City of Launceston

Statutory Estimates Year Ending 30 June 2024

The Statutory Estimates for 2023/24 forecasts an Underlying Surplus of \$0.681M. Including externally funded Capital Grants of \$1.413M and the \$4.500M contribution to the Tamar Estuary River Health Action Plan (TERHAP), an Operating Deficit of \$2.406M is forecast.

Council regularly reviews its Long Term Financial Plan with a view to maintaining a small underlying surplus annually.

Council has budgeted for a general rate increase of 4.50% in 2023/2024, in line with Council's Long Term Financial Plan along with 0.75% of growth in the rating base. This proposed increase is well below the latest Consumer Price Index figure available for Hobart, which was a 6.90% increase over the 12 months to March 2023.

The Waste Management Charges will increase by \$21.70 per 85 litre bin, \$23.40 per 140 litre bin, and \$50.60 per 240 litre bin. The increases are due to cost increases associated with the collection, disposal and processing of landfill, recycling and FOGO (Food Organics & Garden Organics) of approximately 14%. This increase is in line with Local Government trends both in Tasmania and nationally, and are tied to a number of factors such as the price of fuel, Consumer Price Index increases, Council's new Sustainable Pricing Model and growth in the municipality.

Under the State Government Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022 a charge of \$20 per tonne (plus annual indexation) must be collected by Council for any waste disposed to Council operated landfill facilities. The average tonnage of waste disposed of per property that receives the kerbside waste service is 0.49 tonne per annum and as a result the Council needs to recover \$10.50 per property to offset this levy, an increase of \$0.90 from the prior year. This levy will be shown on rates notices as a separate line beneath the State Govt Fire Service Contribution charge and will be called State Govt Waste Levy (Offset) which will equate to \$10.50 per property that receives a kerbside waste service in 2023/24.

Fees & Charges have generally increased by 3% and the details are provided in the list of Fees & Charges for 2023/24, which is well below recent CPI increases.

Interest Revenue is expected to increase on the previous years budget, primarily due to increases to the Official Cash Rate and resultant investment returns on offer. Council continually monitors investment returns on offer and will continue to utilise Green Deposits for a percentage of Council's cash holdings within the parameters of Council's Investment Policy & Strategy.

A full TasWater dividend, and additional repayment of dividends not paid at the height of the pandemic, has been budgeted for. The Council has budgeted for no dividend from its ownership stake in the Launceston Airport Corporation, based on advice received from airport management.

Loan interest expense relates to interest free loans received from the State Government. There is a corresponding revenue line which negates this expense, meaning there is no overall net cost to Council.

University of Tasmania Stadium has been included in the budget for part of the financial year, ahead of the potential ownership transfer to Stadiums Tasmania.

Net cash expended of \$9.115M is comprised of the forecast underlying surplus of \$0.800M, a \$4.500M contribution to the TERHAP, a Capital Works program of \$20.636M (Council and External funds), an interest free loan repayment of \$20.000M and anticipated borrowings of \$6.000M.

Some significant inclusions in Council's proposed Capital Works program for 2023/24 are;

- Major Plant Replacement Purchases \$1,610,000
- Road Reseal Program \$1,600,000
- Alexandra Suspension Bridge Stage 2 \$1,500,000
- Roads Reconstruction Program \$1,415,000
- City Park Play Space & Duck Pond Renewal \$1,400,000
- Princess Theatre & Earl Arts Centre Redevelopment \$1,200,000
- Footpath Reconstruction Program \$1,020,000
- Addition of a new Pump Track \$500,000
- South Prospect Development Roads Network \$500,000
- Launceston Aquatic Centre various works \$440,000
- Sport Facility Renewal Program \$300,000
- Community Halls Renewal Program \$300,000
- YMCA Upgrade \$250,000
- Royal Park Amenities Upgrade \$250,000
- Christmas Tree and Decorations \$115,000
- Royal Park Skate Park Upgrade \$20,000

