. • TEC suggested that candidate obligations (such as lodgement timing) remain their responsibility. • Some feedback supported legislating the requirement to ensure consistency and transparency. • Submissions emphasised that the published information helps voters make informed choices.
Department Response	• Reform **will not** proceed. • Candidates will still be able to lodge a candidate information statement under existing practices, however this will not be legislated.

Reform 12: Enable the Director of Local Government to publish council performance statements during election periods.

Reform Overview	• Enables the Director of Local Government to publish factual statements about council performance during an election period. • Intended to provide electors with accurate, non-political information that may support informed voting.
Summary of Feedback	• Concerns were raised about timing and the potential perception of political interference. • Much of the opposition feedback cited risks to the neutrality of the election period. • Some stakeholders supported improved transparency, but recommended performance reporting occur outside caretaker periods.
Department Response	• Reform **will not** proceed.

	• Transparency around council and councillor performance will be pursued through other mechanisms outside of the election period to avoid perceptions of influence or bias.

Reform 13: Establish that nomination by a registered party is to be included in the information published by the Tasmanian Electoral Commission and printed on the ballot paper.

Reform Overview	• Provides that candidates formally nominated by a registered political party would be identified as such on the ballot paper. • Aims to increase transparency by informing voters which candidates are officially endorsed by political parties.
Summary of Feedback	• Mixed feedback. • TEC opposed the reform, citing concerns about increased administrative complexity, and attendant cost increases (such as larger ballot papers).
Department Response	• Reform **will not** proceed. • Instead, information about party endorsement will be included in the legislated TEC candidate information booklet, ensuring voters are informed while avoiding additional ballot paper complexity and cost.

Reform 14: Provide for candidates whose nomination form is not lodged by a registered party to request to be identified with a group name.

Reform Overview	• Enables candidates to nominate a group or team name (other than a registered political party) for inclusion on the ballot paper. • Intended to reflect informal candidate alliances or teams.
Summary of Feedback	• Mixed feedback. • TEC opposed the reform, raising concerns about administrative complexity. • Some submissions expressed concern about the enforceability of naming conventions.

Department Response	• The Tasmanian Government has determined not to proceed with this reform. • Group or team names may be communicated through published candidate information and campaign materials, but not included on the ballot paper itself.

Strengthened donations disclosure and electoral advertising requirements

Reform 15: Introduce new prohibitions on the dissemination of misleading and deceptive statements (corresponding to the Electoral Act Review Final Report and the amended Section 197 of the *Electoral Act 2004*).

Reform Overview	• Aligns local government electoral law with the Electoral Act by prohibiting the publication of statements that are misleading or deceptive in relation to the election process. • Aims to protect electoral integrity and voter confidence.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support across submissions. • Submissions welcomed consistency with state election laws and the clarity this provides to candidates and electors.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • This measure strengthens trust in the election process and ensures consistency with other electoral frameworks.

Reform 16: Remove the general restriction on publishing a candidate's name or image without their consent.

Reform Overview	• Repeals an existing provision that prohibits the publication of a candidate's name or image without their consent. • Aligns local government elections with state and federal practices where no such restriction applies.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support across submissions. • A few submissions raised concerns about privacy and reputational risks.

Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • The change modernises the electoral framework and brings it into alignment with other jurisdictions while preserving broader legal protections.

Reform 17: Clarify the definition of electoral advertising.

Reform Overview	• Updates and clarifies what constitutes "electoral advertising" to ensure consistency and legal certainty. • Seeks to align definitions with the *Electoral Act 2004* and reduce ambiguity for candidates and regulators.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support from stakeholders. • Some councils and individuals requested that the definition remain broad enough to capture modern communication formats (such as social media, sponsored posts). • No significant concerns were raised.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • The updated definition will be aligned with the Electoral Act and supported by guidance from the TEC to ensure clarity and adaptability to emerging formats.

Reform 18: Provide that only a candidate, intending candidate, or a nominated person may incur electoral expenditure; expenditure by others to promote or procure election will be an offence.

Reform Overview	• Limits electoral expenditure to the candidate, intending candidate, or their formally nominated agent. • Aims to prevent unregulated third-party campaigning and increase transparency.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support from stakeholders. • Some concern about protecting candidates from liability for unauthorised third-party activity. • Some concern about how the reform will be adequately implemented.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Safeguards will be included to ensure candidates are not penalised for unauthorised third-party actions.

Reform 19: Institute authorisation requirements for electoral advertising and associated material.

Reform Overview	• Requires electoral advertising to include information identifying who authorised the material. • Aims to promote transparency and accountability in campaign communications.
Summary of Feedback	• Strong support from stakeholders. • Recognised as a standard integrity measure consistent with other jurisdictions. • No significant concerns raised.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Authorisation requirements will be clearly defined and enforced through TEC guidance.

Reform 20: Replace advertising expenditure limits with a general expenditure limit, with reference to the Legislative Council expenditure cap in the *Electoral Disclosure and Funding Act 2023.*

Reform Overview	• Replaces current advertising-specific limits with an overall cap on total electoral expenditure. • Aligns local government elections with Legislative Council spending rules.
Summary of Feedback	• General support from stakeholders. • Recognised as a clearer and more enforceable approach to managing campaign spending. • Some requests for detailed guidance on calculating and monitoring total expenditure.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Guidance will be developed to assist candidates in understanding and complying with the new expenditure cap.

Reform 21: Require that a candidate is to report expenditure made on their behalf in their electoral expenditure return, in the same manner as personal expenditure. The present requirement to attribute, in full, to each candidate featured in joint advertising will be retained.

Reform Overview	• Requires candidates to report not only their own spending but also any expenditure made on their behalf.

	• Confirms that shared advertising must be fully attributed to each candidate featured.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support across submissions. • Seen as improving transparency and accountability. • Some stakeholders noted the need for clear instructions on how to complete returns accurately.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Guidance will be provided to clarify reporting obligations, including shared advertising attribution.

Reform 22: Prohibit any person from incurring any expenditure for or on behalf of a registered party with a view to promoting or procuring the election of a candidate or intending candidate.

Reform Overview	• Prevents third parties from incurring expenditure on behalf of a registered party to influence election outcomes. • Aims to strengthen transparency and restrict indirect or unregulated campaign spending.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support across submissions. • Feedback noted the importance of ensuring consistency with other expenditure-related provisions.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Ensures electoral spending remains traceable and accountable.

Reform 23: Maintain the $50 threshold for the disclosure of gifts and benefits and extend this requirement from incumbent councillors to all candidates, who will be required to lodge donation returns with the Tasmanian Electoral Commission.

Reform Overview	• Extends donation disclosure obligations to all candidates. • Maintains the $50 threshold and introduces disclosure during the election period via the TEC website.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support across submissions. • Recognised as an important transparency measure. • Some noted administrative complexity and requested support for compliance.

Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • TEC will provide clear instructions and support tools to assist candidates with disclosure requirements.

Reform 24: Provide that it is an offence for a person other than a candidate or intending candidate to accept a gift or benefit for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of a candidate, or for the dominant purpose of influencing the way electors vote in an election; and that it is an offence to make a gift or donation to a person other than a candidate or intending candidate for this purpose.

Reform Overview	• Prohibits indirect donations through intermediaries or third parties. • Aims to ensure all electoral donations are transparent and reported through candidates.
Summary of Feedback	• Support from councils and individuals for closing donation loopholes. • TEC raised concerns about administrative complexity and suggested responsibility may be better placed with councils or OLG. • Some concern about enforceability and overlap with existing regulatory responsibilities.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Intended to provide a simpler alternative to third-party campaigner registration schemes. • Implementation details will consider TEC's role and administrative resourcing.

Reform 25: Provide that it is an offence for a councillor, intending candidate or candidate, at any time, to accept a donation for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of a candidate or intending candidate at a local government election:

- **over $50, including services or goods valued in kind, without recording the basic details of that donor**
- **over $50 in cash**
- **over $50 from a foreign donor.**

Reform Overview	• Introduces clear donation limits and record-keeping obligations. • Prohibits cash and foreign donations above $50 and ensures traceability.

Summary of Feedback	• Broad support for integrity and transparency purposes. • TEC raised concerns if they were required to manage disclosures across the council term, noting administrative complexity and precedent from other jurisdictions.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Gifts and donations for incumbent councillors will continue to be managed under the existing framework set out in the Local Government Act. • The TEC will not need to have a role in gifts and donations registers for councils outside of election periods.

Other changes to support the integrity of elections

Reform 26: Provide that a local government election or by-election may not be held such that the polling period overlaps the date of a Tasmanian or Australian Government parliamentary election.

Reform Overview	• Prevents overlap between local government elections and state or federal parliamentary elections. • Aims to avoid voter confusion and administrative pressure.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support for integrity and transparency purposes. • Recognised as a sensible measure to protect electoral integrity and manage resourcing.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Aligns with electoral best practice and supports efficient election delivery.

Reform 27: Provide the Tasmanian Electoral Commission with powers of investigation.

Reform Overview	• Grants the TEC investigative powers to enforce electoral laws effectively. • Intended to support stronger compliance and deterrence.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support across submissions. • Seen as necessary for the Commission to fulfil its expanded responsibilities.

	• Some feedback noted the need for clear scope and procedural safeguards.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Powers will be clearly defined to ensure fair and proportionate enforcement.

Reform 28: Align electoral offences and sanctions with those in the Electoral Act.

Reform Overview	• Aligns the offences and penalties in the Local Government Electoral framework with those in the *Electoral Act 2004*. • Aims to ensure consistency, fairness, and legal clarity across electoral systems.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support across submissions. • Viewed as necessary to streamline enforcement and promote consistent standards. • No significant concerns raised.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Consistent penalties will support better understanding and enforcement of electoral rules.

Reform 29: Provide a statutory caretaker framework, applying from the notice of election to the date of the issue of the certificate of election for all elections other than by-elections and countbacks.

Reform Overview	• Establishes a formal caretaker period during elections. • Aims to prevent councils from making major decisions that could influence electoral outcomes.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support across submissions. • Recognised as standard electoral practice that supports fairness and transparency. • Some submissions requested clarification on the caretaker timeframe and scope of decisions affected.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Guidance will clarify caretaker obligations and ensure consistent application across councils.

	• Caretaker provisions will be included in the *Local Government Act 1993,* as they relate to the operational decisions of councils as opposed to the conduct of elections.

Reform 30: Provide that during the caretaker period, prohibit a council from making any major policy or financial decisions, namely decisions:

- relating to the appointment, reappointment, remuneration or termination of a general manager (except acting appointments)
- committing the council to expenditure greater than 1 per cent of general revenue or $100,000 (whichever is greater)
- directing council resources to influence voting
- relating to matters that could reasonably be deferred, except for statutory or routine operational decisions.

Reform Overview	• Prohibits councils from making major decisions during the caretaker period to avoid perceptions of bias or misuse of position. • Defines clear limits on financial, staffing, and policy decisions.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support across submissions. • Seen as an important safeguard for electoral fairness. • Some councils requested clarification on what constitutes “routine operational” decisions.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Supporting guidance will be provided to ensure consistent and practical application.

Reform 31: Provide that during the caretaker period, it is an offence for a council to:

- publish any material promoting any candidate or group of candidates, or seeking to influence voters
- publish material related to the election other than information promoting participation or official electoral process information
- make council resources available to benefit one candidate over others.

Reform Overview	• Prohibits councils from using their platforms or resources to influence election outcomes during the caretaker period.

	• Ensures councils maintain neutrality.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support across submissions. • Seen as a necessary integrity safeguard. • Requests for guidance on acceptable communication during the period.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • TEC and OLG will develop guidance to support compliant council communication practices.

Reform 32: Provide that major policy or financial decisions of a council during the caretaker period are of no effect, and provide that persons who incur loss or damage due to an ineffectual decision of a council, who acted in good faith, are entitled to recover compensation from the council.

Reform Overview	• Invalidates major decisions made by councils during the caretaker period. • Allows compensation for affected parties who relied on such decisions in good faith.
Summary of Feedback	• Broad support across submissions. • Recognised as a necessary enforcement mechanism to support the caretaker provisions. • Some requests for further detail on liability and compensation processes.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Implementation will include guidance to councils on the operation of the framework. • Councils will remain responsible for obtaining their own legal or financial advice where required in relation to potential liability or compensation claims.

Reform 33: Increase the proportion of electors signing a petition required to compel a council to hold an elector poll to 20 per cent; while restricting the matters about which an elector poll may be held to matters with a legitimate connection to the exercise of a council's functions or powers or to the incorporation of the council, as determined by the council.

Reform Overview	• Raises the petition threshold for triggering elector polls and limits poll topics to council-related matters.

	• Aims to reduce misuse and align polls with council responsibilities.
Summary of Feedback	• Mixed feedback from councils and stakeholders. • Some supported the reform as a way to ensure elector polls remain focused and relevant. • Others raised concerns about restricting democratic participation and increasing the threshold too far.
Department Response	• Reform will proceed. • Clear criteria and explanatory materials will be developed to ensure community understanding and consistent application.

Appendix B: Personal Interest Return (PIR) Form (Draft Example Only)

Introduction

This form is issued under the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act) and must be completed by all Councillors. It is a requirement of the Act that Councillors disclose certain personal interests to ensure transparency and support public confidence in the integrity of local government decision-making.

The purpose of this disclosure is to:

- provide a clear record of interests that may conflict, or be perceived to conflict, with a Councillor's public duties
- support the effective management of conflicts of interest
- assist Councils in promoting good governance and accountability.

This return requires you to declare interests held by you and your spouse (including a person in a significant relationship as defined in the *Relationships Act 2003*) as at the primary return date, and to provide details of any income, property, positions, debts, memberships, contributions or other interests that meet the thresholds set out in the form.

You are also required to, where appropriate, indicate how any interests that could give rise to a conflict with your public duties will be managed. Your General Manager can help you decide whether management strategies are required to be listed.

Lodging a complete and accurate return is a legal obligation under the Act. If you are unsure about what to disclose or how to manage a declared interest, you are encouraged to seek independent legal or professional advice.

Directions

a) The interests you are required to disclose in this return are set out in legislation and apply to you, as the Councillor, and your spouse (including someone in a significant relationship as defined in the *Relationships Act 2003*).
b) You must complete and lodge a return even if you (and/or your spouse) have no interests to disclose. If you have nothing to declare, please indicate this by selecting 'No' at each question. All sections must be completed.
c) If there is not enough space in the form to provide all required details, please attach an appendix that is clearly numbered, signed and dated. Be sure to cross-reference the appendix in the relevant section of this form.
d) You may wish to seek independent legal, financial or other advice to assist you in understanding your obligations and ensuring your return is complete.

e) In this return, you must also, where appropriate, briefly describe how any disclosed interests that could give rise to a conflict of interest will be managed, including steps such as declaring interests at meetings, abstaining from decisions, or other appropriate actions.
f) Your completed return must be signed, dated and lodged with your General Manager or another authorised person.

Name of Councillor	
Council	
Date of Return	
Signature of Councillor	

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Part A. Sources of income

Have you, or your spouse, received or do you, or your spouse, expect to receive any income in the period between the primary return date and the next 30 June, excluding income received as a councillor allowance?

☐ No – continue to Part B

☐ Yes – provide particulars below

Explanatory notes

- 'Income' means assessable income under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* (Cth), including but not limited to: employment income, superannuation, pensions, annuities and government payments, investment income, business, partnership and trust income, and foreign income.
- A source of income only needs to be declared if you or your spouse received, or expect to receive, more than $500 from that source during the return period.
  - When disclosing income from your occupation, you must also provide:
    - a description of the occupation
    - the name and address of your employer, or a description of the office
    - the name of any partnership (if relevant).
- You do not need to disclose one-off sales of personal items (such as a second-hand car or household furniture) unless those sales are made in the course of a business or with the intent of making a profit.

Indicate the source of income (amounts are not necessary)

	Person or entity from which income was received or is expected to be received	**Why the income was/is expected to be received (For example: salary, investments, trusts, rental payments)**	**Details**
Example	Acme Consulting Pty Ltd	Salary	Policy Advisor Acme Consulting, 22 Example St, Hobart
Self			
Spouse			

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Part B. Land and real property

Have you, or your spouse, held an interest in land or real property as at the primary return date?

☐ No – continue to Part C

☐ Yes – provide particulars below

Explanatory notes

- This includes any ownership or beneficial interest in land (not as security for a debt) within the municipal district of the Council or an adjoining municipal district.
- You must provide:
  - the full address of the land (as it appears on council rates notices)
  - the purpose for which the land is held (such as residence, investment)
  - the nature of the interest (such as sole owner, joint tenant, trustee).

Exceptions

- You are **not required to disclose** an interest in land if:
  - You or your spouse hold the interest only as the executor or administrator of the estate of a deceased person, and you are not a beneficiary under the will or under intestacy.
  - You or your spouse hold the interest only as a trustee, and the interest was acquired in the ordinary course of a profession or occupation that is not related to your duties as a Councillor.

Example: If you are managing property as part of your work as an accountant or solicitor (unrelated to your Councillor role), and you hold the land only as a trustee, you do not need to declare it.

Complete the table below

	Full Address of Property	**Purpose (such as residence, investment)**	**Nature of Interest (such as sole owner, joint tenant, trustee)**
Example	12 Smith Street, Springvale TAS	Residential	Sole owner
Self			
Spouse			

Part C. Corporations and business interests

Have you, or your spouse, held any position or interest in a corporation, business, trust or other entity as at the primary return date, including in a fiduciary capacity (such as trustee or executor)?

This includes positions whether paid or unpaid.

☐ No – continue to Part D

☐ Yes – provide particulars below

Explanatory notes

- You must disclose the name and address of the corporation, business, partnership or trust, and describe your position or interest (such as director, shareholder, sole trader, trustee, partner).
- This applies regardless of whether or not you received payment for the role.
- This includes business interests carried out in your own name (such as sole trader or freelancer), or as part of a partnership or trust that carries on commercial activities.
- It also includes fiduciary roles where you or your spouse owe duties to act on behalf of another person or entity. For example, as:
  - a trustee of a private or family trust
  - an executor or administrator of a deceased estate (unless exempt)
  - a partner in a business or professional firm
  - a nominee with control or discretion over assets.
- Roles held purely as part of your professional occupation (such as solicitor acting for a client) **do not need to be declared** unless they involve control or decision-making powers over land or assets that may intersect with Council matters.

Exceptions

- You are not required to disclose an interest or position if the corporation is:
  - formed to provide recreation, charity, religion, art, science or other community purpose
  - required to apply all profits to its purpose (it cannot distribute profits)
  - prohibited from paying dividends to members.
- You are also not required to disclose an interest or position if you:

- Hold the position only in your professional capacity and have no discretion or control over relevant assets or decisions (such as an accountant lodging a BAS on behalf of a client).

Example: If you are on the board of a local community garden association that operates as a not-for-profit and does not distribute profits, you do **not** need to declare this role.

Additional guidance (superannuation funds)

- You are not required to declare shareholdings or interests held by a superannuation fund (such as a retail or industry fund) unless:
  - you personally control or direct the investment decisions of the fund (such as via a self-managed super fund)
  - or you are aware of a specific investment that may give rise to a conflict of interest (such as your fund is heavily invested in a company seeking Council approval for a development).
- In most cases, managed funds or pooled investments (such as those held via industry super funds) do not need to be declared, as individual holdings are not within your knowledge or control.

Complete the table below

	Name of Corporation	**Address**	**Nature of Interest / Position**
Example	Dovetail Accounting Trust	21 Harper Street, Moonville TAS	Self – Trustee and Beneficiary of family trust
Self			
Spouse			

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Part D. Liabilities and debts

Do you, or your spouse, owe money to any person or organisation as at the primary return date? This applies whether or not the debt was due or payable at that time.

☐ No – continue to Part E

☐ Yes – provide particulars below

Explanatory notes

- You must declare the name and address of any person or entity to whom you or your spouse owe a debt of $5,000 or more.
- This includes loans, credit agreements, or any other outstanding payments.

Exceptions

- You are **not** required to disclose a debt if:
  - The amount owed is less than $5,000, unless:
    - it is one of two or more debts owed to the same person during the return period and the total owed is $5,000 or more.
  - The debt is owed to a relative of the Councillor.
  - The debt is a loan of money and:
    - it is owed to a bank or authorised lender (someone whose usual business is lending money) and it was made in the ordinary course of business.
  - The debt is for goods or services provided:
    - during the period of 12 months immediately before the primary return date or during the annual return period
    - in the ordinary course of an occupation unrelated to your role as a Councillor (or your spouse's occupation).

Example: You do **not** need to declare a $3,000 loan from a bank or a $1,000 invoice from your mechanic, unless you owe the same mechanic several invoices totalling $5,000 or more.

Complete the table below

	Name of Creditor	**Address**	**Nature of Debt**
Example	John Smith	12 Hilltop Drive, New Town TAS	Private loan of $7,000 for vehicle repairs
Self			

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	Name of Creditor	**Address**	**Nature of Debt**
Spouse			

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Part E. Trade unions, associations, and political parties

Do you, or your spouse, currently hold a position (paid or unpaid) in any trade union, professional association, or business association?

☐ No – continue to Part F

☐ Yes – provide particulars below

Explanatory notes

- You must declare any position (such as member, delegate, board role) held by you or your spouse in a:
  - trade union
  - professional association
  - business association.
- This includes positions that are voluntary, unpaid or honorary.
- You must also declare the name of any political party of which you are a member.

Complete the table below

	Name of Organisation	**Position Held**
Example	Bank of Tasmania	101 Main St, Hobart
Self		
Spouse		

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Part F. Travel or accommodation contributions

Did you, or your spouse, receive any financial or other contribution (such as free or upgraded accommodation, flights, meals, or hospitality) in relation to any travel during the annual return period?

☐ No – continue to Part G

☐ Yes – provide particulars below

Explanatory notes

- You must disclose:
  - the name and address of the person or organisation who made the contribution
  - the dates, destinations, and purpose of the travel.

Exceptions

- You do **not** need to disclose a contribution if:
  - it was made from public funds (e.g. council-funded travel)
  - it was made by a relative
  - it was made in the ordinary course of another occupation (not related to your role as a Councillor or your spouse's occupation)
  - the value of the contribution did not exceed $250, unless:
    - more than one contribution was made by the same person in the return period and the total of those contributions exceeded $250.
  - it was made in a personal capacity, and it would not reasonably be seen as related to your role as a Councillor
  - it was made by a political party of which you are a member, and the travel was undertaken:
    - for political activity in Tasmania or to represent the party within Australia.

Note: A non-financial contribution (such as a gift or in-kind support) is treated as equal in value to what it would cost if paid for directly.

Complete the table below

	Name and Address of Contributor	**Type of Contribution (such as flight, hotel)**	**Dates of Travel**	**From/To Locations**
Example	Local Gov Assoc 2 Civic Way	Flights and accommodation	4–6 March	Hobart – Melbourne

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	Name and Address of Contributor	**Type of Contribution (such as flight, hotel)**	**Dates of Travel**	**From/To Locations**
Self				
Spouse				

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Part G. Dispositions of real property

Have you, or your spouse, transferred an interest in property during the return period but retained a benefit, or acquired a benefit from someone else's transfer?

☐ No – continue to Part H

☐ Yes – provide particulars below

Explanatory notes

- You must disclose:
  - any property you or your spouse disposed of (in whole or part) where you kept the right to use or benefit from the property
  - any property another person disposed of where you gained use or benefit (even if you don't legally own it).
- This includes arrangements where legal ownership changes, but you still use, access or benefit from the property in some way.

Complete the table below

	Property / Arrangement	**Nature of Benefit Retained or Acquired**
Example	Transfer of family shack	Continued right to occupy
Self		
Spouse		

Part H. Discretionary disclosures

Is there any other substantial interest (financial or otherwise) that could be seen as creating a conflict between your personal interests and your public duties as a Councillor?

☐ No – continue to Part I

☐ Yes – provide details below

Explanatory notes

- You must declare **any other significant interest** that:
  - you are aware of
  - might reasonably be seen to conflict with your public responsibilities as a Councillor.
- This includes interests held by you or by a related person or entity, even if the interest is not financial in nature.
- These may include unpaid or voluntary positions in clubs, associations, or community groups, particularly where those groups interact with Council (such as apply for funding, use Council facilities, or make submissions on Council decisions).
- **Example 1**: If a close family member owns a company that regularly tenders for Council contracts, or if you volunteer in a leadership role in a group advocating for decisions your Council makes, you may wish to disclose that interest here.
- **Example 2**: If you are the president of a local sporting club that applies for Council grants or leases Council-owned facilities, this may be a relevant interest to disclose.

Complete the table below

	Description of Interest
Example	My sister-in-law is CEO of a company that regularly tenders for council waste management contracts.
Self	
Spouse	

Part I. Declaration on management of interests

Briefly outline how you propose to manage any disclosed interests to ensure they do not conflict with your public duties as a Councillor.

This may include:

- recusal from specific Council decisions or meetings
- use of a formal conflict of interest register
- disclosure at the start of relevant proceedings
- other appropriate actions.

Complete the table below

	Interest (brief description)	**How the interest will be managed**
Example	Sister-in-law is CEO of council contractor	Will declare and not participate in any related procurement matters
Example	Joint owner of local business property	Will recuse from votes involving zoning or development in the area
Example	Member of planning industry association committee	Will declare interest at meetings dealing with industry regulation
Self		
Spouse		

Part J. Primary return appendix

- This appendix is provided for use if you need additional space to disclose information beyond what the standard Personal Interest Return form allows.
- Please clearly number, sign, and date each page you include as an appendix.
- Make sure each appendix page is cross-referenced to the relevant part of the Primary Return form.
- Example: If you have multiple income sources, land holdings, or corporation positions that don't fit within the main tables, use the appendix to continue your disclosures.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Drafted in the Office of
Parliamentary Counsel

TASMANIA

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT (ELECTORAL REFORMS) BILL 2025

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56K. Interpretation of Part
56L. Conduct of council during election period

13. Section 58 amended (Tabling petition)

14. Section 59 amended (Petitions seeking public meetings)

15. Section 60C amended (Petition requesting elector poll)

16. Section 214A amended (Scope of review)

17. Section 214E amended (Result of review)

18. Part 15 repealed

19. Schedules 6, 7 and 8 repealed

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT (ELECTORAL REFORMS) BILL 2025

(Brought in by the Minister for Local Government, the Honourable Kerry John Vincent)

A BILL FOR

An Act to amend the *Local Government Act 1993*

Be it enacted by Her Excellency the Governor of Tasmania, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and House of Assembly, in Parliament assembled, as follows:

1. Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Local Government Amendment (Electoral Reforms) Act 2025*.

2. Commencement

The provisions of this Act commence on a day or days to be proclaimed.

3. Repeal of Act

This Act is repealed on the first anniversary of the day on which the last uncommenced provision of this Act commenced.

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4. Principal Act

In this Act, the *Local Government Act 1993** is referred to as the Principal Act.

5. Section 3 amended (Interpretation)

Section 3 of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

(a) by omitting the definition of *ballot material*;

(b) by omitting the definition of *by-election*;

(c) by omitting the definition of *candidate* and substituting the following definition:

candidate means *candidate* as defined in the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*;

(d) by omitting the definition of *certificate of election*;

(e) by omitting the definition of *closing day*;

(f) by inserting "in accordance with the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*" after "council" in the definition of *councillor*;

(g) by omitting the definition of *declaration of a poll*;

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(h) by omitting the definitions of *election agent* and *elector*;

(i) by omitting the definitions of *electoral advertising* and *electoral area*;

(j) by omitting the definitions of *electoral material*, *electoral officer*, *electoral officer in charge* and *electoral roll*;

(k) by omitting ", in Part 15, includes a person nominated under section 253A" from the definition of *general manager* and substituting "includes a person nominated as the general manager under the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*";

(l) by omitting the definitions of *intending candidate* and *issuing place*;

(m) by omitting the definition of *list of electors*;

(n) by omitting ", in Part 15," from the definition of *municipal area*;

(o) by omitting the definitions of *nomination period*, *notice of election* and *ordinary election*;

(p) by omitting the definition of *polling period*;

(q) by omitting the definitions of *relevant period* and *returning officer*;

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(r) by omitting the definitions of *roll closure day* and *scrutineer*.

6. Section 25 amended (Constitution of council)

Section 25(1) of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "in accordance with Part 4." and substituting "in accordance with the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*.".

7. Section 28A amended (Information and documents relating to functions)

Section 28A(3) of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after paragraph (a) the following paragraph:

(ab) the general manager believes that the information –

(i) is not publicly available; and

(ii) is a matter in relation to which the councillor has completed a personal interest return under Part 5B; or

8. Part 4 repealed

Part 4 of the Principal Act is repealed.

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9. Section 51 amended (Close associate)

Section 51 of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after paragraph (g) the following paragraphs:

(ga) a person from whom the councillor or member has received a *gift or donation*, as defined in the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*, that has been disclosed by the councillor in accordance with Part 16 of that Act; or

(gb) a person from whom the councillor or member has received a gift or donation that is recorded in the register of gifts and donations referred to in section 56B(1); or

(gc) a relative of the councillor or member who resides with that councillor or member on a regular basis; or

10. Section 52 amended (Non-application of Part)

Section 52 of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

(a) by omitting paragraph (a) from subsection (1);

(b) by omitting paragraph (c) from subsection (1);

(c) by omitting paragraph (e) from subsection (2);

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(d) by inserting the following subsections after subsection (2):

(2A) It is a defence to a prosecution under this Part if the councillor charged reasonably believes that –

(a) the pecuniary interest of the councillor, being a pecuniary benefit received or reasonably expected to be received as a result of the decision in question, is one held in common with a substantial proportion of electors in the municipal area; and

(b) the extent of the councillor's pecuniary interest is not greater than the extent of the pecuniary interest that is held in common by that substantial proportion of electors.

