



GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA

Notice is hereby given
that the next Ordinary Council Meeting
will be held on
Tuesday 27 February 2024

in the Council Chambers,
16-18 Anne Street, George Town,

commencing at **1:00 pm.**

All documents presented, and recordings (audio) of this meeting are made available to the public in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, and Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

The public are requested to pre-register if attending this meeting of Council.

Andrew McCarthy
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

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Meeting Commencing at 1:00 pm

Acknowledgement of Country

George Town Council acknowledges the palawa people from the litarimirina tribe from Port Dalrymple as the traditional custodians of the land.

We honour and give thanks for the caring of country, seas and skies of kinimathatakinta and surrounds.

We pay respect to the elders past, present and future for they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hope of pakana people in lutruwita.

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 GTC 1, members of the public are not permitted to make audio recordings of Council meetings.

The community are requested to pre-register to attend this meeting of Council.

All documents presented, and recordings (audio) of this meeting are made available to the public in accordance with the above Act and Notice, and the standard applicable provisions of the Local Government Act 1993, and Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

1 PRESENT

1.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1.2 IN ATTENDANCE

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 23 JANUARY 2024

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of Council's Ordinary Meeting held on 23 January 2024 numbered 001/24 to 006/24 as provided to Councillors be received and confirmed as a true record of proceedings. (Attached)

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

3 LATE ITEMS

Nil.

4 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

4.1 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 GTC13.

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

Council requests that members of the public pre-register to attend meetings of Council.

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4.2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil.

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4.3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Commenced at:

Concluded at:

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4.4 RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

(Refer to Minute No. 425/00, which states in part, "that a copy of all written replies to questions from the Public Gallery be included in the following Council Agenda.")

Nil.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

6 ACTING 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 of experience, that person has obtained and taken into account in that person's general advice, the advice from an appropriately qualified or experienced person.



Andrew McCarthy
ACTING 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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7 PLANNING AUTHORITY

Councils are a planning authority. Each council acts as the planning authority for their municipality. In this role, councillors consider development applications and make administrative decisions that are based on the council's planning scheme. While councillors are obliged to consider the community's views, this does not mean they can vote in favour of those views while fulfilling the role of a planning authority. Councillors must make planning decisions based on whether a planning application is consistent with the local planning scheme, even if members of the community object to the planning proposal.

7.1 GEORGE TOWN LOCAL PROVISION SCHEDULE - SUBSTANTIAL MODIFICATIONS - SECTION 40K REPORT

REPORT AUTHOR:	Senior Town Planner - Mr J. Simons
REPORT DATE:	30/01/2024
ATTACHMENTS:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Attachment 1 - George Town LPS Substantial Modifications; summary of representations and planning authority response [7.1.1 - 8 pages]2. Representation - Dr Scott Bell [7.1.2 - 75 pages]3. Representation - Hellen and Brian Bowring [7.1.3 - 63 pages]4. Representation - Conservation Landholders Tasmania [7.1.4 - 19 pages]5. Representation - Tas Rail [7.1.5 - 1 page]6. Commission Directions [7.1.6 - 3 pages]

1. SUMMARY

This report relates to the exhibition of Substantial Modifications to the George Town Local Provisions Schedule (LPS) under Section 35KB of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (the Act). These modifications have been exhibited at the direction of the Tasmanian Planning Commission, following the approval of the George Town LPS in August 2023. In accordance with the requirements of section 40K of the Act, Council is required to prepare a report to the Tasmanian Planning Commission addressing the representations received during the public exhibition period, including its opinions on the merits of each representation, a recommendation as to whether the draft amendment should be modified to take into account the representation, a statement as to whether the planning authority is satisfied that the draft amendment meets the LPS criteria, and any other recommendations in relation to the draft amendment.

2. BACKGROUND

Through amendments to the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA) in 2015, the State Government has legislated the introduction of a single state-wide planning scheme to be known as the Tasmanian Planning Scheme. The Tasmanian Planning Scheme will replace all existing local council planning schemes.

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In general terms, the Tasmanian Planning Scheme will comprise two parts:

- (1) a set of standardised state-wide planning “rules” called the State Planning Provisions – (administrative provisions, provisions for zones, codes, etc.); and
- (2) a Local Provisions Schedule which contains the zone and code overlay maps that apply the State Planning Provisions to a local council area.

As part of the transition to the Tasmanian Planning Scheme, each local Council was required to prepare a Local Provisions Schedule for its own local government area. This work generally related to the spatial application of the State Planning Provisions. The State Planning Provisions themselves were largely developed by the State Government in 2017 and cannot be altered through this process. As such, the LPS process can generally be described as a mapping exercise to determine where the standardised zones and codes of the State Planning Provisions are to be applied.

Following the advertising process and conducting hearings into representations received, the Tasmanian Planning Commission declared the George Town Local Provision Schedule as being in effect in August 2023. However, the Commission simultaneously directed Council to make further Substantial Modifications to the LPS under Section 35K(1)(a) of the Act.

Substantial Modifications are changes, which are informed by previous public exhibition, but are of such a scale that they warrant further public notification. This ensures that all parties with an interest have an opportunity to make representation.

At the direction of the Commission, Council Officers have prepared a draft amendment to the George Town LPS. As this is at the direction of the Commission under the relevant provisions of the Act, a decision of Council was not required to initiate the amendments.

Council was directed to advertise the amendments on the 21st November 2023. Advertising occurred from the 4 December 2023 – 11 January 2024.

The amendments are as follows:

DRAFT AMENDMENT AMD 01/23

94 and 95 Gees Marsh Road, Bellingham and 177 Saltwood Road, Pipers Brook

Draft Planning Scheme Amendment AMD 01/2023 seeks to:

Apply the Rural Zone to the following properties at Bellingham and Pipers Brook:

- a. 94 Gees Marsh Road, Bellingham, folio of the Register 121822/1;
- b. 95 Gees Marsh Road, Bellingham, folios of the Register 221928/1 and 121822/2;
- c. 177 Saltwood Road, Pipers Brook folio of the Register 221927/1; and
- d. adjoining road reserve to the road centreline.22

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as shown in Figure 1 below:

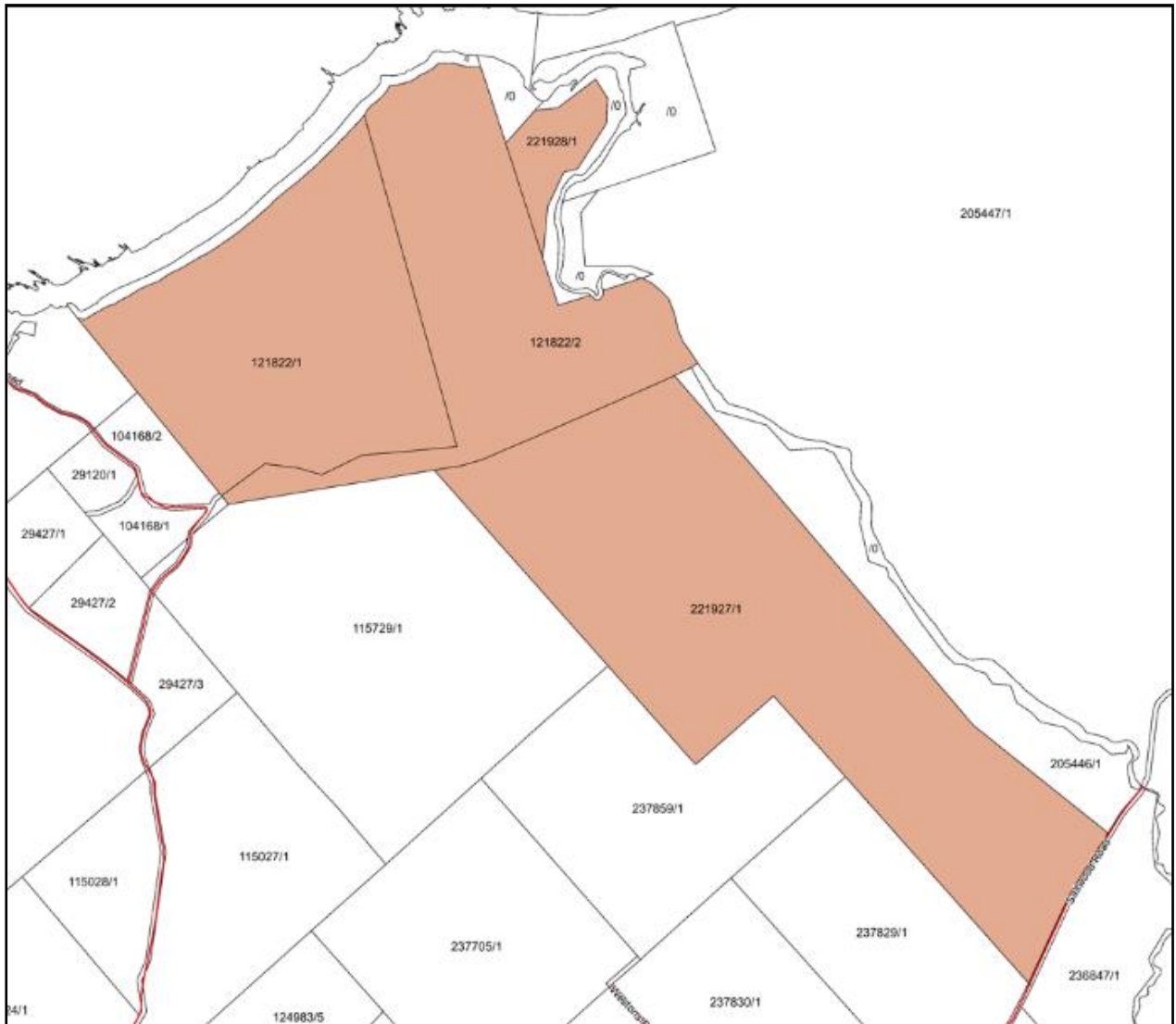


Figure 1 – Application of the Rural Zone to land at Bellingham and Pipers Brook

DRAFT AMENDMENT AMD 02/23

Draft Planning Scheme Amendment AMD 02/2023 seeks to:

a) Apply the Light Industrial Zone and Open Space Zone to part of 135 Bell Bay Road, Bell Bay, folio of the Register 154929/1 and adjoining road reserves to the road centrelines, as shown in Figure 2 below.

b) Apply the Port and Marine Zone to part of the Crown land adjacent to 135 Bell Bay Road, Bell Bay, folio of the Register 154929/1, as shown in Figure 2 below:

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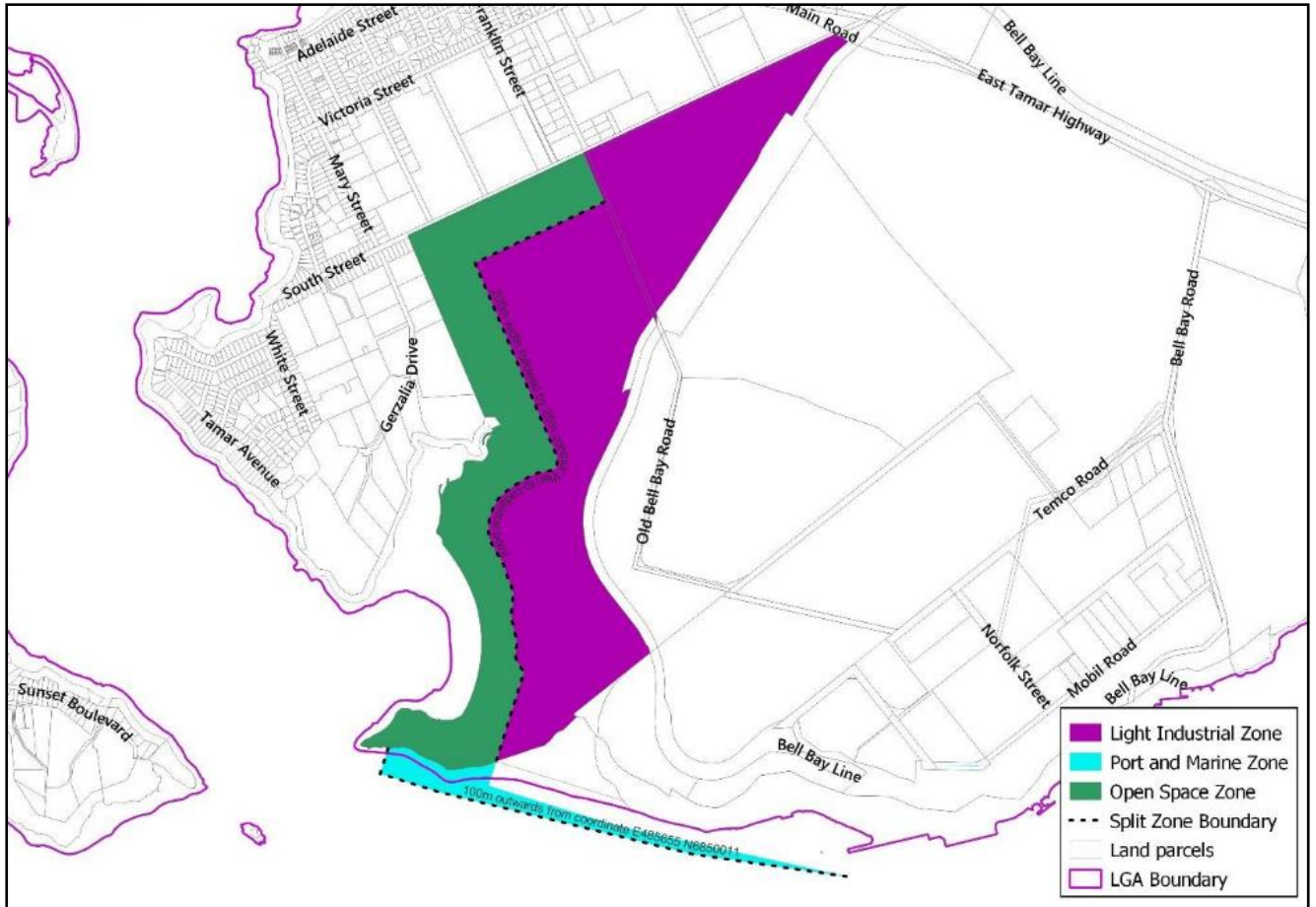


Figure 2 – Application of the Light Industrial and Open Space Zone to folio of the Register 154929/1 and Port and Marine Zone to the adjoining Crown Land.

c) Apply the Priority Vegetation Area overlay to that part of 135 Bell Bay Road, Bell Bay, folio of the Register 154929/1 zoned Open Space, as shown in Figure 3 below.