Statements and Schedules

Operating Statement	<i>2024</i> \$'000	<i>2023</i> \$'000
Revenues (Excluding Capital Revenue)	,	¥ 555
Rates and Charges	74,568	70,148
Fire Service Levy	8,977	8,785
Statutory Fees and Fines	5,440	4,694
User Fees	25,404	23,034
Grants and Contributions - Subsidised Loans Interest	278	278
Grants and Contributions - Other	7,590	7,371
Interest Earnings	4,946	1,668
Investments	3,269	3,569
Bequests and Donations	120	115
Other Income	999	1,113
	131,591	120,775
Expenses		
Labour	53,418	50,573
Materials and Services	22,146	21,172
Depreciation	27,182	25,043
Administrative	6,165	6,119
Combined Drainage - TasWater	1,657	1,626
Electricity and Gas	2,793	2,872
Contributions and Events Support	3,024	2,996
Water, Rent and Land Tax	2,044	1,717
Remissions and Abatements	300	277
Fire Commission Levy	8,977	8,785
State Government Waste Levy (Offset)	2,179	1,710
Interest Expense - Subsidised Loans	278	278
Interest Expense - Other Loans	-	-
Interest Expense - Leases	2	6
Amortised Rehabilitation	50	50
Asset Disposal Loss	695_	400
	130,910	123,624
Underlying Operating Surplus (Deficit)	681	(2,849)
Capital Grants and Interest	1,413	1,621
TERHAP Contribution	(4,500)	(3,700)
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(2,406)	(4,928)

Minor difference to Funds (Cash) Statement arise from rounding. Comparative figures are taken from the previous statutory budget and are not updated to reflect budget changes made during the year.

Funds (Cash) Statement	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Source of Funds		
Net Cash from Operating Activities	25,521	20,566
Loan Proceeds	6,000	6,000
	31,521	26,566
Application of Funds		
Capital Expenditure		
Council Funds	19,223	15,116
Grant Funds	1,413	1,621
	20,636	16,737
Loan Repayments		
Standard Loans	-	-
ALGCP Loans	20,000	
	40,636	16,737
Net Cash Generated (Expended)	(9,115)	9,829
Reconciliation of Net Cash	2024	2023
from Operating Activities	\$'000	\$'000
Underlying Operating Surplus (Deficit)	601	(2 940)
Underlying Operating Surplus (Deficit) TERHAP Contribution	681	(2,849)
. —	(4,500)	(3,700)
Asset Disposal Loss	695	400
Capital Grants and Contributions	1,413	1,621
Change in Net Assets from Operations	(1,711)	(4,528)
Reserves Funding Transfers	-	-
Depreciation and Amortisation	40.045	47.454
Infrastructure	18,315	17,451
Buildings	4,691	3,923
Plant and Equipment	3,817	3,187
Data Systems	359	483
Amortised Rehabilitation	50	50
Other		
Net Cash from Operating Activities	25,521	20,566

Expenditure Analysis

Labour

Council has an ongoing commitment to workplace health and safety, employee training and professional development which are all included in the overall labour cost. Workers Compensation Insurance is included in labour costs, and has increased in line with industry trends.

An increase of 3.50%, in line with Council's Enterprise Agreement, has been budgeted for staff salaries.

Materials and Services

These costs relate to the operation and maintenance of the Council's facilities; they include consumables such as fuel and utilities, support and contributions for community events and regional bodies, administrative costs (insurance, printing, postage etc) plant, contractors and materials.

Depreciation

Depreciation is a significant non-cash expense and will continue to be affected by revaluation changes, revised estimates of the asset useful lives and the creation of new Council assets or externally funded projects that create new assets. Given the Council's substantial asset portfolio, depreciation continues to be a significant cost in each operational budget. As the price of Council assets increase in line with inflationary pressures and an annual revaluation cycle, depreciation is expected to increase in line with these factors.

A review of Council's Road Asset Lives has recently been conducted and as a result some categories of assets have increased usefu lives. This will result in a decrease in Council's overall depreciation expenditure.

Administrative

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
General Administration	853	960
Advertising and Promotion	223	262
Computer and Communications	556	545
Election Expense and Roll Maintenance	280	410
Expert Advice	714	698
Insurance (Excludes Workers Comp)	1,253	1,105
Maintenance	226	209
Payment Fees and Debt Recovery	456	404
Postage, Printing and Stationery	369	375
Councillors	616	602
Audit Fees	119	104
Vehicles	501_	444
	6,166	6,118

General Administration includes a range of expenses including committee costs, bank fees, security services and safety services etc. The other sub-categories are self-explanatory.