(2B) It is a defence to a prosecution under this Part if the councillor or member charged reasonably believes that –

(a) the pecuniary interest of the councillor or member, being a pecuniary benefit

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received or reasonably expected to be received as a result of the decision in relation to an application or request for approval, authorisation, licence, permit, exemption or other right under this or any other Act, is one held in common with a substantial proportion of electors in the municipal area; and

(b) the extent of that pecuniary interest is not greater than the extent of the pecuniary interest that is held in common by that substantial proportion of electors.

(2C) It is a defence to a prosecution under this Part if the councillor or member charged reasonably believes that –

(a) the pecuniary interest of the councillor or member, being a beneficial interest in shares of a company or other body, is one held in common with a substantial proportion of electors in the municipal area; and

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(b) the extent of that pecuniary interest is not greater than the extent of the pecuniary interest that is held in common by that substantial proportion of electors.

11. Section 54 amended (Register of pecuniary interests of councillors)

Section 54 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting subsections (2) and (3) and substituting the following subsection:

(2) The general manager must publish the register of interests on the council's official website.

12. Parts 5B and 5C inserted

After section 56B of the Principal Act, the following Parts are inserted:

PART 5B – PERSONAL INTEREST RETURNS

56C. Interpretation of Part

In this Part –

associated person means, in relation to a councillor –

(a) the councillor's spouse or partner; or

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(b) a child or other member of the councillor's family who ordinarily resides with the councillor; or

(c) any body corporate or trust in which the councillor or a person referred to in paragraph (a) or (b) has a controlling interest;

non-pecuniary interest means an interest that does not involve financial gain or loss but arises from personal relationships, affiliations or beliefs that may influence a person's decision making;

pecuniary interest means an interest that a person has in a matter if there is a reasonable likelihood or expectation of financial gain or loss, whether direct or indirect, to the person or to an associated person;

personal interest return means a return completed by a councillor under this Part, in the form and containing the information specified in a personal interest return order, and includes a revised personal interest return lodged under this Part;

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personal interest return order means an order made under section 56E specifying the form, content and procedural requirements for personal interest returns.

56D. Lodgement of personal interest returns

A councillor must lodge a completed personal interest return with the general manager –

(a) within 28 days after the date on which the certificate of election, as defined in the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*, is issued in respect of the councillor; and

(b) on or before 31 July in each subsequent year in which the person holds office as a councillor.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 100 penalty units.

56E. Personal interest return order

(1) The Governor, on the recommendation of the Minister, may make an order specifying –

(a) the form and content of a personal interest return; and

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(b) the matters that are to be disclosed in a personal interest return; and

(c) any procedural or administrative requirements relating to the lodgement of personal interest returns.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), an order may specify the following matters:

(a) the assets and classes of assets to be disclosed, including real property and financial interests;

(b) the liabilities and classes of liabilities to be disclosed;

(c) the associated persons and classes of persons whose interests are to be disclosed, including individuals, bodies corporate and trustees;

(d) employment, offices and other sources of income to be disclosed;

(e) gifts, donations or contributions to other entities, and the classes of such gifts, donations or contributions, to be disclosed;

(f) memberships of associations, including trade or professional associations, political parties and

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other organisations to be disclosed;

(g) thresholds for disclosure and time periods to which the disclosures relate;

(h) management strategies to be documented by councillors for managing actual, potential or perceived pecuniary interests or non-pecuniary interests arising from the matters disclosed;

(i) the information to be withheld from publication under section 56G(b).

(3) The Minister may amend, revoke or revoke and substitute an order.

(4) Before recommending that an order be made, amended or revoked, the Minister must consult with councils.

(5) An order is a statutory rule within the meaning of the *Rules Publication Act 1953*.

(6) An order is subordinate legislation for the purposes of the *Subordinate Legislation Act 1992*.

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56F. Requirement to submit revised personal interest return

(1) The general manager may, by written notice to a councillor, require the councillor to submit a revised personal interest return if the general manager reasonably believes that a return lodged by the councillor –

(a) is incomplete or does not comply with the requirements of this Part; or

(b) contains an error.

(2) A councillor must submit a revised personal interest return within 14 days after receiving the notice under subsection (1).

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 50 penalty units.

56G. Publication of personal interest returns

The general manager must publish each personal interest return, and any revised personal interest return, on the council's official website –

(a) as soon as practicable after it is lodged; and

(b) in accordance with any requirements or exemptions specified in the personal interest

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return order in relation to the publication of information contained in a personal interest return.

56H. Restriction on access to non-public information

(1) The general manager must not provide to a councillor any information, other than information included on a public agenda or otherwise available to members of the public, if it is reasonably apparent to the general manager, from a personal interest return or other information known to the general manager, that the councillor has a pecuniary interest in the matter.

(2) A councillor must not seek or obtain information, other than information included on a public agenda or otherwise available to members of the public, if the councillor has, or is likely to have, a pecuniary interest in the matter were it to be considered by the council or a council committee.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 100 penalty units.

56I. Retention of personal interest returns

The council must retain each personal interest return, and each revised personal interest return, until 2 years after the

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expiration of the term of the council during which the return was lodged.

56J. Offences

(1) A councillor must not –

(a) provide information in a personal interest return that the councillor knows is false or misleading in a material particular; or

(b) omit from a personal interest return any information knowing that the omission renders the return misleading; or

(c) fail to lodge a personal interest return or a revised personal interest return, within the period specified under this Part, with the intention of avoiding disclosure of a pecuniary interest.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 100 penalty units.

(2) In addition to any penalty imposed under this section, a court may make an order –

(a) barring the councillor from nominating as a candidate at any election for a period not exceeding 7 years; and

(b) dismissing the councillor from office.

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PART 5C – CONDUCT OF COUNCIL DURING ELECTION PERIOD

56K. Interpretation of Part

In this Part –

election period, in relation to an election conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*, other than a by-election or a recount within the meaning of that Act, means the period –

(a) commencing on the date and time of the closure of an *electoral roll*, as defined in the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*, that is specified in a *notice of election* as defined in that Act; and

(b) ending on the date on which the *certificate of election*, as defined in the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*, for the election conducted in accordance with that Act is issued;

prohibited decisions means a decision by a council –

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(a) that relates to the appointment, reappointment or remuneration of a general manager, other than the appointment, reappointment or remuneration of an acting general manager; or

(b) that relates to the termination of a general manager; or

(c) to enter into a contract, arrangement or agreement the total value of which exceeds whichever is the greater of –

(i) $100 000; or

(ii) 1% of the council's revenue from general and service rating and fees and charges in the preceding financial year; or

(d) that would enable the use of council resources in a way that is intended to influence, or is likely to influence, voting at an election conducted in

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accordance with the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*; or

(e) that relates to a matter, that is not of a routine or operational nature, that could be reasonably deferred until the election period ends –

but does not include a decision by the council required or authorised by or under any law to be made within a timeframe prescribed by or under that law.

56L. Conduct of council during election period

(1) During an election period a council must not –

(a) use council resources for the advantage of a particular candidate, or group of candidates; or

(b) publish any information in any format which promotes any candidate or group of candidates; or

(c) publish any information in any format in relation to the election, conducted in accordance with the *Local Government Electoral Act*

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2025, other than information published by the Electoral Commissioner; or

(d) make council resources available for the advantage of a particular candidate, which are not equally available to all candidates.

Penalty: Fine not exceeding 100 penalty units.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), a council must not make a prohibited decision during an election period.

(3) If a council is satisfied that it is necessary and in the public interest for a prohibited decision to be made during an election period, the council may make an application to the Minister for an exemption from the application of this section to the prohibited decision specified in the application.

(4) An application under subsection (3) must –

(a) be in writing; and

(b) set out the reasons why the prohibited decision must be made by the council during the election period.

(5) On receipt of an application under subsection (3), if the Minister is satisfied

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that there are extraordinary circumstances, the Minister may grant an exemption from the application of this section to the prohibited decision specified in the application, subject to any conditions or limitations that the Minister considers appropriate.

(6) A prohibited decision made by a council in contravention of this section is invalid.

(7) Any person who suffers loss or damage as a result of acting in good faith on a prohibited decision made in contravention of this section is entitled to compensation from the council for that loss or damage.

13. Section 58 amended (Tabling petition)

Section 58 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting subsection (3) and substituting the following subsection:

(3) A general manger is only required to table a petition if the general manager is satisfied that the petition –

(a) relates to the functions and powers of the council; or

(b) relates to the incorporation of the council.

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14. Section 59 amended (Petitions seeking public meetings)

Section 59 of the Principal Act is amended by omitting subsection (2) and substituting the following subsection:

(2) A council must hold a public meeting if the petition complies with section 57 and section 58(3) and it is signed by at least 20% of the electors in the municipal area.

15. Section 60C amended (Petition requesting elector poll)

Section 60C(1)(b) of the Principal Act is amended by omitting "least 5% of the electors in the municipal area or 1 000 of those electors, whichever is the lesser" and substituting "least 20% of the electors in the municipal area".

16. Section 214A amended (Scope of review)

Section 214A of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

(a) by inserting in paragraph (j) "in accordance with the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*" after "area";

(b) by inserting in paragraph (k) "in accordance with the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*" after "district".

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17. Section 214E amended (Result of review)

Section 214E of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

(a) by omitting from subsection (2) "closing day, within the meaning of Part 15" and substituting "*closing day* within the meaning of the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*";

(b) by omitting from subsection (7) "in accordance with Part 15 and any regulations made for the purpose of that Part" and substituting "in accordance with the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*".

18. Part 15 repealed

Part 15 of the Principal Act is repealed.

19. Schedules 6, 7 and 8 repealed

Schedules 6, 7 and 8 to the Principal Act are repealed.

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Local Government Electoral Bill 2025

Overview of key reforms by Part

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
2 - ELECTION OF MAYORS, DEPUTY MAYORS AND COUNCILLORS	Provides for the election of the Deputy Mayor 'around the table' by councillors, rather than by direct elector ballot. This must be done by vote of the council (simple majority), and within the first two general meetings of council. The Bill allows councils to determine the term of deputy mayor to be either the term of council or a lesser period.	At GSBC it is not considered the election of the deputy mayor by elector ballot is a significant financial impost therefore council is equally comfortable if it is determined to continue using the elector ballot . There is a view that should the election of the deputy mayor revert to 'around the table' it would be preferable for the election not to occur at the first meeting of a new council, thereby allowing new councillors an opportunity to 'meet and get to know each other' before being asked to either nominate for and/or vote for one of their colleagues as deputy mayor. Changing the timeframe from 'within the first two general meetings' to 'within the first three general meetings' is suggested. GSBC supports the proposal for councils to determine the length of the term which is to apply to the deputy mayor's appointment.

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
3 - ELECTORS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL ROLLS	Amends the definition of "occupier" for enrolment purposes, to refer to actual occupation and use, and clarify that tenants and licensees are occupiers for the purposes of the Act.	Supported
	Preserves a supplementary roll ('general manager's roll') for electors not entitled to be on the House of Assembly (HoA) Roll in respect of an electoral area, as well as clear and consistent criteria for applying to be on this roll. This supplementary roll is now named the Local Government Electoral Roll. This roll is for persons with property-based entitlements (landowners/occupiers, corporate bodies) and non-citizen electors *who have lived in the electoral area for a continued period of at least 12 months.* Provides that responsibility for keeping and maintaining the supplementary rolls for electoral areas is to transfer to the TEC (currently council General Managers must maintain their council's supplementary rolls).	Supported Supported Supported GSBC agrees the Electoral Commissioner is better placed to maintain the renamed Local Government Electoral Roll. There is some concern that the costs for promoting and maintaining the Roll is unknown and therefore could result in an additional financial cost being passed onto councils.

	Tightens the criteria for who can nominate to vote on behalf of corporate bodies, including that they: • Must not be a director or the secretary of the corporate body • Must not be already enrolled on the HoA roll for the electoral area • Not be the corporate body nominee for another corporate body in the same area.	Supported
	Provides for 'one vote, one value' by providing that each elector is entitled to one vote in an election for an electoral area. This changes the current situation where a person may have up to two votes (e.g. one in their own right, and one on behalf of a body corporate).	Supported

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
4 – COMPULSORY VOTING	Preserves compulsory voting for those on the HoA roll (status quo). Voting remains optional for electors on the supplementary Local Government Electoral Roll.	Council supports compulsory voting for electors on the House of Assembly Roll. Council supports voluntary (optional) voting for those electors on the proposed new Local Government Electoral Roll (formerly the General Managers Roll).

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
5 – METHOD OF ELECTION, ISSUING AND RECEIVING PLACES, POLLING PLACES AND ELECTION OFFICIALS	Reduces prescription and introduces flexibility to 'future proof' elections, allowing the Electoral Commissioner to determine the method of voting at an election. This can include one or more methods, including attendance voting at a polling place and/or postal voting (including provision and receipt of ballots in person and by mail). These provisions provide flexibility for the Commissioner to determine multiple methods of voting, supporting the position of moving to a hybrid postal electoral format, allowing for continued mail voting, with provision of pre-polling and polling places for in-person completion of ballots. Provides for the postal method (allowing for and encouraging for hand returns) as the default election method and allows for an attendance ballot only where the Commissioner is satisfied available postal services are inadequate to ensure the reliable conduct of the election by postal ballot, a postal ballot would be more expensive to conduct than an attendance ballot. The Commissioner will be required to issue a notice as to the chosen method of election at least six months in advance of the notice of an election.	Although it is noted continuation of the postal method is the default election method, there is some concern that should the Electoral Commissioner change the method and/or introduce additional methods of voting, this could result in additional financial costs being passed onto councils. Council supports the use of voting methods which ensures 'inclusivity' for all electors. Noting the Electoral Commissioner will be required to issue a notice as to the chosen method of election at least six months in advance of the notice of election, therefore it is assumed alternative voting procedures will not be contemplated for by-elections.

	Preserves issuing and receiving places, which allow for issue and return of ballots during mail (or hybrid) elections. Provisions from the *Local Government Act 1993* are expanded for accessibility, including allowing the Electoral Commissioner to appoint a hospital, convalescent home, nursing home or other similar place at which a mobile facility may be operated as an issuing and receiving place – similar to polling place provisions in the *Electoral Act 2004*.	
	Allows for appointment of polling places, pre-poll polling places and mobile polling places in the event of an attendance ballot. Accessibility provisions mirror those for issuing and receiving places. There is also an additional clause (35) which provides for assistance to vote at a polling place to be provided for those who need it.	Supported Supported

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
PART 6 – NOTICES OF ELECTIONS AND NOMINATIONS	Provides that a local government election or by-election may not be held such that the polling period overlaps the date of a Tasmanian or Australian Government parliamentary election.	Supported
	Provides for continuation of non-citizen voting via the supplementary roll, while requiring candidates for council to be Australian citizens eligible to vote in parliamentary elections.	Supported
	Retains a single-phase nomination process, with additional requirements in the notice of nomination – including: • A statement as to whether or not the candidate is formally endorsed by a registered party or is running under a group name not associated with a party. • An attestation that a candidate has completed the proposed mandatory pre-election training module. (does not apply to incumbent councillors). A notice of nomination must also be signed by at least 30 electors or 1% of electors in the municipal area (whichever is smaller). Currently a notice of nomination must be signed by only two electors.	Supported providing it is not extended to require a candidate who is a 'member' of a party to disclose that information as part of the nomination process. Supported – ensuring that candidates have at a minimum completed 'pre-election training' should improve the knowledge and understanding of what the role of councillor entails. There are mixed views on whether it is necessary/appropriate to require additional nomination signatures to that which already exists.

	Requires the TEC to publish and distribute a candidate information package. This is currently done as a matter of convention and is the primary way electors become aware of the range of candidates, their reasons for seeking election, views and propositions. However, this is currently not a part of the formal legislative framework. At a minimum, this will include for each candidate - the candidate's name, a personal statement (if provided), and whether the candidate is endorsed by a registered party, running under a group name or is an independent candidate. This information is gathered as part of the notice of nomination.	Supported Supported

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
PART 7 – VOTING AND BALLOTS	Provides guidance around ballot material, and provisions on issuing, completing and returning ballots based on various election methods enabled under Part 6.	Supported

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
PART 9 – ALTERNATIVE VOTING PROCEDURES	This is a broad Part which allows the Electoral Commission to approve and deliver alternative voting procedures for classes of electors who face barriers to traditional means of voting. This includes, but is not limited to electronic voting methods such as online voting or voting by telephone. This supports universal franchise principles, consistent with recent reforms to the State *Electoral Act 2004*.	Ensuring all electors have access to participate in local government elections is strongly supported.
	Requires the TEC to approve procedures which enable and support accessible voting practices for electors with additional barriers to participation. The TEC is also required to publish after each election a statement on the implementation of the accessibility principles.	Supported Supported

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
PART 12 – OFFENCES RELATING TO ELECTIONS	Introduces a range of offences related to polling and conduct at polling places consistent with the *Electoral Act 2004*, while also retaining offences relating to elections under the LG Act. It also contains offences relating to electoral bribery and treating and intimidation.	Supported

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
PART 13 – INVESTIGATORY POWERS	Provides standard investigatory powers for the Electoral Commissioner (or authorised officers) – consistent again with the *Electoral Act 2004.* This includes: • Power to enter and inspect places • Power to require production of documents or information • Power to seize and detain • Power to require attendance and questioning	Supported

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
PART 14 – ELECTORAL ADVERTISING AND PUBLICATION OF ELECTORAL MATTER	Introduces new prohibitions on the dissemination of misleading and deceptive statements (corresponding to the Electoral Act Review Final Report and the amended section 197 of the *Electoral Act 2004*).	Supported
	Repeals an existing provision that prohibits the publication of a candidate's name or image without their consent. This aligns local government elections with state and federal practices where no such restriction applies.	Supported There is a view that if 'how to vote' cards which specifically names any candidate/s apart from the individual, there should be a requirement for the consent of each of the named candidates to be obtained prior to printing/distribution.
	Updates and clarifies what constitutes "electoral advertising" to ensure consistency and legal certainty. Seeks to align definitions with the *Electoral Act 2004* and reduce ambiguity for candidates and regulators.	Supported
	Requires electoral advertising to include information identifying who authorised the material. Aims to promote transparency and accountability in campaign communications.	Supported

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
PART 15 – ELECTORAL EXPENDITURE	Limits electoral expenditure to the candidate, intending candidate, or their formally nominated agent. Aims to prevent unregulated third-party campaigning and increase transparency.	Supported
	Replaces current advertising-specific limits with an overall cap on total electoral expenditure. Aligns local government elections with Legislative Council spending rules. Expenditure caps are as follows: • for a candidate for election to the Hobart City Council, Clarence City Council, Glenorchy City Council, Kingborough Council or Launceston City Council – $16 000 plus the applicable annual increment for that financial year. • for a candidate for election to any other council – $10 000 plus the applicable annual increment for that financial year. The annual increment is a cumulative increase to this limit of $500 every year for the councils referred to in the first bullet point, and $300 for all other councils, applying annually from 1 July 2027.	Supported

	Requires candidates to report not only their own spending but also any expenditure made on their behalf. Confirms that shared advertising must be fully attributed to each candidate featured.	Supported Councillors in the majority agree that any shared advertising should be apportioned equally to those candidates involved, rather than what appears to be proposed whereby each candidate featured is to include the total expenditure in each of their individual returns. As an example, if say 5 candidates were to agree to joint advertising with a total cost of $5,000, each of the candidates would be required to declare $5,000 in their individual expenditure returns, when in reality the actual cost to the candidate was only $1,000. Conversely the alternate view supporting total costs being declared in full on each candidates expenditure returns on the basis it would likely have equal benefits to each of the candidates included in the advertising material.
	Prevents third parties from incurring expenditure on behalf of a registered party to influence election outcomes (strengthens transparency and restricts indirect or unregulated campaign spending).	Supported

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
PART 16 – GIFTS AND DONATIONS	Extends gift and donation disclosure obligations to all candidates. Maintains the $50 threshold and introduces disclosure via the TEC website during the election period.	Supported – ensuring there is an accessible and easy to use disclosure system implemented by the TEC will be important.
	Prohibits indirect donations through intermediaries or third parties (ensuring all electoral donations are transparent and reported through candidates).	Supported

Local Government Amendment (Electoral Reforms) Bill 2025

Overview of key reforms by Part

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
5 – PECUNIARY INTERESTS	Expands the definition of a close associate to a councillor to include: • a person who has provided a gift or donation (as defined in the *Local Government Electoral Act 2025*); • a relative of the councillor or member who resides with that councillor or member on a regular basis.	Supported
	Establishes defence provisions for a councillor where they believe a pecuniary interest (where they receive or expect to receive a pecuniary benefit) is one held with a substantial proportion of electors in the municipality (meaning at least 5% or 1 000 electors, whichever is the lesser). This defence also applies to an application or request for approval, authorisation, licence, permit, exemption or other right, or beneficial interest in shares of a company or other body.	Supported

	Requires that the existing register of pecuniary interests kept by the general manager to be published on a council's website.	There are mixed views in relation to publishing the existing register of pecuniary interests kept by the general manager on the council website. Although some see this as providing a higher level of transparency, others believe that the current provision under the *Local Government Act 1993* (s.54(2)) whereby *'a person, by notice in writing to the general manager, may apply to inspect the register of interests'* is already sufficient.

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
5B – PERSONAL INTEREST RETURNS	This is an entirely new Part which requires a councillor to lodge a personal interest return (PIR) with the general manager, within 28 days after a certificate of election is issued.	The majority of councillors are opposed to the introduction of the Personal Interest Return (PIR) in its current form. A contrary view expressed was that the PIR would provide a greater level of transparency and public accountability. Although the PIR is similar to what is required to be completed annually by members of parliament, the role of councillor does not have the same level of remuneration and therefore being required to provide this level of personal information publicly, especially in relation to spouses could be considered an invasion of privacy. Although Council can see the merit in the General Manager having sufficient information available to assist councillors in managing any conflicts of interest, the current PIR as drafted is not

		considered appropriate at the local government level and may act as a deterrent to some people from seeking election.
	A PIR is to be made by Ministerial Order – and may specify a range of matters including: • the assets and classes of assets to be disclosed, including real property and financial interests; • the liabilities and classes of liabilities to be disclosed; • the associated persons and classes of persons whose interests are to be disclosed, including individuals, bodies corporate and trustees; • employment, offices and other sources of income to be disclosed; • gifts, donations or contributions to other entities, and the classes of such gifts, donations or contributions, to be disclosed; • memberships of associations, including trade or professional associations, political parties and other organisations to be disclosed; • thresholds for disclosure and time periods to which the disclosures relate; • management strategies to be documented by councillors for managing actual, potential or perceived pecuniary interests or non-pecuniary interests arising from the matters disclosed. As with all Orders pertaining to councils, the Minister must consult with councils before amending, revoking or substituting the PIR.	The PIR as currently drafted requires the full address details of land and real property. This is inconsistent with the requirements for Tasmanian parliamentarians who are only required to include 'suburb or locality and postcode'. The standard being required for councillors should not be any greater than State parliamentarians. Part D of the draft PIR requires the names, addresses and nature of debts to be disclosed. Listing this information on a publicly available form without the consent of the person/business being named needs to be considered further – does this raise any privacy issues? It is also noted that the HoA disclosure form only requires the name or entity and address (suburb and postcode if an individual, full head office address if a corporation). Noting the Minister is required to consult with councils prior to making a Ministerial Order, the council does not see the PIR as a priority at this stage and believes there should be further consultation with local government before this aspect of the proposed electoral changes are further considered.

	Note: a draft PIR has been released alongside the consultation draft legislation package.	
	The general manager must publish each personal interest return, and any revised personal interest return, on the council's official website as soon as practicable after it's lodgement.	A revised disclosure is preferred, one that is not publicly available on a councils website but can be inspected via application to the General Manager, similar to Part 5 – Pecuniary Interests provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993*.
	The general manager must not provide to a councillor any information, other than information included on a public agenda or otherwise available to members of the public, if it is reasonably apparent to the general manager, from a personal interest return or other information known to the general manager, that the councillor has a pecuniary interest in the matter. Likewise, a councillor must not seek to obtain any information on the above grounds.	Supported
	The council must retain each personal interest return, and each revised personal interest return, until 2 years after the expiration of the term of the council during which the return was lodged.	There should be further consultation with local government before this aspect of the proposed electoral changes are further considered.
	Offence provisions are included for providing false information, omitting known information, or refusal to lodge a PIR.	There should be further consultation with local government before this aspect of the proposed electoral changes are further considered.

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**

PART 5C - Conduct of Council During Election Period	This Part introduces 'caretaker' provisions related to the conduct of councils during election periods. During an election period a council cannot make any decision defined as a 'prohibited decision'. This includes a decision:
	• that relates to the appointment, reappointment or the remuneration of a general manager, other than the appointment, reappointment or remuneration of an acting general manager
	• that relates to the termination of a general manager
	• to enter into a contract, arrangement or agreement the total value of which exceeds whichever is the greater of –
	  ○ $100 000; or
	  ○ 1% of the council's revenue from general and service rating and fees and charges in the preceding financial year
	• that would enable the use of council resources in a way that is intended to influence, or is likely to influence, voting at a council election.
	
	A council may, if they determine it is necessary and in the public interest for a prohibited decision to be made during an election period, make an application to the Minister for an exemption.
	
	Prohibited decisions do not apply to decisions or actions required by councils under statutory timeframes.
		Council supports the introduction of 'caretaker' provisions.
		
		Clarity should be provided that ensures the General Manager can continue to make delegated decisions relating to contracts, arrangements or agreements and that the caretaker provisions only apply to matters which are ordinarily referred to a council for formal decision.

	This Part also prohibits the use of any council resources or publication of information promoting or advantaging a particular candidate or group of candidates. It also prohibits councils from making resources available that advantage a candidate which are not equally available to all candidates. Information in relation to an election can only be published if it has been published by the Electoral Commission.	

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
PART 6 – PETITIONS, POLLS AND PUBLIC MEETINGS	The threshold for petitions requesting elector polls or public meetings has been raised to 20% of electors (from 5% or 1,000 electors, whichever is lesser).	Supported

Part	Key Reform	**Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Response**
GENERAL CHANGES	Electoral parts are repealed and replaced by the new standalone *Electoral Bill* – including: • Part 4 – Elections • Part 15 – Council elections.	Supported

Annexure 1 – Detailed commentary on draft Southern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy

Context

The Glamorgan Spring Bay municipality contains areas with natural values, resources and a network of towns and villages largely based on the extensive coastline that provides a significant backdrop for the Great Eastern Drive and tourism sector.

Key issues across our municipality include:

- the conversion of many shack settlements to permanent residential and visitor towns;
- an increasingly older population, with average and median ages projected to increase;
- significantly higher vacant dwelling rate (holiday and second homes) than most of the region, including visitor accommodation in more recent years (state average 11.8%, Triabunna 27%, Swansea 36%, Bicheno 50%, Orford 67%, Coles Bay 74%);
- significant tourism visitation numbers, with Freycinet, Maria Island, a high profile viticulture sector and the Great Eastern Drive;
- a significant temporary population that is recognised for economic gain, but not for the impact it has on essential/discretionary/medical/ social services, infrastructure and the ability to provide long term accommodation or permanent dwellings for residents and workers; and
- very limited provision of aged care facilities, with the only facility located at May Shaw in Swansea.

Analysis of ABS data identifies that Glamorgan Spring Bay has the highest dwelling approvals across the southern region, when compared on a population basis (permanent population, ABS data 2013-2023) as shown in Figure 1.

