



City of  
**LAUNCESTON**

# **COUNCIL AGENDA**

**COUNCIL MEETING  
THURSDAY 19 OCTOBER 2023  
1.00PM**

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**Notice is hereby given that the Ordinary Meeting of the City of Launceston Council will be held at the Council Chambers, Town Hall, St John Street, Launceston:**

**Date: 19 October 2023**

**Time: 1.00pm**

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### **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 will be streamed live to and can be accessed at:  
[www.launceston.tas.gov.au/Council/Meetings/Listen](http://www.launceston.tas.gov.au/Council/Meetings/Listen).

### **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**

A limit of three questions received in writing by 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](mailto: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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**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

<b>1. OPENING OF MEETING - ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2. MAYORAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>5. COUNCIL WORKSHOPS .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>5.1. Council Workshop Report - 5 October 2023 .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>6. COUNCILLORS' LEAVE OF ABSENCE APPLICATIONS .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>7. COMMUNITY REPORTS .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME .....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>8.1. Public Questions on Notice.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>8.2. Public Questions Without Notice.....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>9. PLANNING AUTHORITY .....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>9.1. DA0295/2023 - 104A Peel Street West West Launceston, 104 Peel Street         West, Summerhill and 102A Peel Street West, West Launceston -         Residential - Construction of a Dwelling, Secondary Residence and Pool         with Shared Access over 102A &amp; 104 Peel Street W.....</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>9.2. DA0371/2023 - 24 Wellington Street, Launceston - Business and         Professional Services - Change of Use to Consulting Rooms and         Construction of Alterations and Additions to a Building .....</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>10. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR.....</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>10.1. Mayor's Announcements.....</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>11. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS .....</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>12. QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS .....</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>12.1. Councillors' Questions on Notice.....</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>12.2. Councillors' Questions Without Notice.....</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>13. NOTICES OF MOTION .....</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>13.1. Notice of Motion - Councillor T G Walker - Frederick Street Kindergarten ..</b>	<b>74</b>

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<b>14. CREATIVE ARTS AND CULTURAL SERVICES NETWORK.....</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>14.1. Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Annual Report 2022/2023 .....</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>15. ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES NETWORK .....</b>	<b>366</b>
<b>15.1. Local Government Association of Tasmania General Meeting - 1 November         2023 .....</b>	<b>366</b>
<b>16. MEETING CLOSURE .....</b>	<b>525</b>
<b>17. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING DATE.....</b>	<b>525</b>

**1. OPENING OF MEETING - ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

**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 5 October 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

**5. COUNCIL WORKSHOPS**

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

**5.1. Council Workshop Report - 5 October 2023**

**FILE NO:** SF4401

**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)

**GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL:** Louise Foster (Organisational Services Network)

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**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:

1. pre-Council Workshop conducted on 5 October 2023:

**Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Annual Report 2022/2023**

*Councillors discussed the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery 2022/2023 Annual Report.*

**Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Annual Seriously Entertained Change Outcomes - New Structure**

*Councillors were provided with a high level summary of the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery new structure as part of the seriously entertained change review.*

**Local Government Association of Tasmania - Notices of Motions**

*Councillors provided comment on circulated Notices of Motions for the upcoming Local Government Association of Tasmania Meeting.*

*In Attendance:* 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.

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**REPORT:**

Regulation 8(2)(c) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* says that the Agenda of an Ordinary Council Meeting is to include the date and purpose of any Council Workshops held since the last Meeting.

Attendance is recorded for noting and reporting in the Council's Annual Report.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

**ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

**STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:**

*City of Launceston Corporate Strategic Plan 2014 - 2024*

Strategic Priority 3: We are a progressive leader that is accountable to our governance obligations and responsive to our community.

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 Areas:

2. To fairly and equitably discharge our statutory and governance obligations.

**BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

The Author and General Manager have no interests to declare in this matter.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

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 have been identified as part of this Agenda**

**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)*

**No Public Questions on Notice have been identified as part of this Agenda**

**8.2. Public Questions Without Notice**

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

**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. DA0295/2023 - 104A Peel Street West West Launceston, 104 Peel Street West, Summerhill and 102A Peel Street West, West Launceston - Residential - Construction of a Dwelling, Secondary Residence and Pool with Shared Access over 102A & 104 Peel Street West**

**FILE NO:** DA0295/2023

**AUTHOR:** Catherine Mainsbridge (Senior Town Planner)

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

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**DECISION STATEMENT:**

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

**PLANNING APPLICATION INFORMATION:**

Applicant:	Woodbury and Co Building Design
Property:	104A Peel Street West West Launceston, 104 Peel Street West, Summerhill and 102A Peel Street West, West Launceston
Zoning:	Low Density Residential
Receipt Date:	5/07/2023
Validity Date:	29/08/2023
Further Information Request:	24/07/2023
Further Information Received:	29/08/2023
Deemed Approval:	19/10/2023
Representations:	Three

**RELEVANT LEGISLATION:**

*Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*  
Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**

D192/99 - 104 Peel Street West, West Launceston - 3 Lot Subdivision - approved under delegation

**STANDARDS REQUIRING PLANNING DISCRETION:**

10.4.3 - Setbacks  
10.4.4 - Site Coverage  
LAU-S13.0 Western Hillside Specific Area Plan

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That, in accordance with sections 51 and 57 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* and the Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston, a permit be granted for DA0295/2023 Residential - Construction of a dwelling, secondary residence and pool with shared access over 102A and 104 Peel Street West at 104A Peel Street West, West Launceston, subject to the following conditions:

**1. ENDORSED PLANS AND DOCUMENTS**

The use and development must be carried out in accordance with the endorsed plans and documents to the satisfaction of the Manager City Development unless modified by a condition of the Permit:

- a. Cover Page, Prepared by Woodbury & Co.; Project No LP2021, Sheet No. 0, Date: August 2023.
- b. Location Plan, Prepared by Woodbury & Co.; Project No LP2021, Sheet No. A100, Scale 1:750; Date: August 2023.
- c. Site Plan, Prepared by Woodbury & Co.; Project No LP2021, Sheet No. A101, Scale 1:200; Date: August 2023.
- d. Floor Plan, Prepared by Woodbury & Co.; Project No LP2021, Sheet No. A102, Scale 1:100; Date: August 2023.
- e. Level 01 Plan, Prepared by Woodbury & Co.; Project No LP2021, Sheet No. A103, Scale 1:100; Date: August 2023.
- f. Elevations, Prepared by Woodbury & Co.; Project No LP2021, Sheet No. A201, Scale 1:100; Date: August 2023.
- g. Elevations, Prepared by Woodbury & Co.; Project No LP2021, Sheet No. A202, Scale 1:100; Date: August 2023.
- h. Ancillary Dwelling Floor Plan, Prepared by Woodbury & Co.; Project No LP2021, Sheet No. B101, Scale 1:100; Date: August 2023.
- i. Ancillary Dwelling Elevations, Prepared by Woodbury & Co.; Project No LP2021, Sheet No. B201, Scale 1:50; Date: August 2023.
- j. Ancillary Dwelling Elevations, Prepared by Woodbury & Co.; Project No LP2021, Sheet No. B202, Scale 1:50; Date: August 2023.

**2. LEGAL TITLE**

All development and use associated with the proposal must be confined to the legal title of the subject land.

**3. TASWATER**

The development must comply with the requirements of TasWater as detailed in the form Submission to Planning Authority Notice, Reference No. TWDA 2023/00979-LCC, dated 29/08/2023 and attached to the permit.

**4. HOURS OF CONSTRUCTION**

- a. Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Manager Health and Compliance construction activities must only be carried out between the hours of:
  - i. Monday to Friday - 7am to 6pm; and
  - ii. Saturday - 8am to 6pm.
- b. Notwithstanding the above paragraph, construction activities must not be carried out on public holidays that are observed State-wide (Easter Tuesday excepted).

## **5. SITE LANDSCAPING**

The landscaping must be:

- a. installed in accordance with the endorsed plan; and
- b. completed prior to the use commencing; and
- c. maintained as part of the residential development. It must not be removed, destroyed or lopped without the written consent of the Council.

## **6. FENCING**

Prior to the commencement of the use, the northern and western boundaries must be provided with a solid (ie. no gaps) fence to provide full privacy between each dwelling and adjoining neighbours. The fence must be constructed at the developer's cost, of a single material to each boundary and to a height of 2.1m when measured from the highest finished level on either side of the common boundaries. If masonry is chosen it must be suitably finished on both elevations.

## **7. DRIVEWAY AND PARKING AREA CONSTRUCTION**

Before the use commences, areas set aside for parking vehicles and access lanes as shown on the endorsed plans must:

- a. be properly constructed to such levels that they can be used in accordance with the plans;
- b. be surfaced with an impervious all weather seal;
- c. be adequately drained to prevent stormwater being discharged to neighbouring property;
- d. be line-marked or otherwise delineated to indicate each car space and access lanes.

Parking areas and access lanes must be kept available for these purposes at all times and maintained for the life of the development.

## **8. DAMAGE TO THE COUNCIL'S INFRASTRUCTURE**

The developer is liable for all costs associated with the repair of damage to the Council's infrastructure resulting from non-compliance with the conditions of the Planning Permit and any by-law or legislation relevant to the development activity on the site. Damage may also include the undertaking of unauthorised works to the Council's infrastructure such as driveways, footpaths and stormwater infrastructure. The developer will also be liable for all reasonable costs associated with the enforcement of compliance with the conditions, by-laws and legislation relevant to the development activity on the site.

## **9. WORKS WITHIN/OCCUPATION OF THE ROAD RESERVE**

All works in (or requiring the occupation of) the road reserve must be carried out in accordance with a detailed Traffic Management Plan prepared by a qualified person in accordance with the requirements of Australian Standard AS1742. A copy of such plan is to be maintained on site and available for inspection upon request by an Authorised Officer.

The explicit permission of General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network is required prior to undertaking works where the works:

- a. require a road or lane closure;
- b. require occupation of the road reserve for more than one week at a particular location;
- c. are in nominated high traffic locations; or
- d. involve opening or breaking trafficable surfaces.

Where the work is associated with the installation, removal or modification of a driveway or a stormwater connection, the approval of a permit for such works shall form the explicit approval.

#### **10. SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Prior to the commencement of the development works the applicant must install all necessary silt fences and cut-off drains to prevent the soil, gravel and other debris from escaping the site. Additional works may be required on complex sites. No material or debris is to be transported onto the road reserve (including the nature strip, footpath and road pavement). Any material that is deposited on the road reserve as a result of the development activity is to be removed by the applicant. The silt fencing, cut off drains and other works to minimise erosion are to be maintained on the site until such time as the site has revegetated sufficiently to mitigate erosion and sediment transport.

#### **11. FACILITIES AND HIGHWAYS BY-LAW**

Prior to the placement of any skip bin, security fencing, hoarding, shipping containers, site offices or amenities within a local highway, the person, corporation or other legal entity must seek and have issued a permit pursuant to the Facilities and Highways By-Law (No. 1 of 2021). The payment of the scheduled Occupation Fee (comprising a minimum base fee and a square metre weekly rate) is required prior to the occupation commencing. No occupation of the road reserve is permitted without approval.

#### **12. AMENITY**

The construction of the development permitted by this permit must not adversely affect the amenity of the site and the locality by reason of the processes carried on; the transportation of materials, goods or commodities to or from the subject land; the appearance of any buildings, works or materials; the emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil; the presence of vermin or otherwise.

#### **13. NO BURNING OF WASTE**

No burning of any waste materials, including removed vegetation, generated by the development to be undertaken on-site. Any such waste materials are to be removed to a licensed waste disposal facility (eg. Launceston Waste Centre), reclaimed or recycled.

#### **Notes**

##### **A. General**

*This permit was issued based on the proposal documents submitted for DA0295/2023. You should contact the Council with any other use or developments, as they may require the separate approval of the Council. The Council's planning staff can be contacted on 6323 3000.*

*This permit takes effect after:*

- a. The 14 day appeal period expires; or*
- b. Any appeal to the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Appeal Tribunal (TASCAT) is withdrawn or determined; or*
- c. Any agreement that is required by this permit pursuant to Part V of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 is executed; or*
- d. Any other required approvals under this or any other Act are granted.*

*The permit lapses after a period of two years if the development or use has not substantially commenced within that period. An extension may be granted subject to the provisions of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 as amended, by request to the Council.*

**B. Restrictive Covenants**

*The granting of this permit takes no account of any covenants applicable to the land. The permit holder and any other interested party, should make their own enquiries as to whether the proposed development is affected, restricted or prohibited by any such covenant.*

*If the proposal is non-compliant with any restrictive covenants, those restrictive covenants should be removed from the title prior to construction commencing or the owner will carry the liability of potential legal action in the future.*

**C. Appeal Provisions**

*A planning appeal may be instituted by lodging a notice of appeal with the Registrar of the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (TASCAT).*

*A planning appeal may be instituted within 14 days of the date the Corporation serves notice of the decision on the applicant.*

*For more information see the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (TASCAT) website [www.tascat.tas.gov.au](http://www.tascat.tas.gov.au) <<http://www.tascat.tas.gov.au>>*

**D. Permit Commencement**

*If an applicant is the only person with a right of appeal pursuant to section 61 of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 and wishes to commence the use or development for which the permit has been granted within that 14 day period, the Council must be so notified in writing. A copy of the Council's Notice to Waive Right of Appeal is attached.*

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**REPORT:**

**1. THE PROPOSAL**

The application proposes the construction of a dwelling, secondary residence and pool upon a principally vacant internal lot.

The dwelling is proposed at the western side of the site. Accommodation proposed for the ground floor includes a rumpus room, open plan kitchen (with walk in pantry), dining and living room along the northern elevation with powder room, guest bedroom with ensuite, laundry cellar and three door garage. An alfresco area is proposed along the northern side boundary, enclosed at the western end surrounding the barbeque area, and served by a central open fire place. The upper level has a lesser footprint to the ground floor with the main bedroom suite and double height ceiling for the lounge along the northern side, stairwell and bathroom in the centre and two ensuited bedrooms and study along the southern side.

Walls are to clad with James Hardie Linea weatherboards, proposed to be painted white. Cladding of the multi form roof is to Custom Orb with *Shale Grey* finish.

A secondary residence is proposed at the eastern side of site. It has a stated floor area of 59.91m<sup>2</sup> and is to have an open plan layout with a kitchenette, dining and living area. A twin bed alcove is proposed off the lounge area, separated by a retractable screen. A bathroom is proposed behind the kitchen. Construction is to match the main dwelling.

A 10m x 4m swimming pool, surrounded by a low level deck, is proposed, with an open pergola covering a wider section of the deck adjoining the eastern end of the pool.

A *eucalypt*, existing fruit and *pittosporum* trees are to be removed with the proposal plan showing supplementary planting.

## 2. LOCATION AND NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER



104A Peel Street West, 104 Peel Street West, 102A Peel Street West, West Launceston  
(not to scale)

The site is located south west of City's centre on the hillside above the Southern Outlet just north of the Westbury Road overpass. It has a diagonal crossfall from the south western to north eastern corner of approximately 1:17.

Access to the site is approximately 82m from Peel Street West and is shared with numbers 102 and 104. An agreement under Section 71 of the *Land Use Planning Approvals Act 1993* was entered into when the lots were created in 1999 (D192/99) requiring the ongoing maintenance of the driveway.

Development and use of surrounding land is residential primarily in the form of single dwellings of a range of construction types and cladding. Dwellings are located on the immediately adjoining lots of those at 140 and 142 Granville Street and 5 Penny Lane.

### 3. PLANNING SCHEME REQUIREMENTS

The assessment against the Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston is detailed in Attachment 1.

### 4. REFERRALS

REFERRAL	COMMENTS
<b>INTERNAL</b>	
Infrastructure and Assets Network	Conditions recommended.
Environmental Health	Conditions recommended.
Heritage/Urban Design	N/A
Building and Plumbing	Standard notes recommended for the permit.
<b>EXTERNAL</b>	
TasWater	Application referred to TasWater and conditional consent provided by Submission to Planning Authority Notice TWDA2023/00979-LCC.
State Growth	N/A
TasFire	N/A
Tas Heritage Council	N/A
Crown Land	N/A
TasRail	N/A
EPA	N/A
Aurora	N/A

### 5. REPRESENTATIONS

Pursuant to section 57 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, the application was advertised for a 14 day period from 2 September to 18 September 2023. Three representations were received. The issues raised are summarised in the following table. All representations received for this application were circulated to Councillors confidentially on 11 October 2023.

<p><b>Issue 1</b> It is understood that the Low Density Residential zone is for lower single storey dwellings surrounded by open space rather than a site where the site area is reduced by the access strip.</p>
<p><i>Response 1</i> The Low Density Residential zone allows a maximum building height of 8.5m which allows for more than a single storey dwelling. While the site cover is encroached by 7% and this matter has been discussed in the report. The effective area of the site is approximately 1,290m<sup>2</sup> which is not dissimilar to the western neighbour of 1,380m<sup>2</sup>.</p>

<p><b>Issue 2</b> There is no reference provided to AHD or arbitrary levels are provided on the site plan to confirm building heights against adjoining properties especially as it is likely the building height will affect shadowing of our living areas and private open space.</p>
<p><i>Response 2</i> The site plan and elevations do show AHD levels. The subject site is at a lower elevation than the property to the west. Shadow diagrams also form part of the advertised plans.</p>
<p><b>Issue 3</b> The proposal encroaches on the 5m setback requirements.</p>
<p><i>Response 3</i> Variations to the setbacks have been discussed in the report with consideration given of the impacts to adjoining properties and the area. There will be a change to the area by the vacant site being developed but this is not considered to have any significant impact.</p>
<p><b>Issue 4</b> Measurements on the plans are shown between buildings rather than the boundary to give an impression that the setbacks are greater.</p>
<p><i>Response 4</i> The Location Plan (A100) includes dimensions between buildings with dimensions of the development from boundaries shown on the Site Plan (Sheet No. A101).</p>
<p><b>Issue 5</b> The title and Schedule of Easements are not shown on the application where is it understood buildings are limited to single storey and an earthy colour scheme.</p>
<p><i>Response 5</i> The title does form part of the application as required for the application to be valid. The Schedule of Easements was also provided and does not include any such restrictions.</p>
<p><b>Issue 6</b> If the application with its variations are approved the privacy and solar efficiency of the neighbouring property to the west will be impacted and the rear bedroom and outdoor area will be overshadowed.</p>
<p><i>Response 6</i> The development will result in change but the impact is not considered unreasonable. Overshadowing of the eastern side of the dwelling is evident earlier in the morning on 21 June until around 10.30am after which the site is clear. Overlooking will be minimised as the site has a lower AHD level, the western facing elevation has one upper level bedroom which is setback 6m from the common boundary.</p>
<p><b>Issue 7</b> The white colour scheme does not blend in with the surroundings and should be of earthy colours as the adjoining homes.</p>
<p><i>Response 7</i> Two of the adjoining properties have a white finish and the dwelling is positioned so as to limit distant views of the site from a distance.</p>

<b>Issue 8</b> <b>The existing tree in the rear corner is on the subject lot not next door.</b>
<i>Response 8</i> <i>The plans show two trees, one on the boundary and one next door. There is one tree in this vicinity which is on the subject site.</i>
<b>Issue 9</b> <b>The two storey building will overlook the northern neighbour with the lower level entertaining area also elevated by four steps. Could the fence be constructed higher?</b>
<i>Response 9</i> <i>The eaves of the neighbouring dwelling are just above the height of the common fence. Any overlooking from the proposal would most likely fall onto the roof of the next door. The upper floor is around 7.8m from the boundary and the outdoor area at ground floor level down to 3.6m. New fencing is proposed along at least part of the boundary, this being brickwork surrounding the pool area. Any approval is to be conditioned to be installed at 2.1m and of the one material, with the same requirement along the western boundary.</i>
<b>Issue 10</b> <b>There is a drainage issue in the area including water runoff. Will the swimming pool contribute to this.</b>
<i>Response 10</i> <i>Both TasWater and the Council have sought further information regarding drainage for the site but any concerns have been addressed. The swimming pool will be connected the sewer. A SPAN has been issued from TasWater, who regulate the sewer and water systems. Development of the site will result in hard surfaces which will drain to the reticulated stormwater system. This will control overland flows.</i>

## 6. CONCLUSION

Subject to the recommended conditions, it is considered that the proposal complies with the Scheme and it is appropriate to recommend for approval.