<u>TasWater</u>

	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Combined Drainage		
Operating Cost Contribution	897	866
Capital Contribution Provision	760	760
	1,657	1,626
Tamar Estuary River Health Action Plan Contribution	4,500	3,700
	6,157	5,326

Contributions have been budgeted for based on advice from TasWater. Council's contribution to the TERHAP is \$4.500M in 2023/2024 and forms part of an \$11.000M commitment over three years. This will be excluded from Council's underlying result. An actual contribution of \$1.500M has been paid in 2022/2023, based on revised estimates provided by TasWater.

Electricity and Gas

Electricity and Gas		
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Utilities Gas	170	142
Utilities Electricity	2,624	2,730
	2,794	2,872
Contributions and Events Support		
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Regional Cooperation		
Northern Tasmania Development Corp	208	208
Environment & Sustainability	26	23
Tamar Region NRM	142	132
NRM North	71	65
Tourism Northern Tasmania Inc	170_	170
	617	598
Internal Service Provision		
Launceston Flood Authority	182_	182
	182	182
Provision of Services		
NTCA	400	400
Business Events Tasmania	50	50
Theatre North	124_	114
	574	564
<u>Contributions</u>		
L.G.A.T.	79	76
C.B.D. Promotional	564	564
Conference & Business Incentives	15	31
Community & Economic Assistance	218	221
Community Grants	80_	80
	956	972

Events Support		
Small Signature Event Sponsorship	20	20
Major Event Sponsorship	185	210
Signature Event Sponsorship	200	225
Small Event Sponsorship	100	109
New Years Eve Sponsorship	46	46
Special Event Sponsorship	70	70
Partnership Agreements Sponsorship	75_	
	696	680
Total Contributions and Events Support	3,025	2,996
Water, Rent and Land Tax	0004	2222
	2024	2023
Water Final Observe	\$'000	\$'000 740
Water Fixed Charges	800	710
Water Volumetric Charges	414	362
External Rent Land Tax	82	65 580
Land Tax	748	580
	2,044	1,717
Remissions and Abatements		
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Remission Rates	300	277
	300	277
Council Concessions		
	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Pensioner Concessions		
Garbage Disposal	542	317
Parking, Off Street	127_	128
	669	445

Garbage Disposal concessions have increased with the increase in charges at the Launceston Waste Centre. The Council provides a range of other concessions through its fee structures.

Debt Levels

\$6.000M was borrowed with a five year repayment term in the 2019/2020 financial year for a property purchase under the Accelerated Loan Program.

In 2020/2021 two loans of \$10.000M each with a three year repayment term were borrowed under the Local Government Loan Program as part of the Covid-19 Stimulus Package. This money will be used for both Capital and Operational purposes. Interest on the Accelerated Loan Program and the Local Government Loan Program borrowings are fully subsidised by the State Government.

A \$6.000M borrowing scheduled for the 2022/2023 financial year did not proceed. Borrowing of \$6.000M is proposed for 2023/2024, which is a carry forward of the 2022/2023 subsidised borrowing that did not occur.

Council has the capacity to repay all debts as they fall due.

Loan Schedule Extract	Interest (Net) \$000	Borrowing \$000	Repayment \$000	Balance \$000
2019/2020 Actual	-	6,000	-	15,000
2020/2021 Actual	-	20,000	-	35,000
2021/2022 Actual	-	-	9,000	26,000
2022/2023 Actual	-	-	-	26,000
2023/2024 Proposed	_	6,000	20,000	12,000

It is expected that any borrowings that are not subsidised would be used to fund projects that produce an economic return and/or generate sufficient revenue to service any loan interest charges.

Capital Works Program

The following table provides an extract from the Capital Works Program for 2023/2024. Council has budgeted for \$19.223M (of Council funded) capital projects in 2023/2024, which is less than previous years due to a significant backlog of works which has accumulated over several years. Council will seek to address this backlog in 2023/2024 and beyond, while allocating funding for additional projects where necessary and appropriate. Council seeks to prioritise the renewal and upgrade of existing assets, with 91% of Capital funding being allocated to these projects in 2023/2024.