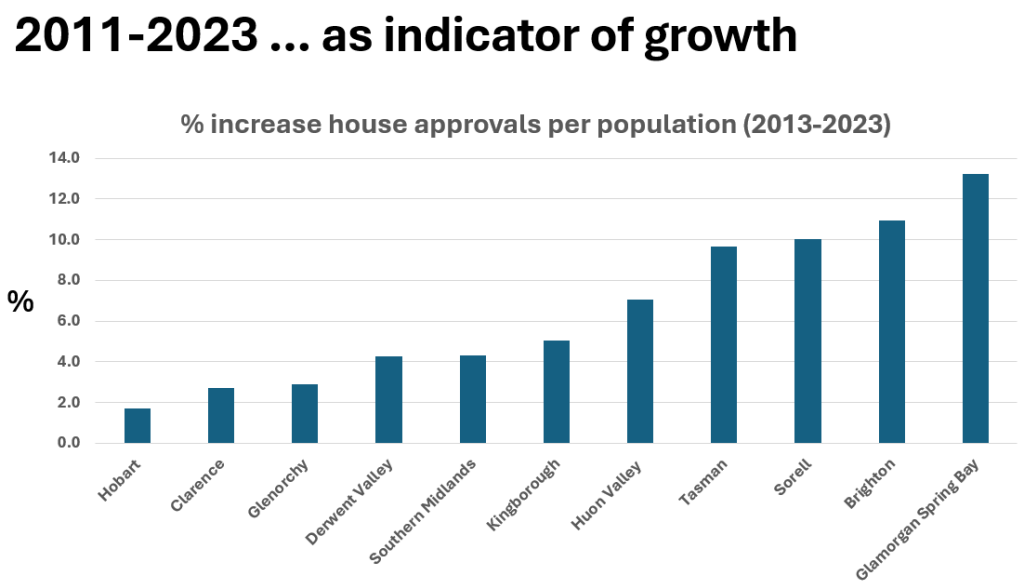

Figure 1 – Regional dwelling approvals by population based on ABS data

General observations

- The document contains many strategies that read as if they are planning scheme provisions for assessment of a specific application on a specific site. They do not establish a regional intent or outcome to be addressed, or alternatively relate to the way that use and development must be regulated under the State Planning Provisions;
- The requirements to identify and map things require a general response similar to a recrafted 3.3.2.2(a) that applies to the policy area or direction from State on the mapping through revisions to enable the mapping to be done through the State Planning Provisions or through the Section 8A Guideline;
- Many of the figures and diagrams are not clearly executed and are unreadable at the intended scale within the document, with inconsistencies in and between the legend and the associated diagram;
- Many maps have unreadable components, such as a pale grey background and white road corridors;
- Punctuation needs attention as it appears to be changing the intent of some statements;
- Absolute language such as *does not* or *avoid* has no place in this document. Absolute statements should be either addressed through the State Planning Provisions (SPPs) or a regionally developed strategy that provides a basis for/supports interventions to the STRLUS;
- A clear definition is required for what needs to be considered to identify a range of issues, such as significant agricultural land, scenic landscapes, protocols for

engagement with First Nations or regional biodiversity corridors. This may be done through a Section 8A Guideline;

- The lack of the Implementation Strategy for the consultation phase makes informed consideration of the growth and other sections difficult as we are forced to rely on assumptions;
- Many strategies require consultation with State agencies or entities. Any lack of engagement by these entities may compromise the ability to demonstrate compliance with the relevant strategies. The Implementation Plan will need to establish a protocol for this potential outcome, including a scenario if they are unwilling or unable to agree or provide any required data or information;
- There are many issues that do not have sufficient available information or supporting guidelines to provide informed comment on their implications to the region and the member councils. This creates significant risk that Councils will be required to deal with those issues as part of planning scheme amendments in terms of resources, action and/or guidance. Examples include the Regional Biodiversity Corridors, regional landscape assessment and the entire conversation to reconcile Aboriginal Heritage with the TPPs, RLUS and TPS; and
- There remains a significant risk that the draft STRLUS will shift a lot of the obligations for implementation of the TPPs to the LG sector due to the statutory requirements for assessment of planning scheme amendments and implementation of both the STRLUS and Tasmanian Planning Policies. The Implementation Plan may need to address this.
- There are clear requirements for supporting documents that go beyond the implementation plan, including action plans to deal with those issues where additional work is required by the State to implement a policy area or specific requirements, or the region needs to advocate for work and funding to be completed at the regional or subregional level. Examples include:
    - Mechanisms to recognise or deliver regional or sub-regional initiatives such as biodiversity corridors, priority growth corridors, strategic transport connections or education to industry/community on relevant issues;
    - A strategic assessment of potential measures and initiatives to address the ageing population trend and attract the relevant age cohorts that are required to address structural population ageing and sustain long term economic activity and growth;
    - Review of the regional activity centre hierarchy based on economic and strategic analysis and growth scenarios;
    - Protocols for the regional sharing of required data to monitor progress, such as available land supply, creation of new lots, the occupation of dwellings and other uses to address the strategic provision of land and infrastructure for residential, commercial, industrial and other uses;
    - Consultation and engagement to establish the protocols and terms to enable implementation of 3.6.2.1 Aboriginal cultural heritage strategies through the RLUS and any associated supporting publications or guidelines to enable

strategic work or amendments to the SPPs to address regulatory requirements;

- Protocols or agreements to enable better engagement with, from and by State Agencies and the identification and sharing of relevant information and data;
- A process to identify and enable the strategic provision of regional infrastructure in areas such as essential and physical services, recreation, health, transport;
- Mechanisms to deal with emerging issues that arise from implementation of the statutory requirements or draft STRLUS, such as a definition of what must be considered to identify or define significant agricultural land;

Consistent with the statutory framework within the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (Act) and to provide constructive feedback, this submission presumes that this iteration of the draft STRLUS will focus on implementation of the recently completed Tasmanian Planning Policies, which commence in July 2026. Following from this, it is also presumed that funding will be provided for the various agencies and departments of the State to provide the required information to implement the Tasmanian Planning Policies over this time and therefore, the STRLUS.

Strategy

The purpose of the draft STRLUS was defined at section 1.1 as (paraphrased) as an important part of the planning system that:

- sets strategic land use and planning directions over short medium and longer term (up to 25 years), and
- sets directions for low land use change, growth and development in the region will be managed[1].

Emerging trends over recent years resulted in increasing global political uncertainty, increasing impacts from storms and natural disasters, increasing awareness of climate change impacts, increasing need to plan for local supply networks and sustainability and a planning system that enables rapid response to new and emerging technology (and its impacts).

The draft STRLUS does not seem to provide any coordinated way to deal with the increasing pace and impacts these emerging global trends may generate aside from isolated, high level statements.

The Background Report identified the draft STRLUS was based on a series of documents, relevantly:

- Statewide Industrial Land Study – this report was not available, despite claims of its provision as Background Report 7; and
- Residential Demand and Supply studies by Remplan –were based on projections of historical data and did not provide:

[1] P12, draft STRLUS

- Any assessment of the real demand for housing outside of the provided supply;
- The difference between planned demand, available serviced land, project viability and realised supply of land and dwellings; nor
- for the impact of any significant strategic or policy interventions that may impact future growth.

The draft STRLUS does not recognise the existing crisis in housing affordability or availability, nor does it quantify the nature or extent of the existing housing shortage. Aside from general statements, no measures were provided to address this critical problem to the future of Tasmanians.

The National Housing Accord provides a contemporary example of how aspirational strategy addresses the housing crisis. Tasmania is a signatory to the accord, which identifies approximately half of the required housing is being delivered to market.

The coastal location of Glamorgan Spring Bay also results in unforeseen proposals that were not entertained under the existing STRLUS, such as Sea Forest, the Spring Bay Mill, Solis Estate or Tempus and Cambria Green projects.

The ability for the planning system to provide a strategic response to existing and emerging issues is critical. The draft STRLUS does not seem to provide for these types of projects, except through the most general of statements. A clear process or pathway is required to enable consideration of these concepts, in addition to the other impacts they have for services, infrastructure, workers and housing. If the draft STRLUS remains a status quo, supply equates to demand document, then this will need to provide for assessment outside its purview.

Given the projected increased ageing of the Tasmanian population in the supporting documents, the draft STRLUS should establish some initiatives to accommodate this change in population. The existing strategy provides little if any direction beyond that within the TPPs. A specific action plan is required, with regional initiatives and priorities, supported through the implementation plan. Sub-regional strategies may be required for the delivery of essential services to remote areas based on the current State and Federal Government policies of ageing in place. The rural and regional areas will require a different response to urban Hobart.

We object to the use of a singular set of growth management tools, regardless of context. The range of management tools need to enable the region to grow, where hard growth boundaries have been demonstrated to frustrate strategic growth under the existing STRLUS. The focus on management tools for the urban area is not appropriate as the universal response across the entire region.

Focus

The draft STRLUS has a significant focus on the metropolitan area around greater Hobart, at the expense of the networks of settlements that support tourism, rural and agricultural areas. Given the importance of areas outside metropolitan Hobart to the regional

economy, we submit that this is not appropriate for a regional strategy. This is reflected in the extensive reports that address urban issues and matters, but few that assess and address agriculture or tourism.

The Southern Tasmanian Economic Profile confirmed that Tourism and/or agriculture were identified within the top three employers for seven Councils within the region and within the to 50% of employment sectors across the region, yet the STRLUS provides little direction for the region on dealing with these sectors aside from generalised outcomes and motherhood statements.

The draft STRLUS also appears to focus on existing circumstances rather than establishing strategies or goals for delivery over the life of the document. While urban growth boundaries are clearly established, other matters of significance at the regional level are not. Examples include:

- strategic transport connections between significant areas,
- the regional biodiversity corridors identified in the Biodiversity Strategies,
- linking up of high frequency transport corridors in Bridgewater, Kingston, the eastern shore and the Taroona to Granton precinct, or identification of a public transport connection from the Hobart Airport to these areas at Figure 18; or
- the framework for strategic responses to growth and coordination across various agencies and infrastructure/service providers to enable and coordinate future growth

The draft STRLUS will be used for the strategic assessment of changes to the State Planning Provisions and applications for planning scheme amendments by Planning Authorities under the Act and the Tasmanian Planning Commission. Some of the strategies and statements within the draft STRLUS are focussed at regulating specific sites or applications rather than strategically informing assessment of planning scheme provisions at the State or local levels.

Available documents

The *Draft STRLUS Background Report* available as part of the exhibition identifies that the *Statewide Industrial Strategy* by SGS Economics and Planning was available as Background Report 7.

It was not available for the consultation. It is understood this report has not been released by the State.

The Implementation Plan identified at 3.1.2.2(d) has a significant impact over what may or may not happen within the Glamorgan Spring Bay and other areas, but was not available for review. The lack of this document forces a lot of assumptions to be made about how the draft STRLUS may operate or be required to be interpreted.

Structure

The structure of the draft STRLUS was based on the (then) available draft version of the Tasmanian Planning Policies. This is supported as a framework for establishment of regional priorities and implementation.

The use of Structure Plans to implement selected strategies is supported. We suggest that this is expanded through more issues across the draft STRLUS.

3.1 Growth Management

All comments on this section are qualified due to the significant impact of the Implementation Plan identified at strategy 3.1.2.2(d), and the limitations that result.

We support the revised structure that separates the greater Hobart area from the remaining towns and villages across the region. The simple reality is that the growth that occurs within the Glamorgan Spring Bay area has little impact on management of a range of issues for the greater Hobart area.

3.1.2.2 Growth Management in towns and villages. Criteria established under criteria e through f are supported. (g) is unclear how this can be addressed and will require clarification. (h) figure 8 does not apply to towns and villages. Recognition of local strategy through structure plans is supported. Use of town boundaries as a universal growth control tool across the region is opposed. We recommend that town boundaries outside the commuter range for greater Hobart are removed to a description in the draft STRLUS and defined through local strategy such as structure plans.

3.1.3 Town & village roles and functions. Table 2 - Town and village roles and functions does not adequately represent the diversity and function within Glamorgan Spring Bay area. Triabunna is emerging as a satellite for the greater Hobart area and is transforming from its historical industry based functions to a more diverse and active tourism and local service hub. The definition of service hub is unclear, appears to rely on high levels of social infrastructure and does not represent the range of diverse settlements and functions across the Glamorgan Spring Bay municipality or the wider southern region. Both Triabunna and Swansea provide significant services to the surrounding tourist and agriculture areas, while the Table at Appendix 4 appears to priorities those activities and economic activities within urban areas.

The lack of strategic direction was best shown at Figure 5, showing greater Hobart at 2050 as a selective representation of the existing urban area, without a legend and without showing future growth areas.

Figure 9 – the urban boundary is not clearly identified on this map and should be made clearer.

Neither the draft STRLUS nor the TPPs establish a clear response or priority for dealing with housing and accommodating the increasing age profile within the southern region.

3.2 Environmental Values

3.2.2.1 Biodiversity. (a) through (d) – identify regional biodiversity corridors as a strategic measure, but these are not available anywhere, nor is a framework or process identified to establish these. (d) clearly requires avoidance of impacts, where (e) allows impacts, which statement prevails as compliance with both is required? (g) will require clear data provision by the State and guidance on assessment and compliance through the implementation plan. It is also unclear who can provide this information and what qualifications they require.

3.2.2.2 Waterways, wetlands and estuaries. (a) is worded as a specific use/development outcome for a planning scheme rather than an appropriate regional policy that refines state strategy/policy and provisions of the State Planning Provisions. (g) is

a specific development outcome that is inappropriate to a regional strategy and requires reshaping to reflect an appropriate regional outcome.

3.2.2.3 Landscape Values. This section requires regionally significant landscapes to be identified, yet no framework exists to enable this. (a) heat island mitigation through Structure Plans may not be effective if suitable provisions are not enabled through the subdivision, urban design and development provisions of the SPP. (b) through (e) require specific provisions through the SPP to implement.

3.2.2.4 Coasts. (a) is a specific development outcome that is better reflected through planning scheme controls. (c) outcome is unclear with *should* avoid – what is the intent and outcome of this statement? Requires clarification.

3.3 Environmental Hazards

3.3.2 Regional strategies. This is where the strategies for identification and management of subsequent issues should be established. Suggest relocation of statements (a) from 3.3.2.2, 3.3.2.3 and 3.3.2.4 to this opening section across all relevant strategies.

3.3.2.1 Bushfire. The strategies in this section require redrafting to identify the regional focus rather than controls for planning schemes or individual development applications.

3.3.2.2 Coastal Hazards. (b) is more appropriately addressed through development controls in the SPP than a regional strategy. Suggest revision to the SPP and rewording this statement to reflect regional focus and outcomes.

3.3.2.3 Landslip. (c) relates to use and development standards within the SPP, without establishing the regional priority or direction.

3.3.2.4 Flood and water cycle management. Water cycle management is a much wider issue than identified within the relevant section of the TPPs. Suggest renaming to reflect the subject matter, flooding and inundation. (c) requires controls within the SPP to enact on a consistent basis across the region and State.

3.3.2.5 Contaminated air and land. This section requires controls within the SPP to enable assessment of the identified issues. Other provisions may be required in supporting documents such as Section 8 A Guideline No.1 issued by the Tasmanian Planning Commission or other statutory agencies such as the Environment Protection Authority to provide certainty about the implementation or operation of these statements and those within the TPPs.

3.4 Sustainable Economic Growth

3.4.2.1 Agriculture and aquaculture. Significant agricultural land requires definition to minimise confusion and arguments over what the relevant State Policy, TPPs and draft RLUS *think they thought they meant* when talking about this issue. This could be through a Section 8A Guideline to enable consistent definition across the region/State. (c) through (f) are all issues that require response through review of the SPP.

3.4.2.3 Tourism. (b) requires redrafting to enable consideration as a regional strategy, or its diversion to revisions and mechanisms within the SPP that can then be applied locally through LPS. (c) requires expansion to all towns and villages, not just those prescribed in this document (this is repeating the same mistakes as the existing STRLUS makes). Suggest remove reference to tourism destinations in

Table 3 as remainder of clause is much broader than this. Statement also presumes that all workforce and employment demands for a proposal or town are located within its boundaries, which is inconsistent with the settlement pattern recognised by State through various documents and how Tasmanians live. (d) relates to the SPP.

3.4.2.5 Industry, freight and logistics. (c) suggest refocusing to provide for industrial land requirements outside a and b to remove argument that only key sites/RSIP's and local industry are enabled. (f) its unclear how land use planning can improve the identified matters, nor how supply chain relationships are relevant to land use planning, nor how this strategy is not relevant to all industrial activities across the region.

3.4.2.6 Activity Centres. (a) suggest redraft to clarify this statement applies to the greater Hobart metro area, or conflicts with (b) and limited recognition of roles and functions under Table 2 is likely to restrict future economic activity and growth.

3.4.2.7. Innovation and research. (a), (d) and (e) relate to SPP for use and development within the specific zones.

3.4.3 Activity Centre Categorisation. The focus of Table 3 on urban metro locations undermines the ability of the wider economic basis of the region and the significant role of smaller towns in sustaining and supporting agriculture, rural and tourism sectors. Restriction of key functions to urban areas is not acceptable. Specialist Centres, service hubs and district centres all exist and function outside urban Hobart, but the definitions and urban focus of Table 3 preclude their use based on local strategy. For example, Freycinet and Triabunna/Maria Island are both specialist tourist centres with specific requirements but cannot use this category under the exhibited document. Recognition of local strategy in implementation of this hierarchy is required.

3.5. Physical Infrastructure

3.5.2.2. Water, wastewater and waste infrastructure. (a) relates to Section 8A Guideline No.1 and the controls within the SPP.

3.5.2.3. Energy infrastructure. Both strategies are matters that ought to be addressed through the SPP and Section 8A Guideline No.1, as exhibited. Suggest redrafting to enable regional consideration of relevant issues at the regional level and through local strategies. Delivery of (e) may require a response through the relevant State programs for managing those processes and data under the SPP.

3.5.2.5 Passenger transport modes. This section is almost exclusively focused on the metropolitan Greater Hobart area and provides little for regional areas. A through e all require response and/or controls or mechanisms in the SPP. Figure 18 should be identified as existing.

3.6. Cultural Heritage

3.6.2.1. Aboriginal Cultural Heritage. Significant work is required to implement the strategies into the operation of the land use planning system. The available documents do not clearly establish that consultation and engagement was completed with the relevant community sectors, nor that suitable processes are established at the State level to enable implementation of the strategies.

4.2.2. Implementation Plan

This section provides statements that identify what it will do, but not how it is to be used. It should include clear statements that require use of the Implementation Plan by the Commission in assessing compliance with the draft STRLUS.

This will be critical in managing unintended regulatory burdens on Councils and the wider community due to the actions of State in implementing their own policies (or otherwise).

Editorial issues:

- A lot of the maps are difficult to read, for example white roads on a pale grey background, legends and notations are small and difficult to read at the published scale, many of the intended items are difficult to identify and/or understand at the published scale
- Road networks are not clear and often inconsistent shown on diagrams. Eg, Figure 11m white roads on grey backgrounds, Figure 16, road names are illegible and break identification of key roadways.
- Many identified items are not shown on the maps the way they are identified on the legends. For example, all figures the Regional Boundary is identified with a significantly darker and thicker line on the legend versus the map.
- Punctuation appears to change the intended outcome of various strategies, for example 3.3.2.1(f).
- Many of the TPPs require identification and mapping of specific issues. 3.3.2.2(a) is one of the few statements to identify how that would be done at the regional level, noting that Guideline No. 1 identifies most of these sources. The State may wish to enable natural and environmental values and hazard mapping to be established and maintained at the State rather than the local levels. This would then remove the need for the RLUS to address these matters.
- Absolute statements such as does not or avoid should not be used as they have a clear and specific meaning. Suggest revision to manage, consider, balance etc to enable some change.

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Wednesday, 18 February 2026

Mr Dion Lester
Local Government Association of Tasmania
326 Macquarie Street, Hobart 7000
By email: dion.lester@lgat.tas.gov.au

Dear Dion Lester,

GSBC SUBMISSION DRAFT 20-YEAR PREVENTATIVE HEALTH STRATEGY

Executive Summary – Councillor Briefing

Response to *The Health Revolution – 20-Year Preventive Health Strategy (Exposure Draft)*

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council supports the vision and intent of *The Health Revolution – 20-Year Preventive Health Strategy* and endorses the submission made by the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) on behalf of all councils.

The Strategy presents an ambitious, long-term approach to improving health and wellbeing in Tasmania through prevention, place-based action and whole-of-government collaboration. Council recognises the importance of this work and the potential benefits for communities, government sustainability and future service demand.

However, Council notes several key considerations that are critical to the Strategy's success:

- Implementation and resourcing: While the Strategy clearly outlines *what* Tasmania aims to achieve, there is limited detail on *how* it will be delivered in practice. Additional funding and workforce investment will be required to support councils and partners to implement preventative actions effectively.
- Role of local government: Council strongly supports LGAT's position that local government plays a unique and central role as both a *sense-maker* and *action-taker* across all five pillars of the Strategy. Councils are embedded in local communities and are essential delivery partners, not simply one stakeholder among many.
- Governance and decision-making: The Strategy will require strong, transparent and flexible governance arrangements that enable genuine collaboration across sectors and support place-based decision-making. Governance models must ensure decisions are made in the best interests of communities, rather than being driven by the most vocal or well-resourced interests.

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- Long-term continuity: Given the 20-year timeframe, Council queries whether sufficient safeguards are in place to protect the Strategy from changes in government, policy direction or funding priorities. Long-term success will depend on continuity, bipartisan support and institutional commitment.

Overall, Council supports the direction of the Strategy and encourages the Tasmanian Government to strengthen implementation detail, funding certainty and governance structures, with explicit recognition of local government's central role in achieving lasting preventative health outcomes for Tasmanians.

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council – Draft Comments

Response to LGAT Submission on *The Health Revolution – 20-Year Preventive Health Strategy (Exposure Draft)*

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council (GSBC) acknowledges and broadly supports the intent, vision and preventative focus of *The Health Revolution – 20-Year Preventive Health Strategy*. Council also notes and supports the Local Government Association of Tasmania's (LGAT) submission dated 16 February 2026, particularly its emphasis on the unique and indispensable role of local government in delivering place-based, community-led preventative health outcomes

Council provides the following additional comments for consideration.

1. Ambition and Whole-of-System Alignment

Council notes that the Strategy is highly ambitious in scope and intent, spanning 20 years and requiring sustained commitment across all levels and sectors of government. Achieving the Strategy's vision will require strong, ongoing alignment between State Government portfolios, local government, community organisations and industry. Without genuine whole-of-system coordination, there is a risk that implementation becomes fragmented or symbolic rather than transformative.

2. Resourcing and Workforce Capacity

Council strongly supports the LGAT's commentary regarding the need to clearly define and invest in the preventative workforce. While the Strategy articulates *what* Tasmania is seeking to achieve, there is insufficient detail on *how* this work will be resourced in practice.

In particular, additional funding will be required to:

- Train and employ appropriately skilled staff across councils and partner organisations
- Build and sustain preventative health capability over the long term
- Avoid shifting unfunded responsibility onto local government without commensurate resourcing

Without a clear funding and workforce implementation model, the Strategy risks placing unrealistic expectations on councils and community organisations already operating within constrained resources

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3. Lack of Implementation Detail ("The How")

Council observes that while the Strategy is compelling in vision and narrative, many elements rely on broad, aspirational statements without sufficient operational detail. The Strategy would benefit from clearer articulation of:

- Practical delivery mechanisms
- Decision-making pathways
- Accountability structures
- Measurable milestones across Action Plans

Council supports LGAT's position that robust governance, learning and system-change tools must be embedded early to prevent the Strategy becoming a high-level policy document without tangible outcomes.

4. Political Risk and Continuity Across Governments

Given the 20-year timeframe, Council queries whether the Strategy has adequately identified and mitigated the risk associated with changes of government, policy priorities or funding environments. Long-term preventative reform requires bipartisan commitment and institutional safeguards to ensure continuity beyond electoral cycles.

Council recommends that explicit mechanisms be articulated to protect the Strategy's intent, funding and governance arrangements from disruption due to changes in government.

5. Role of Local Government as Sense-Makers and Action-Takers

GSBC strongly endorses the LGAT commentary on page 3 of its submission, which recognises local government as the *only tier of government that consistently acts as both sense-maker and action-taker across all five pillars*.

Local government is uniquely embedded in local communities and works daily at the intersection of:

- Planning, infrastructure and place
- Community wellbeing and safety
- Environmental health
- Local partnerships and service coordination

This is not an ancillary role; it is the core purpose of local government. Council supports LGAT's position that local government should not be listed merely as one stakeholder among many, but explicitly recognised as a central delivery partner in the Strategy's design, governance and implementation

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6. Governance That Is Robust *and* Flexible

Council notes that the Strategy will require governance structures that are sufficiently robust to ensure accountability, while remaining flexible enough to respond to local context, readiness and emerging issues.

In particular, Council supports:

- Regional or place-based governance models that include councils and community representation
- Decision-making frameworks that prioritise collective benefit rather than the loudest or most resourced voices
- Genuine community leadership and co-design, rather than consultation as an end point

Trusting communities and councils to identify priorities and lead action locally will be critical to achieving equitable, sustainable preventative health outcomes across Tasmania.

Conclusion

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council supports the overarching vision of *The Health Revolution* and endorses the LGAT submission in full. Council emphasises that success will depend on translating ambition into action through clear governance, sustainable funding, workforce investment, and genuine partnership with local government and communities.

Council encourages the Tasmanian Government to strengthen the Strategy's implementation detail and explicitly recognise the central role of local government in delivering lasting preventative health outcomes for Tasmanians.

Yours sincerely,

Dick Shaw
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Health Revolution

20-Year Preventive Health Strategy exposure draft

2026-2046

The Health Revolution

Tasmanian Government

20-Year Preventive Health Strategy exposure draft

This exposure draft of the Strategy outlines the ways we will respond to the things that Tasmanians told us they need for a good life. It explains how we think it will work, who we will work with and the principles that will guide decisions. As well as this exposure draft, you can find more information about the guiding pillars in supporting documents.

The purpose of the exposure draft is to get your feedback so we can finalise the Strategy and develop the first four-year Action Plan, which will be released in mid-2026.

Please email any feedback to consultation@health.tas.gov.au

The Health Revolution

Tasmanian Government

The Health Revolution

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The Health Revolution

Acknowledgement of Country

The Tasmanian Government respectfully acknowledges Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we live, work and play, and pays respect to Aboriginal Elders past and present.

Recognition statement

Tasmanian Aboriginal peoples' traditional lifestyle promoted physical and emotional health and wellbeing, centred around Country, Kin, Community and Spirituality. Aboriginal people continue to value the importance of culture, community connection and being on Country as vital components of health and wellbeing. We commit to working in partnership with Tasmanian Aboriginal communities and health leaders now and into the future to improve health and wellbeing.

About this document

When you see the words 'we', 'us' or 'our', it can mean the State of Tasmania, the Tasmanian Government, or the Department of Health (Tasmania).

The Health Revolution

Minister's invitation

I am genuinely proud that Tasmania is prioritising prevention and recognising its value. I want to thank every person that has been part of this journey so far and I invite you to have your say on the exposure draft of The Health Revolution.

Prevention is better than a cure, and this Strategy is about making that a daily reality for all Tasmanians.

We know this isn't something Health can do alone - it needs to be embedded across government and supported by strong partnerships with communities, industry, and local leaders. That's why this Strategy will build on existing whole-of-government priorities to help ensure it delivers the outcomes Tasmanians expect.

Tasmania has been a leader here for a long time. Through our Healthy Tasmania plans, The Respectful Age-friendly Island Action Plan, It Takes a Tasmanian Village Strategy, our work in establishing Child and Family Learning Centres and supporting community sport, health and recreation programs, we have become known for taking prevention seriously. We are a small place doing something big for wellbeing, and that is something to be proud of.

And now, with The Health Revolution we are committing to a 20-year Preventive Health Strategy. Preventive health has never been more important for Tasmania. Right now, one in every three of our dollars goes to health. That cost keeps rising and more Tasmanians are needing care than ever before. We know we need to increase our collective efforts.

It is brave and it is necessary for Tasmania to chart a long-term path that asks every sector to pull together. Tasmanians themselves have shown how much this matters. More than 5,000 people shared their stories in the first round of consultation. It shows how invested Tasmanians are in prevention. And the reality is, this isn't just a health strategy. It's an economic reform opportunity. Stronger prevention strengthens our fiscal future, lifts productivity and cuts avoidable costs across every portfolio.

About 70 per cent of our health outcomes are shaped by planning, housing, transport, education, jobs and the environment. A health-only model can't shift those drivers. Every portfolio contributes, every portfolio benefits from good health outcomes.

Your feedback has shown us that preventive health is as essential to Tasmania's future as roads or power. It is core public infrastructure. The cost of not acting is staggering. Chronic diseases like diabetes, depression and cancer are expected to cost Australia about $184 billion in preventable costs over the next twenty years.

That figure is large enough to run the Tasmanian Government for the next two decades. But the solution is right in front of us. Prevention is how we protect our health, protect our budget and protect our future. It is smart, it is strategic, and it is deeply Tasmanian to think ahead.

Hon Bridget Archer MP

Minister for Health,
Mental Health and Wellbeing

The Health Revolution

Our Island advantage

Imagine a life on the world's most beautiful island, where the good life comes easy.

We wake up to clean air, clean water, and wild places that feel like magic. The sea is clear, and the land holds stories that are older than any of us. We feel good in our minds, strong in our bodies and our hearts are open to loving, learning and living.

Our homes are safe and warm, and our neighbourhoods feel alive. The streets are safe, and children's laughter can be heard in playgrounds and adults chat sitting on park benches. Nourishing local food is affordable, close and easy to find. Paths connect where we live to where we work and play, making moving our bodies the easiest option, always. The simple things in life are the best things.

In our Tasmania every single person knows they belong. We are accepted for who we are and are celebrated for sharing our stories. We talk. We check in. We care. There is always someone who believes in us, and we always know we matter.

Support meets us where we are and when we need it, we feel heard, seen and understood. Everyone has the opportunity to live their best life, no matter where they live, what they earn, or who they are. We move forward in our lives knowing that every door we try, will open. We lift each other up, and we share the journey together.

We move as one. Industry, government, community, neighbours, everyone doing their bit for each other and Tasmania. We share decisions, solve problems and our engaged leaders listen and value our opinions. We can see what is healing and what still needs our time. Every day is better than yesterday.

We look beyond today and care for tomorrow with open hearts. We care for people, for Country, and for what we pass on to the next generation. We make our island a better place for the children and grandchildren who will walk it after we pass.

This is our Tasmania. We're the envy of the world, and other nations look to us because of how we care for our people. It's home, and a place where the life we dream about is the life we live.

The Health Revolution

Our Health Revolution

Our vision for Tasmania is one of opportunity and fairness - a place where every Tasmanian can live well - through environments that make healthy choices easier, communities that are safe and connected, and supports that help people stay well for longer.

Our Strategy

This is our big picture, whole-of-system plan to make our island home a place where the good life comes easy. It's about shaping the world around us so the places we live, learn, work and play all make staying well easier for everyone in Tasmania.

This is how we make our State a place where we can all feel great and keep doing the things we love for as long as possible.

It's a long-term promise to ourselves, our families and the generations growing up after us. And it's built on teamwork. It brings together government, local communities, businesses, researchers, and everyday Tasmanians so we can all move in the same direction so staying well is within reach for all of us.

Why is this Strategy so important?

Right now, our government spends more than one out of every three dollars on health. And that amount keeps growing.