### RISK IMPLICATIONS:

Not considered relevant to this report.

### ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:

The Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston contains provisions intended to implement the objectives of the Resource Management Planning System. The application has been assessed using these provisions and as such the economic, environmental and social impacts have been considered.

### STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

*Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*  
Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston

**BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

The Author and General Manager have no interests to declare in this matter.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. DA0295/2023 - 104A Peel Street, West West - Launceston Planning Scheme Assessment [9.1.1 - 9 pages]
2. DA0295/2023 - 104 A Peel Street, West West, Launceston - Plans to be Endorsed [9.1.2 - 10 pages]
3. DA0295/2023 - 104 A Peel Street, West West, Launceston - TasWater SPAN [9.1.3 - 2 pages]

**TITLE:** DA0295/2023 - 104A Peel Street West West Launceston, 104 Peel Street West, Summerhill and 102A Peel Street West, West Launceston - Residential - Construction of a Dwelling, Secondary Residence and Pool with Shared Access over 102A & 104 Peel Street West.

**FILE NO:** DA0295/2023

**AUTHOR:** Catherine Mainsbridge (Senior Town Planner)

**GENERAL MANAGER:** Dan Ryan (General Manager Community and Place Network)

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**ATTACHMENT ONE:**

**PLANNING APPLICATION INFORMATION:**

Applicant: Woodbury & Co Building Design  
Property: 104A Peel Street West West Launceston, 104 Peel Street West, Summerhill and 102A Peel Street West, West Launceston  
Zoning: Low Density Residential  
Receipt Date: 5/07/2023  
Validity Date: 29/08/2023  
Further Information Request: 24/07/2023  
Further Information Received: 29/08/2023  
Deemed Approval: 19/10/2023  
Representations: Three (3)

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**3. PLANNING SCHEME REQUIREMENTS**

**3.1 Zone Purpose**

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10.0 Low Density Residential Zone

The purpose of the Low Density Residential Zone is:

10.0.1 To provide for residential use and development in residential areas where there are infrastructure or environmental constraints that limit the density, location or form of development.

10.0.2 To provide for non-residential use that does not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity, through scale, intensity, noise, traffic generation and movement, or other off site impacts.

10.0.3 To provide for Visitor Accommodation that is compatible with residential character.

**Consistent**

The proposed residential use and development is appropriate for the site which had been constrained by scenic values and internal location.

10.4.2 Building height

That the height of dwellings is compatible with the streetscape and do not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity for adjoining properties.

**Consistent**

The proposed site will be compatible with development within the streetscape and other properties in the area.
A1 A dwelling must have a building height not more than 8.5m.
<b>Complies</b> Part of the dwelling is two storey with gable and pitched roofs to a maximum height of 7.64m.

10.4.3 Setback

That the siting of dwellings is compatible with the streetscape and does not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity for adjoining properties.																																																					
<b>Consistent</b> The building is setback from the street and should not impact on the amenity of adjoining properties.																																																					
A1 Dwellings, excluding protrusions that extend not more than 0.9m into the frontage setback, must have a setback from a frontage not less than 8m.																																																					
<b>Complies</b> The dwelling is located on an internal site approximately 80m from the street.																																																					
A2 Dwellings, excluding outbuildings with a building height of not more than 2.4m and protrusions that extend not more than 0.9m horizontally from the building, must have a setback from side and rear boundaries of not less than 5m.																																																					
<b>Relies on Performance Criteria</b> The dwelling is not parallel with the boundaries of the irregular shaped lot (note there is a minor variation between the fence and title boundaries) causing the setbacks to alter along the extent of the elevations. The secondary residence is parallel to the eastern boundary. The proposed setbacks are stated below:																																																					
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Dwelling</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th colspan="2">Lower floor</th> <th colspan="2">Upper floor</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>Setback</th> <th>Complies</th> <th>Setback</th> <th>Complies</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>North</td> <td>3.114m to 4.991m</td> <td>No</td> <td>6.5m to 7.99m</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>East</td> <td>19.15m</td> <td>Yes</td> <td>21.15m</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>South</td> <td>800mm to 4.991m</td> <td>No</td> <td>4m</td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West</td> <td>2.489m to 2.936m</td> <td>No</td> <td>6m</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">Secondary Residence</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>Setback</th> <th>Complies</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>North</td> <td>8.830m</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>East</td> <td>1.52m to 1.943m</td> <td>No</td> </tr> <tr> <td>South</td> <td>12m</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>West</td> <td>35m</td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Dwelling						Lower floor		Upper floor			Setback	Complies	Setback	Complies	North	3.114m to 4.991m	No	6.5m to 7.99m	Yes	East	19.15m	Yes	21.15m	Yes	South	800mm to 4.991m	No	4m	No	West	2.489m to 2.936m	No	6m	Yes	Secondary Residence				Setback	Complies	North	8.830m	Yes	East	1.52m to 1.943m	No	South	12m	Yes	West	35m	Yes
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The setbacks which are not compliant are primarily at ground floor level of the dwelling and the eastern boundary of the secondary residence. Variations must be considered against the performance criteria.																																																					
P2 The siting of a dwelling must not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity to adjoining properties, having regard to: (a) the topography of the site; (b) the size, shape and orientation of the site; (c) the setbacks of surrounding buildings; (d) the height, bulk and form of existing and proposed buildings; (e) the existing buildings and private open space areas on the site; (f) sunlight to private open space and windows of habitable rooms on adjoining properties; and																																																					

(g) the character of development existing on established properties in the area.

**Complies**

The proposed dwelling will be located on an internal lot within an established residential area. It is not considered to cause an unreasonable loss of amenity to the adjoining dwellings having regard to the following:

*(a) the topography of the site;*

The site has a gradual fall to the north eastern corner. This results in the northern corner of the dwelling stepped down a maximum of 1.4m to natural ground but predominantly constructed at ground level at the south western corner.

A low retaining wall is proposed to the south eastern portion of the secondary residence allowing it to be constructed from the lowest ground level of its footprint.

In both cases, the buildings are to be constructed to minimise site works to reduce impacts on adjoining properties.

*(b) the size, shape and orientation of the site;*

The main body of the site has an irregular rectangular shape and has a slightly south western/north eastern orientation. This results in the development only being parallel with the southern boundary (dwelling) and eastern boundary for the secondary residence. An inconsistent setback minimises the visual impact of the dwelling from the nearest neighbours to the north and west as any perceived bulk slightly recedes along the length of each elevation.

*(c) the setbacks of surrounding buildings;*

Surrounding properties and dwellings have a configuration of shapes and setbacks. The closest neighbour is that to the west where a section of their dwelling is setback 4.55m off the common boundary and contains a sill height bedroom window. The other window of the neighbour facing east towards the proposal is of the living room and is setback approximately 12m from the common boundary. In the case of the western setback of the ground floor of the proposed dwelling, the variation is over a length of 8.7m, approximately half of the depth of the dwelling with the remainder of the elevation setback a compliant distance of just over 6m.

The dwelling to the north is setback approximately 6m from the boundary with the elevation containing bedrooms and utility areas.

The dwellings constructed on properties to the east and south are well setback from the common boundaries. The dwelling to the south is setback approximately 30m and is separated by an outbuilding, large sealed area and a row of trees along the common boundary. To the east the dwelling has a setback of 14m and is partially blocked by existing vegetation.

The proposed dwelling has sought variations to the setbacks but other than for the southern boundary the variations are for the single storey elements of the dwelling with the upper storey setback over 6m from the boundaries. The upper storey along the southern elevation is setback approximately 4m. The setbacks are not considered to have an unreasonable impact on the adjoining properties.

*(d) the height, bulk and form of existing and proposed buildings;*

The main portion of the proposed dwelling is two storey with a single storey rumpus room off the north western corner, a single storey alfresco area along the northern elevation, and a single storey garage along the southern elevation. Maintaining the higher sections within

the overall footprint limits the 'bulk' form of the dwelling in respect of its presence on its site and relationship with the adjoining properties.

The secondary dwelling is single storey and although having a pitched roof is not considered to be inappropriate in scale.

*(e) the existing buildings and private open space areas on the site;*

The site is currently vacant other than for what appears as on old foundations in the north eastern corner.

*(f) sunlight to private open space and windows of habitable rooms on adjoining properties; and*

The proposed dwelling will overshadow a bedroom window and eastern side of neighbouring property to the west until around 10.30am on the 21st of June. As the proposed variation is for a single storey element of the dwelling, the separation between the two buildings is 9.6m, with the upper storey 12m away, the overshadowing of the bedroom is not considered unreasonable given the separation between the buildings. The indoor and outdoor living areas will receive sunlight for the majority of of the day.

Shadows of the dwelling will cast to the south by mid afternoon but should have a minimal impact on the neighbouring dwelling which is approximately 30m away and separated by an outbuilding and relatively large sealed area.

*(g) the character of development existing on established properties in the area.*

The area is developed with single dwellings of varied forms on lots of varied configurations with a number partly elevated due to the terrain of the area. The neighbouring dwellings, immediately west and north, are orientated to their north and while the proposal will alter the nature of the area from a vacant site to one with a single dwelling and secondary residence, the character of the area should not be significantly impacted. The site is to be enclosed by a 2.1m high fence which should assist in retaining privacy between properties where the setbacks are encroached around the north western and northern sections of the dwelling and the eastern boundary of the second residence.

The proposal is considered able to meet the performance criteria.

#### 10.4.4 Site coverage

That site coverage:

- (a) is consistent with the character of existing development in the area;
- (b) provides sufficient area for private open space and landscaping; and
- (c) assists with the management of stormwater runoff.

#### **Consistent**

Sufficient area will be available following the proposal for open space and landscaping.

A1 Dwellings must have a site coverage of not more than 30%.

#### **Relies on Performance Criteria**

Site coverage *means the proportion of a site, excluding any access strip, covered by roofed buildings.* The area of the site is 2063m<sup>2</sup> excluding the access strip is approximately 1280m<sup>2</sup>. The proposed roof area of the dwelling and secondary residence is approximately 474m<sup>2</sup> which results is site cover of 37% and which requires performance criteria.

P1 The site coverage of dwellings must be consistent with that existing on established properties in the area, having regard to:

- (a) the topography of the site;
- (b) the capacity of the site to absorb runoff;
- (c) the size and shape of the site;
- (d) the existing buildings and any constraints imposed by existing development;

- (e) the provision for landscaping and private open space;
- (f) the need to remove vegetation; and
- (g) the site coverage of adjacent properties.

**Complies**

The site cover is similar to that of adjoining properties and given regard to the following:

*(a) the topography of the site;*

The site falls diagonally across the site to the north east. The dwelling is partly two storey to minimise site cover of the dwelling.

*(b) the capacity of the site to absorb runoff;*

The site is connected to the reticulated stormwater system, will contains garden beds around most of the site boundaries including along the elongated driveway.

*(c) the size and shape of the site;*

The 'battle axe' block has an effective rectangular area which is considered appropriate for the proposed development.

*(d) the existing buildings and any constraints imposed by existing development;*

The site is vacant, although there are some low foundation walls in the rear north western corner which possibly supported a building prior to the subdivision of the site.

*(e) the provision for landscaping and private open space;*

Landscaping is proposed to three quarters of the perimeter of the rectangular portion of the site and along each side of the driveway.

*(f) the need to remove vegetation; and*

A tree on the western boundary, one in the centre of the site and fruit trees in the north eastern portion of the site are proposed to be removed. Landscaping is proposed with the development.

*(g) the site coverage of adjacent properties.*

The site is internal to the street block formed by Granville, Vaux and Cambridge Street and Peel Street West. Properties along the Cambridge Street and Peel Street West frontages are zoned General Residential with the remainder of lots, approximately two thirds of the block zoned Low Density Residential. The subject site is on the zone boundary. Therefore there is a variety of lot sizes, configurations and levels of development on the adjoining properties. Some sites contain one building, others have an outbuilding and, in General Residential zone, some multiple dwellings. The proposal is considered to be relatively similar in site cover to adjacent properties.

The proposal will maintain areas for open space and landscaping and is consistent with development in the area.

**C2.0 Parking and Sustainable Transport Code**

The purpose of the Parking and Sustainable Transport Code is:

C2.1.1 To ensure that an appropriate level of parking facilities is provided to service use and development.

C2.1.2 To ensure that cycling, walking and public transport are encouraged as a means of transport in urban areas.

C2.1.3 To ensure that access for pedestrians, vehicles and cyclists is safe and adequate.

C2.1.4 To ensure that parking does not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity to the surrounding area.

C2.1.5 To ensure that parking spaces and accesses meet appropriate standards.

C2.1.6 To provide for parking precincts and pedestrian priority streets.
<b>Consistent</b> On site parking is proposed on the site which is also served by footpaths, cycle ways and public transport serving the street.

C2.5.1 Car parking numbers

That an appropriate level of car parking spaces are provided to meet the needs of the use
<b>Consistent</b> An appropriate level of parking is proposed.
A1 The number of on-site car parking spaces must be no less than the number specified in Table C2.1, less the number of car parking spaces that cannot be provided due to the site including container refund scheme space, excluding if: (a) the site is subject to a parking plan for the area adopted by council, in which case parking provision (spaces or cash-in-lieu) must be in accordance with that plan; (b) the site is contained within a parking precinct plan and subject to Clause C2.7; (c) the site is subject to Clause C2.5.5; or (d) it relates to an intensification of an existing use or development or a change of use where: (i) the number of on-site car parking spaces for the existing use or development specified in Table C2.1 is greater than the number of car parking spaces specified in Table C2.1 for the proposed use or development, in which case no additional on-site car parking is required; or (ii) the number of on-site car parking spaces for the existing use or development specified in Table C2.1 is less than the number of car parking spaces specified in Table C2.1 for the proposed use or development, in which case on-site car parking must be calculated as follows: N = A + (C - B) N = Number of on-site car parking spaces required A = Number of existing on site car parking spaces B = Number of on-site car parking spaces required for the existing use or development specified in Table C2.1 C = Number of on-site car parking spaces required for the proposed use or development specified in Table C2.1.
<b>Complies</b> Table C2.1 requires residential use in a zone other than the General Residential zone of 1 space per bedroom or 2 spaces per 3 bedrooms. The main dwelling proposes 4 bedrooms and the secondary dwelling one, therefore 4 on-site spaces are required. Three spaces are proposed within the main dwelling and further spaces are possible in front of the garage to meet the requirements.

C2.6.1 Construction of parking areas

That parking areas are constructed to an appropriate standard.
<b>Consistent</b> The parking areas will be appropriately constructed as part of the dwelling.
A1 All parking, access ways, manoeuvring and circulation spaces must: (a) be constructed with a durable all weather pavement; (b) be drained to the public stormwater system, or contain stormwater on the site; and (c) excluding all uses in the Rural Zone, Agriculture Zone, Landscape Conservation Zone, Environmental Management Zone, Recreation Zone and Open Space Zone, be surfaced by a spray seal, asphalt, concrete, pavers or equivalent material to restrict abrasion from traffic and minimise entry of water to the pavement.
<b>Complies</b>

Three parking spaces will be proposed within the dwelling where they will have a concrete surface. The access to the garage will be a concrete extension of the existing driveway. Both areas will be drained to the reticulated stormwater system.

C2.6.2 Design and layout of parking areas

That parking areas are designed and laid out to provide convenient, safe and efficient parking.

**Consistent**

The parking spaces will be of an appropriate design.

A1.1 Parking, access ways, manoeuvring and circulation spaces must either:

(a) comply with the following:

- (i) have a gradient in accordance with *Australian Standard AS 2890 - Parking facilities, Parts 1-6*;
- (ii) provide for vehicles to enter and exit the site in a forward direction where providing for more than 4 parking spaces;
- (iii) have an access width not less than the requirements in Table C2.2;
- (iv) have car parking space dimensions which satisfy the requirements in Table C2.3;
- (v) have a combined access and manoeuvring width adjacent to parking spaces not less than the requirements in Table C2.3 where there are 3 or more car parking spaces;
- (vi) have a vertical clearance of not less than 2.1m above the parking surface level; and
- (vii) excluding a single dwelling, be delineated by line marking or other clear physical means; or

(b) comply with *Australian Standard AS 2890-Parking facilities, Parts 1-6*.

**Complies**

The parking spaces will have a level surface and of an appropriate dimension, the garage 8.6m wide x 7.6m deep with a ceiling height of 2.7m. The sealed portion of the driveway is approximately 3.6m wide. The requirements of Table C2.2 and C2.3 are met.

C2.6.3 Number of accesses for vehicles

That:

- (a) access to land is provided which is safe and efficient for users of the land and all road network users, including but not limited to drivers, passengers, pedestrians and cyclists by minimising the number of vehicle accesses;
- (b) accesses do not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity of adjoining uses; and
- (c) the number of accesses minimise impacts on the streetscape.

**Consistent**

The site access will retain its single access.

LAU-S13.0 Western Hillside Specific Area Plan

The purpose of this specific area plan is:

LAU-S13.1.1 To protect the built and landscape character of the hillside.

LAU-S13.1.2 To minimise the visual impact of development on the hillside, particularly when viewed from public roads and places.

LAU-S13.1.3 To encourage the retention and planting of trees, particularly species that have a height and form that will contribute to the canopy cover within the area.

**Consistent**

The proposal will have a minimal impact on the hillside and will allow for future planting.

