



City of
LAUNCESTON

COUNCIL MINUTES

**COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 24 AUGUST 2023
1.00PM**

The Ordinary Meeting of the City of Launceston Council was held at the Council Chambers, Town Hall, St John Street, Launceston:

Date: 24 August 2023

Time: 1.00pm

Certificate of Qualified Advice

Background

To comply with section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas):

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

Certification

I certify that:

- (i) the advice of a qualified person has been sought where required;
- (ii) this advice was taken into account in providing general advice to the council or council committee; and
- (iii) a copy of the advice, or a written transcript or summary of advice provided orally, is included with the agenda item.



**Michael Stretton
Chief Executive Officer**

AUDIO of COUNCIL MEETINGS

An audio recording of this Council Meeting, except for any part held in Closed Session, will be made in accordance with our Council Meetings - Audio Recording Policy - 14-Plx-008.

This Council Meeting was streamed live to and can be accessed at:
www.launceston.tas.gov.au/Council/Meetings/Listen.

The following information was provided to members of the public in respect of attendance at the Council Meeting.

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT THE COUNCIL MEETING

At the Council Meeting, please take care to follow signage and the directions of Council Officers to ensure that physical distancing and other COVID-19 safe behaviour is observed.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - AGENDA ITEM 8

Questions received in writing by close of business Wednesday of the week prior to the Council Meeting are treated as Questions on Notice. Your question and an answer will be published in the Agenda of the Council Meeting. Questions may be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer at contactus@launceston.tas.gov.au, PO Box 396, Launceston TAS 7250, or Town Hall, St John Street, Launceston.

If attending the Council Meeting in person, you may ask up to three questions during Public Question Time. If accepted, your questions will be either answered at the Meeting, or Taken on Notice and answered at a later Council Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

When attending the Council Meeting, you will be asked if you wish to comment on an item in the Agenda. Prior to debate on that Agenda Item, you will be invited by the Chair to move to the public microphone at the doors to the Council Chambers and state your name and address.

Please note the following important information:

- Each item on the Agenda includes a Recommendation prepared by a Council Officer.
- You may speak for up to two minutes, either for or against the Recommendation.
- You may not ask questions or enter into debate with Councillors or Council Officers.
- Your statement is not to be defamatory, inappropriate or abusive, or be intended to embarrass any person, including Councillors or Council Officers.
- The Chair may direct you to stop speaking if you do not follow these rules, or if your statement repeats points that have already been made.
- Audio from our Council Meetings is streamed live via YouTube.

Your respectful contribution is welcome and appreciated.

LEGISLATIVE TERMINOLOGY - GENERAL MANAGER

At the City of Launceston, the positions of General Manager Community and Place, General Manager Organisational Services, General Manager Infrastructure and Assets and General Manager Creative Arts and Cultural Services do not assume the functions and powers of the term *general manager* in a legislative sense: any legislative functions and powers to be delegated to these roles will be made by Council or the Chief Executive Officer. At the City of Launceston, the title Chief Executive Officer is a term of reference for the General Manager as appointed by Council pursuant to section 61 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)*. For the avoidance of doubt, *Chief Executive Officer* means *General Manager* for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* and all other legislation administered by or concerning Council.

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1. OPENING OF MEETING - ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

The Mayor, Councillor M K Garwood, opened the Meeting at 1.00 pm.

2. MAYORAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas) - section 48

(A councillor must declare any interest that the councillor has in a matter before any discussion on that matter commences).

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 35(1)(b)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the City of Launceston Council held on 10 August 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

DECISION: 24 August 2023

MOTION

Moved Councillor A G Harris, seconded Councillor A J Palmer.

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the City of Launceston Council held on 10 August 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED 12:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor Dr G Razay, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahan, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

5. COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 8(2)(c)

5.1. Council Workshop Report - 17 August 2023

FILE NO: SF4401

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

ACTING GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: Leanne Purchase (Organisational Services Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider Council Workshops conducted since the last Council Meeting.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 8(2)(c)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council, pursuant to Regulation 8(2)(c) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, notes the Council Workshops conducted and attended since the last Council Meeting, for the purposes described:

Workshop conducted on 17 August 2023:

Christmas in the City 2023

Councillors received a briefing on the activities and activations planned for this year's Christmas in the City. The briefing included updates on the Christmas tree, decorations, and activities planned for the city.

Lilydale Men's Shed

Chief Executive Officer Michael Stretton provided Councillors with an update on the Lilydale Mens' Shed.

Harvest Market - Site Options

Chief Executive Officer Michael Stretton presented the Harvest Market Alternate Site Options investigation and report for Councillor consideration.

Councillor Professional Development Opportunities and Access

Councillors were reminded about online learning available via the Office of Local Government and were asked to contribute to a discussion on professional development so that any identified needs or interests can be addressed in future Workshops.

City Heart

Councillors were provided an update on progress with City Heart.

Launceston Aquatic Centre Overview

Councillors were provided an overview of the Centre, its current operations, memberships and support it provides to the community, followed by a site visit.

