

George Town Council
COUNCIL MEETING – 20TH JUNE 2018
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Meeting Commencing at 5.00pm

AUDIO RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

The public is advised that it is **Council Policy** to record the proceedings of meetings of Council on digital media to assist in the preparation of minutes, and to clarify any queries relating to the Minutes that is raised during a subsequent meeting under the section “Confirmation of Minutes”.

The recording does not replace the written minutes and a transcript of the recording will not be prepared.

All meetings of the Council shall be digitally recorded as provided for by Regulation 33 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 except for the proceedings of meetings or parts of meetings closed to the public in accordance with Regulation 15(2).

In accordance with the requirements of Council’s Audio Recording of Council Meetings Policy No. 40, members of the public are not permitted to make audio recordings of Council meetings.

1. PRESENT

1.1 APOLOGIES

1.2 IN ATTENDANCE

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2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 16TH MAY 2018

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

That the Minutes of Council's Ordinary meeting held on the 16th May 2018 numbered 063/18 to 072/18 and 075/18 as previously circulated to Elected Members be received and confirmed as a true record of proceedings.

VOTING

For:

Against:

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3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

3.1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME PROCEDURE

[Refer to Minute No. 243/16. The period set aside for public question time will be at least 15 minutes. Questions given on notice will be addressed first. Once questions on notice have been addressed, persons who have registered their interest to ask a question will be called to do so in the order in which they have registered. Persons attending Council meetings will have the opportunity to register their interest to ask a question without notice prior to the commencement of the meeting. Council staff will be on hand to assist with this process.]

Participants cannot ask more than 2 questions in a row with a maximum of 2 minutes per question. If a person has more than (2) questions, they will be placed at the 'end of the queue' and may, if time permits, ask their further questions once all other persons have had an opportunity to ask questions. Persons who have not registered their interest to ask a question will be given an opportunity to do so following all those who have registered. All questions must be directed to the Chairperson.

For further information on Council's Public Question Time Rules and Procedure, please refer to George Town Council Public Question Time Policy No. 18.]

Questions asked and answers provided may be summarised in the minutes of the meeting.

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3.2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil.

3.3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

3.4 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FROM COUNCILLORS

Nil.

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4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

5. GENERAL MANAGER'S DECLARATION

I certify that with respect to all advice, information or recommendations provided to Council with this Agenda:

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



**Justine Brooks-Bedelph
GENERAL MANAGER**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 – SECTION 65

65. Qualified persons

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

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6. PLANNING AUTHORITY

Nil.

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7. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Nil.

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8. WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Nil.

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9. CORPORATE AND FINANCE

9.1 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT PANEL FOR 2017-2018

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager

REPORT DATE: 12th June 2018

FILE NO: 29.11

ATTACHMENT: (A) Annual Report of the Audit Panel for 2017-2018 to the Council
(B) Audit Panel Work Plan for 2018/2019

SUMMARY

To provide Council with the Annual Report of the Audit Panel for 2017-2018 to Council and the Audit Panel Annual Work Plan for 2018/2019 for review.

BACKGROUND

At the meeting of the Audit Panel held on the 6th June 2018 the Panel recommended the Annual Report of the Audit Panel for 2017-2018 and the Audit Panel Annual Work Plan for 2018/2019 to Council.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 05

Ensure Council listens to and understands community needs and continues to make responsible decisions on behalf of the community.

Key Objective 4

Consistently achieve a high standard of internal financial and governance arrangements.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

No risks are identified.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial implications are identified.

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The Annual Report of the Audit Panel for 2017-2018 to the Council has been received from the Chair of Council's Audit Panel. This Annual Report explains how the Audit Panel discharged its responsibilities during 2017-2018. The Report also highlights the Panel's Key Activities in 2017-2018 and its program for 2018/2019.

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9.1 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT PANEL FOR 2017-2018 (CONT.)

The Audit Panel's Annual Work Plan for 2018/2019 provides direction in regard to its reporting requirements.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Annual Report of the Audit Panel for 2017-2018 and the Audit Panel Annual Work Plan for 2018/2019.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

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10. COMMUNITY SERVICES

Nil.

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11. MAYOR

11.1 MATTERS OF INVOLVEMENT – MAYOR

FILE NO.: 14.11

REPORT DATE: 12th June 2018

Mayor Bridget Archer		
<i>May</i>	17	Attended Mayors' Professional Development Day
	18	Attended LGAT General Meeting
		Attended Australia Day Investiture Ceremony
	22	Attended BBQ – Skatepark
		Met with representative Neighbourhood House
	23	Met with representatives Bass & Flinders Bowls & Community Club re: Council's Grants Program
		Met with resident re: George Town Youth Survey
	25	Attended Cancer Council Biggest Morning Tea
	28	Attended George Town Probus Meeting as Guest Speaker
<i>June</i>	5	Met with Ross Hart, Member for Bass re: Council's Priority Projects
		Presentation of Volunteers Certificate George Town Senior Citizens Club
		Attended Skatepark paint project
	6	Attended George Town Council Audit Panel Meeting
		Met with Auditor General and Senior officers from the Tasmania Audit Office during their tour of the North East
		Attended Council Workshop
	7	Met with media onsite re: Skatepark project
	9	Met with Senator Martin and Federal Minister for Sport, Senator McKenzie for funding announcement re: Netball Courts
		Attended Weymouth Progress Association – General Meeting
	14	Met with Australian Defence Force Recruitment Rep re: George Town opportunities
		Opening of Exhibition at the Watch House (Shirley Shield's Cosmic Art Collection)
	15	Attended Launceston College (retirement of Mr Keith Wenn, Department of Education)
	17-20	Attended Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly - Canberra
	20	Attended Ordinary Council meeting

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the information report from the Mayor on Matters of Involvement be received and the information noted.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

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12. GENERAL MANAGER

12.1 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS – JUNE 2018

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager

REPORT DATE: 12th June 2018

FILE NO: 14.10

ATTACHMENT/S: Nil

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide a record of workshops held in accordance with the requirements of Section 8(2)(c) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

DATE AND PURPOSE OF WORKSHOP HELD

WEDNESDAY 6TH JUNE 2018

- Review of the Annual Allowances paid to Councillors in Tasmania (Tasmanian Industrial Commission Paper)
- LGAT AGM & General Meeting Motions
- Legal expenditure April & May 2018
- TEER River Health Action Plan
- Update on Regent Square
- Mount George Mountain Bike Trail Reference Group
- National General Assembly Motions for discussion
- Local Government Department – Audit of compliance with Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015
- RFDS Room Rental
- Memorial Hall/RSL Lease
- Airport Sale
- Council resolution 088/17 – Discussion re length of contracts, agreements or projects

Present: Mayor Bridget Archer, Cr Chris Ashley, Cr Heather Barwick, Cr Doug Burt, Cr Greg Dawson, Cr John Glisson, Cr Tim Parish, Cr Peter Parkes

Apologies: Deputy Mayor Tim Harris

In Attendance: General Manager
Governance Support Officer

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12.1 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS – JUNE 2018 (CONT.)

