



Meander Valley Council
Working Together

AGENDA

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, 14 May 2024

Time 3.00pm

Location Council Chambers
26 Lyall Street
Westbury, Tasmania

Telephone (03) 6393 5300



Our Values

Our seven values help guide our decisions and underpin all we do.

Respect, listen and care for one another

Be trustworthy, honest and tolerant

Be positive and receptive to new ideas

Be innovative, creative and learn

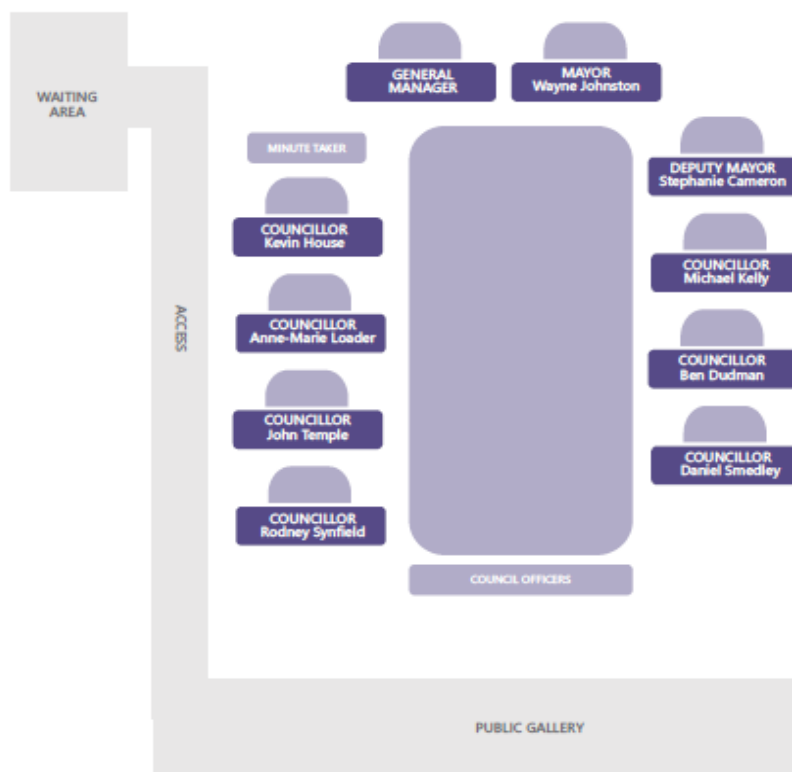
Take a fair, balanced and long term approach

Use sound business practices

Work together

Council Chambers

Seating Plan



Going to a Council Meeting

Members of the community are encouraged to engage with Council's monthly meetings. You can submit questions online or attend in person.

The Council's website offers handy fact sheets with information about what to expect at a Council Meeting, including how to participate in Public Question Time.

In accordance with Policy No. 98 - Council Meeting Administration, this Meeting will be recorded and live streamed to the general public.

Hard copies of Agendas and Minutes are also available to view at the Council's offices.

Learn More

[Click here](#) to find fact sheets about attending a Council Meeting, or to submit a question online.

A copy of the latest Agenda and Minutes are available to view at the Council's offices in Westbury. [Click here](#) to view Agendas and Minutes online or listen to audio of our Meetings.

After the Meeting, you will find Minutes and an Audio Recording online. The recording will remain available to the public for six months.

You can also contact the Office of the General Manager via telephone on (03) 6393 5317, or email ogm@mvc.tas.gov.au to ask any questions, to submit a question or learn more about opportunities to speak at a Council Meeting.

Public Access to Chambers

Where there is a need to manage demand, seating will be prioritised as follows:

For planning decisions: applicants and representors have first priority. A representor is a community member who writes to the Council to object to or support a planning application (statutory timeframes apply for becoming a representor during the planning process).

For all decisions: Members of the media are welcome to take up any seats not in use by the public, or email ogm@mvc.tas.gov.au to request specific information about a Council decision. Media requests received by email before close of business (or the end of the meeting) will receive a same-day response.

Attendees are requested to consider the health and wellbeing of others in attendance.

If you are symptomatic or in an infectious state then you are requested to stay away or follow good-practices to minimise risk to others. This includes measures such as social distancing, wearing of face-masks and the use of hand sanitisers.

Conduct at Council Meetings

Visitors are reminded that Council Meetings are a place of work for staff and Councillors.

The Council is committed to meeting its responsibilities as an employer and as host of this important public forum, by ensuring that all present meet expectations of mutually respectful and orderly conduct.

It is a condition of entry to the Council Chambers that you cooperate with any directions or requests from the Chairperson or the Council's Officers.

The Chairperson is responsible for maintaining order at Council Meetings. The General Manager is responsible for health, wellbeing and safety of all present. The Chairperson or General Manager may require a person to leave Council premises following any behaviour that falls short of these expectations. It is an offence to hinder or disrupt a Council Meeting.

Access and Inclusion

As far as is practicable, the Council supports and accommodates inclusion for all who seek to participate in Council Meetings.

Any person with a disability or other specific needs is encouraged to contact the Council before the Meeting or telephone (03) 6393 5300 or via email to ogm@mvc.tas.gov.au to discuss how the Council can best assist you with access.

Certificate of Qualified Advice

A General Manager must ensure any advice, information or recommendation is given to Council by a person with the necessary qualifications or experience: section 65, *Local Government Act 1993*.

Council must not decide on any matter without receiving qualified advice, or a certification from the General Manager.

Accordingly, I certify that, where required:


- (i) the advice of a qualified person was obtained in preparation of this Agenda; and
- (ii) this advice was taken into account in providing general advice to Meander Valley Council; and
- (iii) A copy of any such advice (or a written transcript or summary of oral advice) is included with the agenda item.



Jonathan Harmey
GENERAL MANAGER

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Opening of Meeting - Attendance and Apologies

Acknowledgment of Country

I begin today by acknowledging the Pallitore and Panninher past peoples, the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land on which we gather today and I pay my respects to Elders past and present. I extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.

Confirmation of Minutes

Motion That Council receives and confirms the Minutes of the last Ordinary Council Meeting held on 9 April 2024.

Vote Simple majority

Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest were received prior to Agenda publication

Council Workshop Report

Topics Discussed – 23 April 2024

Bus Tour Capital Works Program

Councillors visited identified Capital Works Program proposals in Carrick, Prospect Vale and Blackstone Heights.

2024-25 Environmental Health Fees

Councillors reviewed recommended environmental health fees and charges for the 2024-25 financial year.

2024-25 Dog Registration Fees

Councillors reviewed recommended dog registration fees and charges for the 2024-25 financial year.

Cat Management – Community Education

Councillors were provided with an overview of proposed upcoming community education program regarding responsible cat ownership.

Depot – Tender Pricing and Approved Budget

Councillors received an update and provided direction regarding the depot project.

External Presentation – Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers Program

Councillors received a presentation from NRM North on the Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers program.

Deloraine Waste Transfer Station Design Update

Councillors received an update on the Deloraine Waste Transfer Station design elements.

Deloraine Racecourse Precinct Masterplan Consultation

Councillors received an update on the final Racecourse Masterplan and proposed timeframe for community promotion.

Project Overview – Prospect Vale and Blackstone Heights Structure Plan

Councillors received a briefing on the Prospect Vale – Blackstone Heights Structure Plan Review prior to public consultation.

Advertising Sale of Public Land

Councillors received an update on the proposed process and timeline for advertising the intention to dispose of public land.

Budget Adjustments – Capital Works Program Projects

Councillors provided input and direction into the preferred options for a budget adjustment for the completed road reseal program.

2024-25 Capital Works Program

Councillors were presented with the draft of the 2024-25 Capital Works Program prior to presentation at a Council Meeting.

Councillor Loader – Food Security

Councillors discussed food security and homelessness in the Meander Valley municipality.

Councillor Temple – Cultural Exchange/Economic Development – Proposed Project

Councillors continued discussion on a proposed new project.

Items for Noting

Review of Policy No. 13: Subdivision Servicing

Mayor and Councillors' Reports

Councillors' Official Activities and Engagements Since Last Meeting

Mayor Wayne Johnston

Attended the following events:

- 18 April 2024 – Meander Valley Council Combined Staff Meeting
- 22 April 2024 – TasWater Meeting
- 25 April 2024 – Presented at the Deloraine ANZAC Day Services
- 11 May 2024 – SES Dinner

Councillor Ben Dudman

Attended the following events:

- 25 April 2024 – Presented at the Westbury ANZAC Day Service

Councillor Kevin House

Attended the following events:

- 12 April 2024 – Westbury Shamrocks Dinner
- 16 April 2024 – Carrick Hall Committee Meeting
- 25 April 2024 – Presented at the Carrick and attended the Deloraine ANZAC Day Services

Councillor Anne-Marie Loader

Attended the following events:

- 16 April 2024 – Mole Creek Progress Association Meeting
- 22 April 2024 – Westbury St Patrick Day Festival Meeting
- 24 April 2024 – Great Western Tiers Tourism Association Meeting
- 25 April 2024 – Presented at the Carrick and Mole Creek ANZAC Day Services
- 29 April 2024 – Mole Creek Swimming Pool Committee Meeting
- 1 May 2024 – Blackstone Heights Community News Group Meeting
- 8 May 2024 – Learning and Development Framework Community Consultation

Councillor Rodney Synfield

Attended the following events:

- 25 April 2024 - Attended the Deloraine ANZAC Day Service

Councillor John Temple

Attended the following events:

- 25 April 2024 - Presented at the Hagley ANZAC Day Service

Councillor Daniel Smedley
<i>Attended the following events:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 25 April 2024 - Presented at the Carrick ANZAC Day Service

Councillors' Announcements and Acknowledgements

Public Question Time

Members of the public may ask questions in person or using the form available on the Council's website.

Thirty minutes is set aside for members of the public to ask questions provided with or without notice. Council will accept up to two *Questions With Notice* and two *Questions Without Notice* per person, per meeting.

[Click here](#) to submit an online question.

Refer to pages 3 and 4 of this Agenda for more information about attending a Council Meeting.

Public Questions With Notice

Questions

Liam Harrex – Blackstone Heights Capital Works Program – Submitted via email on 19 April 2024

1. In March 2023, I was advised that Councillor Loader, with the support of Councillors Dudman and House, had put forward a capital works request to expedite the footpath program in Blackstone Heights. Can the Council please provide an update on the progress of expanding the footpath network in Blackstone Heights, particularly in Kelsey, Longvista and Panorama Roads to the existing path network?

***Matthew Millwood, Director Works,** advised that, subject to Council approval, the Council's Officers have included footpath design and construction projects for the Blackstone Heights area in the Draft 2024-25 Capital Works Program. The 2024-25 Capital Works Program will be considered at the June 2024 Council Meeting.*

Public Questions Without Notice



Councillor Question Time

Councillors' Questions With Notice

No Councillors' Questions With Notice were received for this Agenda

Councillors' Questions Without Notice

Development and Regulatory Services

2024-25 Dog Registration Fees

Report Author Wade Hateley
Team Leader Compliance and Regulation

Authorised By Krista Palfreyman
Director Development and Regulatory Services

Decision Sought Approval of the dog registration fees and charges for the 2024-25 financial year.

Vote Simple majority

Recommendation to Council

That Council, pursuant to section 205 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, adopts dog registration fees and charges for the 2024-25 financial year as provided in Table 2.

Report

The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt the dog registration fees and charges for 2024-25. The dog registration fees and charges are determined at the May Council Meeting so the 2024-25 fees can be published by the end of the first week in June and registration renewals issued.

The fees set by Council for the 2023-24 financial year are set out in Table 1:

Registration	Regular Fee (*GST inclusive)	If paid by 31 July 2023
Lifetime Domestic Dog not Desexed	\$450.00	Not Applicable
Lifetime Domestic Dog Desexed	\$155.00	Not Applicable
Domestic Dog not Desexed	\$75.00	\$56.00
Domestic Dog Desexed	\$26.00	\$16.00
Working/Hunting Dog (on production of suitable evidence by applicant)	\$26.00	\$16.00
Racing Greyhound (on production of suitable evidence of registration with TGRB)	\$26.00	\$16.00
Purebred (for breeding on production of suitable evidence of registration with TCA)	\$26.00	\$16.00
Pensioner's Dog (one dog per pension card)	\$26.00	\$16.00
Guide Dog/Hearing Dog/Assistance Dog (on production of suitable evidence by applicant)	Nil	Nil
Dangerous Dog Initial Registration	\$610.00	Not Applicable
Dangerous Dog Ongoing Registration	\$305.00	Not Applicable
Guard Dog	\$75.00	\$56.00
Other	Fee (*GST inclusive)	
Renewal of Kennel Licence		\$54.00
New Kennel Licence Application		\$147.00
Fee to make a nuisance dog complaint		\$26.00
Dangerous Dog Collar		\$60.00*
Dangerous Dog Sign		\$71.00*
Microchipping Fee		\$50.00
Impounding Fee		\$60.00
Impounding Fee – Second Time and subsequent occasions		\$100.00
Daily Maintenance Fee – weekday		\$28.00*
Daily Maintenance Fee – weekend		\$60.00*
Replacement Lifetime Tag		\$10.00

Table 1: 2023-24 Dog Registration Fees and Charges

The Council continues to run a comprehensive service in this program. The Meander Valley Council is one of the few remaining Local Government authorities in the region that provides a 24/7 call out service.

In order for the program to continue to provide the same level of service to the community, it is recommended that the dog registration fees and charges are increased and that these increases reflect the Council's Cost Index (CCI) for 2024. The CCI is prepared by the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) and captures the cost increases associated with the delivery of Local Government services recognising that the Consumer Price Index alone does not reflect cost increases across the range of Council services.

The CCI for 2024 is 3.74%. It is recommended that the majority of fees are increased by CCI and rounded to the nearest dollar. The annual discounted registration fee for desexed and other categories of dog is recommended to increase to \$30.00 after undertaking a benchmarking exercise with other surrounding Councils. There will continue to be a \$10.00 discount if the fee is paid prior to 31 July 2024. The discount offered to non-desexing purebred breeding dogs will be decreased and the regular fee will now be \$50.00.

The dog registration fees and charges for the 2024-25 financial year are provided in Table 2:

Registration	Regular Fee (*GST inclusive)	If paid by 31 July 2024
Lifetime Domestic Dog not Desexed	\$450.00	Not Applicable
Lifetime Domestic Dog Desexed	\$155.00	Not Applicable
Domestic Dog not Desexed	\$78.00	\$59.00
Domestic Dog Desexed	\$30.00	\$20.00
Working/Hunting Dog (on production of suitable evidence by applicant)	\$30.00	\$20.00
Racing Greyhound (on production of suitable evidence of registration with TGRB)	\$30.00	\$20.00
Purebred (for breeding on production of suitable evidence of registration with TCA)	\$50.00	\$40.00
Pensioner's Dog (one dog per pension card)	\$30.00	\$20.00

Registration	Regular Fee (*GST inclusive)	If paid by 31 July 2024
Guide Dog/Hearing Dog/Assistance Dog (on production of suitable evidence by applicant)	Nil	Nil
Dangerous Dog Initial Registration	\$610.00	Not Applicable
Dangerous Dog Annual Registration	\$305.00	Not Applicable
Guard Dog	\$78.00	\$59.00
New annual registration applications may receive 50% discount if received after 1 March subject to approval.		
Transfer of annual renewal registration from another Tasmanian Council (on provision of proof of current registration)		\$0.00
Other	Fee (*GST inclusive)	
Renewal of Kennel Licence		\$56.00
New Kennel Licence Application		\$152.00
Fee to make a nuisance dog complaint		\$30.00
Dangerous Dog Collar		\$60.00*
Dangerous Dog Sign		\$71.00*
Microchipping Fee		\$52.00
Impounding Fee		\$62.00
Impounding Fee – Second Time and subsequent occasions		\$104.00
Daily Maintenance Fee – weekday		\$30.00*
Daily Maintenance Fee – weekend		\$63.00*
Replacement Lifetime Tag		\$10.00*

Table 2: Recommended 2024-25 Dog Registration Fees and Charges

The recommended dog registration fees and charges were discussed at the Council Workshop held on 23 April 2024.

Attachments Nil

Strategy Supports the objectives of Council’s strategic future direction 4: a healthy and safe community.

See Meander Valley Community Strategic Plan 2014-24. [Click here](#) or visit www.meander.tas.gov.au/plans-and-strategies to view.

Policy Not applicable

Legislation *Local Government Act 1993*: section 205

Consultation Not applicable

Budget and Finance If approved, the dog registration fees are anticipated to raise estimated revenue of \$95,000 for the 2024-25 financial year.

Risk Management Not applicable

Alternative Motions Council may elect to approve the recommended fee structure with amendments.

Development and Regulatory Services

2024-25 Environmental Health Fees

Report Author Madeline McKinnell
Team Leader Environmental Health

Authorised By Krista Palfreyman
Director Development and Regulatory Services

Decision Sought Approval of the environmental health fees and charges for the 2024-25 financial year.

Vote Simple majority

Recommendation to Council

That Council, pursuant to section 205 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, adopts the environmental health fees and charges for 2024-25 financial year as provided in Table 2.

Report

The purpose of this report is for Council to adopt the environmental health fees and charges for the 2024-25 financial year.

The Council's fees and charges are set in conjunction with the annual budget process. However, the environmental health fees and charges are determined at the May Council Meeting so the 2024-25 fees can be published by the end of May to enable registration renewals to be issued in June.

The fees set by Council for the 2023-24 financial year are set out in Table 1 (*Note: licence fees required by legislation do not include GST*).

Food Premises (Except for bona fide not for profit organisations) Annual Registration/Renewal of Registration	Fees/Charges (*GST inclusive)
P3 ^ (see explanation below)	\$67.00
P1 and P2 ^ (see explanation below)	\$200.00
Late fee if application for renewal not received by 31 July 2022	\$60.00
Additional inspections due to non-compliance	\$136.00*
Temporary Food Stall Registration (Except for bona fide not for profit organisations)	Fees/Charges (*GST inclusive)
One-off event	\$41.00
Up to 6 months	\$67.00
6 – 12 months	\$100.00
Late fee if not received before event	\$48.00
Public Health	Fees/Charges (*GST inclusive)
Place of Assembly Licence – Public events, 1 day	\$86.00
Place of Assembly Licence – Public events, greater than 1 day	\$272.00
Registration of Private Water Supplier	\$115.00
Other premises requiring licencing under <i>Public Health Act 1997</i>	\$115.00
Request for inspection and written reports on food premises for prospective purchasers	\$136.00*
Mobile Food Vehicles	Fees/Charges (*GST inclusive)
Vendor's Permit	\$200.00

Table 1: 2023-24 Environmental Health Fees and Charges

In order for the program to continue to provide the same level of service to the community, it is recommended that the environmental health fees are increased and that the fee increase reflects the Council's Cost Index (CCI) for 2024. The CCI is prepared by the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) and captures the cost increases associated with the delivery of Local Government services, recognising that the Consumer Price Index alone does not reflect cost increases across the range of Council services.

The CCI for 2024 is 3.74%. It is recommended that fees are increased by CCI and rounded to the nearest dollar. The recommended environmental health fees and charges for the 2024-25 financial year are provided in Table 2.

Food Business Annual Registration/Renewal of Registration (Except for bona fide not for profit organisations)	Fees/Charges (*GST inclusive)
P3 [^] (see explanation below)	\$70.00
P1 and P2 [^] (see explanation below)	\$207.00
New food business annual registration applications and renewals may receive pro-rata discount subject to approval of Director Development and Regulatory Services.	
Late fee if application for renewal not received by 31 July 2024	\$62.00
Additional inspections due to non-compliance	\$141.00*
Temporary Food Stall Registration (Except for bona fide not for profit organisations)	Fees/Charges (*GST inclusive)
One day event	\$43.00
Two-day event	\$60.00
Three-to-five-day event	\$85.00
Late fee if not received before event	\$50.00
Public Health	Fees/Charges (*GST inclusive)
Place of Assembly Licence – Public events, 1 day	\$89.00
Place of Assembly Licence – Public events, greater than 1 day	\$282.00
Registration of Private Water Supplier	\$119.00
Other premises requiring licencing under <i>Public Health Act 1997</i>	\$119.00
Request for inspection and written reports on food premises for prospective purchasers	\$141.00*
Mobile Food Vehicles	Fees/Charges (*GST inclusive)
Vendor's Permit	\$207.00

Table 2: Recommended 2024-25 Environmental Health Fees and Charges

The categories of food premises listed in the environmental health fees and charges reflect the Tasmanian Food Business Risk Classification System (TFBRCS). Based on the national food safety risk profiling framework, food businesses are to be classified into five categories according to the types of food handled by the business, together with the size and method of its food handling activities.

The TFBRCs also includes food businesses that are classified as P3-N or P4, largely businesses handling or processing non-potentially hazardous foods. As in previous years, it is proposed that food businesses classified as P3-N or P4 are not included in the Council's fees and charges.

A Vendor's Permit, issued under the *Vehicle and Traffic Act 1999*, is required in addition to a Registration of a Food Business for mobile food vehicles wishing to operate from a public street or from property owned or managed by the Council. Mobile food vehicles based in other municipalities may apply for and obtain a Vendor's Permit to trade in the Meander Valley area.

It is recommended that the Council adds a pro-rata discount to the food business annual registration and renewal fees. This is suggested to allow an application that is received in the later part of the financial year, to have the annual fee reduced subject to Director approval. This may also be utilised with seasonal sporting clubs that may only operate their food business for part of the year.

The description of temporary food stall registration has changed, as businesses that operate for extended periods of time should be risk-classified under the Risk Classification System. Therefore, if a food stall is operating for more than five days, it should no longer be considered *temporary* and should be risk classified (eg. P1, P2, etc.) for annual registration.

The recommended environmental health fees and charges were discussed at the Council Workshop held on 23 April 2024.

Attachments Nil


Strategy Supports the objectives of Council's strategic future direction 4: a healthy and safe community.

See Meander Valley Community Strategic Plan 2014-24. [Click here](#) or visit www.meander.tas.gov.au/plans-and-strategies to view.

Policy Not applicable

Legislation *Local Government Act 1993*: section 205

Consultation Not applicable



Budget and Finance If approved, the environmental health fees are anticipated to raise estimated revenue of \$43,000 for the 2024-25 financial year.

Risk Management Not applicable

Alternative Motions Council may elect to approve the recommended fee structure with amendments.

Corporate Services

Audit Panel Minutes - 26 March 2024

Report Author Craig Davies
Director Corporate Services

Authorised By Jonathan Harmey
General Manager

Decision Sought To receive the Minutes of the 26 March 2024 Audit Panel Meeting

Vote Simple majority

Recommendation to Council

That Council receives the Minutes of the Audit Panel Meeting, held on 26 March 2024 provided in Attachment 1.

Report

The purpose of this report is for Council to receive the Minutes of the Council's Audit Panel Meeting held on 26 March 2024.

