

2025 07 22 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING ATTACHMENTS

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GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting
held on **Tuesday 24 June 2025**

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

commenced 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 2025.

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

Shane Power
GENERAL MANAGER

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Meeting Commenced 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 43 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 except for the proceedings of meetings or parts of meetings closed to the public in accordance with Regulation 17(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 2025.

The Chair advised the meeting that the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 has come into effect today. Also the cross referencing on the legislation within the Agenda will be different and will be updated in the minutes. The Chair read the following statement:

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

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1 PRESENT

Mayor Cr Greg Kieser, Chairperson
Cr Winston Archer
Cr Heather Ashley
Cr Heather Barwick
Cr Tim Harris
Cr Simone Lowe
Cr Winston Mason
Cr Jason Orr

1.1 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Deputy Mayor Cr Greg Dawson
Director Operational Performance & Strategy - Mr R Dunn

1.2 IN ATTENDANCE

General Manager - Mr S Power
Director Corporate & Community - Mrs C Hyde
Director Infrastructure & Development - Mr A McCarthy
Senior Executive Support and Governance Officer - Ms L Dickenson
Administrative Officer - Ms C Roach

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2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 27 MAY 2025

Minute No. 81/25

DECISION

Moved: Cr Harris
Seconded: Cr Mason

That the Minutes of Council's Ordinary Meeting held on 27 May 2025 numbered 62/25 to 75/25 as provided to Councillors be received and confirmed as a true record of proceedings.

VOTING

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason
and Cr Orr
Against: Nil
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8 / 0

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3 LATE ITEMS

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4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cr Lowe declared an interest in Agenda Item 10.1 Sponsorship Request George Town Neighbourhood House New Years Eve Event.

Nature of Interest: The organisation applying for grant funding via sponsorship is my employer. I directly instructed my staff to apply for funding.

5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

5.1 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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5.2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil.

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5.3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Commenced at: 1.13 pm

Concluded at: 1.22 pm

Ms J. Roberts. George Town

As per Ms Roberts request, the Chair read her question.

- Q1. What feedback will Council give, following this meeting, to those who provided input to the George Town/Low Head Recreational Spaces Network plan?

Through the Chair to the General Manager. The General Manager advised that following recent community consultation sessions held at the Graham Fairless Centre. Council listened to that feedback and that the Low Head component of the Open Space Plan has been removed and separated to be further consulted and consultation received for the George Town component those who have made submissions and provided their details council can write back to them and say that the plan has been adopted and what changes had occurred post consultation.

The Chair further advised that there will be further consultation with the Low Head community about the plan.

Ms L. Wootton. Low Head

- Q1. Heritage Study

Early last year Council commissioned a Heritage Study of the George Town municipal area, in order to identify places with historic and heritage significance to the community.

The study was to "...inform Council of the places that are important to the community for their heritage values and will assist Council to make decisions regarding how well these values are protected and might be protected into the future."

There was considerable interest and input from members of the community who contributed.

Unlike a similar study of Launceston study that took the same consultants years to complete, the consultants were only given a very short time to complete this study. It involved a lot of work for the consultants under pressure of the time time frame - and for the unpaid local contributors - and no extension could be allowed as "it had to be done" in that set time.

When it was so imperative that the Heritage Study had to be completed in such a tight time frame, why has it not yet come back to Council and the community to be approved - or not?

- Q2. What has happened to it and how will it be implemented when approved?

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The Chair referred the question to the General Manager. The General Manager advised that Council will respond to Ms Wootton in writing as it has been awhile since he had visited the document. However, the General Manager advised that the report had been commissioned and Council had to contact certain properties and obtain details confirmed as to the accuracy and is unsure if that part had been completed. Council would be pleased to work with the historical society and any other person to ensure the accuracy of the information received.

Mr J. Glisson, Low Head

Q1. When will the Community Consultation Framework be updated.

Through the Chair, the General Manager advised that at the last community engagement session at George Town, Council received considerable feedback on consultation and at that meeting Council committed to review the Community Engagement Framework Policy. It is in the draft Annual Plan for next year which will go to the July Ordinary Council meeting for adoption. It will be a complete review.

Q2. Will this include the Communications Strategic Plan 23-28 which doesn't give any role for the Councillors to communicate to the ratepayers? As Mr Glisson reads it, it is left up to the Council Officers to talk to the community which is a fault in the Plan.

The Chair and General Manager thanked Mr Glisson for the feedback which will be taken on board.

Q3. The Anzac Drive Lease was discussed at the Workshop recently, and now listed to go into closed session which refers to the old regulations, Mr Glisson questioned why it would go into closed session and how one would be able to assess if it meets the competitive neutrality and how the money is being spent?

Through the Chair to the General Manager, the General Manager stated as rightly pointed out that the regulation referred to in the agenda for the Council to go into closed is part of the previous regulations which have been superseded and come into affect today. So regulation 15 is now regulation 17. The minutes will reflect the change.

In regards to it going into closed it contains commercial information which has been referenced for Councillors before we go into closed and why it is going into closed. In regards to competitive neutrality, Council has sought legal advice in the lead up to this decision put forward to Council today and the General Manager is satisfied that it meets the compliance of competitive neutrality principles. So the legal advice says that Council is compliant.

Q4. So, if Councillors are not happy with the competitive neutrality are they then bound by the fact that it has gone into closed Council cannot discuss it or raise it elsewhere?

The General Manager advised that the nature of the report if it is commercial in nature and not in closed session there is a clause. No not in this instance Mr Glisson as this report specifically says that it is confidential.

The Chair advised that this item has been workshopped on a couple of occasions specific to the competitive neutrality component and has been socialised with the Councillors so they

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have a full understanding of what that framework entails and why Council meets the requirements.

Cr Archer left the meeting at 1.22 pm.

Cr Barwick requested a copy of the legal advice pertaining to the Anzac Drive Lease.

The Chair confirmed that a copy of the legal advice will be provided to all Councillors.

Cr Archer returned to the meeting at 1.22 pm.

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5.4 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.")

Mrs L. Wootton



18 June 2025

Mrs L. Wootton

Dear Mrs Wootton,

Re: Public Question Time – 27 May 2025

Thank you for your attendance at the 27 May 2025 Ordinary Council meeting where you raised the following questions. Please see below response to each of the questions in italics.

Q1. Windmill Point Interpretative Signage Installation and Replacement

How much longer will it be before visitors and locals can read about the significance of that historic site, and what the carvings are all about?

Response

Interpretation signage has now been installed.

Q2. Mount George Signal Station and Semaphore

(a) Can Council please liaise with Parks & Wildlife to have the interpretation panel returned as soon as possible so that visitors know what they are looking at? And also

(b) Is it possible to have the arms on the semaphore mast offset, as it was before, so that it gives a better idea of how these historic structures worked?

Response

When the Semaphore was undergoing repair, it was found the chain pivot block had corroded so extensively that the entire seized unit required hot-dip treatment to restore its original appearance.

While this process preserved the block, it also locked it in a fixed position, rendering it incompatible with the chain.

To enable the signal arms to be offset would require manufacturing of new chain blocks at considerable cost.

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In the past, when the signal arms were offset, high wind has been an issue which has caused the signal arms to break away.

Council has contacted Parks and Wildlife and the interpretation sign has been returned to Council and will be re-installed at the site.

Please don't hesitate to contact Council if you have further questions on the above advice.

Yours sincerely,



Shane Power
GENERAL MANAGER

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6 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.



Shane Power
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.

The General Manager advised that the following alteration will be made for Agenda Item 8.6 Making of Rates and Charges or the 2025-2026 Year Point 3 Averaged Area Rates Number 3:

- the amount of \$1,416.00 changed to \$1,471.00.

Councillors have been provided a hard copy and copies are available for the public.

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7 PLANNING AUTHORITY

Nil.

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8 OFFICE OF GENERAL MANAGER

8.1 COUNCIL WORKSHOP MAY AND JUNE 2025

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager - Mr S. Power
REPORT DATE: 11 June 2025
FILE NO: 14.10

Minute No. 82/25

DECISION

Moved: Cr Mason
Seconded: Cr Orr

That Council:

1. Receives the report on the Council Workshops held on 27 May 2025 and 10 June 2025.

VOTING

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason
and Cr Orr
Against: Nil
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8 / 0

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8.2 RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN WORKING GROUP

REPORT AUTHOR:	General Manager - Mr S. Power
REPORT DATE:	10 June 2025
FILE NO:	23.1

Minute No. 83/25

DECISION

Moved: Cr Mason

Seconded: Cr Orr

That Council:

1. Receives the report and acknowledges the accomplishments of the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group;
2. Dissolves the Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group; and
3. Supports the establishment of a local First Nations advisory group.

VOTING

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr

Against: Cr Barwick

Abstained: Cr Barwick

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8.3 DELEGATIONS REGISTER REVIEW

REPORT AUTHOR:	General Manager - Mr S. Power Director Infrastructure & Development - Mr A. McCarthy
REPORT DATE:	13 June 2025
FILE NO:	14.2

Minute No. 84/25

DECISION

Moved: Cr Mason
Seconded: Cr Lowe

That Council:

1. Adopts the updated Delegation Register, ensuring efficient, lawful, and transparent decision-making processes.

VOTING

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr
Against: Cr Barwick
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED 7 / 1

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8.4 SETTING OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR.

REPORT AUTHOR:	General Manager - Mr S. Power Director Corporate & Community - Ms C. Hyde
REPORT DATE:	24 June 2025
FILE NO:	32.4
ATTACHMENTS:	1. Proposed Fees and Charges 2025-2026 [8.4.1 - 24 pages]

The Director Corporate and Community entered the meeting at 1.39 pm.

Minute No. 85/25

DECISION

Moved: Cr Archer
Seconded: Cr Ashley

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 2025/2026 financial year.

VOTING

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr
Against: Nil
Abstained: Nil

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc.	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/2026 Fees
Plumbing				
Permit Authority Fee (category 3)	Processing of NOTIFIABLE WORKS	GST exempt (div81)	\$263.00	\$275.00
Permit Authority Fee (category 4)	Processing of PERMIT WORKS	GST exempt (div81)	\$402.00	\$420.00
Illegal Plumbing Work (category 4)	Processing of ILLEGAL WORKS	GST exempt (div81)	\$0.00	\$832.00
Notifiable Plumbing Work (category 3) additions	Assessing and processing of NOTIFIABLE Plumbing works	GST exempt (div81)	\$328.00	\$343.00
Notifiable Plumbing Work (category 3) (Storm-water only)	Assessing and processing of NOTIFIABLE Plumbing works for storm-water only	GST exempt (div81)	\$263.00	\$275.00
Notifiable Plumbing Work (category 3) (per unit/dwelling)	Assessing and processing of NOTIFIABLE Plumbing works	GST exempt (div81)	\$526.00	\$550.00
Permit Plumbing Work (category 4) Additions	Assessment, inspections and completions for plumbing works for additions to existing installations (+ EHO assessment where applicable)	GST exempt (div81)	\$526.00 (+ EHO assessment where required)	\$550.00 (+ EHO assessment where required)
Permit Plumbing Work (category 4) New building (per unit/dwelling)	Assessment, inspections and completions for plumbing works for new installations	GST exempt (div81)	\$718.00 (+ EHO assessment where required)	\$750.00 (+ EHO assessment where required)
Permit Plumbing Work (category 4) (stormwater only)	Assessing and processing of PERMIT Plumbing works for storm-water only	GST exempt (div81)	\$0.00	\$374.00
Onsite Waste Referral to EHO	Assessment for plumbing works for new and add/alt plumbing works	GST exempt (div81)	\$412.00	\$431.00
Plumbing Amendment	Application for an amendment to existing approvals (permit & notifiable work)	GST exempt (div81)	\$0.00	\$227.00 + hourly rate where required

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc.	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/2026 Fees
Plumbing Continued				
Plumbing Approval Extension of Time		GST exempt (div81)	\$220 (1 year) \$139 shorter periods, or when paid early)	\$229.00 (1 year) \$145.00 shorter periods)
Hourly rate - plumbing surveyor	hourly rate for all plumbing surveying	GST exempt (div81)	\$0.00	\$106.00
Inspections	Normal inspection costing for quotes Additional inspections due to failure of booked inspection, resulting in the need for Plumbing Surveyor to re-inspect a particular stage	GST exempt (div81)	\$181.00	\$189.00

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc.	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/2026 Fees
Planning Fees				
Minor Structures	Fences, signage, masts and forestry/tree removal		\$99.00	\$103.00
Minor Structures	Sheds, decks and extensions up to 56m2		\$196.00	\$205.00
Change Of Use	Change of use with no development		\$277.00	\$290.00
Change of Use – Visitors Accommodation Only	As per visitor accommodation guidelines		\$250.00	\$250.00
Larger Structures	Dwelling additions, outbuildings etc. over 56m2		\$359.00	\$375.00
New Dwellings	Building Class 1 and 2 including units - per dwelling		\$640.00	\$670.00
Other	Class 3 through to 9 (all Commercial and industrial buildings, excluding farm sheds).		0.1% of total value with a Minimum and Maximum Fee	0.2% of total value with a Minimum and Maximum Fee
	Minimum Fee		\$765.00	\$800.00
	Maximum Fee		\$24,020.00	\$35,000.00
Level 2 Activities	Level 2 Activities		Assessment fee as per commercial fee above, plus any additional advertising costs	Assessment fee as per commercial fee above, plus any additional advertising costs
Demolition	Demolition works		\$208.00	\$217.00
Advertising	Advertising costs - Examiner Newspaper	*	\$483.00	\$505.00
Retrospective	Legalisation of Use and/OR Development		Double Normal Fees	Double Normal Fees
Subdivision	Per Lot Fee - Minimum Fee applies		0	\$0.00
	Per Lot		\$163.00	\$170.00
	Minimum Fee		\$1,232.00	\$1,287.00

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc.	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/2026 Fees
Planning Fees – Continued				
Boundary adjustment	Boundary adjustment/consolidation		\$679.00	\$710.00
Adhesion	Application for adhesion order		\$713.00	\$745.00
Amendments	Scheme Amendment Fee. Scheme Admendment Fee plus 3 x Advertising Fee and + TPC Fee		\$4,036.00 plus 3 x advertising and + TPC fee	\$4,218.00 plus 3 x advertising and + TPC fee
	Combined Scheme Amendment Fee and Development Fee plus 3 x Advertising Fee + Development Fee		\$4,036.00 plus 3 x advertising + development fee	\$4,218.00 plus 3 x advertising + development fee
Minor Amendment	Minor amendment to Planning Permit		\$273.00	\$285.00
Extension to permit	Extension of time to planning permit		\$218.00	\$228.00
Plans	Examining and sealing of final plan		\$570.00	\$596.00
Stratum Plan	Stratum plan approval - Set Fee plus Per Lot Fee			
	Fee (including 2 inspections)		\$343.00	\$358.00
	Per Lot		\$74.00	\$77.00
	Additional Inspections		\$0.00	\$100.00
Sealed Plan amendment	Sealed Plan amendment – including managing Part 5 Agreements and covenants. (Where a hearing is required.)		\$1,423.00	\$1,487.00
Amendment to sealed plan	Amendment to Part 5 Agreements and covenants where no hearing is required		\$751.00	\$785.00

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc.	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/2026 Fees
Planning Fees - continued				
New Part 5 Agreements or Sealed Plan amendment, including managing Part 5 Agreements and Covenants. (Where no hearing is required.) *	Administration fees for processing and sealing of Part 5 Agreement (exclusive of cost of drafting and creating the agreement), or amending/removing Part V agreements or covenants	*	\$751.00	\$785.00
Refunds	If application is withdrawn before assessment is commenced	*	If application is withdrawn before further information is requested 75%, if after RFI 25%	If application is withdrawn before further information is requested 75%, if after RFI 25%
Peer Review	Peer review study by a suitably qualified person not employed by Council where specialist reports are submitted with an application	*	Cost of consultant plus 15% admin cost	Cost of consultant plus 15% admin cost

Public open space contributions are calculated in line with legislation – please contact Councils Planning

** See Fee Description for additional costs

* Fee description expanded to cover fees we found we needed this year but did not have clearly defined. This is for;

1. The requests to remove covenants from a title, and
2. Requests to remove or amend a part 5 agreement, and
3. Covering of costs associated with hearings.

*** 1. 'Unimproved value' - of the 'newly created lots' is the total value of all 'newly created' lots, less the costs to develop the blocks, such as levelling, installing all services, roads, crossovers, connection to services, and preparing for sale.

2. 'Newly created lots' - are all lots with the exception of any balance lot.

Note: Some applications may require payment of advertising costs i.e. tree removal, demolition, dwellings etc. Please contact Council's Planning Department for any queries on (03) 6382 8800.

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc.	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/2026 Fees
Permit Authority				
Notifiable Building Work (category 3)	Processing of notifiable works		\$263.00	\$275.00
Permit Building Work (category 4)	Application processing for permit works		\$402.00	\$420.00
Illegal Building Work (category 4)	Application processing for all illegal works		\$796.00	\$832.00
Building Approval Extension of Time	Application for an extension of time for Permit & Notifiable Work and existing permits - one year		\$220.00	\$230.00
Building Approval Extension of Time	Application for an extension of time for Permit & Notifiable Work and existing permits - less than one year		\$139.00	\$145.00
Staged Approvals	Application for a staged approvals (permit & notifiable work)		\$402.00 + \$218.00 per stage	\$420.00 + \$227.00 per stage
Amended Approvals	Application for an amendment to existing approvals (permit & notifiable work)		\$218.00 + Building surveyor hourly rate where required	\$227.00 + Building surveyor hourly rate where required
Building Certificate	Application for a Building Certificate		\$218.00 + hourly rate	\$227.00 + hourly rate where required
Temporary Occupancy Permit notification	Processing of TOP from Building Surveyor		\$68.00 (waived for NFP groups as in kind support)	\$71.00 (waived for NFP groups as in kind support)
TBCIT Training Levy	Works \$20,000 or more		Set by State Gov	Set by State Gov
Building Administrative Fee	Works \$20,000 or more		Set by State Gov	Set by State Gov

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc.	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/2026 Fees
Permit Authority - Continued				
Permit Extension of Time	As per CBOS Directors Determination - special circumstances		\$302.00	\$316.00
Archive File Search	Fee for file search for building, planning and plumbing		\$37 + copying charges (plus PA hr fee rate as required)	\$39.00 + copying charges (plus PA hr fee rate as required)
Permit Authority Hourly Rate	File searches, inspections, reports and travelling.		\$101.00	\$106.00

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc.	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/2026 Fees
Building Surveying				
Class 1 (category 3) New or alt/add > 56m2	Processing, assessment and up to 4-5 inspections	*	\$2,139.00	\$2,235.00
Class 1 (category 4) New or alt/add > 56m2	Processing, assessment and up to 5 inspections	*	\$2,511.00	\$2,624.00
Class 1 (category 3 & 4) – additional units/dwelling	Assessment of each additional unit/dwelling proposed	*	\$200.00 per unit/dwelling	\$209.00 per unit/dwelling
Class 1 (category 3 & 4) – alterations/additions < 56m2	Processing, assessment and up to 5 inspections	*	\$1,767.00	\$1,847.00
Class 2-9 (category 3) New	Processing, assessment, referrals and inspections - Up to 2000m2	*	\$2,325.00	\$2,430.00
Class 2-9 (category 4) New	Processing, assessment, referrals and inspections - Up to 2000m2	*	\$2,726.00	\$2,849.00
Class 2-9 (category 3 & 4) Alteration or Addition	Processing, assessment, referrals and inspections - Up to 2000m2	*	\$1,953.00	\$2,041.00
Class 10 (category 3) New or alt/add > 56m2	Processing, assessment and 3 inspections	*	\$1,024.00	\$1,070.00
Class 10 (category 4) New or alt/add > 56m2	Processing, assessment and 3 inspections		\$1,210.00	\$1,264.00
Class 10 (category 3 & 4) Alt/add < 56m2	Processing, assessment and up to 3 inspections	*	\$838.00	\$876.00
Class 2-9 (category 3 & 4) Alteration or Addition < 500m2	Processing, assessment and inspections - Up to 500m2	*	\$1,537.00	\$1,606.00
Demolition - class 1 & 10 (category 3 & 4)	Processing, assessment and inspections	*	\$764.00	\$798.00
Demolition - class 2-9 (category 3 & 4)	Processing, assessment and inspections	*	\$995.00	\$1,040.00

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc.	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/2026 Fees
Building Surveying – Continued				
Owner Builder	Processing of owner builder applications		Additional 20% of the surveying fees charged	Additional 20% of the surveying fees charged
Hourly Rate – Building Surveyor	Hourly rate for all Building Surveying		\$199.00	\$208.00
Hourly Rate – Administration	Building surveying administration		\$101.00	\$106.00
Inspections	For additional inspections due to failure or where required		\$199.00	\$208.00
Application for Occupancy Permit (where not part of above active CLC)	Receive application for occupancy permit, carry out inspections, referrals, etc. and issue occupancy permit		\$218 (admin fee) + hourly rate (building surveyor) min 1 hour	\$228.00 (admin fee) + hourly rate (building surveyor) min 1 hour
Application for Temporary Occupancy Permit (FORM 5)	Assess and issue Temporary Occupancy Permit		\$291 (waived for NFP groups as in kind support)	\$304.00 (waived for NFP groups as in kind support)

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc.	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/2026 Fees
Engineering Charges				
Stormwater Connections	A new Private Stormwater Connection to Public Stormwater System, including Kerb Connection. Per connection.	*	Cost plus 15%	\$250.00
Works Permit / New Crossover Application Fee / Application to Open Road	Fee per application, including pre & post inspection fee.	*	\$300.00	\$314.00
Services location	Charge per hour or part thereof.	*	\$105.00	\$110.00
Supply of Traffic Counts (existing data)	Charge per count, if current data is already available.	*	\$79.00	\$83.00
Supply of Traffic Counts (New data)	Charge per count, if data must be obtained.	*	\$150.00	\$157.00
Assessment of Public Works* (Only applies to works that have been certified by the qualified engineer and approved by the Director of Infrastructure & Development)	Assessment of Engineering Drawings, Construction Audit Inspections, Practical and Final Inspection.	*	1.25% of the value of the public works for plan checking, construction audit inspection and practical completion and final	1.5% of the value of the Public Works. Minimum Fee of \$750.
Inspection of Failed Public Works*	Re-inspections of works that failed a previous inspection	*	\$120.00	\$125.00
Road Closure *	Closure of public road or section of road	*	\$150.00	\$157.00
Road Closure Advertisement	Per Advertisement		Cost plus 15%	Cost plus 15%
Parking Bays For Private Use	Closure of parking bay such as for Skip Bins etc.	*	\$30.00	\$50.00

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc.	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/2026 Fees
Environmental Health				
Food Business Inspection	Additional inspection		\$189.00	\$198.00
Food Business Notification	Notification Only		\$21.00	\$22.00
Food Business Registration (incl. state wide)	Low risk premises [1]		\$168.00	\$176.00
Food Business Registration (incl. state wide)	Medium risk premises [2]		\$324.00	\$339.00
Food Business Registration (incl. state wide)	High Risk premises [3]		\$324.00	\$339.00
Food Business Registration (incl. state wide)	Late fee		Standard fee above + \$50	Standard fee above + \$52
*Food Business Registration (incl. state wide) – New Business (Dec/June)	Low risk premises [1]		\$84.00	\$88.00
*Food Business Registration (incl. state wide) New Business (Dec/June)	Medium risk premises [2]		\$157.00	\$164.00
*Food Business Registration (incl. state wide) New Business (Dec/June)	High Risk premises [3]		\$157.00	\$164.00
Community Organisations and Sporting Clubs	Non Commercial / Charity fee waived		\$0.00	\$0.00
Water and Food Sampling	Food Sampling [4]		Laboratory fees plus 15%	Laboratory fees plus 15%
On-site Wastewater Management System Design Assessment	Subdivision assessment (1 lot)		\$368.00+ \$50.00 per additional lot	\$383.00 + \$52.00 per additional lot
On-site Wastewater Management System Inspection	Reinspection due to incomplete or faulty work		\$189.00	\$198.00
Water Supply Registration (Water Carters, Food Premises, Tourist Accommodation)	Registration as a supplier of bulk potable water, or water from a private source (other than from Taswater). Includes registration, inspection and water sample on costs.		\$173.00 per vehicle/tanker \$173.00 per food premises \$173.00 per tourist accommodation site	\$180.00 per vehicle/tanker \$180.00 per food premises \$180.00 per tourist accommodation site
Public Health	Place of Assembly Licence (new or renewal)		\$179.00	\$187.00
Public Health	Registration of premises for public health risk activity (e.g. skin penetration)		\$173.00	\$181.00
Public Health	Registration of a Regulated System (e.g. cooling towers)		\$179.00	\$187.00
***Pre-purchase	Inspection of Food Business		\$189.00	\$198.00

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Abatement Notice Contractor engaged to complete works

Public Health – notes:

- (1) Premises are ranked in accordance with a Risk Classifications System, low risk includes cafes.
- (2) Premises are ranked in accordance with a Risk Classifications System, medium risk includes restaurants.
- (3) Premises are ranked in accordance with a Risk Classifications System, high risk includes nursing homes.
- (4) Does not include costs of analysis.
- (5) Includes connections to Council gravity or low pressure sewer or other special connections

* Registrations of less than a year - Fee may be reduced by 6% per month for registrations less than 12 months.

* Refunding fees where business changes hands or closes –

Calculate refunds at 6% per month of balance of registration period.

Notes for use in considering to adopt these fees: 'Water Supply Registration' has been simply clarified to make it clearer when this registration and associated fee is required.

Facility or Service	Fee Description	GS T inc	2024/2 025 Fees	Proposed 2025/26 Fees
Environmental Health				
Food Premises Referral (FORM 42/49)	Fee for provision of form 49 as requested from a Building Surveyor		\$182 + hourly rate for assessment	\$190 + hourly rate for assessment
Food Premises Occupancy Inspection/Report (FORM 50)	Fee for inspection and provision of form 50 as requested from a Building Surveyor		\$182.00	\$190.00
Waste Water Referral	Referral from Plumbing surveyor to EHO for assessment of On Site Waste Water system		\$389.00	\$410.00
Inspections	Normal inspection costing for quotes. Additional inspections due to failure of booked inspection, resulting in the need for EHO to re-inspect a particular stage.		\$182.00	\$190.00
Environmental Health Officer Hourly Rate	Hourly rate for all works that are not covered under specific fees.		\$182.00	\$190.00
Place of Assembly Licence	Assessment of, and issue of POA licence.		\$182 (waived for NFP groups as in kind support)	\$190(waived for NFP groups as in kind support)

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST inc	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/26 Fees
Bond - All facilities				
	Event without Alcohol		\$95.00	\$200.00
	Event with Alcohol		\$645.00	\$675.00
Memorial Hall Complex				
After hours callout fee Note: this will be deducted from any bond, otherwise invoiced.	After hours call out fee for assistance or maintenance per hour or part thereof, or where additional cleaning needs to be undertaken by council staff where it should have been completed by hirer.	*	\$75.00 (Note: this will be deducted from any bond, otherwise invoiced)	\$78.00 (Note: this will be deducted from any bond, otherwise invoiced)
Hall portable audio equipment	Setup & Training provided as required	*	\$63.00	\$66.00
Hall audio and lighting equipment	Setup & Training provided as required	*	\$121.00	\$126.00
Portable Stage	setup and removal	*	\$110.00	\$115.00
Kitchenware – cooking/serving equipment (main items only)	Per 10 items from store	*	\$30.00	\$31.00
	Per 10+ items from store	*	\$58.00	\$61.00
Table Clothes	Per cloth	*	\$3.00 per cloth	\$5.00 per cloth
Glassware, cutlery & crockery	Per 20 pieces (please specify items when booking)	*	\$5.00 per 20 pieces	\$5.00 per 20 pieces
Memorial Hall and Supper Room	Non-Commercial (min 2 hrs)	*	\$26.00 per hour	\$27.00 per hour
			\$152.00 per day	\$159.00 per day
	Commercial (min 2hrs)	*	\$50.00 per hour	\$52.00 per hour
			\$297.00 per day	\$310.00 per day
Memorial Hall only	Non-Commercial (min 2 hrs)	*	\$18.00 per hour	\$19.00 per hour
			\$103.00 per day	\$108.00 per day
	Commercial (min 2hrs)	*	\$42.00 per hour	\$44.00 per day
			\$200.00 per day	\$210.00 per day
Macquarie Room	Non-Commercial (min 2 hrs)	*	\$18.00 per hour	\$19.00 per hour
			\$103.00 per day	\$108.00 per day
	Commercial (min 2hrs)	*	\$42.00 per hour	\$44.00 per hour
			\$200.00 per day	\$209.00 per day

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST inc	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/26 Fees
Memorial Hall Complex - Continued				
Supper Room Only	Non-Commercial (min 2 hrs)	*	\$16.00 per hour	\$17.00 per hour
			\$79.00 per day	\$83.00 per day
	Commercial (min 2hrs)	*	\$37.00 per hour	\$39.00 per hour
			\$152.00 per day	\$159.00 per day
Kitchen (does not include utensils)	Non-Commercial (min 2 hrs)	*	\$19.00 per hour	\$20.00 per hour
			\$79.00 per day	\$83.00 per day
	Commercial (min 2hrs)	*	\$37.00 per hour	\$39.00 per hour
			\$152.00 per day	\$159.00 per day
Jim Mooney Gallery	Non-Commercial per week	*	\$74.00	\$77.00
	Commercial per week	*	\$147.00	\$154.00
	Non-Commercial per hour (for functions)	*	\$16.00	\$17.00
	Commercial per hour (for functions)	*	\$37.00	\$39.00
Graham Fairless Centre	Non-Commercial (min 2 hrs)	*	\$22.00 per hour	\$23.00 per hour
			\$120.00 per day	\$125.00 per day
	Commercial (min 2hrs)	*	\$61.00 per hour	\$64.00 per hour
			\$215.00 per day	\$225.00 per day
Graham Fairless Centre and Supper Room	Non-Commercial (min 2 hrs)	*	\$28.00 per hour	\$29.00 per hour
			\$160.00 per day	\$167.00 per day
	Commercial (min 2hrs)	*	\$65.00 per hour	\$68.00 per hour
			\$290.00 per day	\$303.00 per day
Entire Complex	Non-Commercial per day	*	\$365.00 per day	\$381.00 per day
	Commercial per day	*	\$675.00 per day	\$705.00 per day
Hillwood Hall				
Hillwood Memorial Hall (incl Supper Room & Kitchen)	Non-Commercial	*	\$21.00 per hour	\$22.00 per hour
			\$79.00 per day	\$83.00 per day
	Commercial	*	\$37.00 per hour	\$39.00 per hour
			\$153.00 – per day	\$160.00 per day

For facilities at Bellingham, Weymouth, Lulworth and Beechford please contact the appropriate progress association.

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/26 Fees
Regent Square				
Non-commercial site fee_ Events	Per site, per day	*	\$61.00	\$64.00
Non-commercial site fee –Self-contained Recreational Vehicles/Vans rallies only.	Determined once event approval given by Council to hold event/rally and will include miscellaneous Council services	*	On application	On application
Commercial use of Regent Square	Refundable Bond		\$478.00	\$500.00
Commercial Site Fee – Stall/Vehicle/ Van inc. power where is available	Per site per day	*	\$115.00	\$120.00
Miscellaneous Council Services	As requested or required	*	At cost	At cost
Council Chambers				
Council Chambers	per hour - room only	*	\$53.00	\$55.00
Council Chambers	per hour - with equipment and/or tea coffee etc	*	\$67.00	\$70.00
Council Chambers	per day - room only	*	\$326.00	\$341.00
Council Chambers	per hour - with equipment and/or tea coffee etc	*	\$378.00	\$395.00
Council Chambers small meeting rooms	per hour - room only	*	\$35.00	\$37.00
Council Chambers small meeting rooms	per day - room only	*	\$153.00	\$160.00
York Cove				
Main Function room	Non-Commercial (min 2 hrs) Per hour	*	\$16.00	\$17.00
	Non-Commercial (min 2 hrs) Per day	*	\$79.00	\$83.00
Function room (known as CWA room)	Non-Commercial (min 2 hrs) Per hour	*	\$16.00	\$17.00
	Non-Commercial (min 2 hrs) Per day	*	\$79.00	\$83.00
Anzac Drive Building				
Launchpad	Training only (Availability limited) per hour	*	0	\$17.00
Hillwood Football Oval				
Oval/Changerooms	Per hour	*	\$25.00	\$26.00
	Per day	*	\$149.00	\$156.00
Clubrooms			Fee determined by the leaseholder	Fee determined by the leaseholder

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/26 Fees
George Town Football Oval				
Oval/Changerooms	Per hour	*	\$34.00	\$36.00
	Per day	*	\$185.00	\$193.00
Clubrooms			Fee determined by the leaseholder	Fee determined by the leaseholder
George Town Soccer Ground				
Oval	Per hour	*	\$16.00	\$17.00
	Per day	*	\$95.00	\$99.00
George Town Cricket Ground				
Oval/Changerooms	Per hour	*	\$25.00	\$26.00
	Per day	*	\$149.00	\$156.00
George Town Sporting Complex General Ground Hire (excluding facilities and grounds)				
Reserve Ground	Per hour	*	\$0.00	\$17.00
	Per day	*	\$0.00	\$99.00
George Town Netball Court				
Netball Court	Per hour	*	\$13.50	\$14.00
George Town Veleldrome				
Oval	Per hour	*	\$16.00	\$17.00
	Per day	*	\$95.00	\$99.00
Charges do not apply to current sporting clubs' users of the facilities				
Miscellaneous Event Fees				
Bin hire - (includes delivery and collection- does not include waste removal)	140lt	*	-	\$2.00 per bin
	240lt	*	-	\$2.50 per bin
Bin hire - (includes delivery/collection and waste disposal- one empty)	240lt	*	-	\$7.10 per bin
Temporary Fence	Hire only	*	-	\$5.00/mtr
	Install and remove	*	-	At cost

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/2026 Fees
Photocopying Charges				
Photocopying & Laminating charges - General	A4 White per page	*	\$1.05	\$1.10
Photocopying & Laminating charges - General	A4 White per ream	*	\$65.00	\$68.00
Photocopying & Laminating charges - General	A4 Colour per page	*	\$1.15	\$1.50
Photocopying & Laminating charges - General	A4 Colour per ream	*	\$79.00	\$82.50
Photocopying & Laminating charges - General	A3 per page	*	\$2.10	\$2.50
Photocopying & Laminating charges - General	A3 per ream	*	\$103.00	\$107.50
Photocopying charges - Plan copies	A0 Size per copy	*	\$32.00	\$33.50
Photocopying charges - Plan copies	A1 Size per copy	*	\$14.00	\$14.50
Photocopying charges - Plan copies	A2 Size per copy	*	\$9.45	\$10.00
Photocopying charges - Plan copies	A3 Size per copy	*	\$5.25	\$5.50
Provision of Information				
Search fees	Less than 15 minutes	*	\$53.00	\$55.50
Search fees	Greater than 15 minutes	*	\$184.00	\$192.50
Planning scheme	Hard copy of planning scheme ordinance (available at no charge on website or by email)	*	\$74.00	\$77.50
Maps	Zoning map A4	*	\$21.00	\$22.00
Maps	GIS maps	*	\$21.00	\$22.00
Maps	Large maps	*	\$50.00	\$52.50
Council meeting agendas	Individual hardcopy upon request	*	Free of Charge	Free of Charge

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST Inc	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/2026 Fees
Provision of Information - continued				
Council Annual Report	Individual hardcopy upon request		Free of Charge	Free of Charge
Council meeting minutes or extracts thereof (as advised by Local Government Division set in accordance with the Fee units Act 1997)	Per 5 pages	*	\$1.87	\$2.00
Copy of Audio Recording of Ordinary Council Meeting	Per copy	*	\$14.00	\$16.00
Land information certificate application under section 337 of the Act (in accordance with Local Government (General) Regulations section 41.1)	Per certificate		\$247.78	\$259.00
Issue of a certificate of liabilities under section 132 of the Act (in accordance with Local Government (General) Regulations section 41.2)	Per certificate		\$56.10	\$58.50
Right to Information request (as advised by Right to Information Act 2009 in accordance with Fee Units Act 1997)	Per request		\$46.75	\$49.00
Referral of a complaint under Section 28V of the Act (in accordance with Local Government (General) Regulations set under the Fee Units Act 1997)			\$93.50	\$97.50