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the report from the General Manager and notes the information.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

George Town Council
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12.2 SETTING OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR

REPORT AUTHOR/S: General Manager
Team Leaders

REPORT DATE: 12th June 2018

FILE NO: 32.4

ATTACHMENTS: Fees & Charges Schedule for the 2018/2019 Financial Year

SUMMARY

This report recommends the rate at which all fees and charges are to be set for the financial year 2018/2019.

BACKGROUND

The Council every year as a part of its budget deliberations sets its fees and charges for a number of functions. These fees reflect Council's desire to maintain a system of fees and charges based on the user pays principle while also recognising the community service obligation inherent in certain service functions. The recommended schedule of fees and charges is in the form of an attachment to this report.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Section 205 of the Local Government Act 1993 as amended states:

- 205.** (1) *In addition to any other power to impose fees and charges but subject to subsection (2), a council may impose fees and charges in respect of any one or all of the following matters:*
- (a) *the use of any property or facility owned, controlled, managed or maintained by the council;*
 - (b) *services supplied at a person's request;*
 - (c) *carrying out work at a person's request;*
 - (d) *providing information or materials, or providing copies of, or extracts from, records of the council;*
 - (e) *any application to the council;*
 - (f) *any licence, permit, registration or authorization granted by the council;*
 - (g) *any other prescribed matter.*
- (2) *A council may not impose a fee or charge in respect of a matter if –*
- (a) *a fee or charge is prescribed in respect of that matter; or*
 - (b) *this or any other Act provides that a fee or charge is not payable in respect of that matter.*
- (3) *Any fee or charge under subsection (1) need not be fixed by reference to the cost to the Council*

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12.2 SETTING OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

OFFICER'S COMMENT

Attached for the information of Council are comparison tables, showing fees for the 2017/2018 year and those proposed for 2018/2019 financial year.

In particular the following points should be noted.

- The fees and charges schedule has taken into account gazetted fees and charges based on decisions of the state government where applicable.
- Cemetery fees – incremental increases only to account for inflation.
- Engineering fees – adjusted to reflect actual services offered.
- Photocopying fees - incremental increases only to account for inflation.
- Planning fees - incremental increases only to account for inflation.
- Swimming pool fees – incremental increases only to account for inflation.
- Temporary dwelling accommodation - incremental increases only to account for inflation.
- Waste transfer fees - incremental increases to account for inflation and cost of service.
- Halls and public buildings - incremental increases only to account for inflation.

The following has been extracted from the Council's adopted financial strategy in relation to the setting of fees and charges.

7. Fees and Charges

7.1 OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE

Council has for a number of years implemented a user pays principle in charging for some services. This recognises the situation whereby some services are consumed by a discrete section of the community who may or may not be ratepayers or residents. This approach does not imply that every service or function is subject to the principle nor does it prevent Council from exempting some sectors of the community from paying for the service where it deems the service to be a community service obligation.

7.2 STRATEGIES

- Review all fees and charges prior to the setting of budget each year.
- Determine those fees and charges to which the user pays principle applies.
- Consider an appropriate increase for those fees and charges where the user pays principle applies.
- Align fees and charges set in the annual budget estimates with the long term financial plan.
- Consider the application of new fees or charges where a new service is introduced or amend fees and charges where service delivery is changed significantly.
- Maintain the percentage of total cash receipts from user charges at 4.2% or increase this if possible.

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**12.2 SETTING OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR
(CONT.)**

7.2 AIMS AND TARGETS

Performance measure	Percentage increase in fees and charges
Performance calculation	Last year's fee or charge/this year's fee or charge (expressed as a percentage)
Aim	Local government cost index percentage increase applied
Target	Local government cost index percentage increase applied
Performance measure	Percentage of cash receipts from user charges
Performance calculation	Receipts from user charges/total receipts
Aim	10%
Target	4.5%

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council, pursuant to Section 205 of the Local Government Act 1993 receive and adopt the schedules of fees and charges attached to this report for the 2018/2019 financial year.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

George Town Council
COUNCIL MEETING – 20TH JUNE 2018
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12.3 MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2018/2019 YEAR

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager
Team Leader – Corporate & Finance

REPORT DATE: 12th June 2018

FILE NO: 32.1

ATTACHMENTS: Nil.

RATES & CHARGES FOR 2018/2019

Rates and charges as detailed in the below recommendation are in accordance with Council's current Rates and Charges policy, this policy was reviewed by Council at the May 2017 meeting at which time it was referred to a workshop. No changes were made to the policy.

The rates and charges resolutions as detailed in the recommendation below are presented for consideration by council in the making of rates and charges for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019. The changes made reflect a general rate increase of 2.42% for the non-residential and an increase of between 2.42% to 6.04% for the residential sector varying by locality.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council by absolute majority, make rates and charges for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 in accordance with the resolutions which follow:

DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

- (a) **'Planning Scheme'** means the George Town Interim Planning Scheme 2013 as amended or replaced pursuant to the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (Tas).
- (b) Where the context permits, terms used in this resolution have the meaning given to those terms in the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) or the *Fire Service Act 1979* (Tas) (as applicable).