The Minutes of the Meeting have been reviewed and confirmed by the Council Audit Panel Chair, Andrew Gray. The Minutes are provided for Council's information, as required under the Audit Panel Charter.

Attachments 1. Audit Panel Minutes - 26 March 2024 [10.1.1 - 7 pages]

Strategy Supports the objectives of Council’s strategic future direction 5: innovative leadership and community governance.

See Meander Valley Community Strategic Plan 2014-24.
[Click here](#) or visit www.meander.tas.gov.au/plans-and-strategies to view.

Policy The recommendation fulfils the requirements outlined in Council’s Audit Panel Charter confirmed at the July 2022 Council Meeting

Legislation *Local Government Act 1993*: sections 85, 85A and 85B
Local Government (Audit Panels) Orders


Consultation Not applicable

Budget and Finance Not applicable

Risk Management Not applicable

Alternative Motions Not applicable

10.1.1 Audit Panel Minutes - 26 March 2024

 Meander Valley Council Working Together	Audit Panel Minutes
Meeting Time & Date: 9:30am 26 March 2024	Venue: Meander Valley Council – Council Chambers
Present:	
Chairman Andrew Gray	Councillor Ben Dudman
Mr Ken Clarke	Councillor Kevin House
In Attendance:	
Jonathan Harmey, General Manager	Justin Marshall, Team Leader Finance
Craig Davies, Director Corporate Services	Averil Hill, WHS Officer
David Murray, Director Infrastructure Services	Susan Ellston, Finance Officer
Krista Palfreyman, Director Development & Regulatory Services	Wezley Frankcombe, Manger Governance & Performance
Matthew Millwood, Director Works	Jan Lynch, Tasmanian Audit Office – via Zoom
	Simone Lee, Tasmanian Audit Office – via Zoom
Apologies:	

ORDER OF BUSINESS

13. Consider any available audit reports

The following report was tabled-

1. MVC - Financial Audit Strategy (draft) - Year ending 30 June 2024

Jan Lynch (Engagement Officer) and Simone Lee (Signing Officer) from the Tasmanian Audit Office (TAO) joined via Zoom meeting at 9:30 am. Jan gave an overview of the Financial Audit Strategy Document and noted that they had not identified any significant results. Jan also noted that the key risk included in the previous year of Information Technology (IT) has remained unchanged.

The financial audit will aim to be completed by 27 September 2024. There have been no significant changes impacting the financial statements disclosures for this year.

There were no questions from the Audit Panel and the TAO left the meeting at 9:36 am.

Report was received and Noted.

ITEM	
1.	Declaration of Pecuniary Interests/conflict of interest Nil.
2.	Adoption of Previous Minutes It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 19 December 2023 be received and confirmed.

<p>3. Outstanding from previous meeting - Action Sheet</p> <p>3.1 – Annual Review of risk management framework policies – WHS Officer presented the Risk Management Framework & Internal Audit Plan.</p> <p>In Summary: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Risk Management Framework is Robust and comprehensive. – MVC recognises risk as inherent in daily operations. – Vital tool in decision making processes. – Provides clear guidance on acceptable risk thresholds. – Emphasises defining roles and policies. <p>Received and Noted.</p>
<p>Governance and Strategy</p>
<p>4. Review 10-Year Financial Plan</p> <p>The Long-Term Financial Plan (LFTP) was last adopted on 27 June 2023. The document will be updated again when forming the 2024-25 financial year budget. Updates will be required to include Council decisions that have occurred to the operating and capital budget estimates and reflect any strategic decisions that have been made since June 2023. Items of note that will affect Council's financial plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Capital works budget changes such as funding for the Works Depot and Deloraine Recreation Precinct – Operational budget changes such as an additional employee, and approved sale of properties – Strategic decisions such as the long-term future of landfill operations within the municipality – Upgrade to technology including ERP System – Timing and quantum of Government grants <p>Received and Noted.</p>
<p>5. Review Financial Management Strategy (Sustainability)</p> <p>The MVC Financial management Strategy 2023 to 2032 was tabled.</p> <p>Council's Financial Management Strategy was last confirmed at the 14 June 2022 Council Meeting. The strategy is only updated every four years so the next scheduled update will be from the 2027 financial year.</p> <p>Report was Received and Noted.</p>

10.1.1 Audit Panel Minutes - 26 March 2024

6. Review preliminary Budget parameters and assumptions	<p>Council Officers are commencing development of the 2024-25 budget estimates to be workshopped with the elected member group, some factors that will impact the budget include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– The Tasmanian Council Cost Index increased by 8.1% for the year to December 2022. The index for December 2023 is not yet publicly available.– CPI (Hobart) to December 2023 experienced an annual increase of 3.3%– Depreciation changes from the 2023-2024 revaluation of Bridges– Wages including negotiated enterprise agreement increase of 3.8% (or CPI capped at 4%) and any FTE changes– The timing of capital grant funding– Continuation of expected TasWater distributions– System upgrades including ERP and Records Management. <p>Received and Noted.</p>
7. Review policies and procedures	Nothing to Report.
Financial and Management Reporting	
8. Review most current results and report any relevant findings to Council	<p>The Financial Report for the period ended 31 January 2024 was tabled for discussion.</p> <p>Report was received and Noted.</p>
9. Review any business unit or special financial reports	Nothing to Report
Internal Audit	
10. Consider any available audit reports	<p>WHS Officer is currently undertaking the Business Continuity Plan (BCP) Audit covering the following scope:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Evaluate the BCP to ensure it complies with relevant industry standards.– Evaluate the appropriateness of risk mitigation strategies outlined in the BCP.– Review the BCP documentation to ensure it is comprehensive, and a process exists to keep it up to date and accessible to relevant personnel.– Assess the frequency and adequacy of BCP testing and exercises, including training of employees to understand their BCP roles and responsibilities.– Evaluate the allocation of resources (financial, human, and technological) to support the BCP during a BCP event.– Assess MVC's ability to resume critical business functions within the defined recovery time objectives. <p>–</p> <p>2024 – 2025 Internal Audits Schedule: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– 2024 January – March<ul style="list-style-type: none">• (Governance) <i>Business Continuity Plan (BCP) is in place, tested annually and information is kept up to date.</i>– 2024 April – June

10.1.1 Audit Panel Minutes - 26 March 2024

- (Development and Regulation)
Plumbing assessments not being made in accordance with legislation.
- 2024 July – September
 - (Assets and Finance)
Chemicals are managed in accordance with Safety Data Sheets.
- 2024 October – December
 - (Workforce Relations)
Inadequate/ insufficient utilisation of employee training opportunities leading to reduced skills, currency of knowledge, turnover of staff.
- 2025 January – March
 - (Assets and Finance)
Contractors are being effectively inducted before commencing work.
- 2025 April – June
 - (Assets and Finance)
Effectiveness and compliance of pre-start procedures for both plant and fleet operations to ensure safety, regulatory adherence, and operational efficiency.

Received and Noted.

11. Review management's implementation of audit recommendations

Due to staff changes there were outstanding actions from the 2023 audit. Based on recent decisions, the following actions were tasked to the Department of Corporate Services to complete before June 2024. The following progress has been made:

Action: Poor processes for the disclosure and management of staff conflict of interest leading to partial decision making.

- Director Corporate Services communicated the Conflict-of-Interest Policy to All Staff via email on 4th March 2024.
- Key details included in communication were, definition, Conflict of Interest in a Council context, and reasons for notification and how.
- A further review of this policy will be in line with the HR Policy review (scheduled for completion by June 2024).

Action: Home based work policy in place and being complied with.

- Management of the Work from Home Policy and associated documentation sits with HR.
- A work from home checklist is in place.
- Flexible work agreement documented in Enterprise Agreement.
- A further review of this policy will be in line with the HR Policy review (scheduled for completion by June 2024).

External Auditor Internal Audit Review for 1st and 2nd Quarter 2024:

External audit of Insurance Coverage has been awarded to Synectic for completion prior to 30 June 2024.

Final report from Synectic audit is expected to be presented at the 25th June Audit Committee Meeting.

<p>External Auditor Internal Audit Review: 3rd and 4th Quarter 2023:</p> <p>Audit recommendations by The Safety Process for Just Waste Contractors are expected to be completed by the end of April 2024. A disagreement around responsibility has held up the completion of an action around the storage of disposed gas cylinders. Responsibility has been clarified to that of the Contractor and the next meeting is set to resolve remaining actions.</p> <p>Currently standing there are still outstanding actions against:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westbury: 7 • Deloraine: 15 <p>Received and Noted.</p>	
12.	<p>Review the adequacy of internal audit resources for consideration in Council's annual budget and review performance of internal auditors</p> <p>The adequacy of resourcing will be reviewed at the end of this audit cycle once an assessment has been completed to better understand the priorities and time commitments on staff working across WHS and risk activities.</p> <p>Received and Noted.</p>
External Audit	
13.	<p>Consider any available audit reports</p> <p>Details at the commencement of the meeting.</p>
14.	<p>Consider any performance audit reports that will be undertaken by the Tas Audit Office and address implications for the Council</p> <p>Tabling of the Private Works review report has been deferred due to the State election. Now expected to be tabled in April-May.</p> <p>Received and Noted.</p>
Risk Management and Compliance	
15.	<p>Monitor ethical standards and any related party transactions to determine the systems of control are adequate and review how ethical and lawful behaviour and culture is promoted within the Council</p> <p>No concerns to report.</p> <p>Declaration of interest reminder sent to all employees and Councillors from Director Corporate Services in the March 2024 quarter.</p> <p>Received and Noted</p>
16.	<p>Review the procedures for Council's compliance with relevant laws, legislation and Council policies</p> <p>There is currently an ad-hoc approach, improvements could be made by standardising the approach to legislative compliance across the organisation, a gap analysis would be beneficial for particular legislation.</p>

10.1.1 Audit Panel Minutes - 26 March 2024

Received and Noted	
17. Review internal and fraud management controls	<p>The internal review of fraud controls has not been undertaken throughout the quarter. It is proposed to undertake this work and report the finding to the Audit Panel at the June meeting.</p> <p>Received and Noted.</p>
18. Review delegation process and exercise of these	<p>Governance are in the process of preparing a Delegations Register which identifies all relevant legislative instruments and documents approved delegations.</p> <p>Delegations to Council Officers under the <i>Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993</i> were reviewed and presented to Council for Approval at the January 2024 Council meeting.</p> <p>Received and Noted.</p>
19. Review tendering arrangements and advise Council	<p>The Code for Tenders and Contracts (required under s.333B of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>) has been reviewed and the proposed updates were adopted by Councillors at the February 2024 Council meeting.</p> <p>Received and Noted.</p>
20. Monitor any major claims or lawsuits by or against the Council and complaints against the Council	<p>Magistrates Court proceeding commencing regarding Council's decision not to amend its Council Map under Section 209 of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>.</p> <p>Received and Noted.</p>
21. Oversee the investigation of any instances of suspected cases of fraud or other illegal and unethical behaviour	<p>No matters to report.</p>
Other Business	
22. Review issues relating to National competition policy	<p>Nil to report, only one SBA exists relating to overnight camping areas at Bracknell and Deloraine where they have previously been found to be below the minim competition threshold.</p> <p>Received and Noted.</p>
23. Election of Councillor	<p>It is noted that following the resignation of Councillor Lochie Dornauf a recount was conducted by the TEC and Councillor Daniel Smedley was elected.</p> <p>Received and Noted.</p>

24. Bi-annual Audit Panel performance self-assessment Noted that the bi-annual Audit Panel performance self-assessment is due this year. Audit Panel Chair to initiate this, using a similar questionnaire as last time and report back to the June Panel meeting.
Meeting close This meeting closed at 10:48 am
Next Meeting The next meeting is to be held on Tuesday 25 June 2024 at 9:30 am

Infrastructure Services

Bass Highway Sign Ownership State Government

Report Author Linda Butler
Team Leader Project Delivery

Authorised By David Murray
Director Infrastructure Services

Decision Sought Council declines transfer of responsibility for the land surrounding the visitor information bay located on Crown Land on the western approach to Deloraine on the Bass Highway.

Vote Simple majority

Recommendation to Council

That Council declines the request from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (Parks and Wildlife Service) to transfer responsibility for the land surrounding the visitor information bay located on Crown Land on the western approach to Deloraine on the Bass Highway.

Report

The decision, as per Minute Reference 137/2023, formed by Council on 13 June 2023 (Attachment 1) is as follows:

That Council:

- 1. Accepts the request from the Department of State Growth to accept ownership of the two existing visitor information signage bay structures located on State Government land on the eastern and western approaches to Deloraine on the Bass Highway;*
- 2. Authorises expenditure of \$39,000 comprised of Remedial work of \$25,000 and Maintenance costs for four years from 2023-24 of \$14,000; and*
- 3. Provides approval to the General Manager to renegotiate and enter into lease agreements with the State Government for the structures to remain on government land.*

Subsequently, State Growth transferred the ownership of the eastern signage bay to the Council on 4 July 2023.

The western signage bay is situated on Crown Land and the Council was informed by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) that it will not be possible to transfer ownership of the structure on its own to the Council. The structure is situated on a parcel of land with Property Identification Number (PID) 9598009 and NRE is unwilling to transfer only a part of this property. A license agreement is offered to the Council for the 0.27ha that makes up this parcel of land (Image 1).

It should be noted that the Council would be responsible to maintain the property as a condition of the license agreement. The additional cost to maintain the 0.27ha property would be between \$5,000 to \$10,000 per year.

Alternatively, the Department of Natural Resources and Environment indicated that the structure could be removed by the Council.



Image 1: Parcel of Land Surrounding the Western Information Signage Bay

Remedial works have been completed for both the eastern and western structures.
Options for Council to consider include:

- Support to enter into a license agreement for the whole parcel of land, considering that it will have to be maintained at additional cost to Meander Valley property owners;
- Support to move the structure to an alternative location; or
- No action from the Council and allow the State to determine their future for the signage.

Attachments 1. Ordinary Meeting Agenda - June 2023 [11.1.1 - 6 pages]

Strategy Supports the objectives of Council's strategic future direction 6: planned infrastructure services.

See Meander Valley Community Strategic Plan 2014-24. [Click here](http://www.meander.tas.gov.au/plans-and-strategies) or visit www.meander.tas.gov.au/plans-and-strategies to view.

Policy Meander Valley Council Policy No. 7: New and Gifted Assets, provides guidance to the Council in making an informed decision regarding the long-term implications of ownership of assets including new and donated assets. Refer to the Budget and Finance section below for further information.

Legislation Not applicable

Consultation Not applicable

Budget and Finance The estimated additional maintenance costs to accept transfer of responsibility is estimated to be \$10,000 annually.

Risk Management Not applicable

Alternative Motions Council can approve the General Manager to enter into a lease for the State Government land where the western information bay is located and approve additional operating budget for the associated maintenance costs.



Infrastructure Services

Bass Highway Information Signage Bays at Deloraine

Report Author Linda Butler
Project Manager

Authorised by Dino De Paoli
Director Infrastructure Services

Decision Sought Council to reaffirm its previous position in respect to the ownership of the visitor information bay structures on the eastern and western approaches to Deloraine on the Bass Highway.

Vote Simple majority

Recommendation to Council

That Council:

1. Rejects the request from the Department of State Growth to accept ownership of the two existing visitor information signage bay structures located on State Government land on the eastern and western approaches to Deloraine on the Bass Highway; and
2. Writes to the Department of State Growth and Parks and Wildlife to advise that Council will not be undertaking any repair work to the existing structures.

Report

The Bass Highway Visitor Information Bay structures located on the eastern and western approaches to Deloraine were constructed by the Department of State Growth (DoSG) thirty years ago. The last occasion of updating signage on the structures was completed by Deloraine-on-the-move and features local artwork.

Council has been approached in the past by organisations and businesses to take over the ownership and maintenance of the structures. The council resolved to not take ownership of the structures and information bays in 2007, 2009 and most recently in 2016 (Refer Council Minute reference number 136/2016). It is noted Council Officers presented background information on the information bay signage structures to a recent Council Workshop for consideration.

11.1.1 Ordinary Meeting Agenda - June 2023

The structures have special importance for some members of the community in Deloraine. Council Officers attended a meeting of the Great Western Tiers Tourism Association (GWTTA) in May 2022 where the Association committee members expressed that the structures are important assets for the community. The prominent position of the structures on the Highway makes them highly visible to visitors and the Association is concerned that the state of disrepair of the structures may reflect negatively on the Deloraine area. While it is noted that there has been a considerable change in accessibility to, and the volume and type of tourism related information on the internet, the Association believes the information bay signage still plays an important part moving forward.

Images showing the location of the information bays and signage structures are shown below.



Image 1: Location of Site – Eastern Approach to Deloraine



Image 2: Eastern structure



Image 3: Location of Site – Western approach to Deloraine



Image 4: Western structure

Eastern Structure

The Department of State Growth (DoSG) contacted the Council early in 2022 regarding the condition of the structure in the eastern information bay. This structure is within the Bass Highway corridor.

The DoSG has requested that the Council carry out repairs to the structure to mitigate public liability risks. If repairs to the structure are not undertaken there is a strong possibility that the Department will demolish the structure.

An engineering assessment of this structure by the Infrastructure Department makes recommendations for remedial work which could cost in the order of \$10,000. The assessment determined that if the structure is repaired and routine maintenance is undertaken, the expected lifespan may be between five and ten years.

The DoSG is willing to enter into a license arrangement with the Council for the structure to remain in its current location.

Western Structure

This western information bay structure is located on Crown Land outside the boundary of the Bass Highway corridor. This structure is in disrepair and requires repair work and regular upkeep.

Parks and Wildlife is the responsible State agency for this area of Crown land and has also indicated it is willing to enter into a license agreement with Council for the structure to remain in its current location.

It is anticipated the cost to carry out remedial work on the western structure would be in the order of \$15,000, and similar to the other structure, the expected lifespan would be between five and ten years with routine maintenance being undertaken.

Conclusion

The anticipated remaining life of the two structures is expected to be between 5 and 10 years. The cost to replace the structures at each location could be as much as \$60,000 in total. Should Council decide to take on ownership of the assets, it will be necessary to enter into license agreements with the DoSG and Parks. Based on the Council's previous decision and the likely short-term costs associated with repair, ongoing maintenance and replacement of the structures, Officers recommend that Council does not accept ownership of the structures.

Attachments Nil

Strategy Supports the objectives of Council's strategic future direction 6: planned infrastructure services.

See Meander Valley Community Strategic Plan 2014-24. [Click here](#) or visit www.meander.tas.gov.au/plans-and-strategies to view.

Policy Policy No.78 New and Gifted Assets provides guidance to the Council in making an informed decision regarding the long-term implications of ownership of assets including new and donated assets. Refer to the Budget & Finance section below for further information.

Legislation Not applicable

Consultation Council officers attended the GWTTA meeting in May 2022.

Budget & Finance The estimated costs to Council over the next 10 years are shown in the table below.

Remedial Work	\$25,000	Required in 2023-24
Maintenance Costs	\$35,000	\$3,500 per year
Replacement Cost	\$60,000	Year 10
Total Cost	\$120,000	

Table 1 – Cost Estimates



Risk Management Not applicable

Alternative Motions If Council determines to accept ownership of the structures, it may consider acceptance of the following alternate recommendations:

That Council:

1. Accepts ownership of the two existing visitor information bay structures located on State Government land on the eastern and western approaches to Deloraine on the Bass Highway;
2. Provides approval to the General Manager to negotiate and enter into lease agreements with the State Government for the structures to remain on government land; and
3. Notes a budget allocation of \$25,000 will be required in the 2023-24 operating budget for immediate repairs required to both structures.

Infrastructure Services

Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Report Author Linda Butler
Team Leader Project Delivery

Authorised By David Murray
Director Infrastructure Services

Decision Sought For Council to endorse the Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33.

Vote Simple majority

Recommendation to Council

That Council approves the *Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33* as provided Attachment 1.

Report

The Draft *Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33* (the Strategy) was presented to Councillors at the 23 January 2024 Workshop.

The Strategy will guide the actions of this Council for the next 10 years as the current *Waste Management Strategy 2016-20* has been reviewed and updated to reflect community expectations.

Following on from the Workshop, the Strategy has been updated and finalised and is attached (Attachment 1) for Council's consideration and approval.

Attachments 1. Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33 [11.2.1 - 42 pages]

Strategy Supports the objectives of Council’s strategic future direction
1: a sustainable natural and built environment
6: planned infrastructure services.

See Meander Valley Community Strategic Plan 2014-24.
[Click here](http://www.meander.tas.gov.au/plans-and-strategies) or visit www.meander.tas.gov.au/plans-and-strategies to view.

Policy Not applicable

Legislation *Local Government Act 1993*

Consultation Public input around waste matters have been taken into consideration in the compilation of the Strategy.

Budget and Finance Not applicable

Risk Management Not applicable

Alternative Motions Council can approve the Strategy with amendments.



Meander Valley Council
Working Together

Meander Valley Council Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-2033

Prepared for Meander Valley Council by
Blue Environment Pty Ltd



11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Document Information

Document: Meander Valley Council
Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-2033

Reference: P1361/1209.00.3.5154

Contract Date: 18 January 2022

Issue Date: 3 May 2024

Prepared by: Y Lin, G Caggiati-Shortell, S Guazzo, P Nyunt, L McLeod

Reviewed by: C Wardle, Joe Pickin

Revision History

Rev	Revision Date	Details	Authorised by	
			Name/Position	Signed
A	15 December 2023	For Client Review	Lisa McLeod, Principal Environmental Scientist	
B	8 March 2024	For Client Review	Lisa McLeod, Principal Environmental Scientist	
C	3 May 2024	For Council Approval	John Chrispijn, Project Manager	

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11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

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11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Abbreviations and glossary

C&D	Construction and Demolition Waste
C&I	Commercial and Industrial Waste
Circular North	Former Northern Tasmanian Waste Management Program
CRS	Container Refund Scheme
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
FOGO	Food Organics and Garden Organics
MRF	Material Recovery Facility
NEPM	National Environment Protection Measures
NRE	Department of Natural Resources and Environment
NRM	Natural Resource Management
WRRS	Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy
WTS	Waste Transfer Station
Landfill	A facility or place at which waste is lawfully disposed of into or onto land.
Resource Recovery Facility	A facility or place at which resource recovery occurs. This includes the: (a) reuse of the waste; or (b) recycling of the waste; or (c) recovery of energy or other resources from the waste; or (d) sorting or preparation of the waste for the purposes of (a), (b), (c)
Waste Depot	A landfill for the reception, storage, treatment, or disposal of waste, which is designed to receive, or are likely to receive, 100 tonnes or more of waste per year.
Waste Transfer Station	A facility or place at which waste is transferred from one vehicle to another, either directly or indirectly, and often involves the aggregation of waste to improve the efficiency of transport logistics.

1. Introduction

Meander Valley Council's Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy (WRRS) provides direction on delivering effective and sustainable waste management in the municipality over the next ten years. Meander Valley Council (Council) has been operating under the Waste Management Strategy 2016-2020; however, this is now out of date and does not reflect principles of circular economy, zero waste pathways and other sustainability targets recently introduced at National, State, and regional levels.