**LAU-S13.7 Development Standards for Building and Works**

LAU-S13.7.1 Visual impact

<p>That the siting and design of development complements the existing built and landscape character of the West Launceston hillside and is not considered intrusive.</p>
<p><b>Consistent</b> The proposed development will blend in with the existing landscaping and built character.</p>
<p>A1.1 Development for an alteration or extension to an existing building must: (a) have a gross floor area of not more than 25% of that existing at the effective date; (b) have a building height of not more than the existing building; (c) have external building finishes: (i) with a light reflectance value not more than 40%; and (ii) not in bold or bright colours; or</p>
<p><b>Relies on Performance Criteria</b> The proposal is for a new dwelling and must therefore be considered against the performance criteria.</p>
<p>A1.2 Development must be inevent when viewed from a public road or place.</p>
<p><b>Complies</b> The development will not be visible from a public road or place.</p>
<p>P1 Development must be compatible with the existing built and landscape character, having regard to: (a) the impact on the visual amenity of the site and surrounds; (b) the impact on skylines, ridgelines and prominent locations; (c) the proximity to and the impact on views from a public road or place; (d) the potential for current or proposed vegetation to provide screening; (e) the bulk and form of buildings including materials and finishes; (f) the need to clear existing vegetation (g) the location of development to facilitate the retention of prominent trees; (h) the impact of any clearing required for hazard management or infrastructure; and (i) any earthworks for cut or fill.</p>
<p><b>Complies</b> The proposal will be compatible with the character of the area given regards to the following:</p> <p><i>(a) the impact on the visual amenity of the site and surrounds;</i> The dwelling is located on an internal property where it adjoins six residential properties. Two of the six are closer to the proposal. The property to the west is more elevated than the subject site, the floor level of the dwelling approximately 1.5m above the proposal and will be able to see the new dwelling but this not necessarily considered to cause an impact. An alfresco area on the neighbouring property is approximately 9m off the common boundary. The proposal is partly two storey but the upper level is 6m from the boundary.</p> <p>The neighbour to the north is at a lower elevation with its eaves level similar to the boundary fence causing the new development to not be clearly visible.</p> <p>The secondary residence adjoins the eastern boundary but as the neighbouring dwelling is at least 12m away and shielded by vegetation it will not be intrusive to next door.</p> <p><i>(b) the impact on skylines, ridgelines and prominent locations;</i> The property is located above and setback from the hill face is not clearly visible from locations beyond the immediately adjoining properties.</p> <p><i>(c) the proximity to and the impact on views from a public road or place;</i> The development is proposed on an internal site will not be visible from a public road or place.</p> <p><i>(d) the potential for current or proposed vegetation to provide screening;</i></p>

The existing vegetation provides minimal screening, currently only to the north eastern corner. The proposal includes planting along the north western boundary with a feature tree proposed in the centre of the site and a condition will be imposed for similar planting along the south western boundary.

*(e) the bulk and form of buildings including materials and finishes;*

The proposed dwelling is partly two storey with the second level not extending to the extent of the footprint to the north and south to minimise its visual bulk.

Cladding is of weatherboard painted off white. Light shades are not generally preferred in a Scenic Protection area and can be intrusive. The physical position of the site above and setback from the hill face and quality of vegetation in the area minimises the visibility of the site. In addition, dwellings to the north and east are finished in white. The proposed bulk, form and materials are appropriate within the setting.

*(f) the need to clear existing vegetation;*

The existing vegetation is minimal with a tree on the western boundary, one in the centre of the site and fruit trees in the north eastern corner. All the vegetation is to be removed.

*(g) the location of development to facilitate the retention of prominent trees;*

There are no prominent trees on the site, the definition of such tree having a 1m perimeter measurement.

*(h) the impact of any clearing required for hazard management or infrastructure; and*

The site is not in a bushfire area. The swimming pool and the storm water line require removal of vegetation in the north eastern corner of the site.

*(i) any earthworks for cut or fill.*

Cut is proposed from the south western section to seemingly provide level access for the garages within the site and therefore some fill towards the northern sections of the development. The average depth is approximately 600mm.

Considering the above matters, the development is considered to meet the performance criteria and be compatible with the built and landscape character of the area.

LAU-S13.7.2 Vegetation

That the siting of development protects the existing landscape character of the West Launceston hillside.

**Consistent**

The development protects the existing character of the area.

A1 Buildings and works must be separated from a prominent tree by a distance of not less than 4m.

**Complies**

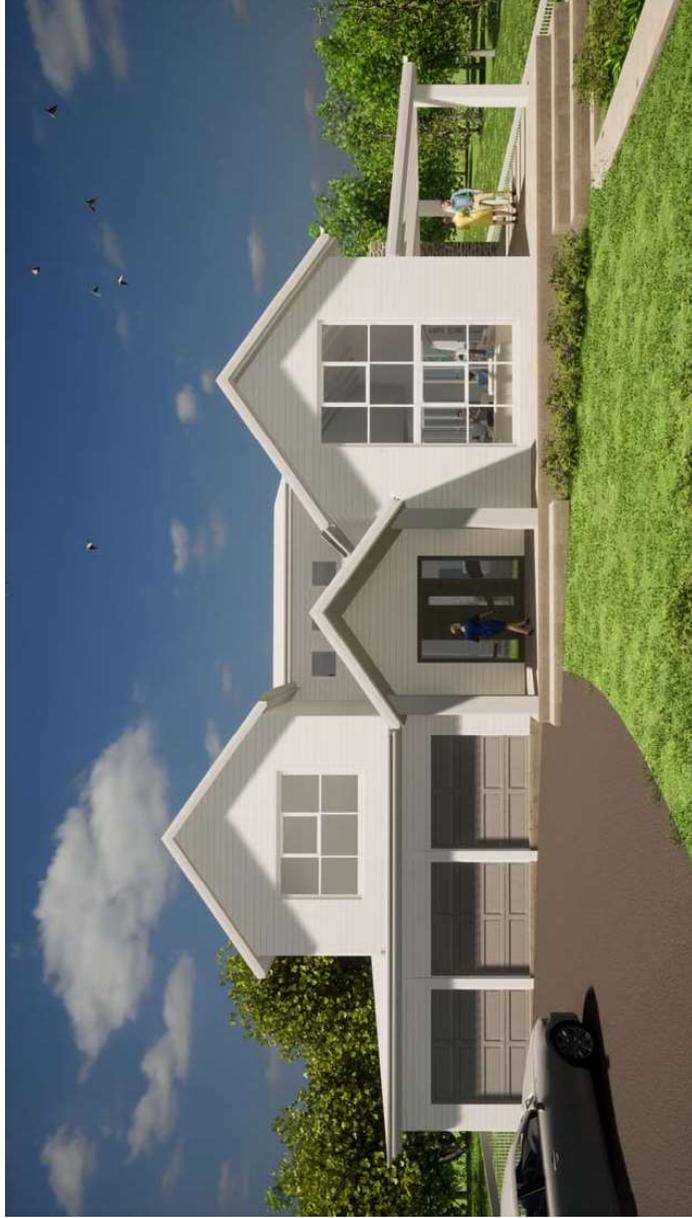
The development is not within 4m of a tree with the qualities of a prominent tree.

A2 Building and works must not result in the removal or destruction of prominent trees.

**Complies**

The development does not require removal of a prominent tree.

LEAN PAGE



Gross Building)	
Area	Perimeter
73680	
62636	
74501	
34350	
32531	
39958	
27997	

2063 m2  
1281 m2  
463.33 m2

JO WOODBURY  
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ses and additional information may be

1. finish, selection and appearance with work carried out is acceptable to owner.

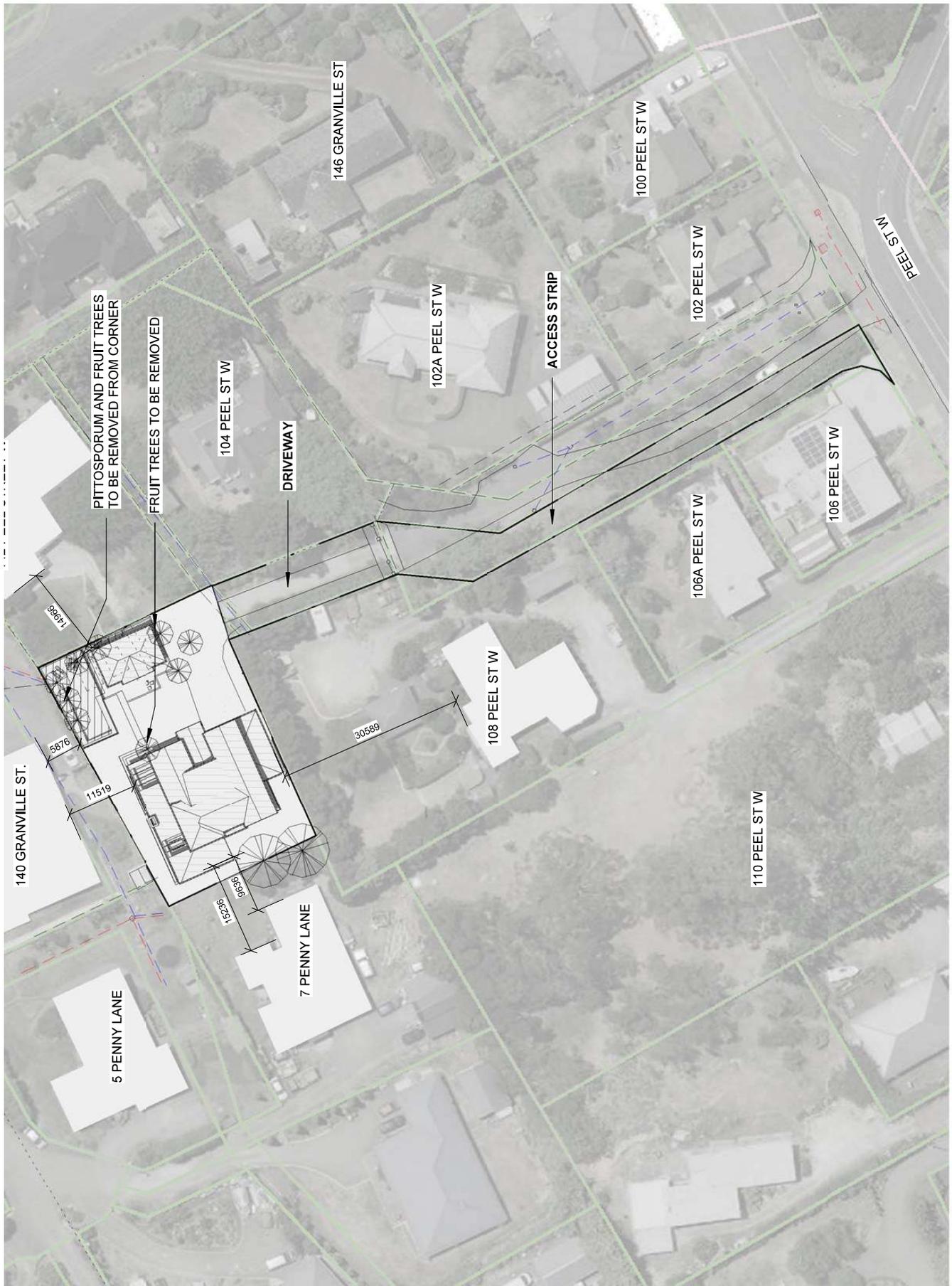
ilding surveyor certification. Ensure there is used.

ipropriately any omission, apparent error, ble to this construction.

ns and levels on site prior to commencing

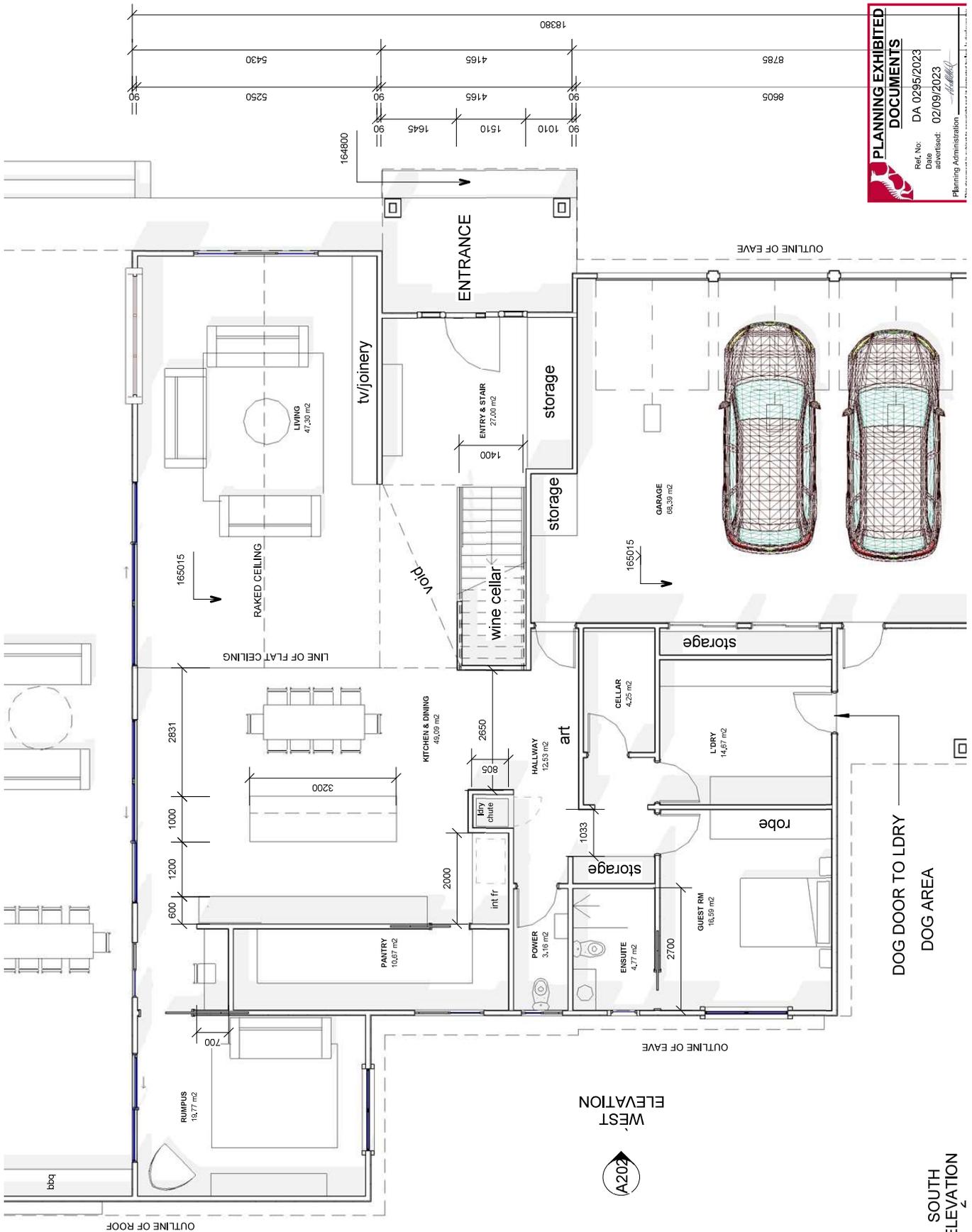
Sheet	Drawing	Current Revision	Current Revision Date
A001	TITLE SHEET		
A002	MATERIAL NOTES		
A100	LOCATION PLAN		
A101	SITE PLAN		
A102	FLOOR PLAN	1	Date 1
A103	LEVEL 01 PLAN		
A110	SHADOW DIAGRAM 21ST JUNE		
A201	ELEVATIONS		
A202	ELEVATIONS		
A301	3D VISUALS		
A302	3D VISUALS		
A303	3D VISUALS		
B101	ANCILLARY DWELLING FLOOR PLAN		
B201	ANCILLARY DWELLING ELEVATIONS		
B202	ANCILLARY DWELLING ELEVATIONS		

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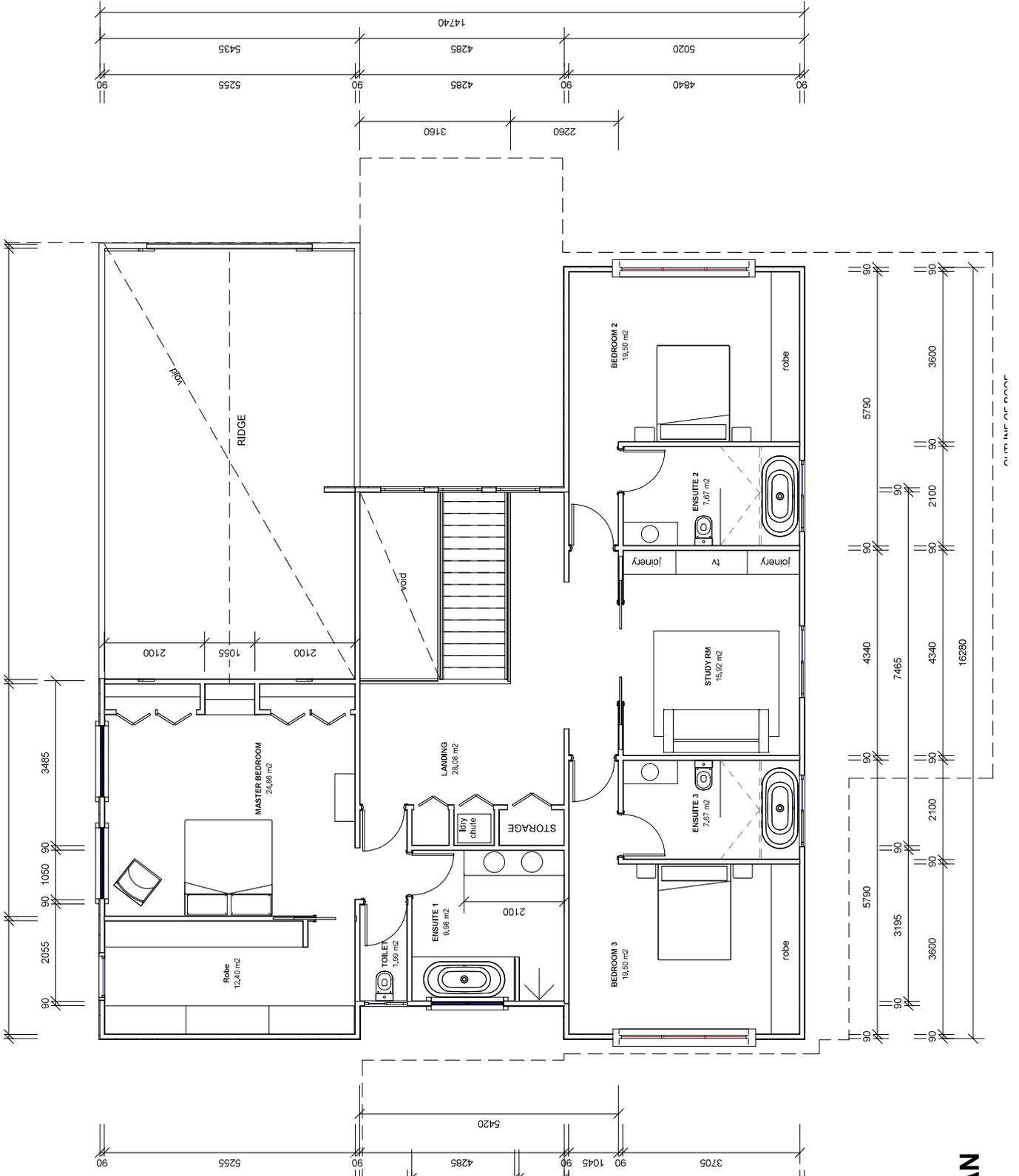