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST inc	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/26 Fees
George Town Waste Transfer Site Fees				
Waste Management Centre fees	General Waste – Domestic (weighted per tonne)	*	\$158/tonne (min charge \$19) (0.120t)	\$175/tonne (min charge \$21.00) (0.120t)
Waste Management Centre fees	Commercial Waste	*	\$263/tonne (min charge \$131.50) (=0.0735t)	\$290/tonne (min charge \$145.15)(=.5t)
Waste Management Centre fees	General Waste - Mattresses (Single and Double)	*	\$18.00	\$20.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Car or Motorcycle Tyres – each	*	\$16.00	\$18.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Light Truck and Four Wheel Drive Tyres – each	*	\$27.00	\$30.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Other tyres on application	*	POA	POA
Waste Management Centre fees	Car bodies	*	\$100 per complete car (including tyres) \$36 stripped car	\$110 complete cars. Tyres must be removed and charged separately
Waste Management Centre fees	Inert material - Including soil, gravel, bricks, concrete, spoil from excavations, - all Trucks	*	\$158 (min charge \$79/0.5t)	\$175 (min charge \$87/0.5t)
Waste Management Centre fees	Clay & Clean Fill – (No contamination) – All Trucks	*	\$158 (min charge \$79/0.5t)	\$175 (min charge \$87/0.5t)
Waste Management Centre fees	Separated scrap steel	*	Free of Charge	Free of Charge
Waste Management Centre fees	Green waste	*	\$120 (min charge \$14) (0.120t)	\$134 (min charge \$16) (0.0120t)
Waste Management Centre fees	Oil/litre	*	\$1.50/lt	\$1.65/lt

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST inc	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/26 Fees
Pipers River Waste Transfer Site Fees				
Waste Management Centre fees	General Waste – Domestic bin	*	\$19.00	\$21.00
Waste Management Centre fees	General Waste – Domestic Car	*	\$19.00	\$21.00
Waste Management Centre fees	General Waste – Domestic Wagon	*	\$19.00	\$21.00
Waste Management Centre fees	General Waste – Domestic Utility	*	Min charge .5t = \$79.00	Min charge .5t = \$87.00
Waste Management Centre fees	General Waste – Domestic Van	*	Min charge .5t = \$79.00	Min charge .5t = \$87.00
Waste Management Centre fees	General Waste – Domestic 1t trailer	*	Min charge .5t = \$79.00	Min charge .5t = \$87.00
Waste Management Centre fees	General Waste – Domestic 1.5t trailer	*	Min charge .5t = \$118.00	Min charge .5t = \$131.00
Waste Management Centre fees	General Waste – Domestic 2t trailer	*	Min charge .5t = \$158.00	Min charge .5t = \$175.00
Waste Management Centre fees	General Waste – Domestic 2t trailer with cage	*	Min charge .5t = \$158.00	Min charge .5t = \$175.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Car or Motorcycle Tyres – each	*	\$16.00	\$18.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Light Truck and Four Wheel Drive Tyres – each	*	\$27.00	\$30.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Mattresses	*	\$18.00	\$20.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Separated Steel	*	Free	Free
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic bin	*	\$14.00	\$16.00

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Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic Car	*	\$14.00	\$16.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic Wagon	*	\$14.00	\$16.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic Utility	*	Min charge .5t = \$60.00	Min charge .5t = \$66.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic Van	*	Min charge .5t = \$60.00	Min charge .5t = \$66.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic 1t trailer	*	Min charge .5t = \$60.00	Min charge .5t = \$66.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic 1.5t trailer	*	Min charge .75t = \$90.00	Min charge .75t = \$99.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic 2t trailer	*	Min charge 1t = \$120.00	Min charge . 1t = \$133.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic 2t trailer with cage	*	Min charge 1t = \$120.00	Min charge . 1t = \$133.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Oil/lt	*	\$1.50/lt	\$1.65/lt
Other Waste	Upsize/downsize council kerbside garbage bin	*	\$48.00	\$53.00
Pipers River Waste Transfer Site Fees for Residents and Ratepayers only.				
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic Utility	*	Min charge .25t = \$30.00	Min charge .25t = \$33.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic Van	*	Min charge .25t = \$30.00	Min charge .25t = \$33.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic 1t trailer	*	Min charge .25t = \$30.00	Min charge .25t = \$33.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic 1.5t trailer	*	Min charge .375t = \$45.00	Min charge .375t = \$50.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic 2t trailer	*	Min charge 0.5t = \$60.00	Min charge 0.5t = \$66.00
Waste Management Centre fees	Green Waste – Domestic 2t trailer with cage	*	Min charge .5t = \$60.00	Min charge .5t = \$66.00

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST inc	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/26 Fees
Bass & Flinders – Individual Entry				
Bass & Flinders Maritime Museum -	Adult Entry Fee	*	\$12.00	\$13.00
Bass & Flinders Maritime Museum	Concession Entry Fee	*	\$10.00	\$10.00
Bass & Flinders Maritime Museum	Child Entry Fee	*	\$5.00	\$5.00
Bass & Flinders Maritime Museum	Ticket of Leave – yearly entry - Local GTC Municipality Residents and tour operators. (Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.	*	\$12.00 adult \$10.00 concession \$5 child	\$13.00 adult \$11.00 concession \$6 child
Bass & Flinders – Group Bookings				
Bass & Flinders Maritime Museum	Non-Commercial (Community Groups, School, Not for Profit) entry fee per person	*	\$8 adult \$4 School groups	\$9 adult \$4.00 School groups
Bass & Flinders Maritime Museum	Non-Commercial (Community Groups, Not for Profit) (1)(2)	*	\$70 per hour	\$73.00 per hour
Bass & Flinders Maritime Museum	Commercial (1)(2)	*	\$115 per hour	\$120.00 per hour
Bass & Flinders Maritime Museum	Crockery Hire (3)	*	\$1.50 per set	\$1.75 per set
Bass & Flinders Maritime Museum	Host and Set Up Fee	*	Included in each group booking fee	Included in each group booking fee
Bass & Flinders Meeting Room	Room only	*	\$15 per hour	\$16.00 per hour
Bass & Flinders Family Pass	Family Pass (2 adults, 3 children)	*	\$28.00	\$29.00
<p>(1) Conditions of Hourly Hire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Minimum two-hour booking □ AM booking – 8:30am to 10:30am, PM booking – 5:00pm to midnight * Booked a minimum of seven days in advance * A Bass and Flinders host will be in attendance to assist with the running of your event <p>(2) Crockery Set</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Includes 1 x plate, bowl, glass and set of cutlery. <p>(3) Bar Hire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Dry hire only – all appropriate licenses to be the responsibility of the hirer. <p>(4) Bond - Facilities Hirer Bond applies. *Event without Alcohol \$200.00, * Event with Alcohol \$675.00</p>				

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST inc	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/26 Fees
Watch House – Individual Entry				
Watch House	Adult Entry Fee		\$4.00	\$0.00
Watch House	Concession Entry Fee		\$3.00	\$0.00
Watch House	Child Entry Fee		\$1.50	\$0.00
Watch House	Family Entry Fee (2 Adults and 2 Children)		\$8.50	\$0.00
Watch House	Ticket of Leave – yearly		\$6.50	\$0.00
Watch House – Group Bookings				
Watch House	Non-Commercial		\$3 ad \$1 school	\$0.00
Temporary Dwelling Accommodation – Caravans and Self-Contained Recreational Vehicles				
Per one night stay only at Council operated areas (Note: Group rallies at Council reserves by written approval only – same fees apply.)	Per one night stay including \$2.00 rubbish disposal fee. (Additional charges may apply at some locations – Water \$1.00 – Blackwater dump \$1.00.)	*	\$20.00	\$21.00
Cemetery				
George Town Cemetery - within the lawn cemetery	Single depth burial	*	\$2,100.00	\$2,200.00
George Town Cemetery - within the lawn cemetery	Double depth burial	*	\$2,310.00	\$2,450.00
George Town Cemetery - within the lawn cemetery	Second interment	*	\$1,785.00	\$2,000.00
Within the George Town, Lefroy, and Pipers River General Cemeteries:	Single depth burial	*	\$2,100.00	\$2,200.00
Within the George Town, Lefroy, and Pipers River General Cemeteries:	Double depth burial	*	\$2,310.00	\$2,450.00
Within the George Town, Lefroy, and Pipers River General Cemeteries:	Second internment	*	\$1,785.00	\$2,000.00
Within the George Town, Lefroy, and Pipers River General Cemeteries:	Reservation	*	\$400.00	\$420.00
Within the George Town, Lefroy, and Pipers River General Cemeteries:	Single depth burial in reservation	*	\$2,100.00	\$2,200.00
Within the George Town, Lefroy, and Pipers River General Cemeteries:	Double depth burial in reservation	*	\$2,310.00	\$2,450.00
Cemetery - Memorial Wall	Niche reservation		\$275.00	\$290.00
Cemetery - Memorial Wall	Placement of ashes	*	\$525.00	\$550.00
Cemetery - Memorial Rose Garden	Reservation		\$275.00	\$290.00

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Facility or Service	Fee Description	GST inc	2024/2025 Fees	Proposed 2025/26 Fees
Cemetery - Memorial Rose Garden	Placement of ashes (no reservation)	*	\$683.00	\$710.00
Cemetery - Memorial Rose Garden	Second placement of ashes at same time as first	*	\$409.50	\$430.00
Cemetery - Memorial Rose Garden	Placement if reservation has been made	*	\$530.00	\$550.00
Cemetery - Memorial Rose Garden	Crypts: per single crypt	*	\$8,300.00	\$8,700.00
Miscellaneous Cemetery Charges	Replacement of existing or placement of additional plaque	*	\$110.00	\$115.00
Miscellaneous Cemetery Charges	Interment on Weekends (additional)	*	\$820.00	\$860.00
Miscellaneous Cemetery Charges	Burial of children under 12 years	*	\$934.50	\$980.00
Miscellaneous Cemetery Charges	Exhumation	*	\$2,570.00	\$2,700.00
Miscellaneous Cemetery Charges	Ashes placement in grave	*	\$335.00	\$350.00

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8.5 CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM FOR THE 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR

REPORT AUTHOR:	Director Corporate and Community – Cheryl Hyde General Manager – Mr S. Power
REPORT DATE:	24 June 2025
FILE NO:	32.4
ATTACHMENTS:	1. 2025 26 Capital Works Project Proposal [8.5.1 - 4 pages] 2. Proposed Capital Works Carry Forward Projects [8.5.2 - 1 page]

Minute No. 86/25

DECISION

Moved: Cr Harris
Seconded: Cr Mason

That Council approves and adopts, by absolute majority:

1. the Capital Works expenditure for the 2025/2026 financial year as attached; and
2. the carry forward capital works as reported and attached.

VOTING

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Ashley, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr
Against: Cr Archer and Cr Barwick
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED 6 / 2

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2025/2026 CAPITAL WORKS BUDGET PROPOSAL							
ASSET CLASS	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	CLASS	COUNCIL FUNDING (2025/26)	EXTERNAL FUNDING	2025/2026
Bridges & Safety Barriers	M - Bridge Repair Works - Program	A program of works to be generated from TasSpan Bridge Condition (BMS) report.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 70,000	\$ -	\$ 70,000
	M - Low Head Pontoon Refurbishment	This pontoon has two distinct issues: frequent disorientation (an engineering issues) and condition defects on overwater and underwater pontoon components such as poor fendering. This budget aims to address both issues comprehensively.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 19,052	\$ 300,000	\$ 319,052
Bridges & Safety Barriers Total					\$ 89,052	\$ 300,000	\$ 389,052
Buildings & Structures	M - Painting Various Buildings & Facilities - Program	This project proposal is part of an ongoing annual program to repaint Council facilities and buildings, ensuring their longevity, aesthetic appeal, and structural preservation.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 57,200	\$ -	\$ 57,200
	M - Power Pole Renewal - Program	This project proposal is for the replacement of four streetlight/power poles around the municipality as part of an ongoing annual program. The program originally included the replacement of three poles per year but has been expanded to four. TasNetworks will nominate which poles require replacement based on their inspection reports, ensuring that the highest-risk poles are addressed as a priority.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 52,800	\$ -	\$ 52,800
	M - Fittings and Fixtures Renewal Program	This project proposal is for the introduction of a new program in the 2025/26 financial year to facilitate the renewal of aged and degraded fittings and fixtures across municipal facilities. Many public amenities, including BBQs, seating, and shelters, require replacement as they reach the end of their service life. This program will provide the Facilities Maintenance Officer with the discretion and resources to replace these assets as needed, ensuring continued functionality and public benefit.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000
	M - Rekeying Various Buildings & Facilities - Program	This project proposal is to upgrade and replace the keying system in various Council buildings and facilities to match the system currently used at the Council Chambers. This upgrade will enhance security, provide greater control over access hierarchy, and streamline access management across multiple Council-managed sites. The priority facilities to receive keying system upgrades include the York Cove Centre, the Watch House, and the Bass and Flinders Centre.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 34,320	\$ -	\$ 34,320
	M - LED Light Replacement - Program	This project proposal is for the upgrade of existing lighting to energy-efficient LED at all Council buildings and facilities. As part of the ongoing program, the priority for the 2025/26 period is upgrading lighting along the York Cove Walkway / Kanamaluka Trail by replacing wall-mounted lights with lamp posts. This change aims to reduce ongoing vandalism issues while enhancing public safety and visibility.	Municipal	Upgrade	\$ 22,880	\$ -	\$ 22,880
	GT - Electrical Switchboard Upgrade - Council Offices	This project proposal is to replace the main electrical switchboard at the Council Chambers. This essential infrastructure upgrade will ensure the reliability and safety of electrical systems within the facility, supporting Council operations and service delivery to the community.	George Town	Renewal	\$ 39,900	\$ -	\$ 39,900
	M - Generator Connection Points for Community Halls	This project proposal is to install generator connection points and purchase connection leads for community halls. This initiative will enable recently acquired emergency generators to be connected to these facilities, ensuring power availability during outages, strengthening George Town's emergency preparedness.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000
	LW - Lord Liverpool Drive Distribution Board Replacement	This project proposal is to replace the badly corroded distribution board at Lord Liverpool Drive with a new stainless-steel unit. This essential upgrade will enhance the reliability and safety of electrical infrastructure, ensuring continued serviceability and compliance with modern standards.	Low Head	Renewal	\$ 13,728	\$ -	\$ 13,728
	GT - Jim Mooney Art Gallery Renovation	This project proposal is to install glass panels, solid walls, and a glass door to improve security and functionality at the Jim Mooney Gallery. Additionally, an art storage cabinet will be installed to protect valuable artwork and enhance the gallery's security and storage.	George Town	Renewal	\$ 62,920	\$ -	\$ 62,920

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ASSET CLASS	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	CLASS	COUNCIL FUNDING (2025/26)	EXTERNAL FUNDING	2025/2026
	GT - Regent Square Power Supply Upgrade	This project proposal is to upgrade power infrastructure within the carpark space to better facilitate community events. Currently, no permanent power supply exists, requiring temporary solutions such as generators or power boxes attached to the side of the hall. Installing dedicated power boxes will provide reliable and convenient access to electricity, enhancing the functionality of the space for events.	George Town	Upgrade	\$ 57,200	\$ -	\$ 57,200
	W - Weymouth Re-Roof, Fascia & Gutter	This project proposal is to replace the roof, fascia, guttering, and external cladding of Weymouth Hall. The existing roof has large patches that are at risk of leaking, while the external wall cladding shows signs of severe rust beneath the paintwork. Some remedial works have already been undertaken in preparation for these replacements. Completing this project will protect the structural integrity of the hall and ensure its long-term usability for the community.	Weymouth	Renewal	\$ 48,000	\$ -	\$ 48,000
	GT- Memorial Hall	This project outlines the need for the installing a new electric stove in the kitchen of the George Town Memorial Hall. The current gas stove poses significant operational challenges, safety risks, and reputational damage to the council.	George Town	Renewal	\$ 38,000	\$ -	\$ 38,000
	GT - Bass and Flinders - installation of whale boat	Securely and safely install the "Mirage" whale boat above the upper walkway of the museum, utilising a steel support system similar to the "Melanie" installation. The Mirage was gifted to council in 2024/25 with installation pending a budget allocation and/or grant funding. The Mirage came with a boat trailer which will be sold to contribute to the cost of permanent installation in the Museum.	George Town	New	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 12,000
Buildings & Structures Total					\$ 552,948	\$ 6,000	\$ 558,948
Footpaths and Cycle Ways	M - Footpath Replacement Program	Several footpath sections around George Town are old, damaged, or non-compliant with current Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) standards. These deteriorated sections present safety risks and accessibility challenges for the community. The project involves replacement of approximately 400 metres of footpath at various locations around George Town.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 93,600	\$ -	\$ 93,600
Footpaths and Cycle Ways Total					\$ 93,600	\$ -	\$ 93,600
Parks, Open Spaces and Streetscapes Total	GT - Blue Gum Park Entrance Improvements	Replace approximately 500m of front fence to match the cricket and football ground. Behind that, install gardens and native trees the full length and remove all old asphalt that is next to the netball and tennis courts. Paint pillars at the entrance and remove old ticket attendance box and replace main gates. Upgrade both hard stand areas for use as carpark facilities.	George Town	Renewal	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000
	Dog Access signs and upgrade to Pound	Supply and install new dog signage in line with Policy, and minor upgrades to pound	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000
Parks, Open Spaces and Streetscapes Total					\$ 120,000	\$ -	\$ 120,000
Plant, Machinery, Furniture, Fittings & Equipment	M - Plant and Equipment Replacement - Program	Per replacement program	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 200,000
	M - Replacement 10 tonne Tipper	Replacement of burnt out Tipper, cpst includes insurance claim proceeds	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 310,000	\$ -	\$ 310,000
	K9 Kube	Install K9 kube - vehicle mounted dog collection and containment cube	Municipal	New	\$ 35,000	\$ -	\$ 35,000

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ASSET CLASS	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	CLASS	COUNCIL FUNDING (2025/26)	EXTERNAL FUNDING	2025/2026
	New Corer & top dresser for sports grounds	Sports industry best practice, to ensure optimal turf health and appearance, is to perform a specialised maintenance technique called Verti Draining. This generally occurs 3 to 4 times annually and is typically scheduled for February and October.	Municipal	New	\$ 89,277	\$ -	\$ 89,277
Plant, Machinery, Furniture, Fittings & Equipment Total					\$ 634,277	\$ -	\$ 634,277
Sealed Roads	M -2024/25 Reseal - Program	Annual sealed surface renewal program. The scope will be derived based on Moloney Condition Assessment Report coupled with site verification.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000
	M - Reseal Preparation Works - Program	To prepare road surfaces before resealing. The works involves, asphalt correction layers, structural asphalt patch, Pavement rehabilitation etc.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000
	LH - Old Aerodrome Road Upgrade (Stage 3 of 5)	The external funding is subject to approval. Application is made under Safe Rural Road Program awaiting decision. The scope of work will be changed to reflect the budget in the event that external funding is not successful.	Low Head	Upgrade	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000
	GT - Andrew Street Reconstruction	Andrew Street is scheduled for resealing; however, due to surface deformation, a simple reseal is not feasible without first addressing the underlying pavement issues. This project involves pavement rehabilitation, similar to the works completed on Agnes Street and Edward Court, using a structural asphalt layer for long-term durability.	George Town	Renewal	\$67,700	\$ -	\$ 67,700
	MD - Dalrymple Road Upgrade (North) - Stage 1	The northern section of Dalrymple Road, between the Industry Road and Bridport Road junctions, has several issues, including insufficient width, weak pavement structure, surface deformation, and a lack of formalised drainage. While it has been rated highly for surface renewal in the Moloney Condition Rating, simply resealing the surface without addressing these underlying problems would be ineffective and a waste of resources. This project aims to improve the road by reshaping and widening the pavement and formalising drainage to enhance long-term durability and safety. Due to the cost its proposed to renew under stages. The estimated total costs for 8.2Km section is \$8,030,900.	Mt Direction	Renewal	\$0	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000
	GT - Agnes Street Indented Carpark	To construct 13 indented parallel car parkings on Agnes St to accommodate growing number of patronage of the adjacent community facility and neighbouring residents.	George Town	New	\$ 64,271	\$ 86,254	\$ 150,525
	GT - Friend St Road Works	The new subdivision and extension to Friend St requires Council to upgrade the transition between the new and old sections of Friend St. These works are outside what Council can compel the developer to undertake.	George Town	Upgrade	\$ 58,000	\$ -	\$ 58,000
Sealed Roads Total					\$ 1,289,971	\$ 586,254	\$ 1,876,225
Unsealed Roads	M - Gravel Road Resheeting - Program	Its annual program to renew gravel road structure and surface.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 200,000	\$ 0	\$ 200,000
Unsealed Roads Total					\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 200,000
Stormwater & Drainage	M -Stormwater Pipe Renewal - Program	Its annual program to renew aged and damaged stormwater Pipes.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 80,000	\$ -	\$ 80,000

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ASSET CLASS	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	CLASS	COUNCIL FUNDING (2025/26)	EXTERNAL FUNDING	2025/2026
	M - Emergency Infrastructure Works	To respond to unforeseen events and urgent situations that impact the community, infrastructure, or council operations.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 80,000	\$ -	\$ 80,000
	M - Kerb & Gutter Replacement - Program	Its annual program to renew aged and damaged kerb & gutters.	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 70,000	\$ -	\$ 70,000
	M - Side Entry Pit & Lintel Upgrade - Program	Replacement of certain number of old pits and lintel to meet current standard and to increase runoff intake capacity by increasing sizes.	Municipal	Upgrade	\$ 90,000	\$ -	\$ 90,000
Stormwater & Drainage Total					\$ 320,000	\$ -	\$ 320,000
Domestic Waste	GT -Domestic Bins Replacement - Program	Annual Program	Municipal	Renewal	\$ 28,000	\$ -	\$ 28,000
Domestic Waste Total					\$ 28,000	\$ -	\$ 28,000
Other	GT - George Town Cemetery Fence Renewal - Stage 4 of 4	This project proposal is to upgrade the remaining side of the cemetery fencing, representing the fourth and final stage of this multi-year project. Stage 4 of the upgrade includes removing the existing fence panels on the eastern side of the cemetery and secondary gate entrance for sandblasting and recoating before reinstalling them. Additionally, tree stumps along the fence line will be removed allowing the fence to be straightened, and the sandstone footings re-stabilised and levelled.	George Town	Renewal	\$ 92,340	\$ -	\$ 92,340
	M - Design & Scope for future Capital Works	Design & Scope for future Capital Works	Municipal	Other	\$ 140,000	\$ -	\$ 140,000
	M - Township Character Plan Implementation Program (Year 2)	Continue to deliver the recommendations of the township character plan across the coastal townships. This plan includes a list of priorities and style guidelines for implementation. This request relates to Year 2 of the implementation plan. Projects with larger budget requirements will need to be considered separately, either as dedicated budget items or through State and Federal grant applications.	Municipal	Other	\$ 150,000	\$ -	\$ 150,000
	HW - Hillwood Open Space Implementation Program (Year 2)	Continue to deliver the recommendations of the Hillwood Open Space plan. This plan provides the Council with a list of priorities and style guidelines for implementation across Hillwood to enhance amenity and public open space. The current budget request relates to Year 2 of the implementation plan, which focuses on delivering the recommendations outlined in the plan. Projects with larger budget requirements will need to be considered separately, either as dedicated budget items or through State and Federal grant applications.	Hillwood	Other	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 50,000
	M - Grant Matching Opportunity		Municipal	Other	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Other Total					\$ 532,340	\$ -	\$ 532,340
TOTAL					\$3,860,188	\$892,254	\$4,752,442

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PROPOSED CARRY FORWARD CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS - 2024-25												
PROJECT TITLE & DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	PROJECT NUMBER	COUNCIL FUNDING	EXTERNAL FUNDING	BUDGET ADJ.	COUNCIL BUDGET 2024/25	YTD ACTUAL	COMMITTED	EXPENDITURE (YTD + COMMITTED)	FORECAST TOTAL PROJECT COST	FORECAST COMPLETION DATE	PROJECT LEAD
G - Bass and Flinders Signage	George Town	J90103	\$25,000			\$25,000	\$1,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$25,000	Jul-25	Work to commence weather permitting late June. Signage ordered awaiting painting.
GT - Esplanade South New Footpath	George Town	J90084	\$79,200			\$79,200	\$3,168	\$106,843	\$110,011	\$117,344	Jul-25	Construction Commenced. Cost Variation to Include Additional Kerbs to Match.
LH - McKenzie Drive Drainage - Kerbing & Gutter (Option A)	Low Head	J90101	\$108,056	\$347,544		\$455,600	\$46,924	\$361,949	\$408,873	\$420,000	Jul-25	Construction In Progress.
LH - Old Aerodrome Road Upgrade (Stage 2)	Low Head	J90092	\$221,000	\$637,965		\$858,965	\$644,985	\$0	\$644,985	\$858,965	Jun-26	Stage 2 works completed. Balance of funds to rolled into Stage 3 works 25/26.
M - Grant Matching Opportunity	Municipal	J90037	\$200,000			\$200,000	\$35,422	\$0	\$35,422	\$200,000	Jun-26	Council has multiple grant applications awaiting confirmation of decision. Proposed to carry balance forward subject to confirmation of outcome.
GT - 110/112 Victoria St Easement Drainage Work	George Town	J90109			\$130,962	\$130,962	\$5,238	\$130,962	\$136,200	\$130,962	Jul-25	Contract Awarded.
			\$633,256	\$985,509	\$130,962	\$1,749,727	\$736,737	\$603,754	\$1,340,491	\$1,752,271		
Multi year projects												
GT - Aquatic Health & Wellbeing Centre- Redevelopment	George Town	J90071	\$ -	\$17,500,000	\$ -	\$17,500,000	\$981,195	\$896,834	\$1,878,028	\$17,500,000	Oct-26	Architect and ECI Contractor Engaged. DA Approved. Working Thorough Design Development and Demolisation.
GT - Kanamaluka Story Telling Experience	George Town	J90034	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$ -	\$200,000	\$840	\$0	\$840	\$1,200,000	TBC	Subject to Grant Funding.
M - Record Management System Upgrade	Municipal	J90069	\$100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$100,000	\$12,425	\$0	\$12,425	\$100,000	Dec-25	Procurement In Progress.
M - Computer Software	Municipal	J90000	\$500,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$500,000	\$529,289	\$18,750	\$548,039	\$600,000	Sep-25	Finalisation of Asset Master and Portal
			\$700,000	\$17,600,000	\$0	\$18,300,000	\$1,523,748	\$915,584	\$2,439,332	\$19,400,000		
Total Carry Forwards			\$1,333,256	\$18,585,509	\$130,962	\$20,049,727	\$2,260,485	\$1,519,338	\$3,779,823	\$21,152,271		

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8.6 MAKING OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2025-2026 YEAR

REPORT AUTHOR:	General Manager – Mr S. Power Director Corporate & Community – Mrs C. Hyde
REPORT DATE:	24 June 2025
FILE NO:	32.1
ATTACHMENTS:	Nil

Minute No. 87/25

DECISION

Moved: Cr Orr
Seconded: Cr Mason

1. GENERAL RATE & MINIMUM AMOUNT PAYABLE

Pursuant to Section 90 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (**'the 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 2025 and ending on 30th June 2026:

1. pursuant to Sections 90(1) and 90(3)(b) of the Act, Council hereby makes a General Rate of **0.1915** cents in the dollar on the **adjusted capital value** of the land; and
2. pursuant to Section 90(4) of the Act, Council sets a minimum amount payable in respect of the General Rate of **\$949.00**.

2. VARIATIONS TO THE GENERAL RATE

Pursuant to Section 107 of the Act, Council hereby varies the General Rate of **0.1915** 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 **1.3017** cents to **1.4932** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 **1.4722** cents to **1.6637** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 **1.4801** cents to **1.6716** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 **0.4301** cents to **0.6216** cents in the dollar on adjusted capital value;
- e. For land used or predominantly used for commercial purposes, the General Rate is varied by increasing it by **0.5018** cents to **0.6933** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 **0.2100** cents to

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- 0.4015** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 **1.1751** cents to **0.3666** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 **0.2213** cents to **0.4128** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 **0.0011** cents to **0.1904** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 **0.2141** cents to **0.4056** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 increasing it by **0.0276** cents to **0.2191** cents in the dollar on adjusted capital value;
- 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 **0.0999** cents to **0.2914** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 **0.0402** cents to **0.2317** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 increasing it by **0.0193** cents to **0.2108** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 **0.0257** cents to **0.2172** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 **0.0947** cents to **0.2862** cents in the dollar on adjusted 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 2025 and ending 30 June 2026:

1. 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 **\$1,388.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (f) of this resolution;
2. 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 **\$1,388.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (g) of this resolution;
3. 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 **\$1,471.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (h) of this resolution;
4. 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 **\$1,416.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (i) of this resolution;
5. 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 **\$1,388.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (j) of this resolution;
6. 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 **\$1,471.00** using the General

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- Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (k) of this resolution;
7. 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 **\$1,388.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (l) of this resolution;
 8. 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 **\$1,416.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (m) of this resolution;
 9. 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 **\$1,416.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (n) of this resolution;
 10. 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 **\$1,416.00** using the General Rate as varied pursuant to paragraph 2 (o) of this resolution; and
 11. 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 **\$1,388.00** 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 2025 and ending on 30 June 2026, namely:

- (a) A service charge of **\$63.00** 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) **\$278.00** for land serviced by one 85 litre mobile garbage bin and one 140 litre mobile recycling bin;
 - (ii) **\$352.00** for land serviced by one 140 litre mobile garbage bin and one 140 litre mobile recycling bin; and
 - (iii) **\$500.00** for land serviced by one 240 litre mobile garbage bin and one 240 litre mobile recycling bin.

5. SERVICE RATE FOR FIRE PROTECTION

1. 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 2025-2026 financial year as follows:

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<u>District</u>	Rate Cents in the dollar of Adjusted capital value
George Town Volunteer Brigade Rating District	0.013062
General Land	0.0090147

2. 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 **\$50.00**.

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) instalments in accordance with the following schedule:

1. First instalment due on or before 31 August 2025;
2. Second instalment due on or before 31 October 2025;
3. Third instalment due on or before 31 January 2026; and
4. Fourth and final instalment due on or before 31 March 2026.

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 **0.0282274% (10.30% per annum)** in respect of the unpaid amount of the rate, instalment or charge for the period during which it remains unpaid.

8. SEPARATE LAND

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

9. ADJUSTED VALUES

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

VOTING

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr
Against: Cr Archer
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED 7 / 1

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8.7 BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR THE 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR

REPORT AUTHOR:	Director Corporate and Community – Cheryl Hyde General Manager – Mr. S. Power
REPORT DATE:	25 June 2025
FILE NO:	29.11
ATTACHMENTS:	1. Proposed Operational Budget 2025-2026 Detailed [8.7.1 - 5 pages] 2. Proposed Operational Budget 2025-2026 Function [8.7.2 - 13 pages]

Minute No. 88/25

DECISION

Moved: Cr Orr
Seconded: Cr Harris

That Council, by absolute majority, approves and adopts the budget estimates prepared by the General Manager pursuant to Section 82 of the Local Government Act as summarised in the preceding report and attachment.

VOTING

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason
and Cr Orr
Against: Nil
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8 / 0

The Director Corporate and Community left the meeting at 1.56 pm.