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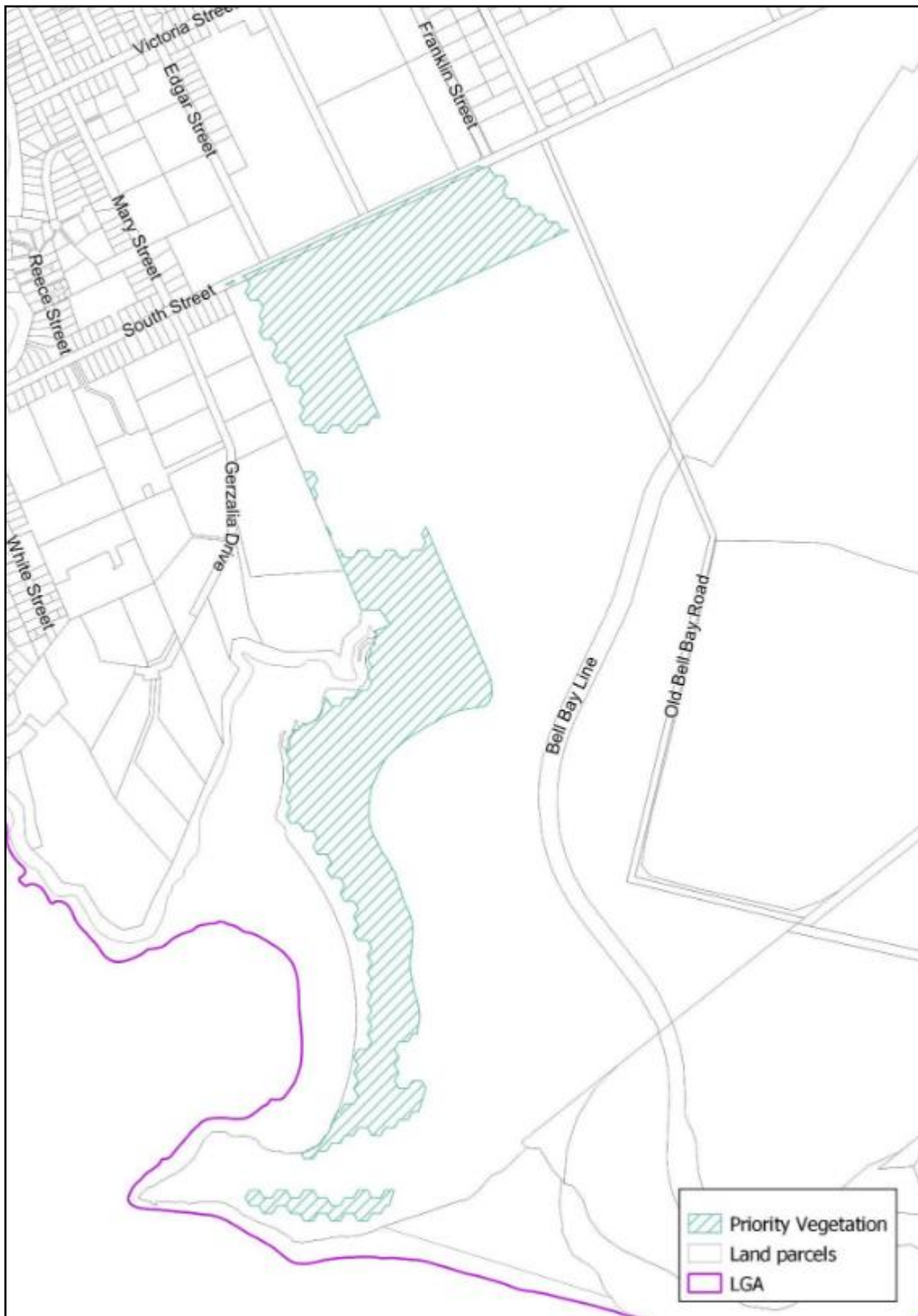


Figure 3 – Application of the Priority Vegetation Area Overlay to that part of folio of the register 154929/1 located in the Open Space Zone.

STRATEGIC PLAN

This action relates to the following components of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030.

Future Direction (4) Leadership and Accountable Governance

2. Planning and regulatory responsibilities are undertaken fairly and openly
 - I. Building knowledge and understanding of planning and regulatory responsibilities and processes.

3. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS & RELATED COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

Following the statutory public exhibition of the Substantial Modifications to the LPS (carried out in accordance with the requirements of sections 40G and 40H of the Act), Council must now prepare and submit a report to the Tasmanian Planning Commission regarding that exhibition under Section 40K of the Act. The report is to consider the representations received during the public exhibition period including an assessment and recommendation on whether the matters raised in those representations are of sufficient merit to necessitate a modification to the draft LPS. The specific legislative requirements for this post exhibition report are set out under section 40K of LUPAA and are reproduced below. Note Council has received an extension of time to make a decision at the February Council Meeting.

LUPAA - Section 40K – Report to Commission about draft amendments
<p>(1) A planning authority, within 35 days after the end of the exhibition period in relation to a draft amendment of an LPS in relation to the municipal area of the planning authority or a longer period allowed by the Commission, must provide to the Commission a report in relation to the draft amendment of an LPS.</p> <p>(2) The report by a planning authority in relation to the draft amendment of an LPS is to contain –</p> <p>(a) a copy of each representation made under section 40J in relation to the draft amendment before the end of the exhibition period in relation to the draft amendment, or, if no such representations were made before the end of the exhibition period, a statement to that effect; and</p> <p>(b) a copy of each representation, made under section 40J in relation to the draft amendment after the end of the exhibition period in relation to the draft amendment, that the planning authority, in its discretion, includes in the report; and</p> <p>(c) a statement of the planning authority's opinion as to the merit of each representation included under paragraph (a) or (b) in the report, including, in particular, as to –</p> <p>(i) whether the planning authority is of the opinion that the draft amendment ought to be modified to take into account the representation; and</p> <p>(ii) the effect on the draft amendment, and the LPS to which it relates, as a whole, of implementing the recommendation; and</p>

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- (d) a statement as to whether it is satisfied that the draft amendment of an LPS meets the LPS criteria; and
- (e) any recommendations in relation to the draft amendment that the planning authority thinks fit.
- (3) Without limiting the generality of [subsection \(2\)\(e\)](#) , the recommendations in relation to a draft amendment of an LPS may include recommendations as to whether –
 - (a) a provision of the draft amendment of an LPS is inconsistent with a provision of the SPPs; or
 - (b) the draft amendment of an LPS should, or should not, apply a provision of the SPPs to an area of land; or
 - (c) the draft amendment of an LPS should, or should not, contain a provision that an LPS is permitted under [section 32](#) to contain.
- (4) A planning authority must not include in a recommendation in relation to a draft amendment of an LPS a recommendation to the effect that the content of a provision of the SPPs should be altered.

4. RISK CONSIDERATIONS

In general terms, the risk considerations associated with this phase of the draft LPS process are those generally typical to Council’s role as a planning authority under LUPAA and the associated statutory processes thereunder.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No specific financial implications are predicted from the recommendations contained in this report. The preparation of a draft LPS is a statutory requirement for each local council in the State in their role as planning authorities under LUPAA and as part of the transition to a single state-wide planning scheme.

To date the cost associated with the draft George Town LPS have been covered by Council’s operational budget with the work completed by Council staff and consultants.

6. DIVERSITY, EQUITABLE ACCESS AND INCLUSION CONSIDERATIONS

The draft LPS is a statutory requirement of Council in its role as a planning authority under LUPAA. Council’s *Diversity, Equitable Access and Inclusion Policy* has been considered by undertaking a wide range of consultation to allow as many people as possible aware of the process and to make a submission if they choose.