In Attendance: Mayor Councillor D C Gibson, Deputy Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor Dr G Razay, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton.

Apologies: Councillor L M McMahon

DECISION: 24 August 2023

MOTION

Moved Councillor A J Britton, seconded Councillor S Cai.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 12:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor Dr G Razay, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

6. COUNCILLORS' LEAVE OF ABSENCE APPLICATIONS

No Councillors' Leave of Absence Applications have been identified as part of this Agenda.

7. COMMUNITY REPORTS

(Community Reports allow an opportunity for Community Groups to provide Council with a three minute verbal presentation detailing activities of the group. This report is not intended to be used as the time to speak on Agenda Items; that opportunity exists when that Agenda Item is about to be considered. Speakers are not to request funding or ask questions of Council. Printed documentation may be left for Councillors).

No Community Reports were registered with Council as part of these Minutes

8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 31

8.1. Public Questions on Notice

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 31(1)

8.1.1. Public Questions on Notice - Benjamin Gofton - Elphinwood Square and Flood Mitigation Measures in Newstead - 15 August 2023

FILE NO: SF6381

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Michael Stretton

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES:

The following questions, submitted to Council on 15 August 2023 by Benjamin Gofton, have been answered by Shane Eberhardt (General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network).

Questions:

1. What strategies can LCC employ to improve the quality of playground equipment, plant some nice trees like a magnolia, have nicer grass with no weeds and stop people driving on the greenspace?

Response:

This year, the City of Launceston will be undertaking a Recreation and Open Space Strategy that will consider all of our 61 play spaces. Council officers will consult with the community to include recommendations on improvements for play spaces, including access improvements, improved equipment where identified and other amenities depending on the level of service of the park. Actions from the Strategy will inform the City of Launceston's future planning and program for play space upgrades that fits with the Future Capital Works Program.

The community will be invited to be a part of the strategy and help to inform decisions and future planning. This will likely occur in the next three months and the community will be encouraged to keep in contact and keep an eye on our social media as the strategy progresses.

All City of Launceston's parks and play spaces are serviced and maintained by the City of Launceston Operational staff. For any identified maintenance requirements or issues with these spaces, customers are welcome to lodge a request through contact us at contactus@launceston.tas.gov.au.

The Council is developing an urban greening strategy and implementation plan that will inform future planting priorities.

2. What is Launceston City Council in conjunction with the state and federal governments doing to make the levee banks in the Newstead area unquestionably strong so that downward pressure can be placed on our insurance in the long term?

Response:

The Insurance Council of Australia has outlined that 2022 was a record year for insured losses across Australia, driven by flooding across the country. The City of Launceston cannot comment on the specific actions of insurers and their treatment of properties across the flood plain (i.e. Invermay vs Newstead) or what may influence these differences. All property owners are encouraged to have informed discussions with their insurers regarding the flood risk posed at their property. The City of Launceston has, on multiple occasions, provided relevant information for property owners to take to their insurers. Whilst levees provide a significant level of protection, they do not flood proof properties, and a residual flood risk remains for these properties that are protected by flood levees.

The Newstead Levee was constructed in 2018 and provides a similar level of protection to that afforded by the levees surrounding Invermay and the flood prone areas of the City. Evacuation orders, such as that issued during the October 2022 floods, remain the best option for reducing the risk to life during a flood event.

The City of Launceston, and the Launceston Flood Authority, ensure that the Launceston Flood Protection System is adequately maintained and fit for purpose as intended. The City's focus is also on ensuring that our flood prone community, whether protected by levees or not, understand their risk and are adequately prepared for flood events.

A recently awarded Disaster Ready Fund grant will provide additional early warning intelligence. This will address gaps identified during recent floods and is expected to allow more time for critical operational decisions to be considered. The system will have a public facing element that will provide information to the community to inform their decisions.

8.2. Public Questions Without Notice

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 31(2)(b)

8.2.1. Public Questions Without Notice - Ron Baines - Recyclable Building Materials at the Launceston Waste Centre - 24 August 2023

1. Does this Council believe that saving a few cans and plastic bottles nobody wants compares to the hundreds of tonnes of good material saved by Eco Salv and all of its previous employees?

Shane Eberhardt (General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network) responded by saying that the City of Launceston is not separating material from the tip face and we recognise that this is a challenge. There is material going to landfill that we prefer not to. In terms of bottle and cans, the kerbside recycling service removes 7000 tonnes of recycling from going to the tip face and our FOGO kerbside service and recycling facility, operated in partnership with City Mission, is in excess of what we have done in the past to reduce landfill.

The Council has made a commitment under the Sustainability Action Plan and the Northern Regional Waste Management Group have made a commitment to invest in construction and demolition recycling facilities.

2. Will Council confer and accept advice from other council on this matter as they are readily available by phone or email?

Shane Eberhardt (General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network) confirmed that we are liaising with other Councils.

9. PLANNING AUTHORITY

Under the provisions of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, Council acts as a Planning Authority in regard to items included in Agenda Item 9 - Planning Authority.