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Proposed Operational Budget 2025/2026



	YTD Actual incl Commitments 2024/2025	Annual Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 2025/2026
Rates and Charges			
General Residential Rates	(\$6,575,277)	(\$6,462,601)	(\$6,889,312)
Commercial Rates	(\$451,292)	(\$451,022)	(\$472,128)
Industrial Rates	(\$1,996,540)	(\$1,987,394)	(\$2,101,397)
Utility Rates	(\$173,781)	(\$173,205)	(\$181,597)
Port and Marine Rates	(\$231,874)	(\$231,872)	(\$242,310)
Fire Levy	(\$301,328)	(\$310,820)	(\$322,299)
Garbage charge	(\$1,665,670)	(\$1,656,623)	(\$1,759,557)
Total Rates and Charges	(\$11,395,761)	(\$11,273,537)	(\$11,968,600)
Statutory Fees and Fines			
Animal Control and Environmental Fee	(\$32,041)	(\$52,402)	(\$54,760)
Town planning statutory fees	(\$170,507)	(\$188,058)	(\$196,521)
Building and Plumbing Statutory Fees	(\$144,485)	(\$269,246)	(\$76,000)
Land information certificates	(\$81,106)	(\$95,804)	(\$100,115)
Total Statutory Fees and Fines	(\$428,138)	(\$605,510)	(\$427,396)
User Fees			
Aquatic Centre Fees	(\$90,646)	(\$80,202)	\$0
Town Planning Fees	(\$28,804)	(\$44,000)	(\$45,980)
Waste Disposal Fees	(\$477,176)	(\$361,352)	(\$469,745)
Rental and Lease Fees	(\$63,622)	(\$65,738)	(\$84,096)
Admission Fees	(\$40,032)	(\$53,961)	(\$56,389)
Cemetery Fees	(\$57,305)	(\$26,346)	(\$53,628)
Other fees and charges	(\$46,910)	(\$63,474)	(\$35,330)
Total User Fees	(\$804,495)	(\$695,073)	(\$745,168)
Federally Funded Grants			
Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance Grants - General Purpose	(\$1,482,494)	(\$1,428,129)	(\$1,482,494)
Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance Grants - Roads	(\$1,028,702)	(\$1,028,702)	(\$1,028,702)
Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance Grants - Bridges	(\$48,519)	(\$48,519)	(\$48,519)
Other Federal Grants	(\$121,521)	\$0	\$0
Total Federally Funded Grants	(\$2,681,236)	(\$2,505,350)	(\$2,559,715)
State Funded Grants			
Future Impact Group	(\$112,650)	(\$89,000)	(\$103,339)
Artisans Guild	\$163	\$0	\$0
Other State Grants	(\$33,002)	\$0	\$0
Total State Funded Grants	(\$145,489)	(\$89,000)	(\$103,339)

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Revenue	YTD Actual incl Commitments 2024/2025	Annual Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 2025/2026
Other Grants			
Other grants	(\$10,904)	\$0	\$0
Total Other Grants	(\$10,904)	\$0	\$0
Contributions - Cash			
Bridges	\$495	\$0	\$0
Recreational, leisure and community	(\$7,000)	\$0	\$0
Parks, open space and streetscapes	(\$25,750)	(\$16,461)	(\$25,750)
Other	(\$2,419)	(\$149,985)	(\$26,985)
Total Contributions - Cash	(\$34,674)	(\$166,446)	(\$52,735)
Interest on Financial Assets	\$0	\$0	
Interest and Penalties on Rates	(\$89,174)	(\$80,000)	(\$83,600)
Interest on Cash and Cash Equivalents	(\$348,027)	(\$124,000)	(\$380,000)
Total Interest and Investments	(\$437,201)	(\$204,000)	(\$463,600)
Reimbursements	(\$33,010)	(\$39,344)	(\$41,114)
Insurance Proceeds	(\$59,951)	\$0	\$0
Fuel Rebate	(\$10,500)	(\$12,435)	(\$12,995)
Other	(\$47,297)	(\$56,603)	(\$59,150)
Total Other Income	(\$150,758)	(\$108,382)	(\$113,259)
Investment revenue from Water Corporation			
Dividend revenue received	(\$271,200)	(\$226,000)	(\$226,000)
Total Investment revenue from Water Corporation	(\$271,200)	(\$226,000)	(\$226,000)
Total Income	(\$16,359,856)	(\$15,873,298)	(\$16,659,813)

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Expenses	YTD Actual incl	Annual Budget	Proposed Budget
	Commitments		
	2024/2025	2024/2025	2025/2026
Employee Benefits			
Wages and Salaries	\$4,271,682	\$5,733,123	\$4,702,156
Time in Lieu	\$0	\$0	
Allowances	\$55,571	\$24,000	\$52,167
Superannuation	\$623,145	\$661,596	\$691,368
Fringe Benefits Tax	\$53,015	\$60,000	\$62,700
On Cost expenses	\$1,507,088	\$0	\$1,540,394
Oncost Wages recovery	(\$1,547,556)	(\$1,460,595)	(\$1,540,394)
Payroll Tax	\$222,883	\$220,000	\$229,900
Uniforms	\$23,985	\$25,000	\$26,125
Total Employee Benefits	\$5,736,894	\$5,733,124	\$6,242,416
Materials and Services			
Contract payments	\$74,690	\$164,735	\$185,000
Plant and equipment maintenance	\$157,373	\$66,000	\$200,000
Utilities	\$0	\$0	
Consultants	\$413,020	\$622,030	\$485,030
Volunteer services	\$334	\$0	\$3,215
Cleaning	\$3,138	\$0	\$4,153
Grounds Maintenance	\$467,966	\$463,577	\$491,980
Roads and Infrastructure Maintenance	\$668,384	\$611,961	\$635,215
Office Administration	\$789,290	\$765,752	\$809,404
Plant Operating	\$142,221	\$200,110	\$0
Security	\$87,128	\$69,864	\$80,527
Swimming Pool Operations	\$37,848	\$52,285	\$0
Waste Management Disposal	\$1,072,217	\$1,093,802	\$1,218,374
Other Materials and Contracts	\$150,161	\$123,749	\$162,582
Total Materials and Services	\$4,301,558	\$4,346,561	\$4,517,251
Impairment of Receivables			
Provision for impairment movement	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000
Total Impairment of Receivables	\$0	\$5,000	\$5,000
Depn - Property			
Depn - Buildings	\$474,887	\$478,887	\$457,983
Total Depn - Property	\$474,887	\$478,887	\$457,983
Depn - Plant and Equipment			
Depn - Plant, machinery & equipment	\$254,100	\$254,100	\$261,547
Depn - Fixtures, fittings and furniture	\$39,000	\$39,000	\$40,482
Depn - Domestic Waste	\$8,400	\$8,400	\$8,719
Total Depn - Plant and Equipment	\$301,500	\$301,500	\$310,748

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Depn - Infrastructure			
Depn - Roads	\$1,361,950	\$1,361,950	\$1,413,704
Depn - Kerbs and Gutters	\$102,900	\$102,900	\$106,810
Depn - Footpaths and cycleways	\$92,400	\$92,400	\$95,911
Depn - Light Poles	\$32,000	\$32,000	\$33,216
Depn - Bridges	\$240,450	\$240,450	\$249,587
Depn - Drainage	\$191,100	\$191,100	\$198,362
Depn - Waste Transfer Station	\$86,100	\$86,100	\$89,372
Total Depn - Infrastructure	\$2,434,500	\$2,434,500	\$2,527,011
Interest - borrowings	\$84,261	\$63,437	\$95,976
Total Finance Costs	\$84,261	\$63,437	\$95,976
	YTD Actual incl		
	Commitments	Annual Budget	Proposed Budget
Expenses	2024/2025	2024/2025	2025/2026
Other Expenses			
Advertising	\$28,159	\$115,652	\$47,936
Bank fees and charges	\$20,980	\$21,000	\$21,798
Building levies	\$83,618	\$22,200	\$23,044
Government levies	\$494,559	\$490,975	\$509,632
Legal Fees	\$46,009	\$55,678	\$57,793
Community grants - Other	\$8,095	\$45,445	\$37,500
Course seminar & conference	\$8,387	\$74,552	\$76,175
Elected members allowances and kilometre reimbursements	\$208,294	\$240,145	\$249,271
Electricity	\$240,112	\$335,231	\$230,000
Insurance	\$308,710	\$218,952	\$320,441
Land tax	\$81,059	\$75,446	\$81,059
Telephone charges	\$50,584	\$88,696	\$84,718
Vehicle registration	\$32,831	\$40,778	\$35,000
Plant hire costs and recovery	(\$17,766)	\$6,877	\$7,138
Software licences	\$7,486	\$206,348	\$210,328
Sponsorships	\$20,400	\$40,000	\$40,000
Subscriptions and memberships	\$124,956	\$8,250	\$122,564
TasWater charges	\$117,908	\$96,839	\$120,519
Training fund levy	\$27,431	\$47,849	\$49,667
Other Expenses	\$72,405	\$94,572	\$51,732
Total Other Expenses	\$1,964,217	\$2,325,485	\$2,376,315
Total Expenses	\$15,297,817	\$15,688,494	\$16,532,700
Underlying Surplus / (Deficit)	\$1,062,039	\$184,804	\$127,112

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Capital Items			
Capital Grants	(\$3,034,169)	(\$2,720,435)	(\$886,254)
Capital Works	\$7,177,878	\$7,066,602	\$4,752,442
Total Capital	\$4,143,709	\$4,346,167	\$3,866,188
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	(\$3,081,670)	(\$4,161,363)	(\$3,739,076)
Less loan principal repayments	\$384,726	\$496,687	\$261,341
Plus Depreciation Expense	\$3,210,887	\$3,214,887	\$3,295,742
Cash Surplus/(Deficit)	\$513,943	(\$449,789)	(\$181,993)
Cash at start of year	\$7,365,816	\$5,891,639	\$7,879,759
Estimated Cash at Year End	\$7,879,759	\$5,441,850	\$7,697,765

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GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL PROPOSED OPERATIONAL BUDGET BY FUNCTION 2025/2026

Proposed budget by function	Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 2025/2026
Office of the General Manager	\$	\$
General Purpose Funding		
Income Grants	(1,428,129)	(1,482,494)
Income Total	(1,428,129)	(1,482,494)
General Managers Office Expenditure		
Expenses Employee Costs	441,467	515,163
Contracts	118,099	117,547
Materials	12,903	35,112
Other Expenses	74,819	94,212
Internal Hire	16,830	15,000
Expenses Total	664,118	777,034
Elected Members Expenditure		
Expenses Materials	5,049	10,742
Other Expenses	251,545	259,271
Expenses Total	256,594	270,013
Directorate - Corporate and Community	\$	\$
Corporate and Community		
Employee Costs	299,000	319,638
Contracts	15,567	16,159
Materials	2,000	2,000
Other Expenses	5,000	5,000
Internal Hire	15,000	15,000
Expenses Total	336,567	357,797
Admin/Customer Services Expenditure		
Expenses Employee Costs	108,000	112,605
Materials	30,854	32,026
Other Expenses	27,448	28,491
Expenses Total	166,302	173,122
Community & Social Development Expenditure		
Expenses Employee Costs	109,573	221,623
Contracts	158,440	99,461
Materials	8,752	8,997
Other Expenses	48,962	50,000
Expenses Total	325,727	380,081

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Proposed budget by function		Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 20025/2026
Events Staging & Promotion Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	60,000	61,615
	Contracts	95,489	98,486
	Materials	47,318	49,116
	Other Expenses	50,769	47,698
	Internal Hire	224	-
Expenses Total		253,800	256,915
Financial Control			
Income	Interest & Investment Revenue	(430,000)	(689,600)
Income Total		(430,000)	(689,600)
Financial Planning Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	94,500	155,901
	Contracts	89,757	93,168
	Materials	2,805	2,912
	Other Expenses	1,795	1,863
	Internal Hire	10,000	10,000
Expenses Total		198,857	263,844
IT Services Expenditure			
Expenses	Contracts	147,337	152,936
	Materials	23,784	24,688
	Other Expenses	202,033	209,710
Expenses Total		373,154	387,334
Rates Revenue			
Income	Rates & Charges	(9,106,491)	(9,886,744)
Income	Statutory fees & charges	(95,804)	(100,115)
Income Total		(9,202,295)	(9,986,859)
Rates Section Operations Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	68,109	56,100
	Contracts	45,440	155,440
	Materials	22,439	23,292
	Other Expenses	786	1,000
Expenses Total		136,774	235,832

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Proposed budget by function		Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 20025/2026
Records Management Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	60,000	60,000
	Materials	270	270
	Other Expenses	10,595	25,000
Expenses Total		70,865	85,270
Arts & Culture			
Expenses	Employee Costs	76,000	81,370
	Contracts	-	20,000
	Materials	270	25,000
	Other Expenses	10,595	4,500
Expenses Total		86,865	130,870
Youth			
Income	Grants	-	(103,339)
Income Total		Note- previously reported in Human Resources	(103,339)
Expenses	Employee Costs	-	181,922
	Contracts	-	20,000
	Materials	-	17,000
	Other Expenses	-	10,000
Expenses Total		Note- previously reported in community	228,922
Tourism Operations Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	60,000	27,030
	Contracts	63,659	51,000
	Materials	-	1,000
	Other Expenses	43,981	45,652
Expenses Total		167,640	124,682
Fire Control			
Income	Rates & Charges	(310,820)	(322,299)
	Other income	(9,640)	(12,892)
Income Total		(320,460)	(335,191)
Fire Control Expenditure			
Expenses	Other Expenses	310,000	322,299
Expenses Total		310,000	322,299

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Proposed budget by function		Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 20025/2026
Financial Control			
Expenses	Employee Costs	297,493	282,740
	Contracts	15,707	16,304
	Other Expenses	35,107	36,441
	Finance costs	63,437	95,976
	Impairment of Debts	5,000	5,000
	Expenses Total	416,744	436,461
Watch House Revenue			
Income	User Fees	(2,395)	-
	Income Total	(2,395)	-
Watch House Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	10,727	-
	Contracts	5,553	5,764
	Materials	2,020	2,097
	Other Expenses	15,258	15,838
	Expenses Total	33,558	23,699
Information Centre Revenue			
Income	User Fees	(24,189)	(25,156)
	Income Total	(24,189)	(25,156)
Information Centre Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	49,573	40,000
	Contracts	6,956	7,220
	Materials	6,676	6,930
	Other Expenses	14,618	15,173
	Expenses Total	77,823	69,324
Bass and Flinders			
Income	User Fees	(58,347)	(60,564)
	Income Total	(58,347)	(60,564)
Bass and Flinders			
Expenses	Employee Costs	43,896	45,000
	Contracts	3,085	3,202
	Materials	5,610	5,823
	Other Expenses	21,125	21,928
	Expenses Total	73,716	75,953

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Proposed budget by function		Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 20025/2026
Directorate - Organisational Performance,		\$	\$
Organisation Performance, Strategy and Engagement			
Expenses	Employee Costs	388,121	232,460
	Contracts	10,000	10,380
	Materials	2,076	2,155
	Internal Hire	15,567	15,000
	Other Expenses	5,189	5,386
Expenses Total		420,953	265,381
Animal Control			
Income	Statutory fees & charges	(29,596)	(30,928)
Income Total		(29,596)	(30,928)
Animal Control Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	156,707	160,100
	Contracts	22,468	23,322
	Materials	5,273	6,973
	Other Expenses	1,739	1,805
Expenses Total		186,187	192,200
Area Promotion Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	31,500	35,350
	Contracts	13,701	19,222
	Other Expenses	82,928	86,079
Expenses Total		128,129	140,651
Human Resources			
Income	Other income	(89,000)	-
Income Total		(89,000)	-
Human Resources Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	102,750	109,000
	Contracts	42,667	60,000
	Materials	8,414	13,734
	Other Expenses	54,752	71,833
Expenses Total		208,583	254,566
Immunisation			
Income	Other income	(1,933)	(2,378)
Income Total		(1,933)	(2,378)

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Proposed budget by function	Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 20025/2026
Immunisation Expenditure		
Expenses Other Expenses	1,234	1,234
Expenses Total	1,234	1,234
Water Sampling Expenditure		
Expenses Contracts	2,244	2,329
Expenses Total	2,244	2,329
Regional Development Expenditure		
Expenses Employee Costs	15,330	-
Contracts	-	16,000
Other Expenses	25,000	25,000
Expenses Total	40,330	41,000
Policy & Public Participation Expenditure		
Expenses Employee Costs	52,500	35,350
Contracts	7,854	8,152
Materials	3,927	4,076
Other Expenses	25,132	26,087
Expenses Total	89,413	73,666
Food Standards & Inspections		
Income Statutory fees & charges	(10,789)	(22,832)
Income Total	(10,789)	(22,832)
Environmental Protection		
Income Statutory fees & charges	(906)	(1,000)
Income Total	(906)	(1,000)
Environmental Protection Expenditure		
Expenses Contracts	51,890	54,485
Materials	280	280
Other Expenses	2,300	2,300
Expenses Total	54,470	57,065
State Emergency Service Expenditure (SES)		
Expenses Contracts	18,000	18,000
Expenses Total	18,000	18,000

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Proposed budget by function		Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 20025/2026
Directorate - Infrastructure and Development		\$	\$
Infrastructure and Development			
Expenses	Employee Costs	309,750	343,705
	Contracts	15,567	16,159
	Materials	2,076	2,155
	Internal Hire	15,567	15,000
	Other Expenses	5,189	5,386
Expenses Total		348,149	382,405
Airport			
Income	User Fees	(14,448)	(14,709)
Income Total		(14,448)	(14,709)
Airport Expenditure			
Expenses	Other Expenses	10,000	10,380
Expenses Total		10,000	10,380
Building Control			
Income	Statutory fees & charges	(313,741)	(76,000)
Income Total		(313,741)	(76,000)
Building Control Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	189,002	-
	Contracts	33,659	94,000
	Materials	1,346	1,397
	Other Expenses	81,119	84,202
Expenses Total		305,126	179,599
Council Admin Buildings Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	59,425	62,099
	Contracts	26,927	27,950
	Materials	19,634	20,380
	Other Expenses	80,643	83,707
Expenses Total		186,629	194,137
Halls & Community Centres			
Income	User Fees	(25,690)	(26,717)
Income Total		(25,690)	(26,717)

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Proposed budget by function	Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 20025/2026
Halls & Community Centres Expenditure		
Expenses Employee Costs	144,732	151,245
Contracts	72,479	75,233
Materials	20,868	21,661
Other Expenses	110,330	114,523
Internal Hire	561	582
Expenses Total	348,970	363,244
Noxious Weeds Expenditure		
Expenses Contracts	18,512	19,215
Expenses Total	18,512	19,215
Public Amenities Expenditure		
Expenses Employee Costs	40,866	42,705
Contracts	19,074	19,799
Materials	2,356	2,446
Other Expenses	15,427	16,013
Internal Hire	561	582
Expenses Total	78,284	81,545
Public Toilets Expenditure		
Expenses Employee Costs	72,718	75,990
Contracts	10,098	10,482
Materials	23,001	23,875
Other Expenses	7,553	7,840
Internal Hire	1,122	1,165
Expenses Total	114,492	119,352
Rental Properties		
Income User Fees	(5,600)	(48,668)
Income Total	(5,600)	(48,668)
Rental Properties Expenditure		
Expenses Employee Costs	2,270	2,372
Contracts	1,683	1,747
Materials	561	582
Other Expenses	5,406	10,611
Expenses Total	9,920	15,313

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Proposed budget by function		Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 20025/2026
Town Planning			
Income	Statutory fees & charges	(188,058)	(196,521)
	User Fees	(44,854)	(45,980)
Income Total		(232,911)	(242,501)
Town Planning Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	351,750	531,400
	Contracts	178,683	146,000
	Materials	336	349
	Other Expenses	20,196	20,963
Expenses Total		550,965	698,712
Light Pole Expenditure			
Expenses	Depreciation Amortisation	32,000	33,216
Expenses Total		32,000	33,216
Foreshores & Beaches Maintenance Expenditure			
	Other Expenses	3,798	3,942
Expenses Total		3,798	3,942
Sport Grounds & Recreation Facilities			
Income	Other income	(15,568)	(16,191)
Income Total		(15,568)	(16,191)
Sport Grounds & Recreation Facilities Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	122,596	256,113
	Contracts	65,635	68,129
	Materials	68,159	70,749
	Other Expenses	15,765	16,364
	Internal Hire	22,439	23,292
	Depreciation Amortisation	75,600	78,473
Expenses Total		370,194	513,120
Roads			
Income	Grants	(1,123,692)	(1,028,702)
	Other income	(39,344)	(42,412)
Income Total		(1,163,036)	(1,071,114)

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Proposed budget by function		Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 20025/2026
Roads Maintenance Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	396,169	513,997
	Contracts	314,712	320,484
	Materials	207,560	215,447
	Internal Hire	106,165	110,199
	Depreciation Amortisation	1,361,850	1,413,600
Expenses Total		2,386,456	2,573,728
Footpaths & Bike Track Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	27,243	33,469
	Contracts	3,366	3,494
	Materials	15,988	16,596
	Internal Hire	3,366	3,494
	Depreciation Amortisation	92,400	95,911
Expenses Total		142,363	152,963
Kerb & Gutter Expenditure			
Expenses	Contracts	5,610	5,823
	Internal Hire	561	582
	Depreciation Amortisation	102,900	106,810
Expenses Total		109,071	113,216
Street Lighting Expenditure			
Expenses	Contracts	16,830	17,470
	Other Expenses	129,027	133,930
Expenses Total		145,857	151,400
Domestic Refuse Collection			
Income	Rates & Charges	(1,697,758)	(1,759,557)
Income Total		(1,697,758)	(1,759,557)
Waste Disposal Site			
Income	User Fees	(347,906)	(469,745)
	Other income	(20,018)	(20,819)
Income Total		(367,924)	(490,564)
Waste Management Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	22,050	23,042
	Other Expenses	5,610	5,823
	Depreciation Amortisation	86,100	89,372
Expenses Total		113,760	118,237

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Proposed budget by function		Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 20025/2026
Waste Disposal Site Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	261,450	273,215
	Contracts	233,549	237,152
	Materials	13,463	13,975
	Other Expenses	95,479	99,107
	Internal Hire	16,830	17,470
Expenses Total		620,771	640,918
Cemetery			
Income	User Fees	(26,346)	(53,628)
Income Total		(26,346)	(53,628)
Cemetery Operations Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	11,920	27,373
	Contracts	43,195	30,004
	Other Expenses	2,374	2,464
	Internal Hire	561	582
Expenses Total		58,050	60,424
Water & Sewerage Expenditure -Taswater			
Expenses	Other Expenses	82,768	120,519
Expenses Total		82,768	120,519
Engineering Operations Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	240,450	332,027
	Contracts	60,000	75,000
	Materials	1,346	2,000
	Other Expenses	4,881	5,066
	Internal Hire	10,378	10,000
Expenses Total		317,055	424,093
Parks & Reserves			
Income	Other income	(149,985)	(41,114)
Income Total		(149,985)	(41,114)

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Parks & Reserves Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	229,254	248,924
	Contracts	219,495	227,836
	Materials	91,776	95,263
	Other Expenses	41,367	42,939
	Internal Hire	51,890	53,862
	Depreciation Amortisation	252,000	261,576
Expenses Total		885,782	930,400
Bridges			
Income	Grants	(48,519)	(48,519)
Income Total		(48,519)	(48,519)
Bridges Maintenance Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	5,903	26,169
	Contracts	18,512	19,215
	Materials	5,610	5,823
	Depreciation Amortisation	240,450	249,587
Expenses Total		270,475	300,794
Stormwater Drainage Maintenance Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	18,730	39,573
	Contracts	24,123	25,040
	Materials	5,610	5,823
	Internal Hire	4,487	4,658
	Depreciation Amortisation	191,100	198,362
Expenses Total		244,050	273,455
Domestic Refuse Collection Expenditure			
Expenses	Employee Costs	27,811	28,868
	Contracts	931,838	967,248
	Other Expenses	64,545	66,998
	Internal Hire	1,122	1,165
	Depreciation Amortisation	8,400	8,719
Expenses Total		1,033,716	1,072,997
Parking Facilities Expenditure			
Expenses	Other Expenses	8,208	8,520
Expenses Total		8,208	8,520

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Proposed budget by function	Budget 2024/2025	Proposed Budget 20025/2026
Plant & Workshop Operating		
Income Other income	(29,027)	(30,188)
Income Total	(29,027)	(30,188)
Plant Operating Expenditure		
Expenses Employee Costs	34,055	45,587
Contracts	57,220	50,000
Materials	223,190	150,000
Other Expenses	67,318	69,876
Internal Hire	28,050	29,116
Depreciation Amortisation	254,100	263,756
Expenses Total	663,933	608,335
Works Depot Operations Expenditure		
Expenses Employee Costs	430,500	449,873
Contracts	34,700	36,019
Materials	42,298	43,905
Other Expenses	32,118	33,338
Internal Hire	3,927	4,076
Expenses Total	543,543	567,211
Works / Labour Overhead Expenditure		
Expenses Employee Costs	1,703	1,703
Expenses Total	1,703	1,703
Plant Hire Cost Recovery		
Expenses Internal Hire	(327,838)	(342,296)
Expenses Total	(315,897)	(315,897)
Furniture & Fittings Expenditure		
Expenses Depreciation Amortisation	39,000	40,482
Expenses Total	39,000	40,482
Building & Other Structure Expenditure		
Expenses Depreciation Amortisation	478,887	455,878
Expenses Total	478,887	455,878

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9 INFRASTRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

9.1 GEORGE TOWN OPEN SPACE NETWORK PLAN

REPORT AUTHOR: Senior Town Planner - Mr J. Simons
REPORT DATE: 12/06/2025
FILE NO: 7

Minute No. 89/25

DECISION

Moved: Cr Mason
Seconded: Cr Orr

The Senior Planner entered the meeting at 1.58 pm.

That Council:

1. Adopt the George Town Open Space Network Plan as attached; and
2. Notes the Low Head Open Space Network requires further consultation.

VOTING

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason
and Cr Orr
Against: Nil
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8 / 0

The Senior Planner left the meeting at 2.01 pm.

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10 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY

10.1 SPONSORSHIP REQUEST GEORGE TOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE NEW YEARS EVE EVENT

REPORT AUTHOR: Director Corporate & Community - Ms C. Hyde
REPORT DATE: 24 June 2025
FILE NO: 23.9

The Director Corporate and Community entered the meeting at 2.01 pm.

Cr Lowe left the meeting at 2:01 pm.

Minute No. 90/25

DECISION

Moved: Cr Barwick
Seconded: Cr Mason

That Council carry forward \$18,100 from the unspent sponsorship fund from the financial year 2024/2025 budget and the \$1,900 from unspent community grants financial year 2024/2025 budget to be brought forward to the 2025/2026 financial year budget and request Neighbourhood House to submit their sponsorship application in its entirety for approval.

Point of Order was called by Cr Barwick at 2.12 pm LG (MP) re misrepresentation.

VOTING

For: Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris and Cr Mason
Against: Cr Kieser and Cr Orr
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED 5 / 2

Cr Lowe returned to the meeting at 2:23 pm.

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FORESHADOWED MOTION

Moved: Cr Orr

That Council:

1. Provides \$20,000 sponsorship to George Town Neighbourhood House towards the New Years Eve Event to be held in George Town on 31 December 2025, using balance of sponsorship budget of \$18,100 and balance of \$1,900 from underspent community grants budget allocation.

NO VOTING TOOK PLACE

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10.2 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS - HEALTH AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE

REPORT AUTHOR: Director Corporate & Community - Ms C. Hyde
REPORT DATE: 17/06/2025
FILE NO: 29.18

Minute No. 91/25

DECISION

Moved: Cr Mason
Seconded: Cr Ashley

Cr Archer called a Point of Order against the Chair at 2.30 pm.

The Chair apologised to Cr Barwick.

That Council:

(a) Appoints the following members to the George Town Council Health and Wellbeing Committee:

- St Vincent de Paul - Paul Thomas
- The People Project – Laura Bajurny
- Future Impact Group – Andrew Taylor, with Jo Hart being the proxy.
- Child and Family Learning Centre – Trudi Cross
- Explore Wellness with Bec - Rebecca Taylor
- George Town Library - Rachael Andjelkovic
- George Town Neighbourhood House - Jessica Berger
- Sherriff Health & Fitness - Kylie Moore
- George Town District Hospital - Treica Ware
- Ainslie Residential Aged Care – to be confirmed
- Community members -
 - Chelsea Crawford
 - Kate Casson
 - Sally Sauer

(b) Acknowledges and thanks the unsuccessful applicants for their interest in membership to the George Town Health and Wellbeing Committee.

VOTING

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr
Against: Nil
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8 / 0

The Director Corporate and Community left the meeting at 2.32 pm.

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11 ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE & STRATEGY

Nil

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12 OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

12.1 MATTERS OF INVOLVEMENT - MAYOR, DEPUTY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

REPORT DATE: 17 June 2025

FILE NO: 14.11, 14.15

Mayor Cr Greg Kieser		
May	21	Met with the General Manager Labor representatives
	22	Met with the General Manager and Nick Duigan MLC
	22	Attended NTDC Board Meeting
	23	Attended NTDC Strategy and Risk Workshop
	25	Met with local residents
	26	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session - Bellingham
	26	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session - Weymouth
	26	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session – Hillwood
	27	Chaired Council Workshop
	27	Chaired Ordinary Council Meeting
	28	Met with local resident
	28	Tamar FM Interview
	28	ABC Northern Tasmania Drive Interview
	29	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session – Lulworth
	29	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session - Pipers River/Pipers Brook
	30	Attended State Budget lunch
	30	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session – Beechford
June	2	Monday Mayor ABC interview
	2	Chaired Progress Association meeting
	5	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session – George Town/Low Head
	10	Chaired Council Workshop
	11	Attended Audit Panel meeting
	12	BBA Pod Cast
	13	LAFM Interview
	15	Met with local residents
	17	Met with Weymouth Progress Association representatives
Deputy Mayor Cr Greg Dawson		
May	26	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session - Hillwood
	27	Attended Council Workshop

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	27	Attended Ordinary Council Meeting
June	5	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session – George Town/Low Head
	10	Attended Council Workshop
Cr Jason Orr		
May	26	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session - Weymouth
	26	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session - Hillwood
	28	Reconciliation Week Breakfast
	29	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session - Lulworth
	29	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session – Pipers River
	30	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session - Beechford
June	3	Friends of Low Head Penguin Colony Committee Meeting
	3	Attended the Council Community Engagement Session – George Town/Low Head
	11	George Town Council Audit Panel

Minute No. 92/25

DECISION

Moved: Cr Mason
 Seconded: Cr Ashley

Cr Barwick asked how much did lunch cost on the 29th May 2025 Community Engagement Session?

The General Manager took the question on notice.

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

VOTING

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr
 Against: Nil
 Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8 / 0

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13 PETITIONS

Nil.

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14 NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Nil.

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15 COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE

Cr Barwick

Q1. Cr Barwick asked where did Secret Park's name come from?

The General Manager took the question on notice.

Response

Council officers have undertaken investigations into the historical background of the park and found the following:

- Harold Winston Little was the developer of the land.
- In 2006 the daughter of the late Harold Winston Little wrote to Council requesting the park be named in his honour.
- 21 November 2006 – Council decision Minute No. 378/06 resolved:
That the reserve name of Harold Winston Little Reserve be forwarded and recommended to the Nomenclature Board for registration, subject to clarification of the name with the family.
- Council wrote to the family on the 24 November 2006. No response has been found.

There is no record of the name Secret Park, which may be just a local name as a result of not putting a name sign on the park. The park is not named on the LIST.

As part of the process, Council has submitted an enquiry to Place Names Tasmania and a response is pending. A further update on this matter will be provided at the July Ordinary Council meeting.

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16 CLOSED MEETING

16.1 INTO CLOSED MEETING

The General Manager advised that the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations have been superceded and the Regulations 2025 will come into affect today.

Minute No. 93/25

DECISION

Moved: Cr Ashley
Seconded: Cr Archer

That Council move into closed meeting at 2.38 pm to discuss the following items:

Agenda Item 16.2 Minutes of the Closed Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27 May 2025

As per the provisions of Regulation 40(6) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025.

Agenda Item 16.3 Leasing of Council Property

As per the provisions of Regulation 17(2)(c) and (d)(i), (ii) and (iii) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025.

VOTING

For: Cr Kieser, Cr Archer, Cr Ashley, Cr Barwick, Cr Harris, Cr Lowe, Cr Mason and Cr Orr
Against: Nil
Abstained: Nil

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 8 / 0

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17 CLOSURE

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 3.03 pm.

**Cr Greg Kieser
MAYOR**

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2. Items for decision

2.1. Motion – Better Active Transport Grant Program

Council – City of Hobart

Decision sought

That the Local Government Association of Tasmania lobby the Tasmanian Government to commit to:

1. reinstate the Tasmanian Government's Better Active Transport Grant Program; and
2. increase the ongoing annual funding of the Better Active Transport Grant Program to not less than 1 per cent of the annual roads budget.

Background

Recently the State Government advised that there are no plans for further rounds of the Tasmanian Better Active Transport Grant program, which was a multi-year initiative designed to enhance walking, cycling, and other forms of active mobility across the state.

The Better Active Transport Program was split into two grant streams:

Statewide Program - Open to all Tasmanian municipal councils; and

Greater Hobart Program - Focused on projects within the Hobart metropolitan area.

The aim of the program was to improve active transport (walking, wheeling, riding) safety and infrastructure, support councils in designing and delivering active transport solutions, increase accessibility, safety, and ease of use for active transport users and ultimately encourage healthier, more sustainable travel habits. The program ceased as at 30 June 2025.

According to the Tasmanian Government, since 2015, they have committed \$17.5 million to active transport infrastructure ([Grant programs – Transport Services](#))⁴. Interestingly, the Tasmanian Government has committed approximately \$1.6 billion over the forward estimates (2025–2029) for roads and bridges ([Building better roads and bridges across Tasmania: now, and for the future | Premier of Tasmania](#))⁵.

One per cent of \$1.6 billion is \$16 million or \$4 million per year. This modest amount ongoing would provide certainty for councils across Hobart and Tasmania as a whole to commit to planning, designing and constructing this important infrastructure.

It is proposed that a similar, collegial approach to the funding application process be undertaken to the program by region. For example, the Greater Hobart program sought to fund projects by priority across Greater Hobart in order to deliver on the Greater Hobart Cycling Plan. This was endorsed by the Greater Hobart Councils and the Tasmanian Government.

⁴ https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/active-transport/projects_and_programs

⁵ <https://www.premier.tas.gov.au/budget-2025/budget-releases/building-better-roads-and-bridges-across-tasmania-now,-and-for-the-future>

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The Better Active Transport Grant Program provides an important funding opportunity for local governments to partner with the State Government to develop, and construct upgraded, new or extended active transport infrastructure at priority locations and its de-funding is considered to be a significant loss for the State.

LGAT Comment

In December 2018, the following motion was carried:

That LGAT lobby the State Government for the establishment of a recurrent fund to support the provision of separated bicycle infrastructure for local and state roads.

At the time we weren't successful in shifting the funding profile. The actions we took included advocating directly to the Minister and included the request for a greater State Government investment on locally based initiatives, such as public transport and active transport, in our State Budget priorities, election documents, and other direct advocacy. This included a specific ask for \$1 million per year over four years for active transport.

We also participated in a joint project, Health by Stealth, with the Menzies Institute, Metro and the Department of Health looking at the health benefits in Tasmania associated with public and active transport and what incentives work for increasing participation.

Advocacy towards reinstating the Tasmanian Government's Better Active Transport Grant program is included in our recently released 2025 State Election Priority Statement:

A fairer share for local roads

To support our communities having access to safe, reliable local roads and being provided with healthier, more sustainable travel options, we're calling for a commitment to:

- *A fair distribution of the Heavy Vehicle Motor Tax revenue, which means distributing that revenue among all road managers on the same basis it is charged – on-road use.*
- *Reinvest speeding fine revenue directly into local road safety by supporting road network safety plans and reinstating the Better Active Transport Grants Program.*

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2.2. Rating of new energy developments*

Contact Officer – Ben Morris, Policy Director

Decision sought

That members:

- endorse the position that, where relevant, Tasmanian councils differentially rate renewable energy facilities in alignment with the Victorian Payment in Lieu of Rates (PiLoR) charges, or less
- note LGAT will undertake the work outlined in the attached paper to support this.

Background

At the March 2024 General Meeting, the following resolution was made:

That LGAT lobby the State Government:

1. *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.*
2. *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 developments under existing and new technologies.*
3. *Where a Council's infrastructure and service provision is impacted by energy sector developments, consider the means for appropriate compensation via similar payment arrangements to ensure ratepayers are not financially impacted.*

Prior to this the Future of Local Government Review (FoLGR) final report (October 2023) recommended (#17) that:

The Tasmanian Government should further investigate and consider introducing an alternative framework for councils to raise revenue from major commercial operations in their local government areas, where rates based on the improved value of land are not an efficient, effective, or equitable form of taxation.

In its response to the FoLGR final recommendations, the State Government 'partially supported' this recommendation, noting that:

The Government will consult on potential frameworks to help benefit councils that assist major operations in their local government areas.

Separately, and in response to LGAT advocacy, the Office of the Valuer General has created new Valuation Property Classification Codes for Electricity Generation, Electricity Storage and Electricity Transmission that will allow for the specific valuation and then, potentially, rating of these properties.

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The Valuer General wrote to relevant councils in January 2025 providing this advice and a list of relevant properties in the municipality, asking for their confirmation.

Beyond the Valuer-General's activities, the State Government has taken limited action on its FoLGR commitment. We understand that one of the models under consideration is the Victorian Payment in Lieu of Rates (PiLoR) approach⁶ where generators pay a rate based on their electricity generation. We have been advocating to the Office of Local Government and to Renewables Climate Change and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT), which is the agency responsible for the action. We understand that their next steps were discussed before the state election, but no outward progress has been made.

In the interim, we developed a position and process for councils to make use of the new property valuation codes to rate renewable energy facilities. The paper proposes a rate equivalent to PiLoR to apply as a differential rate. This equivalency is intended to avoid any criticisms that councils are creating barriers to investment, rather providing a level playing field with Victoria and potentially with South Australia. In Queensland there is a wide range of rates levied by councils, in comparison a PiLoR rate is expected to be at the lower end of this range. We also understand that Hydro Tasmania's rate equivalent payment is set at a similar level to PiLoR.

The draft document was circulated to councils in April, with feedback concluding in late May. Five councils responded to the draft, with all councils generally supporting the approach for councils to rate renewable energy generators. One council did not support a single statewide rate in the dollar, or a PiLoR approach, noting that it should be up to individual councils to determine their rating, as they do for other land uses. We note that councils under LGAT's proposed approach would still be able to determine to apply a different rate, and under the Victorian PiLoR councils can also negotiate a different rate. Where a council chooses to charge a higher rate, it may need to demonstrate why the equivalency should not apply.

The final proposed position paper is at **Attachment 2.2** for endorsement. Pending member endorsement, LGAT will follow the paper's approach and report back at the November 2025 General Meeting.

Budget Impact

Being undertaken within current resources.

Current Policy

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2025 Focus Areas

Advocate

Infrastructure

⁶ More details available at: <https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/renewable-energy/payment-in-lieu-of-rates-for-electricity-generators>

Attachment to item 2.2



lgat.tas.gov.au

Rating of new energy developments

Position Paper

June 2025

Contact: Ben Morris, Policy Director

Email: ben.morris@lgat.tas.gov.au

Phone: 03 61463740

www.lgat.tas.gov.au

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Overview

This paper provides an overview of the available approaches to rating ‘new’ energy developments in Tasmania and suggests a way forward for Tasmanian councils. New energy developments include solar, wind, battery or other energy infrastructure not currently excluded from rating under Section 87 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The history associated with Hydro Tasmania’s rates exemption is provided separately.

Summary

- Renewable energy generators are not paying equitable rates compared with other commercial operations.
- Approaches in Queensland and Victoria provide working solutions for appropriate contributions.
- The State Government has committed to investigating a solution, but progress is slow, and councils may choose to apply an interim approach.

Background

LGAT’s members have made a number of relevant decisions. The most recent, in Table 1 below, calling for changes to the way that energy businesses contribute to the costs of local government, similar to other businesses and residents.

Table 1: Recent relevant sector resolutions.

Date	Resolution
November 2024	That LGAT pursue with the Tasmanian Government the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Funds received by the State Government from Government Business Enterprise as Rate Equivalent payments be in the most part distributed to Local Government.
March 2024	That LGAT lobby the State Government: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. 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.2. 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 developments under existing and new technologies.3. Where a Council’s infrastructure and service provision is impacted by energy sector developments, consider the means for appropriate compensation via similar payment arrangements to ensure ratepayers are not financially impacted.

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The Future of Local Government Review (FoLGR) recommended (#17) that:

- The Tasmanian Government should further investigate and consider introducing an alternative framework for councils to raise revenue from major commercial operations in their local government areas, where rates based on the improved value of land are not an efficient, effective, or equitable form of taxation.

The FoLGR final report called for a “revenue sharing model” rather than a rating approach based on efficiency, and a perceived risk that rating may form a barrier to investment. The report provided a case study of the Victorian Payment in Lieu of Rates (PiLoR) approach¹ where generators pay a rate based on their electricity generation.

In its response to the FoLGR final recommendations, the State Government ‘partially supported’ this recommendation noting that:

- The Government will consult on potential frameworks to help benefit councils that assist major operations in their local government areas.

We understand that this recommendation was ‘partially supported’ due to the wariness around potential impacts on future and current energy developments. The State Government’s response indicated that work would commence by the end of 2024. We have made enquiries to both the Office of Local Government (OLG) and Renewables Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT) to understand the progress on this action. Apparently neither agency is responsible for the action and OLG was making further enquiries to find the State Government owner of the action.