7. CONSULTATION

In accordance with the requirements of LUPAA, the draft LPS was made available for public exhibition for a period of 28 days. The public exhibition period was conducted from 4th

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December 2023 to the 11th January 2024, including additional days to cover the Christmas closure.

During this exhibition period, the community could inspect and make representation on the content of the draft LPS.

Council has fulfilled its statutory obligations of the Act to inform and notify the public regarding the exhibition of the amendments to the LPS. This included:

- (a) newspaper notifications published in the Examiner Newspaper on Saturday 2nd December and Saturday 9th December 2023;
- (b) the exhibition of the relevant exhibition documents:
 - i. at the George Town Council office (16-18 Anne Street, George Town) making use of printed exhibition material within the lobby area (the same platform that is used to display notifications for discretionary planning permit applications); and
 - ii. via Council's website.
- (c) All owners and adjoining landowners of land directly affected by the amendments were notified via mail.
- (d) All parties that submitted a representation to the original LPS relating to these properties were notified via mail.
- (e) Government Departments and Regulatory Authorities with an interest in the Planning System were notified via mail.

Exhibition documents were also available via the Tasmanian Planning Commission Website.

8. REPRESENTATION

Four (4) representations were received during the public exhibition period.

- **An assessment of each representation and recommendations in response to the matters raised is provided as Attachment 1.**
- **Copies of each received representation are provided in Attachments 2-5.**

Three (3) representations related to AMD 01/23 (Pipers River). Tasrail put in a representation that they do not object to either of the amendments. No submissions were received specifically discussing the Bell Bay amendment AMD 02/23.

9. OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Statutory requirements for a draft LPS – the LPS criteria (s.34(2) LUPAA)

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The draft LPS has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of LUPAA. As instructed and set out under section 34(2) of LUPAA, a draft LPS must satisfy a set of criteria which are detailed below.

A draft LPS must:

- (a) contain all the provisions that the State Planning Provisions specify must be contained in an LPS;
- (b) comply with the content requirements specified by section 32 of LUPAA;
- (c) further the objectives set out in Schedule 1 of LUPAA;
- (d) be consistent with each State Policy;
- (e) be, as far as practicable, consistent with the relevant regional land use strategy;
- (f) have regard to the relevant strategic plan, prepared under section 66 of the Local Government Act 1993;
- (g) be, as far as practicable, consistent with and coordinated with any LPS's that apply to adjacent municipal areas; and
- (h) have regard to the safety requirements set out in the standards prescribed under the Gas Pipelines Act 2000.

Guideline No. 1 – Local Provisions Schedule (LPS): zone and code application

- (1) The principal point of instruction for the allocation of zones and codes made with the draft LPS is Guideline No. 1 – Local Provisions Schedule (LPS) - zone and code application (June 2018). This Guideline was issued by the Tasmanian Planning Commission in accordance with s.8A of LUPAA.
- (2) The application of all zones and code overlays included with the draft LPS must be in accordance with Guideline No.1. This guideline is specifically used in assisting to determine compliance with the LPS criteria described previously.

10. OPTIONS

Council may choose to:

- 1. Endorse the report as presented and forward it to the Planning Commission; or
- 2. Endorse the report with amendments and forward it to the Planning Commission.

The preparation of the LPS and the substantial modifications, including the preparation of this report are a statutory obligation and are required to be undertaken within the statutory timeframes.

11. RECOMMENDATION

That Council in its role as a Planning Authority, and in accordance with section 40K of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, endorse and submit to the Tasmanian Planning Commission:

- a. the report, as set out in **Attachment 1**, relating to the exhibition of the amendments, AMD 01-2023 and AMD 02-2023, to the George Town Local Provisions Schedule and their merits;
- b. a copy of each representation and supporting information received during the public exhibition period; and
- c. determination that the Amendments (including those recommendations and modifications described in **Attachment 1**) satisfies the local provisions schedule criteria set out under section 34(2) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

8 OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

8.1 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2024

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager - Mr S. Power
REPORT DATE: 20 February 2024
FILE NO: 14.10
ATTACHMENTS: 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

TUESDAY 23 JANUARY 2024

- Review of the George Town Strategic Plan 2024 to 2030 (External Presenters)
- Tamar NRM (External Presenter)
- Agenda Review
- Governance Issues
 - ALGA Motions
- Councillors/General Manager Discussions
- Planning and Building Update
- Capital Works Update

Present: Mayor Greg Kieser, Deputy Mayor Greg Dawson, Cr Winston Archer, Cr Heather Ashley, Cr Heather Barwick, Cr Tim Harris, Cr Simone Lowe, Cr Winston Mason, Cr Jason Orr

Apologies: Nil.

In Attendance: General Manager
Director Corporate & Community
Director Infrastructure & Development
Director Organisational Performance, Strategy & Engagement
Town Planner
Team Leader Building and Planning
Executive Assistant Operational Performance, Strategy & Engagement

Assistant to Senior Executive Support and Governance Officer

Guests: Consultants – George Town Strategic Plan Project
Representative from Tamar NRM

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TUESDAY 13 FEBRUARY 2024

- Unconfirmed Minutes 23 January 2024
- Intranet - Presentation
- Update on FIG Projects – Presentation
- Quarterly Report as at 31 December 2023
- LPS Update: Substantial Modifications
- Subdivision: Lot 1 Davis Street, Beechford
- Pipers River Waste Transfer Station
- Health & Wellbeing Strategy – Presentation
- Councillor Allowances
- Arts & Culture
- Lagoon Beach Carpark
- East Beach Lookout
- SES MOU
- Rates Recovery for Rate Debts more than 3 Years in Arrears
- Governance
 - Policy Management
- Councillors/General Manager Discussions
 - Confidential – General Manager’s Mid Term Progress Review
- Site Visit – ANZAC Drive Redevelopment

Present: Mayor, Cr Greg Kieser, Deputy Mayor Greg Dawson,
Cr Winston Archer, Cr Heather Ashley, Cr Heather Barwick,
Cr Tim Harris, Cr Simone Lowe, Cr Jason Orr

Apologies: Cr Winston Mason

In Attendance: General Manager
Director Corporate & Community
Director Infrastructure & Development
Director Organisational Performance, Strategy & Engagement
Senior Executive Support and Governance Officer
Team Leader – Community
Team Leader – Planning & Building Services
Planner
Community Administrative Support
Executive Officer - Launchpad

Guests: Consultants – Health & Wellbeing Strategy project

STRATEGIC PLAN

This action relates to the following components of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030:

Future Direction Four - Leadership and Accountable Governance

2. Planning and regulatory responsibilities are undertaken fairly and openly
 - i. Building knowledge and understanding of planning and regulatory responsibilities and processes.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS & RELATED COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

This report is provided in accordance with Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, Section 8(2)(c). Risk implications are therefore considered to be low.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

DIVERSITY, EQUITABLE ACCESS AND INCLUSION CONSIDERATIONS

The Diversity, Equitable Access and Inclusion Policy aligns with the following goals and objectives of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030.

George Town Council is committed to maximising access and inclusion to services, facilities, features and activities for all within the community, regardless of ability, literacy, numeracy and language limitations, age, race, religion or other, within all aspects of Council.

CONSULTATION

Nil.

OPTIONS

Council may choose to:

1. Support the motion as presented; or
2. Support the motion with amendment; or
3. Not support the motion.

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Nil.

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OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receives the report on the Council Workshops held on the 23 January and 13 February 2024.