Tasmania has a higher proportion of people ageing. More Tasmanians are needing care than ever before, and their problems are getting more complicated. We need to make the most of our advantages; we need to use our research and we need to innovate so that instead of treating sickness we will build a well Island. We don't need a band-aid, we need to redefine the future for all of us. The challenge is big, but it's one we can absolutely solve together.

This Strategy belongs to all of us!

More than 5,000 people shared their stories with us, giving us a window into the hopes and challenges felt by the more than 500,000 Tasmanians who call our island home. **This plan grew from those voices. It grew from you.**

This entire Strategy is about shared ownership and shared success. Every town, every street, every family, every person who calls Tasmania home. We're all in this story.

This is our chance to turn things around for us, our families and the kids who will walk this island after us. This is our chance to make a long-term promise to one another.

This isn't something the Government or any one of us can do alone. But together we can change our story. We all have something to give.

Together, we can make this work.

The Health Revolution

Our Strategy on a page

Vision

Our vision for Tasmania is one of opportunity and fairness - a place where **every Tasmanian can live well** - through environments that make healthy choices easier, communities that are safe and connected and supports that help people stay well for longer.

Pillars - our focus areas

Healthy environments and places	Healthy people and potential	Healthy communities and social conditions	Healthy foundations and equity	Healthy systems and supports
The places we live, work, grow and move through.	Healthy Tasmanians living up to their potential	How we live, where we live and why	Making health fair for all	Support systems for healthy living

Each pillar has sub-pillars – key things that you told us and evidence shows have a big impact on our health and wellbeing.

Principles - our guide for all decisions

People first	**People and communities at the heart**
Fairness and inclusion for all	**Respecting culture, embracing diversity**
Inclusive design for every gender	**Respect for the hands that do the work**
Best value	**Open and accountable**
Learning as we go	**Better together**
Thinking long term	**Health at every age**
Prevention in every place	**Prevention at every step**

The Health Revolution

Where health really comes from

It's not just doctors and hospitals

When we talk about health in Tasmania, it's easy to picture doctors, nurses and hospitals. And they matter a lot. But real health starts long before we walk into a clinic.

It comes from the kind of lives we get to live. The world we grow up in. The places we wake up, the people we love, the money in our pockets, the stress we carry, the food we can get, the air we breathe and the safety of the streets we live on.

Study after study tells us the same thing. These everyday parts of life shape our health even more than medical care or our genetics. It really is nurture over nature, by taking care of the world that takes care of us.

That's why keeping Tasmanians well is bigger than the health system alone. It's about the whole way our State works.

This is where preventive health comes in. At its heart, prevention is simple. It's about making it easier to stay well and harder to get sick. By shaping the world around us so it sets us up for success, we take action early, protect our wellbeing and stop problems from building up in the first place.

That way we can feel good and keep doing the things we love for as long as possible.

The solution

This Strategy gives us a new way to see health. We're starting where real life starts, by looking at the whole picture. The things that help us stand strong, and the things that make life feel heavy. It understands that health is about more than medicines.

It's about the kind of life we're able to live. We're choosing to keep people well instead of stepping in once they're already sick. Because sickness should not be normal. We deserve a life that feels good.

This Strategy is the solution because it's brave. We're building on our advantages and the work we have already done and then doing more. And if something does not work the first time, we learn and try again. We're asking Tasmanians to be on the same team, wanting the same good life for the people and places we love.

This Strategy is the solution because it's ours. It grew from our voices. It carries our hopes, our worries, our ideas and our dreams for what life in Tasmania should feel like.

It's a promise to think long term.

Preventive health isn't just the right thing to do. It's a must-have, as essential as roads or power. It's the only way to build a future where Tasmanians can stay well, our budget gets stronger, and our State has room to grow.

The Health Revolution

How we built this: there was no guesswork

We built this plan the right way. We listened to Tasmanians, checked the evidence, and made sure every idea was solid, real, and useful. It's shaped by the people who live and work right here in Tasmania.

Amazing Tasmanians

We asked thousands of people across the State what matters most for living well. We also spoke directly with groups especially those who don't always get heard. This helped us understand what life is really like in every pocket of Tasmania.

Want more information on how we did this? Visit the Department of Health webpage at www.health.tas.gov.au/20-year-preventive-health-strategy

We connected and spoke with over 5,000 Tasmanians during our consultation phase!

Our community panel

Beyond the broader consultations, we teamed up with Health Consumers Tasmania to create a Community Panel made up of Tasmanians from all walks of life. They helped us get the language right, spot gaps, and make sure the plan makes sense not just to the Government, but to the people it's actually about.

Learning from others

We didn't just look locally - we checked out prevention strategies and plans from across Australia and around the world to figure out what works, what doesn't, and how Tasmania can learn from the best ideas globally.

No reinventing the wheel here

We didn't start from scratch. Tasmanians have already shared a lot of information over the years through past consultations, submissions and reviews. We pulled all of that together and built on it. No one likes being asked the same questions again, so we made sure to respect and use the great ideas people had already told us.

Got the experts in

We worked closely with some serious pros: The Australian Prevention Partnership Centre (TAPPC), which is Australia's national hub for preventive health research. TAPPC is funded by every state and territory and connects us with a massive network of over 900 experts nationwide, giving us access to the latest evidence, advice, and shared knowledge.

Learning from past evaluations

We reviewed past evaluations and reviews to capture what had already been tried and what we could learn from it. We also spoke directly with the people doing the work in these areas to understand the real stories behind the data.

We connected with and spoke with over 5,000 Tasmanians during our consultation phase!

The Health Revolution

Looking at the data

We spent time analysing statistics, trends, and how common issues are, to see what's truly happening and where the biggest needs are right now.

Checking the evidence

We checked the best evidence on what works for each ingredient, and we talked with people who do this work every day. This helped us make sure Tasmania is using the strongest and most up-to-date ideas.

We also teamed up with academic experts to scan the evidence on the big building blocks that make prevention work, like governance, funding, and workforce. These are essential, but the "how-to" is often missing. So, we looked at how others do it globally, in health and in business, to make sure our Strategy works in practice and not just on paper.

Checking the cost-effectiveness

We looked at how much each issue is costing Tasmania and what actions give the best value for our money. This helped us choose the options that make the biggest difference without wasting a cent.

Understanding what's already happening

Through continuous discussions with teams across government and community, we dug into the details of what's currently being delivered, from existing contracts to past budget proposals. This allowed us to build on what's already working instead of starting from scratch.

Independent review

We're making sure this Strategy is held to the highest standard. TAPPC and its network of experts across Australia will independently review it, so Tasmanians know the plan is solid, evidence-based, and ready for the future.

The Health Revolution

What we heard from Tasmanians

Thousands of people opened up about what makes life good and what needs to change. What helps. What hurts. What gets in the way. What gives us hope.

They showed us what matters most to people in every corner of our State.

As we listened, those things became the bones of this Strategy. Our five pillars. The recipes and ingredients Tasmanians told us they need for a good life.

Image Credit: Alastair Bett

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Healthy environments and places

You said:

"Tasmania needs safer, cleaner, more supportive places to live. Fix the world around us so it's easier to be healthy".

Some of the things people said mattered the most included:

- clean air and buildings designed to keep us healthy instead of spreading sickness
- houses that are safe, warm, and good for our health to live in
- towns that are easy to get around in, with shade and parks nearby for everyone to enjoy
- town planning that puts people and local communities at the very top of the list
- better footpaths, bike lanes, and safe crossings so it's easier and safer to get active
- public spots that feel safe, welcoming, and simple for every person to enjoy
- making sure our online world is a place that feels safe, kind, and respectful.

Healthy people and potential

You said:

"Support us early, support us locally, and support us across our whole lives".

Some of the things people said mattered the most included:

- easier ways to get checked early no matter where you live
- vaccines close to home when you need them
- help to stop sickness spreading in the community
- support for kids and teens to stay healthy as they grow
- support for families, from pregnancy through the early years
- primary care and dental care that's easy to get to, and easy to use
- reproductive, sexual and gender-affirming care that's safe, kind and respectful
- mental health support that starts in community, including peer and group help
- coaching and simple pathways that help people stay well and find the care they need.

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Healthy communities and social conditions

You said:

"Shift the social conditions so healthy living is the easy, supported, normal choice – where the helpful things are easy to reach, and the harmful things aren't built into everyday life".

Some of the things people said mattered the most included:

- tighter, smarter rules around things like alcohol, smoking, and gambling
- making sure healthy food is easy to find and comes with a fairer price tag
- putting limits on how many unhealthy shops can pop up in one spot
- more fun, local groups that help everyone get active together
- getting help from your care team to link into community activities and clubs
- boosting local mental health groups and support from people who've been there
- creating safe, welcoming places where everyone feels comfortable and accepted
- better programs and opportunities designed just for young people
- setting up 'hubs' that bring services and people together in one easy spot
- stronger rules and protections so big companies can't harm our communities.

Healthy foundations and equity

You said:

"Fix the unfair foundations that hold people back – because without fairness, there is no real chance at good health".

Some of the things people said mattered the most included:

- a home that's safe, secure and doesn't break the bank
- enough money to cover the basics and take part in community life
- being able to easily get healthy food and other things we all need to live
- a great education and genuine chances for everyone to keep learning
- fair access to work and jobs that are stable and reliable
- internet and technology that keeps people connected and in the loop
- helping people understand their health so they can make great choices
- services that are respectful, never judge, and understand how past experiences affect us
- information that's clear, easy to find, and available in ways everyone can use
- care that is culturally safe and genuinely includes everyone, no matter where they go
- support that ensures everyone gets a fair shot, no matter their background or where they live.

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Healthy systems and supports

You said:

"Set the system up properly so prevention works and lasts".

Some of the things people said mattered the most included:

- stable, long-lasting support instead of short, one-off projects
- simple, joined-up pathways so people don't get bounced around
- every door is the right door, no "wrong door"
- planning across government so everyone does their bit
- people with lived experience helping make the decisions
- clear rules about who is responsible and how progress is shared
- better data and learning so we know what works
- a prevention workforce that's trained, supported and able to do the job well
- strong teamwork between government, councils, community and industry
- regular, honest updates showing what people said, and what we did.

Image Credit: Natasha Mulhall

The Health Revolution

Pillars: our recipe for living well

The Strategy uses these pillars like five big mixing bowls to sort the things that shape our health. Each mixing bowl combines a recipe – a mix of ingredients that all have to work together if we want Tasmanians to be and stay healthy. These aren't ranked in the Strategy, and one isn't more important than the others. They're key parts of life that all work together to make up a person's overall wellbeing.

1. Healthy environments and places

The places we live, work, grow and move through

The world around us matters. The air, the water, our homes, our streets, our parks and even our online spaces shape how we feel every single day. This is our commitment to create healthy environments and places so people can stay well in the spaces they use and enjoy every day.

2. Healthy people and potential

Healthy Tasmanians living up to their potential

Our health is a lifelong adventure. It starts when we're kids and keeps going as we get older. The things that really count are how we live, the amazing people who support us, how we feel inside, and staying safe from sickness. All of this helps us to grow and be our best every single day. This is our commitment for how we make sure every Tasmanian has the chance to feel great and do everything they want to do, no matter their age.

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3. Healthy communities and social conditions

How we live, where we live and why

The way our society works can either give us a boost or hold us back. The things we see every day, the messages around us and what's "normal" in our culture all shape how we feel and what we do. When we organise our society just right, it can make staying healthy easy. This is our commitment for how we will design everyday life so it's much simpler for everyone to live well.

4. Healthy foundations and equity

Making health fair for all

Health doesn't just appear out of nowhere. A safe home, enough money, good food, a chance to learn, and feeling like you belong in your community, these are the things that we need to be healthy and happy. This is our commitment to fairness, ensuring the basics are covered for a strong future and everyone gets a fair go.

5. Healthy systems and supports

Support systems for healthy living

Good intentions don't get the job done on their own. We need the people, the systems and the support to turn prevention into real action. It's not enough to want to create a difference if we've got no one and nothing to make it happen. This is our commitment for the systems and supports that make prevention possible in Tasmania.

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Pillars: our recipe for living well

Healthy environments and places

- Environmental health
- Air quality
- Water quality
- Food safety
- Sun safety and radiation protection
- Green and blue spaces
- Buildings, places and spaces
- Safe digital spaces
- Injury prevention
- Transport and active travel
- Healthy and sustainable futures

Healthy people and potential

- Screening and early detection
- Communicable disease prevention
- Infection prevention and control
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Blood-borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections
- Immunisation
- Medicines and poisons regulation
- Sleep and circadian health
- Healthy beginnings and strong families
- Youth wellbeing and healthy pathways to adulthood
- Healthy ageing and later life
- Sexual and reproductive health
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Preventing suicide and self-harm
- Preventable conditions and risk factors

Healthy communities and social conditions

- Alcohol and other drugs
- Tobacco and nicotine products
- Gambling and other behavioural addictions
- Breastfeeding and infant nutrition
- Healthy food environments
- Commercial determinants of health
- Healthy settings and places
- Physical activity
- Caring, volunteering and community support networks
- Safety and violence prevention
- Justice, health and rehabilitation
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health
- Belonging, connection and resilience
- Grief, loss and end-of-life

Healthy foundations and equity

- Housing and shelter
- Care and supported living
- Education and lifelong learning
- Employment and workforce participation
- Income and social protection
- Food security and affordability
- Equity, inclusion and rights
- Digital inclusion
- Health literacy and access to information

Healthy systems and supports

- Governance and stewardship
- Funding and resourcing
- Workforce and capability
- Data, intelligence and evaluation
- Research, evidence and innovation
- Communication, campaigns and engagement
- Knowledge sharing and collaboration
- Health technology
- Digital health
- Emergency readiness and community resilience

The Health Revolution

Sub-pillars: our ingredients for action

The five main pillars are broken down into smaller pieces called sub-pillars. If the pillars are the recipe, the sub-pillars are the essential ingredients that make the recipe work!

Every sub-pillar was created because Tasmanians told us it matters, and because the evidence shows it has a big impact on our health, our costs and our wellbeing.

It's okay that we can't take on all of these at once. Like any good recipe, you add things in the right order - but you don't leave out the important parts. All the ingredients matter, and they need to work together over time.

The action plans then take these ingredients and turn them into steps. They decide the order: what we do now, what we do next, and what we save for later.

Goal: the Tasmania we want

Inside each sub-pillar you'll see a goal. A goal is like a smaller vision - a statement that describes the kind of Tasmania we want in that part of life. It's the dream we're heading toward.

Each goal paints a picture of what life will look and feel like once prevention is working well in that part of life. It shows the destination, not the steps. It tells us where we want to go, not what we're doing right now.

We keep each goal inside its own sub-pillar so it's easy to see which part of life it belongs to and who needs to be involved in making it real.

How we will make it happen

The action plans are the follow-through. They will outline the activities for each of the sub-pillars. They show how it will roll out in real life.

They're our task lists where the fine detail lives: the timing, the projects and the people responsible.

Image Credit: Moon Cheese Studio

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Healthy environments and places

Sub-pillar	The Tasmania we want (goal)
Environmental health	Every Tasmanian lives in a place that's safe and healthy - free from preventable harm in the land, seas and skies we share, and in the buildings, services and spaces we use every day.
Air quality	Every breath Tasmanians take is clean, safe, and protective of their health. We celebrate the fact that our skies and landscapes are among the cleanest on Earth! This achievement sets a global example for healthy, low-pollution living, and we're committed to keeping this benchmark high for other regions to follow.
Water quality	Clean, living water flows through Tasmania – safe to drink, swim and play in, and strong enough to sustain our food, fish and future.
Food safety	A Tasmania where everyone can trust their food, every time. No matter who made it, where it came from or where it's eaten, people can trust it without a second thought.
Sun safety and radiation protection	Tasmanians understand what radiation is, the different forms it takes, and trust that it's used safely. Wherever radiation shows up, people can rely on it being handled with care, respect and real purpose, and only used when it genuinely helps.
Green and blue spaces	Our green and blue spaces stay healthy, cared for and open to everyone. Bush, wetlands, rivers, coasts and estuaries are clean, restored and easy to enjoy, helping people to move more, breathe easier, feel connected and stay well for longer.
Buildings, places and spaces	Tasmania's towns and suburbs look after us. The places where we live, work and hang out help us stay healthy, feel welcome and get on with life. When we plan, build and renew, we do it in a way that makes every place stronger for today and tomorrow.
Safe digital spaces	Tasmania is a place where being online feels safe, easy and fair, and everyone can enjoy and benefit from the digital world no matter who they are or where they live.
Injury prevention	Tasmania is a place where injuries that were once common are now rare. Safety is part of how our places are designed, how our systems work, and how we look after each other.
Transport and active travel	Tasmanians get around safely, easily and without fuss. We have transport that works for everyone, with cleaner, healthier ways to move and reliable options that get us and our things where we need to be without wearing us out or hurting the environment.
Healthy and sustainable futures	Tasmania is a place that adapts early and wisely to a changing climate, keeping people safe, healthy and able to live and work well no matter the weather. By investing in resilience and nature, we save money, protect lives and grow a stronger, fairer economy for the long term.

The Health Revolution

Healthy people and potential

Sub-pillar	The Tasmania we want (goal)
Screening and early detection	We prioritise early detection and intervention in Tasmania. By picking up potential problems sooner, we prevent them from escalating, which helps people stay healthier for longer. Tasmanians are able to access and be up to date for checks and tests for the conditions that are important and treatable if they're picked up early.
Communicable disease protection	Tasmania is a place where fewer people get sick from infectious diseases, because protection is high, care is easy to reach and outbreaks are stopped early. Our State keeps these germs in check by staying ready, staying connected and making sure everyone has what they need to stay well.
Infection prevention and control	Tasmania is a place where stopping infections is part of everyday life and everyone plays a role in keeping each other safe. Our shared spaces are clean, well run and built on simple habits that protect health wherever we live, work, learn or gather.
Antimicrobial resistance	Tasmania is a State where bad germs can't win, we use our medicines wisely. Everyone and everything stays healthy so resistant germs never get a foothold.
Blood-borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections	Tasmania is a place where blood-borne viruses and sexually transmissible infections are rare. If they happen, they are caught early, treated quickly, and people get the support and tools they need to stay healthy without stigma and to keep others safe too.
Immunisation	Tasmania is a place where we look out for our own, trust our vaccines and understand how they keep infections at bay. Getting vaccinated is just something we do to protect ourselves, our families and the whole community.
Medicines and poisons regulation	Tasmania is a place where every medicine and chemical is safe, trusted and used the right way, with strong rules quietly protecting us in the background. Our State has systems that keep harmful products out and make sure the helpful ones do their job, so people, pets and the environment stay well.
Sleep and circadian health	Tasmania is a place where good sleep comes naturally because our days and nights line up with how our bodies work. Our places, spaces and people support and value rest and healthy rhythms, so everyone wakes up clear-headed, feels well and has energy for life.

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Healthy people and potential continued...

Sub-pillar	The Tasmania we want (goal)
Healthy beginnings and strong families	Tasmania is a place where every new life begins with safety, love and opportunity, and every child gets the best possible start with families who have what they need to care for them. Our State is one where parents feel steady, connected and valued, and where children grow up healthy, curious and ready to thrive.
Youth wellbeing and healthy pathways to adulthood	Tasmania is a place where every young person grows up healthy, safe and full of hope, with the support they need to find their path and feel proud of who they are. Our State is one where young people feel valued, connected and confident about their future, with real chances to learn, earn and thrive.
Healthy ageing and later life	Tasmania is the best place to grow older, where ageing feels good and people stay active, healthy and connected right through their later years. Our State is one where everyone ages with confidence and purpose, and can keep living life the way they choose.
Sexual and reproductive health	Tasmania is a place where everyone can understand their bodies, make real choices about their sexual and reproductive health, and feel safe, respected and supported at every stage of life. Our State is one where people can build the relationships and families they want, with no barriers, no shame, and care that always meets them where they are.
Mental health and wellbeing	Tasmania is a place where our minds are cared for as much as our bodies, and where we actively grow our mental wellbeing so it can truly flourish. Our State is one where people feel resilient, valued and able to live well, whether they're feeling on top of things or moving through tough patches.
Preventing suicide and self-harm	Tasmania is a place where no one dies by suicide, and no one faces their hardest moments alone. Our State is one where support is strong, chances are fair and people have what they need to stay safe, feel hope and live with purpose and belonging.
Preventable conditions and risk factors	Tasmania is a place where most long term conditions never take root because we've built a community and a system that stops illness early and supports wellbeing every day. Our State is one where we spend more of our years in good health and less in poor health, giving all of us the chance to live our best, fullest lives.

The Health Revolution

Healthy communities and social conditions

Sub-pillar	The Tasmania we want (goal)
Alcohol and other drugs	Tasmania is a place where alcohol and drugs don't cause harm in our lives or communities.
Tobacco and nicotine products	Work towards a Tasmania that is smoke-free and vape-free, nicotine addiction has ended, and no one feels pushed toward these products by stress or daily life. Everyone can breathe easy, live healthily and well and grow up without ever taking it up.
Gambling and other behavioural addictions	Tasmania is a place where people enjoy life's pleasures without harm, where our days aren't shaped by habits that pull us in or take more than they give. People are able to live, play and connect in ways that feel healthy, balanced and their own.
Breastfeeding and infant nutrition	Tasmania is a place where all our kids get the absolute healthiest start in life! It feels normal, welcoming, easy, and celebrated for families to feed their babies in whatever way works best for them. In our State, every family has the chance to breastfeed for as long as they choose, with full confidence and support to overcome any barriers.
Healthy food environments	Tasmania is a place where our whole food system nourishes wellbeing at every level, from soil to plate and from culture to community. Eating well is the easy, everyday choice, and every family can afford to do so without a second thought.
Commercial determinants of health	Tasmania is a place where what's good for our wellbeing is now what's good for business. Our State is a place where big industries focus on products that keep people well, and they do right by the community because it's an expected part of their job.
Healthy settings and places	Tasmania is a place where every setting we spend time in, from work to school to the spaces between, quietly supports our health and helps us live well. Our State is built so the easy, everyday choice is the healthy one, no matter where we are or what we're doing.
Physical activity	Tasmania is a place where moving our bodies feels good, and every one of us can find our own pace and feel welcome, safe and proud of what our bodies can do. Our State is alive with people who feel stronger in themselves because life around us makes being active easy.

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Healthy communities and social conditions continued...

Sub-pillar	The Tasmania we want (goal)
Caring, volunteering, community support	Our State is one where carers, volunteers and helpers feel proud, supported and able to live rich, full lives while they support others. Tasmania keeps getting stronger because we care for the people who care for us, and we inspire more generous, connected people to step forward in every community, knowing none of us are doing it alone.
Safety and violence prevention	Tasmania is a place where everyone feels safe in their homes, streets and relationships, and where violence has no place in daily life. Our State is one where kindness, respect and safety guide how we treat each other, and where people and communities heal together and pass on hope, not harm, through the generations.
Justice, health and rehabilitation	Tasmania is a place where crime is rare because we stop harm early and give people the support they need to stay on a safer path. Our State is one where everyone has a fair start, strong opportunities, and a justice system that heals, restores and protects our communities.
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health	This section is a placeholder. We are still speaking with Tasmanian Aboriginal communities about what belongs here, and we will not share any stories or insights without clear permission. Aboriginal health is shaped by culture, identity, family, connection to Country and long-standing strengths that sit beyond government systems. We know this work must be led by Aboriginal people and organisations. As those conversations continue, this placeholder marks the space where their voices, priorities and knowledge will sit. When the time is right, this section will be updated with content that reflects Aboriginal leadership, protects cultural knowledge and supports healthier futures in ways chosen by community.
Belonging, connection and resilience	Tasmania is a State where everyone belongs. You'll always find people who notice you, welcome you, and accept you for who you are. We're a State that's connected, caring, and strong, with communities that make you feel like you are important and valued.
Grief, loss and end-of-life	Tasmania is a community where we face loss together, and no one has to grieve or cope alone. Our State supports people to plan their care, choose what matters to them and feel held with comfort and dignity in their final stages of life. Every person and family feels supported during life's hardest moments.

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Healthy foundations and equity

Sub-pillar	The Tasmania we want (goal)
Housing and shelter	Tasmania is a place where everyone has a safe, warm home, one that protects health and gives stability to build a great life. No one is harmed or held back by housing, because secure, healthy homes are the foundation for all of us.
Care and supported living	Tasmania is a place where care and supported living give people safety, dignity and a real sense of belonging. Our State is one where the right support is always there, so people can live well, stay connected and build the kind of life they choose.
Education and lifelong learning	Tasmania is a place where learning stays with us through life, helping us read the world clearly and make sense of our everyday choices. Our State is one where every child, young person and adult has the skills and confidence to steer their own future and take part fully in community life.
Employment and workforce participation	Tasmania is a place where good, secure work helps us live healthier, happier and more stable lives. Our State is one where everyone who wants to work can find a job that's safe, fair and a good fit for their skills.
Income and social protection	Tasmania is a place where everyone has enough to live well and handle life's ups and downs without falling behind. Our State is one where people feel secure, supported and able to plan their lives with confidence.
Food security and affordability	Tasmania is a place where everyone can put nutritious, affordable food on the table and no one has to skip meals or worry about going hungry. Our State has a fair, resilient food system where healthy choices are easy, local producers thrive and the land that feeds us is cared for into the future.
Equity, inclusion and rights	Tasmania is a place that truly feels like home for everyone, where people belong, are respected and are welcomed into the community with open arms. Our State is one where our systems lift people up, our differences are celebrated and all of us get to build our best lives without unfair barriers in the way.
Digital inclusion	Tasmania is a place where every one of us can get online easily, affordably and with confidence. Our State is one where digital access opens the door to health care, learning, work and connection, and no one is left standing at the edge of modern life.
Health literacy and access to information	Tasmania is a place where all of us can make sense of our health, with clear information that helps us feel confident and in control. Our State is one where no one feels lost or unsure, because finding the right help is simple, friendly and easy.

The Health Revolution

Healthy systems and supports

Sub-pillar	The Tasmania we want (goal)
Governance and stewardship	Our system is open, fair and well run. Every decision works for people and every dollar works harder for all of us. Our voices guide the system, and we invest in good planning, strong coordination and fair regulation that keep everything reliable and built to last.
Funding and resourcing	We invest in our future, backing the things that keep us healthy so our State can grow and thrive. In Tasmania prevention is funded for the long haul, because we choose to put our money into wellbeing and a stronger Tasmania for generations to come.
Workforce and capability	Tasmania is a place with a strong, skilled prevention workforce that we value, support and grow. People have the tools, training and stability they need to do this work well, so prevention is part of everyday life in every community.
Data, intelligence and evaluation	Tasmania is a place where our data works together and our systems talk to each other, giving us a clear picture of what's happening. We have the right people using this information to spot what's coming, understand where help is needed, and make smarter, faster decisions that improve everyday life for everyone.
Research, evidence and innovation	We're curious, we love to learn, and we never shy away from having a go! We grab those ideas, test them, and quickly turn them into better care, smarter decisions, and real-world outcomes.
Communication campaigns and engagement	Everyone can easily understand what's happening, has a say in decisions that affect their lives, and trusts that information is shared openly. Government, business and community work as trusted partners, with communication building knowledge, guiding action in everyday life and emergencies, and shaping a fairer, safer future for us all.
Knowledge sharing and collaboration	Knowledge flows freely across government, communities, and sectors, so good ideas are shared and used everywhere. We work together, saving time and money, responding faster to change, and getting better results for people and the State.
Health technology	Good tools make good care possible. We choose technology that helps, we use it well and it makes everyday care clearer, safer and easier for all of us.
Digital health	Tasmania is a place where digital health makes care easier, not harder. Our digital tools help people and services share information safely, cut out the run around and give everyone clearer, smoother care, no matter where they live.
Emergency readiness and community resilience	In Tasmania, being ready is just how things are done. We plan ahead and build readiness, so we prevent harm early, protect lives, strengthen the economy and spend our money building the future.

The Health Revolution

How it will work

Tasmanians didn't just tell us what matters to them. They told us how they want the work to be done.

In your feedback you told us to:

"Keep listening"
"Be transparent"
"Show us where our input goes"
"Make sure this doesn't become a document that gathers dust"
"We want this to turn into real action".

We heard you. And we value the time, heart and honesty you gave us.

So, we've taken your feedback, the best research, what has worked in Tasmania before, and strong examples from around the world. We used what we've learned and discovered to build a way of working that can't just sit on a shelf. A way that pushes us to keep moving, follow through and stay accountable to each other.

The Strategy is the dream, the direction and the promise.

It's the big picture that explains why this matters and where we're heading over the next 20 years and beyond.

It holds the vision for a good life in Tasmania - all the things you told us matter, and all the parts of life that shape our health. Nothing important is shut out. The Strategy keeps the whole picture in play so we can act across all of it, now and as things change.

It commits us to taking action on that picture. It's the shared promise we're making to each other about the future we want and the path we'll take to get there. The Action Plans are how we'll pick what comes first.

The Strategy holds all the big ideas for living well in Tasmania. The Action Plans choose which ones we take on first.

Each Action Plan is a four-year plan. It says what we will do, when we will do it and who will be in charge. It turns the big dream into real jobs and real steps. We can't do everything at once, and trying to would only slow us down. The best way to build lasting change is to start strong in the places that matter most, then grow from there. The Strategy commits us to 20 years of work, and we'll get there step by step.

Each plan starts by asking: "What did Tasmanians tell us matters most right now?"

That answer will change over the next 20 years as life changes. New problems will show up. Old problems will ease. Different things will need attention.

The Action Plans let us focus on the batches of work that respond to what Tasmanians are feeling, facing and asking for at the time.