Separately, and in response to LGAT advocacy, the Office of the Valuer General has created new Valuation Property Classification Codes for Electricity Generation, Electricity Storage and Electricity Transmission that will allow for the specific valuation and then, potentially, rating of these properties. The Valuer General wrote to relevant councils in January 2025 providing this advice (see attached Fact Sheet), provided a list of potentially relevant properties in the municipality and asking for their confirmation. Following this confirmation, individual councils now need to request a supplementary valuation for the new code to be applied.

Interstate approaches

The Victorian PiLoR framework is established under their *Electricity Industry Act 2000* to provide a base contribution that energy generators must pay to councils. There are two streams:

- Over 25 megawatts (MW) nameplate generation – an indexed charge made up of a fixed (\$65,729) and variable component (\$1,480 / MW)
- Under 25 MW nameplate generation – for smaller or community-based generators with only a variable component with a minimum annual payment, \$7,500 (commercial) and \$5,000 (community).

¹ Available at: <https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/renewable-energy/payment-in-lieu-of-rates-for-electricity-generators>

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Alternatively, the electricity generator may pay general rates determined by applying the applicable differential rate in the dollar to the capital valuation of each property, inclusive of electricity generation plant and equipment, and levied under Part 8 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (Vic).

In Queensland many councils rate renewable energy facilities, with Goondiwindi Regional Council's 2024/25 rates provided as an example below in Table 2. Each council determines its own rate, which vary considerably across the state. For example, for a 25 MW facility in 2023/24, the minimum rate liability ranged from \$6,750 to \$51,502, with the median \$23,883.

Table 2: Goondiwindi Regional Council - 2024/25 rating

Renewable Energy facility productive capacity	Minimum general rate	Cents in \$ of Valuation
<20MW	\$ 8,410.00	\$0.07357
20MW - <50MW	\$ 29,430.00	\$0.07330
50MW - <100MW	\$ 63,070.00	\$0.07304
100MW - <200MW	\$ 126,150.00	\$0.07277
200MW - <300MW	\$ 210,250.00	\$0.07251
300MW - <500MW	\$ 336,390.00	\$0.07224
500MW - <750MW	\$ 525,610.00	\$0.07198
750MW - <1000MW	\$ 735,860.00	\$0.07171

The Local Government Association of South Australia (LGASA) commissioned AEC Group to undertake a detailed review of the South Australian situation, with the report *Equitable rating of the energy sector – South Australia*² released in February 2025. The report examined the Victorian and Queensland rating approaches and finds that:

- The rating/PiLoR approaches in Victoria and Queensland have not impacted on the rate or size of the renewable energy investment, indeed the two states have the strongest forward investment of any other.
- The revenue in South Australia under the two approaches is \$27.9 million/annum using a municipal rating approach and \$6.3 million/annum using the PiLoR methodology.
- Changes would provide a cost-of-living improvement in South Australia, with the annual rating burden reduced per household by between \$29 (PiLoR) and \$127 (municipal rating).

To address competition concerns the report recommended that the Victorian approach and rating levels be adopted in South Australia to allow generators to make payment in lieu of rates.

² Available at:

https://www.lga.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0029/1753337/Equitable_Rating_of_the_Energy_Sector_Report.pdf

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On 19 March, LGASA was successful in getting a private member's bill, the [Statutes Amendment \(Rates—Electricity Generation\) Bill 2025](#) introduced into the South Australian Legislative Council. The Bill details a PiLoR approach with a fixed and variable charge, at rates be determined by the relevant Minister. LGASA is not pursuing a municipal rating approach, as the required legislative change is not supported by their Valuer General.

Recommendations

The ideal approach for Tasmania would be to align with the Victorian approach with the municipal rating and PiLoR options, as per the LGAT March 2024 resolution. At this time, there is limited progress from the State Government on a Tasmanian PiLoR, however the local government sector can still progress the municipal rating methodology in the meantime.

To avoid any significant adverse response from renewable energy providers or the State Government, it is suggested councils apply a consistent rate in the dollar across the state at a level similar in scale to the Victorian PiLoR rates. However, councils could still determine to apply their own rate.

Broadly, the steps we recommend are required to apply the Victorian rating methodology in Tasmania are:

- Valuer-General coding of the relevant properties.
- Council confirmation of relevant properties.
- Undertake supplementary valuation of relevant properties.
- LGAT to undertake work to calculate PiLoR-similar rating, converting MW to \$ valuation.
- Council to decide, by absolute majority, to differentially rate properties classified under the new codes in line with the *Local Government Act 1993* (s.107).
- Council to review and update where appropriate its rates and charges policy in line with the LG Act (s.86B).
- Application of new rating approach.

Next steps

We seek support for LGAT undertaking the work to calculate a PiLoR-similar rating in the dollar.

The work to calculate the PiLoR-similar rating will involve:

- Calculating a PiLoR rate (fixed and variable) for each site.
- Dividing the PiLoR figure by the supplementary valuation \$.
- Finding the median value across the site to provide rate in the dollar equivalent to PiLoR.

LGAT will also continue its advocacy for a legislated Tasmanian PiLoR in line with the March 2024 resolution.



GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO TRADITIONAL OWNERS

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.

DRAFT

Image: Bell Bouy Beach

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the 2025/2026 Annual Plan. The Plan establishes the actions required over the next 12 months and the adopted budget to continue our advancement to realising the vision of a *progressive, prosperous and proud* community.

The most significant project of the year will be the commencement of the Aquatic Health and Wellbeing Centre. The centre will include offerings to enable year-round access to swimming facilities for recreational pool-play, lap swimming, learn to swim programs, and warm water therapy, and include health and wellbeing services such as a gym, group fitness studios, and allied health suites. Council acknowledges the \$15 million contribution from the Federal Government and the \$2.5 million contribution from the State Government.

The Anzac Drive building will continue to host the Our Futures Youth Programs in the community space. Council is well advanced in its discussions with a tenant to operate the commercial component of the building. We are confident that the community will be able to enjoy another food and beverage offering over the course of the year.

Council continues to invest in its Arts and Culture Program with \$63k allocated to the upgrade of the Jim Mooney Gallery space. The work will provide enhanced visitor experience and additional hanging spaces. The Annual Art Gallery Program, Annual Art Prize, Summer Musical Concerts and Intergenerational Workshops will benefit from a budget of \$50k. Council community events including the much-loved Solstice in the Square will continue and throughout the year with \$110k committed to providing our community and visitors with low cost or no cost experiences unique to our municipal area.

Stage 3 of 5 of the upgrade of Old Aerodrome Road will progress this year with a \$500k allocation. The work will continue safety improvements through widening of the road, pavement repairs and associated roadside safety infrastructure. Upgrade of the northern section of Dalrymple Road will commence this year with an allocation of \$500k.



This multi-year project will improve the condition and safety of the road.

An allocation of \$200k has been provided to progress the implementation of the Township Character Plans and the Hillwood Open Space Plan. Further on the strategic front, council will revise the George Town Sports Complex Master Plan and will commence beautification of the entry to the complex. Council has committed to the development of a Tourism and Marketing Strategy aimed at increasing brand awareness, positioning the municipal area as a unique and compelling place to visit.

Council looks forward to the progression of its Health & Wellbeing Strategy with the newly appointed Committee. Additionally, council has continued its commitment to the Healthy George Town Program with \$60k investment and has requested the General Manager to design a program for the health and well-being of staff. The Youth Strategy will be revisited over the financial year, aiming to provide a strategic direction, with a place-based approach for the engagement and development of young people.

Reviewing feedback following a number of community engagement exercises in the previous year, we have committed to undertaking a full review of council's consultation framework. The aim is to improve our engagement with the community by identifying the different types of consultation with recommended engagement methodologies for each type.

These initiatives represent some of the projects I am particularly excited about.

I trust you will enjoy the remainder of the Annual Plan.

WHAT IS THE ANNUAL PLAN?

This Annual Plan (The Plan) provides a detailed description of how we will invest in services and facilities that will benefit the municipality long-term, as agreed by the elected members of the Council. The Plan establishes our key actions to achieve in year five of Council's 2020-2030 Strategic Plan. The Local Government Act 1993 (Section 66) directs a council to prepare a strategic plan for its municipal area. The Plan guides the decision making of Council, resource allocations, work plans of Council employees and outlines how Council will contribute to community needs and desires, meet its governance obligations, provide leadership and set priorities.



Image: Bell Bouy Beach

GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE

The 2025/2026 Annual Plan is the sixth plan aimed at delivering on the revised Community Strategic Plan 2020-2030. It details a number of actions, statutory requirements and budget required to progress the plan.

Council has determined an operating expenditure of approximately \$16.5 million for the year, with revenue projected to be approximately \$16.6 million. This represents a responsible budget that will continue service delivery excellence and sound asset management while providing for a number of new initiatives and strategic planning exercises. Estimated to deliver an end of year surplus of approximately \$127k, 2025/2026 will be the eighth consecutive year of achieving a positive financial result.

Ratepayers will note an increase in waste charges this year which accounts for the increase in the State Government's Landfill Levy and funding required to transport and dispose of waste material at the Launceston landfill.

The capital works program equates to approximately \$4.7 million with \$3.5 million dedicated to renewal of assets. This investment is in line with the 100% renewal ratio set out in Council's Financial Strategy and suite of Asset Management Plans.

The Annual Plan outlines a number of strategic projects to be undertaken over the course of the year including the development of a Housing and Future Residential Needs Study, implementation of phase 2 of the Heritage Study, progression of the Low Head Open Space Strategy, Organisational Health & Wellbeing program, progression of the



WHS Improvement Program, development of a Bell Bouy Beach Community Facility plan, undertake and EoI process for the former YMCA community building and explore operating models for the Aquatic, Health and Wellbeing Centre.

Residents should experience enhanced customer service from the council with the roll out of a client portal called MyGeorgeTown. Residents will be able to create a profile and track their interactions with the council whether it be paying rates, dog registration or submitting a request. The Bass and Flinders Museum and Visitor Information Centre will modernise their retail operations with the introduction of Shopify.

Council has committed to a second year of the Caring for Cats Program. Over 100 cats were desexed and microchipped in the 2024/2025 year, free from charge. This year the program will be expanded to include trapping of stray and feral cats. The program is designed to reduce numbers of stray and feral cats that impact our unique fauna.

The 2025/2026 Annual Plan presents another ambitious year for our team to deliver on. I am, however, confident that the organisation will meet the challenge and that the community continues to enjoy the benefits of our dedicated efforts.

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

Mayor and Councillors

General Manager & Office of the General Manager

Organisational Performance & Strategy

Strategy & Engagement
Communications & Marketing
Human resources
Building Services
Risk Management
Regulatory Services & Community Compliance
Governance
Civic Events
Planning & Development Services
Economic Development
Future Development
Emergency Management

Corporate & Community

Corporate Support
Customer Services
Financial Services
ICT
Records Management
Payroll
Procurement
Tourism, Arts & Culture
Community Events
Facilities Management
Community Health & Wellbeing
Sport & Recreation
Future Impact Group

Infrastructure & Operations

GIS
Engineering Services
Capital Works & Project Management
Infrastructure Management & Operations
Asset Management
Natural Resource Management
Aquatic, Health & Wellbeing Centre
Waste Management



STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

George Town Community Strategic Plan

Longer term 2020 to 2030

Vision

What we want George Town to be.

Guiding Principles

To guide future choices and behaviour.

Future Directions

Groups of similar outcomes.

Desired Outcomes

Community outcomes wanted in the future. They are written as though they have happened.

Strategic Priorities

Areas of work that will help realise the desired outcomes.

Community Strategic Plan

This is a WHAT document, and does not get into HOW the desired outcomes will be achieved.

Performance Measures

Measurement at this level focuses on effort and achievement of tasks.

Delivery Plans

Organisations usually plan activities and finances over a three to four year period. Ideally, they should aim to achieve their part of the Community Strategic Plan.

Linkage to the Strategic Plan

The linkage between the Delivery Plan and the Strategic Plan is at the desired outcome and strategic priority level. Not everything in the Strategic Plan can be done at once nor by one organisation. The secret to success is all organisations and groups working on the outcomes relevant to them. The Delivery Plan will schedule work according to priority, set out actions to be taken and allocate funding and resources. It moves from WHAT is wanted to HOW it will be achieved.

Actions

The Delivery Plan will set out the actions to be taken to help achieve the desired outcomes. Actions include programs which are ongoing and projects that have a beginning and an end.

Performance Measures

Indicators will measure the effort put into programs and projects and efficiency of completion. It will also need to assess if the actions are having an effect on the baseline data.

Annual Operational Plan

The Annual Operational Plan sets out the work to be completed in a financial year. It is a one-year slice off the delivery plan. It is shaped around a budget, a timeline and accountability for completion. The linkage between the delivery and the annual plans is at the action level. It is a document focused on HOW.

Linkage to the Delivery Plan

The linkage between the Strategic Plan and the Annual Operational Plan is at the actions level. Programs and projects are scheduled, funded and organised into tasks for completion.

Performance Measures

At this level performance will be measured against the desired outcomes. Baseline data is needed to describe progress.

OUR VISION IN 2030

— OUR COMMUNITIES —



Progressive

in our aspirations & approaches

We are resilient and adaptive innovators and change makers. With courage, we respond creatively to our challenges and opportunities. The energy of our young people drives us all forward and we value participation from our elders who contribute and encourage the endeavours of our communities.



Proud

of who we are, what we do and how we do it

We foster positive and productive attitudes and know that inspirational leadership is found everywhere within our communities. We care for one another and back ourselves.



Prosperous

in all aspects of our life — economic, environmental & social

Economically we prosper as a community of lifelong learners. We encourage, coach and mentor our young people to reach their potential. We are making and building a diverse economy centred around doing old things in new ways and new things first. We promote our enviable lifestyle as the setting for entrepreneurial endeavours. Our population continues to grow with people who identify with all the extraordinary things we see in our place and living here. Visitors are welcome to stay and experience our environment, culture, celebrations and produce.

Our environmental prosperity, health and well-being is found and facilitated in our beautiful coastlines, beaches, rivers, rolling hills, productive agricultural land and built heritage. We cherish all living things. We respect and take care of our environmental richness so it will continue to nurture us and the generations to come. We promote active, healthy living and enjoy doing this together. Socially we find joy and learning from the ancient past of the original custodians of our place and our more recent European history. We are community builders energised by our creative endeavours and events.

VALUES & PRINCIPLES

Council Values

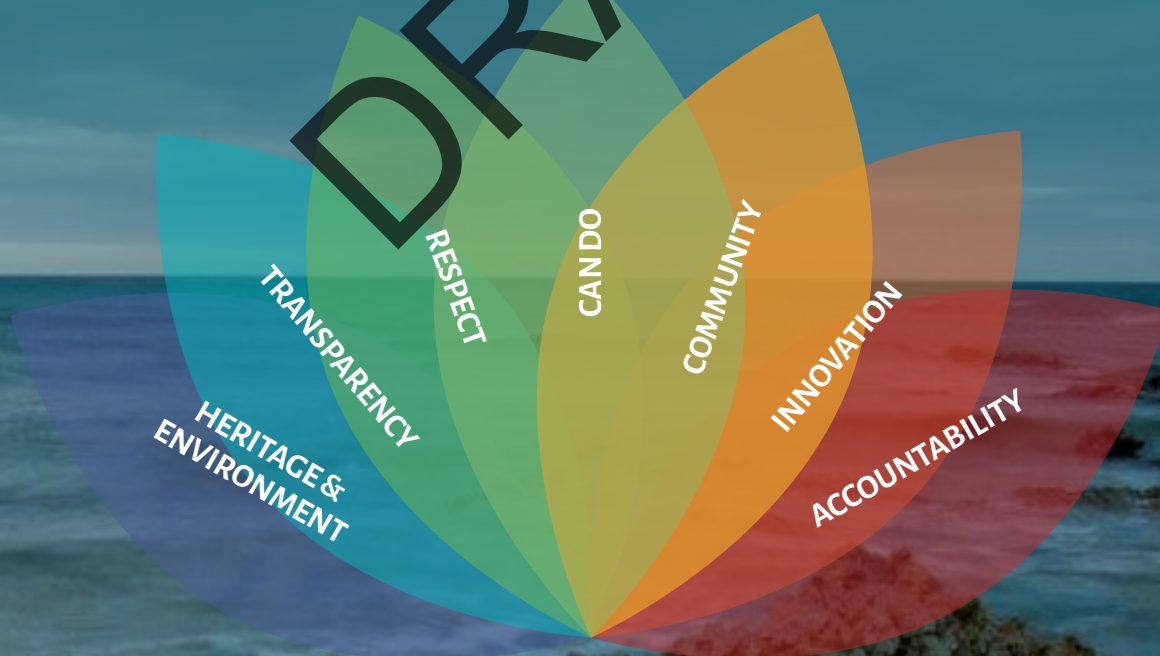
The Council's Mission is supported by its commitment to pursue fundamental values. These values drive the way the Council operates and how Council carries out all its activities and services for the benefit of the community.

- Accountability
- Innovation
- Community
- Can Do
- Respect
- Transparency
- Heritage & Environment

Guiding Principles

These are the principles we will use to guide our future choices and behaviours. In all we do and how we work together we will:

- Respect and care for each other
- Welcome diversity in all its forms
- Pursue local opportunities
- Celebrate our heritage
- Treasure our natural environment
- Be open to new ideas and show leadership



ELECTED MEMBER PROFILES



Deputy Mayor Greg Dawson

First elected in 2014.

I have been a proud resident of George Town for over 45 years, educated at South George Town Primary and George Town/Port Dalrymple High School. A fitter and machinist prior to commencing at formerly BHP Temco and now Liberty Bell Bay in numerous roles, currently in Wharf Operations. Since 2014, many positive changes have occurred in our community, all of which I have had a supporting or guiding hand on.

I am involved in volunteering within our community and am a passionate sports enthusiast. A founding member of our Reconciliation Committee, I proposed the development of the George Town Health and Wellbeing Centre and intend to assist in achieving the best outcome for our community over the next few years.

I am also very supportive of the drive for newer and

more environmentally smart industrial developments in the Bell Bay Precinct. Thank you for your support. Let's make the George Town municipal area one that sees Prosperity through Progressive initiatives that we can all be Proud of!



Councillor Heather Barwick

First elected in 1989.

I serve the municipality proudly. During the past 36 years I have stood for, and believed in good governance, honest governance, integrity and transparency.

I was not given any "jobs" to do in 2022 for the next 4 years by the council or councillors, but I continue to be committed to all communities as demonstrated by my regular attendance at the various associations and community group meetings in rural areas.

I will continue to push for transparency by way of community consultation the old fashion way FACE to FACE, NOT just by on-line questionnaires.

I was inducted into the Tasmanian Roll of Women in 2023 and have been awarded the first Abel Tasman Tasmania Day medal – LET'S FLY OUR FLAG 1992.

Contact available 24/7 on 0429 323 289



Councillor Tim Harris

First elected in 2014.

Cr Harris is a fifth-generation resident of George Town and after living in other parts of the state and the north island (mainland) returned home in 2012. In his early years at Council, Cr Harris was part of the elected body responsible for some tough decisions required to ensure financial sustainability of the organisation was achieved. Council in recent years has achieved consecutive operating surplus and is delivering a number of projects that will provide for an increase in tourism and jobs. Cr Harris represents Council on Tamar NRM and NRM North on a continued fight against the weed burden in the region.



Councillor Winston Mason

First elected in 2018.

I have lived in the George Town municipality all of my life and am passionate about community wellbeing and where we live. I became a Councillor to play my part in ensuring the future generations (including my own grandchildren) have a high quality of life. I particularly enjoy working with the sporting community and am proud of my involvement with the Work for the Dole Programs.

I am a member of the Audit Committee and the Youth Impact Council



Councillor Winston Archer

First elected in 2022.

Councillor Archer has been a lifetime resident of George Town and has been running his family business for over

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15 years. Councillor Archer has real-world experience, achieving multiple heavy machineries and other like qualifications, along with finance/accounting and business management skills. Councillor Archer is a member of the Audit Panel and has a particular focus on good governance, risk mitigation, and sound financial management.



**Councillor
Simone Lowe**

First elected in 2022.

Over the past 12 months, I have continued to grow in my role as a councillor, particularly in understanding Council's responsibilities when acting as a planning authority. The role is both challenging and rewarding, and I value the opportunity to keep learning and contributing to our community.

While my involvement in the Homelessness Advisory Committee and the Communities for Children project has been limited this year due to competing commitments, I remain supportive of their important work and contribute where possible.

I have completed both the Local Government and Learning Framework and Infrastructure Asset Management Planning for Elected Members training programs, which have strengthened my understanding of governance and the long term responsibilities involved in managing community assets.

In the year ahead, I aim to build on this foundation, continue developing my knowledge of asset management and governance, advocate for improved pound facilities, and look forward to chairing the Health and Wellbeing Committee to help deliver on the objectives of our community's Health and Wellbeing Strategy.



**Councillor
Heather Ashley**

First elected in 2022.

For much of my life, I have lived in this municipality, having raised, and educated my children here. I am passionate about this community and have been a member

of the George Town Rotary Club for 22 years, including 2 terms as its President, this has given me a good insight into the community and their needs.

I became a Councillor because I am passionate about this community and am very much a people person, always available to talk and listen to your concerns. I am grateful to be elected to the Council and hope as I fulfil my commitments, we can continue to develop our wonderful municipality for the betterment of all.

Cr Ashley is a member of the Youth Impact Council.



**Councillor
Jason Orr**

First elected in 2022.

As a third-generation resident of our municipality, I ran for Council to make a difference.

I am a passionate supporter of our region, particularly in terms of improving public safety and promoting growth, while remaining sensitive

to our local environment. I am an active contributor across a range of roles and particularly enjoy working with local progress associations on projects such as the Township Character Plans.

I keenly participate in promoting and caring for our environment, working collaboratively with groups such as Landcare Tasmania and Tamar NRM. It is vital to care for our land and coast, maintain and enhance our diverse landscapes, and manage and control weeds for future generations.

I have been appointed to represent the George Town Council on several committees, including Tamar NRM Management Committee, Destination Action Group and the George Town Audit Panel.

I continue to focus my efforts on building sustainable relationships and partnerships across our municipality. I am looking forward to contributing to all projects ahead of us, in the next 12 months.

HOW WE DEVELOPED OUR PLAN

Council commenced the development of the 2025/2026 Annual Plan and budget in December 2024 with a number of workshops held in the beginning of the 2025 year. The Annual Plan has been developed to meet the objectives of Council's Strategic Plan 2020-2030 which was shaped through extensive community consultation from across the municipality, with over 100 submissions relating to the development of the Strategic Plan. Council also invited community input into the budget process, which was presented as part of Council's consideration of the 2025/2026 budget process.

How is the Plan actioned?

Fundamentally, there are five areas through which Council can actively implement the Strategic and Annual Plans:

01

Deliver Services
(directly fund activity)

02

Establish by-laws,
policies and guide the
local planning scheme

03

Undertake
advocacy/
lobbying

04

Partner with
organisations/
community

05

Value-add or deliver
something different through
new services/investment

How will we be measured?

Council will ensure accountability through receiving quarterly reports from officers regarding achieving Annual Plan and budget performance indicators. These reports will be published for public viewing. Council's internal Audit Committee will also receive periodic reports (or as requested) on meeting performance criteria. End of year financial statements and reporting will be completed in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and reviewed by the Tasmanian Auditor General's Office.

The Annual Plan outlines resources required for the delivery of services. The agreed services, projects and programs to be delivered in any given year are reported by staff to Council and the community on a quarterly basis. These reports form the basis of performance for the delivery of the Annual Plan and performance reporting for staff against agreed performance indicators.

Thanks for your input

Community views collected during the consultation process, along with our current strategic plans, have informed the development of our goals. We are grateful to the community for input into the development of the strategic and ensuing Annual Plan. Your engagement, ideas and views allow us to form a strategy that will benefit our municipality.

Image: Summer Music Concert

FUTURE DIRECTIONS – SNAPSHOT



Progressive well-resourced communities

Recreational and sporting opportunities; strategic plans for all communities; public infrastructure; social infrastructure; diverse volunteering base; community celebrations.



Prosperity for all in all aspects of life

Economic development and diversification; employment growth; employability skills; population growth; education, learning and training; tourism and supporting businesses and events; healthy, active communities; natural landscapes and values; community building.



Community pride

Inclusion and engagement; built environment; reputation building; communications; safety and security; responsive emergency services.



Leadership and accountable governance

Culture of engagement and participation; planning and regulatory responsibilities; working relationships and collaborations; change management and accountability.

FUTURE DIRECTION ONE

DRAFT

PROGRESSIVE WELL-RESOURCED COMMUNITIES

Image: George Town Art Prize

FUTURE DIRECTION ONE

DESIRED OUTCOME

Social infrastructure and services match growth and community needs

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Community services and social infrastructure match the aspirations and needs of growing communities.

Childcare operations respond to and facilitate workforce needs and participation.

An operational all-year-round youth hub engaging young people in recreational activities, creative arts and programs.

Necessary community services and social infrastructure are funded.

Well designed and maintained, safe spaces and places work well.

Available and accessible transport to services.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Formal and Informal sporting and recreational opportunities for all

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

An Aquatic, Health and Well-Being Centre.

Growing membership and participation in sporting activities.

Young people engage in the sporting and recreational activities of their choice.

Formal and informal recreation and fitness facilities for all ages and abilities through shared pathways, tracks, trails and exercise stations.

Safe usage of mountain bike trails by residents and visitors.

All ages use parks, open spaces, beaches, tracks and trails through regular events and activities that create vibrancy and inclusion.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Local access to services and support

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Local needs and service gaps are understood and filled.

Expanded local provision and workforce capabilities particularly for services and supports in NDIS and Aged Care.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Vibrant local communities

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Progress and Community Associations plan and achieve their annual priorities.

DESIRED OUTCOME

A diverse and active volunteering base

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Diversified and increased volunteer base.

Young people volunteer in areas that interest them.

Volunteers are recognised and celebrated.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Community celebrations build the areas identity

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Cultural, artistic and seasonal produce celebrations engage and build understanding of the community and its value proposition.

An activated and resourced events strategy.

New and creative ideas grow event attendance numbers.

A published on-line events program helps planning and promotions.

All events include activities designed by young people.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Public transport available across George Town

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Increased availability and usage of public transport across the George Town municipality.

IN GEORGE TOWN

Image: Art Street Art

FUTURE DIRECTION TWO

PROSPERITY

DRAFT

DESIRED OUTCOME

A diversified local economy

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

An economy transitioning from heavy industry to advanced manufacturing, renewable energy, visitor economy, care, area branded produce and niche products through a circular economy approach.

The Bell Bay Precinct and Port is central to the State's economy and a global enabler of the green economy and advanced manufacturing.

The Bell Bay Port and Advanced Manufacturing Zone is promoted in the domestic and state economy highlighting the advantages of deep water, available land, protected water, inter-nodal rail, access to services and innovation.

Expanded research supports the development of the future green economy and advanced manufacturing.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Responsive and innovative care economy

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

A skilled aged care and NDIS local workforce.

Work opportunities within the care economy to respond to needs particularly in Aged Care and NDIS.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Growth in tourism yield

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Compelling value proposition, brand and narrative supports the growth of the visitor economy.

Existing and new visitor experiences increase overnight stays.

Local, seasonal produce and beverages promote local gastronomic offerings.

New coastal eco-experiences help care for the local penguin colony and other native fauna.

Cultural heritage interpretation supports a sense of place.

A range of visitor accommodation in the area supports the visitor economy.

Promoted Wild Tamar Experiences are central to the visitor experience.

FUTURE DIRECTION TWO

DESIRED OUTCOME

Increased population across the municipality

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The area's advantages of environment, diverse housing, well-connected and supportive communities, digital connection and the importance of education and learning, attracts people.

Positive contribution to the regional population growth strategy.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Skilled local workforce for a diversified economy

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

There are meaningful jobs for all ages.

The workforce has the skills needed for a future diversified economy.

Training programs are available to up-skill and re-skill to meet workforce needs.

A range of workforce accommodation is available.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Young people have employment skills and pathways

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Education and training opportunities for students are available both in and out of school.

Programs bridge the transition from school to work.

A 'can do' attitude energises education and training.

Collaboration between industry, businesses, educationalists, and trainers in the design of work training programs.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Local businesses thrive and respond to local and visitor needs

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Local main street businesses are engaged in beautification and renewal activities.

'Support Local; Buy Local; Employ Local' campaigns grow local businesses and employment.

Opening hours and service standards meet customer and visitor needs.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Supported entrepreneurial endeavours and start-ups

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

A strong start-up eco-system supports entrepreneurial endeavours.

New industries foster entrepreneurial activities.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Sustainable and innovative waste management

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

All waste streams are managed sustainably.

Value adding, and circular economy endeavours are supported and implemented.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Community of learners

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Education and training are valued and celebrated.

Diversity of learners and learning needs are supported through a variety of learning environments and opportunities.

Education and training respond to the needs of existing and future industry and businesses.

Clear pathways to employment through training, work experience, mentoring and coaching.

Strong ties with TasTAFE, University of Tasmania and the Australian Maritime College.

A 'benefits of learning' campaign joins the dots between learning, employment, pathways and connecting with people and networks.

DESIRED OUTCOME

A strength-based reputation

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

A strong George Town and Region brand, value proposition and narrative.

The areas value proposition guides promotional activities.

FUTURE DIRECTION TWO

DESIRED OUTCOME

Healthy, active communities

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Preventative health and well-being practices are central to community life.

High health and well-being literacy.

Growing, cooking and eating fresh, seasonal produce is central to eating well.

Active participation in sport, recreation, cultural and creative activities across all ages.

People make informed choices about drug and alcohol use.

Mental health support is available.

The effects of trauma and associated behaviours are understood and influence how things are done.

There are enough health and well-being professionals and services to meet community needs.

Veterinary services are available to care for animals in the community.

DESIRED OUTCOME

A healthy and respected environment

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

The efforts of Tamar NRM, NRM North, Landcare, Coastcare and Wildcare groups and other environmental interests are valued and supported.

Local natural landscapes and values are protected.

The effects of climate change are mitigated.

The environmental challenges of invasive weeds and feral animals are collectively controlled.

Workforces, community members, farmers and small land holders have the capacity to address key environmental challenges.

Local penguins and other fauna thrive in a safe habitat.

Animal policies build safe animal and human interrelationships.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Sustainable, connected housing and neighbourhoods

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Housing developments meet Environmentally Sustainable Design principles.

Renewable and clean technologies are used in new neighbourhoods.

Neighbourhoods are climate resilient.

Leafy, green spaces and shared pathways connect housing developments to other community spaces.

Housing supply meets demand.

Infill development is encouraged.

FUTURE DIRECTION THREE

COMMUNITY PRIDE

DRAFT

Image: Dicky Leslie Lane

FUTURE DIRECTION THREE

DESIRED OUTCOME

Everyone in our community is valued and included

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Reconciliation is successfully planned, guided and resourced.

Respect, inclusion and a sense of belonging is part of our community culture across all age groupings.

Young people feel safe to be themselves without fear of judgement or bullying.

Programs and events celebrate community achievements and build relationships.

A diverse communications program of what's happening in the community is available through a range of mediums.

DESIRED OUTCOME

All communities take pride in their place

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

There is community pride in place, who we are, what we do and how we do it.

The plans, programs and achievements of groups that work to improve amenity and build pride in our communities are supported and celebrated.

The design and maintenance of public spaces and places reinforces community identity and reputation.

All communities are weed-free, litter-free, safe and appealing.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Safe and secure communities

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Preventative activities achieve safety and security.

Validated community, preventative approaches end domestic and family violence and change attitudes.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Community groups work together on common goals

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

A cohesive community with capacity to work together and achieve common goals.

Community projects and programs are communicated so duplication is avoided, and everyone knows what is going on.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Responsive emergency services

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

There are enough professional, para-professional and volunteer emergency services personnel and equipment to effectively respond to emergencies.

Communities work together with all other agencies for prevention and if necessary co-ordinated emergency responses.

DRAFT



Image: National Volunteer Awards Night

FUTURE DIRECTION FOUR

DRAFT

LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

<p>DESIRED OUTCOME</p> <p><i>A culture of engagement, communication and participation</i></p> <p>STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</p> <p>Community views are heard through skilled, trusted and inclusive community engagement processes.</p> <p>Young people are included and involved in decision making.</p> <p>A diverse communications program utilises community networks, connectors and influencers.</p>	<p>DESIRED OUTCOME</p> <p><i>Positive mindsets across communities</i></p> <p>STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</p> <p>Communities are open to new ideas and have the courage to try new things.</p>	<p>DESIRED OUTCOME</p> <p><i>Capable leadership in communities</i></p> <p>STRATEGIC PRIORITIES</p> <p>Communities have skilled leaders and contemporary leadership practices that guide change and manage complexity.</p> <p>Council is capable, nimble, well-resourced and responsive.</p> <p>Courage, kindness and determination is fostered when working through challenges and opportunities.</p>
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DRAFT

FUTURE DIRECTION FOUR

DESIRED OUTCOME

Young people are a supported, recognised community resource

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

A resourced George Town Youth Strategy guides actions.

The collective efforts of the George Town Youth Workers Coalition helps maximise the use of resources.

The 'Our Futures Program' develops young leaders.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Positive and productive working relationship with all levels of government and their agencies

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Government agencies provide current and timely data about services and community priorities.

The outcomes and directions sought by all levels of government are understood.

Government grant funding and investment is attracted.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Collaborative working relationships with neighbouring Councils and regional organisations

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Positive working relationships exist with neighbouring Councils.

George Town is active in regional development and works collaboratively on beneficial regional initiatives.

DESIRED OUTCOME

*Fair and open planning
and regulatory processes*

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

There is community
knowledge and
understanding of
planning and regulatory
responsibilities and processes.

DRAFT



ACTIONS 2025/26

Organisational Performance & Strategy

- Continue work on Growth Scenario Planning to identify future community and infrastructure needs
- Continue to proactively work with proponents on existing and new development proposals
- Continue to identify opportunities to promote the George Town LGA as a destination option for new development, particularly Advanced Manufacturing, Transport and Logistics
- Commence the development of George Town – Live, Work and Investment Prospectus
- George Town Housing and Future Residential Needs Study
- Progress Phase 2 of Heritage Study
- Complete Bell Buoy Beach Community Facility Concept Plan
- Develop Low Head Open Space Plan
- Maintain the free Caring for Cats Program
- Undertake Environmental Health Compliance Activities
- Review Consultation Framework
- Continue the implementation of the WHS improvement action plan

Infrastructure & Operations

- Commence construction of George Town Aquatic, Health and Wellbeing Centre
- Expression of Interest – George Town Community Centre (formerly YMCA)
- Advancement of Township Character Plans including implementation of Hillwood Open Space Plan
- Asset Management Improvement Program Progress
- Complete Stage 1 of Dalrymple Rd (North) upgrade and develop multi-year framework and costings
- George Town Sports Complex entrance upgrade
- Reconcile GIS system with Asset register for all asset classes. Training for all users and develop continuous improvement

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Image: Anzac Drive Building

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Corporate & Community

- Review of George Town Sporting Ground Master Plan and Implementation Priorities
- Develop community volunteering initiatives
- Develop Youth Strategy
- Finalise Marketing and Tourism Strategy and Events Strategy
- Development of marketing and tourism collateral in line with Tourism Strategy priorities
- Develop Emergency Recovery Plan
- Support the establishment of a First Nations Advisory Group
- Establish Arts and Culture Advisory Committee
- Finalise ERP implementation
- Compliance with audit requirements and accounting standards
- Review rating methodology

Office of the General Manager

- Supported by NTDC, lead Bell Bay Impact Study
- Organisational Reward Recognition and Health & Wellbeing Program
- Climate Change – statewide
- Continue BBAMZ participation

- Progressive well-resourced communities
- Prosperity for all in all aspects of life
- Community Pride
- Leadership and accountable governance

PUBLIC HEALTH GOALS & OBJECTIVES

George Town Council's commitment to maintaining a high level of public health protection is aligned with the Future Directions of the George Town Council's Community Strategic Plan 2024-2030. Namely:

Future Direction 2

Prosperity for all in all aspects of life through facilitation of a healthy and active community.

Future Direction 4

Leadership and Accountable Governance through ensuring Council meets its statutory responsibilities.