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

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8.2 FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW BOARD SUBMISSION

REPORT AUTHOR:	General Manager, Mr S.Power
REPORT DATE:	19 February 2024
FILE NO:	14.20
ATTACHMENTS:	1. Table of recommendations FOLGR Feb 2024 Cr Orr [8.2.1 - 18 pages] 2. The Future of Local Government Review Final Report [8.2.2 - 200 pages]

SUMMARY

This report is presented to Council to consider submitting a consolidation of officer and elected member feedback (attached) on the 37 recommendations contained within the Future of Local Government Review Board's Final Report (attached).

BACKGROUND

The Tasmanian Government commissioned a review into the future of local government in late 2021, establishing the Future of Local Government Review Board (the Board). The Board commenced its review in January 2022. The review spanned three stages with the final report being completed by the Board in October 2023 and presented to the Minister in November 2023.

Submissions to the final report are due by 29 February 2024.

STRATEGIC PLAN

This action relates to the following components of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030:

Future Direction One - Community Pride

1. All are valued and included
 - i. Taking a 'whole of community' approach to everything.

Future Direction Four - Leadership and Accountable Governance

1. A culture of engagement and participation
 - i. Trusted, transparent and inclusive community engagement processes.
 - iv. Understanding processes and participating in decision making.

Future Direction Four - Leadership and Accountable Governance

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4. Positive and productive working relationship with all levels of government and their agencies
- i. Ensuring the area's needs and priorities are understood.
 - ii. Understanding the outcomes and directions sought by all levels of government.
 - iii. Building skills in attracting funding and investment.

Future Direction Four - Leadership and Accountable Governance

6. Difficult issues are managed in an open manner without conflict
- i. Building capacity in change management, understanding and responding to complexity.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS & RELATED COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

Local Government Act 1993.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

It is important for councils to submit the views of their communities, their elected body and organisations in a process as significant as reform of the local government sector. The government should be guided by most sentiment coming from the sector.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Costs associated with officer and councillor time and travel costs to attend consultation sessions.

DIVERSITY, EQUITABLE ACCESS AND INCLUSION CONSIDERATIONS

The Diversity, Equitable Access and Inclusion Policy aligns with the following goals and objectives of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030.

George Town Council is committed to maximising access and inclusion to services, facilities, features and activities for all within the community, regardless of ability, literacy, numeracy and language limitations, age, race, religion or other, within all aspects of Council.

CONSULTATION

The review has been subject of multiple briefing sessions with Councillors throughout the process. Council has hosted the Minister for Local Government to discuss the reform process among other topics. Opportunities to attend seminars have been provided by the Board with some Councillors taking the opportunity to participate. Consequently, Council has made submissions to the earlier stage interims reports (see: www.futurelocal.tas.gov.au/publications/).

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Councillors were provided the final report for their feedback 17 November 2023 and a further opportunity to discuss at the at the 13 February 2024 workshop.

Comments provided by LGAT and GTC officers has been circulated to elected members for feedback as attached.

OPTIONS

Council may choose to:

1. Provide a submission in response to the Future of Local Government Review Final Report consolidating feedback from officers and elected members as attached; or
2. Provide an alternate submission in response to the Future of Local Government Review Final Report; or
3. Choose not to provide a submission in response to the Future of Local Government Review Final Report as presented; or

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Council Officers have reviewed all 37 recommendations of the final report and provided comments in the attached document. Councillors were asked to give feedback on all 37 recommendations considering the report, LGAT'S comments and the comments from Council Officers. These comments have been presented in the attached document.

The General Manager seeks Council approval to submit a consolidated submission comprising both officer and elected member views on the final report.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Authorises the General Manager to make a submission to the Local Government Review Board in line with Officers and Councillor comments.

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

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8.3 QUARTERLY REPORT - QUARTER 2 - 1 OCTOBER - 31 DECEMBER 2023

REPORT AUTHOR:	General Manager - Mr S. Power Director Organisational Performance, Strategy & Engagement - Mr R. Dunn
REPORT DATE:	20 February 2024
FILE NO:	14.21
ATTACHMENTS:	1. 2023 12 31 Quarterly Report [8.3.1 - 81 pages]

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present the George Town Council 2nd Quarterly Performance Report 1 October 2023 – 31 December 2023 to Council for consideration and adoption.

BACKGROUND

Council has a motion requiring the production of a quarterly report, on the operations of the Council organisation. The quarterly report is produced in line with Council's motion.

STRATEGIC PLAN

This action relates to the following components of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030:

Future Direction One - Community Pride

1. All are valued and included
 - i. Taking a 'whole of community' approach to everything.

Future Direction Four - Leadership and Accountable Governance

1. A culture of engagement and participation
 - i. Trusted, transparent and inclusive community engagement processes.
 - ii. Engaging over things that matter to the community.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS & RELATED COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

The following legislation is relevant to this report:

The *Local Government Act 1993*, Section 27(c), the Mayor is to promote good governance by, and within, the Council.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The implementation of a quarterly report is designed to minimise risk to the organisation and increased transparency through providing an ongoing performance report, on the Council's financial, strategic and customer service objectives, to the elected members and the community.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil.

DIVERSITY, EQUITABLE ACCESS AND INCLUSION CONSIDERATIONS

The Diversity, Equitable Access and Inclusion Policy aligns with the following goals and objectives of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030:

George Town Council is committed to maximising access and inclusion to services, facilities, features and activities for all within the community, regardless of ability, literacy, numeracy and language limitations, age, race, religion or other, within all aspects of Council.

CONSULTATION

The draft 2nd Quarter Performance Report was presented at the Council Workshop on Tuesday 13 February 2024.

OPTIONS

Council may choose to:

1. Support the motion as presented; or
2. Support the motion with amendment; or
3. Not support the motion.

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

The 2nd Quarter Performance Report is submitted for consideration by Council.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receives the George Town Council 2nd Quarter Performance Report 1 October – 31 December 2023.
2. Provide public access to the report as part of Council's commitment to ongoing good governance.

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DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

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8.4 LGAT GENERAL MEETING 14 MARCH 2024 - CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS

REPORT AUTHOR:	General Manager - Mr S. Power
REPORT DATE:	20 February 2024
FILE NO:	15.15
ATTACHMENTS:	1. Five Motions for General Meeting - 14 March 2024 [8.4.1 - 12 pages]

SUMMARY

The Council is to provide voting preferences to the Mayor (or proxy) in respect to the motions for which notice has been given for the upcoming Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) General Meeting scheduled for 14 March 2024.

BACKGROUND

The Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) is the voice of local government in Tasmania. LGAT works to protect the interests and rights of councils, to promote the efficient operation of local government and to foster strategic and beneficial relationships.

LGAT has been the peak body for local government in Tasmania for over 100 years (founded 1911) and is part of a national network of associations. It is funded by councils and other income earned through projects sponsored on behalf of local government, and a range of services and sponsorships. LGAT is an incorporated body under the Local Government Act 1993 (source: www.lgat.tas.gov.au).

At the time of authoring this report the LGAT Agenda for the General Meeting being held 14 March 2024, is to be published on the 29 February 2024. When published a copy will be publicly available via LGAT's website www.lgat.tas.gov.au.

Council received notice of five individual motions being tabled which are:

- State and Local Government Consultation Protocols (Clarence City Council);
- Amendment to the Tasmanian Pension Remission Guidelines (Burnie City Council);
- Integrated Transport Study (Huon Valley Council);
- Flood Mapping in Tasmania (Northern Midlands Council); and
- Amendment to Legislation to Include Electricity Generation and Storage Plan and Equipment in Capital Valuation (Northern Midlands Council).