Council has demonstrated its commitment to a sustainable future by being the first municipality in Tasmania to use recycled materials in road resurfacing, an early implementer of kerbside FOGO collection with a service trialled in Blackstone Heights in 2011-2012, increased budget expenditure of \$2.6 million for waste management in 2022-2023 and continual support of Circular North, previously known as the Northern Tasmanian Waste Management Program.

The scope of the strategy focuses on key areas that are within Council's direct control including kerbside collection services, waste disposal and waste transfer station facilities, public litter bins and waste education, but also identifies some areas for advocacy.

2. Policy and regulatory framework

Council's WRRS is influenced by national, state, and local government acts, legislation and policies, as well as state and regional initiatives. An overview of the strategic framework for the WRRS, depicted in the figure below, is provided in this section.

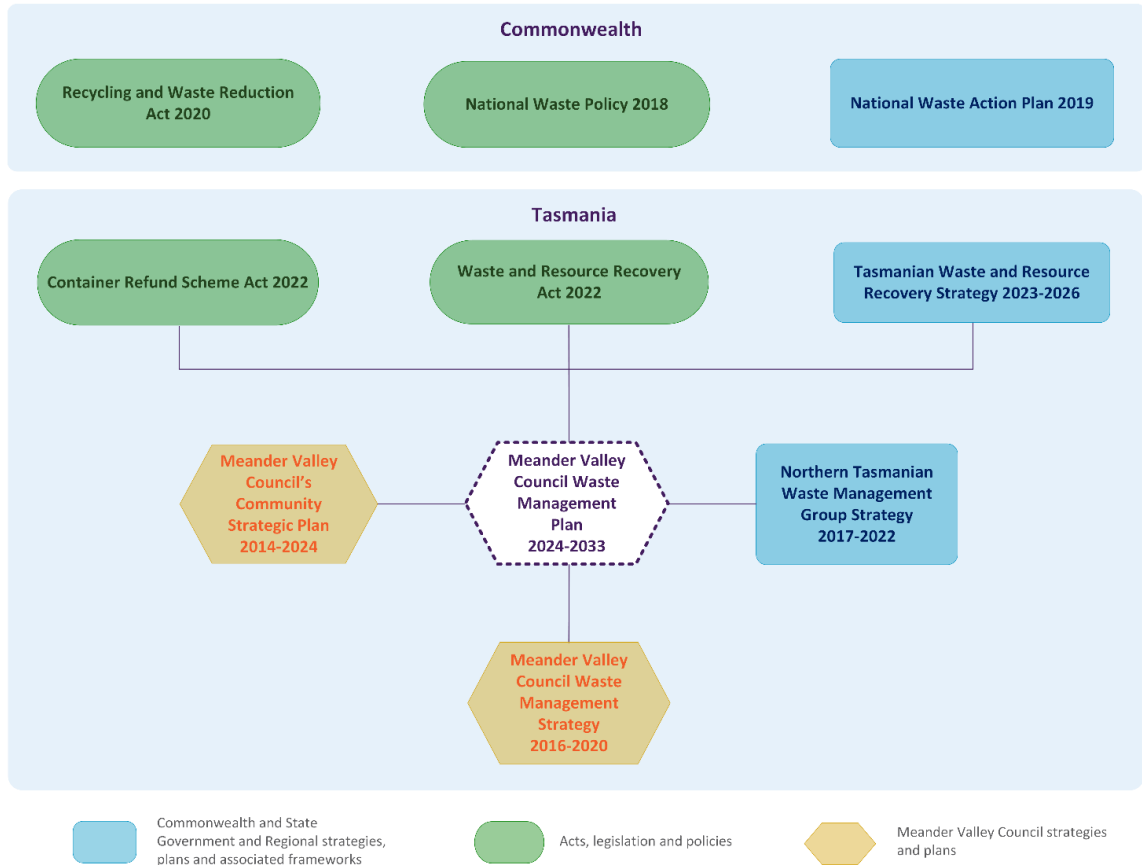


Figure 1: Policy and regulatory framework

2.1 Commonwealth

The Australian Government is responsible for the implementation of national legislation, policies and programs, which also includes obligations under international agreements. National frameworks also set the basis for collaboration by environment ministers on national waste issues.

The *National Waste Policy: Less Waste, More Resources 2018* provides the framework for waste management and resource recovery in Australia. The policy incorporates strategies addressing:

- waste minimisation and avoidance
- designing systems and products to maximise value and avoid wastage
- facilitating knowledge-sharing and education initiatives
- product stewardship
- implementing a common approach to waste policy and regulation
- improving access for regional, remote and indigenous communities
- increasing industry capacity
- sustainable procurement by governments
- sustainable procurement by businesses and individuals
- reducing negative impacts of plastics and packaging on the environment
- management of chemicals and hazardous waste
- reducing organic waste
- improving national waste data and reporting
- supporting and maintaining domestic and international markets for recycled materials.

Targets and actions to implement these strategies are defined in the National Waste Policy Action Plan 2019, which includes national targets to:

- ban the export of waste plastic, paper, glass and tyres
- reduce total waste generated in Australia by 10% per person by 2030
- 80% average resource recovery rate from all waste streams following the waste hierarchy by 2030
- significantly increase the use of recycled content by governments and industry
- phase out problematic and unnecessary plastics by 2025
- halve the amount of organic waste sent to landfill by 2030
- make comprehensive, economy-wide and timely data publicly available to support better consumer, investment and policy decisions.

The *Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020* establishes a national framework to regulate the export of waste materials and manage the impacts of products, including through voluntary, co-regulatory and mandatory product stewardship schemes.

The Act sets out a phased approach to regulate the export of specified waste glass, plastic, tyres and paper as follows:

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

- unprocessed glass in a whole or broken state – from 1 January 2021
- mixed plastics that are not of a single resin or polymer type or where further sorting, cleaning and/or processing is required before re-use – from 1 July 2021
- whole used tyres including baled tyres, excluding bus, truck and aviation tyres exported for re-treading to a verified facility – from 1 December 2021
- single resin or polymer plastics that have not been reprocessed – from 1 July 2022
- mixed and unsorted paper and cardboard – from 1 July 2024.

The Recycling Modernisation Fund is a national funding scheme set to boost Australia's capacity to recycle key materials. The fund will work in conjunction with waste export regulations, so we have the required additional onshore reprocessing capacity to manage local supply. The fund will distribute over \$1 billion of investment in recycling infrastructure.

National product stewardship arrangements (between government and industry), regulated under the *Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020*, are in place for certain products, including televisions and computers, end-of-life tyres, packaging, waste oil, mobile phones and household batteries. Coverage of other products (such as solar panels and other e-waste) is being planned.

The Australian Government also establishes National Environment Protection Measures (NEPMs) that set the basis for agreed national objectives for protecting or managing particular aspects of the environment. Current waste related NEPMs address used packaging materials and the movement of hazardous waste between states/territories.

2.2 Tasmania

The Tasmanian Government recently passed the *Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022* (the WRR Act) and the *Container Refund Scheme Act 2022* (the CRS Act), which significantly reformed how waste is managed in the state. These new acts put key actions stated in the Tasmanian Government's *2019 Draft Waste Action Plan* into legislation.

The Tasmanian Government released the *2019 Draft Waste Action Plan*, which provided a framework for waste management in Tasmania and moving towards a circular economy. The plan set out the following goals:

- ensure 100% of packaging is reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2025
- reduce waste generated in Tasmania by 5% per person by 2025 and 10% by 2030
- achieve a 40% average recovery rate from all waste streams by 2025 and 80% by 2030
- have the lowest incident of littering in the country by 2023
- phase out problematic and unnecessary plastics by 2030
- reduce the volume of organic waste sent to landfill by 25% by 2025 and 50% by 2030.

These goals are in line with the *2018 National Waste Policy* and *2019 National Waste Action Plan*.

Two years after the release of the plan, the Tasmanian Government published progress on key actions in the *Waste Initiatives Progress Report*. All relevant key tasks were on track or complete, including through the establishment of new legislation.

Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy

The Tasmanian Government recently released its first legislated waste strategy, the *Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2023-2026*. The strategy is the first part of a two-stage response that aims to achieve structural shift over the next six to seven years. The second part, intended to be a strategy for 2027-2030, will be based on the foundational work in the first part.

The strategy is based on four pillars:

- integrated planning and action
- strategic investment
- prioritise circularity
- engagement and partnerships.

The Strategy provides a commitment to several actions, including infrastructure investment, resource recovery and circular economy grants and other programs, landfill levy rebates, education and awareness, and skills development.

The Tasmanian government has noted that the national target of 50% recovery across all waste streams by 2025 was ambitious for some materials, particularly for smaller jurisdictions without landfill levies and policies in place to improve recycling rates. Studies commissioned in recent years have provided waste and material flows in Tasmania, and further data will be collected under the *Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022* (described below). The improved understanding of waste and material data baselines will inform actions and the development of Tasmanian-based targets.

Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022

The *Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022* came into effect on 1 July 2022 and brought major changes to the way waste has previously been managed in Tasmania. Key elements of the new legislation include:

- establishment of a Waste and Resource Recovery Board, with responsibilities which include:
 - development and implementation of a state-wide waste strategy that will set long and short-term goals for waste minimisation
 - oversight and management of landfill levy funds
 - community, business and industry engagement and education on waste reduction and resource recovery
 - supporting access of waste services in remote areas
- the introduction of a state-wide landfill levy (to replace voluntary levies which previously applied in some regions).

The WRR Act is supported by the Waste and Resource Recovery Regulations 2022. Key components of the regulations include definition of landfills and resource recovery facilities captured under the regulations, landfill levy rates, operational requirements and systems for records and reporting.

The landfill levy commenced on 1 July 2022 at a starting rate of \$20 per tonne. It will double to \$40 per tonne on 1 July 2024, and then increase to \$60 per tonne on 1 July 2026.

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

The introduction of the landfill levy aims to divert 210,000 tonnes per year of waste from landfill by 2030-2031. Landfill operators are entitled to a rebate for waste that is removed from the landfill site and received by a resource recovery facility. The landfill levy is expected to be returned to regional organisations of councils, as well as other groups involved in waste management and minimisation¹.

The WRR Act also sets out several requirements for landfill and resource recovery facility operators, namely:

- preparation and submission of a monthly and annual 'levy return' to report on the amount and type of waste received and removed from a landfill and resource recovery facility
- compliance with operational requirements
- annual volumetric surveys of a landfill
- retention of landfill and resource recovery records and documents for at least five years.

To assist in compliance of WRR Act, the Tasmanian Government introduced the Landfill Levy Readiness Grant Scheme in 2022 and Waste Data Readiness Grant Program in 2023. These programs provide financial support to update infrastructure and systems and upskill staff to be able to comply with the levy requirements for landfills and resource recovery facilities. The Department of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) regulates the collection of the landfill levy and enforcement of levy obligations. The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) maintains responsibility for oversight and compliance with environmental protection regulations.

Container Refund Scheme Act 2022

The *Container Refund Scheme Act 2022* passed through Parliament in 2022. The Act establishes a container refund scheme (CRS), titled *Recycle Rewards*, which provides a refund for residents and businesses for any eligible beverage container they return to dedicated collection locations. The intent of the CRS is to incentivise recycling, empower communities and minimise litter.

In 2023 the Tasmanian Government published the *Draft Container Refund Scheme Regulations 2023*, which outlines the design of the forthcoming scheme, as summarised below:

- The refund amount per returned eligible container will be 10 cents.
- The CRS will be funded by the beverage industry as an extended producer responsibility program.
- Like existing schemes around the nation, the CRS will focus on beverage containers that most commonly contribute to litter. Non-eligible containers include containers of less than 150 millilitres; containers of more than 3 litres; unflavoured milk containers; concentrated juice and cordial bottles; medical containers; wine bottles; and spirit bottles.

¹ Some landfill levy funds will also be allocated to cover EPA operations.

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

- Material recovery facilities will be eligible for claiming refunds for containers collected in commingled recycling bins.
- The CRS will run under a split-governance model, where the Scheme Coordinator manages administration and finances, and the Network Operator manages container collections.

The CRS was slated to commence in 2023 but has been delayed. It is likely to commence in 2024.

The impacts of the CRS on Meander Valley are likely to be focused mostly on beverage containers, including the amount of glass presented in future kerbside recycling collections (possibly lower) and the potential for Council to establish refund points at various locations in the municipality.

Council and regional strategies

Council's *Community Strategic Plan 2014-2024* sets out a vision for Meander Valley, incorporating six future directions:

- a sustainable natural and built environment
- a thriving local economy
- vibrant and engaged communities
- a healthy and safe community
- innovative leadership and community governance
- planned infrastructure services.

One of the Plan's strategic outcomes acknowledges that '*public health and the environment is protected by the responsible management of liquid and solid waste at a local and regional level*'.

Meander Valley Council (together with seven other councils, viz. Break O'Day, Dorset, Flinders Island, George Town, Launceston, Northern Midlands and West Tamar) is a member of Circular North, formerly known as the Northern Tasmanian Waste Management Program. Circular North provides advice, funding and education on better managing waste and recycling within northern Tasmanian communities, businesses and local governments. Circular North is hosted by Natural Resource Management (NRM) North, one of three regional committees, established under State legislation, to develop and manage a natural resource management strategy for the region.

Circular North was previously funded through a voluntary levy on waste disposed at the region's participating landfills. With the introduction of the state-wide landfill levy, Circular North has a revised governance structure and is funded by the Waste and Resource Recovery Board.

Prior to 2022 this program was hosted by the City of Launceston and was called the Northern Tasmanian Waste Management Group (NTWMG).

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

NTWMG developed a five-year strategy for 2017-2022, which included goals and targets around:

- improving resource recovery
- improving council waste and recycling infrastructure, operations and data systems to meet best practice
- facilitating education, engagement and partnerships about waste, recycling and reuse.

The change in governance structure in 2022, has delayed the development of a new five-year waste strategy, which is expected in 2024.

3. Current situation

The current status of waste management within Meander Valley has been reviewed to determine the baseline for future improvements. This includes a review of waste generation and diversion, kerbside collection services, waste disposal and waste transfer station facilities.

3.1 Waste and recycling services

Council provides different kerbside collection services within the municipality. In the townships of Bracknell, Carrick, Deloraine, Exton, Hagley, and Westbury, kerbside collection services are provided for waste (weekly) and recyclables (fortnightly).

While Blackstone Heights, Prospect Vale, Hadspen and Travellers Rest have waste and recycling kerbside collection services fortnightly, these suburbs also receive a food organics and garden organics (FOGO) collection fortnightly. The kerbside FOGO collection service was first introduced in Blackstone Heights as a trial in 2011-2012 before being expanded to these other areas in July 2022. Council has also recently commenced offering residents in select rural townships the opportunity to opt-in to a kerbside collection service.

Council's contractor for kerbside collections is JJ Richards, who collects waste and recycling from 7,199 households; FOGO is also collected for residents in the eastern end of the municipality.

Residents in areas not serviced by kerbside collections can take their waste and recyclables to a Council waste disposal or waste transfer station facility. Domestic waste disposal vouchers are issued to all owners of rateable properties in Meander Valley annually. Vouchers are designed to assist residents to manage their general domestic waste responsibly and provide access to Council waste disposal and waste transfer facilities. A hard waste collection service is provided annually to residents who register for the service with Council.

3.2 Infrastructure

Council currently operates two waste disposal facilities: Deloraine and Westbury Waste Depots as well as a Waste Transfer Station at Mole Creek. All sites are operated by contractor, JustWaste Consulting, with the contract set to expire on 30 June 2028. Both waste depots are reaching capacity and Council is exploring long-term landfilling solutions within the municipality.

Landfill cells at existing waste depots or new long-term sites should be designed and operated accordingly to the *Landfill Sustainability Guide 2004*, which provides guidance to landfill operators to achieve good environmental practices. The guide outlines acceptable standards, that provides minimum requirements and recommendation on various aspects of the landfill, which are:

- landfill siting and planning
- landfill design
- operations
- rehabilitation and after-care.

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Landfill licences approved by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) are based on the standards and recommendations outlined in the guide. Environmental issues that may arise at different stages of the landfill lifespan are included in the guide, along with managing solutions and effective waste management principles. Environmental impacts of major concerns are expressed over water and air quality, land management, resource conservation, health impacts and other impacts that may affect not only the landfill site but also its surroundings, namely fire, dust, noise, pest, and litter. The guide also invites landfill owners and operators to adopt effective waste management procedures according to the waste hierarchy, which outlines the importance of waste avoidance and reuse over energy recovery and disposal.

It is noted that the *Landfill Sustainability Guide 2004* was developed almost 20 years ago. With the passing of the *Waste and Resource Recovery Act* in March 2022, introduction of the *Waste and Resource Recovery Regulations 2022* and increased attention to waste management in Tasmania, it is likely that the guide will be updated with more recent (and potentially more stringent) requirements.

The following sections provide data collected for the Deloraine and Westbury Waste Depots since 2017-2018. It is understood that different reporting methods and/or different data collation and waste conversion methods may have contributed to over-reporting of recyclables prior to 2021-2022.

Deloraine Waste Depot

The Deloraine Waste Depot is located at 54 Tip Road, Deloraine on Council-owned land, and is the most centralised of the three sites, being situated immediately south of the township of Deloraine. The facility is open from 10am-5pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Deloraine Waste Depot includes a resource recovery centre for the sorting and processing of recyclables. Other infrastructure at the site includes:

- a site office and reuse shop
- utilities including power and water
- a leachate management system, including a leachate pond and sand filter
- a dedicated resource recovery area, incorporating various recycling bins, storage, sheds and a baler.

Deloraine Waste Depot is a Category B putrescible landfill, classified in accordance with the *Landfill Sustainability Guide 2004*, and it is licensed to receive 8,000 tonnes of waste per year (excluding materials for recycling) for landfill deposition (according to the 2024 Environmental Permit Conditions 11281). Based on recent data provided by Council the site receives approximately 5,000 tonnes of waste per year, summarised in Table 1.

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Table 1 Quantities of waste received at the Deloraine Waste Depot, 2017-2018 to 2022-23 (tonnes/year)

Financial year	Waste	Recycling	Garden Organics	Clean Fill	Total
2017-2018	7,004	4,044	621	378	12,047
2018-2019	5,888	4,131	731	144	10,894
2019-2020	4,705	3,083	921	203	8,912
2020-2021	4,735	2,516	787	201	8,234
2021-2022	2,604	1,892	682	143	5,321
2022-2023	2,588	645	680	312	4,226

Several site improvements are planned for Deloraine Waste Depot, including, introduction of a weighbridge by July 2024, and new waste transfer station in 2024-2025. The waste transfer station will eliminate the need for the public to access the active tip face. Landfill airspace at Deloraine Waste Depot is expected to be depleted around June 2028.

Council will continue to analyse landfill, weighbridge and volumetric survey data to manage Deloraine Waste Depot and predict landfill closure timeframes. Should the landfill reach capacity earlier than expected Council plans to send waste to Westbury for disposal, subject to EPA approval, or transport waste to Launceston or Dulverton landfills. Council is reviewing options for future landfill services including the development of a new landfill at a neighbouring Deloraine or Westbury site and transport of waste to alternative regional landfills.

Westbury Waste Depot

Westbury Waste Depot is located at 179 Cluan Road, Westbury. Opening hours are from 10am-5pm Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Since the beginning of 2022 Westbury Waste Depot received most of Councils kerbside collection waste.

Westbury Waste Depot includes a resource recovery centre. The existing landfill cell is reaching capacity; however, there is available footprint to construct an additional cell, which assuming it is approved and constructed, is set to expand the landfill lifespan until 2029 at current disposal rates. It is intended that the Westbury Waste Depot will be closed to the public in June 2025, with the landfill continuing to operate accepting municipal kerbside collection waste.

The site is licensed as a Category B putrescible landfill to accept up to 4,500 tonnes of waste per year (according to the 2022 Westbury Waste Depot Environmental Protection Notice 7635/2). Based on recent data provided by Council the site receives about 3,000 tonnes of waste per year, summarised in Table 2.

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Table 2 Quantities of waste received at the Westbury Waste Depot, 2017-2018 to 2022-2023 (tonnes/year)

Financial year	Waste	Recycling	Garden Organics	Clean Fill	Total
2017-2018	3,951	3,877	485	249	8,562
2018-2019	3,287	3,359	533	105	7,284
2019-2020	2,942	2,619	647	133	6,341
2020-2021	2,993	2,048	509	111	5,662
2021-2022	2,081	1,312	394	131	3,918
2022-2023	2,643	445	281	144	3,513

Despite some concerns raised in previous years regarding the correct disposal and management of waste, operations at the site appear now to be in line with the *Landfill Sustainability Guide 2004*.

Mole Creek and Meander Waste Transfer Stations

The Mole Creek Waste Transfer Station is located at 64 Mersey Hill Road, Chudleigh. It is open on Wednesdays from 1pm-4pm and on Sundays from 10am-3pm. The site mainly services properties in the western end of the municipality and receives on average 274 tonnes of waste per year. Waste that cannot be recycled is transferred by JustWaste Consulting to the Deloraine Waste Depot for disposal. When the Deloraine Waste Depot reaches capacity, waste will be redirected to the Westbury Waste Depot.

An independent waste transfer station is located at East Meander Road, Meander and operated by the Meander Progress Association. Opening hours are Tuesdays from 8.30am-10.30am and Saturdays from 2pm-4pm. The site is privately owned but Council subsidised, and it provides waste transfer services to communities south of Deloraine, which would otherwise need to travel a considerable distance to access Councils waste disposal and waste transfer station facilities.

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Disposal fees

Table 3 Waste disposal fees at Council Waste Depots and Mole Creek Transfer Station

Category	Volume/Item	Fees 2022-2023	Fees 2023-2024
General waste to landfill	Bags up to 60 litres	\$2.00	\$2.20
	240 litre bins	\$5.00	\$5.40
	Car or wagon	\$18.00	\$19.50
	Ute or trailer (up to 1.5m ³)	\$32.00	\$34.60
	Other vehicles (over 1.5m ³ but lower than 5m ³)	\$21 per m ³	\$27 per m ³
	Vehicles over 5m ³	Subject to Council approval	Subject to Council approval
Green waste, unsorted recyclables and salvageable timber	Bags up to 60 litres	\$1.00	\$1.10
	240 litre bins	\$2.50	\$2.70
	Car or wagon	\$9.00	\$9.75
	Ute or trailer (up to 1.5m ³)	\$16.00	\$17.30
	Other vehicles (over 1.5m ³ but lower than 5m ³)	\$10.50 per m ³	\$13.50 per m ³
	Vehicles over 5m ³	Subject to Council approval	Subject to Council approval
Other items	Car & light truck tyres	\$14.00	\$15.00
	Truck tyres	\$43.00	\$46.00
	Motor vehicle bodies	\$22.00	\$23.00
	Mattresses	\$10.50	\$11.00
	Refrigerators & freezers	\$7.00	\$7.50
	Empty waste oil containers	\$1.50	\$1.60

Recyclable materials that are free to dispose of include:

- separated & sorted recyclables
- drumMUSTER
- clean fill
- light scrap steel & non-ferrous metal
- e-waste
- batteries
- polystyrene
- motor & cooking oils
- fluorescent tubes & light bulbs
- items suitable for reuse shop.