9.1. PSA-LLP0012 - Local Heritage Listings

FILE NO: PSA-LLP0012

AUTHOR: Iain More (Senior Town Planner Policy and Projects)

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: Dan Ryan (Community and Place Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider and determine a development application pursuant to the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993
Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston
Northern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. Pursuant to section 40D of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, agrees to, and initiates Amendment PSA-LLP0012, to the Launceston Local Provisions Schedule, to:
 - a. remove 88 properties from the local heritage listings within LAU-Table C6.1 Local Heritage Places and Appendix A: Local Historic Heritage Code Datasheets where applicable, as shown in Attachment 1 to this report;
 - b. insert 13 property datasheets for existing listings within Appendix A: Local Historic Heritage Code Datasheets, as shown in Attachment 2 to this report; and
 - c. add 40 properties to the local heritage listings within LAU-Table C6.1 Local Heritage Places and create 40 new datasheets within Appendix A: Local Historic Heritage Code Datasheets, as shown in Attachment 3 to this report.
 2. Pursuant to section 40F of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, certifies draft amendment PSA-LLP0012; and
 3. Pursuant to sections 40G and 40H of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, determines the period for public exhibition be 28 days.
-

Agenda Item 9.1 PSA-LLP0012 - Local Heritage Listings was withdrawn from the agenda to allow additional information to be included and considered at a future Council Meeting.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

10.1. Mayor's Announcements

FILE NO: SF2375

Wednesday 9 August 2023

- Attended the Opening Night of Launceston College Production *Be More Chill*, Princess Theatre

Friday 11 August 2023

- Attended the opening of the Eleonora Pulcini Fine Art Gallery opening, Quadrant Mall

Saturday 12 August 2023

- Attended DanceSport, Silverdome

Sunday 13 August 2023

- Attended AFL Hawthorn v Western Bulldogs, UTAS Stadium

Thursday 17 August 2023

- Attended the Opening night of Newstead College Production *Heathers The Musical*, Princess Theatre

Friday 18 August 2023

- Officiated at the Vietnam Veterans Day Service, Cenotaph

Wednesday 23 August 2023

- Attended Annual General Meeting for Northern Tasmanian Cricket Association, NTCA Function Room
-

The Mayor also noted participation in the following events:

Wednesday 16 August 2023

- Attended the City of Launceston Matildas viewing at University of Tasmania Stadium

Friday 18 August 2023

- Attended EWAH at TasDance Assembly 197

Monday 21 August 2023

- Presented keys at the opening of Newnham Lanes

Wednesday 23 August 2023

- Industry mentor at East Tamar Primary School
-

11. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

(This item provides an opportunity for Councillors to briefly report on the activities that have been undertaken in their capacity as a representative of the Council. It is not necessary to list social functions that have been attended).

Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie

- **Announced that Bonza is about to start flights in and out of Launceston including direct flights the Gold Coast**

Councillor A E Dawkins

- **Provided a report from the Newstead College School Association**

Councillor A G Harris

- **Attended the Vietnam Veterans' Day at Royal Park for the 50th Anniversary**
- **Met with the Tamar Bicycle Users Group**

Councillor A J Palmer

- **Attended Lilydale Sub-branch 50th Anniversary of Vietnam Veterans' Day**
- **Noted that the Lilydale playground is almost complete**
- **Noted the work City of Launceston teams are doing to fix the gates at Russell Plains Road to prevent vandalism**

Councillor L M McMahon

- **Attended the Benevolent Society fundraising event at the Country Club Casino**

12. QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS

12.1. Councillors' Questions on Notice

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 30

(A councillor, at least seven days before an ordinary Council Meeting or a Council Committee Meeting, may give written notice to the Chief Executive Officer of a question in respect of which the councillor seeks an answer at that Meeting. An answer to a Question on Notice will be provided in writing).

No Councillors' Questions on Notice were identified as part of these Minutes

12.2. Councillors' Questions Without Notice

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 29

(Questions Without Notice, and any answers to those questions, are not required to be recorded in the Minutes of the Meeting).

No Councillors' Questions Without Notice were identified as part of these Minutes

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS

13.1. Cultural Advisory Committee Meeting - 2 August 2023

FILE NO: SF 7357

AUTHOR: Mengda Liu (Cultural Place Development Officer)

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: Dan Ryan (Community and Place Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To receive a report from the Cultural Advisory Committee meeting held 2 August 2023.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives the report from the City of Launceston Cultural Advisory Committee meeting held on 2 August 2023.

DECISION: 24 August 2023

MOTION

Moved Councillor T G Walker, seconded Councillor A J Britton.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 12:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor Dr G Razay, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

13.2. Municipal Emergency Management Committee Meeting - 13 July 2023

FILE NO: SF3177

AUTHOR: Lynda Robins (Emergency Management Officer)

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: Dan Ryan (Community and Place Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To receive and consider a report from the Municipal Emergency Management Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives the report from the Municipal Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 13 July 2023.