1. GENERAL RATE & MINIMUM AMOUNT PAYABLE

Pursuant to Section 90 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (**'Act'**), Council makes the following General Rate on all rateable land excluding land which is exempt pursuant to the provisions of Section 87 of the Act within the municipal area of George Town for the period commencing 1st July 2018 and ending on 30th June 2019:

- (a) pursuant to Sections 90(1) and 90(3)(b) of the Act, Council hereby makes a General Rate of **0.364410** cents in the dollar on the **capital value** of the land; and
- (b) pursuant to Section 90(4) of the Act, Council sets a minimum amount payable in respect of the General Rate of **\$702.00**.

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12.3 MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2018/2019 YEAR (CONT.)

2. VARIATIONS TO THE GENERAL RATE

Pursuant to Section 107 of the Act, Council hereby varies the General Rate of **0.364410** cents in the dollar (as previously made) as follows:

- (a) For land used or predominantly used for industrial purposes, and which is zoned 'General Industrial' as defined in the Planning Scheme, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **1.481581** cents to **1.845991** cents in the dollar on capital value;
- (b) For land used or predominantly used for industrial purposes, and which is zoned 'Utilities' as defined in the Planning Scheme, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **1.481581** cents to **1.845991** cents in the dollar on capital value;
- (c) For land used or predominantly used for industrial purposes, and which is zoned 'Port And Marine' as defined in the Planning Scheme, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **1.481582** cents to **1.845993** cents in the dollar on capital value;
- (d) For land used or predominantly used for industrial purposes, and which is not zoned 'General Industrial', 'Utilities' or 'Port And Marine' as defined in the Planning Scheme, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **0.397075** cents to **0.761486** cents in the dollar on capital value;
- (e) For land used or predominantly used for commercial purposes, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **0.396869** cents to **0.761279** cents in the dollar on capital value;
- (f) In the locality of Beechford, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **0.247275** cents to **0.611685** cents in the dollar on capital value;
- (g) In the locality of Bellingham, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **0.244886** cents to **0.609296** cents in the dollar on capital value;
- (h) In the locality of George Town, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **0.305672** cents to **0.670083** cents in the dollar on capital value;
- (i) In the locality of Hillwood, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, the General Rate is varied by decreasing it by **0.053746** cents to **0.310664** cents in the dollar on capital value;
- (j) In the locality of Lefroy, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **0.405756** cents to **0.770166** cents in the dollar on capital value;
- (k) In the locality of Low Head, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, the General Rate is varied by decreasing it by **0.033260** cents to **0.331150** cents in the dollar on capital value;

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12.3 MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2018/2019 YEAR (CONT.)

- (l) In the locality of Lulworth, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **0.122779** cents to **0.487189** cents in the dollar on capital value;
- (m) In the locality of Mount Direction, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **0.068828** cents to **0.433238** cents in the dollar on capital value;
- (n) In the locality of Pipers Brook, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, the General Rate is varied by decreasing it by **0.006601** cents to **0.357809** cents in the dollar on capital value;
- (o) In the locality of Pipers River, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **0.018042** cents to **0.382452** cents in the dollar on capital value; and
- (p) In the locality of Weymouth, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **0.155452** cents to **0.519862** cents in the dollar on capital value.

3. AVERAGED AREA RATES

Pursuant to Section 109A of the Act and Certificates issued to Council in accordance with Section 109H of the Act, Council hereby make the following Averaged Area Rates ('AAR') for all rateable land within the municipal area for the following categories and localities for the financial year commencing 1 July 2016 and ending 30 June 2017:

- (a) In the locality of Beechford, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, an AAR is made in the amount of **\$1000.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (f) of this resolution;
- (b) In the locality of Bellingham, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, an AAR is made in the amount of **\$1000.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (g) of this resolution;
- (c) In the locality of George Town, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, an AAR is made in the amount of **\$1,088.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (h) of this resolution;
- (d) In the locality of Hillwood, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, an AAR is made in the amount of **\$1030.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (i) of this resolution;
- (e) In the locality of Lefroy, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, an AAR is made in the amount of **\$1000.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (j) of this resolution;

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12.3 MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2018/2019 YEAR (CONT.)

- (f) In the locality of Low Head, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, an AAR is made in the amount of **\$1,088.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (k) of this resolution;
- (g) In the locality of Lulworth, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, an AAR is made in the amount of **\$1000.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (l) of this resolution;
- (h) In the locality of Mount Direction, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, an AAR is made in the amount of **\$1030.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (m) of this resolution;
- (i) In the locality of Pipers Brook, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, an AAR is made in the amount of **\$1030.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (n) of this resolution;
- (j) In the locality of Pipers River, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, an AAR is made in the amount of **\$1030.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (o) of this resolution; and
- (k) In the locality of Weymouth, for rateable land that is used, or predominantly used, for residential purposes, an AAR is made in the amount of **\$1000.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (p) of this resolution.

4. WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICE CHARGES

Pursuant to Section 94 of the Act, Council by absolute majority hereby makes the following service charges on all rateable land within the municipal area of George Town (including land which is otherwise exempt from general and separate rates pursuant to Section 87 of the Act but excluding Crown land to which Council does not supply waste management services) for the period commencing 1 July 2018 and ending on 30 June 2019, namely:

- (a) A service charge of **\$38.00** for waste management on all rateable land for the establishment, management, provision and rehabilitation by Council of waste management facilities, and
- (b) A service charge for waste management in respect of all land to which Council provides or makes available waste management services, including garbage and recycling removal and disposal using mobile garbage and recycling bins, pursuant to Section 94(3A) of the Act varied according to the level of service provided or made available, of:
 - (i) **\$178.00** for land serviced by one 85 litre mobile garbage bin and one 140 litre mobile recycling bin;
 - (ii) **\$215.00** for land serviced by one 140 litre mobile garbage bin and one 140 litre mobile recycling bin; and
 - (iii) **\$311.00** for land serviced by one 240 litre mobile garbage bin and one 240 litre mobile recycling bin.

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12.3 MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2018/2019 YEAR (CONT.)