	2024	
	\$'000	%
Source of Funds		
Council Funds	19,223	93.15%
Grant Funds	1,413_	6.85%
Total Funds	20,636	100.00%
Category		
Renewal and Upgrade	18,711	90.67%
Additions	1,925	9.33%
Total Program	20,636	100.00%

	<i>2024</i> \$'000	<i>2023</i> \$'000
OPERATING and CAPITAL Expenditure Summary		
(Excluding Non-Cash Expenses - Depreciation and Asset I	Disposal Loss	es)
Governance	3,002	2,888
Organisational Support	16,954	14,845
Technical & Logistics Support	3,042	2,751
Cultural Facilities	10,207	9,458
Economic Development & Promotion	6,673	6,665
Other Community Amenities	2,978	4,180
Public Order & Safety	798	786
Health	1,455	1,407
Environmental Protection	513	425
Community Development	1,237	1,236
Planning Approvals	2,525	2,417
Building Control	1,247	1,228
Garbage Collection & Disposal	11,680	10,747
Fire Levy	8,982	8,790
Flood Mitigation	1,429	3,347
Cemetery & Crematoria	1,458	1,439
Recreational Facilities	25,211	19,928
Roads & Traffic	13,116	12,922
Street Lighting	1,119	1,129
Street Cleaning	3,170	2,662
Parking Facilities	3,492	3,111
Stormwater Drainage	7,550	5,930
Interest Expense	278	278
Loan Repayments	20,000	
	148,116	118,568
Financed has		
Financed by: Operating Revenues (Excluding Capital Revenues)	121 FO1	120 775
Capital Grants and Contributions	131,591 1,413	120,775
Total Operating Revenues	133,004	1,621 122,396
Total Operating Nevertues	133,004	122,390
Loan Proceeds (Gross)	6,000	6,000
	139,004	128,396
Net Cash Generated (Expended)	(9,112)	9,828

Minor differences to Funds (Cash) Statement are a result of rounding. Comparative figures are taken from the previous statutory budget and not updated to reflect budget changes made during the year.

	<i>2024</i> \$'000	<i>2023</i> \$'000
OPERATING and CAPITAL Expenditure Detail		
(Excluding Non-Cash Expenses - Depreciation and Asset	-	•
Governance	3,002	2,888
Operations Expenditure Other	1,713	1,656
LGAT Contribution	79	76
Election Costs	250	380
Pensioner Concessions-Parking	127	128
Pensioner Concessions-Refuse	470	317
Pensioner Concessions-Waste Levy	72	62
General Rate Remissions	292	269
Capital Expenditure	-	-
Organisational Support	16,954	14,845
Operations Expenditure	15,604	13,419
Capital Expenditure	1,350	1,425
Technical & Logistics Support	3,042	2,751
Operations Expenditure	1,315	1,526
Capital Expenditure	1,727	1,225
Cultural Facilities	10,207	9,458
Operations Expenditure Total	7,822	7,595
Capital Expenditure Total	2,385	1,863
Princess Theatre		
	417	386
Operations Expenditure Capital Expenditure		500
QVMAG	1,200	300
	7,389	7 106
Operations Expenditure Capital Expenditure	•	7,196 1,363
Auto Museum	1,185	1,303
	16	12
Operations Expenditure	16	13
Capital Expenditure	-	-
Economic Development & Promotion	6,673	6,665
Operations Expenditure	6,558	6,665
Capital Expenditure	115	-
Other Community Amenities	2,978	4,180
Operations Expenditure Other	1,620	2,676
Public Toilets (Excl Parks Facilities)	298	299
Capital Expenditure	1,060	1,205
Public Order & Safety	798	786
Operations Expenditure Other	552	530
Pound & RSPCA Funding	246	256
Capital Expenditure	-	-