DECISION: 24 August 2023

MOTION

Moved Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, seconded Councillor A G Harris.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 12:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor Dr G Razay, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

13.3. Transport Committee Meeting - 13 July 2023

FILE NO: SF7429

AUTHOR: Cathy Williams (Roads and Traffic Officer)

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: Shane Eberhardt (Infrastructure and Assets Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To receive a report from the Transport Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives the report from the Transport Committee Meeting held on 13 July 2023.

DECISION: 24 August 2023

MOTION

Moved Councillor A G Harris, seconded Councillor J J Pentridge.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 12:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor Dr G Razay, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahan, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

14. CREATIVE ARTS AND CULTURAL SERVICES NETWORK

14.1. Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Quarterly Report - April to June 2023

FILE NO: SF5784

AUTHOR: Louise Towns (Executive Assistant Creative Arts and Cultural Services Network)

GENERAL MANAGER: Shane Fitzgerald (Creative Arts and Cultural Services Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To receive the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Quarterly Report 2023 – April to June 2023.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery's quarterly report for the period April to June 2023 (ECM Doc Set ID 4938083).

DECISION: 24 August 2023

MOTION

Moved Councillor S Cai, seconded Councillor L M McMahon.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 12:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor Dr G Razay, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

15. INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSETS NETWORK

15.1. Northern Tasmania Sports Facility Plan

FILE NO: MOP22766/2020

AUTHOR: Kathryn Pugh (Manager Parks and Sustainability)

GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: Shane Eberhardt (Infrastructure and Assets Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the Northern Tasmania Sports Facility Plan 2023 for endorsement.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Workshop - 13 April 2023 - Northern Tasmania Sports Facility Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council endorses the Northern Tasmania Sports Facility Plan 2023 (Doc Set ID 4935142), noting:

1. The Plan is an initiative of five northern Councils and is primarily a plan for council owned and managed facilities;
 2. The funding Councils are the responsible entity for considering the key recommendations of the plan in their respective council area; and
 3. The Sports Facility Plan will form part of Council's future sport and recreation infrastructure considerations.
-

DECISION: 24 August 2023

MOTION

Moved Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, seconded Councillor A G Harris.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 12:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor Dr G Razay, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

16. ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES NETWORK

16.1. Fees and Charges 2023/2024 - Hall Hire for Community Users

FILE NO: SF2968

AUTHOR: Nathan Williams (Chief Financial Officer)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider changes to the approved Fees and Charges for 2023/2024 for the hire of Council owned halls for use by community groups.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council - 4 May 2023 - Agenda Item 16.2 - Fees and Charges 2023/2024

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council pursuant to section 205 of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas), update the existing fees and approve the new fees for new bookings, as detailed below for the financial year ending 30 June 2024, as they relate to the hiring of Council owned halls for Community use:

	Community Use - Non Regular	Community Use - Regular	Half Daily Rate - 4 hours max	Daily Rate - more than 4 hours
Existing Fee – per hour	\$25	\$20	N/A	N/A
Proposed New Fee – per hour	\$12.50	\$10	\$30	\$45

All figures are inclusive of GST.

DECISION: 24 August 2023

MOTION

Moved Councillor A J Palmer, seconded Councillor A G Harris.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 12:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor Dr G Razay, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

16.2. Progress against 2022/2023 Annual Plan Actions for period ending 30 June 2023

FILE NO: SF6812

AUTHOR: Courtney Osborne (Team Leader Performance and Planning)

ACTING GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL: Leanne Purchase (Organisational Services Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the progress against Council's 2022/2023 Annual Plan Actions for the period ending 30 June 2023.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council - 15 June 2023 - Agenda Item 14.6 - Progress Against 2022/2023 Annual Plan Actions - 31 March 2023

Council - 23 March 2023 - Agenda Item 18.3 - Progress Against 2022/2023 Annual Plan Actions - 31 December 2022

Council - 17 November 2022 - Agenda Item 16.1 - City of Launceston Annual Plan 2022/2023 - Progress Against Annual Plan Actions for period Ending 30 September 2022

Council - 16 June 2022 - Agenda Item 15.3 - City of Launceston Annual Plan 2022/2023

RECOMMENDATION:

That, in respect of the 2022/23 Annual Plan, Council:

1. Approves the deferral of the action -

Develop and commence implementation of Stage 2 Launceston City Heart Project which includes the following key areas of investment:

- *Greening of our City.*
- *Improved public transport infrastructure.*
- *Creating greater opportunities for pedestrianisation of the CBD.*

2. Notes progress for the period ending 30 June 2023:

Strategic Priority 1:

We **connect with our Community and our Region** through meaningful engagement, cooperation and representation.

Our interactions with our community are authentic, timely, accurate and open. We want to build strong and productive relationships with our community and regional partners.

10-Year Goal:

To seek out and champion positive engagement and collaboration to capitalise on the major opportunities, and address the future challenges facing our community and region.