5. SERVICE RATE FOR FIRE PROTECTION

(a) Pursuant to Section 93A of the Act, Council makes the following fire protection service rates for the purpose of collecting a fire service contribution from all rateable land in the municipal area sufficient to pay the contribution that Council is required to make pursuant to the notice received by Council from the State Fire Commission given accordance with Section 81B of the *Fire Service Act 1979* (Tas) for the 2018-2019 financial year as follows:

<u>District</u>	Rate Cents in the dollar of Capital Value
George Town Volunteer Brigade Rating District	\$0.0246143
General Land	\$0.0231599

(b) Pursuant to Section 93(3) of the Act and Section 81C(6) and Section 79B(2) of the *Fire Service Act 1979* (Tas), the minimum fire service contribution payable in respect of the fire service contribution is the amount of **\$40.00**.

6. PAYMENT OF RATES

Pursuant to Section 124 of the Act, Council determines that:

all rates may be paid by rate payers by way of four (4) approximately equal instalments in accordance with the following schedule:

- (a) First instalment due on or before 31 August 2018;
- (b) Second instalment due on or before 31 October 2018;
- (c) Third instalment due on or before 31 January 2019; and
- (d) Fourth and final instalment due on or before 31 March 2019.

7. PENALTY AND INTEREST

Pursuant to Section 128(1)(c) of the Act, if any rate, instalment or charge is not paid on or before the date that it falls due for payment then:

- (a) there is payable a penalty of five percent (**5%**) of the unpaid amounts of the rate, instalment or charge; and
- (b) there is payable a daily interest charge of **0.0241369% (8.81% per annum)** in respect of the unpaid amount of the rate, instalment or charge for the period during which it remains unpaid.

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12.3 MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2018/2019 YEAR (CONT.)

8. SEPARATE LAND

For the purposes of these resolutions the rates and charges (including the minimum amounts) shall apply to each parcel of land which is shown as being separately valued in the valuation list prepared under the *Valuation of Land Act 2001* (Tas).

9. ADJUSTED VALUES

For the purposes of these resolutions any reference to capital value includes a reference to that value as may be adjusted from time to time pursuant to Section 89 of the Act.

REQUIRES ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF COUNCIL

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

George Town Council
COUNCIL MEETING – 20TH JUNE 2018
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12.4 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager
Team Leader – Corporate & Finance

MEETING: 12th June 2018

FILE NO: 29.11

ATTACHMENT/S: Draft Operating Budget by Budget Centre 2018/2019

OBJECTIVE

This report provides information on budget parameters, assumptions and strategies that have been applied in the preparation of the 2018/2019 budget papers.

BACKGROUND

There have been workshops held to discuss budget matters for the 2018/2019 budget including rating matters. Detailed budget work papers have been provided to elected members to support discussions. Feedback has been sought and provided to elected members in order to frame the budget recommendation.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Budget Estimates

Local Government Act 1993 Section 82 – Estimates states:

- (1) *The General Manager must prepare estimates of the Council's revenue and expenditure for each financial year.*
- (2) *Estimates are to contain details of the following:*
 - (a) *the estimated revenue of the Council;*
 - (b) *the estimated expenditure of the Council;*
 - (c) *the estimated borrowing by the Council;*
 - (d) *the estimated capital works of the Council;*
 - (e) *any other detail required by the Minister.*
- (3) *Estimates for a financial year must –*
 - (a) *be adopted by the Council, with or without alteration, by absolute majority; and*
 - (b) *be adopted before 31 August in that financial year; and*
 - (c) *not be adopted more than one month before the start of that financial year.*
- (4) *A Council may alter by absolute majority any estimate referred to in subsection (2) during the financial year.*

Rates and Charges

Part 9 of the Local Government Act 1993 contains the detailed requirements of Council in relation to rates and charges. Part 9 is considered too voluminous to reproduce in this report.

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12.4 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

STRATEGIC PLAN 2016/2026

The ten-year goals of Council are to:

1. Foster the growth of a diverse business and industry mix and to foster population growth.
2. Support an active, vibrant, and culturally diverse community life that enjoys liveable and amenity rich neighbourhoods.
3. Conserve our natural environment and heritage and ensure it is enjoyed by our community, visitors and future generations.
4. Strengthen the vibrancy of our towns and enhance the benefits of living in a rural setting and living close to the river and coast.
5. Ensure Council listens to and understands community needs and continues to make responsible decisions on behalf of the community.

Mission:

George Town Council will strive to achieve the community's vision of a vibrant, engaged and diverse municipality through: the provision of quality and affordable services, the usage of available assets and resources, the application of sound governance principles and prudent financial management and a focus on sustainability in all that we do.

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Budget Estimates Key Assumptions, Influences and Application of Council Policy

External Influences

1 Council Cost Index 2018 2.42%

The Council Cost Index provides an aggregated picture of cost movements at the State level. The mix of construction and non-construction activity varies from council to council. Similarly, there are parts of the State where construction costs have been increasing faster than the State average. Such factors will all be of relevance at the local level when determining the level of rate increase necessary to provide the desired level of service

2 Consumer Price Index

The Hobart CPI was estimated to have increased by 0.7 per cent in the March quarter 2018 and was 2.0 per cent higher than the price index in the corresponding quarter one year earlier.

3 Fuel price increase

Should costs increase significantly, this will impact on the estimated operating result.

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12.4 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

4 Federal Assistance Grant Treatment

The Commonwealth Government has announced the prepayment of half of the 2018/2019 Federal Assistance Grant. The effect of this is that a 50% of the 2018/2019 grant will be received in the 2018 year. The budget has been amended to show the decreased operational grant revenue in 2018/2019 as the prepayment is required to be reported in the year that it is received i.e. 2017/2018. This will mean that, although operational grant revenue will be reported as reduced by the 50% in 2018/2019, the carried forward cash is available to fund the 2018/2019 budget.

5 Cash rate

Movements in the cash rate for investments will impact on the budget estimates for interest received.

6 Bad debt write off

The level of bad debt write off is dependent on the economic circumstances that prevail and impact on rate payers in general. The budget papers include only a minimal estimate. Should there be a significant increase in the inability of ratepayers to meet rate demands the level of bad debt write off will increase.

7 Capital Grants Received

Any changes in government policy regarding capital grants, will impact the prepared budget estimates.