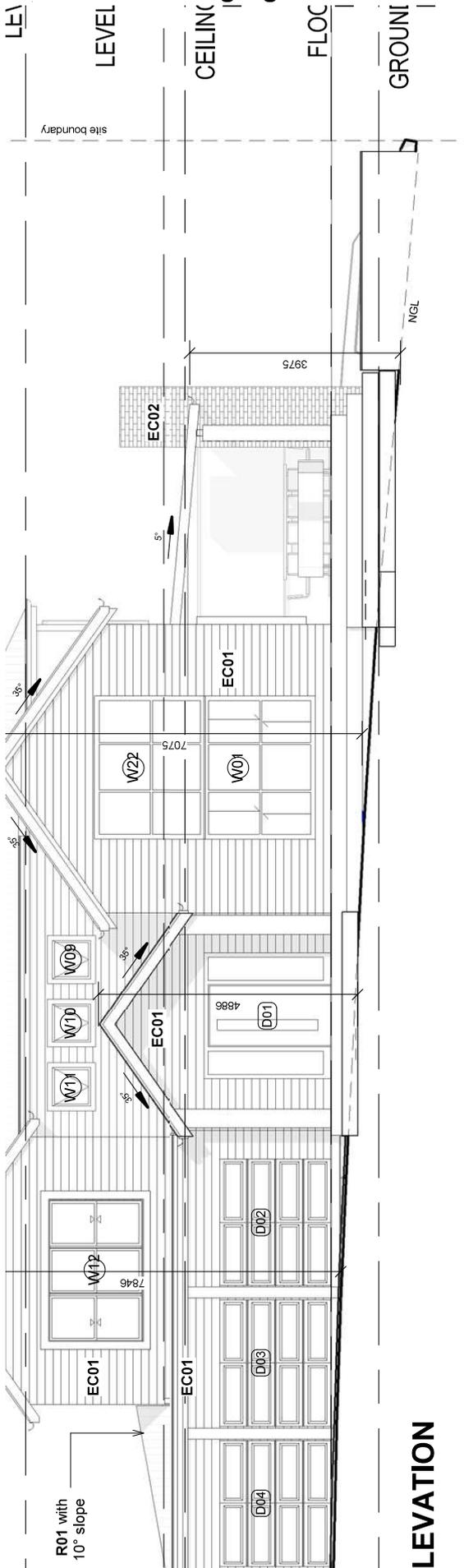
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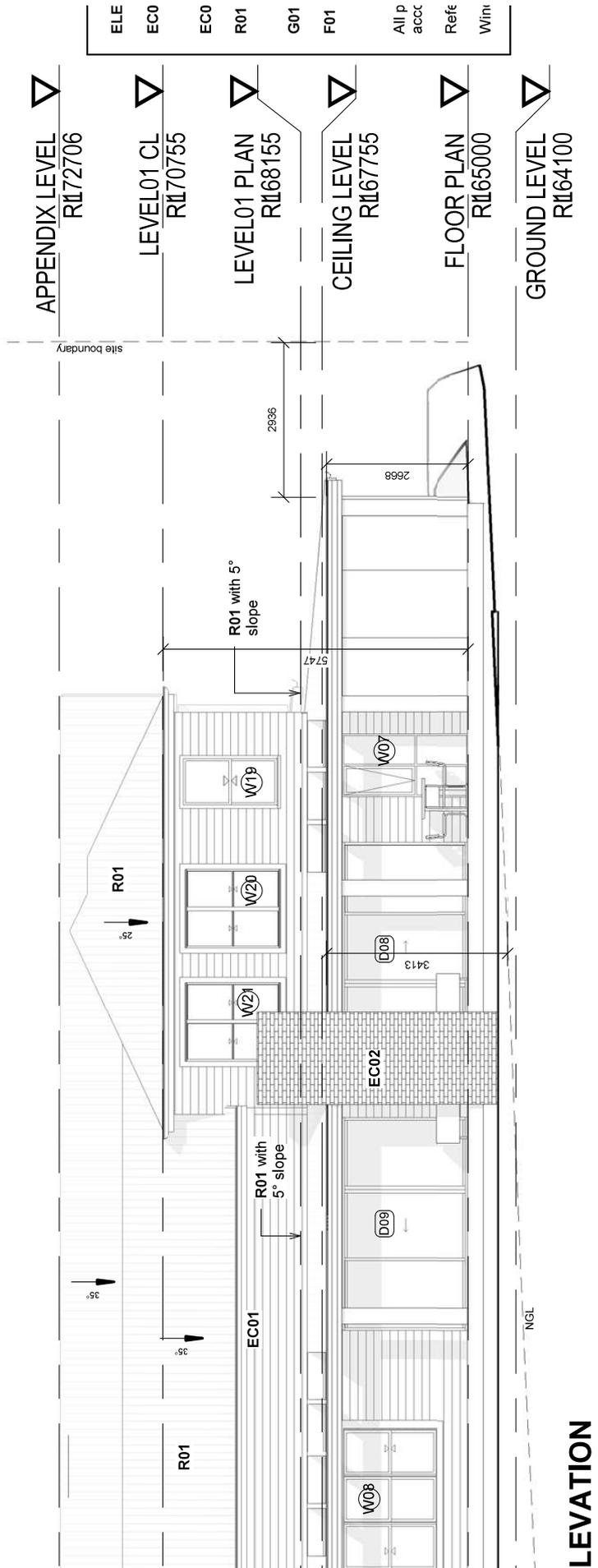
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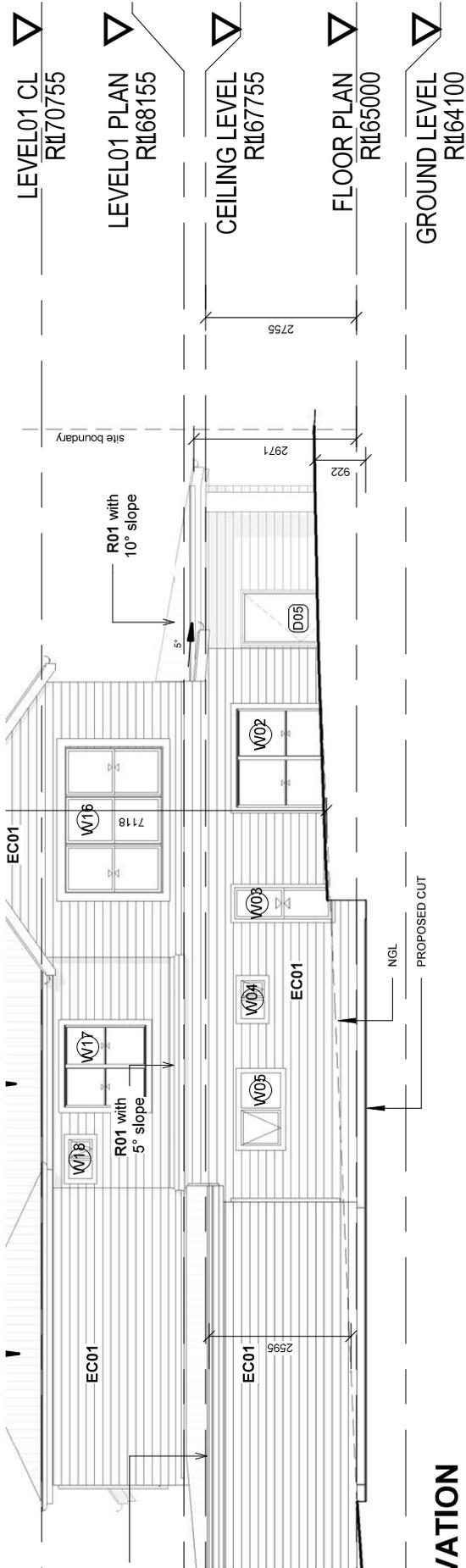




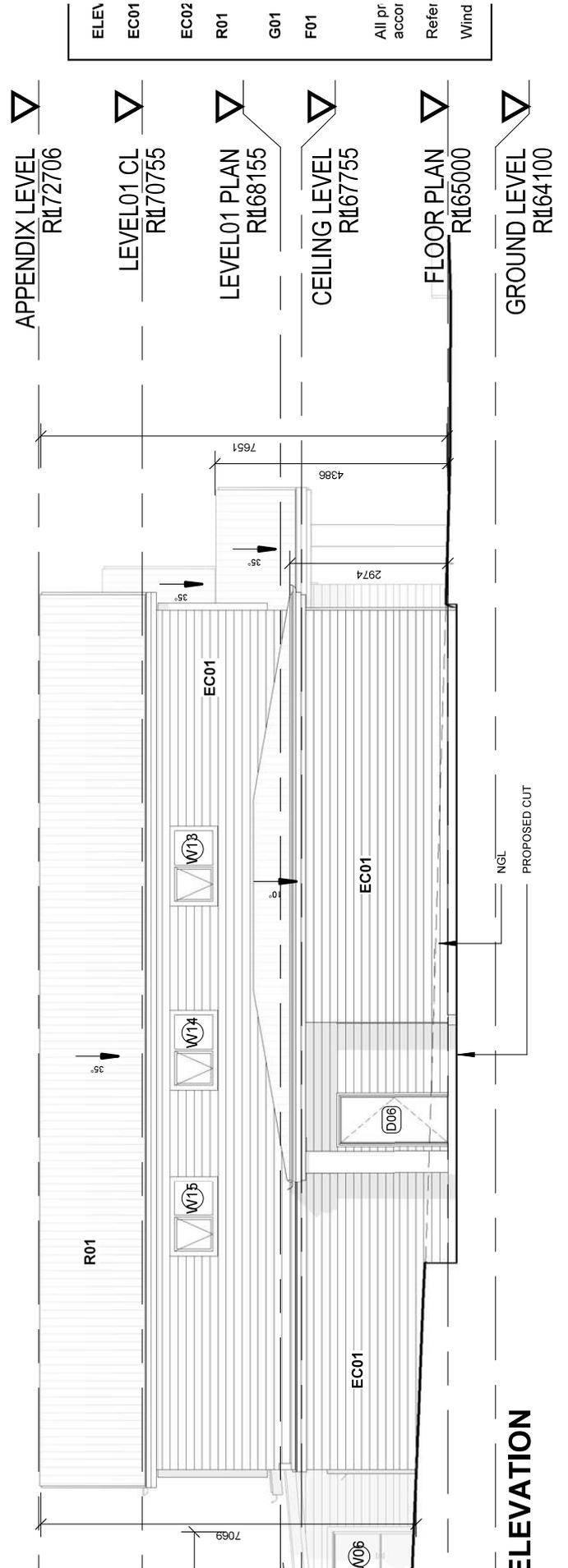
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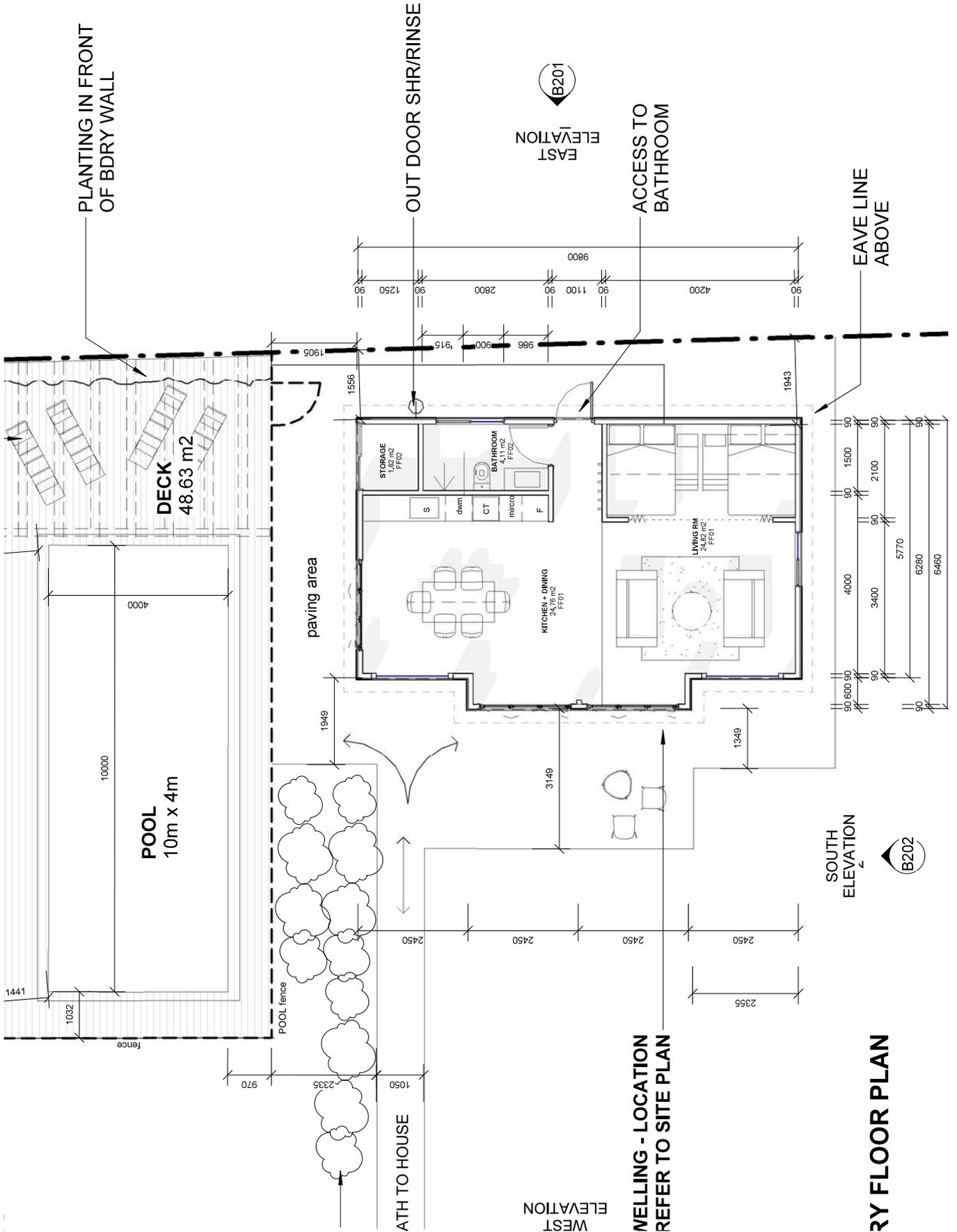
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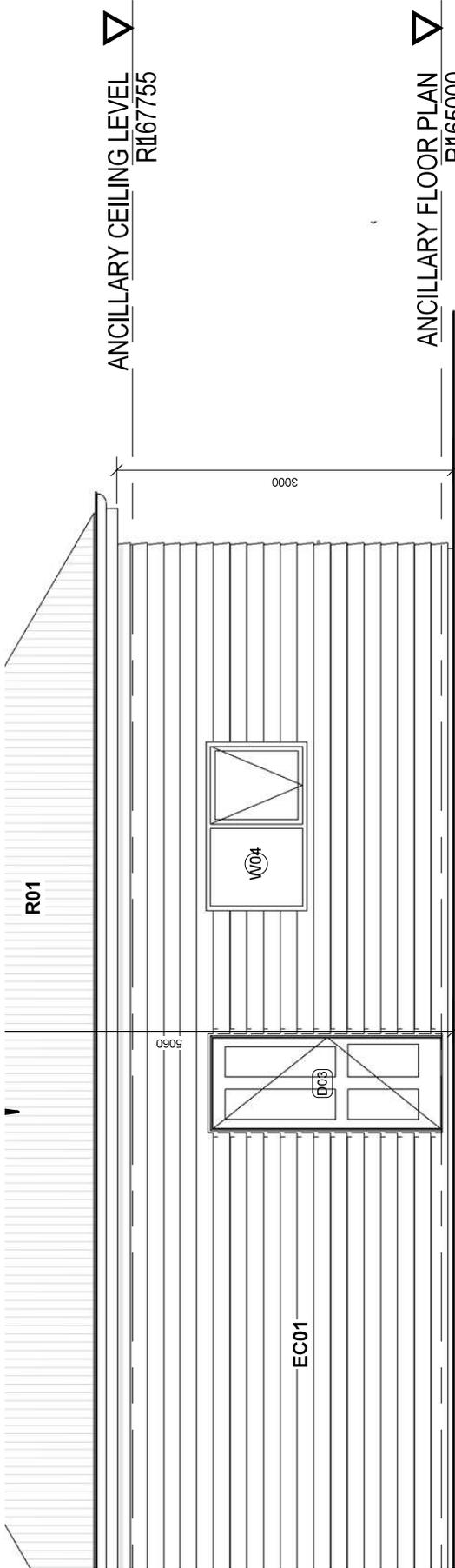
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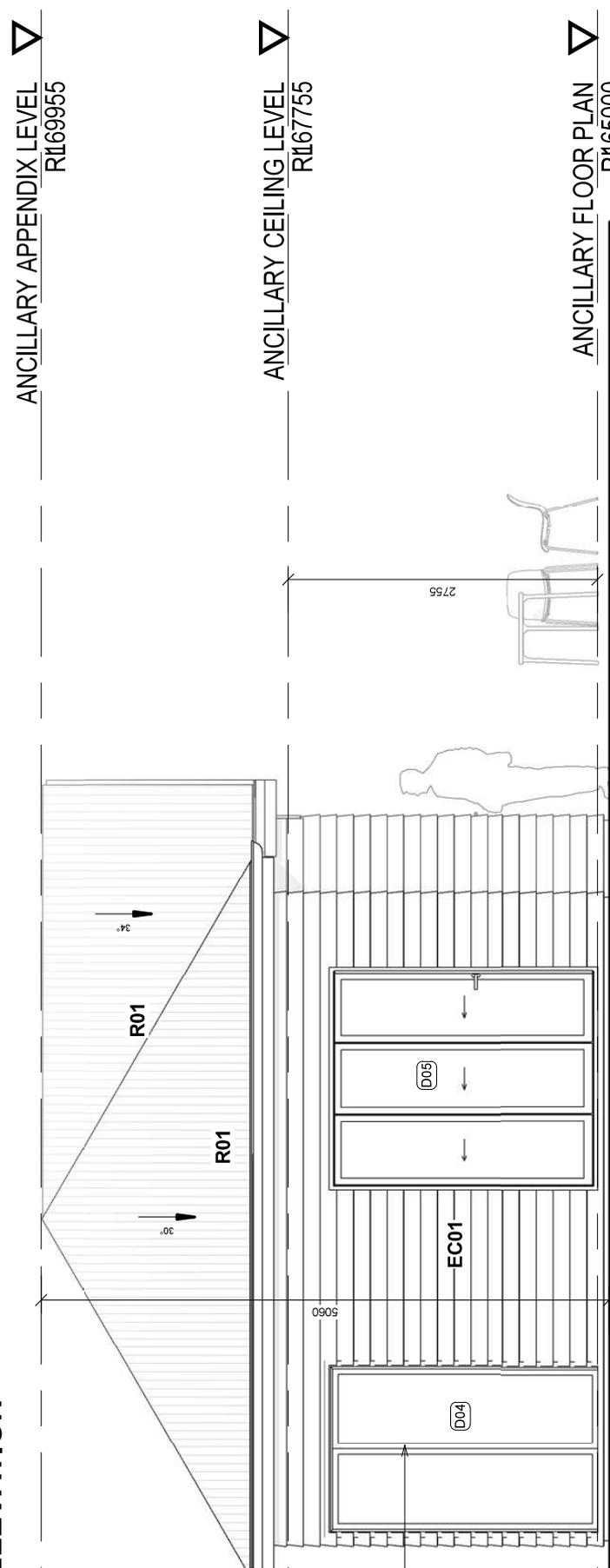
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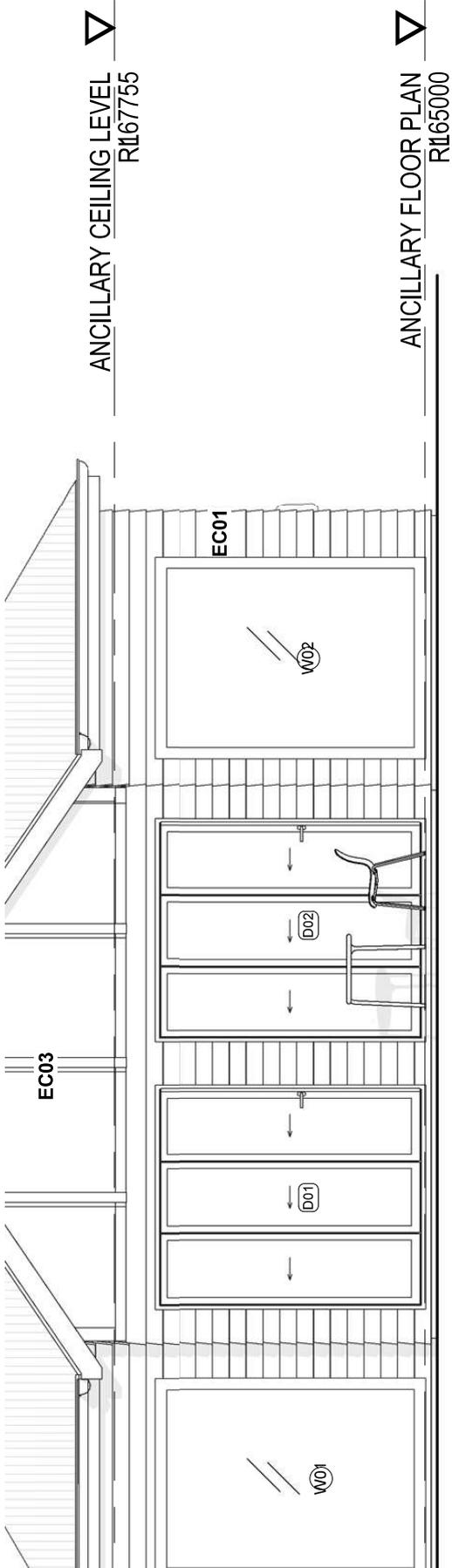