The Action Bank: keeping good ideas alive

We'll also keep an **Action Bank**. This is where good ideas wait their turn. Some actions can't be done right now, or may miss out on funding the first time. Instead of losing them, we'll store them safely, check in regularly, and bring them forward when the time is right. We won't fall into a habit of tossing things out and chasing the next shiny idea. Tasmanians told us you're tired of that. You asked us to keep the good things we already have, make them stronger and reshape them when they need it. The Action Bank helps us do exactly that.

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The snowball effect: how the work will roll out

Lots of plans start with small pilots and hope they scale up later. But we already know what needs to be done; Tasmanians told us clearly in our consultation that they're sick of stop-start trials that never add up to real change.

Tasmanians also told us that we are already doing many great things and to make sure we did not just start again.

We're building on the foundations that are already in place, making sure they are strengthened and then we can get on with filling in the gaps of those foundations. Once that's solid, we'll add the next actions.

The Strategy covers the whole picture. Each four-year action plan then picks the steps that make sense at that time.

Every four-year action plan builds on the one before it, growing bigger and stronger like a snowball rolled along. As our data gets better, our workforce develops and our systems run smoother, we can take on more. Nothing falls out of the snowball. The early topics stay inside. We just keep adding more as it rolls.

Over time, that snowball gets big enough to cover the whole Strategy – every pillar, every ingredient for a healthier Tasmania.

Action Plan 1 – Building on what we've learnt (Jul 2026 to Jun 2030)

We sort the basics so everything else can run properly. This is where the healthy systems and supports pillar kicks in – building the foundations, fixing the gaps and ensuring the essentials are in place. Once those foundations are steady, every step after that becomes easier, faster and far more effective.

We need to connect up and document the work already being done by communities, by the Tasmanian Government, by local government and by many of our other organisations. We do not want to lose this incredibly valuable work.
This will include carrying forward what we learnt from the Healthy Tasmania Plans, the Respectful and Age-Friendly Island Strategy, the It Takes a Tasmanian Island Strategy.

We need to make sure we know what is in local government plans for community infrastructure.

At the same time, we will start on the high-burden areas that Tasmanians said matter the most, where the evidence is strong, and the work is ready to begin.

Action Plan 2 – Bring in the next big topics (Jul 2030 to Jun 2034)

With the basics sorted, we can take on more of the big topics. These are important areas that weren't ready to start earlier because they needed more setup, more coordination or clearer ownership before real work could begin. This stage brings in the next phase of work once we're actually ready for it.

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Action Plan 3 – Improve what we've already built (Jul 2034 to Jun 2038)

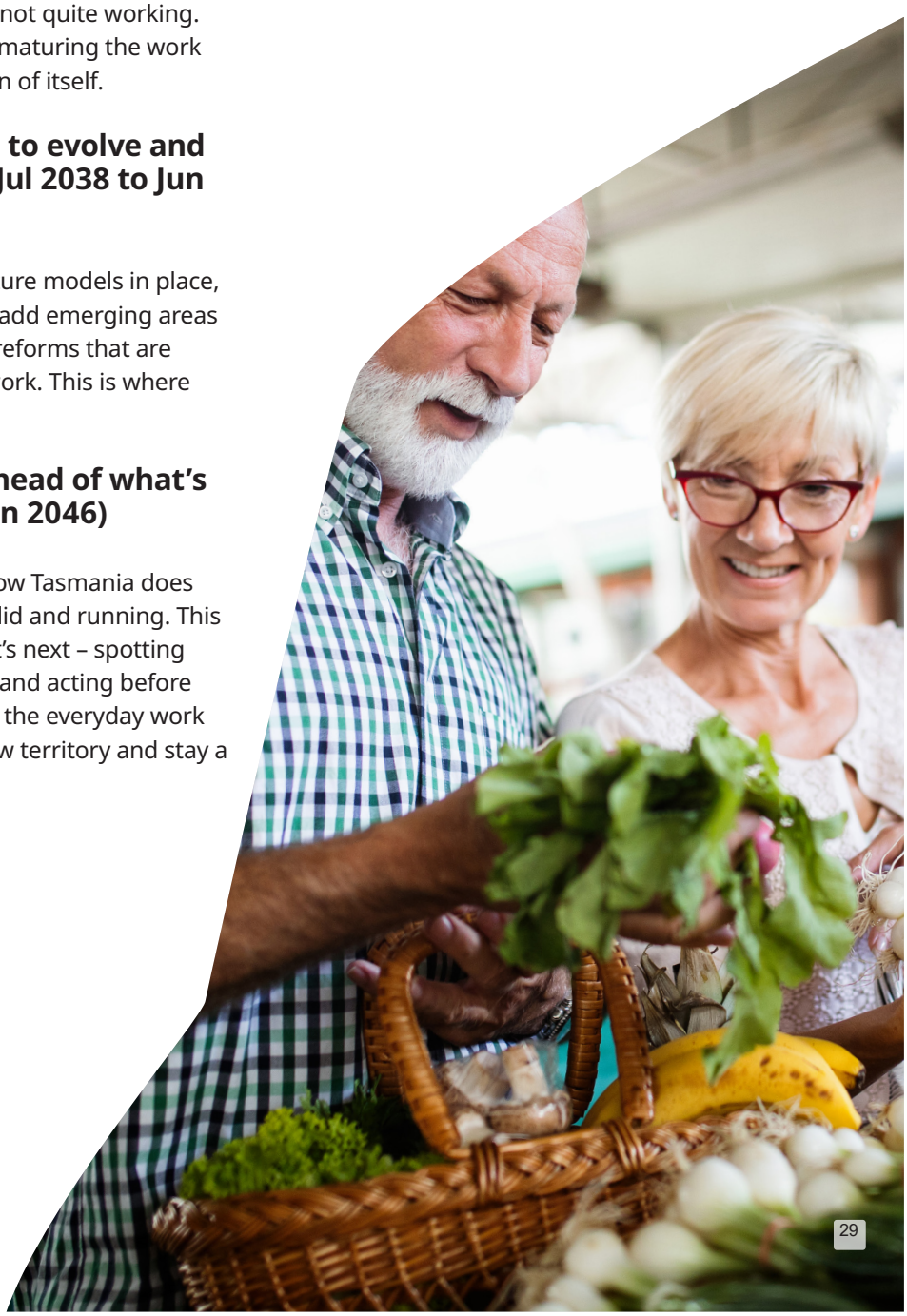
By this stage, the early work is moving. We don't throw things out or start from scratch – we make what we've built work better. We fine-tune the models, sort out the clunky bits, and use data and lived experience to fix what's not quite working. It's about strengthening and maturing the work so it becomes the best version of itself.

Action Plan 4 – Assess to evolve and add emerging areas (Jul 2038 to Jun 2042)

With strong systems and mature models in place, we can look at evolution and add emerging areas of prevention. These are the reforms that are bold and need solid groundwork. This is where Tasmania can step out front.

Action Plan 5 – Stay ahead of what's coming (Jul 2042 to Jun 2046)

By this stage, prevention is how Tasmania does business. The core work is solid and running. This stage turns our focus to what's next – spotting early risks, testing new ideas and acting before problems take hold. We keep the everyday work steady while we push into new territory and stay a step ahead.



The Health Revolution

Our principles

Together, our five pillars show what Tasmanians told us matters most. But pillars alone don't guide this important change. We also need clear direction.

Our principles will keep us pointed in the right direction. Reminds us what we stand for. What we won't compromise on. What Tasmanians deserve.

A standard we hold ourselves to.

These principles sit behind every decision, every action and every investment. They remind us why we're doing this, who we're doing it for, and how we need to show up every single day.

Because in the end, the real test of this Strategy isn't how it reads on a page. It's how it feels to live in the Tasmania we're creating together.

People first

We will always put Tasmanians' health and wellbeing at the heart of every decision, because when people live well, our entire State benefits.

People and communities at the heart

We're committed to working side-by-side with our communities. All efforts will involve Tasmanians in designing the services and policies they need, ensuring the solutions we create truly reflect what matters most to them.

Fairness and inclusion for all

We are committed to fairness; we will address inequity and remove barriers to make sure everyone in Tasmania gets the health support they deserve. Every activity will work to uphold the right to health for all, making sure support reaches everyone, everywhere.

Respecting culture, embracing diversity

Our efforts will be culturally safe and welcoming for everyone in Tasmania. We're dedicated to being responsive to our diverse communities, with a special focus on supporting Tasmanian Aboriginal people and those from different cultural and language backgrounds.

Inclusive design for every gender

We need a gender-responsive and inclusive design for all our systems and policies. This means recognising that biological, social, and cultural factors affect the health and experience of men, women, and gender-diverse Tasmanians differently.

Respect for the hands that do the work

We respect and celebrate the skilled workers across government, organisations, community and services who show up each day to protect their communities through prevention. We value this work and the Tasmanians who do it. These are Tasmanian jobs, held by Tasmanian workers, keeping Tasmanian families safe. If the work matters, the people who do the work matter too.

Best value

We're committed to making our resources count and avoiding doubling up on things. We'll focus only on the actions that will deliver the biggest possible boost to Tasmanians' health, ensuring every dollar is a valuable investment in our people, our communities, and our future.

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Open and accountable

We're committed to visible and honest action. We'll make sure there are easy ways for everyone to see our progress, understand the results of our efforts, and ensure we take responsibility for our decisions.

Learning as we go

We embrace the idea that no one gets everything right immediately. We are committed to an approach where we test ideas, learn from our experiences, and always adapt based on the best evidence and feedback from our community.

Better together

We will focus on actions that bring people together across government and our communities. We want to find solutions that deliver mutual benefits and ensure that our success in one area lifts up the entire system and provides benefits for all.

Thinking long term

We're committed to creating long-term positive change. We will prioritise actions that are sustainable; financially, socially, and environmentally. This way our efforts not only deliver today's wins but also protect the wellbeing of the generations to come.

Health at every age

All our activities will be designed to support people across their whole life journey, from the early years all the way through to later life.

Prevention in every place

We are committed to taking action across all settings; at home, school, work, and in the community. This way we are making sure support reaches Tasmanians wherever they live, learn, work, and play.

Prevention at every step

All our activity will look for chances to act early, intervene wisely, and reduce harm. Whether that's preventing an illness before it starts, stepping in when it first appears, or offering ongoing support, we are here every step of the way.

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The toolkit

This Strategy sets the big direction for what we are going to achieve and why, but for a plan to work it needs all the details about how we will revolutionise health in Tasmania. If we put all of those details into this document, it would go out of date pretty quickly. So we're building a family of toolkits to sit beside it.

We'll build the core toolkits during Action Plan 1. We'll keep talking with Tasmanians as we create them, and we'll keep updating them over time, so the tools stay useful, clear and easy for everyone to work with.

Prioritisation framework
How we'll pick what comes first

Principles-in-action toolkit
Turning our values into everyday practice

Evaluation and learning framework
Learning as we go

Governance model
How we'll stay on course

Authorising environment
Working towards our purpose

Funding model
How we'll fund the work

Workforce toolkit
How we build the team

Communications plan
Telling Tasmanians how it's going

Alignment map
Showing how everything fits together

Annual planning cycle
How we'll plan our work

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The prioritisation framework: how we'll pick what comes first

Tasmanians shared so many good ideas with us. More than we could ever do all at once. So we need a fair and simple way to choose what we start with.

That's why we're creating a **prioritisation framework**.

It's a clear set of questions that help us to sort the ideas that are ready now, the ones that need a bit more time to grow, and the ones that might work better later on.

It means our choices aren't rushed, hidden or based on the needs of those who shout the loudest. It will also let anyone and everyone see why we started where we started. It's open and transparent, just like Tasmanians asked us to be.

Questions we'll ask to figure out where to start first:

- Did Tasmanians say this was important in the consultation?
- Is this problem doing a lot of harm right now?
- Does the evidence show this will actually work and improve things?
- Will it help make things fairer for people?
- Will people feel the benefit quickly?
- Can we deliver it safely with what we have?
- Does it set us up well for the next steps?

The principles-in-action toolkit: turning our values into everyday practice

Our principles set the standard that we hold ourselves to and guide this Strategy. But the principles only matter if people can use them in day-to-day work, planning and decision making. Without the practical tools, it all gets left to chance.

We will create a **principles-in-action toolkit** to sit alongside the Strategy. It will bring together simple resources like checklists, planning questions and guides that help teams turn ideas into actions.

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The evaluation and learning framework: learning as we go

The Strategy isn't something we write once and forget about. It grows as we grow. We'll try things, see what works, fix what doesn't and keep improving. It's about being brave and honest, not about getting everything perfect on day one.

To do that, we will need simple ways to check if life is getting better for people.

That's why we're creating an **evaluation and learning framework**. It sits beside the Strategy and helps us keep score in a way that makes sense. It shows the targets we're aiming for (the actual numbers). It shows what we're measuring, how we're going and when we need to make changes.

We're keeping all of this in a companion document so it can grow over time. Some of the data we need doesn't exist yet, and some of the systems and people we need to measure things properly are still being built. By keeping the targets and details in the framework, we can update them as soon as we're ready, without having to rewrite the whole Strategy.

It will set out things like:

- our targets – the specific improvements we're aiming for
- what we're measuring
- where the data comes from and who looks after it
- how we bring all our data together so it makes sense
- how we track long-term change
- how we check how much money we're saving
- how we collect data and keep it safe
- how we use what we learn to shape the next action plan.

The governance model: how we'll stay on course

A 20-year plan only works if someone is steering the ship. That's what good governance is - clear roles, clear rules and clear ways to keep the work on track.

We'll create a **governance model** to sit beside the Strategy. It will hold all the detailed bits, like who is responsible for what, how we coordinate the work, how decisions get made and who checks that we're doing what we promised.

It will set out things like:

- how all of government will share the job, so prevention isn't left to one department
- how the Premier, Ministers and senior leaders stay involved in the big decisions
- how local communities will lead the way and have a real say in what happens
- how Aboriginal self-determination will guide priorities and decision-making for Aboriginal communities
- how public health will coordinate the Strategy in the middle, keeping all the pieces connected
- how different players will deliver the work on the ground, while still working as one system
- who provides independent oversight to keep the work honest, open and on track
- how problems get sorted quickly when work gets stuck or decisions are delayed.

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The authorising environment: working towards our purpose

You said:
"Stop throwing things out and starting again".

People are tired of good work being dropped every time there's a new election or a new priority. What we build now should make life easier for the people who come after us, not send them back to square one.

To make sure that can happen, we need the rules and supports that keep prevention steady, even when leadership changes or budgets get tight. That's what an authorising environment is. It's all the quiet things in the background that say, "this work matters" and keep it moving, no matter who is in charge.

The **authorising environment** will set out things like:

- the laws and policies that make prevention part of everyday business
- the funding rules that protect long-term investment
- the agreements that keep all sectors working together
- the decision rules that stop important work being dropped
- the protections that help prevention survive election cycles
- the ways prevention is built into normal planning across government.

The funding model: how we'll fund the work

We're changing how Tasmania funds health and wellbeing, not just how much we spend. Less paying for sickness, more investing in staying well.

Good prevention needs more than good ideas. It needs the right amount of money, used in the right way. That is why all levels of government and communities already invest in many forms of prevention. That is also why we need to ensure our investment is working.

We commit to funding that that grows Tasmania's productivity and wellbeing by backing the things that stop harm before it begins.

We commit to working with local and federal government and the community to continue their funding of prevention.

Prevention saves money across every part of our State. Every portfolio plays a part in the causes of poor health, and every portfolio benefits when we fix them.

When we stop problems early, people are more productive, costs drop and the State Budget and our economy is stronger. That frees up money for the big things Tasmanians want to do.

We've kicked things off by doing a world-first scan of how things are funded here and overseas. We've got examples of every way it is possible to fund prevention.

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We'll build a **funding model** to sit alongside the Strategy. It will help us work out what we need to fund, where the money should come from, how it will work and how it fits together.

Our **funding model** will help us:

- lock in permanent, steady funding so prevention keeps going
- keep things stable over time
- use the right amount of money for the right job
- join funding across organisations so we're not working in silos
- make space for government, community, business and partners to chip in
- keep room to try new ideas and learn as we go.

The workforce toolkit: how we build the team

A Strategy is only as strong as the people who carry it. Good ideas don't walk off the page by themselves. If we want prevention to work, we need the right people, in the right places, with the right support.

"There's no point having big plans, if there's no one to do them."

Right now, we don't have enough prevention workers to do everything Tasmanians are asking for. So we'll build a **workforce toolkit** to make sure we have the people power to get the job done.

Think of it as our "how-to" guide for planning, growing and supporting the prevention workforce - real Tasmanian jobs, done by Tasmanian workers, protecting Tasmanian families every day.

Our **workforce toolkit** will help us:

- map the prevention workforce Tasmania already has
- show where we need more people, more skills or more support
- plan ahead so we're not scrambling or leaving gaps
- set up clear ways to train, grow and support the prevention workforce
- make space for lived experience and cultural expertise
- use tech better to save time and improve the way people work
- help everyone to know who does what, and how all the pieces fit together
- open up roles and encourage new ways of working so people can use all their skills.

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The communications plan: telling Tasmanians how it's going

Tasmanians deserve to know how this Strategy is going. We will have simple ways to stay involved, ask questions and share ideas as the work unfolds. People should be able to see what's changing, what's not, and what we're learning along the way.

Clear, honest communication keeps prevention alive and reminds everyone this isn't a plan gathering dust; it's something we're building together.

We'll create a **communications plan** to sit alongside the Strategy. It'll be like a calendar of when we'll talk, and will set out:

- how we share information
- what we share
- how often we share it
- who we speak with
- how and when we report back to the community
- how people can give feedback at any time
- how we close the loop with clear "you said, we did" updates
- how we make information accessible in the right formats and languages
- how we reach different groups and places, including people who aren't online
- how we bring community voice in every year.

The plan won't be static. We'll keep updating it based on what Tasmanians tell us and where they are, making sure our communication lands in the right places, in the right formats and in ways that make sense for different people and communities.

The alignment map: showing how everything fits together

Tasmania has many strategies, plans and reporting requirements across the government. People need to see how this Strategy connects with that wider picture and how each part of the work supports other priorities across the State.

We will create an **alignment map** that sits alongside the Strategy. It will show how each sub-pillar and action links to other goals, strategies and reporting requirements across government. It will help us see where efforts overlap, where they reinforce each other and where we need to work together more closely.

The **alignment map** will help us to get rid of doubling up on things and make sure that our work is getting good value for the investment of skills, time and money.

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The annual planning cycle: how we'll plan our work

A 20-year Strategy needs a way to stay fresh. Life changes fast, and even our four-year action plans need room to adapt. So, we'll keep our planning rolling all the time, not once every few years.

Each year we'll do a small check-in to see how things are tracking. Every four years we'll do a bigger review to shape the next action plan. This means we're never caught off guard and never scrambling at the last minute.

We'll look at the evidence, listen to communities, map what's working and check where the pressure points are. From there, we shape the actions, put them in the right order and make sure they build on what's already happening across Tasmania.

We'll keep talking with Tasmanians all the way through, so the work stays pointed in the right direction. If something new or urgent pops up, we're ready for it, we can adjust and evolve. The cycle keeps growing as Tasmania grows, building on the thousands of voices we've already heard.

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Who do we need at the table and who will do what

Prevention is a team effort

When it comes to prevention, it's a real team effort. Even though public health will drive the Strategy, no single agency, organisation, or department can manage this alone. Everyone in Tasmania has an important part to play, from the big groups that shape our environment to the people who bring our communities to life.

This Strategy is like the backbone of the State which makes sure all our efforts line up. The actual work; this will happen everywhere. Councils, schools, workplaces, services, researchers, businesses, neighbourhoods and individuals will all contribute something special. The Strategy is really just a way to ensure every bit of effort connects and adds up to a much bigger impact.

When we work towards the same goal, we act like one smart system instead of a bunch of separate projects. Our big, shared aim is to genuinely make life better for everyone in Tasmania, and we do that by putting great local ideas into action right where they are needed.

That is why it matters who is at the table and what they bring with them.

Elected representatives and political leaders

Our elected representatives and political leaders matter because they help set the direction for the State. They can keep prevention steady over time, open doors, clear roadblocks and help the whole State move the same way.

We need them at the table because prevention only works when the people who make the laws and funding decisions understand what's happening, listen to communities and back the actions that will make the biggest difference. Their support helps this work last for the long haul, not just for one term.

Government and the public sector

The Government and public sector are really important because they shape everything we use, moving us from "ideas" to "actual doing." We need their teams at the table because our plan will only work best when all members of the team are pulling in the same direction. When all parts of government work together for the same purpose, they can connect services and make sure the daily choices people face are safe, fair, and supportive.

Community partners and service providers

Community groups and local services are often the first stop for Tasmanians when they need help. They're the people who really know what's going on with people in communities. They know how to spot problems early, and understand what solutions will work in their area. They are super important for turning big ideas into real, trusted, and practical solutions.

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Professionals and everyday leaders

Anyone who teaches, builds, plans, cares, supports, leads, designs, serves, coaches, creates, organises, fixes, welcomes, listens or guides is so important in this Strategy. These people make hundreds of small decisions that quietly shift how people live, learn, move, work and feel. We need them at the table because their everyday decisions quietly support health and wellbeing, even if they'd never call it "prevention".

Aboriginal leadership

For tens of thousands of years, Aboriginal people have led wellbeing on this island by caring for land, water, spirit and community. Culture, community and Country have always been prevention in action. We need Aboriginal leadership at the table because prevention is stronger when it is shaped by culture, led locally and grounded in what works for Aboriginal families and communities.

Universities, researchers and places of learning

Tasmania's researchers, universities and learning places help us understand what really works. We need them at the table because they grow the evidence, teach the people and help us learn and improve as we go.

Business partners and workplaces

Tasmania's workplaces, employers and businesses shape how people live, move and feel every day. We need them at the table because they create safe jobs, steady incomes, healthy cultures and the everyday conditions that help people stay well.

Philanthropy and funders

Tasmania's philanthropists, charitable trusts and financial partners help ideas grow. We need them at the table because they can back new approaches, fill gaps, move quickly and support the kind of long-term change prevention needs.

Media and storytellers

Tasmania's media, makers and storytellers shape how we see our world. We need them at the table because they set the tone, share the stories and help people understand what matters for staying well. They show us what feels normal and what we pay attention to. When prevention shows up in the news, online and in our communities, it becomes something people expect, support and feel proud of.

Advocates and champions

Tasmania's advocates, peaks and community champions speak up for people, places and issues that matter. We need them at the table because they keep the system honest, bring real stories forward and make sure no one is left out. They help turn community needs into clear asks and keep prevention on the public agenda.

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Lived experience and peer workers

People with lived experience carry knowledge you can't learn from books. We need them at the table because they know what really helps, what gets in the way and what makes services feel safe, respectful and useful.

They've been there themselves, and they make sure prevention actually fits real life.

Communities and individuals

This is the most important team of all. Prevention lives with people. When we start building communities that choose wellness first, not just care after things go wrong, we can finally shift things for the better – and we all have a role in that. We need every single one of us at the table, knowing we deserve to stay well and believing a better future is possible.

Image Credit: Moon Cheese Studio

The Health Revolution

Let's do this, it's time for our revolution

Tasmania's strength has always come from us, its people. This plan was built by those very people. It's full of thousands of voices, ideas, and stories from all corners of the State.

This is the start of something great for Tasmania. It's our shared commitment to turn things around and make our State an even better place to call home. The goal is simple: Healthier, stronger Tasmanians, living the lives they truly want.

Now, it's time to carry this forward. A healthier Tasmania isn't some faraway dream. It's something we can and will build, step-by-step, together through this plan.

This whole strategy belongs to us. We made it together, and we stand behind it together. Every single one of us helps shape what happens next.

This is The Health Revolution. This is what living well in Tasmania is all about.

The Health Revolution

Tasmanian Government

Local Government Gifts and Donations Consultation paper

2 February 2026

Have your say: Misconduct risks and the regulation of gifts and donations in local government

INTEGRITY COMMISSION TASMANIA

The objectives of the Integrity Commission are to:

- improve the standard of conduct, propriety and ethics of public authorities in Tasmania
- enhance public confidence that misconduct by public officers will be appropriately investigated and dealt with, and
- enhance the quality of, and commitment to, ethical conduct by adopting a strong, educative, preventative and advisory role.

We acknowledge and pay our respects to Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the traditional owners of the land upon which we work. We recognise and value Aboriginal histories, knowledge and lived experiences, and commit to being culturally inclusive and respectful in our working relationships with all Aboriginal people.

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This report and further information about the Commission can be found on the website at: www.integrity.tas.gov.au

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Local government consultation paper

Have your say: Misconduct risks and the regulation of gifts and donations in local government

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Executive summary

As part of the Integrity Commission's function to uphold, promote and ensure adherence to standards of conduct, propriety and ethics in public authorities, we undertook a research project examining the offer and acceptance of gifts and donations in local government. We identified that the current regulatory framework presents a number of misconduct risks, including a lack of consistency across policies and procedures and a lack of awareness about the potential impacts on good governance when local government employees, elected members or candidates accept gifts and donations.

The Commission has decided to release a consultation paper. The paper documents the findings of the research project and seeks submissions from the local government sector, the public sector more broadly and members of the public on the potential misconduct risks that arise in the context of gifts and donations in local government and whether and how changes should be made to the current regulatory framework. We aim to ensure that these risks are communicated to the public and to promote discussion about potential solutions.

This paper includes the following submission prompts:

1. Do you have any general comments or observations about the misconduct risks of offering and accepting gifts and donations in local government?
2. How serious do you think these risks are?
3. Is the current legal and regulatory framework that governs gifts and donations in local government adequate? Why/why not?
4. Would you support the introduction of a personal interests return scheme for elected members and/or employees?
5. Do you support the government's proposal to require that all electoral candidates declare gifts and donations received during an electoral period?
6. Should other council officials – including staff, contractors and subcontractors, trainees and volunteers – be subject to a code of conduct?
7. Should the legislation/code of conduct prescribe additional monitoring procedures? Do you have any general comments or observations about what those procedures should be?
8. Do you support the introduction of a model gifts and donations policy? If so, what should be included?
9. Should the policy apply to both elected members and other council officials? Should there be separate policies for each?
10. Is the current declaration threshold of $50 appropriate? Why/why not?
11. Should gifts and donations in local government be regulated differently? Should they be defined?
12. Should the definitions of **gift** and **donation** be consistent across all councils? Why/why not?
13. Should elected members and other council officials be subject to different obligations? Why/why not?

1. Introduction

The Integrity Commission (the Commission) is an independent statutory authority established by the *Integrity Commission Act 2009* (Tas).

The Commission's objectives are to:

- improve the standard of conduct, propriety and ethics of public authorities in Tasmania
- enhance public confidence that misconduct by public officers will be appropriately investigated and dealt with, and
- enhance the quality of, and commitment to, ethical conduct by adopting a strong, educative, preventative and advisory role.

Section 31 of the *Integrity Commission Act 2009* (Tas) sets out the Commission's educative, preventative and advisory functions. This includes a function to 'undertake research into matters related to ethical conduct' and to 'take such steps as the Integrity Commission considers necessary to uphold, promote and ensure adherence to standards of conduct, propriety and ethics in public authorities'.

As part of that function, the Commission has decided to release a consultation paper seeking submissions from the local government sector, the public sector more broadly and members of the public on the potential misconduct risks that arise when local government employees, elected members or candidates accept gifts and donations and whether and how changes should be made to the current regulatory framework. We aim to ensure that these risks are communicated to the public and to promote discussion about potential solutions.

The outcomes sought are that:

- statewide, good practice gifts and donations policies that apply to all council officials are implemented
- through a consultative process, the recommendations have widespread support from councils
- statewide, good practice gifts and donations templates are developed
- policies are regularly reviewed and up to date
- the distinction between gifts and donations is understood and reflected in policies
- council officials understand their responsibilities and the process for declaring offers of gifts or donations
- council officials understand the principles that underlie gift policies
- the 'thanks is enough' message is reinforced
- council officials are encouraged to report instances of alleged misconduct, and
- councils are supported to implement robust monitoring and oversight systems.

2. Background

This consultation paper documents the findings of a research project (Project Twelvetrees) undertaken by the Commission that examined the offer and acceptance of gifts and donations in local government. The project drew on earlier work on this and related issues.

The Commission's previous relevant work in this area includes an own-motion investigation into gifts and benefits in the state service (Operation Kilo)[1] and a research report on the management of conflicts of interest between local councillors and property developers (Project Fisher).[2]

The Commission has also audited state service organisations' public gift registers. The audit reviewed compliance with the gifts and benefits declaration and approval requirements introduced by the whole-of-government *Gifts, Benefits and Hospitality Policy* (Project Vulcan).[3]

Project Fisher arose from a Commission investigation which found that a local government candidate had accepted a substantial campaign donation from a developer; there was no requirement for the candidate to declare this.[4] This is because, while councillors are subject to some donation and gift declaration requirements under section 56B of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) (LG Act) when they are in office, there is no requirement for candidates to declare donations/gifts before they are elected.

While there has been media reporting about, and detailed changes to, legislation governing electoral donations to parliamentary candidates in Tasmania, there has not been an equivalent focus in the media or by the Commission on local government.

Project Twelvetrees examined the legal and regulatory framework governing gifts and donations in local government, including codes of conduct and council policies. It also conducted a compliance audit of publicly available council gift registers.

Our assessment was that there is considerable uniformity in most councils' gifts and benefits policies. Most policies do not distinguish between gifts and donations and so do not deal with each independently. Many gift policies combine broad policy statements but do not have a clear process for employees and elected members to follow.

The small number of declarations in the gift registers also suggests that council officials may be accepting gifts and donations without reporting them as required. The fact that so few employee declarations are recorded raises questions about whether it is appropriate that employees escape the public scrutiny that councillors are subject to.