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12.4 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

Draft operating budget - 2018/2019

	<u>2018 Actual YTD</u>	<u>2018 Revised Budget Estimate</u>	<u>Budget Estimate 2019</u>	<u>Variance to 2018 budget</u>	<u>%Variance to 2018 budget</u>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
<u>Operating Income</u>					
Contributions operational	1,600	0			
Grants operational	711,634	913,846	913,846	0	0%
Investment Income	261,544	304,259	304,490	-231	0%
Other Revenues	43,860	46,453	41,902	4,551	-10%
Rates	7,863,323	7,904,500	8,231,143	-326,643	4%
Reimbursements	121,276	143,018	85,807	57,211	-40%
Statutory Charges	210,423	258,872	265,851	-6,979	3%
User Charges	139,752	185,607	382,711	-197,104	106%
<u>Total Operating Income</u>	9,353,411	9,756,555	10,225,751	-469,196	5%
<u>Operating Expenditure</u>					
Contracts	1,710,517	2,366,089	2,363,577	2,512	0%
Depreciation Amortisation	2,265,084	2,995,730	2,803,000	192,730	6%
Employee Costs	3,112,753	3,530,467	3,365,655	164,812	5%
Finance Costs	83,749	111,464	108,967	2,497	2%
Impairment	0	5,000	5,000	0	0%
Internal Hire	-20,895	-6,790	0	-6,790	100%
Materials	450,431	690,311	684,488	5,823	1%
Other Expenses	1,270,233	1,515,899	1,543,685	-27,786	-2%
<u>Total Operating Expenses</u>	8,871,872	11,208,170	10,874,372	333,798	3%
<u>Surplus/Deficit</u>	481,539	-1,451,615	-648,622	-802,993	55%

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12.4 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

Federal Assistance grant prepaid	913,846	913,846	913,846	0	0%
<u>Underlying Deficit</u>	1,395,385	-537,769	265,224	-802,993	149%
<u>Capital Items</u>					
Contributions capital	13,263	0	0	0	0%
Grants capital	419,388	4,278,475	3,637,000	641,475	-15%
<u>Total Capital</u>	432,651	4,278,475	3,637,000	641,475	-15%
<u>Net Surplus</u>	1,828,036	3,740,706	3,902,224		
Less loan principal repayments		136,787	111,978	24,809	-18%
Plus depreciation		2,995,730	2,803,000	192,730	-6%
Less prepaid Financial Assistance Grant		913,846	913,846	0	0%
<u>Cash Surplus/Deficit</u>		5,685,803	5,679,400	6,403	0%
Less purchase/construction of assets (2017/2018 and carry forward capital program)		7,736,921	5,887,690	1,849,231	-24%
<u>Cash Deficit</u>		-2,051,118	-208,290	-2,259,408	-110%
Estimated cash at start of year		4,987,116	2,935,998		
Estimated cash at end of year		2,935,998	2,727,708	208,290	-7%

12.4 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

Operational Budget

Key points

Operating Revenue \$10,225,751

Estimated operating income is \$10,225,751 which is an increase of 5% on the revised estimated budget for 2017/2018.

- This has been assisted by an average general rate increase of 2.42% for non-residential properties and an increase of between 2.44% and 6.4% for residential properties.
- A reduction in operating grant income to reflect the prepayment of an estimated \$913,846 of the Federal Assistance Grant for 2018/2019 into the 2017/2018 financial year.
- Increase in Waste Transfer Station income with introduction of inert waste collection.

Operating Expenditure \$10,874,372

Estimated operating expenditure is \$10,874,372 being a decrease of \$333,798 or a 3% overall when compared to the revised estimated budget for 2017/2018.

- Depreciation – 6% decrease based on asset revaluation and asset useful life adjustments currently being assessed.
- Employee costs – 5% overall decrease in employee costs. The EBA increment to employment costs is 2.6% however movements including the estimated wages booked to capital projects impact on the net operating wages cost. Should capitalised salaries and oncosts vary from the budget estimates the operating result will be affected.
- Finance costs – an expected reduction based on loan configuration and allocations between principle and interest components.
- Internal hire – hire rates have been reviewed and generally reduced based on utilisation rates and costs.
- Other expenses – estimated increase of 2% based on a number of reasons noted below.

Underlying Surplus

The resulting estimated underlying surplus is estimated at \$265,224 or an underlying surplus ratio of positive 2.38%, after adjusting for the FAG grant prepayment. A positive underlying surplus is in compliance with Council's adopted financial strategy which calls for a positive underlying surplus of 1% of operating income.

**George Town Council
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12.4 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

Rates and Charges Strategy \$8,231,143

General Rate

The rating strategy is to maintain the current rating structure which applies an averaged area rate to properties used or predominately used for residential purposes while rating for properties not used or predominately used for residential purposes have a differential cents in the \$ rate applied to the capital valuation supplied by the Office of the Valuer General depending on their use and planning scheme zone and are not averaged.

The rating strategy complies with Council's Rates and Charges policy and the financial strategy which lists as specific strategies in relation to rating, the following:

- Achievement of an underlying surplus in the income statement,
- Achieve a sustainable cash flow,
- Fund capital projects approved by Council,
- Maintain the percentage of cash receipts from rates at a minimum of 62% or increase this if possible,
- Align rates revenue raised within the annual budget estimates with the long term financial plan.

Key reasons for the recommended general rate increase are as follows:

- To assist funding the delivery of the capital program.
- To fund existing levels of service and associated programs.
- To maintain a rating policy that continues to respond to the future cost of maintaining and replacing \$100m of community assets as measured by the ability to fund depreciation charges.
- To assist with funding initiatives and programs outlined within Council's strategic plan.
- To accommodate the loss of income from the reduction in investment income received from the water corporation.

Non-residential rating strategy for 2018/2019

The budget estimates include an increment of 2.42% for the non-residential sector and an increase in the minimum rate from \$685 to \$702.

Rate Differential	2017/2018 Rate in the Dollar	2018/2019 Rate in the Dollar	2017/2018 Minimum Rate	2018/2019 Minimum Rate
Zoned (General Industrial)	1.802374	1.845991	\$685.00	\$702.00
Zoned (Utility)	1.802374	1.845993	\$685.00	\$702.00
Industrial (Port and Marine)	1.802374	1.845991	\$685.00	\$702.00
Industrial (Other)	0.743493	0.761486	\$685.00	\$702.00
Commercial	0.743292	0.761279	\$685.00	\$702.00
General rate	0.355800	0.364410	\$685.00	\$702.00

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12.4 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

Residential rates/AAR

The budget estimates are based on an increment between 2.44% and 6.04% varied on locality, factored into the average area rate for the residential sector.