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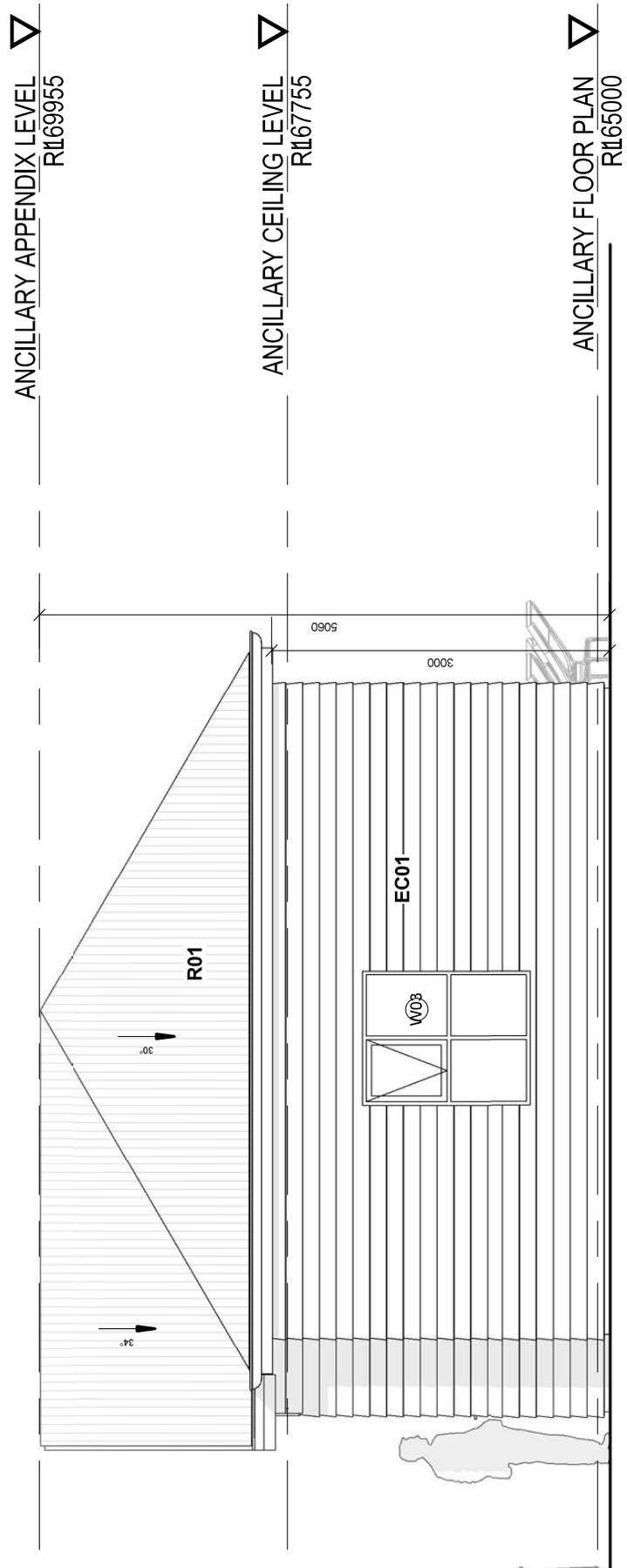


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## Submission to Planning Authority Notice

<b>Council Planning Permit No.</b>	DA0295/2023	<b>Council notice date</b>	25/07/2023
<b>TasWater details</b>			
<b>TasWater Reference No.</b>	TWDA 2023/00979-LCC	<b>Date of response</b>	29/08/2023
<b>TasWater Contact</b>	Jake Walley	<b>Phone No.</b>	0467 625 805
<b>Response issued to</b>			
<b>Council name</b>	CITY OF LAUNCESTON		
<b>Contact details</b>	Planning.Admin@launceston.tas.gov.au		
<b>Development details</b>			
<b>Address</b>	LOT 6 PEEL ST WEST, WEST LAUNCESTON	<b>Property ID (PID)</b>	9215555
<b>Description of development</b>	New dwelling, secondary residence and pool		
<b>Schedule of drawings/documents</b>			
	<b>Prepared by</b>	<b>Drawing/document No.</b>	<b>Revision No.</b>
	Woodbury & Co	LP2021 Sheet B105	1
	Woodbury & Co	LP2021 Sheet B106	--
<b>Conditions</b>			
Pursuant to the <i>Water and Sewerage Industry Act 2008 (TAS)</i> Section 56P(1) TasWater imposes the following conditions on the permit for this application:			
<b>CONNECTIONS, METERING &amp; BACKFLOW</b>			
1. A suitably sized water supply with metered connection and sewerage system and connection to the development must be designed and constructed to TasWater's satisfaction and be in accordance with any other conditions in this permit.			
2. Any removal/supply and installation of water meters and/or the removal of redundant and/or installation of new and modified property service connections must be carried out by TasWater at the developer's cost.			
3. Prior to commencing construction/use of the development, any water connection utilised for construction/the development must have a backflow prevention device and water meter installed, to the satisfaction of TasWater.			
<b>56W CONSENT</b>			
4. Prior to the issue of the Certificate for Certifiable Work (Building) and/or (Plumbing) by TasWater the applicant or landowner as the case may be must make application to TasWater pursuant to section 56W of the <i>Water and Sewerage Industry Act 2008</i> for its consent in respect of that part of the development which is built within a TasWater easement or over or within two metres of TasWater infrastructure.			
5. A minimum 0.6m x 0.6m access door must be Installed on the deck over the sewer inspection opening to allow access to TasWater.			
<b>DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT FEES</b>			
6. The applicant or landowner as the case may be, must pay a development assessment fee of \$234.64 to TasWater, as approved by the Economic Regulator and the fee will be indexed, until the date paid to TasWater.			



The payment is required within 30 days of the issue of an invoice by TasWater.			
<b>Advice</b>			
<b>General</b>			
For information on TasWater development standards, please visit <a href="https://www.taswater.com.au/building-and-development/technical-standards">https://www.taswater.com.au/building-and-development/technical-standards</a>			
For application forms please visit <a href="https://www.taswater.com.au/building-and-development/development-application-form">https://www.taswater.com.au/building-and-development/development-application-form</a>			
<b>Service Locations</b>			
Please note that the developer is responsible for arranging to locate the existing TasWater infrastructure and clearly showing it on the drawings. Existing TasWater infrastructure may be located by a surveyor and/or a private contractor engaged at the developers cost to locate the infrastructure.			
(a) A permit is required to work within TasWater’s easements or in the vicinity of its infrastructure. Further information can be obtained from TasWater.			
(b) TasWater has listed a number of service providers who can provide asset detection and location services should you require it. Visit <a href="https://www.taswater.com.au/building-and-development/service-locations">https://www.taswater.com.au/building-and-development/service-locations</a> for a list of companies.			
(c) Sewer drainage plans or Inspection Openings (IO) for residential properties are available from your local council.			
<b>NOTE:</b> In accordance with the WATER AND SEWERAGE INDUSTRY ACT 2008 - SECT 56ZB A regulated entity may charge a person for the reasonable cost of –			
(a) a meter; and			
(b) installing a meter.			
<b>56W Consent</b>			
The plans submitted with the application for the Certificate for Certifiable Work (Building) and/or (Plumbing) will need to show footings of proposed buildings located over or within 2.0m from TasWater pipes and will need to be designed by a suitably qualified person to adequately protect the integrity of TasWater’s infrastructure, and to TasWater’s satisfaction, be in accordance with AS3500 Part 2.2 Section 3.8 to ensure that no loads are transferred to TasWater’s pipes. These plans will need to also include a cross sectional view through the footings which clearly shows;			
(a) Existing pipe depth and proposed finished surface levels over the pipe;			
(b) The line of influence from the base of the footing must pass below the invert of the pipe and be clear of the pipe trench and;			
(c) A note on the plan indicating how the pipe location and depth were ascertained.			
(d) The location of the property service connection and sewer inspection opening (IO).			
<b>Declaration</b>			
The drawings/documents and conditions stated above constitute TasWater’s Submission to Planning Authority Notice.			
<b>TasWater Contact Details</b>			
Phone	13 6992	Email	development@taswater.com.au
Mail	GPO Box 1393 Hobart TAS 7001	Web	www.taswater.com.au

**9.2. DA0371/2023 - 24 Wellington Street, Launceston - Business and Professional Services - Change of Use to Consulting Rooms and Construction of Alterations and Additions to a Building**

**FILE NO:** DA0371/2023

**AUTHOR:** Duncan Payton (Town Planner)

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

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**DECISION STATEMENT:**

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

**PLANNING APPLICATION INFORMATION:**

Applicant:	S Group
Property:	24 Wellington Street, Launceston
Zoning:	Urban Mixed Use
Receipt Date:	8/08/2023
Validity Date:	23/08/2023
Further Information Request:	N/A
Further Information Received:	N/A
Deemed Approval:	23/10/2023
Representations:	Three

**RELEVANT LEGISLATION:**

*Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*  
Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**

DA0711/2022 24 Wellington Street - Business and Professional Services - Change of Use to Consulting Rooms and Signage - provided for the change of use of the upper floor to consulting rooms and the installation of signage. The redevelopment of the upstairs area is currently underway and when completed will be occupied by Headspace Australia.

**STANDARDS REQUIRING PLANNING DISCRETION:**

C2.5.1 P1 - Car parking numbers  
C2.5.2 P1 - Bicycle parking numbers

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That, in accordance with sections 51 and 57 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* and the Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston, a permit be granted for DA0371/2023 - Business and Professional Services - change of use to consulting rooms and construction of alterations and additions to a building at 24 Wellington Street, Launceston subject to the following conditions:

## **1. ENDORSED PLANS AND DOCUMENTS**

The use and development must be carried out in accordance with the endorsed plans and documents to the satisfaction of the Council unless modified by a condition of the Permit:

- a. Cover Sheet, prepared by S Group, job no. J008474, Ground floor fit-out at 24 Wellington Street, Launceston, page A000, undated.
- b. Site Plan, prepared by S Group, job no. J008474, Ground floor fit-out at 24 Wellington Street, Launceston, page A001, undated.
- c. Demo/Proposed Plan, prepared by S Group, job no. J008474, Ground floor fit-out at 24 Wellington Street, Launceston, page A002, undated.
- d. Elevations, prepared by S Group, job no. J008474, Ground floor fit-out at 24 Wellington Street, Launceston, page A003, undated.
- e. Parking - Context Map, prepared by S Group, job no. J008474, Ground floor fit-out at 24 Wellington Street, Launceston, page A004, undated.

## **2. USE OF PARKING AREAS**

The proposed car parking at the rear of the building is to be used by staff only and advisory signage, to the satisfaction of the Manager City Development, must be erected and displayed at the entrance to the car park.

## **3. LEGAL TITLE**

All development and use associated with the proposal must be confined to the legal title of the subject land except construction of access from the street.

## **4. TASWATER**

The development must comply with the requirements of TasWater as detailed in the form Submission to Planning Authority Notice, Reference No. TWDA2023/01192-LCC, dated 20/09/2023 and attached to the permit.

## **5. HOURS OF CONSTRUCTION**

- a. Unless otherwise approved in writing by the Manager Health and Compliance construction activities must only be carried out between the hours of:
  - i. Monday to Friday - 7 am to 6 pm; and
  - ii. Saturday - 8 am to 6 pm.
- b. Notwithstanding the above paragraph, construction activities must not be carried out on public holidays that are observed State-wide (Easter Tuesday excepted).

## **6. DAMAGE TO THE COUNCIL'S INFRASTRUCTURE**

The developer is liable for all costs associated with the repair of damage to the Council's infrastructure resulting from non-compliance with the conditions of the Planning Permit and any by-law or legislation relevant to the development activity on the site. Damage may also include the undertaking of unauthorised works to the Council's infrastructure such as driveways, footpaths and stormwater infrastructure. The developer will also be liable for all reasonable costs associated with the enforcement of compliance with the conditions, by-laws and legislation relevant to the development activity on the site.

## 7. WORKS WITHIN/OCCUPATION OF THE ROAD RESERVE

All works in (or requiring the occupation of) the road reserve must be carried out in accordance with a detailed Traffic Management Plan prepared by a qualified person in accordance with the requirements of Australian Standard AS1742. A copy of such plan is to be maintained on site and available for inspection upon request by an Authorised Officer.

The explicit permission of General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network is required prior to undertaking works where the works:

- a. require a road or lane closure;
- b. require occupation of the road reserve for more than one week at a particular location;
- c. are in nominated high traffic locations; or
- d. involve opening or breaking trafficable surfaces.

Where the work is associated with the installation, removal or modification of a driveway or a stormwater connection, the approval of a permit for such works shall form the explicit approval.

## 8. FACILITIES AND HIGHWAYS BY-LAW

Prior to the placement of any skip bin, security fencing, hoarding, shipping containers, site offices or amenities within a local highway, the person, corporation or other legal entity must seek and have issued a permit pursuant to the Facilities and Highways By-Law (No. 1 of 2021). The payment of the scheduled Occupation Fee (comprising a minimum base fee and a square metre weekly rate) is required prior to the occupation commencing. No occupation of the road reserve is permitted without approval.

## 9. AMENITY - COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL USE

The construction phase and on-going use on this site must not adversely affect the amenity of the neighbouring properties and the general locality by reason of the processes carried on; the transportation of materials, goods or commodities to or from the subject land; the works or materials; the emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, odour, smoke, dust, waste water, waste products, oil or any other source of nuisance.

### Notes

#### A. General

*This permit was issued based on the proposal documents submitted for DA0371/2023. You should contact the Council with any other use or developments, as they may require the separate approval of the Council. The Council's planning staff can be contacted on 6323 3000.*

*This permit takes effect after:*

- a. *The 14 day appeal period expires; or*
- b. *Any appeal to the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Appeal Tribunal (TASCAT) is withdrawn or determined; or*
- c. *Any agreement that is required by this permit pursuant to Part V of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 is executed; or*
- d. *Any other required approvals under this or any other Act are granted.*

*The permit lapses after a period of two years if the development or use has not substantially commenced within that period. An extension may be granted subject to the provisions of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 as amended, by request to the Council.*

**B. Restrictive Covenants**

*The granting of this permit takes no account of any covenants applicable to the land. The permit holder and any other interested party, should make their own enquiries as to whether the proposed development is affected, restricted or prohibited by any such covenant.*

*If the proposal is non-compliant with any restrictive covenants, those restrictive covenants should be removed from the title prior to construction commencing or the owner will carry the liability of potential legal action in the future.*

**C. Appeal Provisions**

*A planning appeal may be instituted by lodging a notice of appeal with the Registrar of the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (TASCAT).*

*A planning appeal may be instituted within 14 days of the date the Corporation serves notice of the decision on the applicant.*

*For more information see the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (TASCAT) website [www.tascat.tas.gov.au](http://www.tascat.tas.gov.au) <<http://www.tascat.tas.gov.au>>*

**D. Permit Commencement**

*If an applicant is the only person with a right of appeal pursuant to section 61 of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 and wishes to commence the use or development for which the permit has been granted within that 14 day period, the Council must be so notified in writing. A copy of the Council's Notice to Waive Right of Appeal is attached.*

**E. Signage**

*Separate approval may be required for any signage proposed on the site.*

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**REPORT:**

**1. THE PROPOSAL**

It is proposed to redevelop the ground floor of the existing building at 24 Wellington Street, Launceston, to provide for use as business and professional services. Specifically, six consulting rooms, three procedure rooms, two pathology rooms, offices, reception areas and facilities, including a small sandwich and juice bar.

The existing pedestrian access from Wellington Street will be maintained and the foyer area and lift will be shared with the upstairs tenant.

The existing car park at the rear of the building will be retained and the existing roof, currently in poor repair, will be removed.

## 2. LOCATION AND NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER



24 Wellington Street, Launceston (not to scale)

The subject site is the ground floor of the existing heritage listed building that covers the entire area at 24 Wellington Street. The lot is generally rectangular, with an area of 908m<sup>2</sup>.

The ground floor consists of some 360m<sup>2</sup> access and garage and approximately 548m<sup>2</sup> professional space.

The site is located on the south-western side of Wellington Street, between York and Brisbane Streets. Wellington Street is a major arterial road providing the north-south link through the city.

The surrounding uses are primarily commercial, including a number of other health care facilities, and this dominates the character of the area.

## 3. PLANNING SCHEME REQUIREMENTS

The assessment against the Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston is detailed in Attachment 1.

## 4. REFERRALS

REFERRAL	COMMENTS
	<b>INTERNAL</b>
Infrastructure and Assets Network	Conditions recommended.
Environmental Health	Conditions recommended.
Heritage/Urban Design	N/A
Building and Plumbing	Standard notes recommended for the permit.

<b>EXTERNAL</b>	
TasWater	Application referred to TasWater and conditional consent provided by Submission to Planning Authority Notice TWDA2023/01192-LCC issued 20/09/2023.
State Growth	N/A
TasFire	N/A
Tas Heritage Council	N/A
Crown Land	N/A
TasRail	N/A
EPA	N/A
Aurora	N/A

## 5. REPRESENTATIONS

Pursuant to section 57 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, the application was advertised for a 14 day period from 2 September to 18 September 2023. Three representations were received. The issues raised are summarised in the following table. All representations received for this application were circulated to Councillors confidentially on 11 October 2023.