Focus Area		
To develop and consistently utilise contemporary and effective community engagement processes.		
Action	Network	% Complete
<p>Through the next iteration of the Tomorrow Together program engage with our community on the following:</p> <p>Theme one: A Social, Inclusive and Fair City:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trails and Network Strategy • Northern Regional Sports Facility Plan • Urban Tree Canopy Strategy • Smart Cities Strategy • Public Open Space Strategy • City Park and Punchbowl playground renewals • Preliminary Playspace Strategy consultation <p>Theme two: A Mobile and Accessible City:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two-way traffic and more. <p>Launch of the new Community Engagement website.</p> <p>Implementation of compulsory <i>Closing the Loop</i> feedback on all projects.</p>	Organisational Services	100
Comment		
<p>Theme one: A Social, Inclusive and Fair City was successfully completed.</p> <p>Theme two: A Mobile and Accessible City was put on hold until Stage Two City Heart commences. Instead, engagement on the Tomorrow Together, A Well-Designed City Theme was undertaken. This included engaging on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism Plan • Events Strategy • E-scooters • CCTV Strategy • Sustainability Action Plan • Emergency Management • Open data and how we can share it <p>Previous community engagement website www.yourvoicemyourlaunceston.com.au was replaced with a refreshed look and renamed www.tomorrowtogetherlaunceston.com.au.</p> <p><i>Closing the Loop</i> feedback on all projects is now compulsory.</p>		

Focus Area		
To advocate and collaborate to enhance regionally significant services and infrastructure for the benefit of our communities		
Action	Network	% Complete
Complete Regional Sports Facility Plan (the Plan) in conjunction with sporting clubs, the State Government, and neighbouring councils.	Infrastructure and Assets	95
Comment		
The Regional Sports Facility Plan was completed in draft. It was previously reported that the Plan would be released in March 2024; however, it is currently being finalised for adoption by Council earlier in the financial year 2023/24. A detailed medium-term implementation plan to guide our investment will be prepared for adoption with the Regional Sports Facility Plan 2023/24. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council as part of the 2023/24 Annual Plan, as the project moves into its implementation phase.		

Strategic Priority 2:

We **Facilitate Prosperity** by seeking out and responding to opportunities for growth and renewal of our regional economy.

We use our influence and resources to deliver the foundations for ongoing economic development. We want Launceston to be the heart of a thriving regional economy.

10-Year Goal:

To have realised opportunities that grow and sustain our economy, and foster creative and innovative people and industries.

Focus Area		
To actively market the City and region and pursue investment.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Develop and Implement Smart Cities Strategy (the Strategy).	Organisational Services	100
Comment		
The Strategy, rebranded to be the <i>City Innovation Strategy</i> , was endorsed at the Council meeting on 18 May 2023. Implementation is under way.		

Strategic Priority 3:

We are a **Progressive Leader** that is accountable to our governance obligations and responsive to our community.

Our decision-making and actions are evidence-based, strategic, transparent and considered. We are ethical, fair and impartial in complying with and enforcing the law.

10-Year Goal:

To ensure decisions are made in a transparent and accountable way, that effectively meet our statutory obligations, support quality services and underpin the long-term sustainability of our organisation.

Focus Area		
To fairly and equitably discharge our statutory and governance obligations.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Provide information and advice to prospective Councilor candidates and support the Tasmanian Electoral Commission in the delivery of the Local Government election.	Organisational Services	100
Comment		
Council officers provided significant support for the 2022 local government elections, which concluded in November 2022. Additionally, support was provided for the Mayoral by-election which was carried out late in 2022/23 and concluded in July 2023.		
Focus Area		
To fairly and equitably discharge our statutory and governance obligations.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Engage with the community and commence a review of the Corporate Strategic Plan.	Organisational Services	5
Comment		
This project will be undertaken during the 2023/24 financial year in line with statutory obligations. The focus this year has been on the review of the Greater Launceston Plan which will direct the Corporate Strategic Plan. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council as part of the 2023/24 Annual Plan.		
Focus Area		
To ensure decisions are made on the basis of accurate and relevant information.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Deliver End of Term Report.	Chief Executive Officer	100
Comment		
The End of Term Report 2018-2022 was received by the Council on 21 September 2022 and marked the conclusion of the term of that Council.		
Focus Area		
To ensure decisions are made on the basis of accurate and relevant information.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Level of Service Planning Stage 1 Develop a project plan to document service levels, review appropriateness of services, and engage with the community around expectations.	Organisational Services	10
Comment		
This project has been impacted by a lack of resources due to a number of failed recruitments. Despite this, an internal trial is complete and has informed the approach to the broader project. The timeline for the delivery of this work in 2023/24 is to be considered along with the resourcing requirements for other important projects. Progress on this action will continue to be reported to Council as part of the 2023/24 Annual Plan.		