As part of Council's public health goals and objectives for 2025/2026 Council will:

01

Continue to provide an efficient animal control service promoting the amenity and safety of the community and animal welfare through:

- Maintain responsive service levels through contemporary service delivery models.
- Maintain Council's Caring for Cats Program to improve outcomes for the community.
- Build on our positive relationships with all levels of government in managing the risks to wildlife.
- Continue educational programs to promote responsible pet ownership.
- Promote responsible Dog Ownership in line with Council's new Dog Management Policy GTC-O-10.

02

Continue to promote, implement and monitor public health standards by:

- Providing an ongoing role in the education of the public and compliance with premises/activities regarding public and environmental health.
- Acting in a timely manner on reports of public and environmental health concerns.
- Undertaking water sampling of public pools and primary recreational water sites to ensure the water is suitable for the intended use and complies with the Tasmanian Water Quality Guidelines.
- Undertaking food sampling as part of a Statewide food sampling program.
- Ensuring onsite wastewater systems are installed, operating and maintained in accordance with conditions on the Council's plumbing permits and the Certificate of Accreditation issued by CBOS for specific systems.
- Providing a school-based immunisation program for grades 7 and 10 students.

ADOPTED OPERATING BUDGET

	Budget 2024/2025 \$	Budget Estimate 2025/2026 \$
Revenue		
Rates & Charges	11,273,537	11,968,600
Statutory Fees & Charges	605,510	427,396
User Fees Total	695,073	745,168
Grants Total	2,505,350	2,559,715
Other Income Total	363,828	269,333
Interest & Investment Revenue Total	430,000	689,600
TOTAL REVENUE	15,873,298	16,659,813
Expenditure		
Employee Benefits Total	5,733,124	6,242,416
Materials & Contracts Total	4,352,317	4,517,251
Other Expenses Total	2,319,729	2,376,315
Finance Costs Total	63,437	95,976
Depreciation & Amortisation Total	3,214,887	3,295,742
Impairment of Debts Total	5,000	5,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	15,688,495	16,532,700
Underlying Surplus/Deficit	184,803	127,113
Capital Items		
Capital Grants	-2,720,435	-886,254
Capital Works	7,066,602	4,752,442
TOTAL CAPITAL	4,346,168	3,866,188
NET SURPLUS	-4,161,364	-3,739,076
Less loan Principal Repayments	496,687	261,341
Plus Depreciation	3,214,887	3,295,742
CASH SURPLUS/DEFICIT	-449,789	-181,993
Cash at Start of Year	5,891,369	7,879,759
ESTIMATED CASH AT END OF YEAR	5,441,850	7,697,765

BUDGET 2025/2026

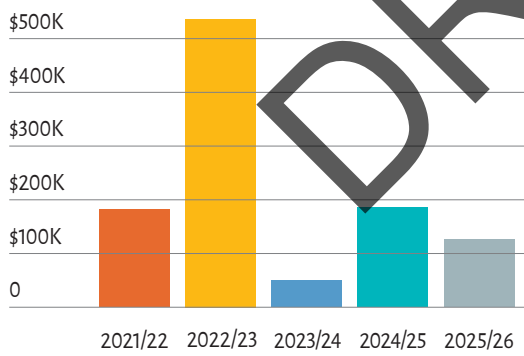
Basis of Budget

The requirements of Council Policy GTC14 'Rates and Charges' (Rates Policy) and Council's Financial Management Strategy have been taken into consideration. The objective of the Rates Policy is to maintain a sustainable rates system that provides revenue stability and supports a balanced budget to avoid placing the burden of current expenditure on future generations. The purpose of the Financial Management Strategy is to manage the Long-Term Financial Plan to retain an underlying surplus after excluding capital income and expenditure. In preparing the operating budget, Council considers the demand for services and the cost of maintaining facilities for community benefit.

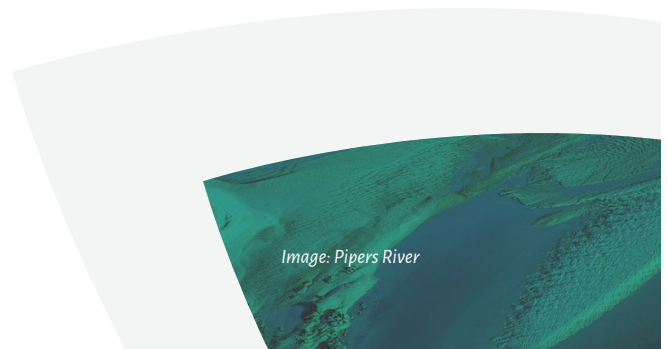
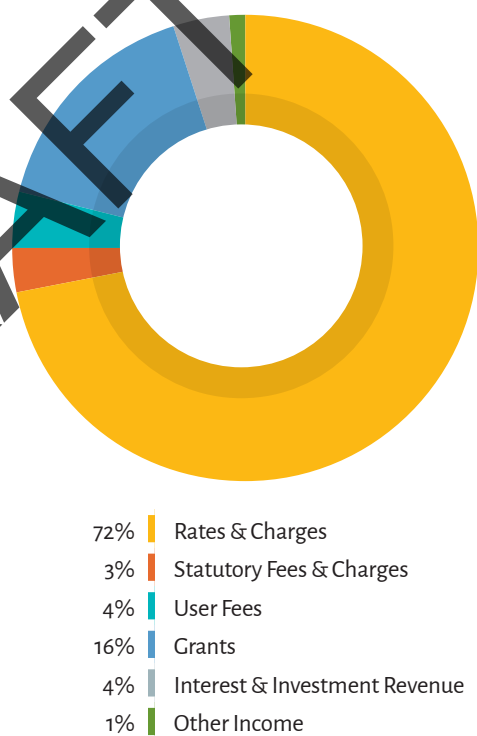
Underlying Result

The resulting underlying surplus is estimated at \$127,112 or an underlying surplus ratio of positive 0.78%. This modest underlying surplus is slightly less the Council's adopted financial strategy which calls for a positive underlying surplus of 1% of operating income.

Actual and Budget Underlying Surplus 2021 to 2026



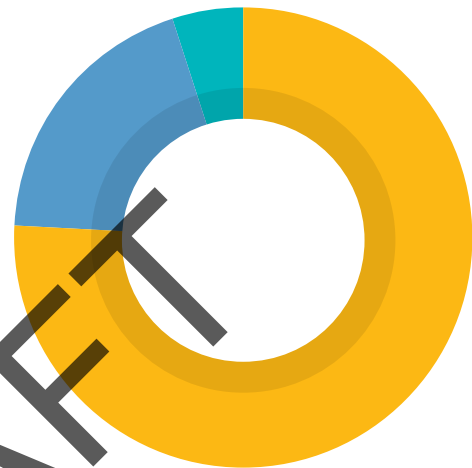
Estimated Recurrent Operational Income 2025 to 2026



Capital Works Expenditure

The Infrastructure and Works departments continue to manage increased capital works expenditure programs. The amounts in the graph include the program approved by Council in June each year. Accelerated and new capital expenditure increases the depreciation and maintenance expenses in the operating budget. Council approved the 2026 capital works program at the June 2025 meeting, of approximately \$4.75m.

Capital Works Program Budget Funding 2025 to 2026



- 19% Grant Funded
- 76% Revenue & Unrestricted Cash
- 5% Plant Reserve & Proceeds of Asset Sales



RATES & CHARGES

Council determined for 2025/2026 it required \$16,659,812 to deliver municipal services, invest in renewal of assets, continue to deliver actions relating to Township Character Plans and other initiatives aimed at positioning the municipality for growth across a number of areas such as planning, compliance, youth, tourism, arts and culture.

Council applies a rate to properties to generate revenue required once Federal Assistant Grant allocation has been applied along with forecast revenue from user charges etc. Council's Financial Strategy recommends achieving over 1% of budget for surplus, the projected surplus in 2025/2026 is 0.76%. To achieve this, Council has applied 4.5% to the overall 2025/2026 rates equating to \$11,968,600 revenue being raised through rates and charges.

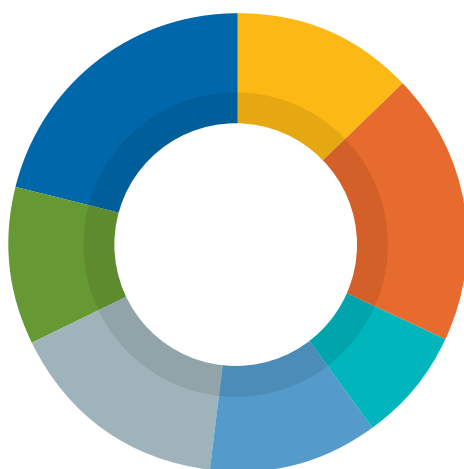
Understanding how Rates are calculated & why they vary

Why are Council rates higher for industrial/commercial/port and marine/utilities? Council's existing policy on rates and charges states: This sector will contribute a higher rate than properties on the general rate, as: Commercial and industrial properties pay rates from pre-tax revenue; Commercial and industrial properties have a greater impact on core Council infrastructure. Council reviewed its Rates and Charges Policy in 2022/2023 and adopted the reviewed policy largely unchanged in March 2023. Council will continue to review the policy and rating methodology in 2025/2026.

Residential – Why does Council apply an Averaged Area Rate (AAR) to residential properties?

Council's current Rates and Charges Policy considers that the AAR provides the fairest and most equitable means of ensuring all residential ratepayers within a location contribute equally to the delivery, maintenance, renewal, upgrade and administration of Council's existing and additional infrastructure, and services.

Where do your Rates go?



- 13% Governance
- 18% Corporate & Community
- 12% Roads Maintenance
- 13% Facilities, Parks, Sporting Maintenance
- 14% Infrastructure & Development Services
- 10% Waste Management
- 20% Capital Works

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GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL / ANNUAL PLAN 25-26

Residential Rates 2025/2026

Averaged Area Rates	2024/2025 Rates	2025/2026 Rates	Annual \$ Increase	Annual % increase
Beechford, Bellingham, Lefroy, Lulworth & Weymouth	\$1,328	\$1,388	\$60	4.5%
George Town & Low Head	\$1,408	\$1,471	\$63	4.5%
Hillwood, Mount Direction, Pipers Brook & Pipers River	\$1,355	\$1,416	\$61	4.5%

Other Rating Categories

Other Categories	2024/2025	2025/2026	Increase in rate in the dollar
General Rate	0.1833	0.1915	0.0082
General Industrial	1.4289	1.4932	0.0643
Utility	1.5921	1.6637	0.0716
Port and Marine	1.5996	1.6716	0.0720
Industrial (other than above)	0.5948	0.6216	0.0268
Commercial	0.6634	0.6933	0.0299
	2024/2025	2025/2026	Increase in \$
Minimum Rate	\$908	\$949	\$41
Waste Charge	\$60	\$63	\$3

Waste Management

Rates for garbage and recycling services have been increased based on the increased costs associated with the waste contract, the increase in disposal costs, increased fuel costs, and the implementation of the State Government Waste Levy of \$45.84 per tonne.

Volume	2024/2025	2025/2026
85lt	\$266	\$278
140lt	\$337	\$352
240lt	\$478	\$500

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

The Operational Budget

- Caring for Cats Program (Year 2)
- Regional Land Use Strategy
- Airport Master Plan update
- George Town Housing and Future Residential Needs Study
- Marketing and Tourism Strategy and Events Strategy
- Intergenerational Arts & Culture Program
- Annual Art Gallery Program
- Healthy George Town
- Development of George Town Youth Strategy
- George Town – Live, Work and Investment Prospectus

The Capital Works Program

- Memorial Hall Complex Upgrades – Jim Mooney Art Gallery renovation and kitchen stove upgrade
- Weymouth Hall - re-roofing, fascia and gutter
- George Town Sports Complex entrance improvements
- Old Aerodrome Road continued renewal and upgrade (stage 3)
- Dalrymple Road North upgrade (stage 1)
- Agnes Street – Indented Parallel Carpark
- Final stage of George Town Cemetery Fence Renewal

Multi Year Projects & New Initiatives

- George Town Aquatic Health and Wellbeing Centre
- Township Character Plan Implementation program (year 2)
- Hillwood Open Space Implementation Program (year 2)



Progressive



Prosperous



Proud



Image: Seal Sculpture - Bathurst Street

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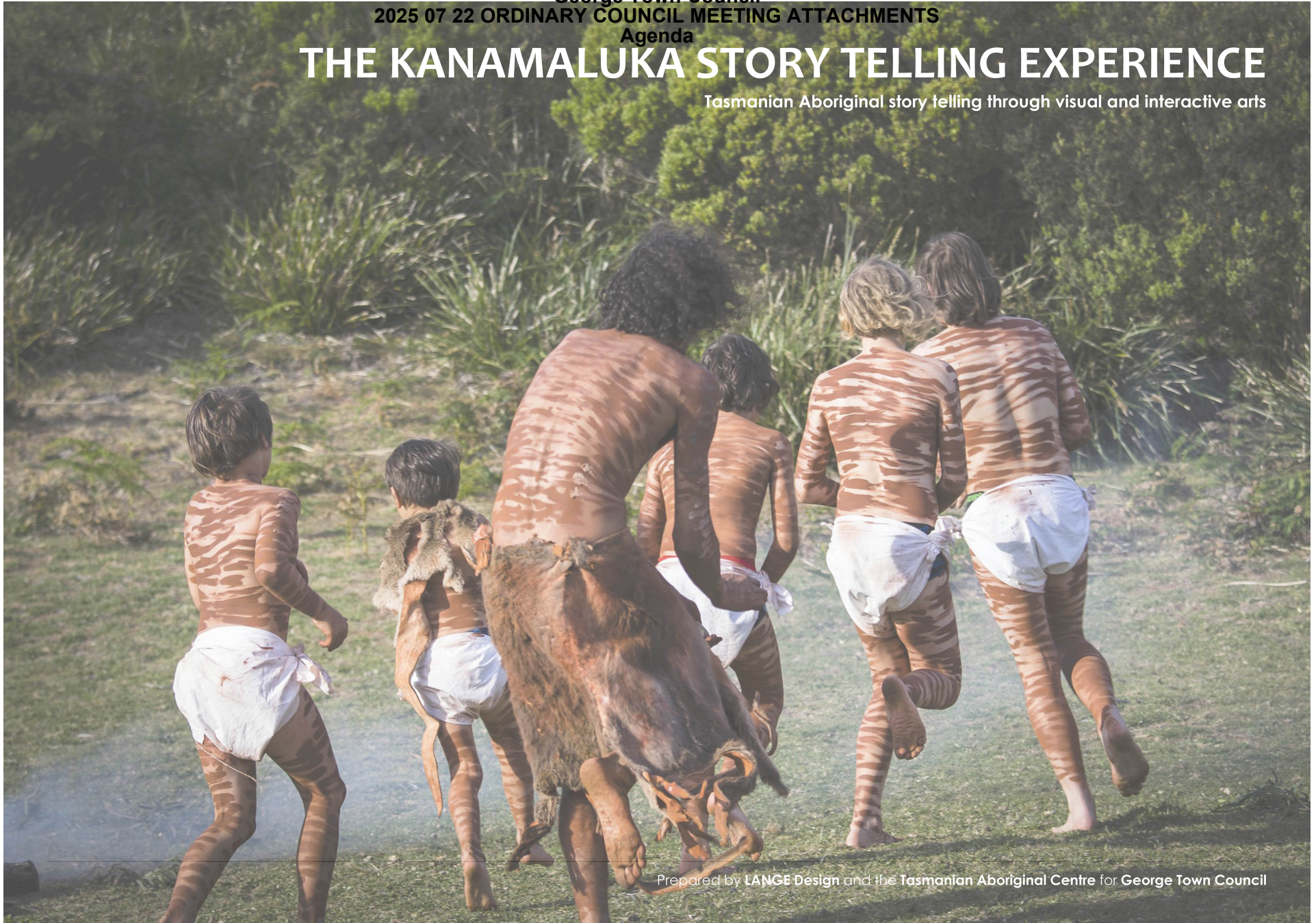
GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL

16-18 Anne Street, George Town Tasmania 7253, PO Box 161 George Town Tasmania 7253
Telephone: (03) 6382 8800, Email: council@georgetown.tas.gov.au



THE KANAMALUKA STORY TELLING EXPERIENCE

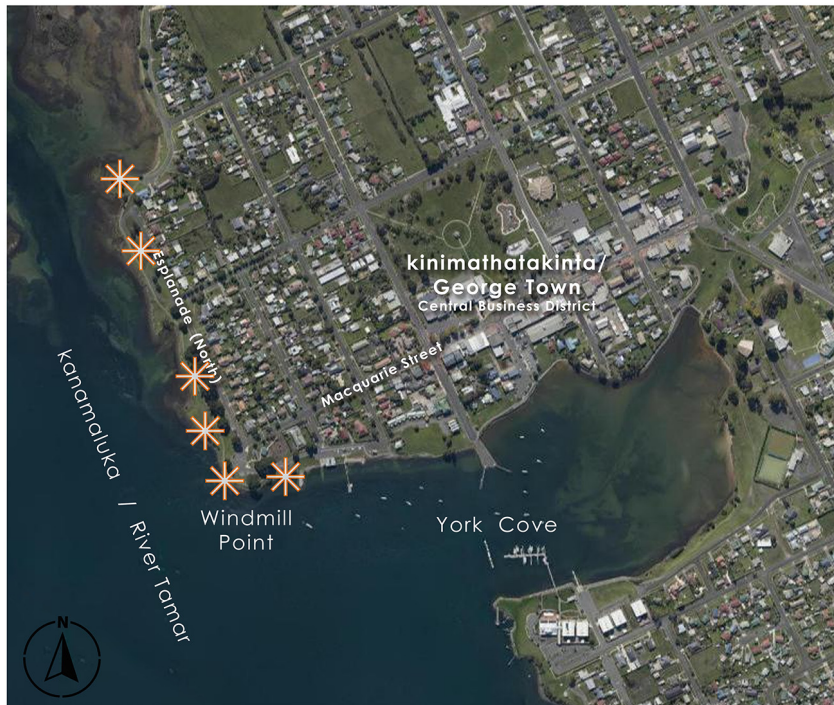
Tasmanian Aboriginal story telling through visual and interactive arts



Prepared by LANGE Design and the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre for George Town Council

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THE KANAMALUKA STORY TELLING EXPERIENCE



The kanamaluka story telling context map highlighting the six installations (asterix).

The kanamaluka trail story telling experience aims to enlighten visitors about the Tasmanian Aboriginal *Litarimirina* tribe who ranged from Port Dalrymple along the eastern side of kanamaluka/River Tamar, towards today's Launceston. The story telling experience offers a glimpse into the pre-European life of the Tasmanian Aboriginal people, including cultural associations, day to day activities, ceremonies and their interactions with the natural landscape. The experience also informs the visitor on the struggles that the Tasmanian Aboriginal people endure since European occupation and their continued fight for recognition.

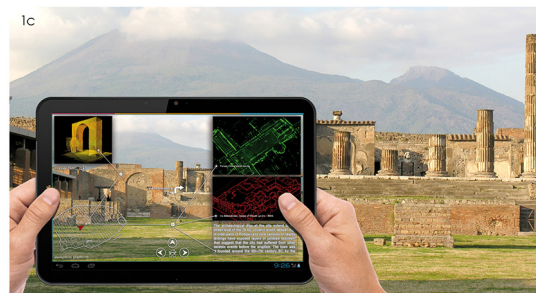
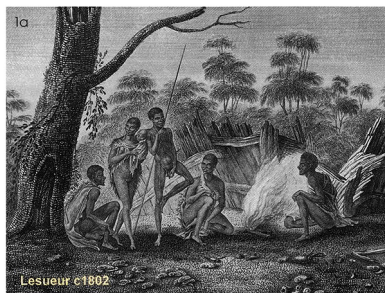
Visitors will be able to see the story telling installations as they walk, cycle or drive along the Esplanade fronting kanamaluka/River Tamar, and York Cove. The installations will be presented to invoke curiosity through bronze statues, traditional and contemporary sculpture, built forms, and landscape planting.

Life size bronze statues of Tasmanian Aboriginal people prior to European occupation and immediately after settlement will add to the experience. Interpretation signage allows visitors to inform themselves through descriptions and images about traditional Aboriginal life. Signage will also direct visitors to the other installations along the trail, and how each installation relates to one another, further expanding their understanding about the original owners of the land upon which they are standing.

Augmented Reality (AR) cues in the form of selected symbols will be accessible on all installations, interpretation signage and directional signage, with the smart phone app downloadable from Council's free WiFi at Windmill Point.

The visitor will be encouraged to interact with the setting by using their smart phone via the Augmented Reality app to observe additional activities such as Aboriginal actors re-enacting traditional activities. The AR app will also allow the visitor to pan their smart phone around today's landscape to reveal a reconstruction of what the original bushland would have once looked like prior to European occupation.

The following pages provide more in depth representations of each installation.



The three character images to the left, illustrate how the story telling experience can occur through the integrated use of historical drawings and paintings, contemporary life size bronze statues and Augmented Reality.

1a - 'Aboriginal people in front of their bark hut'
 Artist - Charles Alexandre Lesueur

1b - 'Aboriginal Family'
 Sculptor - Greg James

1c - Example of exploring Pompeii with AR app
 Image - INCEPTION XR

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STORY TELLING INSTALMENT 1 - Everyday Life Past and Present

The York Cove story telling instalment will be the first introduction to what visitors can discover and experience along the kanamaluka trail. Instalment 1 will provide a glimpse of pre-European every day life, as well as an introduction to today's Aboriginal community and the culture they continually fight for in today's society.

The York Cove instalment will be presented in the form of life size bronze statues and interpretive signage. The visitor will be encouraged to interact with the setting by using their smart phone/tablet via Augmented Reality (AR) to see activities such as children swimming and splashing in the water as well as prompts for the viewer to pan their phone around to reveal a reconstruction of what the original bushland would have once looked like.

The experience here will include the following:

Interpretation Signage Panel:

- An overview of the kanamaluka trail (what to expect)
- Images and descriptions of Aboriginal life prior to European occupation
- Original tribal / place names in *palawa kani* (The language of Tasmanian Aborigines)

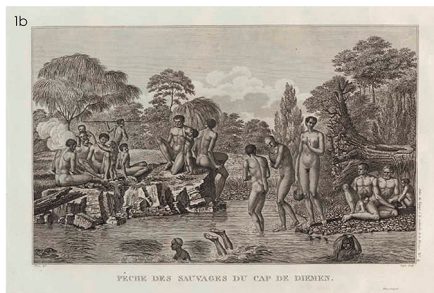
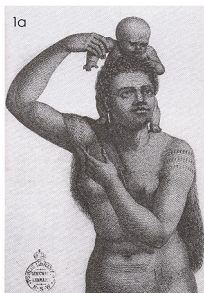
Bronze Statues:

- Life size bronze statues of a mother and child/children of various ages
- Statues to depict typical day to day activities.
- Statues will be accompanied by AR codes where viewers can interact

Augmented Reality cues:

- Recreated scenes of pre-European day to day life
- Audio of local Aboriginal people talking about kinimathatakinta/George Town

A physical and AR cue that encourages the viewer to follow the kanamaluka trail westwards to the next instalment.



Character Images

- 1a - 'Woman from Cape Diemen'
Artist - Jean Piron (1791-1793).
- 1b - 'Tasmanians preparing a meal from the sea'
Artist - Jean Piron (1791-1793).
- 1c - 'Aboriginal Woman and Child'
Artist - Robert Hannaford, 2016
- 1d - Darryl West 1970,
Image - Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre

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STORY TELLING INSTALLATION 2 - European Arrival

Perhaps the most prominent and thought provoking setting is the Windmill Point installation. Where kanamaluka and York Cove converge is a small rocky outcrop that projects out into the river. Above this outcrop is a large concrete monument dedicated to Lieutenant-Colonel William Patterson where the brass plaque states that in 1804, he "...took possession of the northern territory of Van Diemen's Land..."

The approach to this story telling installation is to install a bronze statue of an Aboriginal man and young boy standing on the outcrop looking out towards the mouth of the river. An AR cue within close proximity to the statues will allow the visitor to see that the installation signifies the beginning of invasion of Europeans, the dispossession of Aboriginal lands and the attempted genocide of the Aboriginal people.

The experience here will include the following:

Bronze Statues:

- Life size bronze statues of a man and young boy
- Statues looking out towards the mouth of the river.

Augmented Reality cues:

- Animation of Patterson's ship HMS Buffalo approaching York Cove.

A physical and AR cue that encourages the viewer to follow the kanamaluka trail northwards to the next instalment.



Character Images

1a - 'Warri and Yatungka'
Unknown sculptor.
Image - The West Australian.

1b - 'First Lessons'
Sculptor - Brett Mon Garling
Image - Greg Roberts.

1c - Augmented Reality showing HMS Buffalo.
"HMS Buffalo on her way to Australia 1840"
Artist - Paul Deacon

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STORY TELLING INSTALLATION 3 - Living Spaces

The living spaces installation will focus on the convergence of a pre-European Aboriginal camp site set amongst new architectural picnic shelters that interpret traditional temporary wind shelters and permanent domed structures.

The structures will be accompanied with contemporary picnic furniture and BBQs accommodating everyday picnic activities, and will be accompanied by AR cues that reveal visual representations of pre-recorded Aboriginal people re-enacting pre-European daily activities around the camp.

The story telling features in this section shall include:

Interpretation Signage Panels:

- Images and descriptions of the Aboriginal campsites, structures and every day items
- AR cues for further information opportunities on day to day activities

Augmented Reality Cues:

- Recreated scenes with Aboriginal actors
- Traditional everyday items around the installations associated with the camp such as shell middens, baskets, rope, stone implements, notched trees and food
- Audio stories relating to older generations of today's Aboriginal people growing up in kinimathatakinta/George Town and Lefroy.

A physical AR cue encourages the viewer to follow the kanamaluka trail northwards to the next instalment.



Character Images

1a - "Aboriginals in Van Diemen's Land"
Artist - Thomas Scott
Image - Mitchell Library, NSW

1b - "Basket" 2008
Artist - Colleen Mundy
Image - Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery.

1c - "String" 2009
Artist - Leonie Dickson
Image - Tasmanian Museum & Art Gallery.

1d - Augmented Reality showing today's landscape through the camera lens with Artist Charles Alexandre Lesueur's sketch of "Aboriginal people in front of bark hut" superimposed over the view.

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STORY TELLING INSTALLATION 4 - Conflict



The second most prominent and thought provoking setting is the story telling installation fronting the Esplanade. *"This particular installation signifies the invasion of Europeans, the dispossession of Aboriginal lands and the attempted genocide of the Aboriginal people".* (Adam Thompson, TAC 2021).

The setting shall include life size bronze statues of a European soldier appearing to fire at an Aboriginal man, with the Aboriginal man poised to throw a spear at the soldier. Clinging to the Aboriginal man's leg is a child, distraught.

A physical AR cue encourages the viewer to pan their smart phone around to reveal the original bushland setting that kinimathatakinta/George Town now occupies. Interpretation signage will be provided 20m+ away to ensure the visual, thought provoking impact of the bronze statues is achieved.

The experience here will include the following:

Interpretation Signage Panel:

- Images and descriptions of the early European/Aboriginal conflict
- Images and descriptions of disruptions of traditional life, military operations and the removal of the Tasmanian Aboriginal people to the Bass Strait Islands.

Bronze Statues;

- Life size bronze statues of a soldier, Aboriginal man with child.
- Statues re-enact a conflict situation.

Augmented Reality cues;

- Sounds highlighting the 'Aboriginal struggle' from the first rights marches to current day rallies and protests.

A physical AR cue encourages the viewer to follow the kanamaluka trail northwards to the next instalment.



Character Images

1a - 'The Aborigines of Van Demonds land endeavouring to kill Mr John Allen on Milton Farm in the District of Great Swanport on the 14th December 1828' Dixon Library, State Library of New South Wales.

1b - 'Proclamation to the Aborigines' Governor Arthur (1828-1830).

1c - 'Aboriginal Woman and Child' Artist -Robert Hannaford, 2016

1d - Tasmanian Parliament House Protests, 1970 Image - Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre

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STORY TELLING INSTALLATION 5 - Ceremonial Space

"Ceremony was an important part of Aboriginal culture. Today's Aboriginal community has a rich arts culture – including traditional craft, oral storytelling, visual and performance art, and literature" (Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre 2021).

The open grass area along the Esplanade, fronting Lot 31, will be the ideal place for a large art installation that would celebrate a ceremonial space.

The experience here will include the following:

Interpretation Signage Panel;

- Images and descriptions of traditional ceremonies and associated activities

Art Installation;

- Traditional ceremonial space with a large stone circle with a fire pit at its center.

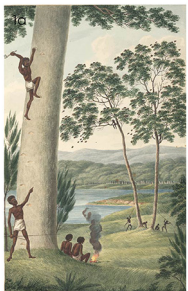
Augmented Reality cues;

- Images and sounds showing further examples of contemporary arts.

- Documented entry by Mr W. B Walker in 1827 about "a village of Bird's Nest like huts" discovered on the other side of the river near Kelso.

- Footage of an Aboriginal contemporary dance performance within the space.

A physical and AR cue that encourages the viewer to follow the kanamaluka trail northwards to the next instalment.



Character Images

1a - 'Aborigine climbing a tree with two Aborigines sitting beside a fire, others spearing a bird'
 Artist - Joseph Lycett, c1820

1b - 'Ceremonial dancing'
 Image - Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre

1c - kutalayna/ Jordan River, 2010
 Image - Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre

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STORY TELLING INSTALLATION 6 - Land Management

The final installation centers on land management and how the Tasmanian Aboriginal people used fire to manage the landscape.

Located in a prominent position on the edge of kanamaluka, this installation will feature bronze statues of three Aboriginal males using fire sticks in an act of setting fire to the foreshore. An AR cue will provide visual representations of prerecorded actors participating in the scene. Excited chatter amongst the actors will signify the vision of HMS Buffalo approaching from Bass Strait.

"The visitor will be able to interpret the scene and will be given AR details explaining Aboriginal land management and fire as a demonstration of ownership" and "Aboriginal people's customs including the giving of something in return for being on someone's country. The visitor is invited to give something in return for being on Aboriginal land". (Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre 2021).

The experience here will include the following:

Interpretation Signage Panels;

- Images and descriptions of cultural land management activities
- Descriptions of how European settlement impacted on cultural land management

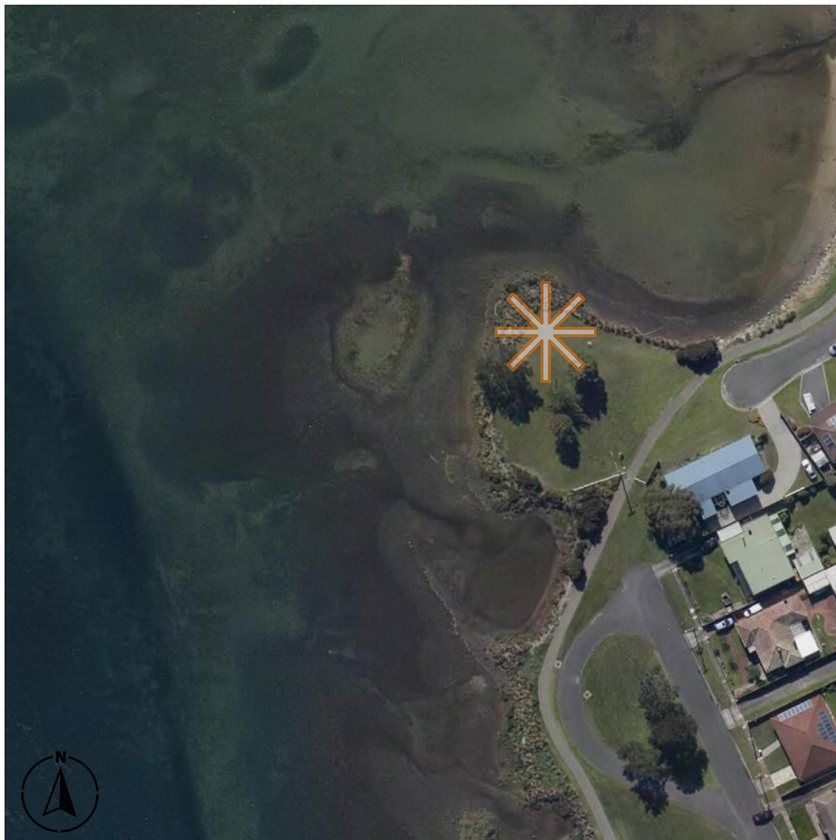
Bronze Statues;

- Bronze statues of two Aboriginal males posing as if setting the grass on fire
- Bronze statue of the third Aboriginal male pointing out towards Bass Strait

Augmented Reality cues;

- Images and sounds showing contemporary Aboriginal land management
- Aboriginal actors interacting with the scene
- Animation of HMS Buffalo approaching from Bass Strait

Directional signage adjoining the footpath will encourage visitors to continue on to Low Head to complete kanamaluka trail, or return back to York Cove.



Character Images

1a - 'Mannalargenna' (Manalakina)
Artist - Benjamin Duterrau, 1835

1b - Fire stick activity
Image - Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre

1c - Land management with fire
Image - Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre

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KANAMALUKA TRAIL FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

The kanamaluka trail, highlighted in green on the plan below, currently links kinimathatakinta/George Town to Low Head. As shown on the plan, six additional opportunities are identified for interpretation signage and Tasmanian Aboriginal cultural artworks.

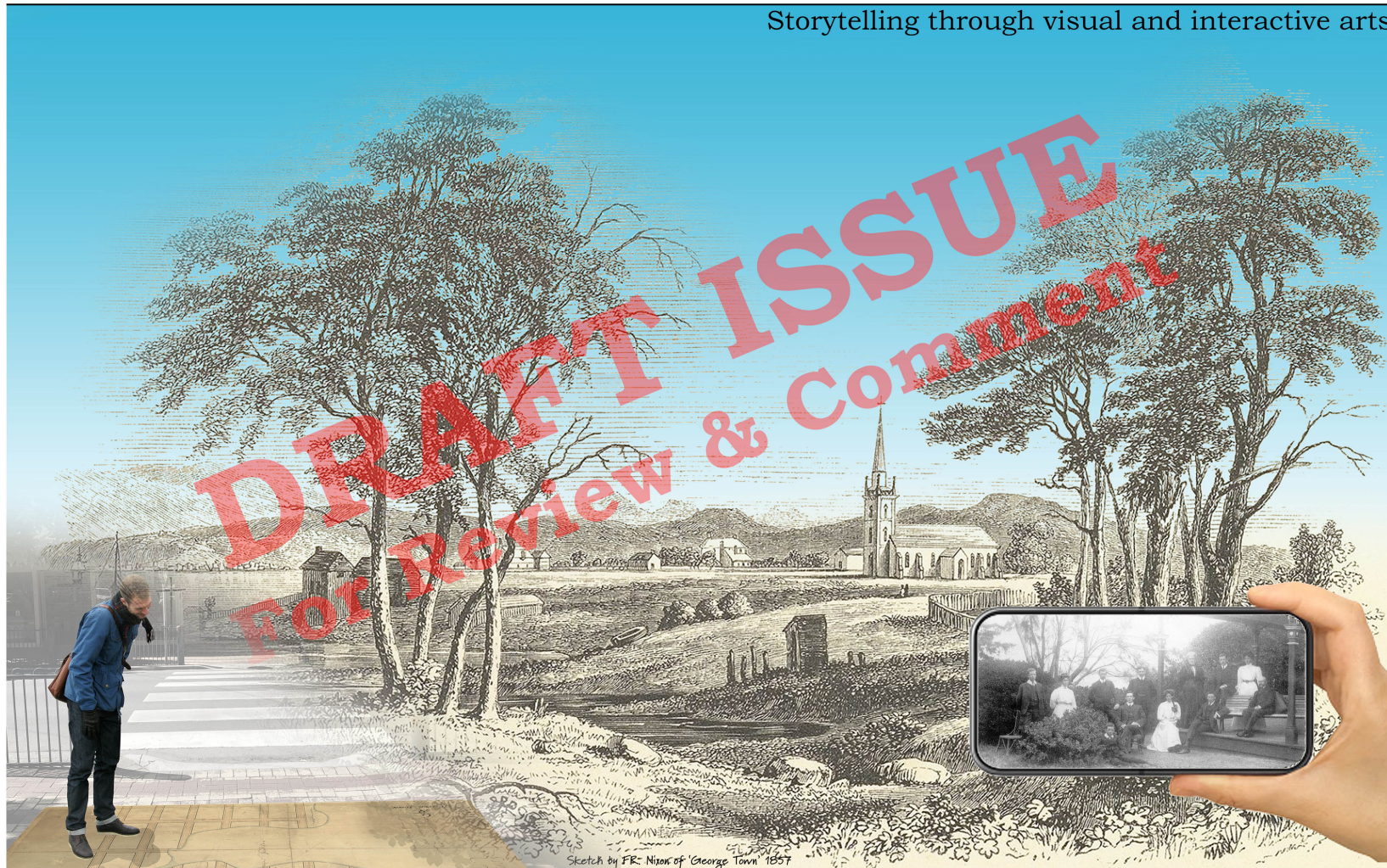
The natural landscape features of Gibsons Beach, She Oak Point, Lagoon Bay, Pilots Bay, Dotterel Point, and Low Head offer opportunities, together with additional AR reconstructions, for the Tasmanian Aboriginal people to tell their story of their culture before European arrival, and their continuing campaign for reconciliation.