Background information on each motion submitted by the Councils are attached.

STRATEGIC PLAN

This action relates to the following components of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030:

Future Direction Four - Leadership and Accountable Governance

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4. Positive and productive working relationship with all levels of government and their agencies
- i. Ensuring the area's needs and priorities are understood.
 - ii. Understanding the outcomes and directions sought by all levels of government.

Future Direction Four - Leadership and Accountable Governance

5. Collaborative working relationships with neighbouring Councils in the region and regional organisations
- i. Playing an active role in regional development.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS & RELATED COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

The following extract from the LGAT General Meeting Rules provides the following:

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

RULES REGARDING CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

13. WHO MAY ATTEND A MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION

(a) Subject to Rule 13(f), each Member shall be entitled to send a Voting Representative to any Meeting of the Association, such Voting Representative exercising the number of votes determined according to Rule 16(a).

(b) In addition to the requirements set out in Rule 13(f), after each ordinary Council Election, the Chief Executive Officer shall request each Member to advise the name of its Voting Representative and the proxy for the Voting Representative for Meetings of the Association until the next ordinary Council Elections.

(c) Subject to Rule 13(f), Members may change their Voting Representative or proxy at any time by advising the Chief Executive Officer in writing of the Voting Representative prior to that representative taking his or her position at a Meeting of the Association.

(d) A list of Voting Representatives will be made available at the commencement of any Meeting of the Association.

(e) Members may send other elected members or Council officers as observers to any Meeting of the Association.

(f) Each Member must provide the Association with written notice of the details of the Voting Representative who was by a resolution of the Member lawfully appointed as the Voting Representative of the Member at a Meeting of the Association.

14. PROXIES AT MEETINGS

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(a) Up to 1 hour prior to any Meeting of the Association, a Member may appoint another Member as its proxy.

(b) The form of the proxy is to be provided by the Chief Executive Officer and is to be signed by either the Mayor or General Manager of the Council appointing the proxy.

(c) The Chair of the meeting is not entitled to inquire as to whether the proxy has cast any vote in accordance with the wishes of the Member appointing the proxy.

(d) Proxies count for the purposes of voting and quorum at any meeting.

15. QUORUM AT MEETINGS

(a) At any Meeting of the Association, a majority of the Member Councils shall constitute a quorum.

(b) If a quorum is not present within one hour after the time appointed for the commencement of a Meeting of the Association, the meeting is to be adjourned to a time and date specified by the Chair.

16. VOTING AT MEETINGS

(a) Voting at any Meeting of the Association shall be upon the basis of each Voting Representative being provided with, immediately prior to the meeting, an electronic voting button or placard which is to be used for the purpose of voting at the meeting. The placard will be coloured according voting entitlement and the voting buttons will be coded according to voting entitlement:

(b) Electronic voting buttons will be the first choice for voting on all decisions, with placards only to be used if the technology fails.

(c) Voting buttons allow councils to vote for or against a motion or formally abstain from voting. An abstain is not to be taken as a negative vote.

(d) The Chair of the meeting shall be entitled to rely upon the electronic vote or the raising of a coloured placard as the recording of the vote for the Member and as evidence of the number of votes being cast.

(e) Except as provided in sub-rule (f), each question, matter or resolution shall be decided by a majority of the votes for a motion. If there is an equal number of votes upon any question, it shall be declared not carried.

(f)

(i) When a vote is being taken to amend a Policy of the Association, the resolution must be carried by a majority of the votes capable of being cast by Members present at the meeting.

(ii) When a vote is being taken for the Association to sign a protocol, memorandum of understanding or partnership agreement, the resolution must be carried by a majority of votes capable of being cast by Members and by a majority of Members, whether present at the meeting or not.

(iii) When a vote is being taken to amend these Rules of the Association, the resolution must be carried by at least two-thirds of the votes capable of being cast by Members, whether present at the meeting or not.

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(g) A Voting Representative or his or her proxy in the name of the Member is entitled to vote on any matter considered at a Meeting of the Association.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

No risks are identified subject to voting preferences aligning with Council resolution, George Town Council Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030 and adopted Council policy.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial implications include travel and accommodation costs associated with attending LGAT meetings by elected members and the General Manager in accordance with Council Policy. Such costs are accommodated within the adopted 2023/2024 budget.

DIVERSITY, EQUITABLE ACCESS AND INCLUSION CONSIDERATIONS

The Diversity, Equitable Access and Inclusion Policy aligns with the following goals and objectives of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030.

George Town Council is committed to maximising access and inclusion to services, facilities, features and activities for all within the community, regardless of ability, literacy, numeracy and language limitations, age, race, religion or other, within all aspects of Council.

CONSULTATION

A copy of the LGAT agenda when published will be made available via LGAT's website www.lgat.tas.gov.au on the 29 February 2024.

OPTIONS

Council may choose to:

1. That Council determines that the Mayor be authorised to vote at the LGAT General Meeting 14 March 2024, in accordance with Council's strategic direction, policy and Council resolutions with consideration of any conference debate on items listed for decision at that meeting;

OR

2. That Council considers and provides voting preferences to the Mayor for the LGAT General Meeting 14 March 2024 as determined by the Chair (usually a show of hands or verbal confirmation) in respect to each individual item listed below and formally endorses that direction;

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

As in previous years, the Council is requested to provide voting direction to the Council delegate (the Mayor or proxy), on the items listed for decision, items for noting and items for discussion for LGAT General Meetings.

George Town Council has not submitted any items for members' decision for inclusion in the 14 March 2024 LGAT General Meeting agenda.

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LGAT General Meeting Agenda 14 March 2024 Item No.	Items for Decision	Council Decision
TBA	<p>State and Local Government Consultation Protocols – Clarence City Council</p> <p>That Council (Clarence City Council) authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) and request that a motion be placed on the agenda for the next LGAT General Meeting seeking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Support from Tasmanian Councils for the renegotiation of the Partnership Agreement on Communication and Consultation 2003 (Partnership Agreement), between the Tasmanian Government and Councils; b) That LGAT seek agreement in principle from the Tasmanian Government to renew the Partnership Agreement, subject to the negotiation of new terms; and c) That, in pursuit of a new Partnership Agreement, LGAT establish a working group comprising council representatives to develop the key terms of a new Partnership Agreement. 	
TBA	<p>Amendment to the Tasmanian Pension Remission Guidelines (Burnie City Council)</p> <p>Seek the State Government to amend its Guidelines to benefit pensioners who receive an eligible card within a financial year, post the 1st July.</p>	
TBA	<p>Integrated Transport Study (Huon Valley Council)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) LGAT lobby the Tasmanian State Government to urgently progress a costed integrated Transport Plan for Tasmania, including timeframes and responsibility for implementation. b) LGAT coordinates a Local Government response on behalf of southern region Councils to the Department of State Growth's draft plan for Greater Hobart's transport future. c) LGAT advocate for future transport planning outputs that prioritise: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Equitable access to transport iii. Regional coverage iv. Road safety v. Improved health and liveability outcomes. 	
TBA	<p>Flood Mapping in Tasmania (Northern Midlands Council)</p> <p>That LGAT lobby the State Government to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Provide an accessible online user interface for purchasers, residents and developers to all available flood mapping in populated areas in Tasmania; (b) Assist Tasmanian councils to flood map low lying land, inclusive of climate change impact, so the effect flooding could have on property, including future developments, renovations and subdivisions is known statewide; and (c) Require all councils to include flood mapping in the issuance of any Form 337 and any other such forms as appropriate. 	
TBA	<p>Amend Legislation to Include Electricity Generation and Storage Plan and Equipment in Capital Valuation (Northern Midlands Council)</p> <p>That LGAT lobby the State Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To amend legislation to include electricity generation and storage plant and equipment in capital valuation (as occurs in Victoria) and to allow energy sector developments to make appropriate payments in lieu of rates under a regulated formula subject to indexation consisting of a fixed payment per site and a variable payment based on installed capacity. - That applicable developments subject to the rating policy amendments will include all current electricity generation and storage developments under existing technologies, as well as future generation and storage development under existing and new technologies. - Consider the means by which Councils located within reasonable proximity of energy sector developments in unincorporated areas that impact infrastructure and service provision are appropriately compensated via similar payment 	