Focus Area		
To continually improve our service delivery via a continuous improvement mindset, pursuing efficiency gains and adopting technological and other process innovations.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Implement the Organisational Cultural Development Roadmap.	Organisational Services	100
Comment		
<p>The Cultural Roadmap is a multi-year project.</p> <p>This year, an organisational cultural reassessment was successfully completed which will guide future iterations of the roadmap.</p> <p>Culture Roadmap initiatives such as Team Leader Forum/Cohort, our 2023 Culture Survey, a review of leadership capabilities to include employee capabilities, our new Leaders Induction, leaders self-help tools (tool kit) and refreshing of our Values Champions Guidelines are completed. Work on the development of an Internal Communication Framework and Plan is well underway by the Communications Team.</p> <p>Work on a Lean "Guide Group" has not yet commenced.</p> <p>Our focus in 2023/24 now turns to a planned review of our Culture Roadmap, implementation of the New Leaders Induction, implementation of our revised Leadership Capabilities, promotion of our next value "we bring an open mind" and implementation of the new Internal Communication Framework and Plan.</p>		
Focus Area		
To continually improve our service delivery via a continuous improvement mindset, pursuing efficiency gains and adopting technological and other process innovations.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Undertake the Corporate Application Replacement Program (CARP).	Organisational Services	100
Comment		
This is a multi-year project. All key milestones for the 2022/23 reporting year have been met. The project continues to be delivered in line with the Council's Information Communication Technology (ICT) Strategy and will provide multiple benefits to the City of Launceston.		
Focus Area		
To maintain a financially sustainable organisation.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Implement the recommendations of the UTAS Stadium Future Direction Plan.	Chief Executive Officer	85
Comment		
The implementation of the UTAS Stadium Future Direction Plan has been substantially progressed with \$130M being committed by the Tasmanian and Australian Governments in support of the proposed re-development of the stadium. Work is progressing with Stadiums Tasmania and the Tasmanian Government on the proposed stadium ownership and governance changes, which are expected to be finalised in early 2023/24. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023/24 Annual Plan around our work with Stadiums Tasmania.		

Focus Area		
To maintain a financially sustainable organisation.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Implement recommendations of the QVMAG Futures Plan.	Chief Executive Officer	80
Comment		
Throughout this year the Council's officers have been focused on addressing the strategic needs of the QVMAG and determining future workforce arrangements over the first half of this year. Officers have held meetings in respect to the future funding of QVMAG. Work will continue through the 2023/24 financial year on the development of the QVMAG Future Direction Action Plan. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023/24 Annual Plan.		

Strategic Priority 4:

We value our City's Unique Identity by celebrating our special heritage and culture and building on our competitive advantages to be a place where people choose to live, work and visit.

We facilitate our community's sense of place by enhancing local identity. We want people to be proud to say that Launceston is my City.

10-Year Goal:

To sustain and promote Launceston as a unique place to live, work, learn and play.

Focus Area		
To promote and enhance Launceston's rich heritage, culture and natural environment.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Launceston Heritage List Review and Precincts - continuing the review of the City of Launceston's local heritage list as part of the final stage of this five-year project.	Community and Place	100
Comment		
A preliminary review of heritage listed properties has been completed. Informal consultation has been undertaken with property owners. This feedback has been collated and reviewed in preparation for Council to initiate formal public exhibition in August 2023.		
Focus Area		
To promote and enhance Launceston's rich heritage, culture and natural environment.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Launceston Place Brand implementation and commencement of monitoring of usage.	Community and Place	100
Comment		
A report on the first 12 months' usage has been prepared and presented to Councillors. A two-year implementation plan is under development and will involve partner organisations including Visit Northern Tasmania and Central Launceston.		

Focus Area		
To promote and enhance Launceston's rich heritage, culture and natural environment.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Continue to work with the newly formed Cultural Advisory Committee to implement the first four-year action plan from the Cultural Strategy.	Community and Place	100
Comment		
Meetings of the Cultural Advisory Committee were held throughout the year with the committee providing feedback and advice on a range of matters including on actions from the Cultural Strategy. The committee will continue to meet over the coming year to provide advice on matters including public art installations and placemaking.		
Focus Area		
To continue to offer an attractive network of parks, open spaces and facilities throughout Launceston.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Undertake review of the City of Launceston Open Space Strategy.	Infrastructure and Assets	5
Comment		
This project is in the detailed planning stage, with a scope and briefing paper in draft form. The project will be delivered within the next 12 months. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023/24 Annual Plan.		
Focus Area		
To continue to offer an attractive network of parks, open spaces and facilities throughout Launceston.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Continue the Albert Hall Renewal program.	Infrastructure and Assets	90
Comment		
The program for Albert Hall Renewal was to commence construction late this financial year as it has been delayed due to seeking a value for money outcome which has now been achieved. A contract for construction has been executed with construction to commence early next financial year. Progress around the redevelopment of Albert Hall will continue to be reported to Council and the community as a project of great significance to Launceston.		
Focus Area		
To continue to offer an attractive network of parks, open spaces and facilities throughout Launceston.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Develop and implement an improvement plan for Princess Theatre and Earl Arts Centre upgrade implementation.	Infrastructure and Assets	90
Comment		
The Princess Theatre and Earl Arts Centre project has commenced with a focus on engaging users of the facility. Procurement of an architect was intended to be completed by the end of the financial year. This process is in progress and will be concluded in August/September 2023. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023/24 Annual Plan.		