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Circular North recycling services

Circular North facilitates recycling services for certain materials and household items that are hard to recycle at the Deloraine Waste Depot. This includes hazardous wastes and items that may not be safely or easily disposed of. These materials are listed in the table below.

Table 4 Materials collected by programs facilitated by Circular North in Meander Valley, 2022-2023

Material	Collection rate	Comments
Paint	6,907 kg of waste paint collected	Through a partnership with Cleanaway, and with the use of the Paintback scheme. After collection, paint is processed and treated, while tins are crushed and recycled.
Fluorescent lights	4,300 kg collected This figure is from all NRM North councils in 2020-21.	Collection of fluorescent bulbs and tubes is available with dedicated stillages provided on site. Mercury within the lights is recovered and recycled.
Batteries	3,770 kg collected	Dedicated wheelie bins for batteries provided on site.
Polystyrene	750 kg collected	Polystyrene is collected at Deloraine Waste Depot and transported to Launceston Waste Centre. A polystyrene recycling machine was installed at the Launceston Waste Centre in 2016, which condenses polystyrene into bricks to be recycled.
E-waste	7,227 kg collected	TechCollect a co-regulator under the national stewardship scheme for electronic waste, provide e-waste drop off at Deloraine Waste Depot. Circular North's partnership with TechCollect facilitates free processing and transport of e-waste from Tasmania to a processing facility in Victoria.

3.3 Generation and diversion

Waste received at Westbury and Deloraine Waste Depots is reported from various waste streams as shown in Table 5. The waste is either disposed of onsite or diverted to garden organics and recycling areas. Since July 2022 all garden organics are mulched and transported to Dulverton Waste Management for composting. Clean fill is received and used for daily cover. Waste generated from public drop offs and from Council's kerbside collection service contributed the highest tonnage. There is a high level of diversion with green organics, recycling and clean fill representing between 32-49% of all materials received.

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Table 5 Waste tonnages received at Cluan and Deloraine Waste Depots 2017-2018 to 2022-2023 (tonnes/ per year)

Financial Year	Waste Kerbside collection	Waste Public drop offs	Recycling	Garden Organics	Clean fill	Total
2017-2018	4,138	6,817	7,921	1,106	627	20,609
2018-2019	3,264	5,911	7,489	1,264	249	18,177
2019-2020	2,762	4,884	5,702	1,568	336	15,252
2020-2021	2,875	4,853	4,564	1,296	312	13,900
2021-2022	2,144	2,541	3,203	1,076	274	9,238
2022-2023	2,461	2,770	1,090	961	456	7,738

Waste to landfill

Total annual waste disposed to landfill has decreased significantly from 2018-2019 as shown in Figure 2. Westbury and Deloraine Waste Depots both estimate tonnage of waste disposed to landfill based on calculations of volumetric conversions, therefore changes in compaction density would affect the estimated tonnage of waste to landfill unless the conversion factors are updated. Some of the decrease in total waste landfilled may be attributed to an increase in compaction density from about 1.5 to 2.6 from September 2018 to September 2019.

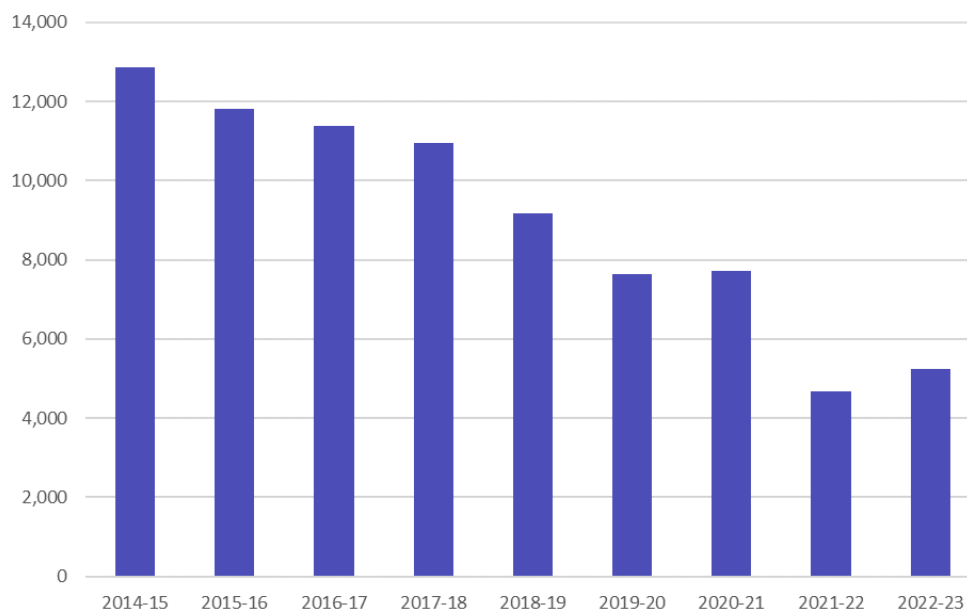


Figure 2: Total waste landfilled at Westbury and Deloraine Waste Depots, 2014-2015 to 2022-2023 (tonnes per year)

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

A further decrease between 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 can mostly be attributed to a drop in domestic vehicle waste deliveries received at Deloraine and Westbury Waste Depots.

The quantity of waste to landfill reported in 2022-2023 was 5,231 tonnes of which 2,461 tonnes originated from kerbside collection. This represents a 12% increase from the quantity reported in 2021-2022.

Recycled waste

Kerbside recycling is collected fortnightly and includes paper, cardboard, steel, aluminium cans, glass jars and bottles, and plastics numbered 1, 2 and 5 (Polyethylene terephthalate, High density polyethylene and Polypropylene). This comingled material is currently taken to the JJ Richards material recovery facility (MRF) in Mowbray, Launceston for sorting. Approximately 1,119 tonnes of recycling and 1,213 tonnes of FOGO were collected for 2022-2023 financial year, accounting for 49% of the total material collected from the kerbside collection service.

Additionally, 1,090 tonnes of recyclable waste were received at Westbury and Deloraine Waste Depots. Steel and cardboard comprised most of the recovered material, as shown in Figure 3. An additional 961 tonnes of garden organics were recycled through mulching and composting.

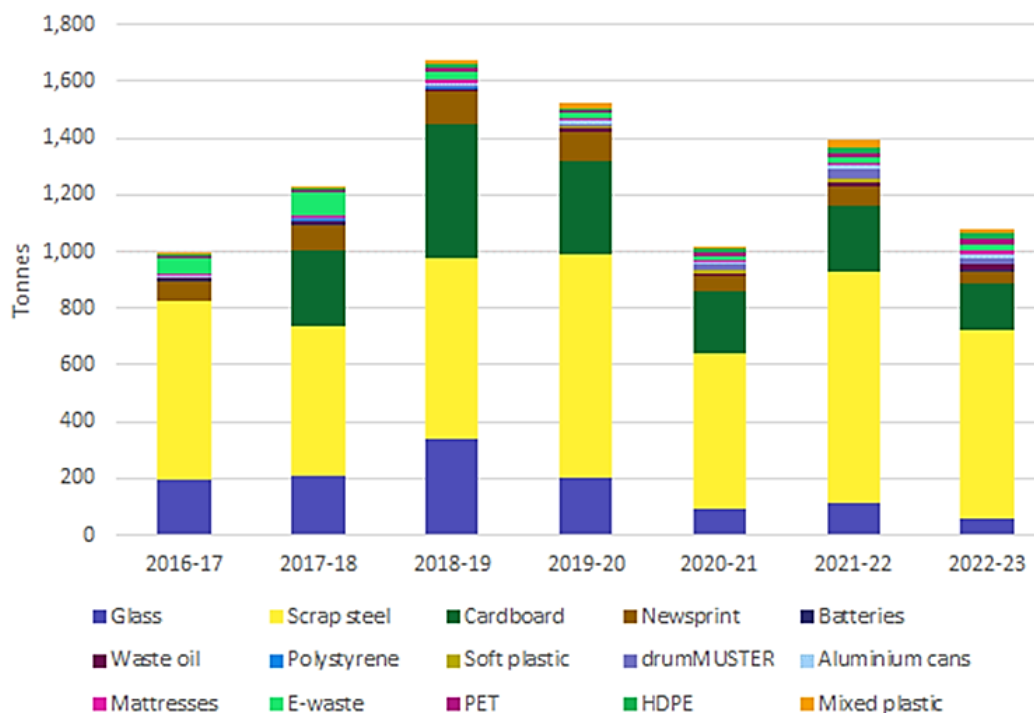


Figure 3: Recyclables received at Westbury and Deloraine Waste Depots, 2016-2017 to 2022-2023 (tonnes/year)

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

There are some discrepancies in recycling data between the six-monthly data reports (from 2016-2017 to 2019-2020) for Westbury and Deloraine Waste Depots and the annual landfill reports (2020-2021 onwards). They may be attributed to different reporting methods and/or different data collation and waste conversion methods.

It is important to note that Figure 3 does not include all recovered material due to the historical reporting framework. Material categories that are missing include:

- salvageable timber
- reuse shop items
- tyres
- gas bottles (empty)
- building material
- paint tins (full and empty)
- flares
- fluorescent tubes and light bulbs.
- books

The overall recycling data is expected to improve with increased mandatory reporting of recovered materials at Deloraine and Westbury Waste Depots, which is required from July 2024.

Hard waste

A hard waste collection service is provided annually for Meander Valley residents and is serviced by an external contractor. To receive this service residents must register with Council before the collection period and meet the guidelines. The aim of hard waste collection is diversion of waste from landfill. At sorting hubs, material is separated into waste, scrap steel, e-waste or items suitable for resale. Scrap steel recovered by this initiative increased significantly from 180 m³ in 2020 to 425 m³ in 2022.

The proportion of hard waste that was diverted from landfill improved from 2020 to 2021, increasing from 54% to 62% (JustWaste Consulting 2020, 2021), and decreased from 2021 to 2022, from 62% to 53% (Blue Environment calculation).

4. Key challenges and opportunities

The challenges facing waste management and resource recovery for Council are discussed below, as well as opportunities to address them and improve outcomes.

4.1 Regulatory changes

The WRR Act introduced increased requirements for data collection, reporting and maintenance for Tasmania's waste and resource recovery sector. Council's processes need to meet these new statutory obligations, which include:

- preparation and submission of a monthly and annual reports on the amount and type of waste received and removed from a landfill facility
- from 1 July 2024 preparation and submission of annual reports on the amount and type of waste received and removed from a "Class B" resource recovery facility
- compliance with operational requirements
- annual volumetric surveys of landfill cells
- retention of landfill and resource recovery facility records and documents for at least five years.

High quality data reporting will also improve opportunities to monitor Council performance that can be reviewed against state targets on a regular basis.

Funding has been provided through the Landfill Levy Readiness Grant and Waste Data Readiness Grant Program to improve data collection systems and address staff training needs. There may be future funding opportunities through the landfill levy which could support Council's resource recovery and waste education.

4.2 Leadership and education

Council can advocate for waste minimisation through supporting behaviour change in Meander Valley residents by undertaking initiatives in collaboration with community groups. This could include supporting reuse and repair initiatives, encouraging participation in national and local environmental events such as National Garage Sale Trail, Clean Up Australia Day and working with local business groups on waste minimisation activities. The support for Rethink Waste as part of Circular North represents an existing opportunity where Council endorses education as a strategy to foster a well-informed community in Meander Valley.

Regular audits of waste and recycling streams are a useful way to accurately track behaviour changes. The results of audits can improve understanding of causes of contamination and help Council tailor educational materials and opportunities to the needs of its residents.

The circular economy model of waste management is becoming more embedded in national and state conversations surrounding waste. See Figure 5 for a schematic representation of the circular economy. The model aims to reduce the quantity of valuable resources being lost as waste to landfill and move away from the unsustainable linear take-make-waste model. Council policies are progressively engaging with this model and commitments should be made in all new projects to engage with the circular economy concept.

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

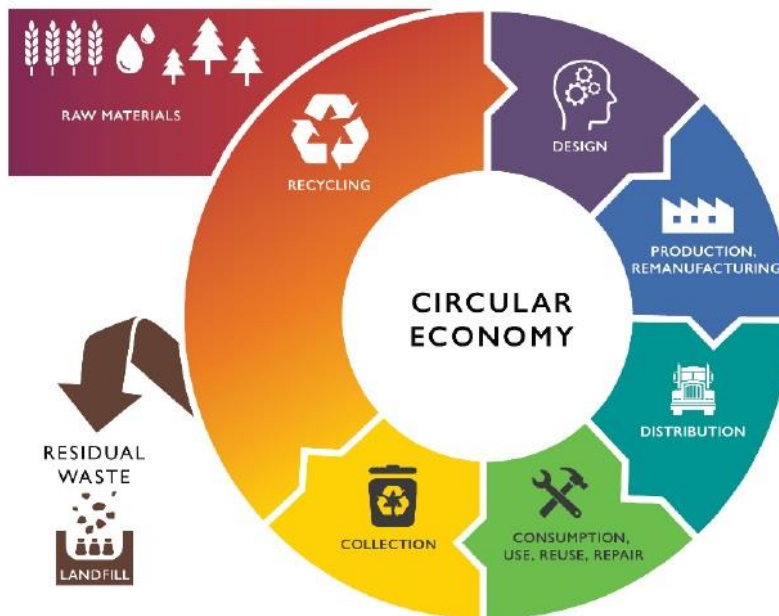


Figure 4 The circular economy (source-Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy 2023-2026)

Australians are becoming increasingly more engaged with what happens to their waste. Driven by programs such as ABC's War on Waste, waste management is escalating in the hierarchy of important issues to voters. Local governments have an expanding obligation to engage with voter concerns surrounding waste management and pursue support and improvement in these issue areas. While waste and resource recovery has historically been a non-engaging issue, these changed ideas about waste will continue to be an issue that is at the forefront of future regional strategies and will require ongoing commitment to best practice in the future.

In addition to advocating for behaviour change at the personal level for Meander Valley residents, Council could pursue opportunities for engagement and collaboration between regional businesses and Circular North for improved waste management outcomes on initiatives aimed at waste avoidance, such as product stewardship programs. This could further be expanded to advocate for local businesses at the state government level for improved support mechanisms to improve resource recovery rates.

Integration of sustainable procurement within Council's procurement policy could be a strategy for Council to further its community leadership. This could include preferential purchase of environmentally conscious products, especially products made using recycled content. Sustainable procurement accounts for the full life cycle of goods and services to ensure purchasing decisions account for broader environmental and social considerations. The incorporation of sustainability-related targets in Council's purchasing process could be an impactful way for Council to drive the circular economy.

4.3 Kerbside collection services

FOGO

Households are one of the largest contributors to food waste. A FOGO kerbside collection service is not currently available for some Meander Valley residents and by expanding the service Council has a significant opportunity to reduce food waste. Blackstone Heights was the first area in the Meander Valley municipality to receive FOGO collection, after being subject to a successful trial in 2011-2012. Council has expanded its kerbside FOGO collection network across the eastern end of the municipality, with services now also available for Prospect Vale, Travellers Rest and Hadspen. Since the expansion of the FOGO collection network, organic material collected has increased significantly from 133 tonnes in 2021-2022 to 1,213 tonnes in 2022-2023. FOGO collection allows organic material to be composted, turning food waste into a useable material. Diversion from landfill will reduce methane emissions from landfills and prolong landfill lifespan.

Council has previously considered additional FOGO services and are recommended to continue measures in implementing an expanded FOGO service. Information could be provided by Council for residents to encourage the correct use of the new service during expansion.

Kerbside performance

Council is interested in expanding their existing kerbside collection services to more residents in rural areas, and now offers opt-in collections for some rural townships. To facilitate this opportunity and highlight areas for improvement, a kerbside collection performance comparison between similar councils is shown in Table 6. Tasmania does not mandate collection of kerbside collection data, so comparisons are made with Victorian councils, Indigo Shire, Swan Hill and Golden Plains. These councils were chosen based on their similar population, land size and industry performance.

Each council provides different levels of kerbside collection service for different rates. Similar annual rates were chosen to easily compare cost effectiveness of each council's service. Table 6 provides a comparison of kerbside collection services at similar costs in 2023-2024.

Indigo Shire displays a higher rate of kerbside material diversion from landfill compared to the other councils listed. At a similar cost to households, Golden Plains does not provide FOGO collection, Swan Hill offers garden organics service only (does not include food organics) to the Swan Hill city area and Meander Valley offers some FOGO services, these councils also have lower diversion performance compared to Indigo Shire.

Meander Valley expanded its FOGO collection service to further areas in 2022-2023, and in the same year observed an 18% increase of kerbside diversion from landfill. There is opportunity for Meander Valley to continue to increase material diversion from landfill by expanding the kerbside collection network as well as introducing more specific bins for recyclable materials. Community education and awareness to improve the usage of kerbside collection system, including correct sorting of materials and lower bin contamination, could be implemented to achieve higher landfill diversion rates.

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Table 6 Kerbside collection services in Meander Valley, Indigo Shire, Swan Hill and Golden Plains

Council/shire	Cost to household per year ¹	Bins provided ²	Kerbside collection diverted from landfill ³
Meander Valley Council	\$434 ⁴	140L waste ⁵ 240L recyclables 240L FOGO	49% ⁶
Indigo Shire Council	\$406	120L waste 240L recycling 240L FOGO ⁷	66%
Swan Hill Rural City Council	\$370 \$470 ⁸	120L waste 240L recycling 240L FOGO ⁸	29%
Golden Plains Council	\$427	240L waste 240L recyclables	35%

¹ Cost may vary depending on location and level of service. Presented are 2023-2024 figures.

² Size and types of bins provided may vary depending on level of service.

³ Diversion rates presented are 2022-2023 figures.

⁴ Includes \$162 waste management contribution (2023-2024 budget figure).

⁵ 140L is the standard mobile garbage bin size. Mobile recycling bins can be multiple sizes without an additional charge. A 240L FOGO bin is also included only for residents in Blackstone Heights, Prospect Vale, Travellers Rest and Hadspen.

⁶ Kerbside collection material diverted from landfill for Meander Valley was calculated by analysing the total amount of waste, FOGO and recycling collected for 2022-23.

⁷ 240L organics service is only available, and mandatory, in urban regions of Indigo Shire.

⁸ Includes a \$100 charge for Garden Organics (does not include Food Organics) kerbside collection, service only available for residents in Swan Hill city.

4.4 Infrastructure

The active landfill cells at Deloraine and Westbury Waste Depots are nearing capacity. A new weighbridge and waste transfer station at Deloraine Waste Depot is scheduled for 2024-2025, while a new landfill cell will be constructed at the Westbury Waste Depot. Detailed feasibility work to assess and decide on the future landfilling approach will be critical in the next two years. The Mole Creek Waste Transfer Station is viable in the short to medium term, with a review recently completed. Further review for the potential closure of the facility to be undertaken before 30 June 2028.

The Tasmanian waste sector produced 288 kt CO₂-e in 2018 from solid waste disposal according to the Tasmanian Climate Change Office's Emissions Pathway Review (2021). This accounted for 73% of greenhouse gas emissions from the waste sector. The waste sector accounted for 5% of Tasmania's emissions inventory excluding land use, land use change and forestry. Carbon emissions from waste are projected to decrease to 87 kt CO₂-e by 2050 according to a medium emission scenario using the reference case emission for Tasmania. The key drivers of lower carbon emissions from waste will be less organic waste decaying in landfill and less waste overall being landfilled following the implementation of the state-wide levy incentive.

The Tasmanian Climate Change Office suggests landfill gas capture technology as an opportunity to decrease carbon emissions from the waste sector with a high achievability rating. While this technology may not be appropriate for the existing Westbury and Deloraine Waste Depots, the technology may be viable infrastructure to account for in planning any new landfill site.

The Valley Central Bioenergy Project consisting of a 10MWe bioenergy hub proposed for the Valley Central Industrial Precinct offers significant energy recovery opportunities for Council. The bioenergy hub will use anaerobic digestion and combustion plants to generate energy from biomass feedstock, providing energy to multiple businesses at Valley Central and potentially more extensively. The feedstock offers a sustainable end-of-life alternative for wastes originating from the industrial precinct and surrounding region. This project will have significant impacts on the progress towards circular economy.

Case study 1

A road resurfacing project in Meander Valley through the partnership between Fulton Hogan and Tyre Stewardship Australia has demonstrated the opportunities available to include recycled material in active projects close to home.

In 2020, the partnership resurfaced roads in Meander Valley using 1,240 end-of-life truck tyres diverted from landfill and equivalent 40,000 recycled glass bottles to produce crumb rubber asphalt (Johnston 2020).

Case study 2

A \$10 million expanded polystyrene manufacturing facility is proposed for Valley Central Westbury. The plant will utilise recycled polystyrene to produce boxes for agriculture and aquaculture as well as the manufacture polystyrene construction blocks.

4.5 Market trends

Historically there have been limited opportunities for a vibrant recycling market for Tasmania attributed to a variety of reasons including a lack of infrastructure and prohibitively high transport costs to reprocessing facilities based on the mainland. The introduction of national bans on the export of recyclable materials is a turning point in the Australian recycling industry. In Meander Valley there is an existing, although currently limited, demand for recycled materials for local projects driven by the circular economy. These are discussed in the case studies.

There are unprecedented pools of funding currently available from the Australian and Tasmanian Government through the Recycling Modernisation Fund. This in response to the limited downstream opportunities for recycling and will stimulate a local market for recycled material which will drive the circular economy. The local market for recycled material is currently in a period of transition and is expected to expand over the next ten years. This may include the growth in infrastructure and recycling facilities availability in the region.

Proposed projects from Tasmanian recipients of the Recycling Modernisation Fund to date include a timber recycling facility and a plastics reprocessing and manufacturing plant as well as improving recycling infrastructure for three remote councils.

5. Next steps

This section outlines actions needed to achieve state, national and regional targets, and provides an indicative time frame for the implementation of those actions.

There are several external variables that impact on Council's approach which remain uncertain. In particular, the ability to secure land if needed for landfilling and associated environmental approvals, a recycling market in flux, and the number of providers in the Northern Tasmanian market mean that a staged approach to transitioning and implementing a waste and resource recovery strategy is necessary.

It is noted that the state-wide landfill levy will also contribute to the implementation of additional recycling and diversion processes to help councils achieve the intended objectives.

5.1 Actions

The following table of actions are recommended based on the challenges and opportunities.