<p><b>Issue 1</b> <b>Insufficient parking to meet the needs of patients.</b></p>
<p><i>Response 1</i> <i>The proposal is for the reuse of an existing building as consulting rooms. The building only has the capacity to provide parking for five vehicles in the existing garage at the rear. The applicants argue that dedicated patient parking is not required as the site is on the outer edge of the parking exemption area and is within reasonable walking distance (50m - 250m) of several public car parks. The Council's Traffic and Engineering Officers support this position and note that on-street parking - with both high demand and high turnover - is also available.</i></p>
<p><b>Issue 2</b> <b>Are patients expected to use private parking such as Mortys, Woolworths and Inspiration Paints?</b></p>
<p><i>Response 2</i> <i>Whilst many people will park in a public car park and combine multiple tasks, some car parks are private and should not be used for that purpose. This, however, is beyond the control of the proponents. It is unreasonable to suggest that any business should be refused because some of its customers may park inappropriately.</i></p>

<p><b>Issue 3</b> <b>Public car parks such as Bathurst Street, Paterson Street and York Street are too far away for patients who may be elderly or disabled.</b></p>
<p><i>Response 3</i> <i>It is reasonable to presume that some of the patients intending to visit the site will consider that the 250m walk from Bathurst Street or Paterson Street West carparks is too far. It is likely, therefore, that they will seek to park in closer car parks (York Street - 150m, Brisbane/Wellington Street - 80m, Mortys - 50m) or make other arrangements to be dropped off and collected closer to the site. Additionally, there are on street accessible parking spaces around 120m away in both Brisbane and York Streets as well as within the existing Council car parks.</i></p>
<p><b>Issue 4</b> <b>There is no provision for an ambulance to visit the site without needing to reverse in or out of the site.</b></p>
<p><i>Response 4</i> <i>Ambulances visit many sites with better and worse access opportunities than the subject site. It is likely that an ambulance visiting the site will either park in the driveway or across the access. Use of lights will ensure safe access and egress.</i></p>
<p><b>Issue 5</b> <b>Actual parking demand has not been determined by a traffic consultant or advertised. There will be a detrimental impact on surrounding businesses.</b></p>
<p><i>Response 5</i> <i>An analysis of the likely parking demand from the proposal was not considered necessary. The site is in a high traffic area on the edge of the CBD where there are a significant number of public car parks, provided by both the Council and private operators.</i></p>
<p><b>Issue 6</b> <b>Most other medical centres are required to provide parking. This site is not in the parking exemption area.</b></p>
<p><i>Response 6</i> <i>Each site and proposal is assessed on its merits. The availability of alternative parking options is clearly a significant factor. Being adjacent to the CBD and in close proximity to many public parking options is the major factor in concluding that additional on-site parking is not required for this proposal. For many other medical centres and consulting rooms, such public parking facilities are not available for their patients use and as such there is a higher expectation that those facilities provide additional parking. For example, the multi-storey parking at the LGH is for LGH staff and patients and is not considered to be available to other businesses in the area. Similarly, supermarket parking is not considered as patient parking for nearby practices.</i></p>
<p><b>Issue 7</b> <b>The building may not meet fire safety requirements.</b></p>
<p><i>Response 7</i> <i>The representor acknowledges that fire safety matters are addressed at the building approval stage. Fire safety is not considered by the planning scheme in this context.</i></p>

**Issue 8**

**The proposal does not include compliant accessible disabled parking which would be required if the practice were to be licensed by the State to perform skin cancer procedures.**

*Response 8*

*The specific procedures carried out at the proposed medical centre and any licensing required by other bodies are not matters addressed by the planning scheme.*

**Issue 9**

**The proposed medical centre is supported by Council car parks. Will the Council extend this precedent and provide extra parking at the health precinct around the LGH and the Launceston Health Hub?**

*Response 9*

*Whilst it is noted that the current Master Plan for the LGH includes the further development of parking in the north-west corner of Howick and Charles Street and that the operator of the Launceston Health Hub is also understood to be developing additional parking on Wellington Street, this is beyond the scope of the current application.*

## **6. CONCLUSION**

Subject to the recommended conditions, it is considered that the proposal complies with the Scheme and it is appropriate to recommend for approval.

### **RISK IMPLICATIONS:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

### **ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:**

The Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston contains provisions intended to implement the objectives of the Resource Management Planning System. The application has been assessed using these provisions and as such the economic, environmental and social impacts have been considered.

### **STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:**

*Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*  
Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Launceston

### **BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

### **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

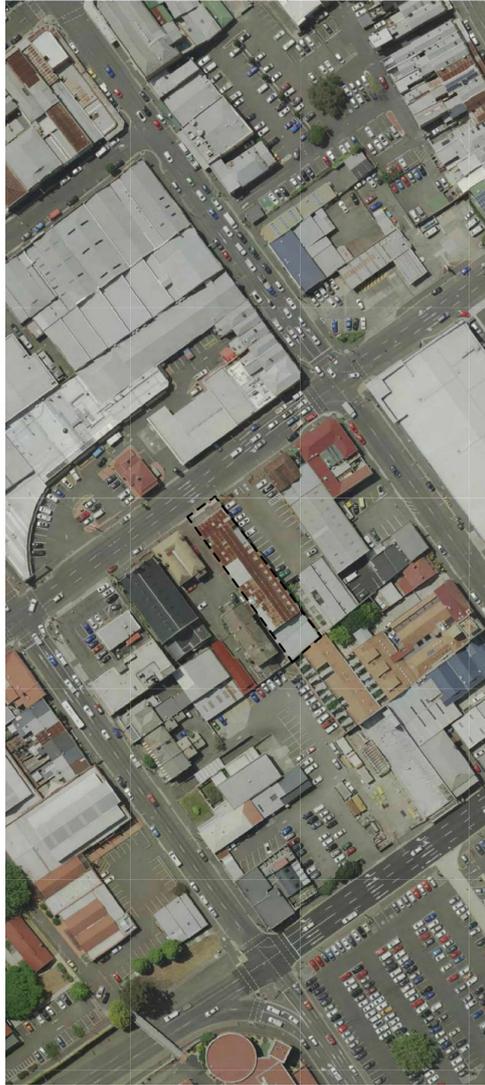
The Author and General Manager have no interests to declare in this matter.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. DA0371/2023 - 24 Wellington Street, Launceston - Plans to be Endorsed [9.2.1 - 12 pages]
2. DA0371/2023 - 24 Wellington Street, Launceston - TasWater SPAN [9.2.2 - 3 pages]
3. DA0371/2023 - 24 Wellington Street, Launceston - Planning Scheme Assessment [9.2.3 - 6 pages]



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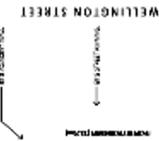
J008474 Red Helix Pty Ltd

Ground Floor Fit-Out  
24 Wellington Street, Launceston

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© 2023 create.wonder.com.au



24 WELLINGTON STREET



24 WELLINGTON STREET  
**PLANNING EXHIBITED DOCUMENTS**  
DA No: DA 0371/2023  
Date: 02/08/2023  
Agency: ARCHITECTS  
This document is a copy of the documents submitted to the City of Launceston Council for consideration of a planning application. It is not to be used for any other purpose without the written consent of the City of Launceston Council. The City of Launceston Council is not responsible for the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in this document.

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**PLANNING APPLICATION**

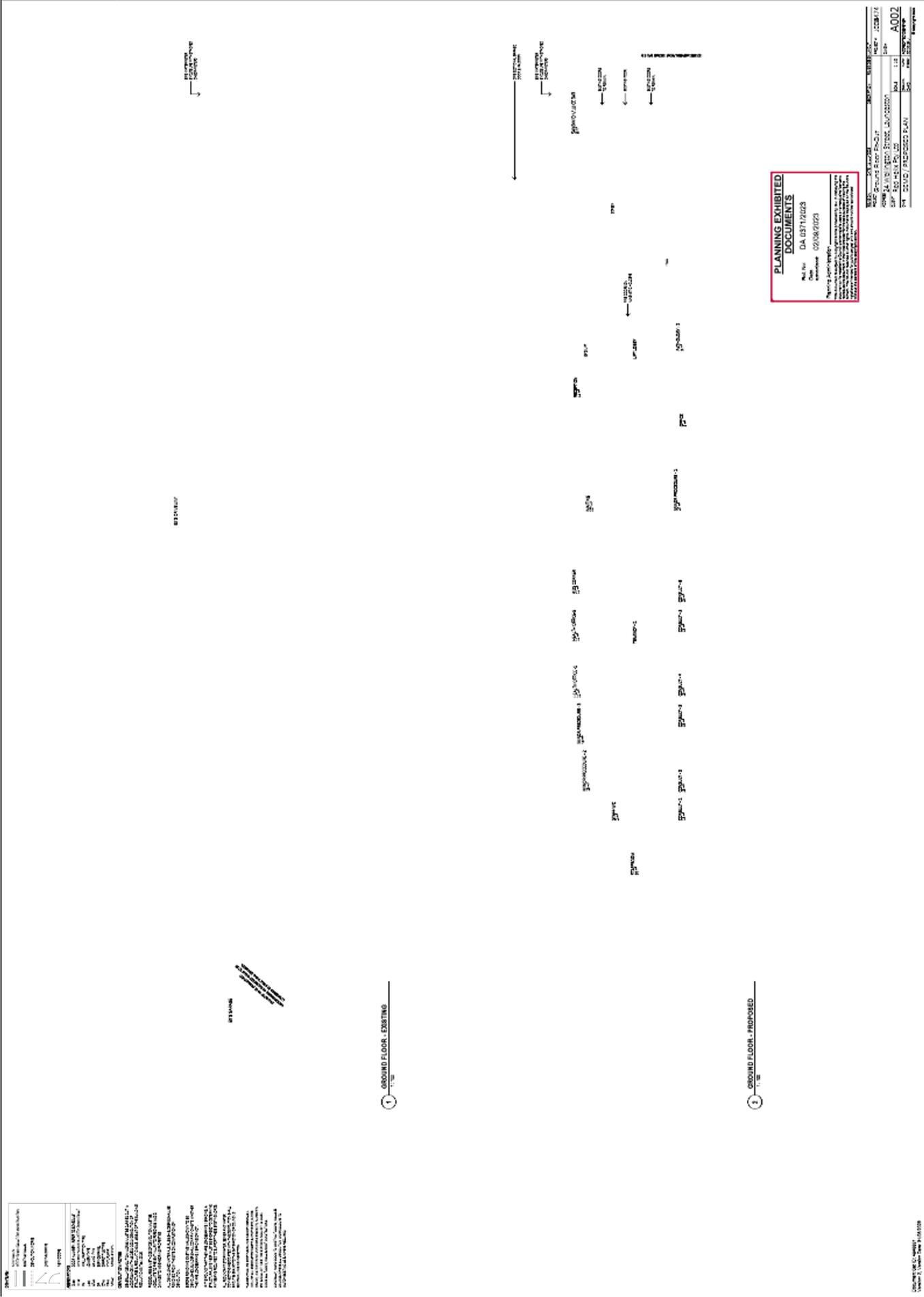


NO.	DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY	FOR
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3	02/08/2023	DA 0371/2023	ARCHITECTS	PLANNING
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City of Launceston  
Council Meeting Agenda  
19 October 2023

City of Launceston  
Council Meeting Agenda  
19 October 2023





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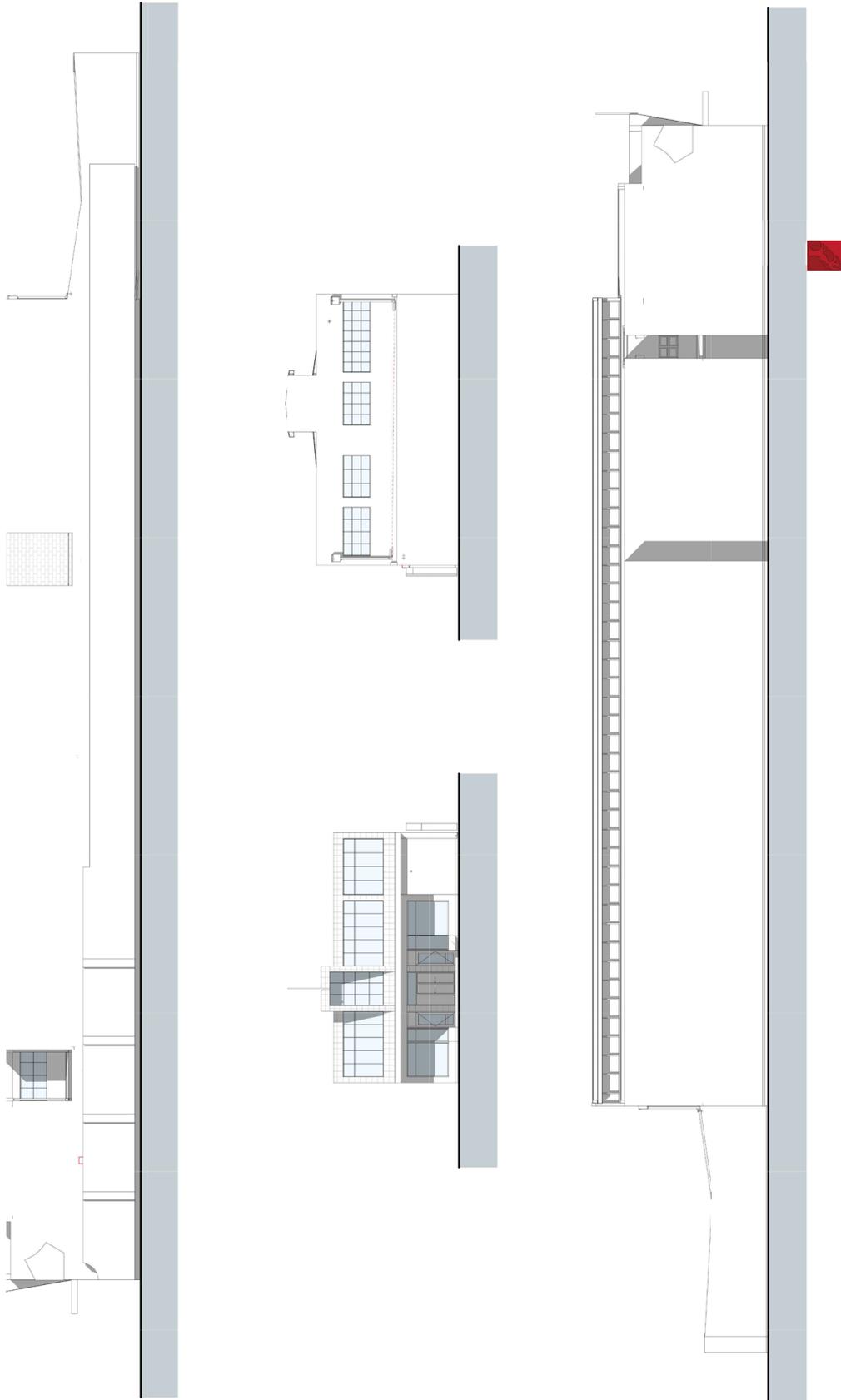


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3048  
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leander  
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Tasmania 7290  
Phone: 08 3333 3333





*M.H.*



CRB  
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Level 1, 10-14 Palmerston St, Launceston  
Level 1, 10-14 Palmerston St, Launceston



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FAX 081 442 1112  
WWW.LAUNCESTON.CITY.TAS.GOV.AU



City of Launceston  
2023

*—Hobby—*





**PLANNING EXHIBITED DOCUMENTS**

Ref. No: DA 0371/2023  
 Date advertised: 02/09/2023

Planning Administration *[Signature]*

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 Level 1, 90-92 Murray St, Hobart  
 PO Box 1271, Launceston, TAS 7250  
 p 03 6311 1403 e info@sgroup.com.au  
 abn 33 625 566 618 sgroup.com.au

Town Planner  
 Launceston City Council.

3<sup>rd</sup> August 2023

To whom it may concern,

**health related professionals,**

**W**

**Overview**

**Site**

**create.  
wonder.**



**PLANNING EXHIBITED  
DOCUMENTS**

Ref. No: DA 0371/2023  
Date  
advertised: 02/09/2023

Planning Administration *[Signature]*

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abn 33 625 566 618 sgroup.com.au

## Proposal

## Planning

### C2.0 Parking & Sustainable Transport Code.

building at 24 Wellington street is

## Conclusion

Yours Sincerely,

**Jonathan Buist**

Registered Architect

create.  
wonder.





**Submission Planning Authority Notice**

			DA0371/2023	Council notice date	30/08/2023
<b>TasWater Reference No.</b> TWDA 2023/01192-LCC					
<b>Date of response</b> 20/09/2023					
<b>TasWater Contact</b> Rachael Towns					
<b>Phone No.</b> 0436 615 228					
<b>Council name</b> CITY OF LAUNCESTON					
<b>Contact details</b> Planning Administration@launceston.tas.gov.au					
<b>Address</b> 24 WELLINGTON ST, LAUNCESTON					
<b>Property ID (PID)</b> 6683850					
<b>Prepared by</b>		<b>Drawing/document No.</b>		<b>Revision No.</b>	
S Group		J008474 Dwg A002		14/07/2023	
(TAS) Section 56P(1) TasWater imposes the					
<b>CONNECTIONS, METERING &amp; BACKFLOW</b>					
1.					
2.					
3.					
<b>DEVELOPER CHARGES</b>					
4.					
<b>TRADE WASTE</b>					
5.					
6.					



#### Advice

##### General

For information on TasWater development standards, please visit <https://www.taswater.com.au/building-and-development/technical-standards>

For application forms please visit <https://www.taswater.com.au/building-and-development/development-application-form>

##### Developer Charges

For information on Developer Charges please visit the following webpage - <https://www.taswater.com.au/building-and-development/developer-charges>

##### Service Locations

Please note that the developer is responsible for arranging to locate the existing TasWater infrastructure and clearly showing it on the drawings. Existing TasWater infrastructure may be located by a surveyor and/or a private contractor engaged at the developers cost to locate the infrastructure.

- (a) A permit is required to work within TasWater's easements or in the vicinity of its infrastructure. Further information can be obtained from TasWater.
- (b) TasWater has listed a number of service providers who can provide asset detection and location services should you require it. Visit <https://www.taswater.com.au/building-and-development/service-locations> for a list of companies.
- (c) Sewer drainage plans or Inspection Openings (IO) for residential properties are available from your local council.

**NOTE:** In accordance with the WATER AND SEWERAGE INDUSTRY ACT 2008 - SECT 56ZB A regulated entity may charge a person for the reasonable cost of –

- (a) a meter; and
- (b) installing a meter.

##### Trade waste

Prior to any Building and/or Plumbing work being undertaken, the applicant will need to make an application to TasWater for a Certificate for Certifiable Work (Building and/or Plumbing). The Certificate for Certifiable Work (Building and/or Plumbing) must accompany all documentation submitted to Council. Documentation must include a floor and site plan with:

- Location of all pre-treatment devices i.e. Non-bypassable basket arrestors;
  - Schematic drawings and specification (including the size and type) of any proposed pre-treatment device and drainage design; and
  - Location of an accessible sampling point in accordance with the TasWater Trade Waste Flow Meter and Sampling Specifications for sampling discharge.
- Details of the proposed use of the premises, including the types of food that will be prepared and served; and
- The estimated number of patrons and/or meals on a daily basis.

At the time of submitting the Certificate for Certifiable Work (Building and/or Plumbing) a Trade Waste Application form is also required.