AAR	2017/2018	2018/2019 proposed	2018/2019 Increase	Weekly Increase	Percentage Increase
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Beechford, Bellingham, Lefroy, Lulworth & Weymouth	943	1,000	57	1.10	6.04%
George Town & Low Head	1,062	1,088	26	0.50	2.44%
Hillwood, Mount Direction, Pipers Brook & Pipers River	983	1,030	47	0.90	4.78%

Fire Services

An increase has also been applied to the fire service in accordance with instructions received from Tas Fire Services. The increase required to raise the funds as advised by Tas Fire Services is approximately **4.9%** for the George Town Local government area as a whole however individual increments will vary based on valuations.

Waste Management

Rates for garbage and recycling services have been increased based on the increased costs associated with the waste contract and the costs of disposal. Proposed charges for 2018/2019 -

- 85 litre garbage bin and 140 litre recycle bin \$178
- 140 litre garbage bin and 140 litre recycle bin \$215
- 240 litre garbage bin and 240 litre recycle bin \$311

The waste management service charge has been increased to \$38.

Statutory fees and fines \$265,851

Significant statutory fees and fines include;

- Planning fees
- Rates certificate fees
- Dog registrations
- Building fees

Statutory fees and fines are estimated to be \$265,851 for the 2018/2019 financial year based on trends experienced in the 2017/2018 financial year.

12.4 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

Operational Grants \$913,846

Advice is yet to be received on total Federal Assistance Grant for 2018/2019, however Federal budget announcement advises that with the first two instalments of 4 to be received in the 2017/2018 financial year.

User charges \$382,711

Significant user fees include;

- Waste transfer site fees,
- Cemetery fees,
- Sale of items from Information Centre,
- Hall hire fees,
- Airport leases rental,
- Planning advertising fees,
- Sponsorships received.

User fees revenue is estimated to be \$382,711 for the 2018/2019 financial year based on trends experienced in the 2017/2018 financial year with an additional budget projection in 2018/2019 for inert waste project.

Interest and Investment Income \$304,490

Investments from the Water Corporation include amounts paid as dividends, loan guarantee fees and tax equivalent payments, have been predicted from estimates provided by TasWater however these are subject to change.

An indicative amount based on the average investment has been used for the purposes of budget estimates for interest earned on funds invested.

Movements in the cash rate will impact on the budget estimates for interest received.

Other Income and Reimbursements \$127,709

Significant items of other income include.

- Heavy vehicles distribution
- Lease payments received
- Fire levy commission

Other income is estimated to be \$127,709 is slightly less than the estimate for the 2017/2018 financial year estimates impacted by reduction in diesel fuel rebates based on current trends.

Employee benefits \$3,365,655 or 30.95% of overall operating costs.

General

EBA negotiations resulted in an increment of 2.6% to be applied for the 2018/2019 financial year. Reduction in overall employee benefits is a result of the impact of the Organisational review and restructure undertaken in 2017/2018.

12.4 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

Capitalised Wages

The 2018/2019 budget includes an estimate of \$487,751 for the cost of wages, salaries and oncosts booked to capital expenditure or projects. The budget estimate is based on wages and salaries allocation to projects across the Proposed Capital Works Program.

Materials & Contracts/Services \$3,048,065 or 28.03% of overall operating costs

Significant items of materials and services expenditure include.

- Specific purpose consultancies
- Cleaning contractors
- Cleaning materials and supplies
- Solicitors fees
- Plumbing, industrial and electrical supplies
- Audit and audit panel fees
- Materials and supplies for repairs generally
- Fuel purchases
- Grounds maintenance contractors for parks and reserves
- IT maintenance and consultancy fees
- Minor computer hardware purchases
- Road maintenance supplies
- Road maintenance contractors
- Building maintenance materials and supplies
- Building maintenance contractors
- Municipal valuation fees
- Pool management contract fees
- Pool maintenance materials and supplies
- Crushing and screening of green waste
- Transfer of waste to Remount Road
- Fees for deposit of waste at Remount Road
- Minor tool purchases
- External equipment hire
- Printing and photocopying costs
- Catering costs
- Kerb side recycling contract collections
- Kerb side waste contract collections

The increase in materials and services/contract expenses relates to specific purpose contractual increases and specific purpose consultancies and a general purpose increase applied to accommodate estimated price increments.

Bad and Doubtful Debts \$5,000 or 0.04% of operating expenditure

Provision has been made for a minimal write off of rates debt.

12.4 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

Depreciation and Amortisation \$2,803,000 or 25.77% of operating expenditure

Depreciation & amortisation is an accounting measure which attempts to allocate the value of an asset over its useful life for Council's property, plant, equipment including infrastructure assets such as roads and stormwater drains. Council's roads infrastructure is currently being reassessed with respect to useful lives of assets, condition and unit rates. This assessment is due for completion in June 2018, current indications of depreciation based on this have been reflected in this budget.

Other Expenses \$1,543,685 or 14.20% of operating expenditure.

Significant items of other expenditure include the following.

- Government building and training levies
- Telephone charges
- Elected members allowances and payments
- Electricity
- Insurance
- Subscriptions – NTD, LGAT, TNT
- Sponsorships paid
- Community grants
- Fire levy payment
- Land tax
- Training costs
- Software licences
- Vehicle registrations
- Advertising and promotional costs
- Water consumption charges
- Water connection charges

The estimates for other expenses include the fire levy initially collected by Council but paid to Tasmanian Fire Services. Other significant expenditure is related to water connection and consumption charges and allocations for promotion, advertising and sponsorships.

Finance Costs \$108,967 or 1% of operating expenditure

Finance costs relate to interest on borrowings for existing loans.

Capital Grants \$3,637,000

Capital grants include all funds received from Government and other sources for the purpose of funding the capital works. For the 2018/2019 financial year the estimated capital grants include the Roads to Recovery Grant and the Federal Road Infrastructure grant.

It may be possible for Council to take advantage of other capital grant opportunities as they arise. Any changes in government policy regarding capital grants, will impact the prepared budget estimates.