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Meander Valley Council/Blue Environment

Infrastructure Services - Waste

Table 7 2024-33 action implementation plan

No.	Action	2024-29	2029-33	Council role ¹	Priority ²	Resources ³	Responsible group
Waste reduction and improvement of recycling practices							
1.	Adoption of a common level of service for the kerbside collection (type and frequency).	Feasibility study of fortnightly collection of each kerbside bin.	Monitor kerbside collection frequency and bin fullness.	Provide	H	F-OPEX	Kerbside Collection Services
2.	Investigate expansion of FOGO services to other areas that have kerbside collection inc. Carrick, Westbury, Bracknell, Deloraine.	Survey residents from each township and roll out expansion each year. It is intended FOGO services are provided to all areas that have kerbside collection.	-	Provide	M	F-OPEX	Kerbside Collection Services
3.	Expand rural kerbside collection for both waste and recycling services to improve waste management practices in Meander Valley where possible.	Assessment on the possible expansion of the kerbside waste and recycling collection service to rural areas, with further expansions made.	Kerbside collection service expanded to rural areas where appropriate.	Provide	H	F-OPEX	Kerbside Collection Services
4.	Continue to operate Mole Creek Transfer Waste Station with a review for potential closure of the facility to be undertaken before June 2029.	Management and operation of the Mole Creek Waste Transfer Station with review of closure.	Dependent upon review outcomes.	Provide	L	F-OPEX	Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Meander Valley Council/Blue Environment

Infrastructure Services - Waste

No.	Action	2024-29	2029-33	Council role ¹	Priority ²	Resources ³	Responsible group
Waste reduction and improvement of recycling practices							
5.	Continue to provide financial support to the Meander Progress Association towards operation of the Meander Valley Waste Transfer Station and review a potential cessation of the financial support to be undertaken by 30 June 2025.	Review financial support to Meander Progress Association.	-	Facilitate	L	F-OPEX	Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services
6.	FOGO collection services are expanded to commercial food premises, cafes restaurants within kerbside collection service area.	Provide a FOGO kerbside collection service to all commercial food premises.	FOGO services are provided to all areas that have kerbside collection.	Provide	H	F-OPEX	Kerbside Collection Services
7.	Invest in Waste and Resource Recovery Education.	Have regular waste and recycling education for residents to create awareness and improve resource recovery include mailouts, website, Facebook, kerbside bin audits.	Further programs targeting specific items/issues e.g. kerbside contamination.	Provide	H	F-OPEX	Kerbside Collection Services Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services Waste Strategy
8.	Establish composting facility at Deloraine Waste Transfer Station.	Obtain approval to conduct open windrow composting to process garden organics deliveries.	Majority of organic waste in the municipality is composted.	Provide	H	F-OPEX CAPEX	Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Meander Valley Council/Blue Environment

Infrastructure Services - Waste

No.	Action	2024-29	2029-33	Council role ¹	Priority ²	Resources ³	Responsible group
Waste reduction and improvement of recycling practices							
9.	Establish construction and demolition (C&D) waste processing facility at Deloraine Waste Transfer Station.	Obtain approval for a C&D waste facility to process a wide variety of material from construction waste deliveries.	Majority of C&D waste in the municipality is recycled.	Provide	M	F-OPEX	Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services
10.	Expand participation in product stewardship programs.	Regularly review current product stewardship programs, determine if others can be provided and if drop off/collection points can be established at Council facilities including the Deloraine Waste Transfer Station.	Expand product stewardship programs at Council facilities in adherence to current schemes.	Facilitate	M	A-OPEX	Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services Waste Strategy
11.	Expand Deloraine Waste Transfer Station to include Reuse/Repair Centre.	Invest in resource recovery infrastructure creating increased waste diversion including for difficult waste streams.	Majority of materials received at Deloraine Waste Transfer Station are recycled, reused.	Provide	M	F-OPEX	Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services Waste Strategy
12.	Reduce waste by 10% per person by 2030 in line with the national targets and 5% by 2025 in line with the state targets.	Reduced waste by 5% per person.	Reduced waste by 10% per person.	Advocate (N)	L	F-OPEX CAPEX	Waste Strategy

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Meander Valley Council/Blue Environment

Infrastructure Services - Waste

No.	Action	2024-29	2029-33	Council role ¹	Priority ²	Resources ³	Responsible group
Waste reduction and improvement of recycling practices							
13.	Ensure 100% of packaging is reusable, recyclable or compostable by 2025.	100% of packaging is reusable, recyclable or compostable.	Maintain that all packaging is made from either reusable, recyclable or compostable materials.	Advocate (N)	H	CAPEX	Waste Strategy
14.	Achieve a 40% average recovery rate from all waste streams by 2025 and 80% by 2030.	40% recovery from all waste streams.	80% recovery from all waste streams.	Advocate (N)	L	CAPEX	Waste Strategy
15.	Have the lowest incidence of littering in the country by 2023.	The lowest incidence of littering in the country.	Maintain this low littering level.	Advocate (S)	M	F-OPEX	Waste Strategy
16.	Phase out problematic and unnecessary plastics by 2030.	Phase out problematic and unnecessary plastics.	Continue not to use problematic and unnecessary plastics.	Advocate (N)	M	F-OPEX	Waste Strategy
17.	Continue to advocate for development of Valley Central Bioenergy Facility to improve energy recovery rates and provide alternative pathways for organic waste.	Feasibility study for the development of the Valley Central Bioenergy Facility.	Implementation and construction of the Valley Central Bioenergy Facility.	Advocate	H	F-OPEX	Waste Strategy
18.	Better manage controlled waste in the municipality.	Participate in product stewardship programs for controlled waste, organise household hazardous waste collections.	Controlled waste is managed and significantly reduced in the municipality.	Provide	M	A-OPEX	Waste Strategy

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Meander Valley Council/Blue Environment

Infrastructure Services - Waste

No.	Action	2024-29	2029-33	Council role ¹	Priority ²	Resources ³	Responsible group
Waste reduction and improvement of recycling practices							
19.	Expand recycling opportunities beyond the current kerbside collection service and recycling drop-off points at waste depots and waste transfer stations.	Create recycling hubs at Council buildings and Deloraine Waste Transfer Station for recycling items that are not able to be recycled through the kerbside collection service.	Majority of waste in the municipality is recycled.	Provide	M	CAPEX	Waste Strategy
20.	Develop Council procurement policies for products that have a high percentage of recycled content.	Include asphalt with recycled glass/rubber content for road construction projects, wheelie bins made from recycled plastics when procuring new bins.	Majority of products that council purchases has recycled content.	Provide	M	A-OPEX	Waste Strategy
21.	Support the Recycle Rewards - Tasmania's upcoming container refund scheme (CRS).	Work with government to have multiple refund points in the municipality.	Ensure that Recycle Rewards is operating effectively and implement improvements to the scheme.	Facilitate (S)	H	CAPEX	Waste Strategy
Waste governance							
22.	Construction of a waste transfer station and weighbridge at the Deloraine Waste Depot. Expected completion date of weighbridge by July 2024.	Implementation of the Deloraine Waste Transfer Station Project.	Review Deloraine Waste Transfer Station performance.	Provide	H	CAPEX	Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Meander Valley Council/Blue Environment

Infrastructure Services - Waste

No.	Action	2024-29	2029-33	Council role ¹	Priority ²	Resources ³	Responsible group
Waste reduction and improvement of recycling practices							
23.	Conduct further assessment on the existing and long-term capacity of the Westbury and Deloraine Waste Depots and assess options for future waste management.	Feasibility study for the management of waste in the municipality.	Implementation of feasibility study outcomes.	Provide	H	A-OPEX	Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services
24.	Conduct annual audits of kerbside collection services to determine causes of contamination and understand compositions of wastes. This could also be used to inform product stewardship programs.	Conduct audits on kerbside collection services throughout the municipality.	Address issues arising from audits, if any.	Provide	M	F-OPEX	Kerbside Collection Services
25.	Improve data collection systems to monitor recycling rates and performance against targets.	Improve data collection systems and monitor performance.	Monitor performance against targets.	Provide	H	F-OPEX	Kerbside Collection Services Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services Waste Strategy

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Meander Valley Council/Blue Environment

Infrastructure Services - Waste

No.	Action	2024-29	2029-33	Council role ¹	Priority ²	Resources ³	Responsible group
Waste reduction and improvement of recycling practices							
26.	Ongoing provision of waste disposal vouchers, community engagement to increase awareness and use.	Monitor use and performance.	Review the provision of waste disposal vouchers.	Provide	M	A-OPEX	Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services Waste Strategy
27.	Address carbon emissions at Waste Depots through increased diversion.	Assessment of carbon emissions at Deloraine and Westbury Waste Depots with mitigation strategies conducted.	Monitor landfill carbon emissions at Deloraine and Westbury Waste Depots	Provide	M	A-OPEX	Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services
28.	Effectively manage heavy plant, facility upgrades and employee resource requirements to manage operations of all Council owned Waste Depots and Waste Transfer Stations.	First review of the heavy plant, facility upgrades and employee resource requirements.	Second review of the heavy plant, facility upgrades and employee resource requirements.	Provide	M	A-OPEX	Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services
29.	Ongoing implementation of Tasmanian Landfill Levy. Including levy increases to meet the Australian Regional Landfill Levy average of \$60 per tonne by 2026.	Implementation of Tasmanian Landfill Levy and review charges and fees.	Review charges and fees.	Facilitate (S)	H	A-OPEX	Waste Depot & Transfer Station Services

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Meander Valley Council/Blue Environment

Infrastructure Services - Waste

No.	Action	2024-29	2029-33	Council role ¹	Priority ²	Resources ³	Responsible group
Waste reduction and improvement of recycling practices							
30.	Develop of a communications plan, consultation plan and implementation plan for the approved Waste Strategy Principles.	Development of a communications plan, consultation plan and implementation plan.	Review and update the communications plan, consultation plan and implementation plan.	Provide	H	F-OPEX	Waste Strategy
31.	Explore regional procurement opportunities.	Where beneficial, work with other councils on the development of regional contracts for kerbside collection services, recycling processing, FOGO composting and waste management services.	Ensure that Council has long term contracts with a high level of service for managing recycling, FOGO and waste.	Facilitate	M	A-OPEX	Waste Strategy
32.	Encourage opportunities in commercial and industrial (C&I) and C&D waste sectors.	Develop a regional contract for key C&D and C&I waste products (concrete crushing & plaster recovery and recycling) with other councils at their Waste Transfer Stations.	Increased diversion of C&D and C&I waste away from landfill.	Facilitate	L	A-OPEX	Waste Strategy

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Meander Valley Council/Blue Environment

Infrastructure Services - Waste

No.	Action	2024-29	2029-33	Council role ¹	Priority ²	Resources ³	Responsible group
Waste reduction and improvement of recycling practices							
33.	Support Circular North.	Implement the Circular North Annual Plan for 23-24 and contribute to the development of the 5-year strategic plan.	Contribute and develop to future Circular North strategic plans.	Facilitate (S)	H	A-OPEX	Waste Strategy

¹ Council role (S) indicates state-based actions. (N) indicates national based action.

² The Council determined priority of high, medium and low is based on assessment of two criteria, which are community benefit and ease of implementation. Community benefit considers contribution to filling service gaps and improving customer service. Ease of implementation considers the time, resources and complexity for delivery.

³ The financial resources required:

- A-OPEX: existing annual/ongoing operating cost that is unlikely to require significant consideration in annual resourcing and budget allocation.
- F-OPEX: future annual/operating cost that may increase and will require consideration in annual resourcing and budget allocation.
- CAPEX: capital expenditure will be required to implement action.

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

5.2 Implementation plan

Several deliverables have been achieved since the completion of the 2016-2020 waste strategy and during the development this strategy, including:

- a new kerbside collection service contract established in July 2022 with JJ Richards for seven years
- waste disposal voucher systems for households >25 minutes (applied as a 30km radius) from Deloraine and Westbury Waste Depots and Mole Creek Waste Transfer Station
- a service agreement with City of Launceston for waste disposal vouchers
- a new contract with JustWaste Consulting for the operation of Mole Creek Waste Transfer Station, Deloraine and Westbury Waste Depots.

Implementation of the action plan should follow a staged approach, as proposed below.

Table 8 Staged implementation plan

Deliverables by stage	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Stage 1: Landfill and alternative waste disposal options investigation										
Deliverable 1 - Construction of a new five-year capacity landfill cell at Westbury Waste Depot.										
Deliverable 2 - Closure of existing cells that are at capacity first Westbury Waste Depot 2025 -2026 and then Deloraine Waste Depot 2027-2028.										
Deliverable 3 - Introduction of a weighbridge at Deloraine Waste Depot.										
Deliverable 4 - Options for development of future landfilling capacity (expansion and closure options for Westbury and Deloraine Waste Depots or a new landfill site).										
Deliverable 5 - Construction of a waste transfer station at Deloraine Waste Depot.										

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Meander Valley Council/Blue Environment

Infrastructure Services - Waste

Deliverables by stage	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Deliverable 6 - Optimised operating arrangements at waste depots and waste transfer stations including purchase of plant-machinery & equipment (in-house vs outsource delivery model to be further analysed).										
Stage 2: Renewal of kerbside collection service arrangements										
Deliverable 1 - Standard kerbside collection service specification (charge, type and frequency) for current service areas.										
Deliverable 2 - Expanded FOGO kerbside collection service (subject to community consultation).										
Deliverable 3 - Reviewed kerbside collection approach including comingled recycling processing/FOGO management & waste disposal (potential future in-house operating model, regional model etc.).										
Stage 3: Waste depot and waste transfer station services										
Deliverable 1 - Extension of existing agreements with Meander Progress Association (annual).										
Deliverable 2 - Public consultation on preferred service (waste transfer station vs kerbside collection).										
Deliverable 3 - Introduction (subject to consultation and financial viability) of kerbside collection service to Meander, Mole Creek, and Chudleigh service catchments or improved waste transfer station service.										
Deliverable 4 - Decision paper on the future of the Mole Creek Waste Transfer Station.										

11.2.1 Waste Resource Recovery Strategy 2024-33

Deliverables by stage	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Stage 4: Waste depot and waste transfer station operating models										
The preferred waste infrastructure operating model (whether it is Council owned waste depots and waste transfer stations, or transport to regional waste management facilities, or in house versus external operations) will be determined once decisions are made regarding the future of Council's waste depots, and continued reliance in the medium term on transfer waste stations.										
Stage 5: Recycling and composting										
Council will commission a report to determine the best overall strategy to address recycling, including the management of garden organics and composting. This will require consideration of investment in new infrastructure to sort, process and remanufacture materials such as mixed plastic, paper, tyres and glass.										
Other items that could be included in the recycling strategy include:										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • diversion target of waste to landfill • sustainable procurement by Council • alternatives to landfill (anaerobic digesters, pyrolysis, gasification) • soft plastic recycling • participation in the National product stewardship schemes • FOGO kerbside collection service both domestic and commercial • waste cooking oil collection • cardboard collection • public recycling bins, event waste management, Tidy Towns, Garage Sale Trail, Clean Up Australia, waste education • C&D and C&I waste • better storage of recyclables at waste depots and waste transfer stations. 										

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Governance

Attendance at Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly

Report Author Jonathan Harmey
General Manager

Decision Sought Council approval for the Mayor to attend the Australian Local Government Association's National General Assembly.

Vote Simple majority

Recommendation to Council

That Council approves the Mayor's attendance at the 2024 Australian Local Government Association's National General Assembly with related costs for attendance met by the Council's operating budget.

Report

Meander Valley Council Policy No. 24: Councillor Expense Entitlements, Attendance at Conferences and Training, advises that the Council recognises the obligation for Councillors to be properly informed on matters relating to governance. There is value in Councillors attending professional development opportunities, both for the individual and the Council more broadly. Where the total cost (registration, travel and expenses) of conference, seminar and training sessions are likely to exceed \$2,500, the General Manager will refer the application to Council for consideration and approval.

The Mayor lodged a Training Request Form with the General Manager to attend the Australian Local Government Association's National General Assembly (NGA), to be held at Canberra in July 2024. The title of this year's NGA is building community trust.

The Mayor's attendance at the NGA was discussed at the 23 April 2024 Workshop.

Attachments 1. Registration Brochure - National General Assembly - 2024 [12.1.1 - 20 pages]

Strategy Supports the objectives of Council’s strategic future direction 5. innovative leadership and community governance.

See Meander Valley Community Strategic Plan 2014-24.
[Click here](http://www.meander.tas.gov.au/plans-and-strategies) or visit www.meander.tas.gov.au/plans-and-strategies to view.

Policy Meander Valley Council Policy No. 24: Councillor Expense Entitlements, Attendance at Conferences and Training

Legislation *Local Government Act 1993*

Consultation Not applicable

Budget and Finance The cost of the Mayor’s attendance is estimated to be between \$4,000 and \$5,000.

Risk Management Not applicable

Alternative Motions Council can elect not to support the Mayor’s attendance, or approve additional Councillors to attend the NGA with the Mayor.

2024 NGA

Building
Community
Trust

National Convention Centre
Canberra



AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

2 - 4
JULY
2024



Registration
INFORMATION



2024 SPONSORS

Foundation Sponsor



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Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure,
Transport, Regional Development,
Communications and the Arts**



PRESIDENT WELCOME



Friends,

I am delighted to invite you to attend our Australian Local Government Association's 30th annual National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government in Canberra.

Following on from the tremendous success of last year's annual Conference, this year promises to be our best yet.

I'm thrilled that we will once again be partnering with the Federal Government to host the Australian Council of Local Government (ACLG) immediately after our Conference, on Friday 5 July.

Last year's ACLG – secured by ALGA on your behalf – was the first held in more than a decade, and provided us with the opportunity to provide direct feedback to the Prime Minister and key Federal Ministers on what local governments need to thrive for the future.

This will be the last ACLG before the next Federal Election, and is a valuable opportunity for us to speak to the Federal Government with one voice about the policies and funding partnerships our communities need.

The theme of this year's NGA is "Building Community Trust". As the most trusted level of government, we know trust is an incredibly important foundation, and under threat in democracies around the world today.

Sadly, Australia has not been immune to a general decline in public trust over recent years, and many of you have witnessed the effects this has had on our communities firsthand.

We all know that if we are going to continue to deliver in the face of ongoing natural disasters, skills shortages and cost of living pressures, then trust in government, between governments, our institutions and our citizens is fundamentally important.

As the level of government closest to the community we have the best opportunity to bring people together at a grassroots level, and work collaboratively for the public good.

Local government has a crucial part to play in restoring trust in Australian democracy, and without question, investing in local government is an investment in our nation's future.

I look forward to hearing your ideas on the support we need to realise this opportunity, and welcoming you to our annual conference in Canberra this July.

Cr Linda Scott
ALGA President

KEY DATES & EVENT OUTLINE

TUESDAY 30 APRIL 2024

Call for Motions Closes

FRIDAY 7 JUNE 2024

Close of Early Bird Registrations

TUESDAY 2 JULY 2024

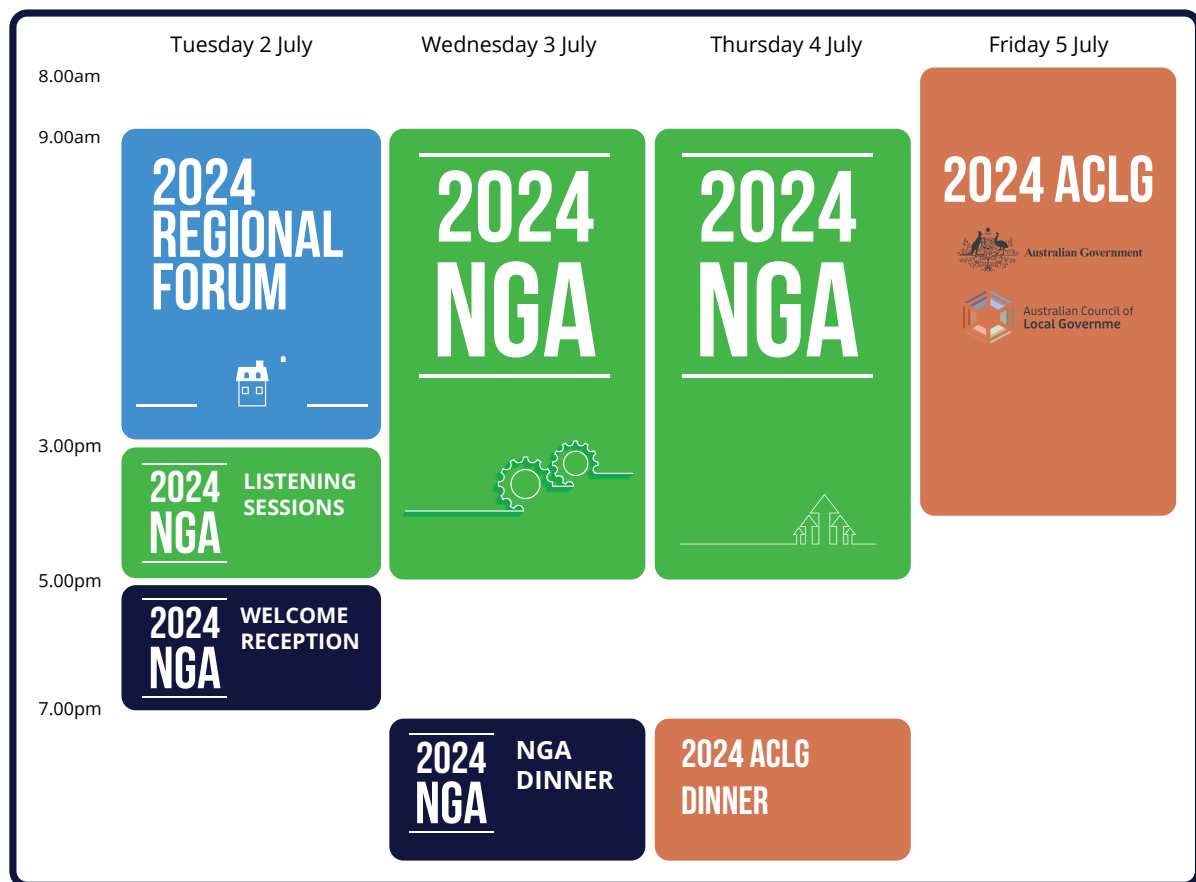
Regional Cooperation & Development Forum
National General Assembly | Listening Sessions

TUESDAY 2 - THURSDAY 4 JULY 2024

National General Assembly

FRIDAY 5 JULY 2024

Australian Council of Local Government (ACLG)



FULL PROGRAM

TUESDAY 2 JULY REGIONAL FORUM

8.00am	Registrations Open
9.00am - 3.00pm	Regional Forum (Additional registration required)

NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY | LISTENING SESSIONS

3.00pm	NGA Listening Sessions: Roads and Transport Energy Transition National Housing and Community Infrastructure Disaster Resilience and Recovery
5.00pm - 7.00pm	Welcome Reception & Exhibition Opening

WEDNESDAY 3 JULY NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

8.00am	Registrations Open
9.00am	Opening Ceremony Welcome to Country Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia (invited)
9.40am	Minister Address The Hon Catherine King MP, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (invited)
10.00am	Leader of the Opposition Address The Hon Peter Dutton MP, Leader of the Opposition (invited)
10.20am	ALGA President's Address Cr Linda Scott, ALGA President
11.00AM	MEAL BREAK ONE
12.00pm	Politics and Civic Engagement Anabelle Crabb, ABC Writer and Presenter
1.00pm	State of the Assets / Local Government Inquiry Update (TBC)
2.00PM	MEAL BREAK TWO
3.00pm	Debate on Motions
7.00pm - 11.00pm	General Assembly Dinner EPIC, Canberra

THURSDAY 4 JULY NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

9.00am	Intergenerational Equity and Fairness Simon Kuestemacher, Director and Co-Founder, Demographics Group
10.00am	PANEL - Addressing Intergenerational Trust
11.00AM	MEAL BREAK ONE
12.00pm	Community Trust in the Built Environment Stephen Yarwood, Urbanist and Former Lord Mayor of Adelaide
1.00pm	For the Love of Community Engagement Becky Hirst, Author
2.00PM	MEAL BREAK TWO
3.00pm	Debate on Motions
5.00pm	Close

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT | DINNER

7.00pm	ACLG Dinner
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FRIDAY 5 JULY AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

7.30am	Registrations Open
8.00am - 3.30pm	Australian Council of Local Government (ACLG)



AUSTRALIAN
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION

2024 REGIONAL FORUM

National Convention Centre
Canberra

REGIONALFORUM.COM.AU



2 JULY
2024

GENERAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION FEES

Forum Only Registration
\$475

**NGA Delegate Discount
Registration**
\$275

Register Online Now:
regionalforum.com.au

Dress Code: Smart Casual

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

8.00am	REGISTRATIONS OPEN
9.00am	Welcome to Country
9.20am	Minister Address The Hon Kristy McBain MP, Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories
9.40am	Shadow Minister Address The Hon Darren Chester MP, Shadow Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories
10.00am	Regional Connectivity and Services
10.45am	MORNING TEA
11.15am	Keynote: State of the Regions Nicki Hutley, Economist
	Panel: State of the Regions
12.30pm	LUNCH ALGA President Press Club Address <i>live telecast</i>
1.30pm	Panel: Regional Housing
2.30pm	AFTERNOON TEA



REGIONAL FORUM SPEAKERS



THE HON KRISTY MCBAIN MP

Minister for Regional Development,
Local Government and Territories

Kristy McBain proudly grew up on the NSW Far South Coast, and she is the first woman to represent Eden-Monaro.