It is envisaged that these additional opportunities would compliment the first six proposed installations and create a significant world class outdoor experience and promote cultural understanding, compassion and reconciliation.



GEORGE TOWN COLONIAL HERITAGE STORYTELLING TRAIL

Storytelling through visual and interactive arts



Prepared by LANGE Design for George Town Council

June 2023 **DRAFT ISSUE** for Review & Comment

GEORGE TOWN COLONIAL STORYTELLING TRAIL

INTRODUCTION

George Town Council engaged LANGE Design to prepare a document to investigate the potential for a George Town Colonial Storytelling Trail with the aim to enlighten visitors about the town's Colonial heritage. The storytelling trail will span from when HMS Buffalo sailed into the River Tamar on the 4th November 1804, through to the bustling period of the late 1800's. It is envisaged that the Information made available will provide a glimpse into the early settlers day to day activities and their industrious efforts into George Town's first 97 years during the colonial era.

The story of George Town plays a significant role in the development of early Tasmania and Australia, being one of the Colony's earliest settlements. George Town was also instrumental in establishing interstate and world wide communications for Tasmania, and was home to citizens that recorded those early periods in detail. One such citizen was Reverend John Fereday who was the first person to photograph the early European sealers with their Aboriginal wives that inhabited the Bass Island.

The stories, paintings and photographs of our early explorers and settlers that helped establish George Town can be shown to the world through interpretation signs and the technology of augmented reality. There is opportunity to make this trail a destination for many local, state, national or global travelers to explore.

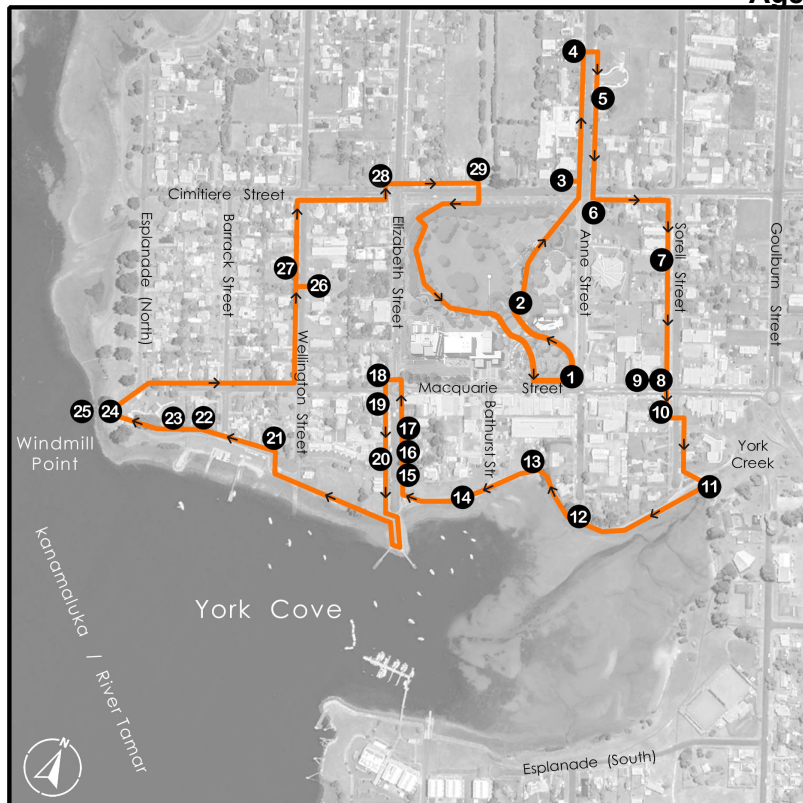
The visitor will be encouraged to interact with each point of interest by using their smart phone via an Augmented Reality (AR) app to observe additional activities such as actors re-enacting activities and events during settlement. The AR app will also allow the visitor to pan their smart phone around today's landscape to reveal a reconstruction of what the first few months of George Town may have looked like as the area was still covered in bushland.

The following pages provide 29 points of interest from the Colonial period between 1804 and 1901. The trail runs in a clockwise direction, however, each point of interest can be visited in isolation or in small groups.

INITIAL RESEARCH FOR THIS DOCUMENT

The information within this document has been sourced by means of tour brochures, desktop searches and reference books at hand. The author acknowledges that Illustrations, photographs, descriptions and writings require verification and permission from relevant sources to allow such information to be displayed on interpretation signs and via augmented reality apps.

LANGE Design and George Town Council also acknowledges that this document is preliminary, and that clarification and further research is required during the next phase of this exciting project. Material from the community is most welcome.



George Town colonial storytelling context map highlighting the points of interest.

LEGEND



Point of interest location where an interpretation sign and in most cases, an augmented reality cue is positioned to provide information.



Direction of Colonial Heritage Trail, with directional markers embedded within the pavement to direct visitors to the next point of interest.

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INTERPRETATION

The rich history of George Town is very well documented, with plenty of historical journals, history books, illustrations and photographs available. The challenge will be to select and portray this historical information in a precise and captivating manner that encourages visitors to explore the entire storytelling experience.

The stories, illustrations and early photographs of the early explorers and settlers that shaped George Town, can be presented to the world through interpretive installations that are factual and entertaining.

For this trail, there are two primary sources of storytelling. The first being the physical form of interpretation signs, and the second through the use of smart phone technology with the virtual creativity of Augmented Reality (AR). The 21st century is an exciting time to link the past with the present, and to provide the platform which allows our local and wider community to gain an understanding of how the first European explorers and settlers created what we experience today.

The design of the interpretation sign frames must consider the broader presentation of the storytelling experience, as well as the point of interest that the signs will be placed in front of. The materials must be complimentary to the aspects of the narrative. The use of timber would reflect the most available resource of the early colonial era being timber, whilst steel would reflect the construction fixtures that held the ships, buildings and even building implements together.

Information to be presented on the signage panels require refinement and confirmation, with factual and historical descriptions, illustrations, paintings and photographs being thoroughly researched and cross referenced.

It is evident that there are many sources available regarding the history of George Town, and that many hours of reading and selection of attention grabbing facts and stories, requires many hours of work. Such work is separate from the scope provided for the preparation of this particular document. To encourage the visitor to maintain their interest and continue along the trail, the quality of information on each sign must be clear, concise, interesting and entertaining.

The following pages provide an insight into how each point of interest can be portrayed, and needs to provide the means for further exploration into storytelling.



Example of a single plank post sign.



Example of a wide plank post style sign.



AUGMENTED REALITY

- Overlays computer generated 3D graphics over the real world via the camera.
- The user is able to move around the real world whilst interacting with the virtual world.
- The user can clearly separate the difference between both worlds.
- It can be experienced on smart phones and smart tablets.

VS



VIRTUAL REALITY

- The user is immersed into an interactive computer generated 3D simulation.
- There is no connection with the real world.
- The user may find it difficult to separate the virtual world from the real world.
- It can only be experienced by wearing specific headsets that cover the eyes.

Explanation between Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality.

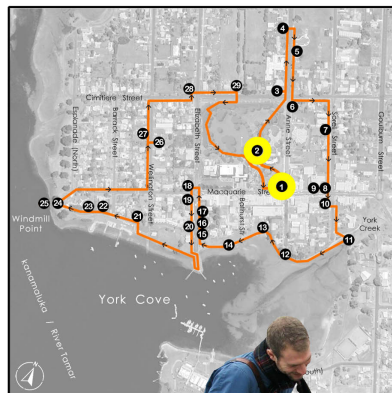
[www.jboston.io]

George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail

June 2023 **DRAFT ISSUE** for Review & Comment

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POINT OF INTEREST CONTEXT MAP



POI #1 - Concept of the town plan as pavement art on Macquarie Street.



POI #2 - Example of smart phone based augmented reality with pop-up interactive information.

POINT OF INTEREST 1 : 1813 PLAN OF GEORGE TOWN

The first point of interest would be a 3 x 3m pavement art installation of Governor Lachlan Macquarie's original 1813 plan for George Town. This spot is ideal as it is central to the town and adjoins the main car park in George Town, and begins in front of the Rotary Clock, at the corner of Anne Street and Macquarie Street.

The pavement art would be a precise representation of the 1813 plan through the use of metal trimming for line work and texts, and coloured pavement infills to represent the parchment paper.

An interpretation sign within close proximity will provide the background to the plan, including instructions from Governor Lachlan Macquarie to Surveyor-general James Meehan, to include a square in the middle of town. Incidentally, Meehan used the chimney of the house as a survey point when he laid out the plan for George Town.

From here, visitors can follow the George Town Colonial Heritage storytelling trail through Regent Square, and then around the town in a clockwise manner.

POINT OF INTEREST 2 : CAMP OF GOVERNOR LACHLAN MACQUARIE

Heading through the grand arbor towards middle of the square, there is a great opportunity for an AR cue to be located next to the existing mature Eucalyptus trees, where visitors can be prompted to use their smart phone to see the Governor's marquee popping into view.

In Governor Lachlan Macquarie's personal diary entry, he wrote that he and his wife Elizabeth "spent the afternoon working out the layout of the new town, and he and Mrs Macquarie retired for the night in a marquee erected on the site of Regent Square, after drinking a glass of champagne as a toast to the new town".

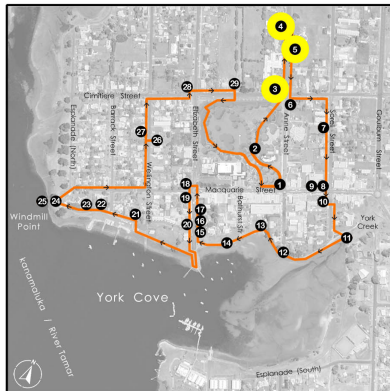
With Augmented Reality technology, visitors can explore the 'virtual camp', by walking around the marquee, as well as entering the marquee to see what Macquarie may have had there, such as beds, seats, and perhaps his writing desk with his diary opened on the date they camped there.

In addition to the AR experience, an interpretation sign would also be present to allow visitors without smart phone technology to also experience what 'The Camp' may have looked like.

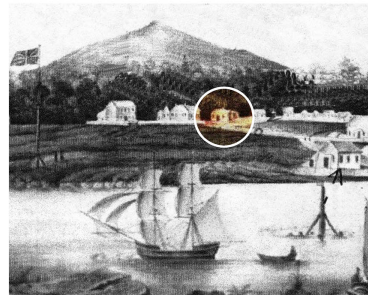
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POINT OF INTEREST CONTEXT MAP



POI #3 - Old Government House shown in the 'View of George Town from Garden Island', watercolour by unknown artist, c1820's.

(Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook Page, 7th October 2013)



POI #4 - Georgian style brick cottage, 57 Anne Street. (Source: Realestate.com.au)



POI #5 - Lawton House, 48 Anne Street. (Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook page, 18th October 2013)

George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail

POINT OF INTEREST 3 : SITE OF GOVERNMENT COTTAGE

As shown in the c1820's watercolour by an unknown artist, the first single story brick Government cottage was built in c1821, on the corner of Cimitiere Street and Anne Street. It was home to the Commandant before it later served as a school.

Further research will be undertaken to uncover more information about the original cottage prior to it's demolition, so that virtual representations of the building can be reconstructed and use in signage and potentially AR.

Stories such as the Commandant's tasks were, would be included on the interpretation signs and potentially with AR. Sketches and photographs of the building and past occupants, as well as images of a few items associated with the Commandant, the school, and it's used there after, would also add to the storytelling experience.

POINT OF INTEREST 4 : c1840-1860 GEORGIAN STYLE BRICK COTTAGE

This quaint little brick cottage was built between 1840 and 1860, and reflects the typical Georgian style architecture of the era. The simplicity of rectangular building with a hip roof, had the typical layout of a central front and back door and hallway with two rooms on either side.

Further research will be undertaken on this cottage, so that visitors can learn interesting facts about it's origins and stories about the residents who once called it home. Historical information and old photographs of the cottage would provide interesting insight about its history.

POINT OF INTEREST 5 : c1890 LAWTON HOUSE

This weatherboard and corrugated iron house was built by William Lawton during the 1890's. Further research will be undertaken to inform the visitor about William Lawton, including his back story about how he became the largest land owner in the district, including how the cast iron fencing around the George Town Cemetery was built as a memorial to him.

Historical information and potentially old photographs of the cottage, and of William, would add to the story of this point of interest.

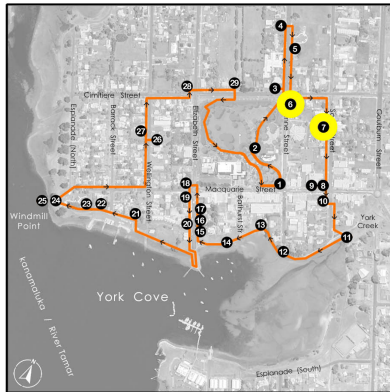
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POINT OF INTEREST CONTEXT MAP



POI #6 - Photo, Ben Hyrons Cottage. (Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook page, 23rd October 2013)



POI #7 - Tara Hall, 27 Sorell Street. (Source: Realestate.com.au)
Sketch of Captain Smith's residence, George Town (Source: Mitchell Library, NSW)

POINT OF INTEREST 6 : c1850 BEN HYRONS COTTAGE

The story of Benjamin Hyrons is very interesting. Transported to Van Dieman's Land for passing counterfeit coins in 1818, Benjamin was pardoned in Hobart 14 years later. He soon became a successful businessman and publican in places such as New Norfolk, Hobart and Launceston. Around 1855, Ben moved to George Town where he built this cottage.

There are many stories about Ben and a wealth of information about his many businesses on record. A selection of these stories would be included on a larger interpretation sign, with AR cues providing additional information for the visitor to explore.

POINT OF INTEREST 7 : c1828 TARA HALL

This two story building was constructed in 1833 from convict made bricks and stone, and was reputedly built by the Kermode family about 1828. Artist Louis Wood sketched the building in 1868 when it was the residence of Captain Smith. During the 1900's, the building became known as Tara Hall, where in later years became a popular venue for many wedding ceremonies.

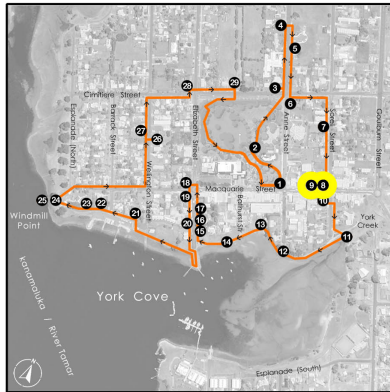
The architecture is the classic Georgian style, with high rectangular windows built in symmetry and proportion. Over the years, the building has had a veranda added and removed.

Further research will provide more historical information about the building, including the initial years prior to Federation, including when it was occupied by a Government official. Visual representations and photographs of the building, and potentially images of a few items associated with past occupants will add to the story telling experience.

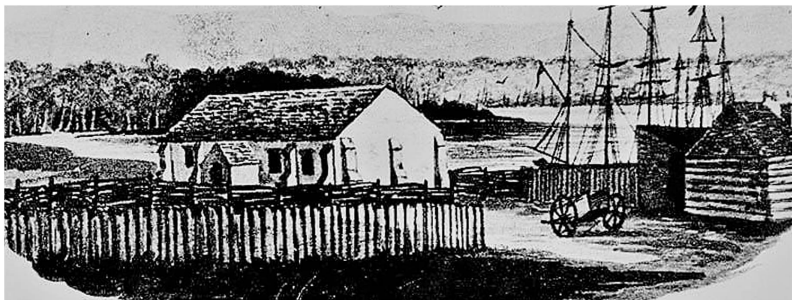
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POINT OF INTEREST CONTEXT MAP



POI #8 - Sketch from Wilson's Inn, drawn 24th May 1839. (Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook page, 29th December 2021)



POI #9 - British Hotel, Macquarie Street. (Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook page, 7th October 2013)
Advertisement, 29th December 1882. (Source: Libraries Tasmania)

George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail

POINT OF INTEREST 8 : SITE OF WILSON'S INN

Now long demolished, the Wilson Inn was famously known as the place John Batman stayed in 1835, while awaiting suitable weather to set sail on the ship 'Rebecca' to Port Phillip Bay, Victoria. The Inn was built around 1832 by Richard Haimes, and was originally named the Waterloo Tavern, and was later owned by George Wilson.

Further research will provide more stories about the Inn, including John Batman's stay. Descriptions of the building and perhaps photographs of a few items associated with the inn's past would add to the visitor experience.

Interactive AR cues of actors recreating scenes of John Batman's stay, and characteristic sounds of inside the inn would provide great insight of the historical event.

POINT OF INTEREST 9 : c1831 THE GEORGE TOWN HOTEL

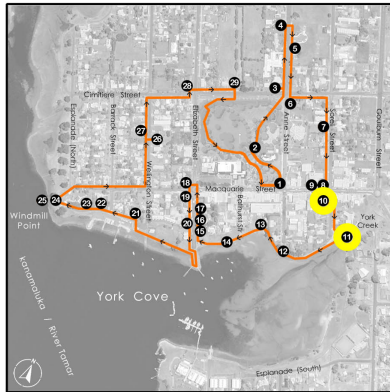
This classic Georgian style establishment has had many names since it was built as The George Town Hotel in 1831, however it is said that it was first licensed as The British Hotel in 1846. It was initially operated by two sea captains, Joseph James and John Thomas. Around World War 1, the pub was taken over by Harold Grey, and renamed Gray's Hotel, and continued operating under the Grey family until 1976.

Staying in George Town in the early days was not without its adventures. There are many entertaining stories about this hotel, including the time in December 1833, when the place was raided by bushrangers. *"They tied up John Thomas and the servants, ordered supper, called for several pots of beer and proceeded with Mrs Thomas to search the house. They stayed the night leaving just before dawn with their booty, which included six bottles of rum, sugar, flour, tea, tobacco, some plums for a Christmas pudding and a spyglass"* (Geoff Richie, On The Convict Trail Blogspot, 7th February 2016).

Further research and clarification of the hotel's history and associated stories will ensure the interpretation signs and AR cues will allow visitors to experience the rich history of this establishment.

AR cues would ideally include footage of actors recreating the raid scene where they left the building in the early hours of the morning with their plunder.

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POINT OF INTEREST CONTEXT MAP



POI #10 - George Town Watch House. (Source: Gary Houston via Wikipedia)



POI #11 - Map - Dorset 19 - Parish of Blandford. (Source: Libraries Tasmania, Item #AF396)

POI #11 - Photo, York Cove Rivulet. (Source: George Town Pictorial Heritage, Facebook page, 15th February 2016)

POINT OF INTEREST 10 : c1843 GEORGE TOWN WATCH HOUSE

Around 1816, this site was originally occupied by the early settlements convict barracks and included a gaol built out of logs. The current brick building was said to be constructed in 1843 as the regions watch house.

During it's history, the building was said to be a doctors surgery. In the 1930's , it was the council chambers before they moved to the nearby memorial hall.

Today, the old watch house is a tourist attraction and features an array of displays showcasing the region's rich history. Outside of business hours, an interpretation sign placed out the front will allow the visitor to gain an insight into the building's history, and will encourage them to come back and explore the interior and peruse all the displays on offer.

Further adding to the experience outside, an AR cue could show actors reenacting a fictional scene of police leading prisoners into the watch house during the 1840's era.

POINT OF INTEREST 11 : YORK COVE RIVULET

The York Cove Rivulet was an important asset in the early years of the Outer Cove settlement, as it provided much needed fresh water for the community. In his reports during 1804, Lieutenant-Colonel William Paterson provides descriptions of the early days of landing in Outer Cove. Descriptions such as where the demountable timber houses were built and where the soldiers and officers tents were erected should be made available through interpretation signs and AR cues.

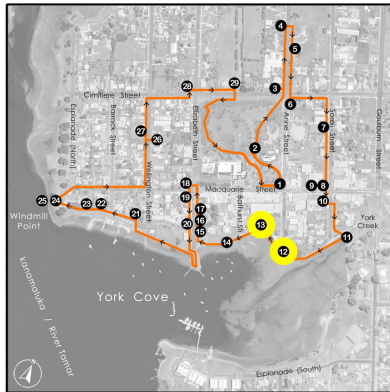
Unfortunately, York Rivulet was not a reliable source of water. It was tidal as far as the Franklin Street bridge. Lack of a good water supply was a major reason for transferring the camp to Western Arm (York Town). Later, wells were dug in the area and these were the main source of water supply for George Town. The mouth of the rivulet was a good anchorage for fishing boats, and was the site of the Olympic Pool built in the 1930s.

Further research will allow the recreation of a virtual settlement, where the visitor can pan their smart phone around the area to discover reenactments of soldiers and convicts going about their activities.

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POINT OF INTEREST CONTEXT MAP



POI #12 - Portion of the original George Town plan highlighting Major Stewart's land parcel. (Source: Libraries Tasmania)
*Photo of demountable house at York Cove, Tasmania (Source: Geoff Richie, "On The Convict Trail" website)



POI #13 - Thelmara Cottage. (Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook Page, 7th October 2013)

George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail

POINT OF INTEREST 12 : 1804 DEMOUNTABLE GOVERNMENT HOUSE

On 11th November 1804, at the end of Anne Street in the vicinity of the York Cove shore (Outer Cove), Lieutenant-Governor William Paterson "unloaded one of three demountable wooden houses and erected it at the cove for use as his residence" (Bartlett A.M., 2012, *Way Back When*, Launceston, Tasmania, page 16).

Even though Paterson only lived there for a matter of months before establishing York Town across the river, the building remained there for many years after. In 1813, while Surveyor General James Meehan drew up George Town's original plan as directed by Governor Lachlan Macquarie, the land that the house was on was granted to Major James Stewart. The adjoining parcel of land was granted to William Leith, who was responsible for constructing the first buildings in George Town. It is said that Leith used materials from the original house to build his own.

This is a significant site in not only George Town's development, but also the early years of Northern Tasmania. The site deserves recognition where several interpretation signs would provide fascinating stories and descriptions about these early days, including interactions with the local Aboriginal people up to the end of the Black War.

AR cues will allow the visitor to see what the original demountable wooden houses looked like from a distance. The AR cues would also include interactive representations of the original cove and the initial clearing of the immediate landscape in 1813. Perhaps even a stray Bengal cow wandering around as a link to the livestock of early settlement.

POINT OF INTEREST 13: C1860 THELMARA COTTAGE

Thelmara Cottage has a rich history, including the story about Captain Sturdee who was once the master of the Eastern Extension Cable & Co.'s maintenance ship. Further research and the provision of old drawings and photographs of this Colonial era cottage would add to the story telling of this point of interest.

An interpretation sign would feature selected stories and early photographs of the cottage, as well as images and stories of early colonial residents who called the cottage home.

An AR cue would allow visitors to see Captain Sturdee standing on the edge of the Cove looking out towards kanamaluka/ River Tamar, even perhaps smoking a pipe? Interactive experiences like this certainly make the story telling trail well worth exploring.

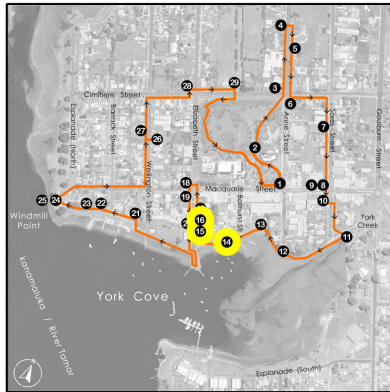
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POINT OF INTEREST CONTEXT MAP



POI #14 - Photo of York Cove c1970's, by Thomas Edgar Burns. (Source: Libraries Tasmania)



POI #15 - 2 Elizabeth Street. (Source: realestate.com.au)



POI #16 - Cable Station House. (Source: Google)

George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail

POINT OF INTEREST 14 : SETTLEMENT OF OUTER COVE

Since European settlement, Outer Cove became a very active part of the everyday lives of the community. As shown on Meehan's original 1813 town plan, the area along the shoreline between Anne Street and Elizabeth Street was to be dedicated for dock yards, a lumber yard, and stores for Government purposes such as the Commissariat Store.

Several interpretation signs grouped together at this point of interest, will showcase illustrations, paintings and early photographs of the cove, as well as descriptions of George Town's original business hub. The interpretation signs would also feature a selection of stories associated with the precinct, such as diary entries from those early settlers, shipping yarns, and stories from excursions from people holidaying in George Town from Launceston.

AR visual representations of early wharves and ships will add to the experience, especially if actors reenact the unloading of government stores from those early days, or opportunities are created where visitors can interact with merchants from the 1800's as they go about their business.

POINT OF INTEREST 15 : c1892 ORIGINAL CABLE Co. EMPLOYEES COTTAGE

George Town was instrumental in the first telegraph communications between Victoria and Tasmania. The Eastern Extension Cable Company (EECC), employed many people with most living within very close proximity to the main station which was built in 1891.

Number 2 Elizabeth Street, is a small weatherboard cottage that was built in 1892 to accommodate employees of the Cable Co. Today, the cottage is an Air BnB, where guests can experience this historical Victorian style cottage, and admire the building's characteristics at their leisure.

Further research will uncover historical photographs and stories about the early inhabitants of this cottage. An interpretation sign with these photographs and stories will allow the visitor to gain an insight into this cottage's history.

POINT OF INTEREST 16 : CABLE STATION HOUSE

Cable Station House at 4 Elizabeth Street, is another weatherboard cottage that was built in the early 1890's to accommodate senior staff of the EECC.

Further research will uncover historical photographs and stories about the early inhabitants of this cottage. An interpretation sign with these photographs and stories will allow the visitor to gain an insight into this cottage's history.

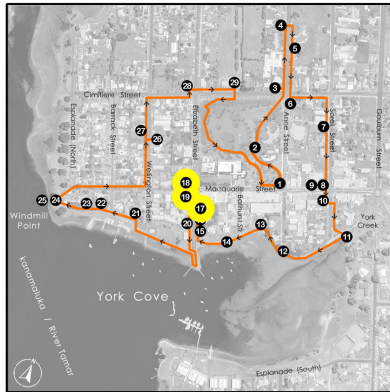
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POINT OF INTEREST CONTEXT MAP



POI #17 - Whitestones, 6-8 Elizabeth Street. (Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook page, 28th February 2016)



POI #18 - Wilton, 27 Macquarie Street.
(Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook Page, 7th October 2013)



POI #19 - Widdowson's House, 11 Elizabeth Street.
(Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook Page, 7th October 2013)

George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail

POINT OF INTEREST 17 : c1839 STEAM PACKET TAVERN

Now known as Whitestones, this stone building was constructed in 1839 and was originally called the Steam Packet Tavern. The tavern was still licensed up to the 1880's. After that, it became a school and then a private residence.

The site of the tavern may have been John Batman's favorite place to visit. Stories have it that his apparition has been seen at the top of the stairs. This is puzzling as the Tavern didn't exist when John lived in the area. Maybe his ghost was mistaken with someone else?

As the tavern has lasted over 186 years, there are no doubt more stories to be told about this building and the people that visited there. More historical photographs of the building, it's guest and potentially items associated with the building would be included in the interpretation sign associated with this point of interest.

POINT OF INTEREST 18 : c1867 'WILTON'

This grand weatherboard home was built in 1867 as a residence for senior staff of the Eastern Extension Cable Company (EECC). The classic Victorian architectural style with its elaborate windows and external timber decorations suggests that it may have accommodated upper management.

Further research for the interpretation sign will uncover more information about the house known as Wilton, including photographs and stories from the EECC staff that once resided here.

POINT OF INTEREST 19 : c1870 A.S. WIDDOWSONS COTTAGE & STORE

Widdowsons Cottage and store, built by A.S. Widdowson in the 1870's, has a rich history within the George Town community. At some time, the original store was turned into a bakery and there are many stories still today, of people buying bread and other baked goods from here.

The experience would be enhanced with visitors being able to interact with AR cues in addition to the interpretation sign, with further research providing early photographs and stories associated with both the store and the bakery.

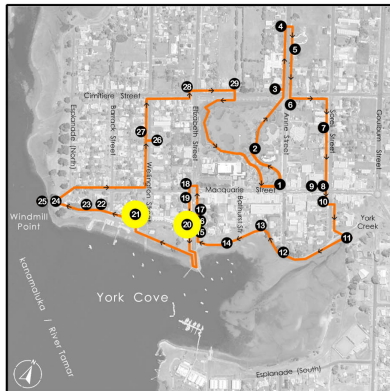
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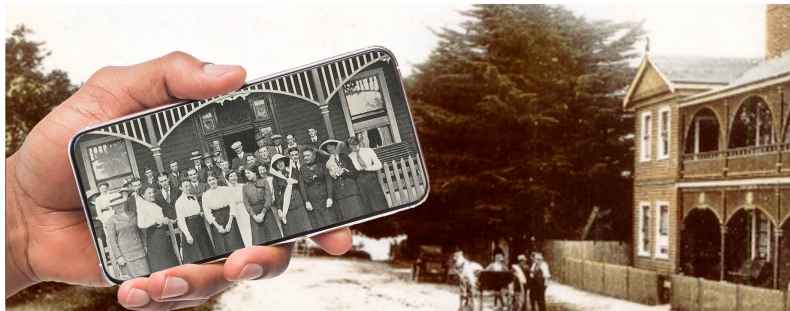
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POINT OF INTEREST CONTEXT MAP



POI #20 - Pier Hotel, 5 Elizabeth Street. (Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook Page, 3rd October 2013)

POI #20 - Party at the Pier Hotel, Christmas 1914. (Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook Page, 10th August 2019)



POI #21 - 'Wimbledon', 9 Esplanade North. (Source: Google Street View)

POI #21 - Photo, 'Wimbledon'. Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook Page, 7th October 2013)

George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail

POINT OF INTEREST 20 : PIER HOTEL

First licensed in the 1850's, the Pier Hotel was the first place to drop into for holiday makers after the long journey up the River Tamar from Launceston. Originally a single story building, as can be seen in R. Clark's painting of York Cove in 1896, a second story was added in 1908.

There is no doubt that the Pier Hotel has many stories to be told, and perhaps a few drawings and old photographs from the mid to late 1800's that can be included in the interpretation signs. Further research and clarification of the hotel's history will ensure the information on the interpretation signs and AR cues will allow visitors to experience the rich history of this establishment.

The opportunity is also available to provide a few AR cues where actors could portray early sea merchants entering and existing the hotel during the 1850's.

POINT OF INTEREST 21 : c1867 'WIMBLEDON'

'Wimbledon' is a stately home that overlooks York Cove and displays the grandeur of Colonial architecture. The style shows a blend of Georgian symmetry with Victorian influence such as the hip roof, separated wrap around veranda, decorative timber veranda brackets and simple picket balustrades.

Further research will provide more insight into the history of this building and the people that resided there during the late 1800's. Provision of old drawings and photographs of the home would certainly add to the story telling of this point of interest.

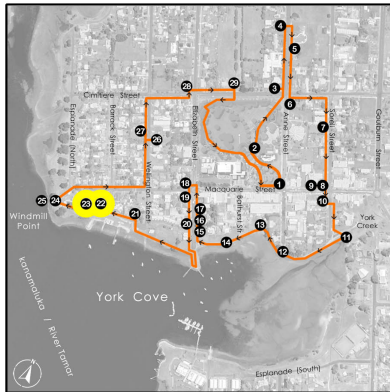
An interpretation sign would feature selected early photographs of the building and the original inhabitants, as well as stories associated with every day life.

An AR cue could show actors in period outfits standing on the veranda looking out to York Cove.

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POINT OF INTEREST CONTEXT MAP



POI #22 - Fasifern, 9-10 Esplanade North. (Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook Page, 7th October 2013)

POI #22 - Group of people pictured on the verandah. (Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook page, 4th January 2019)



POI #23 - Cable Station, Esplanade North. (Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook page, 13th April 2019)

George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail

POINT OF INTEREST 22 : c1874 'FASIFERN'

'Fasifern' is another grand home featuring Colonial architecture, and is almost identical in layout to Wimbledon, with it's hip roof, separated wrap around veranda, and decorative timber features.

Fasifern was built about 6 years after Wimbledon for William Warren, who was the Tasmanian manager of the Eastern Extension Cable Company (EECC). One of the first telephone calls was made from this house to the cable station in Low Head.

Historical photographs and drawings of the house during the later half of the 1800's would be included on the interpretation sign, as well as images of historic items belonging to the Williams family.

POINT OF INTEREST 23 : CABLE STATION

The spot now known as Windmill Point Park has a significant history associated with the beginning of the telecommunications era in Tasmania. In 1891, and with the Tasmanian manager residing next door, the Eastern Extension Cable Company bought this block of land for a new communications station.

The prominent Launceston Architect Alexander North, who designed the Church of the Apostles in Launceston and the Launceston Post Office, was commissioned to design a new cable station. The elaborate classic Victorian style large weatherboard building, which covered most of the lot, had 28 rooms, an engine house, workshop, and stables. The new station also included an underground communications cable that connected the new station to East Beach where the link was made to the submarine cable across Bass Strait.

The building operated as the EECC Station until the company put it up for sale in 1909. During the 1900's it had several uses including flats before the building was condemned and demolished in 1969.

The only lasting evidence of the Cable Station is a hedgerow of Macrocarpa Pines that once provided shelter from the prevailing north-westerly winds. Some of them still exist, with three being trimmed and carved by the talented chainsaw sculptor Eddie Freeman. The carvings depict EECC workmen hauling the telegraph cable ashore, as well as representations of Matthew Flinders, George Bass and William Paterson.

As this site is of great historical significance to interstate and world communications, it deserves recognition where several interpretation signs would provide fascinating stories and descriptions about the station, including interactive AR cues to allow the visitor to see the scale of the original building.

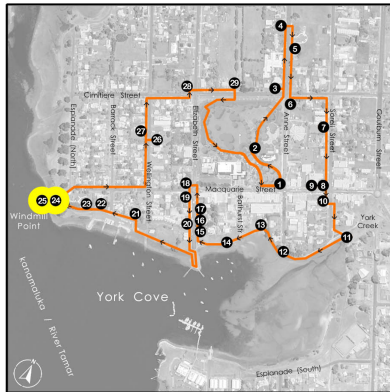
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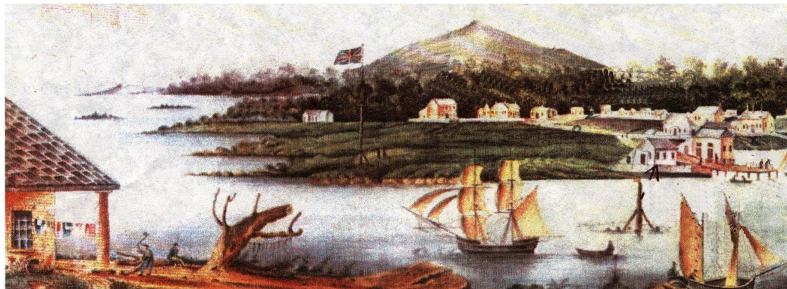
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POINT OF INTEREST CONTEXT MAP



POI #24 - 'View of George Town from Garden Island', watercolour by unknown artist, c1820's, Private Collection
(Source: Colour image sourced from George Town Pictorial History, Facebook page, 7th October 2013)



POI #25 - Garden Island, with the replica ship 'Lady Nelson'. (Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook page, 6th February 2016)
POI #25 - Map, Dorset 19, Parish of Blandford (Source: Libraries Tasmania, Item #AF396/1/495)

George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail

POINT OF INTEREST 24 : WINDMILL POINT

When Governor Lachlan Maquarie instructed Surveyor-General James Meehan to draw up the town plan, he particularly wanted to reserve this area for a battery to defend George Town from attack. This structure was to be named Fort Lachlan after Maquarie's son. According to the original town plan, the site was also intended for Government House. Unfortunately there is no evidence that either of these buildings actually took form on the site.