If the nature of the business changes or the business is sold, TasWater is required to be informed in order



to	ew				
	tm				
b TasWater's Submission to Planning					
Phone	13 6992	Em			development@taswater.com.au
M		GPO Box 1393 Hobart TAS 7001	Web		www.taswater.com.au

**TITLE: DA0371/2023 - 24 Wellington Street, Launceston - Business and Professional Services - Change of Use to Consulting Rooms and Construction of Alterations and Additions to a Building**

**FILE NO:** DA0371/2023

**AUTHOR:** Duncan Payton (Town Planner)

**GENERAL MANAGER:** Dan Ryan (General Manager Community and Place Network)

**ATTACHMENT ONE:**

**PLANNING APPLICATION INFORMATION:**

Applicant:	S Group
Property:	24 Wellington Street, Launceston
Zoning:	Urban Mixed Use
Receipt Date:	8/08/2023
Validity Date:	23/08/2023
Further Information Request:	N/A
Further Information Received:	N/A
Deemed Approval:	23/10/2023
Representations:	3

**3. PLANNING SCHEME REQUIREMENTS**

**3.1 Zone Purpose**

13.0 Urban Mixed Use Zone

The purpose of the Urban Mixed Use Zone is:

13.0.1 To provide for a mix of residential, retail, community services and commercial activities in urban locations.

13.0.2 To provide for a diverse range of use or development that are of a type and scale that support and do not compromise or distort the role of surrounding activity centres in the activity centre hierarchy.

**Consistent**

The proposal to change the use of the ground floor of the existing heritage listed building to Business and Professional Services - consulting rooms is consistent with the recent approval for the upper floor and with the purpose of the zone to provide for a mix of activities, including community services and commercial activities.

Business and Professional Services is a permitted use class in the zone. The proposal is discretionary as a result of its reliance upon performance criteria and its inclusion of the State Historic Heritage list.

13.3.3 Retail impact

That retail uses do not compromise or distort the activity centre hierarchy.

**Consistent**

The proposal complies with the acceptable solutions.

A1 The gross floor area for Bulky Goods Sales and General Retail and Hire must be not more than 300m<sup>2</sup> per tenancy.

**Complies**

The proposal includes only a small retail component, of some 8m<sup>2</sup>, in the form of a small sandwich/juice bar located in the public foyer. This facility will primarily service the clients of this and the upstairs medical centre (as the public area is shared) and is considered incidental to the Business and Professional Services use class.

#### 13.4.1 Building height

That building height:
(a) is compatible with the streetscape; and
(b) does not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity to adjoining residential zones.
<b>Consistent</b>
The proposal complies with the acceptable solution
A1 Building height must be not more than 10m.
<b>Complies</b>
The existing building has a maximum height of 9.2m at the front facade. The only change to the structure of the building is the removal of the roof of the car park at the rear of the ground floor. The height of the building will not be altered.

#### 13.4.2 Setback

That building setback:
(a) is compatible with the streetscape; and
(b) does not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity to adjoining residential zones.
<b>Consistent</b>
The proposal complies with the acceptable solution.
A1 Buildings must have a setback from a frontage of:
(a) not less than 3m;
(b) not less than existing buildings on the site; or
(c) not more or less than the maximum and minimum setbacks of the buildings on adjoining properties.
<b>Complies</b>
The building is currently built to the frontage and this will not change.
A3 Air extraction, pumping, refrigeration systems or compressors must be separated a distance of not less than 10m from a General Residential Zone or Inner Residential Zone.
<b>Complies</b>
The site is not within 10m of a General Residential or Inner Residential zone

#### C2.0 Parking and Sustainable Transport Code

The purpose of the Parking and Sustainable Transport Code is:
C2.1.1 To ensure that an appropriate level of parking facilities is provided to service use and development.
C2.1.2 To ensure that cycling, walking and public transport are encouraged as a means of transport in urban areas.
C2.1.3 To ensure that access for pedestrians, vehicles and cyclists is safe and adequate.
C2.1.4 To ensure that parking does not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity to the surrounding area.
C2.1.5 To ensure that parking spaces and accesses meet appropriate standards.
C2.1.6 To provide for parking precincts and pedestrian priority streets.
<b>Consistent</b>
The car parking exclusion precinct extends to the centre of Wellington Street. The subject site is on the outside of that line. Nevertheless it is within relatively close proximity to several public car parks.
The proposal is considered to be consistent with the purpose of the code to provide adequate levels of parking and to encourage cycling, walking and other forms of transport.

<p>C2.5.1 Car parking numbers</p> <p>That an appropriate level of car parking spaces are provided to meet the needs of the use</p> <p><b>Consistent</b></p> <p>The proposal satisfies the applicable performance criteria.</p> <p>A1 The number of on-site car parking spaces must be no less than the number specified in Table C2.1, less the number of car parking spaces that cannot be provided due to the site including container refund scheme space, excluding if:</p> <p>(a) the site is subject to a parking plan for the area adopted by council, in which case parking provision (spaces or cash-in-lieu) must be in accordance with that plan;</p> <p>(b) the site is contained within a parking precinct plan and subject to Clause C2.7;</p> <p>(c) the site is subject to Clause C2.5.5; or</p> <p>(d) it relates to an intensification of an existing use or development or a change of use where:</p> <p>(i) the number of on-site car parking spaces for the existing use or development specified in Table C2.1 is greater than the number of car parking spaces specified in Table C2.1 for the proposed use or development, in which case no additional on-site car parking is required; or</p> <p>(ii) the number of on-site car parking spaces for the existing use or development specified in Table C2.1 is less than the number of car parking spaces specified in Table C2.1 for the proposed use or development, in which case on-site car parking must be calculated as follows:</p> <p><math>N = A + (C - B)</math></p> <p>N = Number of on-site car parking spaces required</p> <p>A = Number of existing on site car parking spaces</p> <p>B = Number of on-site car parking spaces required for the existing use or development specified in Table C2.1</p> <p>C = Number of on-site car parking spaces required for the proposed use or development specified in Table C2.1.</p>
<p><b>Relies on Performance Criteria</b></p> <p>The proposal is for the refurbishment and re use of the ground floor of an existing building.</p> <p>Five (5) car parking spaces are available within the ground floor site and there is no capacity to increase this without sacrificing the commercial space.</p> <p>The proposed floor plan includes six (6) consulting rooms, three procedure rooms, two offices, two pathology rooms, a meeting room, amenities and waiting areas. Reasonably, the procedure rooms would be utilised by the practitioners from the consulting rooms and each of the pathology rooms may also have a practitioner.</p> <p>The Table seeks the provision of four car parking spaces per practitioner. Considering there may be up to eight practitioners (1 x 6 consulting rooms and 1 x 2 pathology rooms) 32 car parking spaces would be needed to satisfy the acceptable solution.</p> <p>Only five spaces are provided and performance criteria are relied upon.</p> <p>Relevantly, the use of the first floor is the subject of an existing approval and is not subject to inclusion or review by this current proposal for the use of the ground floor.</p>
<p>P1.1 The number of on-site car parking spaces for uses, excluding dwellings, must meet the reasonable needs of the use, having regard to:</p> <p>(a) the availability of off-street public car parking spaces within reasonable walking distance of the site;</p> <p>(b) the ability of multiple users to share spaces because of:</p> <p>i. variations in car parking demand over time; or</p> <p>ii. efficiencies gained by consolidation of car parking spaces;</p>

<p>(c) the availability and frequency of public transport within reasonable walking distance of the site;</p> <p>(d) the availability and frequency of other transport alternatives;</p> <p>(e) any site constraints such as existing buildings, slope, drainage, vegetation and landscaping;</p> <p>(f) the availability, accessibility and safety of on-street parking, having regard to the nature of the roads, traffic management and other uses in the vicinity;</p> <p>(g) the effect on streetscape; and</p> <p>(h) any assessment by a suitably qualified person of the actual car parking demand determined having regard to the scale and nature of the use and development.</p>
<p><b>Complies</b></p> <p>Having regard to the matters below, the operation of the use with reliance upon external parking and the provision of only five on-site parking spaces, is considered to meet its reasonable needs.</p> <p>a) The proponents have provided a plan demonstrating that there are several public off-street parking facilities within a reasonable walking distance. Notably: 50m - Morty's (if crossing at the lights); 80m - Corner of Brisbane and Wellington Streets; 150m - York Street; 250m - Paterson Street-West; 250m - Bathurst Street</p> <p>b) The proposed on-site parking is likely to be shared by the practitioners. The five spaces provided on site will be conditioned to be for staff only and a sign at the front advising no patient parking to be provided.</p> <p>c) The site is on the fringe of the CBD and public transport is readily available during normal business hours to all areas of Launceston.</p> <p>d) Other transport alternatives such as taxis, uber, and scooters are readily available for those patients and staff willing and able to utilise them.</p> <p>e) The proposed site is on the ground floor of an existing building that covers the entirety of the site.</p> <p>f) On street parking is available in Wellington Street. Whilst it is in reasonably high demand, it also has a reasonably high turn-over.</p> <p>g) There is no impact on the streetscape.</p> <p>h) The Council's Engineering Officer has advised that the parking circumstances are similar to the proposal for the first floor use of the building and reliance upon surrounding public car parking and alternative transport options remains consistent with the Launceston Transport Strategy 2020 and will not unreasonably impact upon the safety of the surrounding network.</p> <p>i) The provision of a TIA was not considered necessary by Council's traffic and engineering officers.</p> <p>The performance criteria are considered to be satisfied.</p>

**C2.5.2 Bicycle parking numbers**

<p>That an appropriate level of bicycle parking spaces are provided to meet the needs of the use.</p>
<p><b>Consistent</b></p> <p>The proposal satisfies the performance criteria.</p>
<p>A1 Bicycle parking spaces must:</p> <p>(a) be provided on the site or within 50m of the site; and</p> <p>(b) be no less than the number specified in Table C2.1.</p>
<p><b>Relies on Performance Criteria</b></p>

<p>The table requires the provision of two bicycle parking spaces. None are provided and performance criteria are relied upon.</p>
<p>P1 Bicycle parking spaces must be provided to meet the reasonable needs of the use, having regard to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the likely number of users of the site and their opportunities and likely need to travel by bicycle; and</li> <li>(b) the availability and accessibility of existing and any planned parking facilities for bicycles in the surrounding area.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Complies</b></p> <p>Having regard to the prescribed matters, and that there may be some scope for staff to carry their bikes into the offices or store them in the car park, it is considered that the reasonable needs of the use are met without the provision of specific bicycle parking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) It is considered that many users will combine their visits with other activities in the broader area and are less likely to need to park a bicycle at the site, with the public bicycle racks in the CBD meeting their needs.</li> <li>(b) There are existing bicycle racks in Brisbane Street, a 150m walk from the site and others in Charles Street and the Brisbane Street Mall.</li> </ul> <p>The performance criteria are considered to be satisfied.</p>

C2.6.2 Design and layout of parking areas

<p>That parking areas are designed and laid out to provide convenient, safe and efficient parking.</p>
<p><b>Consistent</b></p> <p>The proposal complies with the acceptable solution.</p>
<p>A1.1 Parking, access ways, manoeuvring and circulation spaces must either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) comply with the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) have a gradient in accordance with Australian Standard AS 2890 - Parking facilities, Parts 1-6;</li> <li>(ii) provide for vehicles to enter and exit the site in a forward direction where providing for more than 4 parking spaces;</li> <li>(iii) have an access width not less than the requirements in Table C2.2;</li> <li>(iv) have car parking space dimensions which satisfy the requirements in Table C2.3;</li> <li>(v) have a combined access and manoeuvring width adjacent to parking spaces not less than the requirements in Table C2.3 where there are 3 or more car parking spaces;</li> <li>(vi) have a vertical clearance of not less than 2.1m above the parking surface level; and</li> <li>(vii) excluding a single dwelling, be delineated by line marking or other clear physical means; or</li> </ul> </li> <li>(b) comply with <i>Australian Standard AS 2890-Parking facilities, Parts 1-6</i>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Complies</b></p> <p>The proposal uses the existing car parking garage at the rear of the building and provides for five car parking spaces.</p> <p>Whilst the parking proposed complies with the minimum standards prescribed by the acceptable solution, they are clearly not easy spaces for access and manoeuvring, with access gained via a 52m long enclosed driveway. As such, it is considered appropriate to limit the use of the car park to staff, who will then be familiar with the nature of the car park, and on the basis that this will minimise the number of vehicle movements.</p> <p>An appropriate condition is proposed.</p>

C2.6.3 Number of accesses for vehicles

That: (a) access to land is provided which is safe and efficient for users of the land and all road network users, including but not limited to drivers, passengers, pedestrians and cyclists by minimising the number of vehicle accesses; (b) accesses do not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity of adjoining uses; and (c) the number of accesses minimise impacts on the streetscape.
<b>Consistent</b> The proposal complies with the acceptable solution.
A1 The number of accesses provided for each frontage must: (a) be no more than 1; or (b) no more than the existing number of accesses, whichever is the greater.
<b>Complies</b> The proposal relies upon the existing single access. No additional accesses are proposed.

C2.6.8 Siting of parking and turning areas

That the siting of vehicle parking and access facilities in an Inner Residential Zone, Village Zone, Urban Mixed Use Zone, Local Business Zone, General Business Zone or Central Business Zone does not cause an unreasonable visual impact on streetscape character or loss of amenity to adjoining properties.
<b>Consistent</b> The proposal complies with the acceptable solution.
A1 Within an Inner Residential Zone, Village Zone, Urban Mixed Use Zone, Local Business Zone or General Business Zone, parking spaces and vehicle turning areas, including garages or covered parking areas must be located behind the building line of buildings, excluding if a parking area is already provided in front of the building line.
<b>Complies</b> The parking is at the rear of the building. No new parking areas are proposed.

C14.0 Potentially Contaminated Land Code

The purpose of the Potentially Contaminated Land Code is: C14.1.1 To ensure that use or development of potentially contaminated land does not adversely impact on human health or the environment.
<b>Consistent</b> The proposal is consistent with the purpose of the code to prevent adverse impact on human health or the environment.  The use as a medical centre is not considered to be a sensitive use as defined in the scheme and only minimal excavation will be required.

C14.6.1 Excavation works, excluding land subject to the Macquarie Point Development Corporation Act 2012

That works involving excavation of potentially contaminated land, excluding on land subject to the <i>Macquarie Point Development Corporation Act 2012</i> , do not adversely impact on human health or the environment.
<b>Consistent</b> The proposal satisfies the acceptable solution.
A1 Excavation, excluding on land subject to the <i>Macquarie Point Development Corporation Act 2012</i> , must involve less than 250m <sup>3</sup> of site disturbance.
<b>Complies</b> The proposal involves less than 250m <sup>3</sup> of site disturbance as excavation will be limited to plumbing works. The demolition of the car park roof will not require ground level disturbance.

## 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

### 10.1. Mayor's Announcements

FILE NO: SF2375

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#### Thursday 5 October 2023

- Attended the celebration of St Giles 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday, St Giles

#### Friday 6 October 2023

- Attended the Clubs Tasmania Launceston Sports Luncheon, Country Club

#### Tuesday 10 October 2023

- Hosted a civic function for Order of Australia recipients
- Chaired the Launceston Competitions Annual General Meeting, Kim Roe School of Dance

#### Wednesday 11 October 2023

- Hosted a civic function to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Royal National Agricultural and Pastoral Society of Tasmania

#### Friday 13 October 2023

- Attended the Cape Hope Cocktail Party, JMC Showroom

#### Sunday 15 October 2023

- Attended the opening of the Green and 2023-2024 Bowls Pennant Season, Lilydale Bowls Club

#### Monday 16 October 2023

- Joined the Food and Feast Trivia Event, Tatler Lane by Sweetbrew

#### Tuesday 17 October 2023

- Spoke at the Launceston City Branch - Liberal Party, Tasmania

#### Wednesday 18 October 2023

- Attended the WBBL09 season launch, Hobart
-

**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).*

**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 have been identified as part of this Agenda**

**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).*

**13. NOTICES OF MOTION**

*Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 16(5)*

**13.1. Notice of Motion - Councillor T G Walker - Frederick Street Kindergarten**

**FILE NO:** SF5547

**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER APPROVAL:** Michael Stretton

---

**DECISION STATEMENT:**

To consider a Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor T G Walker regarding the Frederick Street Kindergarten.

**RELEVANT LEGISLATION:**

*Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 16(5)*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council immediately halts the Expression of Interest process for the former Frederick Street Kindergarten at 56 Frederick Street, Launceston and agrees to restart the process, stipulating that:

1. the property will not be offered for sale.
2. the Council prioritises community use of, and benefit from, the property.
3. for a period of not less than 60 days, the Council call for ideas and initial Expressions of Interest from community organisations, as well as encouraging the formation of new community organisations, or the partnership of organisations, for the purpose of submitting a proposal for the site that addresses community need and is preferably one guided by existing policies of the Council, plans and strategies [www.launceston.tas.gov.au/council/reports-plans-and-strategies](http://www.launceston.tas.gov.au/council/reports-plans-and-strategies).
4. Councillors be briefed about all initial expressions of ideas and interest that meet the above criteria and select a successful submission to further co-design a comprehensive plan of development and use of the site in partnership with the Council as required.
5. the Council will offer support to the organisation or organisations selected for the occupation and use of the building, by means of appropriate renovations, appropriately subsidised lease arrangements and ongoing assistance as deemed appropriate by Councillors.

6. a community need identified by proposals that are not currently covered by existing plans and strategies be noted separately and not ruled out, but that consideration be given to prioritise development of strategies that encompass that need.
- 

**REPORT:**

We stand at a time where growing inequity has placed pressure on the welfare of some members of our community. We also have a distinct shortage of central, publicly available facilities in Launceston. This is an opportunity for the Council to clearly articulate its commitment to building community connections in a sustained and meaningful way. These opportunities do not always present themselves so clearly, but in this instance there is a long history of benevolence and care that has been associated with the former Frederick Street Kindergarten.

I do not wish to see a scenario where this could be lost through the sale of the property, however, well intentioned through economic rationalism that might be. If we want things to change for the better, we have to be prepared to do things differently. The times call for the Council to be bold in creating new connections and continued pride in our City. We have this opportunity exactly because our forebears chose that path in building a kindergarten that was needed at the time.

Further to all of this, I wish to note:

- (a) the building was benevolently built as a kindergarten by the people of Launceston in 1836, was gifted to the City of Launceston in 1885. It has remained as a Council owned community building for nearly 140 years for the community benefit. It is, therefore, appropriate that it continues to be utilised for the community's benefit.
- (b) the Launceston City Council should recognise the unique heritage and community significance of the property, recognise the strong community sentiment that is attached to the property and recognise the custodial role we play in maintaining this into the future.
- (c) the Launceston City Council should value its custody of the property on behalf of the people of Launceston and the opportunity it provides to build community connections, something that is sorely needed if we are to help address some of our anti-social behaviour and the growing disparities within our society.
- (d) there are a number of Council strategies that can be augmented by the use of the building as a community facility, including, but not limited to, cultural development, providing support for people experiencing housing or food security, providing space for families and young children, providing equity of access, providing space for youth, providing space for community groups and providing a meeting space for community members.