Focus Area		
To support the central business district (CBD) and commercial areas as activity places during day and night.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Develop and commence implementation of Stage 2 Launceston City Heart Project which includes the following key areas of investment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greening of our City. • Improved public transport infrastructure. • Creating greater opportunities for pedestrianisation of the CBD. 	Community and Place	Deferred
Comment		
Unfortunately, this project was placed on hold pending outcomes of negotiations on a bus interchange, funding application and confirmation of project outcomes. Towards the end of the financial year an agreement was reached in respect to the development of the former Katies/Birchalls building with an announcement on this expected early in the 2023/24 financial year. Once both of these elements are addressed the project will be able to be progressed.		

Strategic Priority 5:

We Serve and Care for our Community by providing equitable and efficient services that reflects needs and expectations of our community.

We are invested in our community's long term health, well-being, safety and resilience.

We want to be trusted and respected by our community.

10-Year Goal:

To offer access to services and spaces for all community members, and to work in partnership with stakeholders to address the needs of vulnerable communities.

Focus Area		
To plan for and provide services and facilities that recognise the changing demographics and needs of our community.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Implement Council commitments from the <i>My Place My Future Plan</i> and support State and Federal Governments on implementation of their actions.	Community and Place	100
Comment		
The Northern Suburbs Project Officer continues to collaborate with local service providers in the Northern Suburbs and has facilitated a range of events and programs supporting the community in the Northern Suburbs. These included: Rave on Wheels Skate Competition, <i>Healthy & Connected Communities</i> training for Attracting and Keeping Customers, Crafting Your Digital Strategy small business workshops, facilitation of Rocherlea Action Project community group meetings, and negotiating land to lease for the FARM Project.		

Focus Area		
To work in partnership with community organisations and other levels of government to maximise participation opportunities for vulnerable and diverse members of the community.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Continue to roll out the ABCDE Learning Sites community development program, with the Invermay learning site to commence in July 2022.	Community and Place	100
Comment		
The Invermay ABCDE Learning Site is over halfway through with strong community participation, project delivery and new community partnerships. Eleven community led projects and initiatives have been delivered with six more underway and on track for delivery prior to the completion of the learning site in December 2023. Support and connection are also occurring with past learning site community builders for three projects.		

Strategic Priority 6:

We Protect our Environment by caring for our unique natural assets and amenity and sensitively managing future development opportunities.

We strive to minimise the impact of our actions on the environment, while planning for, adapting to and managing the impact of climate change. We want to protect the special character and values of our city for future generations.

10-Year Goal:

To enhance the unique natural character, values, and amenity of our City by minimising the impacts of our organisation's and our community's activities in the environment.

Focus Area		
To contribute to air and river quality improvements in Launceston.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Participate and support the Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce.	Infrastructure and Assets	100
Comment		
Council has actively supported the Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce and is involved in working groups focusing on estuary rehabilitation, master planning for the upper estuary and wetland development in the North Esk catchment.		
Focus Area		
To contribute to air and river quality improvements in Launceston.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Support TasWater and NRM North with the implementation of the \$157m River Health Action Plan to improve catchment management and reduce overflows from the combined system.	Infrastructure and Assets	100
Comment		
The River Health Action plans for improvement of the combined drainage have been progressing through design by TasWater. Council has been providing support for the planning and delivery of the project.		

Focus Area		
To reduce our and the community's impact on the natural environment.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Develop City of Launceston Sustainability Action Plan which sets out how the organisation will achieve sustainable outcomes for operations, service delivery and assets. The Sustainability Action Plan focuses on six key priority areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership and Advocacy • Towards Zero Emissions • Adaption and Resilience • Material Efficiency, Recovery and Optimisation • Natural Capital • Smart Assets 	Infrastructure and Assets	100
Comment		
The Sustainability Action Plan is complete and has been adopted by Council. Implementation of priority actions has commenced.		

Strategic Priority 7:

We are a City Planning for our Future by ensuring our approach to strategic land-use, development and infrastructure investment is coordinated, progressive, and sustainable.

We play a leading role in balancing the enviable amenity of our municipality with the needs of future development and growth. We want to influence the delivery of the right investment for our City and Region.

10-Year Goal:

To facilitate appropriate development via integrated land-use planning, infrastructure investment, and transport solutions within our municipality and region.

Focus Area		
To take a strategic approach to development sites and infrastructure investment within the municipality to maximise public benefit and encourage development and investment.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Participate in the Northern Regional Land Use Strategy Review.	Community and Place	100
Comment		
Participation is ongoing. A key input into the review process, the Northern Tasmanian Residential Demand and Supply Study was completed in June 2023 and represents a significant milestone.		