Overall, the project identified that gifts and donations appear to be a risk factor for good governance in local government.

3. How to make a submission

We invite you to submit your views on misconduct risks in the regulation of gifts and donations in local government.

This consultation paper discusses key topics covered in Project Twelvetrees. Each topic is accompanied by prompts to assist you in making a submission. The prompt questions are included in the paper to help you, but your submission does not need to address all or any of them.

You are also welcome to highlight relevant issues for consideration beyond these topics.

We will read and carefully consider all submissions. If you choose to respond to specific prompts or content, please clearly show in your submission which parts you are referring to as this will help our analysis. We will use these submissions, along with our research to date, to prepare a short final paper with recommendations to the relevant bodies such as the Local Government Association of Tasmania and the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Office of Local Government.

We will treat all submissions as public unless you ask us to treat your submission as confidential or to not publish your name (and/or the name of your organisation).

We will not publish submissions that we believe are defamatory or offensive. If your submission includes information that could identify other people, then we may not publish all or part of that submission.

Copyright in submissions remains with the author(s), not with the Commission.

The deadline for submissions is 5:00 pm, Monday 2 March 2026.

You can provide your submission in writing via one of the following options:

- Email contact@integrity.tas.gov.au
- Post Local government gifts and donations consultation paper
  Integrity Commission Tasmania
  GPO Box 822
  Hobart TAS 7001

Queries about the submission process can be made via email to contact@integrity.tas.gov.au.

Accessibility of submissions

We understand that not all people or groups are equally placed to access and understand information. We want to make sure that our information is accessible and easily understood by people with diverse communication needs.

If making a written submission is not accessible to you, please visit our accessibility page at integrity.tas.gov.au/accessibility or phone 1300 720 289 to get advice on other ways to participate.

Where possible, please type your submission in plain English and provide it in Microsoft Word format or equivalent. The easiest way of making your submission is through our online portal.

4. Misconduct risks

As public officers, local government councillors and employees act on behalf of the community. They must act impartially in providing advice and in the decisions they make and ensure that they neither seek nor gain personal benefit from their position.[5] The offer and acceptance of gifts and donations, if not managed and monitored appropriately and transparently, gives rise to a number of risks to impartiality and public perceptions of impartiality, including:

- the perception that public officials might be unduly influenced or open to bribery
- people's tendency to feel a sense of indebtedness and a need to reciprocate when they are given something, even if the gift, benefit or hospitality is of a modest value
- the conflict of interest that could be created between a public official's duty and their personal interests because of the relationship that could form with the gift giver
- the possibility of benefiting some individuals or organisations through influenced or unjust decisions, while unfairly disadvantaging others
- the risk that a public official is compromised once they have accepted a gift (for example, they could be subject to threats of exposure unless they continue to provide preferable treatment to the giver), and
- the potential for an organisation's independence and reputation to be brought into disrepute.[6]

Some gift givers may be motivated by a sense of appreciation for work done. Others may seek privileged access to decision-makers and favourable consideration of their interests. But it can be difficult to distinguish an unobjectionable gift that is given as a token of thanks from a gift that is intended to win favour with the recipient. The benefit to the giver may not be obvious, particularly when the benefit does not occur until later.

The risks may be heightened at the local level for a number of reasons.

- By their nature, local councils directly affect their constituents' lives – whether it be in their roles as planning authorities and regulators or their responsibilities for community health, waste management, public spaces, animals and roads.
- It has been said that 'proximity to the people and the discretion that local officials have in exercising their functions can make local government highly vulnerable to corruption.'[7]
- Even when no improper advantage is sought, it may be difficult to dissuade members of the public from a longstanding community practice of giving gifts to council workers to show appreciation.

- Councils' core businesses of land planning, procurement, and licensing and permits are all key risk areas. Competition for limited council resources is high, so some constituents may see the offer of a gift to a council officer with discretionary power as a way to influence or prioritise decisions in their favour.
- Candidates for local government elections incur significantly lower campaign costs than state or federal candidates, so smaller donations can have a significant impact. Thus, even small donations may create a sense of obligation and '*implicit bargains* of favourable treatment or a *culture* of delivering preferential treatment to moneyed interests.'[8]
- A recent phone survey of Tasmanian residents, *The Future of Local Government Review: Tasmanian Residents State-Wide Phone Survey Report*, supports the notion that residents have considerable contact with their local council. Just under half of the 1,000 survey respondents reported that they had direct contact with their local council in the previous 12 months (45%). The survey found an inverse correlation between the population of the local government area and direct contact with the local council. The smaller the population, the more likely it is that residents have direct contact with their council.[9]
- A high turnover of council chief executive officers and staff also creates difficulties in implementing and maintaining a culture of integrity.[10]

Submission prompt

1. Do you have any general comments or observations about the misconduct risks of offering and accepting gifts and donations in local government?
2. How serious do you think these risks are?

5. Legal and regulatory framework

5.1. *Local Government Act 1993* and *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025*

Sitting councillors must disclose the receipt of gifts and donations under section 56A of the *LG Act*. Section 56A provides that councillors must notify the general manager in writing and in accordance with the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025* (Tas) (*LGG Regulations*). The wording of the provisions in both the *LG Act* and the *LGG Regulations* suggests that the councillor must receive the benefit directly. Under regulation 31 of the *LGG Regulations*, the threshold for disclosures is a monetary value of $50 or a series of gifts with a combined monetary value of $50 in a financial year.

The prescribed thresholds do not apply to employees and other council workers. Instead, for the most part, their responsibilities are set out in the gift policy and/or an employee code of conduct. Therefore, to the extent that these instruments conform with the legislation, other council workers are, in effect, subject to the same limits.

In its application, the legislation does not distinguish between a gift and a donation.

Perhaps the most common type of donation is an election campaign donation, but other donations may be made for a specific purpose. For example, an individual might donate to an employee's sporting club and expect favourable treatment in return. It may be impossible to trace donations to third-party recipients without a robust system of personal interest disclosures.

Unlike other Australian jurisdictions, Tasmania does not have a **personal interests return scheme** for elected members or employees, and there are no campaign donation disclosure requirements for local government candidates who are not sitting councillors. A personal interests return scheme requires that people in public office submit a record of their personal interests in such things as property, shares, additional paid employment, and associations with businesses or companies. It may also require the disclosure of a spouse's interests. Such schemes commonly require an initial return and an annual update.

The state government has indicated an intention to require that all electoral candidates declare gifts and donations received during an electoral period;[11] however, to date, the necessary amendments to the *LG Act* have not been implemented.

The general manager must keep a register of gifts and donations and make it available on the council's website. The register must be updated 'at least monthly'.[12] A media article from 2021 suggests that some councils may not be complying with this requirement, observing that '[m]ost Tasmanian councils are in breach of state government regulations that require monthly updates on their websites of all donations and gifts to councillors of more than $50.'[13]

Beyond recording declarations, the *LG Act* does not require the general manager to monitor the offer and acceptance of gifts and donations.

Our audit examined declarations in gift registers up to the end of March 2024. It identified a total of just over 600 declarations in the publicly available gift registers. Two councils did not publish a gift register. The earliest record is dated August 2012 (before the requirement to publish a gift register was enacted), and the latest is March 2024.

However, the coverage across councils and across this period is very inconsistent. Few registers have met the legislative requirement to update the register 'at least monthly', although more than 60% were updated during the six months before the end date of the audit. A substantial number appear not to have been updated since 2022.

As might be expected, the 4 largest municipalities by population account for nearly 70% of the declared gifts. Given such patchy records, the numbers are not statistically significant. But it is clear that, apart from some of the larger municipalities, very few gifts are declared by councillors and even fewer by employees.

These findings suggest that the acceptance and declaration of gifts and donations should be subject to more robust monitoring.

The *LG Act* also imposes disclosure obligations for pecuniary interests, but only when the interest relates to a matter discussed at a council meeting.[14] A 'pecuniary interest' is one that is to do with money or financial matters. If a councillor has a pecuniary interest in a matter that comes before council, it must be declared at the meeting and the councillor must leave the meeting before the discussion begins.

A councillor has an interest if they, or a close associate, would expect to receive a pecuniary benefit or detriment if a matter was decided in a particular way.[15] A **close associate** includes a councillor's immediate family members and immediate family members of the spouse or partner of a councillor.[16] Similar obligations apply to council employees and the general manager under section 55 of the *LG Act*.

Respective councillor and employee codes of conduct separately impose requirements to disclose potential non-pecuniary conflicts of interest.[17]

5.2. Codes of conduct

Elected members are bound by codes of conduct that are mandated by section 28T of the *LG Act*. These codes of conduct mirror schedule 1 part 6 of the *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2024* (Model Code) relating to gifts and benefits:

> 1. A councillor may accept an offer of a gift or benefit if it directly relates to the carrying out of the councillor's public duties, is appropriate in the circumstances and is not in contravention of relevant legislation.
>
> 2. A councillor must avoid situations in which a reasonable person would consider that a person or body, through the provisions of gifts or benefits, is securing, or attempting to secure, influence or a favour from the councillor or the council.

Although it is not a requirement of the *LG Act*, in some cases, other council officials – including staff, contractors and subcontractors, trainees and volunteers – are subject to separate codes of conduct.

The Model Code does not include a requirement to declare the receipt of gifts or donations, nor does it create a monitoring system.

Submission prompt

3. Is the current legal and regulatory framework that governs gifts and donations in local government adequate? Why/why not?
4. Would you support the introduction of a personal interests return scheme for elected members and/or employees?
5. Do you support the government's proposal to require that all electoral candidates declare gifts and donations received during an electoral period?
6. Should other council officials – including staff, contractors and subcontractors, trainees and volunteers – be subject to a code of conduct?
7. Should the legislation/code of conduct prescribe additional monitoring procedures? Do you have any general comments or observations on what those procedures should be?

5.3. Gifts and donations policies

In addition to the above legislative and quasi-legislative instruments, most councils have specific policies for accepting gifts and benefits/donations. We audited these, as well as the registers, as part of our research project.

Twenty-four (of 29) local councils have publicly available gift policies. The other 5 councils deal with the receipt of gifts and benefits generically within their respective councillor and/or employee codes of conduct. Aside from minor differences in terminology and structure, the gift policies are similar in style and content:

- All policies include references to gifts and benefits, but nearly half do not refer to donations. Those that do, fail to differentiate between gifts and donations and, hence, do not deal with each independently.
- Most policies apply to **council officials**. This generally includes the mayor, councillors, council staff (including staff engaged through an employment agency), council committee members, volunteers and contractors.
- A small minority of councils have separate gift policies for council employees.
- Most policies set the disclosure threshold no higher than that prescribed by the *LG Act* ($50).

Submission prompt

8. Do you support the introduction of a model gifts and donations policy? If so, what should be included?
9. Should the policy apply to both elected members and other council officials? Should there be separate policies for each?
10. Is the current declaration threshold of $50 appropriate? Why/why not?

Defining gifts and donations

There is no legislative definition of either **gift** or **donation**. The *Macquarie Dictionary* defines **donation** as:

> 1. the act of presenting something as a gift.
> 2. a gift, as to a fund; a contribution.[18]

Gift is defined as:

> 1. something given; a present.
> 2. the act of giving.[19]

The essence of a donation is that, unlike a gift, it is given to benefit a specific purpose, such as a donation to a councillor's re-election campaign. For this consultation paper, **donation** refers to a financial donation and does not include such things as food or gift vouchers, which would be considered gifts.

Most policies define **gift** in essentially the same way, as 'a tangible item provided at no charge or a discounted price. Gifts may include, but are not limited to items such as cash, property (real or otherwise), goods and services made available at heavily discounted prices, alcohol, clothes, products, invitations to social functions and tickets to sporting, theatrical or music events.'[20]

The few policies that define **donation** mostly use definition 1 from the *Macquarie Dictionary*.

Most policies do not make a distinction between gifts and donations. However, a gift is not the same as a donation. As noted above, a donation is given for a specific purpose or cause. A gift may be given simply as a token of appreciation, with or without an expectation of reciprocal benefit.

The difference suggests that they should be regulated differently. Strict limits on accepting gifts may be appropriate, even to the extent of prohibiting them entirely. Indeed, it is arguable that there are no circumstances in which an individual employee should accept gifts for doing paid work.

However, there may be good reasons for allowing electoral donations, as long as they are regulated. A report by the federal Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters into the funding of political parties and election campaigns emphasised that attempts to regulate electoral funding and disclosure systems must not 'unduly restrict the ability of individuals and groups to engage in the political arena, whether through donating to a candidate, political party or third party'.[21] The report noted, '[t]he use of donations as a form of political expression is an essential element of participatory democracy.'[22]

Submission prompt

11. Should gifts and donations in local government be regulated differently? Should they be defined?
12. Should the definitions of **gift** and **donation** be consistent across all councils? Why/why not?

Council officials and/or councillors

Part 5A of the *LG Act* (relating to the receipt of gifts and donations) and part 6 of the Model Code only apply to elected councillors. Therefore, individual council policies establish the obligations of employees in relation to gifts and donations.

As noted above, most policies apply to both councillors and other council workers generally. For the most part, policies are consistent across the local government areas. Accordingly, most council officials in Tasmania are subject to similar obligations in relation to accepting gifts and donations.

Decisions of council employees can significantly affect both the domestic and business interests of ratepayers. Elected members are responsible for high-level strategy and policy, but the responsibility for operational activities is generally delegated to the chief executive officer and then passed on to an appropriate council officer. Delegated decision-makers with specific operational functions often have a more direct and immediate impact on constituents' interests.

Some roles within council may be considered particularly vulnerable to attempts at improper influence, and the risk may be heightened if the role of the council officer is to provide advice to assist council decision-making or if they have developed a regular business relationship with a constituent.

There is also the risk that councillors will seek to influence council employees, for example, to speed up applications for themselves or an associate.

Submission prompt

13. Should elected members and other council officials be subject to different obligations? Why/why not?

References

[1] Integrity Commission, *An Own Motion Investigation into Policies, Practices and Procedures Relating to Receiving and Declaring of Gifts and Benefits in the Tasmanian State Service* (Report No 1 of 2015, 22 September 2015) <www.integrity.tas.gov.au/oversight-and-compliance/monitoring-and-triage/accordion-monitoring-and-triage/own-motion-investigations>.

[2] Integrity Commission, *An Own Motion Investigation into Policies, Practices and Procedures Relating to Receiving and Declaring of Gifts and Benefits in the Tasmanian State Service* (Report No 1 of 2015, 22 September 2015) <www.integrity.tas.gov.au/oversight-and-compliance/monitoring-and-triage/accordion-monitoring-and-triage/own-motion-investigations>.

[3] Integrity Commission Tasmania, *Project Vulcan – Gifts and Benefits: An Audit of State Service Agencies' Public Registers* (Report No 3 of 2023, 16 November 2023) <www.integrity.tas.gov.au/publications/publications/oversight/report-3-of-2023-summary>.

[4] Integrity Commission Tasmania, *Managing Conflicts of Interest between Local Government Councillors and Property Developers* (Research paper, 29 September 2022) 15 <www.integrity.tas.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0012/678585/research-paper-investigation-fisher.pdf>.

[5] See Municipal Association of Victoria, Victorian Local Governance Association, Local Government Victoria and Local Government Professionals, *Good Governance Guide* (2012) 57 <www.vlga.org.au/governance-leadership/local-government/vlga-good-governance-guide>.

[6] See NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption, *Gifts and Benefits* (Webpage) <www.icac.nsw.gov.au/prevention/basic-standards/gifts-and-benefits>.

[7] Transparency International, *Corruption and Local Government* (Working Paper No 05/2009, 15 October 2009) 1 <www.transparency.org/en/publications/working-paper-05-2009-corruption-and-local-government>.

[8] Joo-Cheong Tham, Submission No 3 to Select Committee into the Political Influence of Donations, Parliament of Australia, *Inquiry into 2010 Federal Election* (27 September 2017) Attachment 2, 15 <www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Political_Influence_of_Donations/PoliticalDonations/Submissions> (emphasis in original).

[9] Institute for Regional Futures, *The Future of Local Government Review: Tasmanian Residents State-Wide Phone Survey Report* (April 2023) 15 <www.futurelocal.tas.gov.au/publications/>. For populations under 10,000, the figure is 54% compared with 36% for the major cities. For councils with a population of fewer than 5,000 residents, almost 60% had direct contact with their council in the last 12 months.

[10] Independent Broad-Based Anti-Corruption Commission, *Corruption and Misconduct Risks for Local Government* (Webpage, 25 September 2023) <https://ibac.vic.gov.au/corruption-and-misconduct-risks-local-government>.

[11] See Department of Premier and Cabinet, *Approved Reforms: Review of the Local Government Legislative Framework* (June 2018) Reform #14 <www.dpac.tas.gov.au/divisions/local_government/legislation/legislation_reviews/local_government_legislation_review#:~:text=%EE%80%80The%20Tasmanian%20Government%EE%80%81>.

[12] *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) ss 56B(1), (3)(c).

[13] Bob Burton, 'Most Tasmanian Councils in Breach of Rules for Disclosure of Gifts and Donations: Questions Raised about Lack of Effective Oversight by the State Government', *Tasmanian Inquirer* (online, 2 August 2021) <https://tasmanianinquirer.com.au/news/most-tasmanian-councils-in-breach-of-rules-for-disclosure-of-gifts-and-donations/>.

[14] *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) s 48.

[15] *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) s 49.

[16] *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) s 51.

[17] See Minister for Planning and Local Government (Tas), *Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2024* (3 September 2024) sch 1 pt 2.

[18] *Macquarie Dictionary* (online at 20 January 2025) 'donation' (def 1, 2).

[19] *Macquarie Dictionary* (online at 20 January 2025) 'gift' (def 1, 2).

[20] Glenorchy City Council, *Receipt of Gifts and Benefits* (at 31 October 2023) 2.

[21] Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters, Parliament of Australia, *Report on the Funding of Political Parties and Election Campaigns* (November 2011) iii <www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Completed_Inquiries/em/political%20funding/Report/index>.

[22] Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters, Parliament of Australia, *Report on the Funding of Political Parties and Election Campaigns* (November 2011) [4.24] <www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Completed_Inquiries/em/political%20funding/Report/index>.

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GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL

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Wednesday, 18 February 2026

Mr Dion Lester
Local Government Association of Tasmania
326 Macquarie Street, Hobart 7000
By email: dion.lester@lgat.tas.gov.au

Dear Dion Lester,

GSBC SUBMISSION DRAFT INTEGRITY COMMISSION – LOCAL GOVERNMENT GIFTS AND DONATIONS CONSULTATION PAPER

Overall Draft Response to the Submission from the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) on the Local Government Consultation Paper from the Integrity Commission – *Misconduct risks and the regulation of gifts and donations in local government.*

Firstly, Glamorgan Spring Bay Council fully endorses the submission made by the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) to the Integrity Commission Tasmania. This submission has been made on behalf of the twenty (29) Councils in Tasmania.

The submission from LGAT is included as part of this paper.

Draft Responses to the Local Government Consultation Paper – Misconduct risks and the regulation of gifts and donations in local government (Integrity Commission Tasmania).

Question Number 1 – Do you have any general comments or observations about the misconduct risks of offering and accepting gifts and donations in local government?

Draft Response to Question Number 1

There are several risks relating to Council officials offering and accepting gifts and donations. Firstly, the public expects its officials to act in a transparent and professional manner. Offering and/or accepting gifts and donations does not provide the public with confidence that Council officials are abiding by these two very important attributes.

Secondly, Council officials need to understand that offering and/or accepting gifts and donations may have an expectation that the other party expects something from them in return.

Thirdly, local government is the closest form of government to the community. The community's expectations of Council officials are higher than other forms of government.

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Question Number 2 – How serious do you think these risks are?

Draft Response to Question Number 2

The risks are high or extreme. If you applied the risk matrix or framework, Council officials offering and/or accepting gifts and donations would come out as either a high or extreme risk.

Question Number 3 – Is the current legal and regulatory framework that governs gifts and donations in local government adequate? Why/why not?

Draft Response to Question Number 3

The current framework could do with some amendments. It would be helpful to have a Code of Conduct that equally applied to both Councillors and Staff.

It would also be helpful for the legislation to provide a definition of a gift and also provide a definition of a donation.

Draft Responses to the Local Government Consultation Paper – Misconduct risks and the regulation of gifts and donations in local government (Integrity Commission Tasmania).

Question Number 4 – Would you support the introduction of a personal interests return scheme for elected members and/or employees?

Draft Response to Question Number 4

Yes.

Question Number 5 – Do you support the government's proposal to require that all electoral candidates declare gifts and donations received during an electoral period?

Draft Response to Question Number 5

Yes.

Question Number 6 – Should other Council officials – including staff, contractors and subcontractors, trainees and volunteers – be subject to a code of conduct?

Draft Response to Question Number 6

Yes. Councils on mainland Australia have a Code of Conduct for staff, volunteers and contractors.

Question Number 7 – Should the legislation/code of conduct prescribe additional monitoring procedures? Do you have any general comments or observations on what those procedures should be?

Draft Response to Question Number 7

No.

Question Number 8 – Do you support the introduction of a model gifts and donations policy? If so, what should be included?

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Draft Response to Question Number 8

No. Details regarding gifts and donations should be included in the respective Codes of Conduct. This is the appropriate document to include the requirements regarding gifts and donations.

Question Number 9 – Should the policy apply to both elected members and other Council officials? Should there be separate policies for each?

Draft Response to Question Number 9

No. Details regarding gifts and donations should be included in the respective Codes of Conduct.

Draft Responses to the Local Government Consultation Paper – Misconduct risks and the regulation of gifts and donations in local government (Integrity Commission Tasmania).

Question Number 10 – Is the current declaration threshold of $50 appropriate? Why/why not?

Draft Response to Question Number 10

No. I would lower this threshold as this would assist in managing gifts and donations. A bottle of wine can be less than $50. It is not wise to allow the opportunity for a gift such as this to be not declared.

Question Number 11 – Should gifts and donations in local government be regulated differently? Should they be defined?

Draft Response to Question Number 11

Yes. Gifts and donations can be very different items. Yes, they should be defined. This would assist in managing the risks that is inherent in both items.

Question Number 12 – Should the definitions of gift and donation be consistent across all Councils? Why/why not?

Draft Response to Question Number 12

Yes. This would assist in ensuring that communities across all local government areas have the utmost confidence in all Council officials.

Question Number 13 – Should elected members and other Council officials be subject to different obligations? Why/why not?

Draft Response to Question Number 13

No. It is important for communities to have confidence in the actions of both its elected members and the staff who work for the Councils. This assists in building the confidence of the public regarding the actions of both the Councillors and the Staff.

Conclusion

Glamorgan Spring Bay Council supports and endorses the LGAT submission in full.

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Council also appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the discussion paper and looks forward to seeing the outcomes of this consultation paper.

Yours sincerely,

Dick Shaw
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ECHO FESTIVAL 2025 SITE MAP, FULL MAP: V0.0

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EVENT SUPPORT GRANT APPLICATION

EVENT SUPPORT ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES

ELIGIBLE EVENTS:

The Council will consider requests for assistance by community, sporting and non-profit organisations holding major festivals, events or promotions in the Glamorgan Spring Bay.

Major festivals and events are defined as significant events that are the only one of their kind in the Glamorgan Spring Bay in any one year and attract significant numbers of people to the event (generally in excess of 500) and/or attract significant media coverage for the Glamorgan Spring Bay.

ELIGIBLE ORGANISATIONS:

Any community group, organisation or club that is legally incorporated or operating under the auspices of an incorporated body. The organisation must hold and produce evidence of public liability cover for the event.

ELIGIBLE ASSISTANCE:

In-kind support includes provision of such items as wheelie-bins, barricades, delivery and collection of bins, erection of barricades and advertising of street closures (if a council road and it has been approved by Council). The cost to the Council of any in-kind assistance approved will be calculated and costed against the application.

PRIORITIES:

The funding available is limited. Priority will be given to events that:

- Have a significant benefit for a wide range of Glamorgan Spring Bay residents and businesses.
- Are unique within the Glamorgan Spring Bay
- If profit making, put the funds back into the community, preferably through community projects that will benefit a wide cross-section of the community.

Event Support Grant Application

Please make sure you answer all Sections of this form.

APPLICANTS DETAILS			
Contact Person Name:	Ange Boxall		
Position in organisation:	Creative Producer		
Postal Address:	14193 Tasman Highway, Swansea 7190		
Phone:		Mobile:	0447 260 025
Email:	info@echofestival.com.au		

ORGANISATION DETAILS	
Name of group or organisation running the event:	East Coast Arts and Events Tasmania Ltd.
Address:	C/ 14193 Tasman Highway, Swansea 7190
Website:	https://echofestival.com.au/
ABN:	97663729299
Incorporation number:	Company Limited by Guarantee with Not For Profit Status
Legal Status (Please tick which one applies to your group):	
☒ Not-for-profit or incorporated association. ☐ Registered business hosting a fundraising event where proceeds are donated to charity. ☐ Registered business hosting a profited event.	

EVENT DETAILS			
Event name:	ECHO Festival		
Event description:	The East Coast Harvest Odyssey, known as ECHO, is a boutique Festival of the Senses.		
Event date(s):	13-15 March 2026	Time(s):	All weekend
Set up date(s):	9 March 2026	Close down date(s):	16/17 March 2025
Event held previously:	☒ Yes ☐ No	Total no. of people expected to attend at any one time:	Total max = 550 (including staff
Entry costs:	Free entry: ☒	Voluntary donation: ☐	Admission fees: $70+

EVENT VENUE	
Venue Name:	Redbanks
Venue Address:	13512 Tasman Highway, Swansea 7190
Has permission been obtained from the venue:	Yes ☒ No ☐ Owner / Manager / Committee of Management
Permission to use venue:	☒ Yes ☐ No
Will the event be held on Council or private land?	☐ Council Land ☒ Private Land

Event description:
(Please provide dot points including what you are going to do, the need for the event and why it is of value, any event partners, any further details about location etc.)

Over one unforgettable weekend, ECHO invites you to step into a world of discovery where food, wine, live music, art, culture, storytelling and knowledge-sharing collide. It's a celebration of harvest and the quintessential East Coast lifestyle, brought to life through immersive experiences that engage all the senses. Central to the program is the sharing of Tasmanian Aboriginal knowledge, which deepens cultural understanding and connection to Country.

Founded in 2019 by Tasmanian musician and creative producer Ange Boxall, ECHO was born to fill a gap in the cultural calendar and to dig deeper into the real stories of the coast - its people, histories, and landscapes. Today, it provides a platform for Tasmanian artists and producers, boosts the local visitor economy, and inspires civic pride. With a strong commitment to sustainability and coastal care, ECHO champions environmentally conscious practices while sparking moments of joy, creativity, and reflection.

It's boutique, it's bold, it's brimming with flavour and soul - and it's a festival you won't want to miss. ECHO creates an intimate festival village where strangers quickly feel like friends.

INSURANCE	
Do you hold insurance for this event?	☒ Yes ☐ No

Please outline the insurance type and value involved: *(Attach Certificate of Currency with your application)*

Each year ECHO Festival holds Public Liability to the value of $20 million. We apply for this at six weeks out from the event.

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES *(if applicable)*	
Will the event require road closure? *(Attach Traffic Management Plan)*	☐ Yes ☒ No
Which road(s) will be closed for the event?	
Time of road closures:	

BENEFITS OF THE EVENT TO GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY		
Please tick or highlight any of the following areas that are relevant to your event:		
■ Community Participation	■ Environment	☐ Sport & Recreation
■ Community Education	■ Tourism & Events	■ Heritage & History
☐ Health & Safety	■ Multi-Cultural	■ Arts & Culture

What will Glamorgan Spring Bay residents gain from this event?

CULTURE - Bring diverse cultural experiences to places with limited opportunities to engage.
COMMUNITY - Bring the community together to celebrate our Tasmanian East Coast lifestyle.
LIFESTYLE - Promoting Tasmania's East Coast way of living.
ENVIRONMENTAL CARE - Raising awareness around the value and sustainability our coastline.
CHALLENGE - Overcoming the challenges of living remotely, with a dose of joy in everything we do.

ECHO Festival employs local staff and engages local suppliers and services.
We support social, environmental, cultural and economic wellbeing.
We unite and enrich region through journeys, experiences, stories and information.

What will Glamorgan Spring Bay businesses gain from this event?

ECHO showcases local East Coast produce, including shellfish, salt, honey, meats, fruits, wine and gin.
Our marketing strategy includes marketing all the producers whom we work with via our website, e-newsletters, socials.
ECHO has featured in various national publications, including:
Rolling Stone, Broadsheet, Jetstar Magazine, Gourmet Traveller, The Age, Country Style Magazine, NZ Herald.
The average spend for ECHO patrons in the local area, outside of the festival, on things such as accommodation, IGA, cafes, fuel, etc, is $360 per person.

Briefly explain how you plan to acknowledge Council's contribution / assistance to the event.

- Acknowledgment in speeches at media events and at ECHO Festival.
- Aligned recognition in Media Releases.
- Logo on the ECHO website.
- x2 General Admission Tickets
- Social media post specific to supported project
- Sponsorship e-newsletter project alignment

REQUEST FOR FUNDING	
Please confirm the dollar amount you are applying for from Council (per year).	$ 10,000

Please outline the amount of funds, if any, you are requesting from Council, and the purpose to which the funds will be applied: *Please provide quotations with your application*

- To assist in production cost to including staffing, public liability, road signage and traffic management, on-site safety equipment and security personnel, cleaning services.