Health	1,455	1,407
Operations Expenditure Other	1,389	1,342
Immunisations	66	65
Capital Expenditure	-	-
Environmental Protection	513	425
Operations Expenditure	513	425
Capital Expenditure	-	-
Community Development	1,237	1,236
Operations Expenditure	1,237	1,236
Capital Expenditure	-	-
Planning Approvals	2,525	2,417
Operations Expenditure	2,525	2,417
Capital Expenditure	-	-
Building Control	1,247	1,228
Operations Expenditure	1,247	1,228
Capital Expenditure	-	-
Garbage Collection & Disposal	11,680	10,747
Garbage Collection	7,655	6,674
Hard Goods Collection	62	60
Garbage Collection Rate Remissions	2	2
Garbage Disposal	3,481	3,961
Capital Expenditure	480	50
Fire Levy	8,982	8,790
Operations Expenditure	8,978	8,786
Fire Levy Rate Remissions	5	5
Capital Expenditure	- -	-
Flood Mitigation	1,429	3,347
Operations Expenditure	1,429	1,422
Capital Expenditure	, -	1,925
Cemetery & Crematoria	1,458	1,439
Operations Expenditure	1,368	1,284
Capital Expenditure	90	155
Recreational Facilities	25,211	19,928
Operations Expenditure Total	19,172	18,143
Capital Expenditure Total	6,039	1,785
Swimming Pools		
Operations Expenditure	5,466	5,297
Capital Expenditure	440	175

Community Halls		
Operations Expenditure	236	205
Capital Expenditure	550	300
Albert Hall		
Operations Expenditure	145	200
Capital Expenditure	-	-
Sporting Grounds	0.007	0.400
Operations Expenditure	2,267	2,426
Capital Expenditure Parks & Gardens	300	455
Operations Expenditure	11,059	10,016
Capital Expenditure	4,749	855
Capital Experiorure	4,743	000
Roads & Traffic	13,116	12,922
Operations Expenditure Other	3,428	2,754
Roads & Bridges Maintenance	3,293	3,198
Capital Expenditure	6,395	6,970
Charach Limbain a	4.440	4 400
Street Lighting	1,119	1,129
Operations Expenditure	1,119	1,129
Capital Expenditure	-	-
Street Cleaning	3,170	2,662
Operations Expenditure	3,170	2,662
Capital Expenditure	-	-
Parking Facilities	3,492	3,111
Operations Expenditure Other	3,010	2,685
Park & Ride (Tiger Bus)	342	342
Capital Expenditure	140	85
Stormwater Drainage	7,550	5,930
Operations Expenditure	6,695	5,880
Capital Expenditure	855	50
Interest Expense	278	278
Loan Repayments	20,000	-
	148,116	118,568

Trading & Major Facilities

	2024	2023
PARKING FACILITIES	\$'000	\$'000
Income		
Trading & Fee Income	8,174	7,423
Concessions Reinstated	127	128
Other	62_	79
	8,363	7,630
Expenses		
Operations	3,384	3,164
Depreciation	728	652
Full Cost Attribution	599	583
	4,711	4,399
Net Income/(Expenses)	3,652	3,231
Capital Expenditure	140	85

	2024	2023
LAUNCESTON WASTE CENTRE	\$'000	\$'000
Income		
Trading & Fee Income	9,180	7,429
Concessions Reinstated	470_	317
	9,650	7,746
Expenses		
Operations	1,737	1,196
Rehabilitation Interest	50	50
Depreciation	1,822	1,558
Full Cost Attribution	248_	240
	3,857	3,044
Net Income/(Expenses)	5,793	4,702
Capital Expenditure	480	50

	2024	2023
QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM and ART GALLERY	\$'000	\$'000
Income		
Trading & Fee Income	458	349
Grants & Donations	1,963	1,807
	2,421	2,156
Expenses		
Operations	7,389	7,196
Depreciation	1,078	863
Full Cost Attribution	388_	375
	8,855	8,434
Net Income/(Expenses)	(6,434)	(6,278)
Capital Expenditure	1,185	1,363

	2024	2023
LAUNCESTON AQUATIC CENTRE	\$'000	\$'000
Income		
Trading & Fee Income	4,790	4,698
	4,790	4,698
Expenses		
Operations	5,344	5,237
Depreciation	1,118	956
Full Cost Attribution	178	172
	6,640	6,365
Net Income/(Expenses)	(1,850)	(1,667)
Capital Expenditure	440	175

	2024	2023
YORK PARK and INVERESK PRECINCT	\$'000	\$'000
Income		
Trading & Fee Income	957	963
Other	68_	69
	1,025	1,032
Expenses		
Operations	774	1,378
Depreciation	1,629	1,423
Full Cost Attribution	168_	168
	2,571	2,969
Net Income/(Expenses)	(1,546)	(1,937)
Capital Expenditure	_	-