Since being elected in 2020, Kristy has built a formidable reputation as a plain spoken, hard-working local member who advocates with all levels of Government and all sides of politics to get results for her constituents.

A former Mayor of the Bega Shire Council, Kristy advocated day and night for people through the darkest days of the Black Summer Bushfires in 2019-20.

Kristy studied law at the University of Canberra and as the first person in her family to go to university, she is passionate that all kids get the chance to go to university or TAFE and have the opportunity to build their careers and lives in the regions as she has done.



THE HON DARREN CHESTER MP

Shadow Minister for Regional
Development, Local Government
and Territories

Darren Chester was born and educated in Sale.

He was elected to Federal Parliament as the Member for Gippsland on June 26, 2008, in a by-election following the retirement of the Hon Peter McGauran.

During his time in Parliament, Darren has served in multiple executive positions across both Government and Opposition such as Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel, Assistant Minister for Defence and Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Roads and Regional Transport.

Prior to entering Parliament, Darren worked as a newspaper and television journalist before becoming Chief of Staff to the Leader of The Nationals in Victoria.

Darren is a keen sportsman who enjoys boating, camping and running marathons. He lives in Lakes Entrance with his wife Julie and their four children.



NICKI HUTLEY

Economist

Nicki Hutley is a highly experienced economist, with broad-based expertise in both macroeconomics and microeconomic policy gained over more than three decades in financial and investment markets and in economic consulting. She is particularly interested in the intersection of economy, society and environment.

After many years in the corporate world of banking, investment and consulting, Nicki is now an independent economist and keynote speaker. Nicki helps her clients top measure the impact of policies, programs and projects using triple bottom line Cost Benefit Analysis. Nicki is also the Chief Economic Adviser to the Customer-Owned Banking Association and a member of JANA's sustainability advisory committee.

Nicki is also a highly sought-after keynote speaker on long and short term economic issues, with a lens on social and environmental influences. She is also a frequent commentator in the media, and a regular guest on both The Drum and The Project.

NGA INFORMATION

New NGA Program Format

This year's NGA will feature some changes to the format of conference sessions and breaks. Conference sessions have been extended in length to allow extra time for questions and answers. Break times have been rearranged so there are now two 60 minute breaks on each day of the NGA, rather than two 30 minute and one 60 minute break. These changes are designed to provide delegates greater value through better opportunities to ask questions in presentations, as well as more time to visit the exhibition hall, or conduct meetings during meal breaks.

Listening Sessions

Another change to the format of the NGA this year is the inclusion of four concurrent "Listening Sessions" being held immediately following the Regional Forum on the afternoon of Tuesday 2 July. These sessions have been designed to provide delegates the opportunity to engage directly with representatives from federal government departments about the issues being faced by councils. The sessions will focus on four key topics: Roads and Transport, Energy Transition, Disaster Resilience and Recovery, and National Housing and Community Infrastructure. All NGA delegates are invited to attend one of these sessions and will be asked to nominate which when registering their attendance.

Virtual Registration

If you can't make it to the 2024 National General Assembly take advantage of the Virtual Registration. As a virtual participant you will be able to view ALL National General Assembly Sessions from Tuesday through to Thursday.

The registration fee is \$739.00

President's Soccer Match

There will once again be a Local Government versus Parliament soccer match in the early morning on Wednesday 3 July

Join ALGA President Linda Scott at the Senate Oval next to Parliament House at 6:45am for a 7:00am start.

Social Functions

Welcome Reception & Exhibition Opening

Tuesday 2 July 2024

Venue: National Convention Centre Canberra

The Welcome Reception will be held in the exhibition hall and foyer.

5:00pm - 7:00pm

\$50.00 per person for day delegates and guests. No charge for full registered delegates. No charge for registered accompanying partners.

Dress Code: Smart casual

General Assembly Dinner

Wednesday 3 July 2024

Venue: EPIC Canberra

The dinner is being held in The Budawang Pavilion

7:00pm - 11:00pm

\$175.00 per person

Dress Code: Formal/Cocktail

Numbers to this dinner are limited. Tickets are allocated on a first in basis.

General Assembly Business Sessions

Wednesday 3 July 2024 - Thursday 4 July 2024

Venue: National Convention Centre Canberra

All plenary sessions will be held in the Royal Theatre at the National Convention Centre.

Dress Code: Smart casual

Exhibition

Wednesday 3 July 2024 - Friday 5 July 2024

Venue: National Convention Centre

The exhibition is being held in the Exhibition Hall at the National Convention Centre.

Partner Tours

The partners meet at the National Convention Centre Canberra each morning to join the tour guide for their specialised trip around Canberra.

Canberra Cruise & Governor General Garden Tour Wednesday 3 July - 9.45am

We will start the morning with a Canberra Boat Cruise on Lake Burley Griffin, with a special garden tour visiting the Governor General's house.

At the end of the cruise, we will then enjoy a relaxing lunch at Snapper & Co whilst taking in the scenery of the lake.

To complete the day, we will show you the best sightseeing spots in the Canberra region. Your guide will share local knowledge with you and provide an insight into Canberra's culture and history.

Gold Creek Station & Murrumbateman Winery Thursday 4 July - 11:00am

Today we will get to explore Gold Creek station, a 400 hectare property that has been a sheep station since 1861. The tour will include a history of the station with an insight into the industry and a sheep shearing demonstration, followed by a hearty BBQ lunch.

Then on to a wine tasting at Murrumbateman Winery to experience their outstanding and award-winning Riesling and Shiraz

We will then finish the day with Murrumbateman Chocolate Co, a local shop with handcrafted artisan chocolates.

2024 SPEAKERS



THE HON CATHERINE KING MP
(INVITED)

Minister for Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development and Local
Government

Catherine King was born in Melbourne. She holds a Degree in Social Work and a Masters in Public Policy from the Australian National University and has recently completed a law degree from Deakin University.

First elected to Federal Parliament in 2001 to represent the electorate of Ballarat, Catherine has been re-elected as member at each subsequent Federal Election.

Following the 2019 election, Catherine was appointed to the role of Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development in the Shadow Cabinet led by the Hon. Anthony Albanese.

Prior to entering Parliament, Catherine worked in the social welfare sector in Ballarat and later in the public sector in Canberra, as a director for the Commonwealth Department of Health and Aged Care and as a senior manager at KPMG's Health Consulting Practice.



THE HON PETER DUTTON MP (INVITED)

Leader of the Opposition

Peter Dutton is the Federal Member for Dickson and Leader of the Liberal Party.

For nine years, Peter served his community as a Police Officer. He worked in the National Crime Authority and Drug and Sex Offenders' Squads, with a focus on protecting women and children.

First elected to Parliament in November 2001, Peter was appointed to the Ministry in 2004. In January 2006, he became Peter Costello's Assistant Treasurer.

Peter is married to Kirilly and is the proud father of Rebecca, Harry and Tom and lives in Dayboro in the Dickson electorate.





ANNABEL CRABB

ABC Writer and Presenter

Annabel Crabb is an ABC writer and presenter who has covered Australian politics for nearly 25 years as a news reporter and columnist.

She is the creator and presenter of Ms Represented, presenter and writer for the ABC-wide Australia Talks project, and co-host of the initial and 2021 return series of Tomorrow Tonight. She has written and presented the documentary series on life inside parliament, The House, With Annabel Crabb. She created the political interview series Kitchen Cabinet, which she has presented for seven seasons on ABC TV, and for which she received two Logie nominations in 2013 including the Graham Kennedy Award For Most Outstanding New Talent and Most Popular New Female Talent.

Annabel is a regular face on ABC TV's election night and Budget broadcasts and has a long history of appearances on ABC's Insiders program, including a stint as acting host in 2019.



SIMON KUESTENMACHER

Co-Founder, Demographics Group

Simon Kuestenmacher is a Director and Co-founder of The Demographics Group based in Melbourne, Australia. He holds degrees in geography from leading universities in Berlin and Melbourne and worked for several years as a business consultant with KPMG Australia.

In 2017 Simon, with Bernard Salt, co-founded The Demographics Group. The group provides specialist advice on demographic, consumer and social trends for business. He has presented to numerous corporate and industry audiences across Australia and overseas on demographic trends, consumer insights and cultural change in Australia.

Simon's presentations and quirky observations are enjoyed by groups from the financial services, property, government, education, technology, retail and professional services industries, among others.

He is a columnist for The New Daily newspaper and a contributor to The Australian newspaper and he is a media commentator on demographic and data matters.



STEPHEN YARWOOD

Urbanist

Stephen Yarwood is a renowned Futurist, highly respected Urbanist, former Lord Mayor of Adelaide and an award-winning member of the Planning Institute of Australia. Serving as a catalyst for change for both corporate and community organisations, his passion extends beyond envisioning the future; he actively educates, motivates and empowers people to shape it.

With a strong skill set in cross-disciplinary strategic foresight, he is deeply fascinated by the dynamic interplay between people, places, technology, and change. Recognised as an international thought leader on “the future citizen,” Stephen is committed to collaborative leadership that aids corporate and community leaders in navigating the rapidly changing and complex social, environmental, and economic landscape, allowing them to explore possible futures and create preferred outcomes.



BECKY HIRST

Author

Becky Hirst is a well-respected leader in community engagement across the world. Beginning her career in the late nineties during the early-Blair years of social inclusion and community development, over two decades, Becky has worked with multiple communities, on multiple topics, across two continents. Her clients include countless local, state and federal Government agencies, as well as non-government organisations and private enterprise.

Becky is an energetic consultant, author, public speaker, trainer and mentor for those keen to develop their skills in engaging with people, groups and communities. In October 2021, Becky was awarded a Fellowship of the Royal Society for Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (FRSA), in recognition of her exhaustive work on social inclusion and development in the UK and Australia, her best-selling book on community and participation, and her empowering services toward engagement and bringing people together.



CAMERON SULLINGS

Master of Ceremonies

Cam Sullings is a long-time radio, video and online presenter in Canberra. He's been behind the mic, in front of a lens or presenting on stage for more than 30 years. He currently presents two hours of content driven radio on Mix106.3 each Saturday.

Cam hosts many of Canberra's top corporate events, gala evenings, awards nights and community gatherings. He is the on-screen presenter and ground announcer at Canberra Raiders home matches. He's presented at other venues outside of Canberra including Sydney's Olympic Stadium and the SCG.

Through the day Cam manages his business, Present with Impact. He combines his presenting roles with public speaking and media tuition.



Australian Council of
Local Government

ABOUT THE ACLG

The Australian Government will hold the sixth Australian Council of Local Government (ACLG) in Canberra on 5 July 2024 at the National Convention Centre. The ACLG showcases the important partnership the Australian Government has with local governments across Australia, and puts local government priorities front and centre.

As a trusted partner, local governments are fundamental to the development and delivery of policies and programs for all Australians. The ACLG provides an important opportunity for councils to engage with Ministers on opportunities and challenges in their areas.

The ACLG was first established as a formal meeting between senior leaders of local government and the Australian Government in 2008. The establishment of the ACLG in 2023 builds on the Australian Government's commitment to work with local governments to build liveable and socially equitable communities in Australia's cities and regions.

The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts is working with the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) to deliver this important event. The ACLG will coincide with ALGA's National General Assembly (NGA) from 2 to 4 July 2024.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

Climate Change and Renewable Energy

An opportunity to explore with local governments the practicalities of securing social license and community engagement around renewable energy projects

Disaster Recovery and Resilience

A panel session designed to explore current support available for disaster events, resilience during and after disasters, telecommunications and future disaster mitigation challenges

Service Delivery Housing, Communications, Skills and Capacity

An opportunity to discuss service delivery including skills shortages across the local government sector, the Housing Accord and national homelessness plan and managing an ageing population.

Peri-Urban Councils and Regional Cities

An opportunity for a more open discussion to ascertain the experience and challenges of peri-urban councils and regional cities



THE ACLG DINNER

The ACLG Gala Dinner will be held on the evening of Thursday 4 July 2024 in the Great Hall of Australian Parliament House, Canberra.

At the Gala Dinner the Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories, the Hon Kristy McBain will announce the winners of the National Awards for Local Government, and present each winning category with an award.



GENERAL INFORMATION

All Australian local governments are invited to send elected members and staff, and state and territory association representatives to attend the ACLG Forum, and ONE council-endorsed delegate to the ACLG Gala Dinner. There is limited seating at the dinner, however there is a waitlist available for non-council-endorsed delegates who wish to attend.

There is no cost to attend the ACLG Forum and the ACLG Gala Dinner.

There are no limits to the number of online attendees.

Detailed timings and other arrangements will be provided closer to the date.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Registration form available at [NGA24.COM.AU](https://nga24.com.au)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY REGISTRATION FEES		INCLUSIONS
Registration Fees — Early Bird Payment received by Friday 7 June 2024	\$945.00	— Attendance at all General Assembly sessions — Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea as per the General Assembly program
Registration Fees — Late Payment received after Friday 7 June 2024	\$1045.00	— One ticket to the Welcome Reception & Exhibition Opening — General Assembly satchel and materials

VIRTUAL REGISTRATION FEES		INCLUSIONS
Full Virtual Registration	\$739.00	— Virtual access to all General Assembly sessions for day(s) selected
Virtual Day Registration (Wednesday or Thursday)	\$539.00	— Meeting hub to connect with other virtual attendees

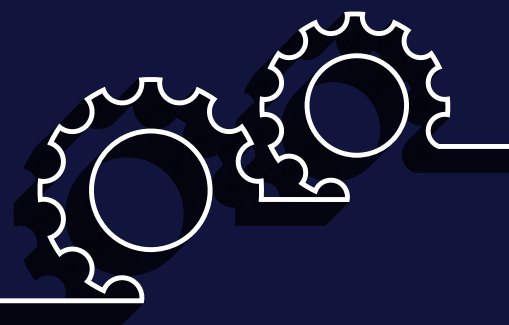
DAY REGISTRATION FEES		INCLUSIONS
Wednesday 3 July 2024	\$525.00	— Attendance at all General Assembly sessions on the day of registration
Thursday 4 July 2024	\$525.00	— Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea as per the General Assembly program on that day — General Assembly satchel and materials

TUESDAY REGIONAL FORUM REGISTRATION FEES	
Forum Only Tuesday 2 July 2024	\$475.00
NGA Delegate Delegates attending the Regional Forum and the NGA are entitled to this discount	\$275.00

ACCOMPANYING PARTNERS REGISTRATION FEES		INCLUSIONS
Accompanying Partners Registration Fee	\$330.00	— 1 ticket to the Welcome Reception, Tuesday 2 July — Day tour Wednesday 3 July — Day tour Thursday 4 July

All amounts include GST

ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS



A by Adina

1 Constitution Avenue, Canberra

A by Adina Canberra is the newest hotel to Canberra which is located on Constitution Avenue only a 5-minute walk from the National Convention Centre.

The hotel combines spacious apartment living with 24-hour reception, room service, service provided by knowledgeable concierges and a well-equipped gym.

A new dining district is also newly constructed in the immediate area.

All rooms have a king bed and the studios offer a twin option of two singles beds.

Studio Rooms: \$255 per night
— Single/twin/double

1 Bedroom Apartments: \$285 per night
— Single/double

2 Bedroom Apartments: \$475 per night
— Single/twin/double

Avenue Hotel

80 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra

The Avenue Hotel is one of the only 5 star options in the Canberra city and offers guests both studio and apartment style rooms. The hotel is a 15-20 minute walk from the Convention Centre.

The apartments have a fully functioning kitchen. Twin option at the hotel consists of two king singles.

Superior King Rooms \$305 per night
— Single/twin/double

1 Bedroom Apartments \$335 per night
— Single/double

Crowne Plaza

1 Binara Street, Canberra

The Crowne Plaza is adjacent to the Convention Centre and only a short walk from restaurants, bars and the main shopping district.

Twin option at the hotel consists of two double beds.

City View Room \$360 per night
— Single/twin/double

Park View Room \$405 per night
— Single/twin/double

Mantra on Northbourne

84 Northbourne Avenue, Canberra

Mantra on Northbourne is centrally located within the CBD and approximately a 15-20 minute walk from the National Convention Centre. The hotel features underground parking (for a fee), a 24 hour reception, a heated indoor pool, sauna and a fully-equipped gymnasium.

All apartments offer one king bed, individually controlled air-conditioning, WiFi (for a fee), pay per view movies, mini bar, tea/coffee making facilities, a separate lounge and dining area, kitchen and a fully equipped laundry.

1 Bedroom Apartments: \$219 per night
— Single/double

Nesuto Apartments

2 Akuna Street, Canberra

Located in the heart of Canberra's CBD, the Nesuto Apartments is only a five-minute walk from the National Convention Centre. The one-bedroom apartments also offer a separate lounge/dining area.

Twin option at the hotel consists of two single beds. Additional costs will apply if more than 2 guests are within the one room.

Studio Apartment \$275 per night
— Single/twin/double

1 Bedroom Apartments \$295 per night
— Single/twin/double

Qt Hotel

1 London Circuit, Canberra

The Qt Hotel is a modern hotel with boutique style furnishings, central to the city and a 10-minute walk to the National Convention Centre.

Twin option at the hotel consists of two single beds.

King Room \$239 per night
— Single/twin/double

Superior King Room \$259 per night
— Single/twin/double

The Sebel Canberra Civic

197 London Circuit, Canberra

The Sebel Canberra Civic is one of Canberra's newest hotels which opened in June 2019 and is just a 7-minute walk from the National Convention Centre.

This property offers free WiFi throughout the hotel, a fully equipped gym, and an onsite restaurant and bar lounge.

All rooms come with a fully equipped kitchenette with Nespresso machine and dining table. Every bathroom is accessibility friendly with walk in showers.

Superior rooms come with a queen bed, Executives are fitted with king beds.

Superior Room \$235 per night
— Single/double

Executive Room \$265 per night
— Single/double

CANCELLATION POLICY

STANDARD REGISTRATION TERMS

An administration charge of \$110.00 will be made to any participant cancelling before Friday 7 June 2024. Cancellations received after Friday 7 June 2024 will be required to pay full registration fees. However, if you are unable to attend, substitutes are welcome at no additional cost

By submitting your registration you agree to the terms of the cancellation policy.

Substitutions

As with all ALGA events, substitutions are allowed for delegates. Please notify the conference organisers in writing if substitutions are required.

No refund will be available to no shows.

ACCOMMODATION TERMS

All cancellations or amendments must be made in writing to Conference Co-ordinators and will be acknowledged by email.

All rooms cancelled 30 day prior to check-in will be charged the full amount unless the room can be resold.

You are required to pay for your full accommodation account and any incidental expenses incurred during your stay when checking in to the hotel.

No refund will be available to no shows.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Privacy Disclosure

ALGA collects your personal contact information in its role as a peak body for local government. ALGA may disclose your personal contact information to the sponsors of the event for the purposes of commercial business opportunities.

If you do not consent to ALGA using and disclosing your personal contact information in this way, please tick the appropriate box on the registration form.

Importantly, your name can also be included in the General Assembly List of Participants. You must tick the appropriate box on the registration form if you wish your name to appear in this list.

Photographs

During the General Assembly there will be a contracted photographer taking photographs during the sessions and social functions. If you have your picture taken it is assumed that you are giving consent for ALGA to use the image. Images may be used for print and electronic publications.

Car Parking

Parking for delegates is available underneath the National Convention Centre for a cost of approximately \$22.00 per day. Alternatively, voucher public parking is available 300m from the Centre at a cost of approximately \$19.00 per day. The voucher machines accept either cash or cards (Visa or MasterCard).

Coach Transfers

Welcome Reception and Exhibition Opening - Tuesday 2 July 2024
National Convention Centre

Coaches will collect delegates from all General Assembly hotels (except Crowne Plaza Canberra) at approximately 4:45pm. The return coaches will depart at 7:00pm.

Daily Shuttles to and from the National Convention Centre

A shuttle service between all General Assembly hotels (except Crowne Plaza Canberra) and the National Convention Centre will operate between 8:00am and 8:30am. Return shuttles will depart the National Convention Centre at 5:30pm.

General Assembly Dinner- Wednesday 3 July 2024
EPIC, Canberra

Coaches will collect delegates from all General Assembly hotels at approximately 6:30pm. A return shuttle service will operate between 10:30pm and 11:45pm.

ACLG Dinner- Thursday 4 July 2024
Parliament House, Canberra

Coaches will collect delegates from all General Assembly hotels at approximately 6:15pm. A return shuttle service will operate between 10:30pm and 11:00pm.