12.4 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

Application of the financial strategy and Council policy documents

1 Application of Council's community consultation process

Officers of Council have met with a number of community organisations to determine the community priorities, especially in relation to the capital works program and community facilities generally. This has enhanced the continued communication between Council officers and community groups that is occurring on an ongoing basis.

2 Application of Council's financial strategy, (operational budget)

Council's financial management strategy lists the following specific strategies with regard to the operating budget which will assist in the development of the budget.

- Operational budget is aligned to the annual plan,
- Annual plan is linked and conforms to the strategic plan,
- Operational budget is guided by the long term financial plan,
- Operational budget is guided by the asset management plan in terms of infrastructure maintenance,
- Operational budget developed with an underlying surplus as a priority,
- Cost increments allowed for at the rate of the Local Government Cost Index or where other specific agreements or documents are in place, by the increases agreed or determined in them.

Council's long term financial plan was reviewed in February 2018 and is reflected in this budget.

3 Strategic, economic and social development

In developing the operating and capital budgets priority consideration has previously been given to projects and or initiatives that support and further enhance the strategic, economic and social development of the George Town Council local government area

4 Community safety

In developing the operating and capital budgets priority consideration has been given to those projects and or initiatives that support and further enhance community safety and the safety of those maintaining community facilities.

ADDITIONAL OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Subsequent to the preparation of the budget in readiness for the May Council meeting, the George Town Saints Netball Team has been successful in receiving a \$30,000 grant towards the sealing of the netball courts. This will be applied at the time of receipt of the funds.

**George Town Council
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12.4 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the budget estimates prepared by the General Manager pursuant to Section 82 of the Local Government Act as summarised in the preceding be approved and adopted.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

George Town Council
COUNCIL MEETING – 20TH JUNE 2018
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12.5 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR

REPORT AUTHOR/S: General Manager
Team Leader – Corporate and Finance

REPORT DATE: 12th June 2018

FILE NO: 32.4

ATTACHMENTS: Proposed 2018/2019 Capital Works Budget Report

SUMMARY

This report recommends the proposed capital works program for the financial year 2018/2019.

BACKGROUND

The Council as part of its budget deliberations has given consideration to funding capital works for the 2018/2019 financial year. The proposed Capital Works Program takes into account a new program of works based on asset management considerations, community consultation and strategic plan considerations, together with any carry forward projects which require additional funding.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Each project within the Capital Works Program is assessed individually for risk matters.

STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

Local Government Act 1993

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 4

Strengthen the vibrancy of our towns and enhance the benefits of living in a rural setting and living close to the river and coast.

Key objective

To identify and respond to changing needs for infrastructure and facilities.

Key priorities

Review and manage the assets and infrastructure Council currently owns in line with community needs.

Continue regular maintenance of Council infrastructure facilities.

12.5 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

OFFICER'S COMMENT

The estimated capital works program for 2018/2019 is provided for adoption by Council. Councillors have considered detailed budget working documents at workshops where projects have been discussed and considered as part of Council's budget deliberation process.

Community Consultation

Officers of the Council met with and wrote to a number of community organisations in an attempt to determine community priorities especially in relation to the construction of the estimated capital works program and community facilities generally. Councillors considered the suggestions collected as part of the budget deliberation process. In addition officers have been in consultation with community groups and members on a number of matters.

Application of Financial strategy and funding infrastructure

Council's financial strategy includes the following specific strategies in relation to funding infrastructure;

- Review the need to renew assets based on community demand (community consultation and engagement required),
- Continue to improve the rate base,
- Continue to improve asset management practices with a high priority being to have adequate asset condition and fit for purpose assets to enable reasonable long term capital renewal forecasts which can be directly linked to long term financial planning and annual budgets,
- Implement funding plans that meet the renewal and new funding requirements over the life of asset management plans,
- Asset management plans are updated for all classes of Council's assets with a focus on ensuring assets are fit for purpose and provide the desired level of service to the community,
- Asset rationalisation and review of growth strategies,
- Carrying out cost benefit analysis on the services being provided including the use of whole of life costing for proposed projects.

Funding for the 2018/2019 Capital Program

The proposed new capital program put forward is \$5,887,690 in addition \$111,978 of loan repayment are to be funded which totals \$5,998,668.

Capital expenditure for 2018/2019 will be funded by capital grants estimated at \$3,637,000 with the remainder of \$2,250,690 to be funded from council revenue raised in the 2018/2019 financial year.

12.5 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM FOR THE 2018/2019 FINANCIAL YEAR (CONT.)

Carry Forward Projects

A total of \$2,786,756 of expenditure remains committed to projects that are carried forward. Carry forward commitments and projects may change by year end 2017/2018 depending on timing of works and balances will remain committed to projects for completion in the 2018/2019 year.

Roads to Recovery Grant

The current Roads to Recovery grant for the 2018/2019 financial year will end in June 2019. Priority must be given to projects nominated for Roads to Recovery funding to ensure the grant funds are expended before this round of funding closes in 2019.

Funding depreciation and future sustainability

The total depreciation charge for Councils assets for 2018/2019 is estimated at \$2,803,000. Repeated and improved underlying surplus will assist Council funding the replacement of assets in the future.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the Capital Works expenditure for the 2018/2019 financial year and the carry forward capital works as reported be approved and adopted, subject to plant review where indicated.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

George Town Council
COUNCIL MEETING – 20TH JUNE 2018
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12.6 WASTE VOUCHERS

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager
Team Leader – Corporate and Finance

REPORT DATE: 12th June 2018

FILE NO: 73.2

ATTACHMENT/S: Nil

SUMMARY

This report is to provide Council with an update regarding the implementation of the waste vouchers and the proposed replacement to the voucher system with free days at the Waste Transfer Stations.

BACKGROUND

In March 2017, Council moved and carried a notice of motion;

- A) That Council provide all ratepayers in the municipality with 1 free waste voucher per quarter (to be used within the relevant quarter but at any day/time) in the 2017/18 financial year instead of conducting hard waste and green waste collection. The voucher to apply to loads not exceeding that of a Ute with trailer and be limited by Council's normal conditions in relation to allowable material.
- B) That this be done on a trial basis for the 2017/18 year and data be collected on the usage and cost of providing the vouchers and compared with the 2016/17 costs of providing hard/green waste collection to inform future decision making.