Are you prepared to accept partial funding? *(Council's grants are highly competitive and Council may offer less than the amount you request.)*	■ Yes ☐ No

IN-KIND SUPPORT *In-kind support (Council contribution) is where Council waives or reduces our fees including permit fees, Council venue or site hire, and bin hire.*		
Are you requesting in-kind support from Council?		☒ Yes ☐ No
What in-kind support would you like?		
☒ Wheelie bin hire	☐ Venue/Site hire waiver	
☐ Permit fees waiver	☐ Power	
Other: _____		

CERTIFICATION / DECLARATION	
This declaration must be signed by a person authorised to sign on behalf of the organisation. • I certify to the best of my knowledge that the information given on this form is complete and correct. • I understand that approval of the grant is subject to mutual agreement between Glamorgan Spring Bay Council and the applicant. • I understand that if Glamorgan Spring Bay Council approves a grant, I will be required to accept the conditions of the grant in accordance with Glamorgan Spring Bay Council requirements. • I understand that Glamorgan Spring Bay Council does not accept any liability or responsibility for the proposal in this application and that it is the responsibility of the applicant or their sponsor to provide the appropriate insurance cover and abide by all relevant health and safety standards. • I agree that if funded, funds will be used only for the event described on this application. • I consent to the release of event information in this application for promotional and evaluation purposes relevant to Glamorgan Spring Bay Council. • I will seek permission from the group before submitting photographs for use by Glamorgan Spring Bay Council. The above organisation has authorised me to submit this application on their behalf. The information contained herein is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct.	
Name:	Ange Boxall
Signature:	
Position in organisation:	Board Director / Creative Producer
Please return this application to: community@freycinet.tas.gov.au *Please Note: All successful applicants are required to submit evidence of expenditure in a final report. Included in reporting will be formal receipts, photographs and providing the opportunity for Community Services staff to attend the funded event.*	

FINAL CHECK LIST	
Action	**Completed**
Completed all sections of the application form	☒ Yes ☐ No
Signed the application form	☒ Yes ☐ No
Attached copies of any required documentation	☒ Yes ☐ No
Attached copies of supporting quotes	☐ Yes ☒ No

GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL

9 Melbourne Street (PO Box 6)
Triabunna TAS 7190

K F
03 6256 4777
03 6256 4774
x admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au

B
www.gsbc.tas.gov.au

Event Information and Check List

TEMPORARY STRUCTURES *(Separate application form required – you will need to engage a building surveyor)*

Will temporary structures be used at your event:

☒ Yes ☐ No

Type of Structure	Number	Dimensions in m^2	Stage/Platform Height
Marquee	5	Various: 2x2 / 3x3	ground
Bell tent	1	4.5m	ground

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT *(Traffic Management Plan may be required)*

Are temporary road closures proposed for your event:

☐ Yes ☒ No

Please provide details of road that will be disrupted by the event:

Road Name	Section	Start Time	Finish Time	Road to be Closed Yes/No

WASTE MANAGEMENT *(Waste Management Plan may be required)*

How will you manage waste at your event:

Red and yellow bins – taken to tip for recycling and disposal.
Any cans and bottles that sit under the Tas Recycle Scheme will be donated to the local primary school for funds collection.

FOOD VENDORS *(Separate application form required or copy of state-wide food business registration)*

Will food be offered for sale or donation at your event:

xYes ☐ No

Business Name	Operator	Contact Number	Statewide Registration Yes/No
Marefold Catering	Simon Ford	0447590119	Yes
Undertow Catering	Ian Cunliffe	0418560716	Yes
Tombolo Pizzas	Andrew Merse	0448034969	Yes

ALCOHOL *(Approval required from the Department of Justice)*

Will alcohol be served, or BYO permitted at your event:

X Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide details: Licensed event only. Selling wine, cocktails, beer in cans, gin in cans. Wine served in wine glasses on the Friday night of the feast but served only in bio-cups on the main day and Sunday. Tastings in the Masterclasses include small tastes of wine, gin and whisky.

AMUSEMENT DEVICES *(Separate application form required)*

Will there be amusement devices used at your event:

☐ Yes x No

VEHICLE ACCESS

Will your event require the entry of vehicles onto Council land:

☐ Yes x No

If yes, please provide details:

FIRST AID

Will your event have First Aid personnel:

☒ Yes ☐ No

Organisation	Number of First Aid Personnel	Start Time	Finish Time
First Aid certificate holders	6	Various from start	Various from finish

EMERGENCY EVACUATION

Does your event have an Emergency Evacuation Plan

xYes ☐ No

If yes, please provide details:

In case of an emergency, assembly points will be detailed to all patrons via the site map in the program they receive upon entry to the event - either printed or digital format, TBC. 2 Event staff are all inducted to emergency protocol before commencing their shift, and in case of emergency will be directed by the area and chief wardens. In the case of emergency, an announcement will immediately be made over the festival PA system and festival security, together with festival wardens and staff will direct patrons safely to the emergency assembly points. Any site evacuation will be directed by emergency services, Tasmania police, and festival wardens.

Name of nominated person to authorise an evacuation:	Contact number during the event:
Ryan Limb	0438 536 040

TOILETS

Will additional toilets be required for your event:

X Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide details:

Portable toilet blocl + an accessible toilet

FIREWORKS *(Approval required from the Department of Justice)*

Will there be fireworks at your event:

☐ Yes ☒ No

ANIMALS

Will your event require the entry of animals onto Council land:

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please provide details:

LOST CHILDREN

What will you do if a child gets lost:

18+ event only

BAD AND DANGEROUS WEATHER

Does your event have a contingency plan for bad or dangerous weather:

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide details:

Live music is taken into the large, sheltered barn to avoid music equipment getting wet and causing electrocution. This was the case in 2025 with the threat of a storm – the storm did not come but we moved as a safety precautionary measure.

NOISE

Will your event use PA systems, amplified music or noise generating equipment:

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide details:

Live music PA system. https://echofestival.com.au/program/

CHECK LIST		**Attached**
Completed Event Site Plan • Parking • Toilets • Temporary structures – *if applicable* • Food stalls – *if applicable* Petting zoo and hand washing stations – *if applicable* • Amusement devices – *if applicable* • Bins • Emergency Assembly Points	**Mandatory**	Yes
Public Liability Insurance Certificate of Currency (minimum $20 million)	**Mandatory**	Yes
Completed Mobile Food Business Application Form and provided valid copy of statewide food business registrations	**If applicable**	NA (individual vendors will each have permits and Public Liability certificates)
Traffic Management Plan	**If applicable**	Yes
Waste Management Plan		Yes
Fireworks Permit	**If applicable**	NA

ARENA UNDERWRITING

CERTIFICATE OF CURRENCY
Arena/Berkley Entertainment and Events General Liability
Our Reference: 25030043

POLICY NUMBER: ARBIAE/008727

INSURED: East Coast Arts & Events Tasmania Ltd

INSURED ADDRESS: Swansea TAS 7190

THE BUSINESS: Promotion & Staging of Echo Festival 2025 to be held on 14-16 March 2025 at various locations in Swansea, TAS.

SECURITY: Berkley Insurance Company Trading as Berkley Insurance Australia

PERIOD OF INSURANCE: 07/03/25 to 17/03/25 At 4pm Local Time

Covering

Section 1 Public Liability	INSURED
Section 2 Products Liability	INSURED

Please take note of the Exclusions that apply to this Policy.

It is hereby declared and agreed that:

Section 4
4.18 Self Promoted Show, Performance or Concert is deleted from the Policy and will have no effect.

Cover extends to 10 performers and 3 bar staff while working for the Insured.

It is a condition of this policy that experienced paid staff (contractors) on duty at all times during the event & trained to use the fire trailer /fighting equipment.

Camping Conditions

- No movement of vehicles excluding emergency vehicles within the camping areas between sunset and sunrise
- 10 KMH speed restriction for all vehicles within the event site
- Signage to be clearly visible

Specified Activities Exclusion

We shall not provide indemnity under this Policy in respect of any actual or alleged liability directly or indirectly arising out of, related to, or in connection with:-

- Shuttle/transport service
- Bathing and swimming in the river and other water activities

Contractors & Sub-Contractors Condition

Unless otherwise declared and noted within the policy schedule, this insurance does not indemnify your contractor s or subcontractor s legal liability. It is a condition of the policy that all contractors, subcontractors and service providers have appropriate insurances in place.

Suite 7, 25 Anzac Road, Tuggerah NSW 2259
T: 02 4952 4477
E: info@arenaunderwriting.com.au W: www.arenaunderwriting.com.au
AFSL: 317617 ABN: 26 125 869 481

ARENA UNDERWRITING

It is recommended that you obtain evidence of this in the form of a certificate of currency.

A service provider means anyone engaged by the Insured to provide goods or perform a service. Service providers include but are not limited to amusement ride & device operators, caterers, entertainers & performers, food vendors, pyro technicians & fireworks operators, security services, sound and lighting companies, stallholders and other contracted labour.

Molestation Exclusion

The Insurer shall not provide indemnity under this policy for any liability directly or indirectly caused by, arising out of, contributed to by, or in connection with the molestation of or interfering with any person.

Listed Human Disease Exclusion GL 2018

We shall not provide indemnity under this Policy in respect of any actual or alleged liability directly or indirectly arising out of, related to, or in connection with a Listed Human Disease or any directly or indirectly related condition or threat or fear thereof (whether actual or perceived).

Listed Human Disease shall mean:

a) any disease identified or listed at any time as a human disease under the Biosecurity Act 2015 (Cth) or its current equivalent, as amended or replaced from time to time, or

b) any disease identified or listed in a state of emergency, public health emergency or pandemic declared by any governmental authority or identified by the World Health Organisation or its current equivalent as amended or replaced regardless of when the disease is so listed or identified.

Subject otherwise to all other terms, Conditions, Exclusions and limitations of this insurance.

Sum Insured

Section 1 Public Liability
Limit of Liability $20,000,000 (Any One Occurrence)
Defence Costs in Addition

Sub-limits:
Property in your Care, Custody or Control $250,000 (aggregate limit)

Section 2 Products Liability
Limit of Liability $20,000,000 (Any One Period of Insurance)
Defence Costs in Addition

Excess

Section 1 Public Liability
Each & every occurrence: $2,500
Personal injury to performers, contractors, sub contractors &/or labour hire personnel: $5,000
Defence Cost Inclusive

Section 2 Products Liability
Each & every occurrence: $2,500
Personal injury to performers, contractors, sub contractors &/or labour hire personnel: $5,000
Defence Cost Inclusive

Geographical Limits

Suite 7, 25 Anzac Road, Tuggerah NSW 2259
T: 02 4952 4477
E: info@arenaunderwriting.com.au W: www.arenaunderwriting.com.au
AFSL: 317617 ABN: 26 125 869 481

Australia Wide.

Binder Advice Warning

Berkley Insurance Company Trading as Berkley Insurance Australia (ABN 53 126 559 706) is the Insurer of this Policy.

Arena Underwriting Pty Ltd (ABN 26 125 869 481, AFSL 317617) acts under a binding authority given to it by the Insurer to administer and issue policies, alterations and renewals, and acts on behalf of the insurer and as agent of the insurer, not as your agent.

POLICY WORDING: BIA GL G2 Arena Ent 2 - April 2021

SERVICE OF NOTICES: Notices for claims or disputes under this policy must be served upon the Underwriter and not the Agent. The Agent holds no authority to accept claims or disputes.

Underwriter: Berkley Insurance Australia (ABN 53 126 559 706, AFS 463 129)

Postal Address: Level 7, 321 Kent Street Sydney NSW 2000

Email: australiaclaims@berkleyins.com.au

SPECIAL NOTE

This Certificate of Currency is prepared as a summary of the insurance policy. It is not a complete description of all the policy's terms, conditions and exclusions.

In determining a claim, or questions with regard thereto, the provisions of the policy will prevail.

-ooOoo-

Suite 7, 25 Anzac Road, Tuggerah NSW 2259
T: 02 4952 4477
E: info@arenaunderwriting.com.au W: www.arenaunderwriting.com.au
AFSL: 317617 ABN: 26 125 869 481

Department of State Growth

Salamanca Building Parliament Square
4 Salamanca Place, Hobart TAS
GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001 Australia
Ph: 0436 817 248
Email traffic.operations@stategrowth.tas.gov.au Web www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au

Tasmanian Government

Permit No. SRA-25-46

Breanna Smith
ECHO Festival
By email: admin@echofestival.com.au

Dear Breanna Smith

THIS PERMIT AUTHORISES **ECHO FESTIVAL OR AGENT** TO IMPLEMENT TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT WITHIN THE STATE ROAD RESERVATION, AS SET OUT BELOW, SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE *ROADS AND JETTIES ACT 1935* SECTION 16 AND CONDITIONS SPECIFIED ON THIS PERMIT.

PERMIT HOLDER'S CONTACT DETAILS: Breanna Smith – Phone: 0458656924

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS:

It is the responsibility of the permit holder to ensure:

- The Traffic Management Plan has been prepared and certified by personnel with appropriate training and qualifications in accordance with the Department's Guide – Traffic Control for Works on Roads.
- Staff operating your Traffic Management Plan must meet the training requirements specified in the Guide.

LOCATION OF WORKS

ROAD: Tasman Highway	**NO.: A0113_36**	**LINK/CH: 0.50 – 1.0**
LOCATION: Tasman Highway, Swansea		

Please Note: Should the works identified in this permit proceed all conditions are deemed to be accepted by the permit holder.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF PERMIT

Traffic Management for ECHO Festival) to be undertaken on 14 March 2025 - 16 March 2025 as per the Traffic Management Plan provided as part of your application, submitted on 20 January 2025.

CONDITIONS OF PERMIT

a. This permit relates strictly to the implementation of temporary traffic control devices and signage only. The permit holder will be responsible for obtaining all necessary approval(s) from State Government agencies, Commonwealth Agencies and Local Government.

b. All works within the road reservation must also comply with relevant Occupational Health and Safety Regulations.

c. The permit holder will save and keep indemnified the Crown in the right of the State of Tasmania against all or any costs, claims, proceedings and demands whatsoever and by whomsoever, arising out of or in respect of the works undertaken in the State Road Reservation.

d. The permit holder will be responsible for obtaining all necessary approvals from relevant Government authorities to undertake works within the State Road Reservation, including those relating to environmental, cultural, flora, fauna and heritage matters. The permit holder is liable for any compliance failure.

e. The permit holder will consider and consult with affected stakeholders including, but not limited to, nearby business operators and residents, and local council.

f. The event and relevant traffic management arrangements are to be communicated to the public and all impacted stakeholders, including but not limited to, stakeholders listed within the stakeholder consultation clause, a minimum of 14 days in advance of the event.

g. Communications about the works must include information about the traffic impacts and access impacts as a key message.

This permit is current for **the event date or date range only** listed on page 1. A further permit is required if works are not completed within the period specified or if additional works are intended.

The Department's supervisors or contractors may conduct audits for your compliance with these requirements.

Please sign and return the attached 'Notice of Acceptance of Conditions' form. **This permit shall be valid only upon receipt of the form**, and any queries regarding the conditions of the permit should be referred to the above Officer.

The Department of State Growth reserves the right to withdraw this permit at any time without giving a reason. The certified plan is to be available on request.

If for any reason the permit conditions cannot be adhered to, please contact the above Officer immediately as a permit variation may need to be issued.

Yours sincerely

Dale Fletcher-Jones
Traffic Signals Team Leader

Delegate for the Minister administering the *Roads and Jetties Act 1935*

24 January 2025

File No.: SRA-25-46/2

DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH
TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES DIVISION
GPO Box 536 HOBART TAS 7001

ACCEPTANCE OF CONDITIONS

PERMIT NO.: **SRA-25-46**
LOCATION: **Tasman Highway, Swansea**
PERMIT HOLDER: **ECHO Festival**

Please return to: Permits, Department of State Growth, GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001, or email to permits@stategrowth.tas.gov.au.

I/We acknowledge acceptance of all of the terms and conditions of this permit and agree to undertake traffic management on 14 / 03 / 2025 in accordance with the said terms and conditions without exception.

I/We have read and agree to the conditions of the Tasmanian Guide for 'Traffic Control for Works on Roads'.

I/We agree to save and keep indemnified the Minister Administering the *Roads and Jetties Act 1935*, against all or any costs, claims, proceedings and demands whatsoever and by whomsoever, arising out of in respect of the approved proposal.

The contact person for this work will be:

- Working Hours (0458 656 924) - Phone
- After Hours (0458 656 924) – Phone

……..
(Signature)

25/01/2025
……..
(Date)

ECHO

FESTIVAL

WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

ECHO Festival will implement and maintain appropriate waste systems and facilities throughout the festival site, in the most sustainable and environmentally friendly way - and as best possible within the scope of the location's access to resources, services and equipment to do so.

Waste Streams

- Recycling - cans, wine bottles, cardboard
- General - bio cups / packaging / general non recyclable items across event site.
- No single use plastics
- Rubbish removal post ECHO – to local tip for recycling and general waste

BOH Waste Centre

Unused and used bins will be stored in the BOH Waste Centre, with empty bins in one location and used/full bins clearly separated with liners ready to go.

- General Waste 140/240lt wheelie bins onsite x12
- Recycling 140/240lt wheelie bins onsite x 12
- Organic waste 2x black round bins onsite

FOH Waste

- Recycling bins located near bars / and prominent site positions without affecting site aesthetics.
- General waste bins located near food stalls / and prominent site positions without affecting site aesthetics.
- Organics bin (black round bins?) located nearby food vendors for patrons to access

Bars

- Boh compost bucket
- Recycling wheelie

- Small general waste

Vendors

- Boh compost collecting; to be disposed into our FOH compost
- Required to use bio/compostable packaging only
- Absolutely no single use plastic
- Responsible for their own food product packaging, to take off site with them - Waste Transfer Station in Swansea is at the end of the sealed section of Maria Street, Swansea.

Signage

- *Bio cups / Food Scraps / Compostable cutlery & crockery* (red bins)
- *Cans & Glass* (Yellow bins)

BINS REQUIRED

12x General waste wheelie bins from council, plus liners
12x Recycling wheelie bins from council, plus liners
2 x round black bins

GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL

9 Melbourne Street (PO Box 6)
Triabunna TAS 7190
03 6256 4777
03 6256 4774
admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au
www.gsbc.tas.gov.au

EVENT SUPPORT GRANT APPLICATION

EVENT SUPPORT ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES

ELIGIBLE EVENTS:

The Council will consider requests for assistance by community, sporting and non-profit organisations holding festivals, events or promotions in the Glamorgan Spring Bay.

Festivals and events are defined as activities held within the Glamorgan Spring Bay area that seek funding support and contribute to the region's cultural, social, or economic vibrancy.

ELIGIBLE ORGANISATIONS:

Any community group, organisation or club that is legally incorporated or operating under the auspices of an incorporated body. The organisation must hold and produce evidence of public liability cover for the event.

ELIGIBLE ASSISTANCE:

In-kind support includes provision of such items as wheelie-bins, barricades, delivery and collection of bins, erection of barricades and advertising of street closures (if a council road and it has been approved by Council). The cost to the Council of any in-kind assistance approved will be calculated and costed against the application.

The maximum funding allocation for any event is $2,000. However, Council reserves the right to vary this amount at its discretion during the decision-making process.

PRIORITIES:

The funding available is limited. Priority will be given to events that:

- Have a significant benefit for a wide range of Glamorgan Spring Bay residents and businesses.
- Are unique within the Glamorgan Spring Bay
- If profit making, put the funds back into the community, preferably through community projects that will benefit a wide cross-section of the community.

Event Support Grant Application

Please make sure you answer all Sections of this form.

APPLICANTS DETAILS			
Contact Person Name:	Sue Bennett		
Position in organisation:	Secretary		
Postal Address:	PO Box 149, Bicheno, Tas, 7215		
Phone:	0409418075	Mobile:	
Email:	secretary@bichenoslsc.com.au		

ORGANISATION DETAILS	
Name of group or organisation running the event:	Bicheno Surf Life Saving Club Inc.
Address:	Jetty Road, Bicheno
Website:	www.bichenoslsc.com.au
ABN:	77 984 727 480
Incorporation number:	IA11662

Legal Status (Please tick which one applies to your group):

- [x] Not-for-profit or incorporated association.
- [ ] Registered business hosting a fundraising event where proceeds are donated to charity.
- [ ] Registered business hosting a profited event.

EVENT DETAILS			
Event name:	Devil of a Swim		
Event description:	Ocean Swim events over 5km,2km,1km and 400m for juniors		
Event date(s):	26/04/2026	Time(s):	7:30 - 2:00
Set up date(s):	25/04/2026	Close down date(s):	26/04/2026
Event held previously:	[x] Yes [ ] No	Total no. of people expected to attend at any one time:	600
Entry costs:	Free entry: [ ]	Voluntary donation: [ ]	Admission fees: $

EVENT VENUE	
Venue Name:	Bicheno Surf Life Saving Club
Venue Address:	Jetty Road, Bicheno
Has permission been obtained from the venue:	Yes ■ No ☐ Owner / Manager / Committee of Management Committee of Management
Permission to use venue:	■ Yes ☐ No
Will the event be held on Council or private land?	■ Council Land ☐ Private Land

Event description:
(Please provide dot points including what you are going to do, the need for the event and why it is of value, any event partners, any further details about location etc.)

o The 'Devil of a Swim' has been held annually by the club since 2009 with 330 entrants in 2025
o The Event is run entirely by volunteers
o It involves swimming events over a range of distances for swimmers of all abilities within Waubs Bay and across to Di
o Food and drink is provided to sustain swimmers, volunteers and the general public.
o It is the major fundraiser for the Club
o The Club supports the community and visitors to the area with Beach Patrols and Youth Education through their Nippe
o The Club is part of the Tasmanian Marine Search and Rescue Organisation assisting in callouts on the East Coast
o Purchase and maintenance of equipment is vital to enable us to support these activities.
o The Club is supported by other surf life saving clubs throughout Tasmania to ensure adequate water safety is available.

INSURANCE	
Do you hold insurance for this event?	■ Yes ☐ No

Please outline the insurance type and value involved: *(Attach Certificate of Currency with your application)*

The event must be approved by Surf Life Saving Tasmania and they manage the insurance through Marsh Insurance. The cost is yet to be determined but was in the vicinity of $600 this year.

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES *(if applicable)*	
Will the event require road closure? *(Attach Traffic Management Plan)*	☐ Yes ■ No
Which road(s) will be closed for the event?	
Time of road closures:	

Page | 3

BENEFITS OF THE EVENT TO GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY

Please tick or highlight any of the following areas that are relevant to your event:

■ Community Participation	■ Environment	■ Sport & Recreation
■ Community Education	■ Tourism & Events	☐ Heritage & History
■ Health & Safety	☐ Multi-Cultural	☐ Arts & Culture

What will Glamorgan Spring Bay residents gain from this event?

- It promotes fitness and a sense of community
- Entertainment
- Challenging swimming event for swimmers of all abilities
- Opportunity to contribute to the Bicheno SLSC
- The club provides water safety for schools and organisations within the Municipality. Funds raised by the event help to support the purchase of equipment required for this vital role.

What will Glamorgan Spring Bay businesses gain from this event?

Hundreds of visitors for 2 or 3 nights on average requiring accommodation, food and entertainment in local premises. T

Briefly explain how you plan to acknowledge Council's contribution / assistance to the event.

- The council will be acknowledged alongside our other sponsors as mentioned above

REQUEST FOR FUNDING

Please confirm the dollar amount you are applying for from Council (per year).	$ 2500

Please outline the amount of funds, if any, you are requesting from Council, and the purpose to which the funds will be applied: *Please provide quotations with your application*

The running coats from the 2025 event are as follows:
Timing: $950, Officials accommodation: $200, Webscorer: $480, SLST Insurance: $600, Administrative costs: $320, Medallions: $300, Race Caps: $200
Total $3050

Are you prepared to accept partial funding? *(Council's grants are highly competitive and Council may offer less than the amount you request.)*	■ Yes ☐ No

Page | 4

If your application is approved, funding will be paid directly into the nominated bank account. Please provide the following bank account details for this entity:	Name on Account:	Bicheno Surf Life Saving Club Inc
	BSB:	633000
	Account Number:	155066004

IN-KIND SUPPORT

In-kind support (Council contribution) is where Council waives or reduces our fees including permit fees, Council venue or site hire, and bin hire.

Are you requesting in-kind support from Council?	☒ Yes	☐ No
What in-kind support would you like?		
☒ Wheelie bin hire	☐ Venue/Site hire waiver	
☐ Permit fees waiver	☐ Power	
Other: _____		

CERTIFICATION / DECLARATION

This declaration must be signed by a person authorised to sign on behalf of the organisation.

- I certify to the best of my knowledge that the information given on this form is complete and correct.
- I understand that approval of the grant is subject to mutual agreement between Glamorgan Spring Bay Council and the applicant.
- I understand that if Glamorgan Spring Bay Council approves a grant, I will be required to accept the conditions of the grant in accordance with Glamorgan Spring Bay Council requirements.
- I understand that Glamorgan Spring Bay Council does not accept any liability or responsibility for the proposal in this application and that it is the responsibility of the applicant or their sponsor to provide the appropriate insurance cover and abide by all relevant health and safety standards.
- I agree that if funded, funds will be used only for the event described on this application.
- I consent to the release of event information in this application for promotional and evaluation purposes relevant to Glamorgan Spring Bay Council.
- I will seek permission from the group before submitting photographs for use by Glamorgan Spring Bay Council.

The above organisation has authorised me to submit this application on their behalf. The information contained herein is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct.

Name:	Sue Bennett
Signature:	SB
Position in organisation:	Secretary

Please return this application to: community@freycinet.tas.gov.au

Please Note: All successful applicants are required to submit evidence of expenditure in a final report. Included in reporting will be formal receipts, photographs and providing the opportunity for Community Services staff to attend the funded event.

FINAL CHECK LIST	
Action	**Completed**
Completed all sections of the application form	☐ Yes ☐ No
Signed the application form	☐ Yes ☐ No
Attached copies of any required documentation	☐ Yes ☐ No
Attached copies of supporting quotes	☐ Yes ☐ No

GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL

9 Melbourne Street (PO Box 6)
Triabunna TAS 7190
03 6256 4777
03 6256 4774
admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au
www.gsbc.tas.gov.au

EVENT SUPPORT GRANT APPLICATION

EVENT SUPPORT ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES

ELIGIBLE EVENTS:

The Council will consider requests for assistance by community, sporting and non-profit organisations holding festivals, events or promotions in the Glamorgan Spring Bay.

Festivals and events are defined as activities held within the Glamorgan Spring Bay area that seek funding support and contribute to the region's cultural, social, or economic vibrancy.

ELIGIBLE ORGANISATIONS:

Any community group, organisation or club that is legally incorporated or operating under the auspices of an incorporated body. The organisation must hold and produce evidence of public liability cover for the event.

ELIGIBLE ASSISTANCE:

In-kind support includes provision of such items as wheelie-bins, barricades, delivery and collection of bins, erection of barricades and advertising of street closures (if a council road and it has been approved by Council). The cost to the Council of any in-kind assistance approved will be calculated and costed against the application.

The maximum funding allocation for any event is $2,000. However, Council reserves the right to vary this amount at its discretion during the decision-making process.

PRIORITIES:

The funding available is limited. Priority will be given to events that:

- Have a significant benefit for a wide range of Glamorgan Spring Bay residents and businesses.
- Are unique within the Glamorgan Spring Bay
- If profit making, put the funds back into the community, preferably through community projects that will benefit a wide cross-section of the community.

Event Support Grant Application

Please make sure you answer all Sections of this form.

APPLICANTS DETAILS			
Contact Person Name:	Jo-Ann Raspin		
Position in organisation:	Committee Member & Volunteer		
Postal Address:	c/- 10 Francis Street, Swansea Tas		
Phone:		Mobile:	0419 949 371
Email:	jo.raspin61@yahoo.com.au		

ORGANISATION DETAILS	
Name of group or organisation running the event:	Swansea Community & Men's Shed Inc, for Swansea Local Events Committee
Address:	c/ 10 Francis Street, Swansea Tas.
Website:	—
ABN:	54 100 473 298
Incorporation number:	IA 12674
Legal Status (Please tick which one applies to your group):	
☑ Not-for-profit or incorporated association.	
☐ Registered business hosting a fundraising event where proceeds are donated to charity.	
☐ Registered business hosting a profited event.	

EVENT DETAILS			
Event name:	Swansea Car, bike & Truck Show 2026		
Event description:	Family entertainment & Vehicle show		
Event date(s):	Sat 4/4/26	Time(s):	7am - 4pm
Set up date(s):	Thurs 2/4/26	Close down date(s):	Sat 4/4/26
Event held previously:	☑ Yes ☐ No	Total no. of people expected to attend at any one time:	400
Entry costs:	Free entry: ☑ for people	Voluntary donation: ☑	Admission fees: $5 — for vehicles

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EVENT VENUE	
Venue Name:	Swansea Recreational Ground
Venue Address:	1A Franklin Street, Swansea TAS
Has permission been obtained from the venue:	Yes ☑ No ☐ Owner / Manager / Committee of Management
Permission to use venue:	☐ Yes ☐ No Pending
Will the event be held on Council or private land?	☑ Council Land ☐ Private Land

Event description:
(Please provide dot points including what you are going to do, the need for the event and why it is of value, any event partners, any further details about location etc.)

we are hosting a vehicle show with judging, family entertainment, children's activities, raffles, food stalls, and music.
This is the 4th year we have hosted this event, with numbers and donations increasing every year.
we have also applied for a grant from Bendigo Bank.
No event partners as such, apart from GSBC & BB, however many sponsors & donors.
The value of the event is that it draws many people into the town, who shop, stay & eat.