	2024	2023
CARR VILLA CEMETERY and CREMATORIA	\$'000	\$'000
Income		
Trading & Fee Income	1,450_	1,371
	1,450	1,371
Expenses		
Operations	1,355	1,284
Depreciation	204	172
Full Cost Attribution	77	74
	1,636	1,530
Net Income/(Expenses)	(186)	(159)
Capital Expenditure	90	155

	2024	2023
VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE	\$'000	\$'000
Income		
Trading & Fee Income	86	76
Grants & Donations	120_	120
	206	196
Expenses		
Operations	617	610
Depreciation	3	3
Full Cost Attribution	51_	49
	671	662
Net Income/(Expenses)	(465)	(466)
Capital Expenditure	-	-

Valuation and Rating Details

variation and Nating Betails	2024	2023
The Assessed Annual Value (AAV) upon which the Estimates are calculated:	\$'000	\$'000
Based on values from 1st July, 2016	663,962	657,290
Adjusted AAV from 1 July, 2016	889,221	880,097
	Cents/	Cents/
General Rates applied to AAV	\$AAV	\$AAV
General	6.1721	5.8975
Residential	6.1721	5.8975
Commercial	7.3587	7.0265
Commercial (CBD)	8.0842	8.0647
Industrial	6.8145	6.5288
Primary Production	5.8539	5.5864
Public Service	7.3572	7.0315
Quarry and Mining	5.3303	5.0871
Sport and Recreation	7.3832	7.0497
Vacant (non-use)	5.7790	5.4642
Service Rates on behalf of State Fire Commission		
Urban Fire Levy	1.1795	1.1670
Lilydale Country Fire District Levy	0.3100	0.3261
Rural Fire Levy	0.3000	0.2987
Other Rates Charges	\$	\$
Fixed General Rates	326.80	312.80
Fire Levy Minimum Charge	48.00	44.00
Service Charges	\$	\$
Waste Management - per 85 litre bin	170.00	148.30
Waste Management - per 140 litre bin	215.00	191.60
Waste Management - per 240 litre bin	368.00	317.40
As of the 2016/2017 year the 85 litre bin is no longer available		
Rates and Charges Summary	\$'000	\$'000
General Rate	•	,
Residential	33,692	31,740
Commercial	11,732	11,168
Industrial	3,479	3,310
Public Service	3,423	3,255
Primary Production	1,098	1,043
Quarry and Mining	7	7
Sport and Recreation	287	275
Vacant (non-use)	641	632
General Charge	11,873	11,277
	66,232	62,707
	00,202	02,101

Waste Management Charge	7,564	6,561
CBD Promotional Services	295	423
Budgeted Growth	477	456
	74,568	70,147
Fire Levy	8,977	8,785
Total Rates and Charges	83,545	78,932
Rate Remissions	\$'000	\$'000
General	295	272
Fire General	5	5
Total Rate Remissions	300	277
CBD Promotional Budget	\$'000	\$'000
Income	005	400
City Rates (CBD Differential Component)	295	423
General Rates	269	141
_		
Expenses		
Expenses Operations	564	564

Council is phasing out the CBD Commercial Rate over a four year period, with the balance of the contribution to Central Launceston Marketing Inc (previously CityProm) being funded from General Rates. 2022/2023 was the first year of this transition, with the amount budgeted from General Rates being 25% of the overall contribution. This will increase to 50% in 2023/2024, and so on.

Variation in Consul Data (south nor CAAV)	Cents/	Cents/
Variation in General Rate (cents per \$AAV)	\$AAV	\$AAV
Commercial CBD From Residential	1.9121	2.1672
Commercial CBD From Commercial	0.7255	1.0382
State Fire Commission	\$'000	\$'000
Income		
Fire Levy	8,977	8,785
Interest	22	22
	8,999	8,807
Expenses		
Fire Levy	8,977	8,785
Remissions	5	5
	8,982	8,790
Surplus/(Deficit)	17	17

The Council is required under legislation to collect the fire levy on behalf of the State Fire Commission.