Structures that did eventuate in the early months of settlement, were a Government windmill, hence the name, and a flagstaff with the Union Jack fluttering in the breeze. According the Map "Dorset 19, Parish of Blandford", Windmill Point was also referred to as Hang Tree Point.

Several interpretation signs providing fascinating stories and descriptions about Windmill Point, especially why it was also known as Hang Tree Point, would be on display to allow the visitor to gain an appreciation for the colonial origins of this particular parcel of land. Interactive AR cues would also show actors raising the Union Jack on the flagstaff, or seeing the HMS Buffalo sailing past.

POINT OF INTEREST 25 : GREEN ISLAND

Although the island does not reflect the original topography due to recent sea wall constructions, the once named Green Island was crucial in storing goods and livestock off-loaded from HMS Buffalo, once the initial settlement was established during those first few weeks of November 1804.

Most of the stores and livestock were moved to Garden Island to prevent theft. To further protect these valuable goods, soldiers were assigned to the island to ensure they remained under guard.

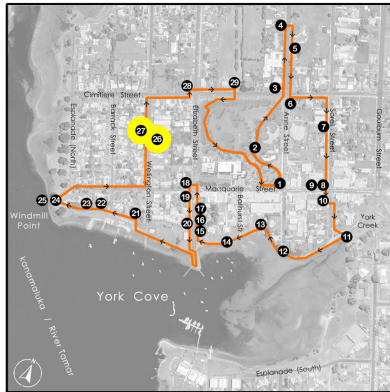
In the 1820's watercolour painting of Windmill Point from Garden Island, and also referenced on the Dorset 19 map, the island had a hut and a jetty, and was no doubt devoid of trees and shrubs to maintain visual security over the livestock and goods store. One can only imagine how exposed the island would have been before the settlement was moved to York Town.

Interpretation signs for Garden Island would be included within the Windmill Point signs. The intriguing story of Garden Island, including the complete list of the stores and livestock originally off-loaded there, would certainly add to the visitor experience.

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POINT OF INTEREST CONTEXT MAP

POINT OF INTEREST 26 : C1855 IVY COTTAGE

Ivy Cottage is another great example of early Australian colonial architecture with a 'H' pattern footprint and gable roof design, with a central living area and two wings either side. Built around 1855, this weatherboard house was constructed during the early era of Victorian architecture, and did not feature elaborate decorative timber features of the Victorian era that will come into fashion within the coming years. The lace decorations around the verandah would have been added after the 1870's, when Australia started manufacturing our own iron lace features.

Ivy Cottage would also have many stories that should be shared with the visitor on their journey around the colonial heritage trail. Further research will be undertaken to obtain historical photographs or drawings of the building. Photographs of early day to day objects associated with the early residents would also add the storytelling displayed on the interpretation sign.



POI #26 - 'Ivy Cottage', 22 Wellington Street. (Source: Historical Australian Towns website)

POINT OF INTEREST 27 : C1855 LAURA VILLA

Almost directly opposite Ivy Cottage is Laura Villa. Built at the same time as Ivy Cottage, the late Colonial, early Victorian architectural style of Laura Villa is noticeable different. Laura Villa has been designed and constructed on a 'U' shape footprint with a hip roof.

The central bay window suggests that it was either one of the first buildings in Tasmania to have this feature as part of its construction, or the window was added at a later date. Similar to Ivy Cottage, the lace decorations around the verandah would have been added after the 1870's.

During the development of the interpretation signage, further research will be undertaken to obtain historical drawings or photographs associated with the building and any photographs and stories about the people that once called Laura Villa their home.

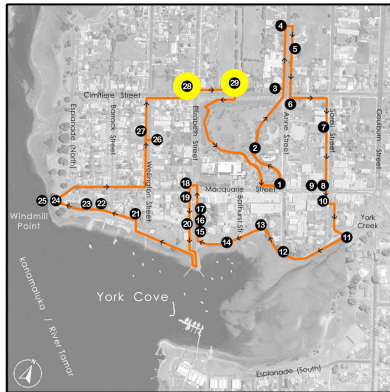


POI #27 - 'Laura Villa', 17 Wellington Street. (Source: Google Street View)

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POINT OF INTEREST CONTEXT MAP



POI #28 - Postcard of 'The Grove'. (Source: George Town Pictorial History, Facebook page, 5th November 2017)



POI #29 - Sketch of the Female factory. (Source: George Town Pictorial History)

Plan of George Town Police Station
(Source: Tasmanian Archives Item#PMD266/1/1284)

George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail

POINT OF INTEREST 28 : c1836 'THE GROVE'

This two story Georgian home, was built in 1836 for Lieutenant Matthew Curling Friend who had been the Port Officer in Launceston at the time. Friend played an instrumental role in the early years of Launceston as well as George Town where he was also appointed as the Magistrate and Port Officer. In addition to restoring the Windmill Hill flagstaff in Launceston, and establishing the lighthouse at Low Head, Friend was also responsible for building the semaphore line from George Town to Launceston. Unfortunately, Friend and his first wife only resided at The Grove for a few years, and it appears that he moved back to Launceston after his wife's death in 1838.

The Grove has had many different owners including Reverend John Fereday, who was not only a clergyman, but also an educator, sketcher and amateur photographer. Incidentally, the first wet-plate stereoscopic portraits of European sealers and their Aboriginal wives on the Bass Strait Islands, were taken by Fereday.

It appears that the building had become rundown on two occasions, first around the 1890's and then again during the 1960's. In 1969, The Grove was fully restored by Chlo and Peter Martin, and became a museum between 1971 and 2007.

This particular building has been home to some truly remarkable people, and several interpretation signs would allow visitors to gain an insight into the fascinating stories about the house and it's residents. In addition to the interpretation signs, AR cues will provide interactive representations where the visitors can engage with The Grove's history, and perhaps engage in a conversation with the Reverend or Lieutenant Friend about their achievements.

POINT OF INTEREST 29 : FEMALE FACTORY

There is plenty of information available about this particular site, mainly because it served as a female factory from about 1825 through to 1834. After a few modifications and additions, the house also served as a Magistrates residence until 1873, when it became vacant. Sixteen years later, the brick and stone building was demolished, with very little remaining in existence today. The original house was built for Chaplin John Youl around 1821, when Governor Lachlan Maquarie ordered him to move there from Launceston, as a parsonage and the house had been built specifically for him.

At least three interpretation signs should be installed that allow the visitor to uncover the secrets about this historical site. AR cues that show the original footprint and wireframe of the building would also allow visitors to explore the rooms and perhaps engage virtually with some of the occupants.

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THE NEXT STEP



Map, Dorset 19, Parish of Blandford (Source: Libraries Tasmania, Item #AF396/1/495)

George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail

The George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail provides an insight into the beginnings of the town and the significant role that the settlement played in establishing Launceston as the state's northern capital. The trail will also allow visitors to learn how George Town played a vital role in other historical events of national significance including being the third settlement in Australia, and establishing interstate and world wide communications for Tasmania.

The stories, paintings and early photographs of our early explorers and settlers that helped establish George Town, can be shown to the world through interpretation signs and with links to the technology of augmented reality. There is great opportunity to make this trail a destination for many local, state, national and global travelers to visit and explore.

To add to this experience, additional trails can be linked to the Colonial Heritage Trail, such as the 'kanamaluka Story Telling Experience', which offers compelling stories, reenactments, and artist representations about the Tasmanian Aboriginal people before and after European arrival. Other trails would include the George Town Cemetery, a Low Head Heritage Walk, and a Lefroy Historical Walk.

The implementation process of the George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail would involve a staged approach, and would involve the following:

- 1 Design the interpretation sign frames and set the proportioned signage panel/s to display the information, drawings and photographs. The sign panels should enable 1/3 text, 1/3 imagery, and space.
- 2 Refine and select factual and historical descriptions, illustrations, paintings and photographs of the points of interest along the trail. To invoke a variety of emotions along the trail, a selection of stories from characters from the 1800's should include stories of interest, conflict, sadness and humorous events. The odd questionable anecdote would also add to the experience as well. It is imperative to consider the quantity of information to display on a sign, as too much text will deter visitors from engaging with the point of interest.
- 3 Establish costings for the development of the sign design, further research and graphic design of the signs and the specialist creation of augmented reality features, and the engagement of actors to recreate events and scenarios.

Once these three stages have been established, Council can seek funding to allow the implementation of the whole story telling experience to be installed in one project.

It is envisaged the the George Town Colonial Heritage Storytelling Trail will be a great success for the town and will attract visitors from all over Australia as well as from around the world.

June 2023 **DRAFT ISSUE** for Review & Comment

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REFERENCES

The following list contains the details of sources used to create this document.

Bartlett, AM 2012, *Way Back Then: People, Places and Events...*, West Tamar Historical Society Inc. in conjunction with the George Town and District Historical Society Inc. and the Launceston Historical Society Inc., Launceston Tasmania.

Branagan, JG 1994, *George Town: History of The Town and District*, Regal Publications, Launceston Tasmania.

George Town Council and George Town and District Historical Society, (2016), *George Town Heritage Trail: A self guided tour of historical sites and buildings in George Town and Low Head*, Tasmania.

George Town Pictorial History, 2022, *George Town Pictorial History Facebook Page*, https://www.facebook.com/GeorgeTownPictorial/?ref=page_internal.

Government of Tasmania 2022, *Libraries Tasmania: Online search*, <https://www.libraries.tas.gov.au/Pages/Home.aspx>

National Library of Australia 2022, *TROVE: Online search*, <https://trove.nla.gov.au/>

There are many sources available on the history of George Town in printed form, however, it is acknowledged that for the purposes of writing this document, only short descriptions and limited research was carried out with the understanding that further and more detailed research for the final project will be undertaken by other parties, and that such work is separate from the scope for preparing this particular document.

**Community Event Sponsorship 2024/2025
Sponsorship Program Application 2024/2025 (Version 2 of 2)
Application No. sponsor04 From George Town Neighbourhood House Inc**
Form Submitted 30 Jun 2025, 3:37PM AEST

Before Completing an Application

IMPORTANT: Please read information below to assist you in completing your application online.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Welcome to the George Town Council's online Minor Community Events Sponsorship Fund application service, powered by [SmartyGrants](#).

You may begin anywhere in this application form. Please ensure you save as you go.

Incomplete applications and/or applications received after the closing date will not be considered.

Before completing this application form, check that both your organisation and your project is eligible under the [Guidelines](#). The Guidelines provide essential information that will assist you in preparing an application.

Information for Applicants

The George Town Council is pleased to work in partnership and offer incentive and support for community events held in the George Town municipality that contribute to the development of a strong, vibrant and connected community. The provision of sponsorship funds is a mechanism by which Council furthers its strategic goals and objectives and supports sustainable community development.

The fund is focused on assisting events which deliver mutual benefit to Council and the applicant organisation, as well as specific community benefit outcomes that align with Council's strategic goals and objectives outlined in the Strategic Plan.

To view the full guidelines click [here](#)

If you have any questions in regards to these eligibility criteria, please Council on 6382 8800 or email - council@georgetown.tas.gov.au

The sponsorship program is available all year. Please ensure you apply at least 8 weeks prior to the event.

Privacy Statement

We pledge to respect and uphold your rights to privacy protection under the [Australian Privacy Principles](#) (APPs) as established under the *Privacy Act 1988* and amended by the *Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Act 2012*. Our Privacy Statement can be viewed on [Council's website](#)

1. Assessment Criteria

*** indicates a required field**

Criteria Confirmation by Applicant Organisation

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I confirm that the applicant ...

- Has read and understands the Minor Community Events Sponsorship Program Guidelines.
- Has met the criteria checklist above.
- Does not owe any reports or money to George Town Council as a result of previous funding or grants.
- Is an incorporated not for profit, or auspiced by an incorporated organisation, and/or have an ABN.
- Is located within and/or work within the George Town municipal area.
- Is inclusive in its membership and supportive of the broader community;
- Is located and operating in the George Town municipal area;
- Is not subject to any legal impediment or adverse circumstances.
- Has public liability insurance of \$20,000,000 demonstrated by the provision of a Certificate of Currency

This Minor Community Events Sponsorship Program will NOT support :-

- Ongoing administration and running costs
- Trophies or prize money
- Political activities
- Professional fundraising organisations
- Community organisations / groups with outstanding grant acquittals. All previous Council grants, where an acquittal is due, must be acquitted to a satisfactory standard. Unacquitted or unsatisfactory acquitted grants will deem an application ineligible.

Please select to confirm your Minor Community Events Sponsorship request meets the above conditions *

- ☒ I confirm the above conditions

Please upload your Public Liability Insurance certificate of currency *

Filename: COC Liability 24-25 (1).pdf
File size: 118.0 kB

2. Applicants Details

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant organisation name *

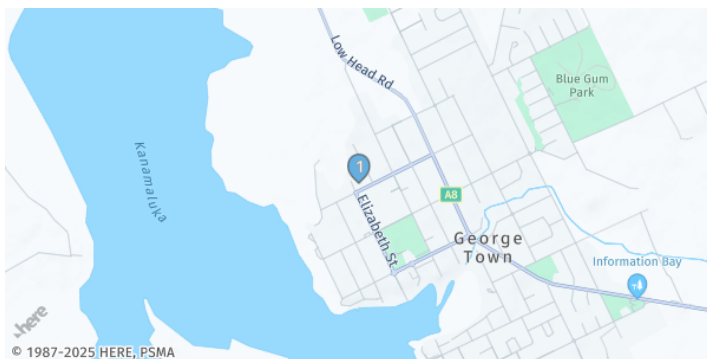
George Town Neighbourhood House Inc

Please use your organisation's full name. Check your spelling and make sure you provide the same name that is listed in official documentation such as with the ABR, ACNC or ATO.

Applicant Primary Address

187 Agnes St
George Town TAS 7253 Australia

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Applicant Postal Address *

187 Agnes St
George Town TAS 7253 Australia
Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Applicant Website (if applicable)

<http://www.gtnh.org.au>

Must be a URL

Primary Contact Person *

Mrs Jessica Berger
This is the person we will correspond with about this grant

How long has your Organisation been operating in the George Town municipality?

*

42

Number of Volunteers / Employees *

30

Contact Phone Number *

(03) 6312 3019

Primary contact person's email address *

jessica.berger@gtnh.org.au

This is the address we will use to correspond with you about this grant.

3. Organisation Details

*** indicates a required field**

Briefly outline your organisation's background and current activities *

The George Town Neighbourhood House is a community-driven Public Benevolent Institution established to address structural disadvantages and foster resilience in the George Town Municipality. Governed by volunteers and funded through state grants, donations, and Commonwealth support, we offers low-cost services, workshops, and aid to vulnerable

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groups while hosting social events, skill-sharing programs, and advocacy initiatives to combat isolation and systemic issues like poverty. We emphasise inclusivity and humor, creating a welcoming space for connection and empowerment.

How long has your organisation been operating in the George Town municipality *
42 years

How many active members do you have *
41

What sections of the community benefit directly from your organisation / group / club? *

The George Town Neighbourhood House (GTNH) serves a diverse range of community members. Key beneficiaries include:

Disadvantaged Individuals and Families
Seniors and Socially Isolated Individuals
Individuals Seeking Skill Development
Marginalised Groups and Broader Community
Youth and Families

ABN Details

Does your organisation have an ABN? *
☒ Yes ☐ No

ABN *
79 946 603 764

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	79 946 603 764
Entity name	GEORGE TOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE INC
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	Yes
DGR Endorsed	Yes (Item 1)
ATO Charity Type	Public Benevolent Institution More information
ACNC Registration	Registered
Tax Concessions	FBT Exemption, GST Concession, Income Tax Exemption
Main business location	7253 TAS

Information retrieved at 3:05pm today

Must be an ABN

Legal Structure

What is your organisation legal structure? *

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- ☒ Incorporated association or organisation
☐ Unincorporated association or organisation
☐ Other:
If your organisation is unincorporated it must have an auspice organisation

Please provide a copy of your Organisations Certificate of Incorporation.

Filename: incorporation certificate.pdf
File size: 180.2 kB

4. Event Details

*** indicates a required field**

Name of Event to be sponsored *

George Town New Year's Eve Extravaganza

Provide a name for your project/program/initiative. Your title should be short but descriptive

Anticipated start date *

31/12/2025

Anticipated end date *

01/01/2026

If unknown, provide your best guess or leave blank If unknown, provide your best guess or leave blank

Location *

George Town

Please provide a brief description of the Event. *

A vibrant community Celebration is being planned for George Town on Regent Square. This free, family-friendly event will feature a wide range of food and drink options, live entertainment, and engaging activities for all ages. Local vendors and performers will be central to the event, providing an inclusive platform to showcase their talents and offerings. Businesses will have equal opportunities to participate, helping to promote local enterprise. The celebration will conclude with a spectacular fireworks display. We anticipate attendance of at least 5,000 people, with the potential to attract up to 8,000 attendees.

Must be no more than 100 words.

Please include details of the event including location and how many people you are expecting to attend

How did you determine a need for this Event. *

Based on attendance and community feedback from previous events, we have identified a clear need for the upcoming event. Feedback from the most recent event was favourable, indicating that the event is increasingly becoming a highly anticipated annual gathering for the community.

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Please list objectives and outcomes *

The community event aims to foster unity, belonging, and social connection through inclusive participation. It provides a platform for local businesses to showcase their products and services, supporting the local economy. Entertainment and recreational activities promote enjoyment and well-being for all ages. The event also supports future initiatives through fundraising efforts. Outcomes include stronger community ties, increased local engagement, economic stimulation through tourism and spending, and the creation of shared traditions. By building lasting memories, the event encourages continued community involvement and establishes a meaningful legacy for future gatherings.

Must be no more than 100 words.

Describe how this event will connect the broader community. Include volunteers of the project in this response.

Please briefly explain how these will be achieved *

These objectives will be achieved through careful planning, strong community engagement, and collaboration with local stakeholders. The event will be widely promoted to encourage broad participation, ensuring inclusivity across age groups and cultural backgrounds. Local businesses and community groups will be invited to host stalls and activities, providing them with visibility while stimulating local commerce. A diverse program of entertainment, food, and recreational activities will be curated to appeal to a wide audience, enhancing community enjoyment and well-being. Volunteers and local organisations will play key roles in event delivery, fostering ownership and stronger social connections. Fundraising initiatives, including raffles and donations, will support the sustainability of future events. Feedback will be collected to inform future planning and improvements. By creating a vibrant, welcoming space that celebrates local identity and encourages shared experiences, the event will lay the foundation for enduring community traditions and continued public enthusiasm for future gatherings.

Must be no more than 150 words.

Please detail

Please explain how you will monitor and measure the objectives of your Event. *

1. Surveys and/or Feedback Forms: Distributing surveys or feedback forms to attendee after the event can provide valuable insights into their experiences, satisfaction levels, and whether the event met their expectations.
2. Attendance Numbers: Having free tickets people register for that ask for their postcode will monitor where attendees are coming from and can help gauge community engagement and interest in the festivities.
3. Vendor Participation and Sales: Monitoring vendor participation and sales figures can indicate the level of promotion and support provided to local businesses, as well as the event's economic impact.
4. Social Media Engagement: Analysing social media metrics such as likes, shares, comments, and hashtag usage related to the event can provide real-time feedback and measure community engagement online.
5. Community Partnerships: Assessing the level of collaboration and involvement from community partners, such as local organisations or government agencies, can indicate the event's effectiveness in fostering community connections and support.
6. Fundraising Goals: Tracking progress towards fundraising goals and the amount of funds raised can measure the event's success in providing a fund for the next years event.

Will you be able to conduct a visitor survey?

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- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Unsure

Please select the criteria that applies to your Event. *

- ☒ Aligns with or support Council's future direction
☒ Responds to demonstrated needs and concerns of the community;
☒ Demonstrates wide community support;
☒ Supports and enhance the cultural life of George Town;
☒ Enhances the image of the town as a vibrant place to live and visit;
☒ Enhances community life by providing opportunities for participants to build relationships and networks.
☐ Other

At least 1 choice and no more than 6 choices may be selected.

Please outline how you will meet the selection criteria you selected *

Aligns with Council's Future Direction

The event supports Council's goals of fostering cultural vibrancy, community cohesion, and tourism. By showcasing local talent and offering opportunities to local business and vendors for the event. The event also is aiming to bring tourists to the event and add to the towns economy whilst here.

Responds to Community Needs

Addresses the lack of family-friendly, inclusive New Year's Eve celebrations in George Town. The event is free and offers a variety of different entertainment and activities some low cost some no cost, directly tackling local concerns about affordability and social isolation.

Demonstrates Wide Community Support- last years event seen 67% of attendees were George Town Municipality Locals, this demonstrates wide support for the event by the George Town community

Enhances Cultural Life.

Features performances by local talents and other Tasmanian performers bring vitality to the event and enhancing the culture of the George Town Community and celebrating what makes us brilliant.

Promotes George Town as a Vibrant place to live.

A fireworks display, live music, and pop-up installations will attract over 4000 attendees, including visitors from neighboring regions. Media partnerships and social media campaigns will amplify the town's reputation as a dynamic destination.

Builds Relationships and Networks

Interactive workshops and market stalls encourage connection. Volunteer opportunities (e.g., event setup crews) foster teamwork, while partnerships with schools and clubs ensure cross-generational participation.

Are any approvals required to complete the Event? *

- ☒ Yes
☐ No

See Event Planning Toolkit via website

Please list approvals and authorising agent. Pre-approvals must be in place before sponsorship will be considered

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Authorising agent or organisation	Type of approval required	What stage are you at?
George Town Council	Event Approval	No approvals submitted *
WorkSafe	Fireworks Approval	No approvals submitted

Describe how this Event will comply with any COVID-19 legislation. Please visit the [Tasmanian Government's website](#) for current legislation.

*
Events in Tasmania are no longer regulated by specific COVID-19 Public Health Guidelines. But we will encourage patrons to social distance where possible and not attend the event if unwell. Sanitiser will be available at food stalls.

Acknowledgement of Council's Assistance

Describe how you will acknowledge the assistance of the George Town Council *

- ☒ Display Council's Logo on all sponsored event material
- ☒ Letter of thanks to George Town Council
- ☒ Invitation to the Mayor to be given the opportunity to address the patrons
- ☒ Invitation to the Councillors, George Town Council's General Manager and the Mayor and his/her partner to attend the Event
- ☒ Provision of photos to Council post the project.
- ☒ Acknowledgement in any media
- ☐ Other:

At least 1 choice must be selected.

Please upload any supporting evidence, letters of support etc

No files have been uploaded

5. Budget

*** indicates a required field**

Total Amount Requested *	\$20,000.00 What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?
Total Event *	\$63,000.00 What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your event, program or project?

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Budget

Please outline your Event budget in the income and expenditure tables below, including details of other funding that you have applied for, whether it has been confirmed or not. Provide clear descriptions for each budget item in the 'Income' and 'Expenditure' columns

- **Your budget MUST balance which means your income and expenditure must be the same.**
- **EXAMPLES OF INCOME** could include Council's Community Grant', sponsorship, grants from other sources, contributions by the applicant or other project partners.
- **EXAMPLES OF EXPENSES** could equipment purchases, training resources, catering, payments to contractors,
- For expense items over \$250, quotes will need to be provided in the file upload area below the tables.
- Please **do not add commas** to figures – e.g. type \$1000 not \$1,000 – this will ensure your figures for each table total correctly.

If your organisation **IS** registered for GST, please provide **GST exclusive** amounts in your budget. Council will add GST to the amount funded, should your application be successful. If your organisation **IS NOT** registered for GST, your expenses should **include GST**, where applicable.

Income Description	Income Type	Confirmed Funding?	Income Amount (\$)	Notes
Council Sponsorship	Sponsorship *	Unconfirmed *	\$20,000.00	
George Town Neighbourhood House	Applicant	Confirmed	\$38,000.00	
Events Tasmania Marketing Grant	Other Grants	Unconfirmed	\$5,000.00	

Expenditure Description	Expenditure Type	Expenditure Amount (\$)	Notes
Fireworks	Project and Production *	\$19,945.00	
Insurance, Security, First Aid	Project and Production	\$5,791.00	
Attractions	Project and Production	\$14,398.00	
Music	Project and Production	\$7,000.00	
Advertising and personnel costs	Administrative and Infrastructure	\$8,700.00	

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Other	Other Expenditure	\$7,166.00	
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Budget Totals

Total Income Amount	Total Expenditure Amount	Income - Expenditure
\$63,000.00 This number/amount is calculated.	\$63,000.00 This number/amount is calculated.	0 This number/amount is calculated. This amount should be zero - your income and expenditure need to be the same

Please attach quotes for those expenditure (cost) items over \$250

Filename: Booking Form - George Town NYE - 31 December 2025.pdf
File size: 174.9 kB

Filename: IMG_0229.jpeg
File size: 348.0 kB

What other inputs will you need in order to successfully carry out this Event?

Confirmed?

Non-financial inputs could include volunteer time / expertise, in-kind contributions, and other types of support.	
Volunteers	Confirmed

6. Applicant Capacity

*** indicates a required field**

Now that we know about your Event, we want to find out more about your organisation's ability to undertake the project your propose. Please provide some information about your organisation that will give us confidence that you can manage the Event. *

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The George Town Neighbourhood House has successfully delivered this Event since 2019, with only a one-year hiatus. Despite challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the Event has continued to grow in size and impact each year. Our most recent Event attracted 4,202 attendees — a testament to its popularity and our ability to manage large-scale community events effectively.

We take a continuous improvement approach, using feedback and experience from each year to enhance the next. This ensures the Event evolves in response to community needs and expectations.

Beyond this Event, the George Town Neighbourhood House coordinates a range of other successful community programs and events, including International Women's Day celebrations, George Town Community Markets, and Neighbour Day activities. These demonstrate our capability to plan, promote, and deliver both large and small events that are inclusive, well-attended, and delivered within budget.

Our team is experienced and qualified in community engagement, project coordination, and budget management. We work closely with local stakeholders, volunteers, and service providers to ensure our events are safe, accessible, and enriching for all.

Must be no more than 250 words.

Include in this section information about your strategies for providing the inputs (money, staff/volunteers time/expertise, equipment, facilities, in-kind contributions, etc.) and how you will project manage this event in the required timeframe, inclusive of risk management policy. Provide information also about any past work that may demonstrate your organisation's capacity to manage this event planning..

7. Applicant Declaration

*** indicates a required field**

Certification

This section must be completed by an appropriately authorised person on behalf of the applicant business (may be different to the contact person listed earlier in this application form).

I certify that to the best of my knowledge the statements made within this application are true and correct, and I understand that if the applicant business is approved for this grant, we will be required to accept the terms and conditions of the grant as outlined in the letter of approval.

I agree *

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name of authorised person *

Mrs Jessica Berger

Must be a senior staff member, board member or appropriately authorised volunteer

Position

Administration, Grants and Marketing

Position held in applicant organisation (e.g. CEO, Treasurer)

Contact phone number *

(03) 6312 3019

Must be an Australian phone number.

We may contact you to verify that this application is authorised by the applicant organisation

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Contact Email * jessica.berger@gtnh.org.au
Must be an email address.

Date * 19/05/2025
Must be a date

8. Applicant Feedback

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Feedback

You are nearing the end of the application process. Before you review your application and click the **SUBMIT** button please take a few moments to provide some feedback.

Please indicate how you found the online application process:

☐ Very easy ☒ Easy ☐ Neutral ☐ Difficult ☐ Very difficult

How many minutes in total did it take you to complete this application? *

80

Estimate in minutes i.e. 1 hour = 60

Please provide us with your suggestions about any improvements and/or additions to the application process/form that you think we need to consider.

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CERTIFICATE OF CURRENCY

This is to certify that this Ansvar Insurance policy of insurance is current as at the date of issue of this Certificate of Currency, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy indemnifying the Insured as follows:

Date of Issue:	04 December 2024	
Policy Number:	722064	
Name of Insured:	George Town Neighbourhood House Inc	
Policy Type:	Ansvar Commercial Insurance - Community Service Organisation	
Situation of Risk:	Anywhere in Australia	
Description of Cover:	Directors and Officers:	\$1,000,000
	Entity Liability:	\$1,000,000
	Entity Reimbursement:	\$1,000,000
	Employment Practices Liability:	\$500,000
	Trustees Liability:	\$1,000,000
	Statutory Liability:	\$1,000,000
	Internet Liability:	\$500,000
	Entity Crisis cover:	\$100,000
	Fidelity - Employee:	\$50,000
	Fidelity – Third Party:	\$50,000
	Tax Audit:	\$20,000
	Personal Accident – Volunteers Capital Benefit:	\$100,000
	Personal Accident – Members Capital Benefit:	Not Insured
	Personal Accident – Child/Student Capital Benefit (Adult):	Not Insured
	Personal Accident – Child/Student Capital Benefit (Child):	Not Insured
	Professional Indemnity:	\$1,000,000
	General Public Liability:	\$10,000,000
	General Product Liability:	\$10,000,000
	Counsellors Liability:	\$1,000,000
	Sexual Abuse:	Not Insured
Business Description:	Welfare counselling / welfare service	
Period of Insurance:	from 4:00pm 06/12/2024 to 4:00pm 06/12/2025	



Consumer Affairs & Fair Trading
Department of Justice

TASMANIA

Associations Incorporation Act 1964
Section 8

Incorporation Number: IA09062

Certificate of Incorporation

This is to certify that

**GEORGE TOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE
INC.**

is, on and from the twelfth day of October 2004
incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1964.

Dated this twelfth day of October 2004

A stylized signature in black ink, likely belonging to the Commissioner for Corporate Affairs.

Commissioner for Corporate Affairs

Certificate

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Sponsorship Evaluation

Comparative Evaluation

News Years Eve Extravaganza					Tamar Valley Folk Festival (TVFF)				
Total Cost ->		\$20,000.00			Total Cost ->		\$20,000.00		
Selected evaluation criteria	Weight (%)	Score/10	weighted score	Notes	Score/10	weighted score	Notes		
1 Economic Benefit	25.0	7.0	175.0	Applicants Comments - The event provided significant economic benefits to the George Town community by attracting both locals and tourists, increasing foot traffic to local businesses. Local vendors, food trucks, and performers benefited from higher sales and greater exposure. The event encouraged spending across various sectors, including food, retail, and accommodation. Council comments - Commonwealth Bank Merchant data is not available for this event due to high number of businesses closed for holidays over the period	7.0	175.0	Applicant Comments - Folk Festival Research has shown some business that opened all weekend made 500% more on the festival weekend. Testimonials attached to application. Community organisations have opportunity to fund raise. Council Comments - Commonwealth Bank Merchant data indicated an increase of 2.07% compared to the weekend prior and 4.57% to prior year, based on eft transactional data.		
2 Tourism	25.0	8.5	212.5	Applicant comments - It also highlighted George Town as a vibrant and welcoming destination, attracting future visitors and promoting local businesses. Council Comments - from applicant acquittal visitation to George Town for the event was 1,385 from intrastate and interstate, with total attendees over 4,200.	7.0	175.0	Applicant Comments - accommodation was booked out in the town for the weekend and that tourism attractions reported good attendance. Council comments - from provided ticketing data a mix of postcodes was evident, % split not available due to the nature of the data. Council run attractions reported a modest increase in patronage outside of the concerts held in the facility. Applicants advised around 1,000 patrons to paid events over the weekend and hundreds to free events (although numbers not captured).		
3 Marketing	20.0	8.0	160.0	Council Comments - Marketing grant provided by Events Tas enabled successful marketing campaign.	8.0	160.0	Council Comments - Marketing grant provided by Events Tas enabled successful marketing campaign. Marketing plan provided		
4 Cultural	10.0	7.0	70.0	Applicant Comments - Features performances by local talents and other Tasmanian performers bring vitality to the event and enhancing the culture of the George Town Community and celebrating what makes us brilliant. Council comments - event is a free event, offers a number of attractions which provides an inclusive environment for a cross section of demographics.	7.0	70.0	Applicants Comments - The Festival is vibrant, diverse, meeting needs of the towns folk and regional Tasmania and tourists. This Event is the largest continually running Cultural Event in the history of the George Town Municipality offering the opportunity for people to experience world class entertainment, including the whole town. Our Social inclusion programme provides free entertainment and education opportunities.		
5 Inspired	10.0	7.0	70.0	Applicant Comments - The George Town Neighbourhood House has successfully delivered this Event since 2019, with only a one-year hiatus. Despite challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the Event has continued to grow in size and impact each year. Our most recent Event attracted 4,202 attendees — a testament to its popularity and our ability to manage large-scale community events effectively. We take a continuous improvement approach, using feedback and experience from each year to enhance the next. This ensures the Event evolves in response to community needs and expectations. Council Comments - Event application is for Regents Square and then fireworks at York Cove.	7.5	75.0	Applicants Comments - The Festival started in a small way and quickly grew in popularity. Each Committee has grown the Festival and more and more has been added each year. The Festival is vibrant and offers a very high standard of entertainment. There has been no atrophy or decline in the standard of the Festival and it has grown to include more and more Cultural and Social activities, a good example of this is the Writers Circle. Councils Comments - Point of difference to other events is that it is held over a weekend and in a number of facilities. Attracting visitation estimated at between 1,000-1,500 over the weekend in 2025.		
6 Competency	10.0	8.0	80.0	Applicants comments - Our team is experienced and qualified in community engagement, project coordination, and budget management. We work closely with local stakeholders, volunteers, and service providers to ensure our events are safe, accessible, and enriching for all. Council comments - Capacity challenges as just one of the projects undertaken by this organisation.	8.0	80.0	Applicants Comments - Run by Volunteers with a great deal of experience and knowledge, the Festival has trained stage managers, MCs, local Poet's Writers, Singers who help with performance, Billet hosts who help us house the Artists assisting with cost restraints. 40 Volunteers who step in and help us run the Event. Council Comments - Being a small committee it can have some challenges with provision of information and applications to Council.		
Total weighting		100.0	total (norm)	767.5	6 criteria scored		total (norm)	735.0	6 criteria scored

Community Event Sponsorship 2024/2025
Sponsorship Program Application 2024/2025
Application No. sponsor05 From George Town Folk Club Incorporated
Form Submitted 30 Jun 2025, 1:55PM AEST

Before Completing an Application

IMPORTANT: Please read information below to assist you in completing your application online.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Welcome to the George Town Council's online Minor Community Events Sponsorship Fund application service, powered by [SmartyGrants](#).

You may begin anywhere in this application form. Please ensure you save as you go.

Incomplete applications and/or applications received after the closing date will not be considered.

Before completing this application form, check that both your organisation and your project is eligible under the [Guidelines](#). The Guidelines provide essential information that will assist you in preparing an application.

Information for Applicants

The George Town Council is pleased to work in partnership and offer incentive and support for community events held in the George Town municipality that contribute to the development of a strong, vibrant and connected community. The provision of sponsorship funds is a mechanism by which Council furthers its strategic goals and objectives and supports sustainable community development.

The fund is focused on assisting events which deliver mutual benefit to Council and the applicant organisation, as well as specific community benefit outcomes that align with Council's strategic goals and objectives outlined in the Strategic Plan.

To view the full guidelines click [here](#)

If you have any questions in regards to these eligibility criteria, please Council on 6382 8800 or email - council@georgetown.tas.gov.au

The sponsorship program is available all year. Please ensure you apply at least 8 weeks prior to the event.

Privacy Statement

We pledge to respect and uphold your rights to privacy protection under the [Australian Privacy Principles](#) (APPs) as established under the *Privacy Act 1988* and amended by the *Privacy Amendment (Enhancing Privacy Protection) Act 2012*. Our Privacy Statement can be viewed on [Council's website](#)

1. Assessment Criteria

*** indicates a required field**

Criteria Confirmation by Applicant Organisation

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I confirm that the applicant ...

- Has read and understands the Minor Community Events Sponsorship Program Guidelines.
- Has met the criteria checklist above.
- Does not owe any reports or money to George Town Council as a result of previous funding or grants.
- Is an incorporated not for profit, or auspiced by an incorporated organisation, and/or have an ABN.
- Is located within and/or work within the George Town municipal area.
- Is inclusive in its membership and supportive of the broader community;
- Is located and operating in the George Town municipal area;
- Is not subject to any legal impediment or adverse circumstances.
- Has public liability insurance of \$20,000,000 demonstrated by the provision of a Certificate of Currency

This Minor Community Events Sponsorship Program will NOT support :-

- Ongoing administration and running costs
- Trophies or prize money
- Political activities
- Professional fundraising organisations
- Community organisations / groups with outstanding grant acquittals. All previous Council grants, where an acquittal is due, must be acquitted to a satisfactory standard. Unacquitted or unsatisfactory acquitted grants will deem an application ineligible.