INSURANCE	
Do you hold insurance for this event?	☑ Yes ☐ No

Please outline the insurance type and value involved: *(Attach Certificate of Currency with your application)*

Public Liability cover of $20 million, through Local Community Insurance Services. COC supplied via email from Chamber of Commerce on 2/2/26

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES *(if applicable)*	
Will the event require road closure? *(Attach Traffic Management Plan)*	☐ Yes ☑ No
Which road(s) will be closed for the event?	
Time of road closures:	

BENEFITS OF THE EVENT TO GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY

Please tick or highlight any of the following areas that are relevant to your event:

☑ Community Participation	☐ Environment	☑ Sport & Recreation
☐ Community Education	☑ Tourism & Events	☑ Heritage & History
☐ Health & Safety	☐ Multi-Cultural	☐ Arts & Culture

What will Glamorgan Spring Bay residents gain from this event?

The Swansea Car, Bike & Truck show offers Glamorgan Spring Bay residents a fantastic day out filled with exciting vehicles, live entertainment, and opportunities to socialise with neighbours. Locals can enjoy a diverse range of classic and modern cars, bikes and trucks, fostering Community pride and camaraderie.

What will Glamorgan Spring Bay businesses gain from this event?

The event will help support local businesses by attracting visitors to the area, boosting the local economy and creating a vibrant atmosphere for all ages to enjoy. Some stall holders will be staying in the local motels.

Briefly explain how you plan to acknowledge Council's contribution / assistance to the event.

Council will be named as major sponsor. Sponsors and donors are repeatedly advertised on our facebook page, other media, and on the day with PA announcements

REQUEST FOR FUNDING

Please confirm the dollar amount you are applying for from Council (per year).	$ 2000.00

Please outline the amount of funds, if any, you are requesting from Council, and the purpose to which the funds will be applied: *Please provide quotations with your application*

$760.93 for P.L. Insurance

$1500.00 for entertaiment (balance will be allocated against this amount).

Are you prepared to accept partial funding? *(Council's grants are highly competitive and Council may offer less than the amount you request.)*	☑ Yes ☐ No

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If your application is approved, funding will be paid directly into the nominated bank account. Please provide the following bank account details for this entity:	Name on Account: Swansea Local Events Committee
	BSB: 633 000
	Account Number: 194 705 497

IN-KIND SUPPORT

In-kind support (Council contribution) is where Council waives or reduces our fees including permit fees, Council venue or site hire, and bin hire.

Are you requesting in-kind support from Council?	☑ Yes	☐ No
What in-kind support would you like?		
☑ Wheelie bin hire	☑ Venue/Site hire waiver	
☐ Permit fees waiver	☑ Power	
Other: _____		

CERTIFICATION / DECLARATION

This declaration must be signed by a person authorised to sign on behalf of the organisation.

- I certify to the best of my knowledge that the information given on this form is complete and correct.
- I understand that approval of the grant is subject to mutual agreement between Glamorgan Spring Bay Council and the applicant.
- I understand that if Glamorgan Spring Bay Council approves a grant, I will be required to accept the conditions of the grant in accordance with Glamorgan Spring Bay Council requirements.
- I understand that Glamorgan Spring Bay Council does not accept any liability or responsibility for the proposal in this application and that it is the responsibility of the applicant or their sponsor to provide the appropriate insurance cover and abide by all relevant health and safety standards.
- I agree that if funded, funds will be used only for the event described on this application.
- I consent to the release of event information in this application for promotional and evaluation purposes relevant to Glamorgan Spring Bay Council.
- I will seek permission from the group before submitting photographs for use by Glamorgan Spring Bay Council.

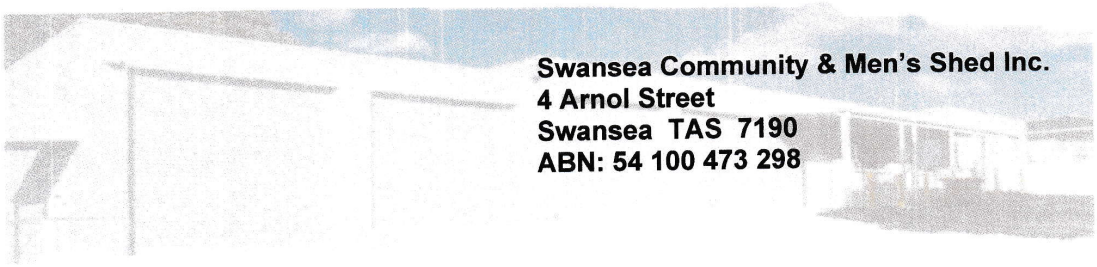
The above organisation has authorised me to submit this application on their behalf. The information contained herein is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct.

Name:	Celia Ralston for Jo Raspin
Signature:	[signature]
Position in organisation:	Committee Volunteers

Please return this application to: community@freycinet.tas.gov.au

Please Note: All successful applicants are required to submit evidence of expenditure in a final report. Included in reporting will be formal receipts, photographs and providing the opportunity for Community Services staff to attend the funded event.

FINAL CHECK LIST	
Action	**Completed**
Completed all sections of the application form	☑ Yes ☐ No
Signed the application form	☑ Yes ☐ No
Attached copies of any required documentation	☑ Yes ☐ No
Attached copies of supporting quotes	☑ Yes ☐ No



Swansea Community & Men's Shed Inc.
4 Arnol Street
Swansea TAS 7190
ABN: 54 100 473 298

4 November 2025

Small Community Grants Program
Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
9 Melbourne Street
Triabaunna TAS 7190

Attn: Bernadette

This is to confirm that the Swansea Community & Men's Shed Inc. has offered to support an application for a small community grant from the Swansea Local Events Committee/Swansea Chamber of Commerce.

We understand the primary use of the grant will be to cover public liability insurance costs for a 12-month period.

Please contact me if you require any further clarification or details.

Kind regards,

Vern Richardson
Vice President
Swansea Community & Men's Shed Inc.

CLINTON HUTTON MUSIC

INVOICE

Clinton Hutton Music
ABN: 91 839 515 969

BILLED TO:
Swansea Car Bike Truck Show

Invoice #2004
February 3, 2026

Description	Date	Amount
For providing music entertainment at Swansea Car Bike Truck Show	4/5/2026	$1,500.00

INVOICE DUE DATE: 3/5/2026

Thank you

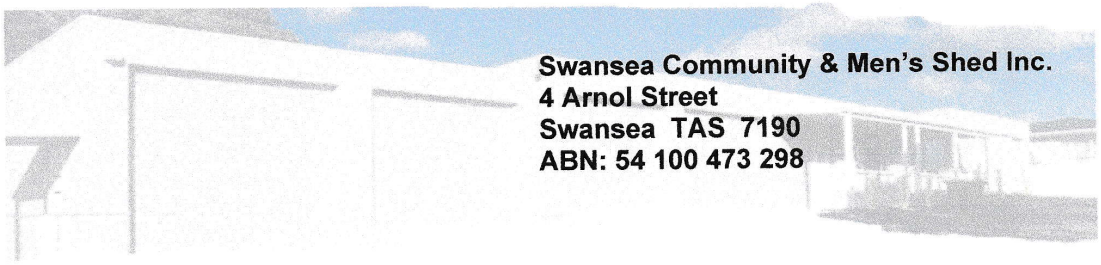
Payment Info

ACCOUNT NAME: Clinton Hutton
BSB NUMBER: 013 711
ACCOUNT NUMBER: 659307828

TOTAL: $1,500.00

www.clintonhuttonmusic.com.au

clintonhutton@hotmail.com | 18 Bluewater Crescent, Wynyard, TAS 7325 | 0417 146 482



Swansea Community & Men's Shed Inc.
4 Arnol Street
Swansea TAS 7190
ABN: 54 100 473 298

5 February 2026

Event Support Grant Application
Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
9 Melbourne Street
Triabaunna TAS 7190

Attn: Eliza

This is to confirm that the Swansea Community & Men's Shed Inc. has offered to support an application for an event grant for the Swansea Local Events Committee/Swansea Chamber of Commerce. To this end we will auspice the grant in terms of receiving and managing the grant funding on behalf of the Swansea Local Events Committee. We will assume legal and financial responsibility for the grant, ensuring the event is acquitted and compliant with funding requirements.

We understand the primary use of the grant will be to cover public liability insurance costs for a 12-month period with is $760.93 and $1500.00 for entertainment.

Please contact me if you require any further clarification or details.

Kind regards,

Vern Richardson
Vice President
Swansea Community & Men's Shed Inc.

9 Melbourne Street (PO Box 6)
Triabunna TAS 7190
03 6256 4777
03 6256 4774
admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au

EVENT SUPPORT GRANT APPLICATION

EVENT SUPPORT ASSISTANCE GUIDELINES

ELIGIBLE EVENTS:

The Council will consider requests for assistance by community, sporting and non-profit organisations holding major festivals, events or promotions in the Glamorgan Spring Bay.

Major festivals and events are defined as significant events that are the only one of their kind in the Glamorgan Spring Bay in any one year and attract significant numbers of people to the event (generally in excess of 500) and/or attract significant media coverage for the Glamorgan Spring Bay.

ELIGIBLE ORGANISATIONS:

Any community group, organisation or club that is legally incorporated or operating under the auspices of an incorporated body. The organisation must hold and produce evidence of public liability cover for the event.

ELIGIBLE ASSISTANCE:

In-kind support includes provision of such items as wheelie-bins, barricades, delivery and collection of bins, erection of barricades and advertising of street closures (if a council road and it has been approved by Council). The cost to the Council of any in-kind assistance approved will be calculated and costed against the application.

The maximum allocation to an event is $2,000.

PRIORITIES:

The funding available is limited. Priority will be given to events that:

- Have a significant benefit for a wide range of Glamorgan Spring Bay residents and businesses.
- Are unique within the Glamorgan Spring Bay
- If profit making, put the funds back into the community, preferably through community projects that will benefit a wide cross-section of the community.

GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL

9 Melbourne Street (PO Box 6)
Triabunna TAS 7190
03 6256 4777
03 6256 4774
admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au

Event Support Grant Application

Please make sure you answer all Sections of this form.

APPLICANTS DETAILS			
Contact Person Name:	***Brett Withington***		
Position in organisation:	***Founder and Creative Director***		
Postal Address:	***45 Benwerrin Crescent, Norwood, TAS, 7250***		
Phone:		Mobile:	***0418 777 045***
Email:	***brett@spokemcfestival.com.au***		

ORGANISATION DETAILS	
Name of group or organisation running the event:	Swansea Motorcycle Association Ltd (TA Spoke Motorcycle Festival)
Address:	*45 Benwerrin Crescent, Norwood, TAS, 7250*
Website:	*www.spokemcfestival.com.au*
ABN:	*64 655 640 805*
Incorporation number:	*655 640 805*
Legal Status (Please tick which one applies to your group):	
☒ Not-for-profit or incorporated association. ☐ Registered business hosting a fundraising event where proceeds are donated to charity. ☐ Registered business hosting a profited event.	

EVENT DETAILS			
Event name:	Spoke Motorcycle Festival		
Event description:	A Celebration of Everything Motorcycle		
Event date(s):	**27th of Feb 2026**	Time(s):	**1st of Mar 2026**

GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL

9 Melbourne Street (PO Box 6)
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03 6256 4774
admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au

Set up date(s):	**14th of Feb 2026**	Close down date(s):	**8th of Mar 2026**
Event held previously:	☒ Yes ☐ No	Total no. of people expected to attend at any one time:	800
Entry costs:	Free entry: ☐	Voluntary donation: ☐	Admission fees: $35 - $215

EVENT VENUE	
Venue Name:	Mayfield Estate
Venue Address:	11610 Tasman Highway, Little Swanport, Tasmania, 7190
Has permission been obtained from the venue:	Yes ☒ No ☐ **Owner** / Manager / Committee of Management
Permission to use venue:	☒ Yes ☐ No
Will the event be held on Council or private land?	☐ Council Land ☒ Private Land

Event description:
(Please provide dot points including what you are going to do, the need for the event and why it is of value, any event partners, any further details about location etc.)

- Various motorcycle races
- Non Racing U18 Rides
- Novelty events
- Kids balance kid race
- Kids activities
- Food, beer and wine available
- Motorcycle stall holders
- The event was designed to give people a place of connection. It's called Spoke for the obvious, the Spoke of the motorcycle wheel, but also for the spoke'n word. Conversations had between two new or old friends about adventures had or a past bike owned. Spoke has always been about mental health and community. It fills a huge gap in the market of non-competitive, fun racing, a place where anyone can come and try racing a motorcycle in a safe, family friendly environment. Spoke brings people from all over the country and the world to the pristine property of Mayfield Estate.

INSURANCE	
Do you hold insurance for this event?	☒ Yes ☐ No

9 Melbourne Street (PO Box 6)
Triabunna TAS 7190
03 6256 4777
03 6256 4774
admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au

Please outline the insurance type and value involved: *(Attach Certificate of Currency with your application)*
The event is insured through Motorcycling Australia for $30M.

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES *(if applicable)*	
Will the event require road closure? *(Attach Traffic Management Plan)*	☐ Yes ☒ No
Which road(s) will be closed for the event?	
Time of road closures:	

BENEFITS OF THE EVENT TO GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY		
Please tick or highlight any of the following areas that are relevant to your event:		
☒ Community Participation	☐ Environment	☒ Sport & Recreation
☒ Community Education	☒ Tourism & Events	☒ Heritage & History
☐ Health & Safety	☐ Multi-Cultural	☒ Arts & Culture

What will Glamorgan Spring Bay residents gain from this event?
24% of attendees are from the Glamorgan Spring Bay municipality. We are offered an amazing amount of support from local volunteers who are very grateful for having such a high-quality event in their backyard. This world class event provides a safe, friendly community for residents to attend whether they want to race or just spectate. Spoke provides free coaching and education sessions for junior and adult motorcycle riders who wish to improve their on-road or off-road riding skills elevating their enjoyment and safety. This gives local junior and adult riders access to top level Motorcycling Australia qualified coaches and instructors.
What will Glamorgan Spring Bay businesses gain from this event?
Spoke brings attendees from all over Australia and international guests staying an average of 14.5 nights in Tasmania. GSBC business benefit through accommodation and food and supplies as many choose not to stay in the on-site camping provided at Spoke. The event showcases the amazing East Coast of Tasmania through the media assets captured at the event and displays these on social media channels and website throughout the year.
Briefly explain how you plan to acknowledge Council's contribution / assistance to the event.
The council will be added to our Partner page on the Spoke Motorcycle Festival website and acknowledgement on our social media platforms. The council will be added as event sponsor in our annual Exit Report to the Depart of State Growth through Events Tasmania.

GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL

9 Melbourne Street (PO Box 6)
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REQUEST FOR FUNDING	
Please confirm the dollar amount you are applying for from Council (per year).	$ 2,000
Please outline the amount of funds, if any, you are requesting from Council, and the purpose to which the funds will be applied: *Please provide quotations with your application*	
The funds will assist in; - delivery and removal of general waste and recycling skip bins. - delivery and storage of on-site drinking water. - site safety signage. - portable toilets and accessible toilet	
Are you prepared to accept partial funding? *(Council's grants are highly competitive and Council may offer less than the amount you request.)*	☒ Yes ☐ No
IN-KIND SUPPORT *In-kind support (Council contribution) is where Council waives or reduces our fees including permit fees, Council venue or site hire, and bin hire.*	
Are you requesting in-kind support from Council?	☐ Yes ☒ No
What in-kind support would you like?	

☐ Wheelie bin hire	☐ Venue/Site hire waiver	
☐ Permit fees waiver	☐ Power	
Other:		

CERTIFICATION / DECLARATION
This declaration must be signed by a person authorised to sign on behalf of the organisation. • I certify to the best of my knowledge that the information given on this form is complete and correct. • I understand that approval of the grant is subject to mutual agreement between Glamorgan Spring Bay Council and the applicant. • I understand that if Glamorgan Spring Bay Council approves a grant, I will be required to accept the conditions of the grant in accordance with Glamorgan Spring Bay Council requirements. • I understand that Glamorgan Spring Bay Council does not accept any liability or responsibility for the proposal in this application and that it is the responsibility of the applicant or their sponsor to provide the appropriate insurance cover and abide by all relevant health and safety standards.

9 Melbourne Street (PO Box 6)
Triabunna TAS 7190
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03 6256 4774
admin@freycinet.tas.gov.au

- I agree that if funded, funds will be used only for the event described on this application.
- I consent to the release of event information in this application for promotional and evaluation purposes relevant to Glamorgan Spring Bay Council.
- I will seek permission from the group before submitting photographs for use by Glamorgan Spring Bay Council.

The above organisation has authorised me to submit this application on their behalf. The information contained herein is, to the best of my knowledge, true and correct.

Name:	Brett Withington
Signature:	
Position in organisation:	Founder and Creative Director

Please return this application to: community@freycinet.tas.gov.au

Please Note: All successful applicants are required to submit evidence of expenditure in a final report. Included in reporting will be formal receipts, photographs and providing the opportunity for Community Services staff to attend the funded event.

FINAL CHECK LIST	
Action	**Completed**
Completed all sections of the application form	☒ Yes ☐ No
Signed the application form	☒ Yes ☐ No
Attached copies of any required documentation	☒ Yes ☐ No
Attached copies of supporting quotes	☐ Yes ☒ No

McDougall Kelly & Martinis
INSURANCE PARTNERS

Certificate of Insurance

In our capacity as Insurance Brokers to Motorcycling Australia Limited and its State/Territory Bodies, we hereby certify that the under mentioned insurance policy is current.

This certificate is issued as a matter of information only and confers no rights upon the certificate holder. This certificate does not amend, extend or alter the coverage afforded by the policy detailed below, or assume continuity of the policy.

Policy Type: Public & Products Liability Insurance

Policy Number: MAIL/PL/2025

Insured: Motorcycling Australia Limited and its State/Territory Bodies:

Motorcycling Queensland, Motorcycling South Australia Inc., Motorcycling Western Australia Inc., Motorcycling Tasmania Inc., Motorcycling Australia Northern Territory Inc., Motorcycling NSW Limited; Motorcycling Victoria

Nature of Business: Principally but not limited to the administration, organising, preparation and conducting of Motorcycling Australia permitted motorcycle and quad bike race events, practice and training sessions, educational programmes and any other activity incidental thereto including non-motor sport activity, property owners, lessors, lessees and any other club related activity for which a permit has been issued.

Period of Insurance:

From:	4.00 pm on 31st October 2025	Local Standard Time
To:	4.00 pm on 31st October 2026	Local Standard Time

Limit of Liability: Combined limit of AUD$30 million any one occurrence and $60 million in the aggregate (including primary layer for $2.5million any one occurrence and $5million in the aggregate via MA Insurance Limited and $27.5million any one occurrence and $55 million during any one period of insurance based on various layers of coverage arranged)

Primary Layer	$2,500,000 Insurer - MA Insurance Limited.
First Excess layer	$7,500,000 over $2,500,000 Primary layer. Insurers – certain Underwriters at Lloyds of London
Second Excess layer	$20,000,000 over $10,000,000 Primary and Excess Layers Insurers – certain Underwriters at Lloyds of London

Consult Insurance Solutions Pty Ltd (ABN 86 136 911 638 AFSL 339045) t/a McDougall Kelly & Martinis
Suite 5, 400 High Street Kew Vic 3101

McDougall Kelly & Martinis
INSURANCE PARTNERS

Interest Insured:

Subject to the terms, Definitions, Exceptions, Conditions, Provisions and Limits of Liability set out in the Policy, the Insurer shall indemnify the Insured against the legal liability of the Insured to pay damages or compensation in respect of:

a) Death/Injury to any person;
b) Damage to property;
c) Advertising injury;

occurring within the Geographical Limits during the Period of Insurance as a result of an Occurrence happening in connection with the Insured's Business.

Deductibles:

$10,000 each and every occurrence, other than for clubs that are exclusively affiliated with the Named Insured and its State Controlling Bodies, where the Deductible is Nil.

Geographical Limits:

Anywhere in the World except the United States of America and Canada where this Policy will only apply in respect of products exported into those countries and/or travelling directors or Employees who are non resident in such countries.

Event:

Cover in place for Events where an approved Motorcycling Australia permit has been issued and only for the duration of such permit.

Interest Noted:

This certificate notes the interests of;

- Bruce Dunbabin
- Swansea Motorcycle Association

but only for the vicarious liability of these entities for the negligent acts or omissions of the Insured and arising out of the Insured's Business, but this policy does not respond to the liability of these interests howsoever arising out of the negligence, breach of contract or breach of duty of such interests.

Definition of Insured is extended to include the following:

Any subsidiary company (including subsidiaries thereof) of the Named Insured and any affiliated club or other organisation under the control of the Named Insured and over which it is exercising active management;

Any new organisations acquired by the Insured during the Period of Insurance, through consolidation, merger, purchase of the assets of or assumption of control and active management.

Consult Insurance Solutions Pty Ltd (ABN 86 136 911 638 AFSL 339045) t/a McDougall Kelly & Martinis
Suite 5, 400 High Street Kew Vic 3101

McDougall Kelly & Martinis
INSURANCE PARTNERS

The Patron, President, Chief Executive Officer, any director, General Manager, officer, employee, club secretary, voluntary worker, committee member, sub-committee member, partner or shareholder of the Named Insured or of a company or any other entity or organisation designated in paragraph a) and b) above or elsewhere in this definition, but only whilst acting within the scope of their duties in such capacity.

Federation Internationale De Motorcyclisme, license holders, officials, members coaches and/or trainers; track owners and/or operators; landowners and/or lessees of property; team owners; sponsors; fire, rescue, towing and medical organisations who supply services to the Insured; non-private event organisers, event promoters and their servants; and any other person, principal, organisation, trustee or estate to whom or to which the Insured is obligated by virtue of a written or oral contract to provide insurance as is afforded by this Policy, but only to the extent required by such contract or assumed liability and in any event only for such coverage and limits of liability as provided in this Policy.

Any office bearer or member of the Insured's social and/or sporting clubs, first aid, fire and ambulance services, welfare or child care facilities formed with the consent of the Insured (other than an Insured designated in paragraph (d) above) in respect of claims arising from duties connected with activities of any such club or facility.

At the request of the Named Insured, any director or executive officer of the Named Insured or of a company designated in paragraph (b) above in respect of private work undertaken by the Insured's employees for such persons.

If the Insured is declared in the Schedule as a partnership or joint venture, any partner or member thereof but only with respect to his liability as a partner or member of such partnership or joint venture.

The personal representatives of the Insured in respect of liability incurred by the Insured whilst acting on behalf of the Insured.

Subject to the Terms and Conditions of this Policy.

Yours faithfully,

Julia Wintle
Account Manager

Consult Insurance Solutions Pty Ltd (ABN 86 136 911 638 AFSL 339045) t/a McDougall Kelly & Martinis
Suite 5, 400 High Street Kew Vic 3101

Spoke Motorcycle Festival – Environmental Action Plan

Mayfield Estate, Little Swanport, Tasmania

1. Introduction

The Spoke Motorcycle Festival (SMF) is held at the pristine Mayfield Estate — one of Tasmania's most remarkable coastal environments. This unique waterfront location is central to our brand identity and positions the festival as one of the only motorcycle events globally held at a beachside venue. It also allows us to contribute to Tasmania's reputation as a world-class nature-driven tourism destination.

Environmental sustainability is a core festival value. Protecting the beach, dunes, private farmland, and surrounding marine environment is essential to the long-term viability of the event. This Environmental Action Plan sets out **practical, financially viable, easily implemented processes** that uphold our commitment to minimal environmental impact.

2. Environmental Impact Assessment & Mitigation

We are committed to protecting the local beachfront ecosystem. Our approach is guided by:

- Our ongoing **Environmental Assessments**,
- Our **Hooded Plover Mitigation Strategy**,
- This **Environmental Management Plan**, and
- Ongoing expert input from environmental scientist **Doug Tangney**.

These strategies inform all decisions relating to land use, race layout, crowd management, waste management, flora and fauna protection, and communication.

2.1. Beachfront Ecosystem Protection

2.1.1. Hooded Plover Protection Measures

Our festival area is located near potential Hooded Plover habitat. Key risks include nest disturbance, chick or egg crushing, and disruption to adult birds. We implement the following measures, all practically achievable and financially viable, referencing the Hooded Plover Mitigation Strategy plan:

Pre-Festival Monitoring (3–5 Days Prior)

- Environmental specialist or trained volunteer completes a **site walkover** to assess dune systems and check for:
    - Active nests
    - Breeding pairs
    - Recent tracks or scrape formation
- Finalises alignment for controlled beach access.

Protection Infrastructure (Installed as Required)

- **Temporary fencing** placed around any identified nest sites.
- Large-format signs featuring Hooded Plover images, nesting info, and conservation messaging.
- **No-dog policy** strictly enforced through signage, attendee confirmation during registration, and roving marshals.

Controlled Movement of Vehicles and People

- Beach access limited to **one single track**, protected by an **environmentally friendly rubber conveyor-belt pathway**, preventing damage to dunes.
- Spectators restricted to **fenced viewing areas** to minimise beach and dune intrusion.
- Racing restricted to a **100-metre beach section** to reduce disturbance.

During the Festival

- Marshals positioned at beach access and spectator points to prevent entry into sensitive zones.
- No vehicles or personnel permitted on dunes at any time.
- No movement allowed outside the 1.5-hour windows either side of low tide, reducing contact time with potential breeding activity.
- Constant visual monitoring for bird activity, chicks, or adult alert calls.

Post-Event

- Walkover to inspect for damage or disturbance.
- Immediate remediation (smoothing tyre tracks, removing debris) to ensure a stable environment for shorebirds.

2.2. Farmland Protection

The event takes place on private agricultural land. To minimise impact and retain landowner confidence:

- Use **existing farm tracks** wherever possible.
- No attendee vehicles permitted in paddocks unless explicitly designated.
- Strict no-litter policy enforced via signage and marshals.
- Straw bales used for seating returned to farmland as **mulch**, reducing waste and supporting soil health.
- All temporary infrastructure removed within 7 days, leaving no trace.

2.3. Beach & Marine Environment Protection

To protect the beach and adjacent waters:

- No fuel, oil, or chemical storage permitted within 50m of dunes, waterline, or drainage run-off pathways.
- Event-related washing of motorcycles prohibited on-site.
- Spill kits available at all mechanical or race areas.
- No food vendor grey water may be disposed of on-site — must be contained and removed.

- Fishing or shellfish removal prohibited during the festival.

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3. Site Management Processes

3.1. Environmentally Sensitive Layout
- Race course designed to avoid dune systems entirely.
- Access points positioned to limit dispersion of foot and vehicle traffic.
- All logistics adapt to the findings of the pre-event environmental walkover.

3.2. Movement Control
- Fenced corridors ensure visitors stay on designated paths.
- Rubber matting on access path protects dunes and prevents erosion.
- Marshals ensure adherence to environmental zones.

3.3. Signage and Education
- Large-format 1500 × 1200 mm environmental signs positioned at:
  - Beach access
  - Spectator zone
- Verbal communication at:
  - Race brief
- Messaging includes:
  - Hooded Plover protection
  - Leave No Trace
  - Zero Waste
  - Respect Dunes & Wildlife
- Clear instructions to follow fenced routes and keep off the dunes at all times.

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4. Waste & Resource Management

Our goal is to work toward a **Zero Waste** festival through practical, financially viable measures.

4.1. Waste Reduction
- Compostable and recyclable materials required for all food and bar operators.
- Bins clearly labelled for recycling and landfill.
- Waste streams monitored and emptied regularly to prevent contamination.
- Waste contractor briefed on Zero Waste goal.

4.2. Plastic Reduction
- Water refill station positioned at main festival hub area.
- Attendees encouraged to bring their own bottles.
- No single-use plastic bottles sold at bars or food vans.

4.3. Material Reuse & Sustainability
- Reusable festival signage (undated branding).
- Reuse of straw bales for post-event mulching.
- LED lighting used for energy reduction.

- Recycled paper where possible.

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5. Behavioural Change & Community Engagement

5.1. Attendee Education

- Sustainability messaging delivered across:
  - Website
  - Social media
  - Ticketing platform
  - On-site signage
  - Pre-event email reminders

5.2. Active Participation

- "Bring a Bottle" and "Leave No Trace" campaigns.
- Clear instructions on correct waste disposal.
- Social media content showcasing environmental responsibility.

5.3. Partnerships

- Collaboration with:
  - Environmental scientist Doug Tangney
  - Landowner
- Advice integrated into festival operations and reviewed annually.

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6. Formalising the Environmental Strategy

We commit to ongoing development of a structured Environmental and Sustainability Plan.

Next Steps

- Work with an environmental specialist to set measurable targets (e.g., % waste reduction, habitat protection metrics).
- Annual review of environmental performance.
- Post-event environmental report documenting:
  - Hooded Plover sightings
  - Waste reduction outcomes
  - Surface disturbance findings
  - Recommendations for improvement
- Continued refinement of event layout based on monitoring results.

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7. Summary of Actions

Action	Why It Works
Fencing nest sites	Uses temporary mesh; protects birds without long term disturbance
Rubber conveyor belt dune protection	Prevents erosion, protects dunes

Action	Why It Works
Reusable signage	Reduces waste
Controlled access paths	Reduces disturbance
“No Dog” rule	Removes major threat to birds
Volunteer marshals	Provides clear guidance
Pre-event walkovers	Provides base for the year
Reusable water refill stations	Removes need for single use plastics

8. Conclusion

The Spoke Motorcycle Festival is committed to respecting and protecting Mayfield Estates iconic coastal environment. Through practical measures, community education, partnerships, and a strong focus on Hooded Plover protection, the festival ensures that its environmental impact remains minimal and fully manageable.

This Environmental Action Plan demonstrates our proactive approach to sustainability, ensuring the festival can continue responsibly for many years to come.