Rate payers were provided with 4 vouchers with their rates notice in late July 2017.

After feedback from the community, residents were permitted to use the vouchers at anytime Instead of restricting them to one a quarter.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 4 Our Natural Environment and Heritage

Aim: To manage and enhance our heritage and natural environment by minimising waste to landfill and maximising resource recovery.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The replacement of the hard waste collection and green waste collections with the voucher system will have a financial implication, however the improvement or otherwise which could be realised will need to be analysed from the data being collected.

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12.6 WASTE VOUCHERS (CONT.)

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The voucher system has been in place for ten months, during this time there has been feedback from the community and the waste transfer station staff. Some changes have been made to the acceptance times for the vouchers as a result of the feedback. Concerns have mostly been around the receipt of the vouchers, especially for rental properties, what is accepted as "general waste", lost or misplaced vouchers, inability to use vouchers at Pipers River Waste Transfer Station and the amount of waste allowed.

Data collected to date indicates the waste vouchers are being well used, representing approximately 44% of the waste going through the Waste Transfer Station. Budgeted income for 2017/18 is currently at 56% and will fall well short by year end. Total cash receipts at the waste transfer station for 2016/17 were \$81,387.87, a hard waste collection was offered to rate payers in that year.

	Budget 2017/18	Actual to date 30/04/2018	% of Total
Cash Receipts	\$ 73,000	\$ 43,240	56.27
Vouchers		\$ 33,610	43.73
Total		\$ 76,850	

Prior to the introduction of the waste vouchers in 2017/18, a hard waste collection was offered. Records of costings for these collections indicate that the cost to council for the collection was an average of \$17,779 per annum. Under the current system 10 months in, the cost to Council is nearly double at \$33,610.

In the proposed budget rate payers will pay a waste levy of \$38 per year (currently \$28). Under the current voucher system, the potential loss of income to council per rate payer is on average \$52.

The costs in lost income and administration of the voucher system is far in excess of that of the hard waste collection. Both systems require significant administrative support and the hard waste collection service also has potential risks involved with items to be collected being left on the street.

The trial of suitable hard waste collection options should continue with Council offering 2 free open days at the waste transfer stations, to replace the voucher option. It is proposed that the free days are offered at both George Town and Pipers River for the collection of hard waste (excluding tyres, mattresses and green waste (including trees & branches). asbestos, cement sheet, broken glass, household kitchen waste, gas cylinders and liquids including paint, chemicals and oils) and that both facilities are opened additional hours (10-4pm) on the free days. The benefits of the free day to Council is that the collection of the waste is more manageable, it allows for the staffing to be in place to manage the waste and recycle where possible and to manage the movement of vehicles. For the rate payer, the voucher system only allowed general waste, whereas the free day would allow for hard waste. The free days will be advised on rates notices, Councils website, advertisements and through social media. Proof of residency will be required.

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12.6 WASTE VOUCHERS (CONT.)

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council continue with the trial of suitable collection options for hard waste, by replacing the voucher option with two free open days at Pipers River and George Town Waste Transfer stations during the 2018/2019 financial year.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

**George Town Council
COUNCIL MEETING – 20TH JUNE 2018
AGENDA**

13. PETITIONS

Nil.

**George Town Council
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AGENDA**

14. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

14.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR GLISSON

A notice of motion has been received from Cr Glisson. Refer Item 17.3 Closed Meeting.

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15. COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

[Refer to Minute No. 362/15 which states "At any Ordinary Meeting of Council when a 'without notice' question from a councillor is accepted, and when this question is taken on notice',

- a) The General Manager is to record in the minutes of that meeting the 'question', and that the question was 'taken on notice'.*
- b) Provide the answer to the question 'taken on notice, at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council, in writing.']*

Cr Glisson (16th May 2018)

- Q1. Cr Glisson requested an update on where Council is at with Regent Square be provided at the next available Council workshop.

Response:

This matter was discussed at the Council Workshop held on the 6th June 2018. The updated Master Plan has been distributed to the Reference Group and a report will be submitted to the July 2018 Council meeting for endorsement.

- Q2. Cr Glisson requested an update on what Council hopes to achieve in relation to the issue of homelessness within the municipality at the next Council meeting.

Response:

The General Manager has made contact with the Minister for Housing and The Treasurer and is awaiting a response. Upon receipt of a response, further information will be presented to a Council workshop.

- Q3. Cr Glisson requested an update on the Mount George Mountain Bike Trail and the roles of the Reference Group with a view to establishing a Section 24 Committee at the next available Council workshop.

Response:

This matter was discussed at the Council Workshop held on the 6th June 2018.

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16. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

16.1 GEORGE TOWN COMMUNITY SAFETY GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager

REPORT DATE: 12th June, 2018

FILE NO: 22.24

ATTACHMENT/S: George Town Community Safety Group Committee Confirmed Minutes –1st May, 2018

Moved:

Seconded:

That the confirmed minutes of the George Town Community Safety Committee meeting held on the 1st May 2018 as attached to this report be received.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

**George Town Council
COUNCIL MEETING – 20TH JUNE 2018
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17. CLOSED MEETING

17.1 INTO CLOSED MEETING

DECISION

Moved: Cr
Seconded: Cr

That Council move into closed meeting at to discuss the following items:

Item No. 1 Confirmation of Confidential Minutes of Council's Ordinary meeting held on the 16th May 2018

As per provisions of regulation 15(2)(g) and regulation 34(6) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015

Item No. 2 Notice of Motion – Cr Glisson

As per provisions of regulation 15(2)(i) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015

REQUIRES ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF COUNCIL

VOTING

For:
Against:

**George Town Council
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17.4 OUT OF CLOSED MEETING

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 regulation 15(8) while in a closed meeting the Council is to consider whether any discussions, decisions, reports or documents relating to that closed meeting are to be kept confidential or released to the public, taking into account privacy and confidentiality issues.

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

That Council moves out of the Closed Meeting at and endorse those decisions taken while in Closed Meeting and the information remains Confidential.

VOTING

For:

Against:

There being no further business, the meeting closed at

**Cr Bridget Archer
MAYOR**