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	arrangement to ensure ratepayers are not financially impacted by these developments.	
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OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Provides voting preferences to the Mayor for the LGAT General Meeting 14 March 2024 as determined by the Chair (usually a show of hands or verbal confirmation) in respect to each individual item listed below and formally endorses that direction:

LGAT General Meeting Agenda 14 March 2024 Item No.	Items for Decision	Council Decision
TBA	<p>State and Local Government Consultation Protocols – Clarence City Council</p> <p>That Council (Clarence City Council) authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) and request that a motion be placed on the agenda for the next LGAT General Meeting seeking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Support from Tasmanian Councils for the renegotiation of the Partnership Agreement on Communication and Consultation 2003 (Partnership Agreement), between the Tasmanian Government and Councils; e) That LGAT seek agreement in principle from the Tasmanian Government to renew the Partnership Agreement, subject to the negotiation of new terms; and f) That, in pursuit of a new Partnership Agreement, LGAT establish a working group comprising council representatives to develop the key terms of a new Partnership Agreement. 	
TBA	<p>Amendment to the Tasmanian Pension Remission Guidelines (Burnie City Council)</p> <p>Seek the State Government to amend its Guidelines to benefit pensioners who receive an eligible card within a financial year, post the 1st July.</p>	
TBA	<p>Integrated Transport Study (Huon Valley Council)</p>	

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	<p>d) LGAT lobby the Tasmanian State Government to urgently progress a costed integrated Transport Plan for Tasmania, including timeframes and responsibility for implementation.</p> <p>e) LGAT coordinates a Local Government response on behalf of southern region Councils to the Department of State Growth's draft plan for Greater Hobart's transport future.</p> <p>f) LGAT advocate for future transport planning outputs that prioritise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> vi. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions vii. Equitable access to transport viii. Regional coverage ix. Road safety x. Improved health and liveability outcomes. 	
TBA	<p>Flood Mapping in Tasmania (Northern Midlands Council)</p> <p>That LGAT lobby the State Government to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (d) Provide an accessible online user interface for purchasers, residents and developers to all available flood mapping in populated areas in Tasmania; (e) Assist Tasmanian councils to flood map low lying land, inclusive of climate change impact, so the effect flooding could have on property, including future developments, renovations and subdivisions is known statewide; and (f) Require all councils to include flood mapping in the issuance of any Form 337 and any other such forms as appropriate. 	
TBA	<p>Amend Legislation to Include Electricity Generation and Storage Plan and Equipment in Capital Valuation (Northern Midlands Council)</p> <p>That LGAT lobby the State Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To amend legislation to include electricity generation and storage plant and equipment in capital valuation (as occurs in Victoria) and to allow energy sector developments to make appropriate payments in lieu of rates under a regulated formula subject to indexation 	

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	<p>consisting of a fixed payment per site and a variable payment based on installed capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- That applicable developments subject to the rating policy amendments will include all current electricity generation and storage developments under existing technologies, as well as future generation and storage development under existing and new technologies.- Consider the means by which Councils located within reasonable proximity of energy sector developments in unincorporated areas that impact infrastructure and service provision are appropriately compensated via similar payment arrangement to ensure ratepayers are not financially impacted by these developments.	
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OR

2. Determines that the Mayor be authorised to vote at the LGAT General Meeting 14 March 2024, in accordance with Council’s strategic direction, policy and Council resolutions with due consideration of any conference debate on items listed for decision at that meeting.

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

9 INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

Nil.

10 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY

10.1 REVIEW OF COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES POLICY

REPORT AUTHOR:	Director Corporate & Community - Ms C. Hyde
REPORT DATE:	7/2/24
FILE NO:	29.11
ATTACHMENTS:	1. GT C 19- Councillor- Allowances- Policy (11) [10.1.1 - 8 pages] 2. GTC -C -02 Draft Revised Councillor Allowances Policy [10.1.2 - 6 pages]

SUMMARY

This brief provides Council with information regarding a proposed change to the payment arrangements set out in GTC -19 Councillor Allowances Policy.

BACKGROUND

The GTC -19 Councillor Allowances Policy was adopted in April 2022 (Minute No – 048/22) a review of the policy by officers in 2023 resulted in no changes necessary.

The policy is due for review again in April 2024. This early review is prompted by a Councillor request for consideration to be given to providing an option for the allowance payment frequency to be either fortnightly or monthly in arrears.

This review provides an opportunity to align the policy with Council's new policy naming and format conventions, together with a review of the frequency of the review process.

STRATEGIC PLAN

This action relates to the following components of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030:

Future Direction Four - Leadership and Accountable Governance

3. Leadership across the community
 - i. Building community leadership capabilities.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS & RELATED COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

Section 340A of the Local Government Act 1993 Allowances

- (1) A councillor is entitled to prescribed allowances.
 - (2) A mayor or deputy mayor are entitled to prescribed allowances in addition to any allowances referred to in subsection 1.
 - (2A) Allowances are to be paid in arrears.
-

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- (3) A councillor, mayor or deputy mayor may decide not to receive part or all of an allowance.*
- (4) A decision under subsection (3) is to be by written notice to the general manager of the relevant council.*
- (5) Councillors who are suspended under section 215 (5) are not entitled to an allowance during the period of suspension.*
- (6) A person who must not perform any function or exercise any power of a councillor under section 339C is not entitled to any allowances.*

Section 42 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 – Allowances for elected members:

- (1) For the purposes of subsections 340A(1) and (2) of the Act, the allowances for councillors and the additional allowances for mayors and deputy mayors for the period of 12 months starting on the 1 November.*
- (2) The allowances for councillors and the additional allowances for deputy mayors and mayors payable in each subsequent period of 12 months starting on the 1 November.*
 - (2a) take effect from that date each year*
 - (2b) are calculated by multiplying the allowances for the previous year by the inflationary factor for the current year and rounding the resulting amount to the nearest whole dollar*
- (3) The allowances referred to in this regulation are to be paid in monthly or fortnightly Instalments*

Section 43 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 – Expenses for Councillors.

- A councillor is entitled to be reimbursed for reasonable expenses in accordance with the policy adopted under schedule 5 to the Act in relation to*
- (a) Telephone rental and telephone calls;*
 - (b) Travelling; and*
 - (c) Care of any dependent of the councillor.*

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

The following risks have been identified in accordance with Council's adopted Risk Management Framework and Risk Matrix.

There is a low risk that reimbursements may be made outside of the policy parameters.

Processes including presentation of evidence of expenses relating to the undertaking of the role and function of Councillors is required prior to approval for reimbursement. Expenses are subject to audit processes and will made publicly available on a quarterly basis and published in the Annual Report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council budgets for Councillor Allowances.