Focus Area		
To take a strategic approach to development sites and infrastructure investment within the municipality to maximise public benefit and encourage development and investment.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Develop a Placemaking Framework.	Community and Place	50
Comment		
A draft framework is currently under development and will be finalised in the first half of the 2023/24 financial year. Progress on this action will be communicated to Councillors at a Workshop, ahead of the Council being asked to consider the Placemaking Framework for adoption.		
Focus Area		
To improve and maintain accessibility, transport options and infrastructure within the Launceston area, including its rural areas.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Continue work on St Leonards Residential Growth Strategy and Masterplan and obtain Council endorsement for a structured plan and delivery framework for development within St Leonards and the Eastern Growth Corridor.	Chief Executive Officer	25
Comment		
In the second half of the financial year a temporary position was created and filled via an internal secondment to fast-track work on the St Leonards Residential Growth Strategy and Masterplan. This role has resulted in an acceleration of progress with the strategy, particularly as it relates to infill development. The Council will continue to provide additional resources for this project to make significant progress during 2023/24. Progress on this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023/24 Annual Plan.		
Focus Area		
To improve and maintain accessibility, transport options and infrastructure within the Launceston area, including its rural areas.		
Action	Network	% Complete
Continue work on South Prospect Residential Growth Strategy and Masterplan and initiate planning scheme amendments to facilitate development with the South Prospect Growth Corridor.	Chief Executive Officer	95
Comment		
Much of the technical feasibility assessment has been completed. Officers are working with external stakeholders to finalise Department of State Growth support to connect road infrastructure to the surrounding highway interchanges, North Barker on completion of the natural values assessment and seeking approval from Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife to include Kate Reed Nature Recreation Area in the Planning Scheme Amendment. In addition, officers are working with the developers and Mesh urban planners on finalising elements of the masterplan including zoning, open space, and treatment of the electrical transmission line easement. Early in the 2023/24 financial year, the masterplan will be finalised and the Planning Scheme Amendment will be prepared and submitted for Council approval, followed by a public input period and		

submission to the Tasmanian Planning Commission. Progress on this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023/24 Annual Plan.

Focus Area

To improve and maintain accessibility, transport options and infrastructure within the Launceston area, including its rural areas.

Action	Network	% Complete
Implement the Launceston Transport Strategy with the following key actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the new formed Transport Committee. • Develop implementation plan for traffic calming in the City. • Undertake the first stage of a review of speed limits. • Implementing the Network Operating Plan. 	Infrastructure and Assets	90

Comment

The Transport Committee is set up and operational. A review of speed limits is complete and on track for implementation. A Network Operating Plan has been implemented. City traffic calming concept designs are drafted and further work is ongoing. Progress against this action will continue to be reported to Council in the 2023/24 Annual Plan.

Focus Area

To ensure our suite of strategic planning initiatives are coordinated and representative of our community's needs and aspirations.

Action	Network	% Complete
City Deal Agreement: Continue to work with the Commonwealth and State Governments to successfully implement all of the City of Launceston's commitments under the City Deal program to deliver a range of economic and social benefits to the City.	Chief Executive Officer	100

Comment

Work on Launceston City Deal projects is continuing in collaboration with the Australian and Tasmanian Governments. The Australian Government has confirmed its commitment to all current city and regional deal commitments.

Commitments continue to be progressed. Although infrastructure projects have been impacted by construction industry constraints, the UTAS Relocation to the City reached a milestone with the opening of the Stone Building on 16 May 2023. One hundred and fifty professional staff are transitioning to their new headquarters at UTAS's Inveresk campus, which will support increased vibrancy in the CBD.

UTAS published the Newnham Development Strategy and invited community feedback. The strategy includes locations for two City Deal commitments; the Defence and Innovation Precinct and the Cadet Facility.

The Northern Suburbs Recreation Hub received additional funding from the Tasmanian Government of \$27.5M and has now been substantially commenced.

DECISION: 24 August 2023

MOTION

Moved Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, seconded Councillor J J Pentridge.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 12:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor Dr G Razay, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

17. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER NETWORK

17.1. Appointment - Independent Audit Panel Member - Kathleen Sales

FILE NO: SF3661

AUTHOR: Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER APPROVAL: Michael Stretton

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the appointment of an independent member to the City of Launceston Audit Panel

RELEVANT LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)
Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014 (Tas)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council, pursuant to section 85 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* and clauses 5 and 6 of the *Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014 (Tas)*, appoints Kathleen Sales as a member (independent person) of the City of Launceston Audit Panel for a term of four years as provided for in 14-Plx-010 Audit Panel Charter.

DECISION: 24 August 2023

MOTION

Moved Councillor A J Britton, seconded Councillor T G Walker.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 12:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor M K Garwood, Deputy Mayor Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker, Councillor Dr G Razay, Councillor J J Pentridge, Councillor A J Palmer, Councillor L M McMahon, Councillor S Cai and Councillor A J Britton
AGAINST VOTE: Nil

18. MEETING CLOSURE

The Mayor, Councillor M K Garwood, closed the Meeting at 1.53pm.

19. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING DATE

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at 1.00pm on 7 September 2023 at the Council Chambers, Town Hall, 18-28 St John Street, Launceston.