Payment Procedures

Payment can be made by:

Credit card

MasterCard and Visa

Cheque

Made payable to ALGA

Electronic Funds Transfer

Bank: Commonwealth Bank

Branch: Woden

BSB No: 062905

Account No: 10097760

ALGA ABN

31 008 613 876

Contact Details

Conference Co-ordinators

PO Box 905

Woden ACT 2606

Phone: 02 6292 9000

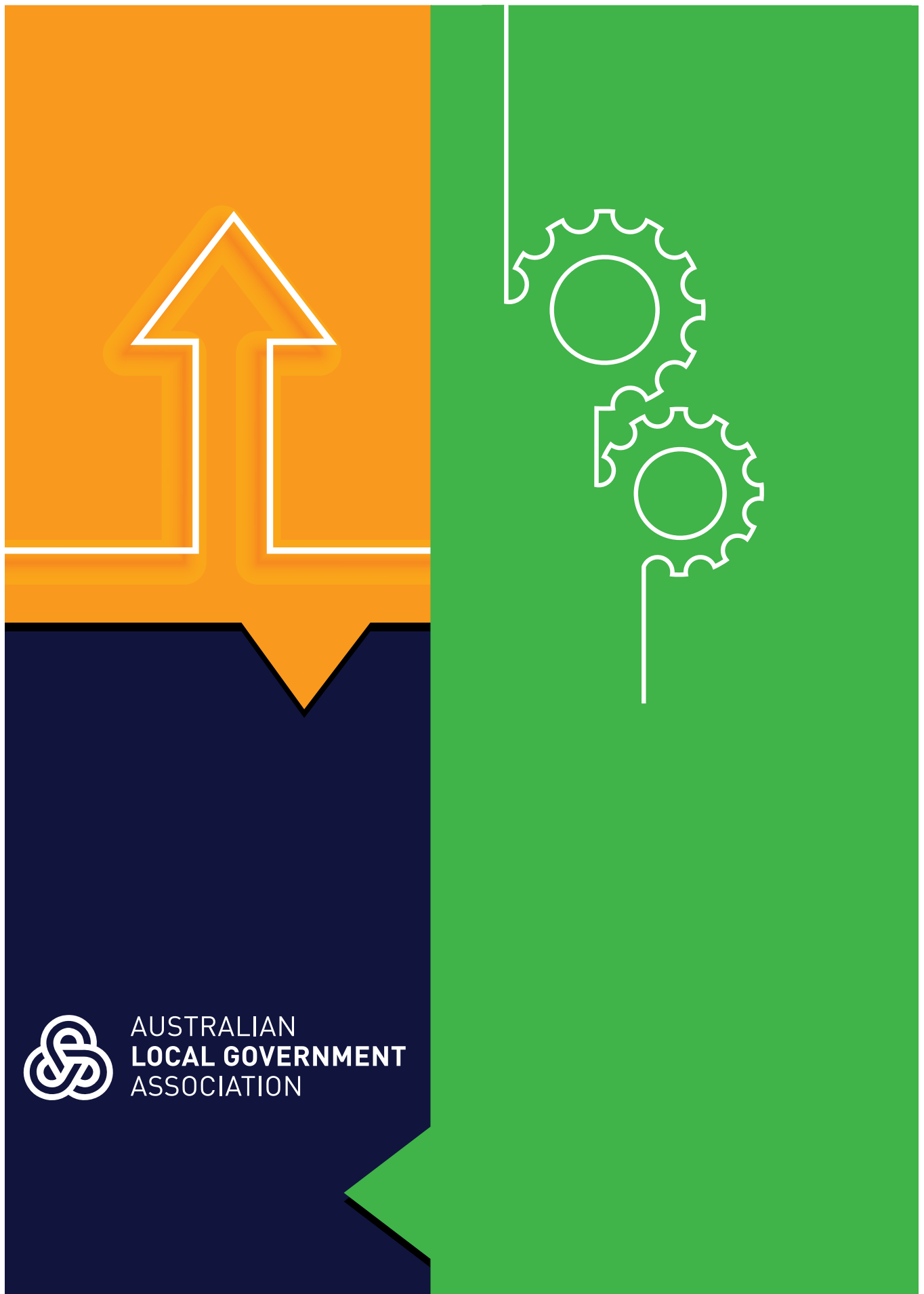
Email: nga@confco.com.au

All amounts include GST. Invoices are sent once a registration has been completed.

Canberra Weather in July

Winter days in Canberra are characterised by clear sunny skies but the days are cool at around 11-15C and temperatures do drop to 0C on average in the evenings, so be sure to bring a warm jacket.

Mornings can be foggy so keep this in mind when booking flights. It is best to avoid early arrivals or departures in case of delays due to fog.



Governance

Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers Membership Agreement

Report Author Jonathan Harmey
General Manager

Decision Sought Approval to continue as a member of the Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers Program.

Vote Simple majority

Recommendation to Council

That Council:

1. confirms Meander Valley Council's continuation as a member of the Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers Program for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2028 (Attachment 1); and
2. approves the General Manager to negotiate the terms and conditions as necessary and execute the membership agreement.

Report

The Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers (TEER) Program was established in 2008 and is a regional collaboration between the agencies responsible for management of the kanamaluka/Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers. The TEER Program provides a coordinated management approach and guides solutions and investment in activities that protect, maintain and enhance the kanamaluka/Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers systems from catchment to coast. The program focuses on improving the scientific understanding of issues impacting on the health of these waterways to better identify and target priority areas requiring investment in on-ground works. The TEER Program fosters collaboration and works closely with a range of industry, community, government, research and business partners to monitor and report on water health as well as coordinate activities to reduce pollutants entering the waterways. The Meander Valley Council has been a member of TEER since 2008. Further information on the TEER Program can be accessed via: <https://www.teer.org.au/>

The TEER Program is hosted by NRM North and currently includes collaboration from the following members:

- Tasmania Department of Health
- Tasmania Department of Natural Resources and Environment
- Environment Protection Authority
- George Town Council
- Hydro-Electric Corporation
- Launceston City Council
- Meander Valley Council
- Northern Midlands Council
- Tasmanian Irrigation Pty Ltd
- Tasmanian Ports Corporation Pty Ltd
- Tasmanian Water and Sewerage Corporation Pty Ltd
- West Tamar Council

NRM North provide core services to the TEER Program including:

- developing and managing governance processes and documentation of the program;
- administering program funding agreements and reporting;
- facilitating strategic planning;
- preparing annual implementation plans and budgets;
- financial administration of program funds including acquittals; and
- overseeing program management and program staff.

The current membership agreement is due to end on 30 June 2024 with the new agreement proposed to start on 1 July 2024 and end on 30 June 2028. The TEER Program and four year agreement renewal was discussed at the 23 April 2024 Council Workshop.

- Attachments**
1. TEER Collaboration Agreement 2024 2028 DRAFT [12.2.1 - 33 pages]

Strategy Supports the objectives of Council’s strategic future direction
1: a sustainable natural and built environment
5: innovative leadership and community governance.

See Meander Valley Community Strategic Plan 2014-24. [Click here](#) or visit www.meander.tas.gov.au/plans-and-strategies to view.

Policy Not applicable

Legislation *Local Government Act 1993*

Consultation A draft agreement was circulated to all members for input.

Budget and Finance The agreement establishes the Council’s contribution to the TEER program to be \$37,977.04 in the 2024-25 financial year, with this amount increased in line with the annual change for the December Hobart CPI value for the subsequent three financial years.

Risk Management Not applicable

Alternative Motions Not applicable



Collaboration Agreement

In relation to the Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers (TEER) Program

Between

The Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc. (Host **Collaborator**)

And

Department of Health

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania

Environment Protection Authority

George Town Council

Hydro-Electric Corporation

Launceston City Council

Meander Valley Council

Northern Midlands Council

Tasmanian Irrigation Pty Ltd

Tasmanian Ports Corporation Pty Ltd

Tasmanian Water & Sewerage Corporation Pty Ltd

West Tamar Council

(**Collaborators**)

Relating to the

Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers (TEER) Program

May 2024

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DRAFT

Parties to this Agreement

Host Collaborator

Full legal name	Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc.
Trading or business name	NRM North
ABN	86 015 680 466
Address	Level 2, 63-65 Cameron Street, Launceston TAS 7250
Key Contact Personnel	Jo-Anne Fearman
Contact Details	E: jfearman@nrmnorth.org.au
	P: 03 6333 7777

Collaborator 2

Full legal name	Department of Health
Trading or business name	Department of Health and Human Services
ABN	11 255 872 006
Address	13/110 Collins St, Hobart Tasmania 7000
Key Contact Personnel	Stewart Quinn
Contact Details	E: stewart.quinn@health.tas.gov.au
	P: 03 6166 0698

Collaborator 3

Full legal name	Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania
Trading or business name	
ABN	58 259 330 901
Address	GPO Box 44, HOBART Tasmania 7001
Key Contact Personnel	Catherine Murdoch
Contact Details	E: Catherine.murdoch@nre.tas.gov.au
	P: 0428 385 503

Collaborator 4

Full legal name	Environment Protection Authority
Trading or business name	EPA Tasmania
ABN	57 314 344 076
Address	GPO Box 1550, Hobart TAS 7001
Key Contact Personnel	Fionna Bourne
Contact Details	E: fionna.bourne@epa.tas.gov.au
	P: 0429 866 785

Collaborator 5

Full legal name	George Town Council
Trading or business name	
ABN	68 300 116 092
Address	16-18 Anne St, George Town, Tasmania 7253
Key Contact Personnel	Shane Power
Contact Details	E: shane.power@georgetown.tas.gov.au
	P: 03 6382 8800

Collaborator 6

Full legal name	Hydro-Electric Corporation
Trading or business name	Hydro Tasmania
ABN	48 072 377 158
Address	4 Elizabeth Street, Hobart TAS 7000
Key Contact Personnel	Carolyn Maxwell
Contact Details	E: carolyn.maxwell@hydro.com.au
	P: 03 6240 2889

12.2.1 TEER Collaboration Agreement 2024 2028 DRAFT

Collaborator 7

Full legal name	Launceston City Council
Trading or business name	City of Launceston
ABN	73 149 070 625
Address	Town Hall, 18-28 St John Street, Launceston 7250
Key Contact Personnel	Shane Eberhardt
Contact Details	E: Shane.eberhardt@launceston.tas.gov.au
	P: 03 6323 3000

Collaborator 8

Full legal name	Meander Valley Council
Trading or business name	
ABN	65 904 844 993
Address	26 Lyall Street, Westbury TAS 7303
Key Contact Personnel	Jonathan Harmey
Contact Details	E: jonathan.harmey@mvc.tas.gov.au
	P: 03 6393 5300

Collaborator 9

Full legal name	Northern Midlands Council
Trading or business name	
ABN	70 695 934 223
Address	13 Smith Street Longford, Tasmania 7301
Key Contact Personnel	Des Jennings
Contact Details	E: des.jennings@nmc.tas.gov.au
	P: 03 6397 7303

12.2.1 TEER Collaboration Agreement 2024 2028 DRAFT

Collaborator 10

Full legal name	Tasmanian Irrigation Pty Ltd
Trading or business name	Tasmanian Irrigation
ABN	95 722 799 075
Address	L2, Terminal Building, Launceston Airport, Western Junction, TAS 7212
Key Contact Personnel	Sophie Grace
Contact Details	E: Sophie.grace@tasirrigation.com.au
	P: 03 6398 8433

Collaborator 11

Full legal name	Tasmanian Ports Corporation Pty Ltd
Trading or business name	TASPORTS
ABN	82 114 161 938
Address	90-110 Willis Street, Launceston, TAS 7250
Key Contact Personnel	Susan McLeod
Contact Details	E: susan.mcleod@tasports.com.au
	P: 03 6380 3080

Collaborator 12

Full legal name	Tasmanian Water & Sewerage Corporation Pty Ltd
Trading or business name	TasWater
ABN	47 162 220 653
Address	169 Main Road, Moonah, TAS 7009
Key Contact Personnel	Graham Hawke
Contact Details	E: graham.hawke@taswater.com.au
	P: 0484 667 825

Collaborator 13

Full legal name	West Tamar Council
Trading or business name	
ABN	21 731 249 084
Address	2-4 Eden Street, Riverside TAS 7250
Key Contact Personnel	Kristen Desmond
Contact Details	E: kristen.desmond@wtc.tas.gov.au
	P: 03 6323 9300

Background

- A. The Parties have agreed to contribute to and participate in the Program.
- B. The Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers Program and its key projects are funded through the Collaborators of the Strategy and Partnerships Committee.
- C. This Agreement specifies the terms and conditions of the arrangements between the Parties and obliges them, as Collaborator, to comply with other obligations as set out in this Agreement.

Scope of this Agreement

This Agreement comprises:

- (a) this document;
- (b) the Agreed Terms;
- (c) the Supplementary Terms;
- (d) the Standard Conditions; and
- (e) any other document referenced or incorporated in the Agreed Terms.

If there is any ambiguity or inconsistency between the documents comprising this Agreement in relation to the Program, the document appearing higher in the list will have precedence to the extent of the ambiguity or inconsistency.

Agreed Terms

A. Program Activities

Program Title

Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers (TEER) Program

Short Program Description

The Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers (TEER) Program was established in 2008 and is a regional collaboration between the agencies responsible for management of the kanamaluka / Tamar estuary and Esk rivers. The TEER Program provides a coordinated management approach and guides solutions and investment in activities that protect, maintain, and enhance the kanamaluka / Tamar estuary and Esk river systems from catchment to coast. The program focuses on improving our scientific understanding of issues impacting on the health of these waterways to better identify and target priority areas requiring investment in on-ground works. The TEER Program fosters collaboration and works closely with a range of industry, community, government, research, and business partners to monitor and report on water health as well as coordinate activities to reduce pollutants entering our waterways.

Program Collaborators

Program Collaborators include the Host Collaborator and all other Collaborators contributing to the TEER Program, and which are Parties to this Agreement.

Collaborator roles and responsibilities

a) Collaborators

The **Collaborators** agree to nominate staff with relevant knowledge and experience to engage with the TEER Program through a Strategy and Partnerships Committee, a Scientific and Technical Committee, and working groups.

The actions of the TEER Program will be defined and agreed through consultation, and endorsed by the Strategy and Partnerships Committee via:

- a four-year strategy outlining long term objectives, strategies and actions;
- an annual Implementation Plan specifying projects proposed for the forthcoming year; and
- an annual program budget.

b) Strategy and Partnerships Committee

The Strategy and Partnerships Committee will meet at least twice per year at the discretion of the Chair and provide overarching guidance, advice and oversight of the program in accordance with the Committee's Terms of Reference.

Role of the Strategy and Partnerships Committee:

The primary function of the Strategy and Partnerships Committee is to take responsibility for the strategic direction of the TEER Program. The Strategy and Partnerships Committee represents a voluntary **collaboration** between the statutory authorities responsible for the planning, management and use of water resources in the kanamaluka / Tamar Estuary and Esk rivers catchment. The TEER Strategy and Partnerships Committee does not have any statutory roles or responsibilities in its own right.

c) Scientific and Technical Committee

The Scientific and Technical Committee will meet a minimum of three times per year and provide technical advice to the program in accordance with the Committee's Terms of Reference.

Role of the Scientific and Technical Committee:

To provide scientific and technical advice and guidance for the Program in accordance with the Scientific and Technical Committee Terms of Reference, particularly in relation to the development and implementation of monitoring and research activities and engagement with industry groups.

d) Working Groups

Working groups of the TEER Program will meet on an as-needed basis, with the exception of the Lake Trevallyn Algal Bloom Monitoring Working Group which will meet as a minimum once annually before 1 December each year. Working groups will provide specific technical advice and report to the Scientific and Technical Committee in accordance with the working groups Terms of Reference.

e) Host Collaborator

NRM North will be the Host **Collaborator** for the program and will be responsible for providing administrative, financial, operational, managerial and secretariat support to the program.

The core services NRM North will provide to the program, excluding project delivery, include:

- develop and manage governance processes and documentation of the program;
- administer program funding agreements and reporting;
- facilitate strategic planning;
- prepare annual implementation plans and budgets;
- financial administration of program funds including acquittals; and
- oversee program management and program staff.

f) Program Management and Secretariat Support

The Host **Collaborator** will implement the program strategy, and annual plan and budget, and support the program committees. The Program Manager will be responsible for program deliverables within the approved annual plans and budgets endorsed by the Strategy and Partnerships Committee.

g) All Collaborators

For the duration of this Agreement each Collaborator agrees that it will:

- Engage with the Program at the times and in the manner specified in this Agreement;
- Diligently perform its obligations as set out in this Agreement to a high professional standard;
- Cooperate with and provide to the Host Collaborator any information and activities reasonably required by the Host Collaborator for it to meet its reporting requirements;
- Support the Host Collaborator to meet its obligations concerning compliance with law and policy, with any relevant statutes, regulations, or by-laws, and with requirements of any Commonwealth, State, Territory or local authority; and
- Act reasonably and in good faith with the other Collaborators.

B. Duration of the Program and the Agreement

This Agreement starts on 1 July 2024 and ends on 30 June 2028. The Effective Date of this Agreement is the date the last party signs the Agreement.

C. Reporting

The Host Collaborator must provide an annual report to the Collaborators outlining the performance of the program against priorities identified in the annual implementation plan and budget. Each Collaborator agrees to provide all required information to enable the Host Collaborator to prepare, complete and submit the reports within the required timeframes.

Supplementary Terms

ST1. Intellectual Property Rights

ST1.1 This clause ST1 does not affect the ownership of the Intellectual Property Rights in Existing Material.

ST1.2 The Intellectual Property Rights in the Program Material will vest in the Host Collaborator / Collaborators or other as appropriate and determined by the Collaborators.

ST1.3 Each Collaborator:

- (a) will adhere to the documented arrangements and procedures for dealing with Intellectual Property Rights in Program Material;
- (b) will adhere to the documented arrangements and procedures, if applicable, to ensure that, prior to the publication or disclosure of Program Material, consideration is given to the potential prejudice to its subsistence or Utilisation;
- (c) must ensure that any Utilisation of Program Material in the context of this Agreement:
 - i. is consistent with the nature of the Program; and,
 - ii. maximises the benefits to the Program and the Collaborators;
- (d) will use its reasonable efforts to obtain from its Personnel any consent in relation to their Moral Rights that may be reasonably necessary for the Program or for Utilisation of the Program Material; and
- (e) will not use another Collaborator's name or trademarks without the express permission of that Collaborator.

ST2. Equipment and assets

The Host Collaborator will be responsible for ensuring assets owned by the Host Collaborator essential for delivery of the Program are serviced as required, and will manage the ongoing maintenance of said assets using funds provided by Collaborators to this Agreement. An asset replacement and maintenance reserve will be established, for accounting and reporting purposes, to enable ongoing maintenance and replacement of essential assets.

ST3. Breach of the Collaboration Agreement

ST3.1 Each Collaborator agrees to notify the Host Collaborator immediately upon becoming aware of any circumstance that is likely to adversely affect the Collaborator's ability to comply with the terms of this Agreement.

ST3.2 Each Collaborator must, within 5 business days of becoming aware of any breach or suspected breach of this Agreement that would affect the Host Collaborator's ability to comply with its obligations under this Agreement:

- (f) provide notice to the Host Collaborator of that breach or suspected breach;
- (g) provide all information reasonably required by the Host Collaborator in relation to the breach or suspected breach;
- (h) identify to the Host Collaborator the steps the Collaborator intends to take to address the matter;
- (i) keep the Host Collaborator informed of any action it takes to remedy the breach; and
- (j) provide notice to the Host Collaborator once the breach is remedied.

ST4. Change or removal of Collaborators

ST4.1 Subject to clause ST4.2, the Host Collaborator may, acting reasonably, elect to remove from the Program another Collaborator by providing written notice to that Collaborator, with a copy to all other Collaborators.

ST4.2 The Host Collaborator may remove a Collaborator from the Program with immediate effect by written notice to that Collaborator, if:

- (a) the Collaborator breaches any provision of this Agreement and fails to remedy the breach within 14 days after receiving notice requiring it to do so;
- (b) the Collaborator breaches a provision of this Agreement which is not capable of remedy;
- (c) the Collaborator persistently breaches a provision of this Agreement despite notice of the breach;
- (d) the Collaborator fails to notify the Host Collaborator of a conflict of interest, or in the opinion of the Host Collaborator a conflict of interest exists, which would prevent the Collaborator from performing its obligations under this Agreement; or
- (e) an event specified in clause ST4.3 occurs.

ST4.3 The Collaborator must notify the Host Collaborator immediately if:

- (a) there is any change in the direct or indirect beneficial ownership or control of the Collaborator;
- (b) the Collaborator disposes of the whole or any part of its assets, operations or business other than in the ordinary course of business;
- (c) the Collaborator ceases to carry on business;
- (d) the Collaborator ceases to be able to pay its debts as they become due;
- (e) proceedings are initiated with a view to obtaining an order for the winding up of the Collaborator, or any person convenes a meeting for the purpose of considering or passing any resolution for the winding up of the Collaborator;
- (f) the Collaborator applies to come under, the Collaborator receives a notice requiring it to show cause why it should not come under, an order has been made for the purpose of placing the Collaborator under, or the Collaborator otherwise comes under one of the forms of external administration referred to in provisions in State or Territory legislation in relation to incorporated associations;
- (g) the Collaborator being a natural person is declared bankrupt or assigns his or her estate for the benefit of creditors; or
- (h) anything analogous to an event referred to in clause ST4.3 (e) to (h) occurs in relation to the Collaborator.

ST4.4 If a Collaborator is removed from the Program pursuant to this clause ST4, it is not entitled to reimbursement of any costs incurred as a result of expulsion, and must assign its share of ownership of the

12.2.1 TEER Collaboration Agreement 2024 2028 DRAFT

Program Material/Intellectual Property Rights as agreed in writing by the Collaborators.

ST4.5 Subject to clause ST4.1, removal will not affect the enforceability of any rights or obligations accrued under this Agreement which survive termination.

ST4.6 the Host Collaborator will provide Collaborators monies that have been legally committed for expenditure by the Collaborator in accordance with this Agreement and payable by the Collaborator as a current liability (written evidence of which will be required) by the date the Collaborator receives the notice of termination.

ST4.7 **Joining Collaborator.** If the parties agree that a new party (Joined Collaborator) shall become a party to the Collaboration Agreement and the Joined Collaborator shall be fully bound by, and subject to, all of the covenants, terms and conditions of the Collaborators Agreement as though an original party thereto. It is understood and agreed that the Joined Collaborator shall have all the rights, entitlements and obligations of a Collaborator to the Collaboration Agreement.

ST4.8 **Joinder Agreement.** In order for any person or entity to be added as a Collaborator to this Agreement (a Joined Collaborator), such entity shall have executed and delivered a Joinder Agreement to NRM North in the form of Attachment A of this Agreement.

ST5. Agreement Termination

ST5.1 The Host **Collaborator** may terminate this Agreement for default, with immediate effect by written notice, in consultation with the **Collaborator**s, if any of the events detailed in clauses ST4.2 (a) to (e) occurs.