DIVERSITY, EQUITABLE ACCESS AND INCLUSION CONSIDERATIONS

The Diversity, Equitable Access and Inclusion Policy aligns with the following goals and objectives of the Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030.

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George Town Council is committed to maximising access and inclusion to services, facilities, features and activities for all within the community, regardless of ability, literacy, numeracy and language limitations, age, race, religion or other, within all aspects of Council.

CONSULTATION

The community implications of the recommendation action/s has been assessed against Council’s Community Consultation Framework as having a low to medium impact requiring category one consultation. Community Consultation is not required. Proposed revisions to the policy are workshopped with Council and reviewed by Audit Panel as required.

OFFICER’S COMMENTS

The current version of this policy has been in place since April 2022. The policy has been reviewed and unchanged in 2023. The current review recommends administrative changes in line with GTC – 12 Policy conventions and new naming conventions and a proposed change to the frequency of the allowances payment and a proposed change to the frequency of review.

Table of Changes

Section	Current Provision	Proposed Change	Reason
Policy Number	GTC-19	GTC-C-02	To align with new naming convention
Objective	Formerly Statement of Principles	Renamed to Objective	Change to objective in line with policy convention.
Type of Policy	Nil	As per Section 9 of Policy GTC-12, this policy (GTC-C-02) is categorised as a Council Policy. This categorisation is consistent with the definitions as stated in Policy GTC–12 which are as follows: Council - Policies pertaining to the Governance of the Council and the activities of its elected members, including the establishment of Committees, and the government of the municipality including resident and ratepayer compliance policies and by-laws. Operational - Policies pertaining to the operational, administrative, and internal matters of the	In accordance with GTC –12 conventions.

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		Council, including internal governance, internal committees, and operational matters of service delivery.	
Risk Considerations	Nil	As stated in Council's Risk Appetite Statement, we are prepared to take on measured risk and will do so with informed decision-making practices. We will address uncertainty through open and frank discussions to identify and manage risk and avoid personal perceptions and biases from hindering our objectivity.	
8.2 Allowances and reasonable expenses	Nil	<p>The base amount payable to elected members is specified in Schedule 4 of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2015</i>. The amounts are adjusted annually for inflation on 1 November each year, using an indexation process. The inflationary factor is calculated using the Australian Bureau of Statistics Wage Price Index (WPI) for Tasmania.</p> <p>Allowances are rounded to the nearest whole dollar and shall be paid in arrears on a fortnightly or monthly basis at the request of the Councillor.</p> <p>Section 43 of the <i>Local Government (General) Regulations 2015</i> enables reimbursement for reasonable expenses in relation to telephone, internet, travel, stationery and office supplies and the care of any person, who is dependent on the councillor, and who requires the care while a councillor is performing their duties or functions.</p> <p>Claims over six (6) months old shall not be recognized.</p>	<p>Administrative change to include Councillor base amount payments and allowances in accordance with legislation.</p> <p>Inclusion of fortnightly options to payment frequency.</p>

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		A councillor, mayor or deputy mayor may decide not to receive part or all of an allowance, notification of which must be provided in writing to the General Manager.	
8.4 Communications allowance and electronic devices	Currently separate in the policy – Communication Allowance and Stationery and Electronic Devices	Communications Allowance and Electronic Devices	For ease of reading and linking like allowances
8.9 Stationery and Office Supplies			Content remains the same, layout of content slightly changed for ease of understanding.
8.10 Reporting	Councillor allowances and expense reimbursements will be reported in the Annual Report, with reimbursement paid to Councillors being reported within the Travel and Expenses sub-categories within the Financial Statements of the Council's Annual Report.	Section 72(1)(cb) of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> requires councils to include a statement of the total allowances and expenses paid to the mayor, deputy mayor and councillors, in its annual report. Reimbursements paid to Councillors are reported within the Travel and Expenses sub-categories within the Annual Audited Financial Statements.	Change of wording to align with the LG Act 1993.
Implementation and Review of Policy	This Policy will become effective upon approval by Council and is to be reviewed annually.	Implementation of this Policy rests with the General Manager. This policy will be reviewed in November every four years, following Council elections.	Change to review timeframe to align with the LG elections. Policy may be reviewed at any time with change of legislation or at the request of Council.

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RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Endorses the proposed changes to the Councillor Allowances Policy as presented.

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

11 ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE, STRATEGY & ENGAGEMENT

Nil

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12 MAYOR

12.1 MATTERS OF INVOLVEMENT - MAYOR, DEPUTY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

REPORT DATE: 20 February 2024

FILE NO: 14.11, 14.15

Mayor Cr Greg Kieser		
<i>January</i>	24	Tasmania Talks interview
	24	Met with local residents
	24	Attended Audit Panel meeting
	24	Tamar FM interview
	25	Attended General Manager's 6 monthly progress review
	25	Met with Australia Day Ambassador and General Manager
	26	Hosted the Australia Day Celebrations and Citizenship Ceremony
	26	Met with residents of Pipers River
	27	Attended the opening of the Final Three Trails
	29	Met with SunCable representatives
	31	Attended NTDC Board and SunCable meeting
<i>February</i>	7	Attended Youth Impact Council
	8	Attended George Town Council Reconciliation Action Plan meeting
	8	Attended Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra held at George Town
	13	Chaired Council Workshop
	14	Attended NTDC Meeting
	14	Attended TasWater Half-Year Briefing to Owner Representatives
	16	Attended meeting on the Community Shed
	16	Met with prospective business owner
	21	Attended Cultural Awareness Workshop
Deputy Mayor Cr Greg Dawson		
<i>January</i>	25	Attended General Manager's 6 monthly progress review
	26	Attended Australia Day Celebrations
	8	Attended George Town Council Reconciliation Action Plan meeting
<i>February</i>	13	Attended Council Workshop
	15	Competed in the Mayoral Croquet Challenge
	20	Attended Cultural Awareness Workshop
Councillors		
<i>Cr Orr</i>		
<i>January</i>	24	Attended Audit Panel
	25	Attended General Manager's 6 monthly progress review

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	26	Attended George Town Council Australia Day Civic Ceremony
February	6	Attended VNT Board presentation

OFFICER’S RECOMMENDATION

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

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

13 PETITIONS

Nil.

14 NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Nil.

15 COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

16 CLOSED MEETING

16.1 INTO CLOSED MEETING

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

Agenda Item 16.2 Minutes of the Closed Ordinary Council Meeting held on 23 January 2024

As per the provisions of Regulation 34(6) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

Agenda Item 16.3 Land Acquisition – Dalrymple & The Glen Roads Intersection

As per the provisions of Regulation 15(2)(f) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

Agenda Item 16.4 RFT 11/2023 Old Aerodrome Road Upgrade (Stage 1)

As per the provisions of Regulation 15(2)(d) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

Agenda Item 16.4 Legal Expenditure

As per the provisions of Regulation 15(2)(a); (b); (d); (e)(i)(ii); (f); (g); (i) and (j) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

Agenda Item 16.4 General Manager’s Mid-Term Progress Review

As per the provisions of Regulation 15(2)(a) and (g) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

Agenda Item 16.5 Finalisation of Confidential Employee Matter

As per the provisions of Regulation 15(2)(a) and (g) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

REQUIRES ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF COUNCIL

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

VOTING

For:

Against:

**George Town Council
2024 02 27 Ordinary Council Meeting
Agenda**

17 CLOSURE

There being no further business, the meeting closed atpm.

**Cr Greg Kieser
MAYOR**