Please select to confirm your Minor Community Events Sponsorship request meets the above conditions *

- ☒ I confirm the above conditions

Please upload your Public Liability Insurance certificate of currency *

Filename: AON Certificate of Currency - D223788-004.pdf
File size: 123.2 kB

Filename: AON eGlobal Invoice 12335312.pdf
File size: 139.2 kB

2. Applicants Details

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant organisation name *

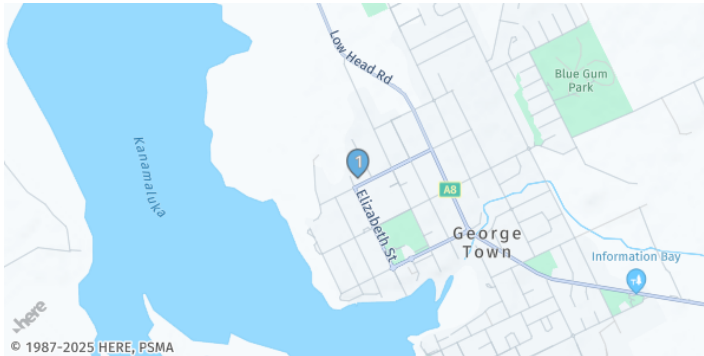
George Town Folk Club Incorporated

Please use your organisation's full name. Check your spelling and make sure you provide the same name that is listed in official documentation such as with the ABR, ACNC or ATO.

Applicant Primary Address

14 Goulburn St
George Town TAS 7253 Australia

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Applicant Postal Address *

14 Goulburn St
George Town TAS 7253 Australia
Address Line 1, Suburb/Town, State/Province, Postcode, and Country are required.

Applicant Website (if applicable)

<http://TamarValleyfolkfestival.com>

Must be a URL

Primary Contact Person *

Mrs Chris Atwell
This is the person we will correspond with about this grant

How long has your Organisation been operating in the George Town municipality?

*
35 years

Number of Volunteers / Employees *

40

Contact Phone Number *

0407 313 103

Primary contact person's email address *

chrisatwell@theagency.com.au
This is the address we will use to correspond with you about this grant.

3. Organisation Details

*** indicates a required field**

Briefly outline your organisation's background and current activities *

Tamar Valley Folk Festival is a vibrant, diverse, inclusive not for profit Community Event. Presented by George Town Folk Club Inc.. The whole town is invited to participate over three days, in the free Events, free Children's Events, The Concerts, themed Concerts, workshops, educational workshops, Poetry and dance. Local Business houses are invited to participate,

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Community Clubs and Groups are included. George Town is on show for three days and approx. 40 hours of entertainment with around 100 professional Musicians are employed.

How long has your organisation been operating in the George Town municipality *
35 years

How many active members do you have *
40

What sections of the community benefit directly from your organisation / group / club? *

All ages and abilities are invited to join in Festival activities over three days . Children who have grown up with our Festival are now employed in the programme and local and Regional residents have opportunities to participate by encouraging Writers, Poets, Singers and Song writers. Local youth are encouraged to help with Stage Craft and organisation. Service Clubs join in the fun and raise money for their Clubs. Sports Clubs often help us with setting up and taking down. Our research shows some business houses that open all weekend make 500% more on Festival weekend .

ABN Details

Does your organisation have an ABN? *
☒ Yes ☐ No

ABN *
54 657 060 884

Information from the Australian Business Register	
ABN	54 657 060 884
Entity name	GEORGE TOWN FOLK CLUB INC
ABN status	Active
Entity type	Other Incorporated Entity
Goods & Services Tax (GST)	No
DGR Endorsed	No
ATO Charity Type	Not endorsed More information
ACNC Registration	No
Tax Concessions	No tax concessions
Main business location	7253 TAS
Information retrieved at 12:20pm today	

Must be an ABN

Legal Structure

What is your organisation legal structure? *
☒ Incorporated association or organisation
☐ Unincorporated association or organisation

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☐ Other:

If your organisation is unincorporated it must have an auspice organisation

Please provide a copy of your Organisations Certificate of Incorporation.

Filename: Certificate of Incorporation.pdf

File size: 193.4 kB

4. Event Details

*** indicates a required field**

Name of Event to be sponsored *

Tamar Valley Folk Festival 2026

Provide a name for your project/program/initiative. Your title should be short but descriptive

Anticipated start date *

16/01/2026

Anticipated end date *

18/01/2026

If unknown, provide your best guess or leave blank If unknown, provide your best guess or leave blank

Location *

In and around the Centre of George Town

Please provide a brief description of the Event. *

The Tamar Valley Folk Festival is a three day Festival offering Concerts, themed Concerts, workshops, educational demonstrations, Poetry, Dancing, Children's Events running over three days. Approximately 100 Musicians are employed from local, Regional , Intrastate, Interstate and Overseas. Volunteers organise and run the whole Festival . Additional Volunteers help on doors, stalls, Marshalling and First Aid. 40 hours of entertainment , some of those hours have multiple events happening at the same time.

Must be no more than 100 words.

Please include details of the event including location and how many people you are expecting to attend

How did you determine a need for this Event. *

The Festival started in a small way and quickly grew in popularity. Each Committee has grown the Festival and more and more has been added each year. The Festival is vibrant and offers a very high standard of entertainment. There has been no atrophy or decline in the standard of the Festival and it has grown to include more and more Cultural and Social activities, a good example of this is the Writers Circle, A large "free" concert on the Square, inviting the whole Community to join in the fun of the Festival. This has increased our numbers at the paid events by achieving a higher Community participation.

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Please list objectives and outcomes *

Providing Cultural experiences for our local children and adults, attracting visitors to experience what George Town has to offer by way of business , scenery, hospitality, friendship and encouraging repeat visits. Considering the cost of putting on Events, our Event is very cost effective. Our volunteers include Billet Hosts who accommodate Artists , those who help us on doors, handling money in the office, First Aid, Stage Managers, Production Managers, Hosts, MCs, these roles have provided training for young people. enabled them to use those skills in other areas.

Must be no more than 100 words.

Describe how this event will connect the broader community. Include volunteers of the project in this response.

Please briefly explain how these will be achieved *

Planning and organising for the Event takes many months but careful planning is the key to successful outcomes. Booking venues, liaising with Council Officers, ensuring all is in place and set to go . Marketing the Event ensures good attendance and promotes our Sponsors. We have over 200 posters carrying logos, 2000 flyers carrying logos, road signs, signs within the town, radio interviews, Advertising on radio and in printed publications. Social Media and marketing. Invitations to Community organisations to help them promote their group and raise funds. Ensuring local business houses are give opportunities to increase their market.

Must be no more than 150 words.

Please detail

Please explain how you will monitor and measure the objectives of your Event. *

Each year, we debrief, consider how our Artist line up was received, analyze figures and plan ways to improve and grow our Event. Survey and feedback is monitored and this gives us insight into the audience satisfaction, the business houses and their results, Community Groups and how we can improve things for them into the future. We collect as many postcodes as we can and take on board any feedback and suggestions. Our Social Media strength has grown since our new website was launched and we now participate in Social Media marketing and Networking.

Will you be able to conduct a visitor survey?

- ☒ Yes
☐ No
☐ Unsure

Please select the criteria that applies to your Event. *

- ☒ Aligns with or support Council's future direction
☒ Responds to demonstrated needs and concerns of the community;
☒ Demonstrates wide community support;
☒ Supports and enhance the cultural life of George Town;
☒ Enhances the image of the town as a vibrant place to live and visit;
☒ Enhances community life by providing opportunities for participants to build relationships and networks.
☐ Other

At least 1 choice and no more than 6 choices may be selected.

Please outline how you will meet the selection criteria you selected *

Community support has been outstanding over the years and in recent years more support has been added into the mix with offers of help , donations and testimonials . To fill halls over and over during the three day Event is a tall order in any small town and it is something we are very proud of. One comment in 2025 from the President of the Tasmanian

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Poetry Society was "launceston would have trouble attracting this many people to a Poet Breakfast" As each year grows the participation our needs change and we meet those needs .

Are any approvals required to complete the Event? *

☒ Yes

☐ No

See Event Planning Toolkit via website

Please list approvals and authorising agent. Pre-approvals must be in place before sponsorship will be considered

Authorising agent or organisation	Type of approval required	What stage are you at?
George Town Council	Event application	No approvals submitted *
George Town Council	Use of Regent Square	No approvals submitted
George Town Council	Festival Market	No approvals submitted
George Town Council	First Aid	Approvals received
Insurances	Patrons and Volunteers	Approvals received

Describe how this Event will comply with any COVID-19 legislation. Please visit the [Tasmanian Government's website](#) for current legislation.

*

No longer applicable but we do still social distance some seating and always provide hand sanitation.

Acknowledgement of Council's Assistance

Describe how you will acknowledge the assistance of the George Town Council *

☒ Display Council's Logo on all sponsored event material

☒ Letter of thanks to George Town Council

☐ Invitation to the Mayor to be given the opportunity to address the patrons

☒ Invitation to the Councillors, George Town Council's General Manager and the Mayor and his/her partner to attend the Event

☒ Provision of photos to Council post the project.

☒ Acknowledgement in any media

☒ Other: WE request Council provide banners for the entry and outside.

At least 1 choice must be selected.

Please upload any supporting evidence, letters of support etc

Filename: Testimonials 2025.pdf

File size: 1.4 MB

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5. Budget

*** indicates a required field**

Total Amount Requested * \$20,000.00
What is the total financial support you are requesting in this application?

Total Event * \$60,000.00
What is the total budgeted cost (dollars) of your event, program or project?

Budget

Please outline your Event budget in the income and expenditure tables below, including details of other funding that you have applied for, whether it has been confirmed or not. Provide clear descriptions for each budget item in the 'Income' and 'Expenditure' columns

- **Your budget MUST balance which means your income and expenditure must be the same.**
- **EXAMPLES OF INCOME** could include Council's Community Grant', sponsorship, grants from other sources, contributions by the applicant or other project partners.
- **EXAMPLES OF EXPENSES** could equipment purchases, training resources, catering, payments to contractors,
- For expense items over \$250, quotes will need to be provided in the file upload area below the tables.
- Please **do not add commas** to figures – e.g. type \$1000 not \$1,000 – this will ensure your figures for each table total correctly.

If your organisation **IS** registered for GST, please provide **GST exclusive** amounts in your budget. Council will add GST to the amount funded, should your application be successful. If your organisation **IS NOT** registered for GST, your expenses should **include GST**, where applicable.

Income Description	Income Type	Confirmed Funding?	Income Amount (\$)	Notes
George Town Council	Council Grant *	Unconfirmed *	\$20,000.00	
Events Tasmania	Other Grants	Unconfirmed	\$5,000.00	Marketing
Pier Hotel	Sponsorship	Confirmed	\$3,000.00	
The agency	Sponsorship	Confirmed	\$1,000.00	
fundraising	Other Income	Confirmed	\$1,000.00	
ticket sales	Other Income	Unconfirmed	\$20,000.00	
George Town Folk Club Inc.	Applicant	Confirmed	\$10,000.00	

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Expenditure Description	Expenditure Type	Expenditure Amount (\$)	Notes
merchandise	Advertising and Promotion *	\$1,000.00	local supplier provided custom merchandise
Insurance	Administrative and Infrastructure	\$500.00	AON Insurance
Accommodation	Other Expenditure	\$1,500.00	
Sound engineers	Project and Production	\$3,500.00	
bond on hall hire	Project and Production	\$600.00	bond
Social inclusion programme	Project and Production	\$10,000.00	Social inclusion programme is the free events provided for all members of the community to be able to attend regardless of soci-economic status,
Marketing	Advertising and Promotion	\$7,000.00	promotion of the event including sponsors logos
Artist Payments	Project and Production	\$35,900.00	payment of performers

Budget Totals

Total Income Amount	Total Expenditure Amount	Income - Expenditure
\$60,000.00 This number/amount is calculated.	\$60,000.00 This number/amount is calculated.	0 This number/amount is calculated. This amount should be zero - your income and expenditure need to be the same

Please attach quotes for those expenditure (cost) items over \$250

Filename: 2025 Marketing Report.pdf
File size: 456.8 kB

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What other inputs will you need in order to successfully carry out this Event?

Confirmed?

Non-financial inputs could include volunteer time / expertise, in-kind contributions, and other types of support.	
Use of George Town Council venues to assist with cost constraints	Unconfirmed
Use of George Town Council facilities - Memorial Hall crockery, cutlery etc.	Unconfirmed

6. Applicant Capacity

*** indicates a required field**

Now that we know about your Event, we want to find out more about your organisation's ability to undertake the project you propose. Please provide some information about your organisation that will give us confidence that you can manage the Event. *

The Tamar Valley Folk Festival is highly respected and regarded by patrons and Artists from all over Australia and overseas. George Town has built a reputation as one of the Friendliest little Festivals in Australia. Run by Volunteers with a great deal of experience and knowledge, the Festival has trained stage managers, MCs , local Poet's Writers, Singers who help with performance, Billet hosts who help us house the Artists assisting with cost restraints. 40 Volunteers who step in and help us run the Event. In 35 years we have not had a problem with patrons or Artists and our Community acceptance and support is very strong. The Festival is vibrant, diverse, meeting needs of the towns folk and regional Tasmania and tourists. This Event is the largest continually running Cultural Event in the history of the George Town Municipality offering the opportunity for people to experience world class entertainment, including the whole town . Our Social inclusion programme provides free entertainment and education opportunities. The Committee works in collaboration with local business , Community groups and Charities, providing opportunities for them to raise funds and awareness. The Tamar Valley Folk Festival promotes Sponsors widely and creates great community interest.

Must be no more than 250 words.

Include in this section information about your strategies for providing the inputs (money, staff/volunteers time/expertise, equipment, facilities, in-kind contributions, etc.) and how you will project manage this event in the required timeframe, inclusive of risk management policy. Provide information also about any past work that may demonstrate your organisation's capacity to manage this event planning..

7. Applicant Declaration

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*** indicates a required field**

Certification

This section must be completed by an appropriately authorised person on behalf of the applicant business (may be different to the contact person listed earlier in this application form).

I certify that to the best of my knowledge the statements made within this application are true and correct, and I understand that if the applicant business is approved for this grant, we will be required to accept the terms and conditions of the grant as outlined in the letter of approval.

I agree *

☒ Yes ☐ No

Name of authorised person *

Mrs Christine Atwell
Must be a senior staff member, board member or appropriately authorised volunteer

Position

Club President / Festival Director
Position held in applicant organisation (e.g. CEO, Treasurer)

Contact phone number *

0407 313 103
Must be an Australian phone number.
We may contact you to verify that this application is authorised by the applicant organisation

Contact Email *

chrisatwell@theagency.com.au
Must be an email address.

Date *

30/06/2025
Must be a date

8. Applicant Feedback

*** indicates a required field**

Applicant Feedback

You are nearing the end of the application process. Before you review your application and click the **SUBMIT** button please take a few moments to provide some feedback.

Please indicate how you found the online application process:

☐ Very easy ☐ Easy ☒ Neutral ☐ Difficult ☐ Very difficult

How many minutes in total did it take you to complete this application? *

120
Estimate in minutes i.e. 1 hour = 60

Please provide us with your suggestions about any improvements and/or additions to the application process/form that you think we need to consider.

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We spent quite some time looking for the updated application on line.
Council informed us to use the 24/25 document. We hope this is sufficient.

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Certificate of Currency

George Town Folk Club Inc
PO Box 150
GEORGE TOWN TAS 7253

Date of issue 08 January 2025
Contact Entertainment Team
Telephone 1800 806 584

We hereby certify that the under mentioned insurance policy is current as at the date of this certificate, please refer to the important notices below.

Policy Type	FAA Clubs	
Insured	George Town Folk Club Inc	
Insurer	Certain Underwriters at Lloyds	
Policy Number	CAFAA611312CLUBS	
Period of Insurance	4:00 PM Local Time 29 January 2025 to 4:00 PM Local Time 29 January 2026	
FAA Membership Number	CL173	
Business Description	Folk Music and Dance Clubs including all associated activities	
Category of Cover	Small Club	
Geographical Limits	Australia and New Zealand	
Limits of Liability	Public Liability	\$ 30,000,000 any one Occurrence
	Products Liability	\$ 30,000,000 any one Occurrence, and in the aggregate any one Period of Insurance
Sub Limit	Goods in Care, Custody and Control	\$ 250,000 any one Occurrence and in the aggregate any one Period of Insurance

Further Information

Should you have any queries, please contact us. Our details are set out in the top right side of this document.

Important notices

- Aon does not guarantee that the insurance outlined in this Certificate will continue to remain in force for the period referred to as the Policy. Policy may be cancelled or altered by either party to the contract, at any time, in accordance with the terms of the Policy and the Insurance Contracts Act 1984(Cth).
- Aon accepts no responsibility or liability to advise any party, who may be relying on this Certificate, of such alteration or cancellation of the Policy.
- Subject to full payment of premium.
- This certificate does not:
 - represent an insurance contract or confer rights to the recipient
 - amend, extend or alter the Policy;
 - contain the full policy terms and conditions

Aon Reference: PRM 11PNM D223788/004

Aon Risk Services Australia Limited ABN 17 000 434 720 AFSL 241141
PO Box 1331 Parramatta NSW 2124

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Professional Liability

\$ 5,000,000 any one Claim and
\$ 0 in the aggregate any one Period of
Insurance
(Retroactive date: 1 June 2015)

Principals Indemnity

Indemnity is provided for any Principal who hires an individual to perform on or whose land or premise the individual temporarily occupies for the purpose of performing, in respect of any loss or damage that may be brought by any person against the principal where such liability is directly from the negligence of the individual.

Provided that this policy does not extend to indemnify any Principal where the liability to pay such compensation result from the negligence of the Principal or its servants, agents or contractor.

Further Information

Should you have any queries, please contact us. Our details are set out in the top right side of this document.

Important notices

- Aon does not guarantee that the insurance outlined in this Certificate will continue to remain in force for the period referred to as the Policy. Policy may be cancelled or altered by either party to the contract, at any time, in accordance with the terms of the Policy and the Insurance Contracts Act 1984(Cth).
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Aon Reference: PRM 11PNM D223788/004

Aon Risk Services Australia Limited ABN 17 000 434 720 AFSL 241141
PO Box 1331 Parramatta NSW 2124

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For Mailing Purposes Only.
Remove this top section if desired before framing.

TASMANIA

Associations Incorporation Act 1964
Section 8

Incorporation Number: **02408C**

Certificate of Incorporation

This is to certify that

GEORGE TOWN FOLK CLUB INC

is, on and from the ninth day of December 1991
Incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1964.

Dated this sixteenth day of September 2024

Assistant Commissioner for Corporate Affairs

Certificate

Department of Justice
Consumer, Building and Occupational Services



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Sponsorship Evaluation

Comparative Evaluation

News Years Eve Extravaganza					Tamar Valley Folk Festival (TVFF)				
Total Cost ->		\$20,000.00			Total Cost ->		\$20,000.00		
Selected evaluation criteria	Weight (%)	Score/10	weighted score	Notes	Score/10	weighted score	Notes		
1 Economic Benefit	25.0	7.0	175.0	Applicants Comments - The event provided significant economic benefits to the George Town community by attracting both locals and tourists, increasing foot traffic to local businesses. Local vendors, food trucks, and performers benefited from higher sales and greater exposure. The event encouraged spending across various sectors, including food, retail, and accommodation. Council comments - Commonwealth Bank Merchant data is not available for this event due to high number of businesses closed for holidays over the period	7.0	175.0	Applicant Comments - Folk Festival Research has shown some business that opened all weekend made 500% more on the festival weekend. Testimonials attached to application. Community organisations have opportunity to fund raise. Council Comments - Commonwealth Bank Merchant data indicated an increase of 2.07% compared to the weekend prior and 4.57% to prior year, based on eft transactional data.		
2 Tourism	25.0	8.5	212.5	Applicant comments - It also highlighted George Town as a vibrant and welcoming destination, attracting future visitors and promoting local businesses. Council Comments - from applicant acquittal visitation to George Town for the event was 1,385 from intrastate and interstate, with total attendees over 4,200.	7.0	175.0	Applicant Comments - accommodation was booked out in the town for the weekend and that tourism attractions reported good attendance. Council comments - from provided ticketing data a mix of postcodes was evident, % split not available due to the nature of the data. Council run attractions reported a modest increase in patronage outside of the concerts held in the facility. Applicants advised around 1,000 patrons to paid events over the weekend and hundreds to free events (although numbers not captured).		
3 Marketing	20.0	8.0	160.0	Council Comments - Marketing grant provided by Events Tas enabled successful marketing campaign.	8.0	160.0	Council Comments - Marketing grant provided by Events Tas enabled successful marketing campaign. Marketing plan provided		
4 Cultural	10.0	7.0	70.0	Applicant Comments - Features performances by local talents and other Tasmanian performers bring vitality to the event and enhancing the culture of the George Town Community and celebrating what makes us brilliant. Council comments - event is a free event, offers a number of attractions which provides an inclusive environment for a cross section of demographics.	7.0	70.0	Applicants Comments - The Festival is vibrant, diverse, meeting needs of the towns folk and regional Tasmania and tourists. This Event is the largest continually running Cultural Event in the history of the George Town Municipality offering the opportunity for people to experience world class entertainment, including the whole town. Our Social inclusion programme provides free entertainment and education opportunities.		
5 Inspired	10.0	7.0	70.0	Applicant Comments - The George Town Neighbourhood House has successfully delivered this Event since 2019, with only a one-year hiatus. Despite challenges such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the Event has continued to grow in size and impact each year. Our most recent Event attracted 4,202 attendees — a testament to its popularity and our ability to manage large-scale community events effectively. We take a continuous improvement approach, using feedback and experience from each year to enhance the next. This ensures the Event evolves in response to community needs and expectations. Council Comments - Event application is for Regents Square and then fireworks at York Cove.	7.5	75.0	Applicants Comments - The Festival started in a small way and quickly grew in popularity. Each Committee has grown the Festival and more and more has been added each year. The Festival is vibrant and offers a very high standard of entertainment. There has been no atrophy or decline in the standard of the Festival and it has grown to include more and more Cultural and Social activities, a good example of this is the Writers Circle. Councils Comments - Point of difference to other events is that it is held over a weekend and in a number of facilities. Attracting visitation estimated at between 1,000-1,500 over the weekend in 2025.		
6 Competency	10.0	8.0	80.0	Applicants comments - Our team is experienced and qualified in community engagement, project coordination, and budget management. We work closely with local stakeholders, volunteers, and service providers to ensure our events are safe, accessible, and enriching for all. Council comments - Capacity challenges as just one of the projects undertaken by this organisation.	8.0	80.0	Applicants Comments - Run by Volunteers with a great deal of experience and knowledge, the Festival has trained stage managers, MCs, local Poet's Writers, Singers who help with performance, Billet hosts who help us house the Artists assisting with cost restraints. 40 Volunteers who step in and help us run the Event. Council Comments - Being a small committee it can have some challenges with provision of information and applications to Council.		
Total weighting		100.0	total (norm)	767.5	6 criteria scored		total (norm)	735.0	6 criteria scored

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Annual report of the Audit Panel to Council for 2024-25

This report explains how the Audit Panel discharged their responsibilities during 2024-25. The report also outlines the Panel's plan for 2025-26.

The key purpose of this report is to:

- achieve greater awareness of the purpose, role and objectives of the Audit Panel;
- outline the outcomes achieved by the Panel; and
- provide Council with information on the future objectives of the Panel.

Membership

In accordance with the Audit Panel Charter, the Panel must comprise a minimum of 3 members appointed by Council, where at least 1 must be an independent person.

During 2024-25, the Panel composition was:

- Andy Gray (independent chairperson)
- Councillor Winston Mason
- Councillor Winston Archer
- Councillor Jason Orr (alternate)

Meetings and attendance

The Audit Panel had meetings on 18 September 2024, 11 December 2024, 12 March 2025 and 11 June 2025. The four meetings held meets the minimum required number of meetings under the Audit Panel's Charter.

The audit panel meeting and attendance record was:

	18 Sep 2024	11 Dec 2024	12 Mar 2025	11 Jun 2025	Total
Andy Gray	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	4/4
Clr Winston Mason	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	3/4
Clr Winston Archer	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	3/4
Clr Jason Orr	-	-	-	Yes	1/4

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Functions of the Audit Panel

The function of the Audit Panel is to review Council's performance across a range of areas. The specifics of this function are sourced from:

- Section 85A of the Local Government Act 1993, which includes review of Council's performance in relation to:
 - Financial systems, financial governance arrangements and financial management
 - Strategic Plan, Long-term Financial Masterplan, and Asset Management Strategies and Policies
 - Policies, systems and controls to safeguard long-term financial position
- Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014, which includes consideration of:
 - Annual financial statements of Council
 - Strategic Plan, Long-term Financial Masterplan, and Asset Management Strategies and Policies
 - Accounting, internal control, anti-fraud, anti-corruption and risk management policies, systems and controls
 - Compliance with the Local Government Act
 - Whether Council has taken any action in relation to recommendations provided by the Audit Panel
- Council's Audit Panel Charter, which include considering:
 - The matters noted above
 - Human resource management, including policies, procedures and enterprise agreements
 - Information and communications technology governance
 - Management and governance of the use of data, information and knowledge
 - Other activities with the Panel's remit, as determined by the Panel

Liaison with Tasmanian Audit Office

Council's external auditor, the Tasmanian Audit Office (TAO), attended meetings with the Panel during the year.

The Audit Panel considered all reports from TAO on their activities undertaken in reviewing and auditing the internal control environment. The independent audit of the annual financial statements of the Council for 2024 was reviewed by the Audit Panel.

Key activities in 2024-25

The key activities of the Audit Panel during 2024-25 included:

- Reviewed the accounting policies and annual financial report for the year ended 30 June 2024
- Received TAO's annual reporting on the outcome of the audit for the year ended 30 June 2024
- Monitored the effectiveness of Council's risk management processes and controls
- Received regulatory updates to maintain current knowledge of contemporary governance practice and legislative requirements
- Received updated Asset Management Plan documentation
- Received internal audit reports covering:
 - Fraud & Corruption (completed by external resources – Synectic)

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- Payroll processes (completed by internal resources)
- Business Continuity Planning (completed by external resources – MAV Insurance)
- Waste Management (completed by external resources – MAV Insurance)
- Received regular reporting on status of previous internal audit recommendations
- Received updates on the implementation of the new ERP system
- Reviewed Business Continuity Plan
- Received periodic updates on the Policy Governance Framework
- Considered preliminary budget parameters and assumptions for 2024-25 in light of the current economic environment
- Reviewed TAO's external audit strategy for financial year 2024-25; and
- Developed and approved the Panel's annual work plan for 2024-25.

Internal audit function

The Management Team have continued to progressively act on internal audit findings and recommendations, which in turn lead to incremental improvements in Council's control framework.

We recommend that a partially outsourced internal audit function continue to be used in future years. This sees internal audit activity shared between:

- Council resources – with the appropriate structure and reporting approach, employees independent of the activity being audited can efficiently complete internal audit activities; and
- Third party specialists – specialists in the field are more appropriate for larger or more complex internal audit activities.

This blended internal audit function serves two purposes:

- enables Management and the Council to have greater assurance that there is compliance with policy, procedure and internal control; and
- enables the Audit Panel to discharge its responsibilities.

We recommend that the internal audit program be given appropriate priority to ensure that the scheduled internal audit activities are completed during 2025-26.

Program for 2025-26

In accordance with Council's Audit Panel Charter, the Audit Panel is required to develop an annual work plan that includes, but is not limited to, a schedule of meetings and the known objectives for each meeting.

The review of the annual work plan has consisted of:

- Consideration of the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014, and Council's Audit Panel Charter (as noted above)
- Consideration of matters discussed by the Audit Panel during the last year that may warrant a separate agenda item; and
- Requests from Council to the Audit Panel, if any.

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Based on this review, other than minor wording edits, there are no changes proposed for the 2025-26 work plan.

Attached to this report is the proposed work plan of the Audit Panel for the next twelve months. The Audit Panel's meeting in June 2025 recommended this work plan to Council for approval.

In concluding, I thank all Panel members for their contributions this year. I also thank the Management Team who provided support to the Audit Panel.

Andy Gray

Chairperson Audit Panel

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Audit Panel Annual Workplan 2025 – 2026

The Annual Workplan for the Audit Panel for 2025-2026 follows.

The Workplan has been based on the 2024-2025 workplan. The following sources have been considered to determine whether there have been any significant amendments in the last year:

- Relevant legislation, including Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014
- Audit Panel Charter; and
- Corporate governance practices.

For 2025 – 2026, there have been no significant changes in these documents, meaning that other than minor wording changes where highlighted, the content of the Workplan is consistent with that for the 2024 – 2025 year.

In accordance with the Audit Panel Charter, a minimum of 4 meetings must be held each financial year. The Workplan contemplates these being held in:

- September 2025
- December 2025
- March 2026
- June 2026

We can discuss the Workplan at the Audit Panel meeting on Wednesday 11 June 2025.

AGENDA ITEM		Sep	Dec	Mar	June
Standing Items					
1.	Declaration of Pecuniary Interests/conflict of interest	√	√	√	√
2.	Adoption of Previous Minutes	√	√	√	√
3.	Outstanding from previous meeting - Action Sheet	√	√	√	√
4.	Review Annual Meeting Schedule and Work Plan				√
Governance and Strategy					
5.	Review of Council Strategic Plan				√
6.	Review 10-Year Financial Plan			√	
7.	Review Financial Management Strategy (Sustainability)			√	
8.	Review preliminary Budget parameters and assumptions			√	
9.	Review annual budget and report to Council				√
10.	Review Annual Plan	√			
11.	Review Long-Term Strategic Asset Management Plan	√			
12.	Review Asset Management Strategy	√			
13.	Review Asset Management Policy	√			
14.	Review policies and procedures	√	√	√	√
Financial and Management Reporting					
15.	Review financial results and management reports	√	√	√	√
16.	Review any special financial reports or other outside professional consultants reports relating to finance, tax, strategy or legal matters	√	√	√	√

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AGENDA ITEM		Sep	Dec	Mar	June
17.	Review annual financial report and audit report, including meeting with Tas Audit Office representative	√			
18.	Review the impact of changes to Australian Accounting Standards				√
Internal Audit					
19.	Consider any available audit reports	√	√	√	√
20.	Review management's implementation of audit recommendations	√	√	√	√
21.	Review and approve annual internal audit program and alignment with risks				√
22.	Review the adequacy of internal audit resources for consideration in Council's annual budget and review performance of internal auditors			√	
External Audit					
23.	Consider any audit reports (financial or performance) from Tasmanian Audit Office	√	√	√	√
24.	Review management's implementation of audit recommendations		√		√
25.	Review and approve external audit plan including meeting with Tas Audit Office representative				√
26.	Consider any performance audit reports that will be undertaken by the Tas Audit Office and address implications for the Council	√	√	√	√
Risk Management and Compliance					
27.	Annual review of risk management framework policies		√		
28.	Review periodic risk management reports (including periodical / rotational risk review)		√		√
29.	Review how ethical and lawful behaviour and culture is promoted within the Council.	√			
30.	Review related party declaration process				√
31.	Review the procedure for Council's compliance with relevant laws, legislation and Council policies			√	
32.	Review internal, anti-fraud and anti-corruption management controls			√	
33.	Review information and communications technology governance, including processes and controls for management and use of data, information and knowledge		√		√
34.	Review business continuity plan		√		
35.	Review processes to manage insurable risks and existing insurance cover	√			
36.	Review delegation processes and exercise of these			√	
37.	Review tendering arrangements and advise Council			√	
38.	Review WH&S management processes		√		
39.	Monitor any major claims or lawsuits by or against the Council and complaints against the Council	√	√	√	√
40.	Oversee the investigation of any instances of suspected cases of fraud or other illegal and unethical behaviour	√	√	√	√
Audit Panel Performance					
41.	Review Audit Panel Charter and make any recommendations for change to the Council for adoption (every 2nd year)		√		
42.	Report to Council regarding execution of duties and responsibilities by the Audit Panel (annually)				√
43.	Initiate bi-annual Audit Committee performance self-assessment (every 2nd year)				√
Other					
44.	Review issues relating to National competition policy			√	

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**CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE
GEORGE TOWN AUDIT PANEL MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12 MARCH 2025
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GEORGE TOWN COUNCIL
COMMENCED AT 9:00AM**

Present:

Andrew Gray (Chair)
Cr Winston Mason
Cr Winston Archer
Mayor Greg Kieser

In Attendance:

Cheryl Hyde – Director Corporate and Community
James Anderson – Manager Corporate Services and Finance
Kim O'Loughlin – Executive Assistant Corporate and Community
Rick Dunn – Director Organisational Performance and Strategy
Shane Power – General Manager

Apologies:

Cr Jason Orr
Chloe Bellchambers – Tas Audit Office
David Bond – Tas Audit Office
Andrew McCarthy – Director of Infrastructure and Development

General Business

1. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests/Conflict of Interest

Nil confirmed.

2. Adoption of Previous Minutes

Minutes of the Audit Panel Meeting held on the 11 December 2024 were received and adopted.

3. Outstanding Actions from previous meeting – Action Sheet

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The Audit Panel received and noted the outstanding actions from the previous Meeting held on 11 December 2024.

Governance and Strategy

2.1 WP 6 – Review 10 Year Financial Plan

Audit Panel received and noted the report on the revised 10 year financial plan.

2.2 WP 7 – Review Financial Management Strategy (Sustainability)

Nil to report

2.3 WP 8 – Review Preliminary Budget Parameters and Assumptions

Audit Panel received and noted the report on the preliminary budget parameters and assumptions.

2.4 WP 14 – Review Policies and Procedures

Audit Panel received and noted the report on the review of the policies and procedures.

Action Item - next meeting workplan or overall spreadsheet to be provided to Audit Panel

Financial and Management Reporting

3.1 WP 17 – Review most Current Results and Report any Relevant Findings to Council

Audit Panel received and noted the report on the Quarterly Performance Report.

3.2 WP 18 – Review and Business Unit or Special Financial Reports or Other Outside Professional Consultants Reports Pertaining to Finance, Tax, Strategy or Legal Matters

Audit Panel received and noted the report on legal expenditure.

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Internal Audit

4.1 WP 21 / 22 – Review Management’s Implementation of Audit Recommendations

Audit Panel received and noted the report on Managements implementation of Audit Recommendations. Manager - Corporate Services and Finance will forward the report on the testing of the business continuity plan to panel members when available.

4.2 WP 24 – Review the Adequacy of Internal Audit Resources for Consideration in Council’s Annual Budget and Review Performance of Internal Auditors

Audit Panel received and noted the report on the Internal Audit resources and budget consideration.

External Audit

5.1 WP 25 – Consider any Available Audit Reports

Audit Panel received and noted the report on available external audit reports.

5.2 WP 28 – Consider any Performance Audit Reports that will be Undertaken by the Tas Audit Office and Address Implications for the Council

Audit Panel received and noted the report on available external audit reports noting clean audit for all.

Risk Management and Compliance

6.1 WP 31 – Monitor Ethical Standards and any Related Party Transactions to Determine the Systems of Council are Adequate and Review How Ethical and Lawful Behavior and Culture is Promoted within the Council

Audit Panel received and noted the report on ethical standards and related parties transactions.

6.2 WP 32 – Review the Procedure for Council’s Compliance with Relevant Laws, Legislation and Council Policies

Nil to report

6.3 WP 33 – Review Internal, Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruption Management Controls

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Audit Panel received and noted the report on Internal, Anti-Fraud and Anti-Corruptions Management controls.

6.4 WP 34 – Review Information and Communications Technology, Governance, Including Processes and Controls for Management and Use of Data, Information and Knowledge

Audit Panel received and noted the report on the Review Information and Communications Technology, Governance, Including Processes and Controls for Management and Use of Data, Information and knowledge.

6.6 WP 38 – Review Tendering Arrangements and Advise Council

Audit Panel received and noted the report on the review of tendering arrangements, noting the review of Council's Code for Tenders and Contracts will come before Council and Audit Panel in the coming months.

6.7 WP 40 – Monitor any Major Claims or Lawsuits by or Against the Council and Complaints Against the Council

Nil to report

6.8 WP 41 – Oversee the Investigation of any Instances of Suspected Cases of Fraud Or other Illegal and Unethical Behaviour

Panel Closed session

Other

8.1 – Any Other Business

Audit Panel received and noted the information report on property valuations.

Next Meeting Wednesday June 11 – invite to be sent

Meeting Closed 10.39am

Signed as a correct record


.....
A Gray
Chairperson