ST5.2 If the Host **Collaborator** terminates this Agreement under clause ST5.1, all **Collaborator**s must assign their share of ownership of the Program Material/Intellectual Property Rights in writing as agreed and approved by the Strategy and Partnerships Committee.

ST5.3 If the Host **Collaborator** terminates this Agreement under clause ST5.1:

- (a) termination will not affect the enforceability of any rights or obligations accrued under this Agreement which survive termination;
- (b) the Host **Collaborator** will provide **Collaborator**s monies that have been legally committed for expenditure by the **Collaborator** in accordance with this Agreement and payable by the **Collaborator** as a current liability (written evidence of which will be required) by the date the **Collaborator** receives the notice of termination;
- (c) the Host **Collaborator** is entitled to recover from **Collaborator**s any Program monies provided by the Host **Collaborator** to a **Collaborator** which have not been spent, or legally committed for expenditure by the **Collaborator** in accordance with this Agreement and payable by the **Collaborator** as a current liability (written evidence of which will be required), by the date the **Collaborator** receives the notice of termination; and
- (d) any licences of Existing Material and copyright in reports remain in force and survive termination.

ST6. Fraud

ST6.1 Each **Collaborator**:

- (a) acknowledges that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence under section 137.1 of the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (Cth); and
- (b) must ensure that all of its Personnel engaged in connection with this Agreement acknowledges the information contained in this clause.

ST6.2 In this Agreement, **Fraud** means dishonestly obtaining a benefit, or causing a loss, by deception or other means, and includes alleged, attempted, suspected or detected fraud.

ST6.3 Each **Collaborator** must ensure that its Personnel and subcontractors do not engage in any Fraud in relation to the Program.

ST6.4 If a **Collaborator** becomes aware of:

- (a) any Fraud in relation to the performance of the Program; or
- (b) any other Fraud that has had or may have an effect on the performance of the Program;

it must, within 5 business days, report the matter to the Host **Collaborator** and all appropriate law enforcement and regulatory agencies.

ST6.5 This clause ST7 survives termination or expiry of the Agreement.

ST7. Compliance with legislation

ST7.1 In this Agreement, **Legislation** means a provision of a statute or subordinate legislation of the Commonwealth, or of a State, Territory or local authority.

ST7.2 Each **Collaborator** agrees to comply with all Legislation applicable to its performance of this Agreement.

ST8. Work health and safety

ST9.1 Each **Collaborator** agrees to ensure that it complies at all times with all applicable work health and safety legislative and regulatory requirements.

ST9. Counterparts

ST9.1 This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts. All counterparts, taken together,

constitute one instrument. A Collaborator may execute this Agreement by signing any counterpart.

Standard Conditions

1. Relationship between the Parties

- 1.1. A Collaborator is not by virtue of this Agreement the employee, agent or partner of any other Collaborator, and is not authorised to bind or represent any other Collaborator.
- 1.2. The parties acknowledge and agree that this Agreement and the performance of this Agreement does not represent or imply a partnership, agency, fiduciary relationship, employment relationship, joint venture, distribution or any other category of commercial or personal relationship between the parties recognised at law or in equity as giving rise to forms of specific rights and obligations.

2. Conflict of interest – Pecuniary and Non-pecuniary

- 2.1. If during the term of the Agreement, any actual, perceived or potential conflict arises or there is any material change to a previously disclosed conflict of interest, each Collaborator agrees to:
 - 2.1.1. notify the Host Collaborator and other Collaborators that a conflict, or perceived or potential conflict may exist; and
 - 2.1.2. take any steps the Host Collaborator or other Collaborators reasonably require to resolve or otherwise deal with that conflict.

3. Changes to the Agreement

- 3.1. Variations and Expression of Interest by entities external to the Agreement will be endorsed by the Strategy and Partnerships Committee. Any new parties to the Agreement will be required to execute a Joinder Agreement, a copy of which will be provided to all Collaborators.
- 3.2. In the instance where an Addendum to the existing Agreement is required recognising contributions by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment, the Addendum shall be prepared by NRM North and circulated to all Parties. The Addendum shall be signed by the authorised signatories of NRM North and the Department of Natural Resources and Environment.
- 3.3. No other terms or conditions of the Agreement shall be negated or changed as a result of the Addendum unless otherwise agreed to in writing by all parties.

4. Record keeping

- 4.1. The Host Collaborator agrees to keep financial accounts and other Records that:
 - 4.1.1. detail and document the conduct and management of the Program;
 - 4.1.2. enable all receipts and payments related to the Program to be identified and reported in accordance with this Agreement.
- 4.2. The Host Collaborator agrees to keep the Records for seven years after the expiry or termination of this Agreement.

5. Privacy

- 5.1. When dealing with Personal Information in carrying out the Program, each Collaborator agrees:
 - 5.1.1. to comply with the requirements of the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth);
 - 5.1.2. not to do anything which would be a breach of an Australian Privacy Principle (as per its meaning in the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth);
 - 5.1.3. to ensure that any of the Collaborator's subcontractors or Personnel who deal with Personal Information for the purposes of this Agreement are aware of the requirements of the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth) and the Collaborator's obligations under this clause; and
 - 5.1.4. to immediately notify the Host Collaborator if the Collaborator becomes aware of an actual or possible breach of this clause by the Collaborator or any of the Collaborator's subcontractors or Personnel.

6. Confidentiality

- 6.1. The Parties agree not to disclose any other Collaborator's Confidential Information, without the other Collaborator's prior written consent unless required or authorised by law or Parliament to disclose.

7. Indemnity

- 7.1. The Collaborators agree to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless each other, their affiliates, officers, directors, employees, agents, and representatives from and against any and all claims, damages, losses, liabilities, costs, and expenses arising out of or relating to any breach of this Agreement, negligence, or wilful misconduct by any Party;
- 7.2. The Collaborator's liability to indemnify under this clause 7 will be reduced proportionately to the extent that any unlawful or negligent act or omission of those indemnified contributed to the relevant liability, loss, damage or expense;
- 7.3. The right of the Collaborators to be indemnified under this clause 7 is in addition to, and not exclusive of, any other right, power or remedy provided by Law; and
- 7.4. The benefit of the indemnity under this clause 7 shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement for those indemnified.

8. Insurance

- 8.1. Each Collaborator agrees to maintain adequate insurance for as long as any obligations remain in connection with this Agreement.

9. Dispute resolution

- 9.1. The Collaborators agree not to initiate legal proceedings in relation to a dispute arising under this Agreement unless they have first tried and failed to resolve the dispute by negotiation.
- 9.2. Unless clause 8.3 applies, the Collaborators agree to continue to perform their respective obligations under this Agreement when a dispute exists.
- 9.3. The Collaborators may agree to suspend performance of the Agreement pending resolution of the dispute.
- 9.4. Failing settlement by negotiation in accordance with clause 9.1, the Collaborators may agree to refer the dispute to an independent third person with power to intervene and direct some form of resolution, in which case the Collaborators will be bound by that resolution. If the Collaborators do not agree to refer the dispute to an independent third person, a Collaborator may initiate legal proceedings.
- 9.5. Each Collaborator will bear their own costs in complying with this clause 9, and the Parties will share equally the cost of any independent third person engaged under clause 9.4.
- 9.6. The procedure for dispute resolution under this clause does not apply to any action relating to termination, cancellation or urgent interlocutory relief.

10. Survival

- 10.1. The following Agreed Terms and clauses survive termination, cancellation or expiry of this Agreement:

- ST1 (Intellectual Property Rights);
- ST6 (Fraud);
- clause 4 (Record keeping);
- clause 5 (Privacy);
- clause 6 (Confidentiality);
- clause 7 (Indemnity);
- clause 8 (Insurance);
- clause 10 (Survival);

- clause 11 (Definitions); and
- any other clause which expressly or by implication from its nature is meant to survive.

11. Definitions

11.1. In this Agreement, unless the contrary appears:

- **Agreement** means this agreement between the Collaborators, as may be varied from time to time in accordance with clause 4.
- **Agreement Period** means the term of the Agreement specified at item B of the Agreed Terms of this Agreement.
- **Confidential Information** means information that is by its nature confidential and:
 - is designated by a Collaborator as confidential; or
 - a Collaborator knows or ought to know is confidential, but does not include:
 - information that is or becomes public knowledge otherwise than by breach of this Agreement or any other confidentiality obligation.
- **Effective Date** means the date the last Collaborator signs the Agreement.
- **Existing Material** means Material developed independently of this Agreement that is incorporated in or supplied as part of Reporting Material or Program Material.
- **Funds** means the money, or any part of it, payable by the Collaborators to the Host Collaborator for the Program as specified in this Agreement.
- **Intellectual Property Rights** means all copyright, patents, registered and unregistered trademarks (including service marks), registered designs, and other rights resulting from intellectual activity (other than moral rights under the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth)).
- **Joined Collaborator** means a party to the Collaborators Agreement, fully bound by, and subject to, all of the covenants, terms and conditions of the Collaborators Agreement as though an original party thereto.
- **Host Collaborator** means the Collaborator responsible for providing administrative, financial, operational, managerial and secretariat support to the Program.
- **Material** includes documents, equipment, software (including source code and object code versions), goods, information and data stored by any means including all copies and extracts of them.
- **Moral Rights** means the right of integrity of authorship (that is, not to have a work subjected to derogatory treatment), the right of attribution of authorship of a work, and the right not to have authorship of a work falsely attributed, as defined in the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth).
- **Collaborator** means a person, body or organisation that is a signatory to this Agreement and has agreed to support the Program.
- **Personal Information** has the same meaning as in the *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth).
- **Personnel** means, in relation to a Collaborator, any employee, officer, agent, professional adviser or subcontractor of that Collaborator.
- **Program** means the collaborative effort of the Collaborators and all associated activities to deliver the Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers (TEER) Program identified in clause A of the Agreed Terms.
- **Program Material** means any Material, other than Reporting Material, created or developed by the Collaborators as a result of the Program.
- **Records** includes documents, information and data stored by any means and all copies and extracts of the same.
- **Reporting Material** means all Material which the Host Collaborator is required to provide to the Collaborators for reporting purposes as specified in this Agreement and includes any Existing Material that is incorporated in or supplied with the Reporting Material.
- **Utilisation** means technology transfer, take-up and use of research outputs by end- users.

12.2.1 TEER Collaboration Agreement 2024 2028 DRAFT

Commercial utilisation includes the manufacture, sale, hire or other exploitation of a product or process, or the provision of a service, incorporating Program Material or licensing of any third party to do any of those things, or otherwise licensing or assigning the Program Material.

DRAFT

Signatures

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXX

Signed for Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc ABN 86 015 680 466 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____	Witness _____
Name: _____ (Please Print)	Name: _____ (Please Print)
Position: CEO	
Date _____	Date _____

Signed for Department of Health ABN 11 255 872 006 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____	Witness _____
Name: _____ (Please Print)	Name: _____ (Please Print)
Position: _____	
Date _____	Date _____

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXX

Signed for Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc ABN 86 015 680 466 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: CEO

Date _____

Date _____

Signed for Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania ABN 58 259 330 901 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: _____

Date _____

Date _____

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXX

Signed for Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc ABN 86 015 680 466 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: CEO

Date _____

Date _____

Signed for Environment Protection Authority ABN 57 314 344 076 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: _____

Date _____

Date _____

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXX

Signed for Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc ABN 86 015 680 466 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____ Witness _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

(Please Print) (Please Print)

Position: CEO

Date _____ Date _____

Signed for George Town Council ABN 68 300 116 092 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____ Witness _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

(Please Print) (Please Print)

Position: _____

Date _____ Date _____

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXX

Signed for Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc ABN 86 015 680 466 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: CEO

Date _____

Date _____

Signed for Hydro-Electric Corporation (Hydro Tasmania) ABN 48 072 377 158 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: _____

Date _____

Date _____

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXX

Signed for Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc ABN 86 015 680 466 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____ Witness _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

(Please Print) (Please Print)

Position: CEO

Date _____ Date _____

Signed for Launceston City Council ABN 73 149 070 625 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____ Witness _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

(Please Print) (Please Print)

Position: _____

Date _____ Date _____

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXX

Signed for Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc ABN 86 015 680 466 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: CEO

Date _____

Date _____

Signed for Meander Valley Council ABN 65 904 844 993 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: _____

Date _____

Date _____

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXX

Signed for Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc ABN 86 015 680 466 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: CEO

Date _____

Date _____

Signed for Northern Midlands Council ABN 70 695 934 223 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: _____

Date _____

Date _____

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXX

Signed for Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc ABN 86 015 680 466 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____ Witness _____

Name: _____ Name: _____
(Please Print) (Please Print)

Position: CEO

Date _____ Date _____

Signed for Tasmanian Irrigation Pty Ltd (Tasmanian Irrigation) ABN 11 255 872 006 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____ Witness _____

Name: _____ Name: _____
(Please Print) (Please Print)

Position: _____

Date _____ Date _____

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXX

Signed for Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc ABN 86 015 680 466 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____ Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: CEO

Date _____

Date _____

Signed for Tasmanian Ports Corporation Pty Ltd (TasPorts) ABN 82 114 161 938 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: _____

Date _____

Date _____

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXXX

Signed for Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc ABN 86 015 680 466 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: CEO

Date _____

Date _____

Signed for Tasmanian Water & Sewerage Corporation Pty Ltd (TasWater) ABN 11 255 872 006 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: _____

Date _____

Date _____

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER: XXXXXXXXX

Signed for Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc ABN 86 015 680 466 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: CEO

Date _____

Date _____

Signed for West Tamar Council ABN 21 731 249 084 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: _____

Date _____

Date _____

Schedules

SCHEDULE 1 - FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM TEER STRATEGY AND PARTNERSHIPS COMMITTEE COLLABORATORS 2024 – 2028

Table 1 below provides detail of the financial cash contributions committed to the TEER Program from the Collaborators from 2024 – 2028 and Table 2 provides details of the in-kind commitments to the TEER Program from the Collaborators.

Payments will be made annually by Collaborators upon receipt of an invoice from NRM North at the start of each financial year subject to endorsement of annual Implementation Plans by the TEER Strategy and Partnerships Committee.

It should be noted that additional funds managed by the TEER Program are not shown here, full details of the TEER Program's financial status can be found in the TEER Annual Reports.

Table 1: Financial contributions from TEER Program Collaborators 2024 – 2028.

Collaborator	2024-25	2025-26*	2026-27*	2027-28*
Meander Valley Council	\$37,977.04	\$38,926.47	\$39,899.63	\$40,897.12
TOTAL				

*Collaborator contributions in 2025-26, 2026-27 and 2027-28 are estimates only and will be determined based on Hobart CPI in December each year.

12.2.1 TEER Collaboration Agreement 2024 2028 DRAFT

Table 2: Financial in-kind contributions from TEER Program Collaborators 2024 – 2028.

Collaborator	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
TOTAL				

Note to Table 2: In-kind contributions are provided from the Tasmanian Government through Analytical Services Tasmania for laboratory services to support the kanamaluka / Tamar estuary monthly monitoring program and through NRM North to provide hosting, administrative support, and program management support. All Collaborators contribute in-kind hours to the program through their involvement in committees and working groups.

Attachments

Attachment A - Joinder Agreement

JOINDER AGREEMENT

This Joinder Agreement is entered into on DD Month YYYY by JOINING COLLABORATOR ABN XX XXX XXX XXX of [Insert address] (Joined Collaborator).

1. Joinder

Pursuant to, and in accordance with, the Collaborator's Agreement dated DD Month YYY, the Joined Collaborator hereby acknowledges that such Joined Collaborator has received and reviewed a complete copy of the Collaboration Agreement and agrees that upon execution of this Joinder Agreement, such Joined Collaborator shall become a party to the Collaboration Agreement and shall be fully bound by, and subject to, all of the covenants, terms and conditions of the Collaboration Agreement as though an original party thereto. It is understood and agreed that the Joined Collaborator shall have all the rights, entitlements and obligations of a Collaborator to the Collaboration Agreement.

2. Entire Agreement

The Collaboration Agreement and the Joinder Agreement constitute the full and entire agreement of the Parties.

3. Notices

For purposes of the Agreement, all notices or other communications to the Joined Collaborator shall be directed to:

Name:	
Position	
Address	
Email	

4. Governing Law

This Agreement is governed by the laws of the State of Tasmania and each Collaborator submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of that State.

12.2.1 TEER Collaboration Agreement 2024 2028 DRAFT

EXECUTED AS AN AGREEMENT

AGREEMENT NUMBER: XXXXXXXX

This Agreement made on DD Month YYYY

Signed for Northern Tasmanian Natural Resource Management Association Inc ABN 86 015 680 466 by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: CEO

Date _____

Date _____

Signed for JOINING **COLLABORATOR** ABN XX XXX XXX XXX by its authorised representative in the presence of

SIGNED _____

Witness _____

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Position: _____

Date _____

Date _____

Governance

Western Tiers Film Society Gifted Assets

Report Author Jonathan Harmey
General Manager

Decision Sought Council to determine whether to take over assets, as requested by the Western Tiers Film Society.

Vote Simple majority

Recommendation to Council

That Council agrees to take over the assets proposed to be gifted from the Western Tiers Film Society, in accordance with Meander Valley Council Policy No. 78: New and Gifted Assets.

Report

The Western Tiers Film Society (WTFS) has decided to dissolve after 10 years of operation at the Meander Valley Performing Arts Centre. The Council has received a request from the WTFS for their assets to be gifted to the Meander Valley Council, to retain the availability of the WTFS equipment to community members that may wish to access the service. The majority of the WTFS equipment was purchased in October 2014, with the total estimated cost \$40,489, which includes cinema projector, screen and audio equipment. The current value of these assets, after allowing for its age and condition is estimated to be \$10,000. If the assets were to last for five years, the annual cost to Council is estimated to be \$2,500, if the assets were to last for 10 years, the annual cost to Council is estimated to be \$1,500. While the community benefit and use is unknown at this point in time, it is believed that the intangible social benefits are believed to well exceed these costs.

Meander Valley Council Policy No. 78: New and Gifted Assets applies to all gifted assets.

The Council's Team Leader Facilities and Recreation has advised that facilitating bookings of the WTFS equipment is manageable and can be incorporated into the operation of Meander Valley Performing Arts Centre. Bookings for the assets could be able to be incorporated into the hire process for the Performing Arts Centre and may enhance the centre's flexibility and usage.

The Western Tiers Film Society's request was discussed at the 26 March 2024 Council Workshop. Following the Workshop the General Manager requested the WTFS to explore whether there is a community group with a similar beliefs and focus that may be better placed to accept ownership and guide the use of these community assets in the future. The WTFS provided advice at the end of April, including the following:

We agree that resources are required to manage the use of the equipment. The group we approached, Arts Deloraine, value the cinema highly, but feel unable to provide those resources.

However, if managed by Council, we believe the impact could be minimised...

There would be little additional attention required other than supplying hirers with the list of trained operators. Contacting and engaging them would be the hirer's responsibility.

We have been pleased that the list of trained operators continues to grow and anticipate further additions as part of initiatives such as the Australian School-Based Apprenticeship Scheme currently underway, and the proposed addition of a film-based component in the 2025 Arts Program being developed by Arts Deloraine and Council at present.

We therefore hope that Councillors will agree to formally receive the assets in line with Policy 78: New and Gifted Assets.

We believe that it would be a sore loss to the community if we were to have to remove and sell these assets, having become a well-loved resource for groups such as Giant Steps, the local schools, and for local entertainment and family events...

Thank you for your consideration of our request; we hope to hear from you in the affirmative after the proposal has been tabled in May.

Attachments

1. Letter from WTFS President to the Council - 9 March 2024 [12.3.1 - 1 page]

Strategy Supports the objectives of Council’s strategic future direction
3: vibrant and engaged communities
6: planned infrastructure services.

See Meander Valley Community Strategic Plan 2014-24. [Click here](http://www.meander.tas.gov.au/plans-and-strategies) or visit www.meander.tas.gov.au/plans-and-strategies to view.

Policy Meander Valley Council Policy No. 78: New and Gifted Assets

Legislation *Local Government Act 1993*

Consultation Not applicable

Budget and Finance The additional operating costs to Council from taking over the assets is expected to be a minimal amount of maintenance and depreciation expenses. Training and induction costs for use of equipment will be passed on to users. The cost to replace the assets at the end of their useful life would require a future decision of Council at that time.

Risk Management Council would insure the WTFS assets, if taken over, to manage risks of the equipment.

Alternative Motions Council can elect to refuse the request of the Western Tiers Film Society and not take over the assets.



Western Tiers Film Society

westerntiersfilmsociety@gmail.com

The General Manager,
Meander Valley Council.
09/03/2024

Dear Jon,

I wish to comment on the proposed gifting of the Western Tiers Film Society's assets to the Meander Valley Council.

The Society's decision to close is not based on lack of membership, which stands at 50+ each year, but is due to the lack of succession into the committee. After ten years of providing monthly films, we have, in the absence of a new committee, decided to wind up our organisation and its assets. Our options are to either sell the cinematic equipment or gift it to another organisation.

The facility of a cinema in Deloraine has been highly valued, not only by our members and groups such as Giant Steps, Apex, Arts Deloraine and the Dramatic Society, but also by individuals who have hired it for family purposes such as funerals, birthdays, fundraising events and the like. I believe the impact on the community if we were to lose this facility would be significant.

Together with the other arts organisations in town, (Arts Del, Dramatic Society, Big Band, Studio Be, MVFM), it has added an extra dimension to the vibrant community life created by sports groups and service clubs in this area. I believe there is a solid case for continuing to support this sector of the community as Council supports other recreational groups, by maintaining the facility which has had ever-widening usage since its inception in 2013.

As a past Councillor, I can appreciate that such a move would have an impact on the Council's budget, but I believe that the value of the facility to the community is sufficient to justify the resources needed to maintain it. This is especially so since not much maintenance to the equipment is needed; most elements have a considerable life span before replacement becomes necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Deborah White

President

Western Tiers Film Society.

Motion to Close Meeting

Motion That Council closes the Meeting to the public for discussion of matters in the list of Agenda Items below.

Refer to *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*: section 15(1).

Vote Absolute majority

Closed Session Agenda

Confirmation of Closed Minutes

Refer to *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*: section 34(2).

Leave of Absence Applications

Refer to *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*: section 15(2)(h).

Recyclables Material Recovery Facility Operation Arrangement

Refer to *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*: section 15(2)(d) regarding contracts, and tenders, for the supply of goods and services and their terms, conditions, approval and renewal.

2024-25 Capital Works Program

Refer to *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*: section 15(2)(d) regarding contracts, and tenders, for the supply of goods and services and their terms, conditions, approval and renewal.

Contact No. 258 – 2023-24 Construction of New Works Depot, Roxford Avenue, Westbury

Refer to *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*: section 15(2)(d) regarding contracts, and tenders, for the supply of goods and services and their terms, conditions, approval and renewal.



Release of Public Information

Refer to *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*: section 15(8).

Meeting End