**OFFICER COMMENTS:**

*(Michael Stretton - Chief Executive Officer)*

The expression of interest (EOI) process in relation to the future use and ownership of 56 Frederick Street, Launceston, was developed through discussions with the Councillors and is intentionally broad in scope in order to identify the full range of interest and proposals for the future use of the building. This includes proposals to develop the property in partnership with the City of Launceston, or to buy or lease the property, for residential, community and/or commercial purposes.

Importantly the EOI process has not ruled any options in or out at this stage, which was the direction provided by the Council.

The EOI process opened on 25 September 2023 and initially proposed a closing date of Friday 13 October 2023. However, following feedback from interested parties and conversations with Councillors, it was determined to extend the process until 3 November 2023, which provides six (6) weeks for submissions to be made to the Council.

Since the EOI process commenced there has been solid interest from the community with Council Officers facilitating an inspection for an interested party on 6 October and approximately 20 people attending a scheduled inspection on 9 October. At the time of writing these comments, a further inspection has been requested by another interested party which is in the process of being arranged.

It is proposed that all submissions received for the building will be workshopped and then formally presented to the Council for consideration.

It should be noted that the EOI process, is simply the first stage in determining a potential future use/user for the building and has been framed at a high level to enable broad access by interest parties. The process envisages that there is scope for the Council to work with a party under an agreement which may include a commercial or community lease, or indeed a sale agreement if that is what the Council determines.

The Notice of Motion is seeking to refine the scope of the EOI process down by ruling out the sale of the property and pre-determining that the Council will:

1. Prioritise community use of the building,
2. Co-design a comprehensive plan of development and use of the site in partnership with the Council as required, and
3. Provide the selected party with support for appropriate renovations, appropriately subsidised lease arrangements and ongoing assistance.

The current EOI process is broad enough to accommodate this course of action, if it is identified by the successful party as being necessary for their proposed future use of the building.

The EOI process also enables the Councillors to consider all submissions and make a decision not to sell the building if that is its preference.

Accordingly, it is recommended that the Council continue with the current EOI process.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

**ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

**STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:**

*City of Launceston Corporate Strategic Plan 2014-2024*

Strategic Priority 3: We are a progressive leader that is accountable to our governance obligations and responsive to our community.

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 Areas:

2. To fairly and equitably discharge our statutory and governance obligations.

**BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

The Author and Chief Executive Officer have no interests to declare in this matter.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Notice of Motion - Councillor T G Walker - Frederick Street Kindergarten [13.1.1 - 2 pages]

## CITY OF LAUNCESTON

### MEMORANDUM

---

FILE NO: SF5547 : SF6556 : 20238  
TW  
DATE: 13 October 2023

TO: Michael Stretton Chief Executive Officer  
c.c. Committee Clerks

FROM: Tim Walker Councillor

**SUBJECT: Notice of Motion - Frederick Street**

---

In accordance with Clause 16 (5) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, please accept this Notice of Motion for placement on the *Agenda* of the Meeting of Council to be held on 19 October 2023.

#### **Motion**

That Launceston Council immediately halt the Expression of Interest process for the former Frederick Street Kindergarten at 56 Frederick Street, Launceston, and agree to restart the process, stipulating that;

1. That the property will not be offered for sale.
2. That Council prioritise community use of, and benefit from, the property.
3. That for a period of not less than sixty (60) days, the Council call for ideas and initial expressions of interest from community organisations, as well as encouraging the formation of new community organisations, or the partnership of organisations, for the purpose of submitting a proposal for the site that addresses community need, and is preferably one guided by existing council policies, plans and strategies. [www.launceston.tas.gov.au/council/reports-plans-and-strategies](http://www.launceston.tas.gov.au/council/reports-plans-and-strategies)
4. That councillors be briefed about all initial expressions of ideas and interest that meet the above criteria, and select a successful submission to further co-design a comprehensive plan of development and use of the site in partnership with Launceston Council as required.
5. That Council will offer support to the organisation or organisations selected for the occupation and use of the building, by means of appropriate renovations, appropriately subsidised lease arrangements, and ongoing assistance as deemed appropriate by Councillors.
6. That a community need identified by proposals that are not currently covered by existing plans and strategies be noted separately and not ruled out, but that consideration be given to prioritise development of strategies that encompass that need.

## CITY OF LAUNCESTON

### MEMORANDUM

---

#### Background

Reasoning -

We stand at a time where growing inequity has placed pressure on the welfare of some members of our community. We also have a distinct shortage of central, publicly available facilities in Launceston. This is an opportunity for Launceston Council to clearly articulate its commitment to building community connections in a sustained and meaningful way. These opportunities don't always present themselves so clearly, but in this instance there is a long history of benevolence and care that has been associated with the former Frederick Street Kindergarten. I do not wish to see a scenario where this could be lost through the sale of the property, however well intentioned through economic rationalism that might be. If we want things to change for the better, we have to be prepared to do things differently. The times call for council to be bold in creating new connections and continued pride in our city. We have this opportunity exactly because our forebears chose that path in building a kindergarten that was needed at the time. Further to all of this, I wish to note:

- A. The building was benevolently built as a kindergarten by the people of Launceston in 1836, was gifted to the City of Launceston in 1885, and has remained as a council owned community building for nearly 140 years for the community benefit. It is therefore appropriate that it continues to be utilised for the community's benefit.
- B. Launceston Council should recognise the unique heritage and community significance of the property, recognise the strong community sentiment that is attached to the property, and recognise the custodial role we play in maintaining this into the future.
- C. Launceston Council should value its custody of the property on behalf of the people of Launceston, and the opportunity it provides to build community connections, something that is sorely needed if we are to help address some of our anti-social behaviour and the growing disparities within our society.
- D. There are a number of council strategies that can be augmented by the use of the building as a community facility, including, but not limited to, cultural development, providing support for people experiencing housing or food security, providing space for families and young children, providing equity of access, providing space for youth, providing space for community groups, providing a meeting space for community members.

#### Attachments

N/A



Councillor Tim Walker

**14. CREATIVE ARTS AND CULTURAL SERVICES NETWORK**

**14.1. Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Annual Report 2022/2023**

**FILE NO:** SF0958

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

---

**DECISION STATEMENT:**

To consider adoption of the 2022/2023 Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Annual Report.

**RELEVANT LEGISLATION:**

*Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)*

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council:

1. adopts the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Annual Report 2022/2023 (ECM Doc Set ID 4968941); and
  2. pursuant to section 333 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)*, submits the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Annual Report 2022/2023 to the Minister for the Arts, Tasmanian State Government, to be laid before Parliament.
- 

**REPORT:**

The Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery's Annual Report for 2022/2023 provides an overview of activities for the year ended 30 June 2023. It is a condition of the State Government funding that the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Annual Report 2022/2023 be presented to the Tasmanian Parliament by the Minister for the Arts. Once adopted, a copy will be forwarded to the Minister for the Arts and also presented at the City of Launceston's Annual General Meeting on 7 December 2023.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

**ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

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**STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:**

*City of Launceston Corporate Strategic Plan 2014 - 2024*

Strategic Priority 3: We are a progressive leader that is accountable to our governance obligations and responsive to our community.

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 Areas:

2. To fairly and equitably discharge our statutory and governance obligations.

**BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

The General Manager has no interests to declare in this matter.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. QVMAG Annual Report 2022-2023 [14.1.1 - 284 pages]





QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

**2022 – 2023**  
ANNUAL REPORT

*We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land where we work and live, the Stoney Creek Nation, made up of at least three clans – Tyerenotepanner, Panninher and Lettermairrener.*

*The Stoney Creek Nation clans lived along the riverways in harmony with the seasons for several thousand generations, and today they are remembered as the Traditional Owners of this land.*

*We celebrate the stories, culture and traditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Elders of all communities who also work and live on this land.*

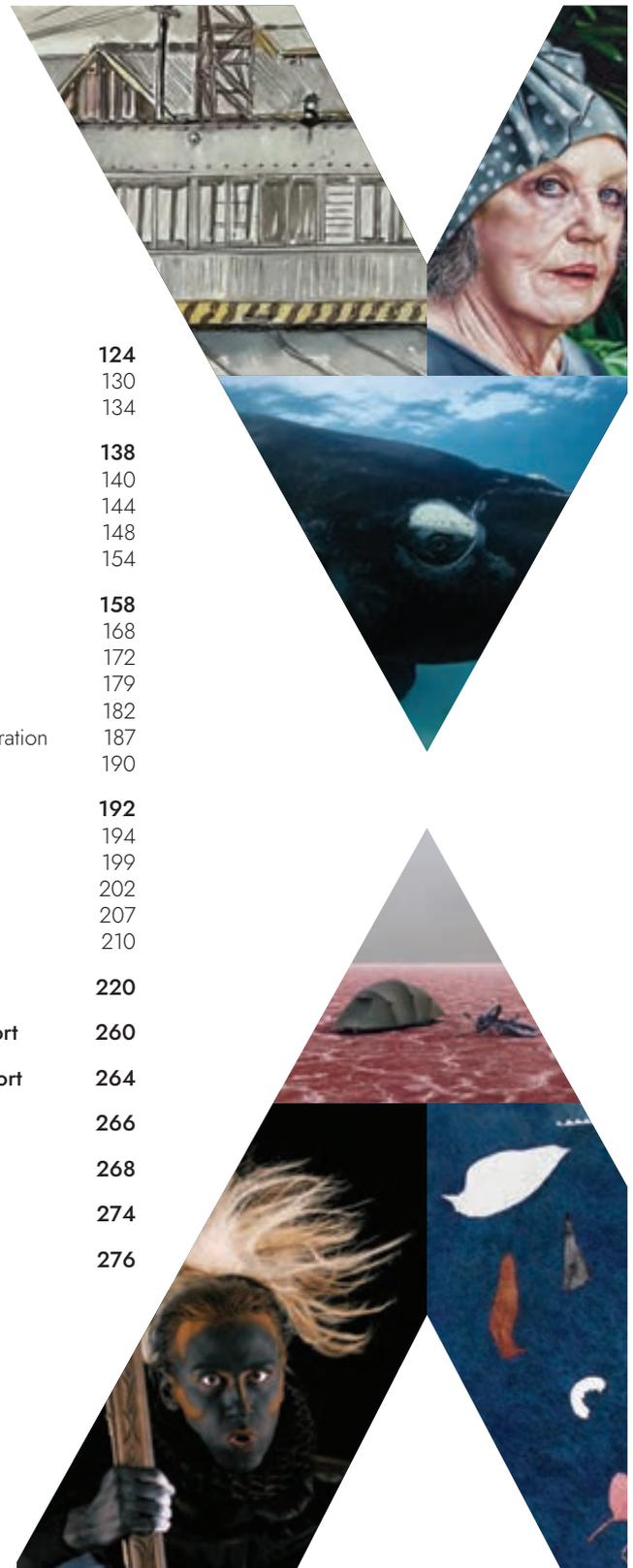


Possum skin community cloak  
photo: Carmencita Palermo  
© QVMAG

# CONTENTS

<b>Mayor's Message</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Chief Executive Officer's Message</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>QVMAG Overview</b>	<b>10</b>
Cultural Benchmarks 2022/2023 Visitation	15
<b>QVMAG Strategic Development</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Exhibitions Overview</b>	<b>26</b>
Major Exhibitions 2022/2023	30
In Focus: Tao Sublime	32
In Focus: Archie 100 A Century of the Archibald Prize	37
In Focus: Jimmy Possum an Unbroken Tradition	44
In Focus: Witness Murray Fredericks	48
In Focus: HJ King Cameras and Carburettors	52
In Focus: Mason   Marsden	57
In Focus: RISE	60
In Focus: Wildlife Photographer of the Year	65
In Focus: Australia In Space	68
<b>Engagement Overview</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Education Overview</b>	<b>76</b>
In Focus: ArtStart	80
In Focus: ArtRage	83
In Focus: The Big Picture	86
In Focus: Aboriginal Education	89
In Focus: Science Week	92
<b>Public Programs Overview</b>	<b>94</b>
In Focus: In Conversation	96
In Focus: Community Connections	99
In Focus: Art + Performance	100
In Focus: Holiday Program	103
In Focus: Launceston Planetarium	104
In Focus: Curators in the Pub	106
<b>Business Support Overview</b>	<b>110</b>
In Focus: Anne Tolson	116
In Focus: Margaret Barlow	118
In Focus: Alan Peacock and Bev White	120

<b>Marketing and Communications Overview</b>	<b>124</b>
In Focus: Digital	130
In Focus: Media	134
<b>Design Overview</b>	<b>138</b>
In Focus: QVMAG Brand	140
In Focus: Publications	144
In Focus: Exhibition Design	148
In Focus: Collateral	154
<b>Research Overview</b>	<b>158</b>
Visiting Researchers 2022/2023	168
In Focus: Tasmania's Amazing Beetle Diversity	172
In Focus: Bizarre Tale of Tasmania's Sugar Gliders	179
In Focus: Ecosystem Function Research	182
In Focus: Fostering National and International Collaboration	187
Research Published Works 2022/2023	190
<b>Strategic Collections Overview</b>	<b>192</b>
In Focus: Registration	194
In Focus: Conservation	199
In Focus: Archive and Library	202
In Focus: Digitisation	207
In Focus: Acquisitions	210
<b>Acquisitions 2022/2023</b>	<b>220</b>
<b>Museum Governance Advisory Board Chair's Report</b>	<b>260</b>
<b>QVMAG Aboriginal Reference Group Chair's Report</b>	<b>264</b>
<b>QVMAG Arts Foundation Year in Review</b>	<b>266</b>
<b>QVMAG Friends Year in Review</b>	<b>268</b>
<b>Endnotes</b>	<b>274</b>
<b>Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery</b>	<b>276</b>



## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

This year, the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery (QVMAG) has delivered a brilliant display of exhibitions, programs and experiences for local lovers of arts and culture, and for those visiting our beautiful State.

Achieved through diversity of programming, industry and community collaboration, plus bold new thinking, the 2022/2023 financial year has been one of rapid growth for the institution.

Endorsed on 30 June 2022, the *Futures Plan* outlines this new direction for QVMAG's role within the State and during the first 12 months of the Plan's implementation, there has been a clear focus on activating our spaces for local, national and international visitor markets.

Our northern Tasmanian icon has marked a range of incredible milestones this year, including the celebration of its highest year of visitation on record in over 130 years.

This large-scale accomplishment has been realised through the dedication and commitment of our management, staff, volunteers and community, to the future vision of what our institution can not only offer Tasmania, but the global scene.

With Launceston as the only stop when welcoming exclusive blockbuster experiences to Tasmania, such as the *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* exhibition and the Natural History Museum's (London) annual competition and exhibition *Wildlife Photographer of the Year*, QVMAG has delivered upon a succession of exhibition firsts for the State.

All this whilst continuing to develop extensive curriculum-based educational experiences for schools and groups that coincide with a vivacious and diverse program of community events and more.

It's because of this that I believe QVMAG has re-positioned itself within local and national markets as a world leading destination for contemporary, accessible and immersive experiences.

Through realising the future-state of QVMAG, we have identified a series of key directions, that when achieved, will unlock new opportunities for our island, both in economic injection, community vibrancy and regional activation.

As Australia's largest regional Museum and northern Tasmania's leading hub for art, history, and natural sciences, I look forward to us all coming along on the journey by continuing to support our great institution and to its onward rise throughout 2023/2024.

It has been a pleasure to support this new direction for QVMAG and to witness the impact this has had within our community. I watch with great anticipation to the ongoing growth and contemporary direction of this iconic Tasmanian institution in the year ahead and congratulate all those involved on achieving a record year on many fronts.

**Matthew Garwood**  
Mayor  
City of Launceston



Live Art to Live Music event at  
the Museum at Inveresk  
photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG



Portrait of Tasmanian artist  
Leoni Duff by artist Sally Ryan  
for the Live Art to Live Music  
program

photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE

The 2022/2023 financial year has been an exceptional year of growth for the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery (QVMAG).

Since the endorsement of the *Futures Plan* in June 2022, the institution has experienced a considerable shift in activation, awareness, and engagement on a statewide level.

As with any long-term strategy, the first 12 months of implementation is a pivotal period for change management in both operational and programmatic direction.

During this time, the institution has not only successfully achieved a shift in strategic direction, but it has also recorded its highest level of visitation on record in over 130 years. This visitation milestone is a testament to that of the *Futures Plan*, creating a new, contemporary, and bold path forward for our iconic Tasmanian institution.

Behind this record year of visitation is a range of outstanding organisational achievements, spanning increased exhibition delivery, programmatic output, commercial growth, marketing and media reach, research outputs, and more.

During this period, the institution welcomed a **48% increase** in exhibitions on display, **32% increase** in public programs delivered, **67% growth** in commercial sales, and an **80% growth** in marketing and media reach for the QVMAG brand, and **over \$1.8 million** in donations, bequests, and grants to the institution.

Supporting these were significant achievements in taxonomic research and species identification; unprecedented advocacy and engagement with **over 200 living practitioners, scientists and educators**; alongside significant economic benefits to the City through destination experiences such as the *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* exhibition, which injected **\$4.74 million** into our region's economy.

The value of museums and galleries to their cities and regions is well established, and through focusing on its unique collections, stories, and research, QVMAG has successfully continued to be recognised as a unique cultural destination for northern Tasmania during this period.

As outlined within the Plan, there is a social dividend in investing in the cultural and creative sectors. The institutional success of 2022/2023 has achieved exactly that for northern Tasmania through an increased focus on activation and accessibility for local, national, and international audiences.

As such, I am proud to present this year's Annual Report for QVMAG and share my congratulations to all involved in the delivery of a vibrant, innovative, and activated year for northern Tasmania and look forward to the continued partnership with both Tasmanian and Australian governments to realise the full extent of the QVMAG *Futures Plan*.

**Michael Stretton**  
Chief Executive Officer  
City of Launceston

## QVMAG OVERVIEW

From every perspective, 2022/2023 has been the most successful year in the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery's (QVMAG) history. In terms of participation figures, more people visited exhibitions at both our sites, the Art Gallery at Royal Park and the Museum at Inveresk, or took part in one of the many diverse engagement experiences on offer than ever before.

In total, QVMAG engaged a staggering **158,263 guests**. This figure represents the highest visitation ever recorded in the institution's 130-year history, and as a measure, far exceeds the total population of the Greater Launceston region twice over, and in fact exceeds the population of the entire Tamar Valley region[figure 1].

The importance of this impressive milestone cannot be overstated as it places QVMAG as the most visited cultural destination in northern Tasmania, and demonstrates without any doubt, that northern Tasmanian communities value, are entitled to, and will support high quality cultural experiences. Further, it highlights the critical role the institution plays as a key contributor in Tasmania's cultural offering, establishing a distinct point of difference and cultural destination of substance as part of a broader holistic portfolio within what is recognised as a uniquely Tasmanian experience.

The successes achieved by QVMAG during the reporting period are not merely confined to the overall quantitative visitation results. Milestone records have been realised across a number of key priority areas during the year, including impressive qualitative results which will embed future creative and cultural development for our State for years to come.

Of the five strategic **Key Directions** outlined in the *Futures Plan* – governance, funding, accessibility, activation, and infrastructure renewal – we undertook a committed focus in the months following to redefine QVMAG's purpose, position, and role as Australia's largest regional cultural institution.

The strategic shifts identified during this period were holistic and transformative, embedding contemporaneous cultural management throughout every function of the institution, seeking to reposition QVMAG as an **Accessible** and **Activated** place-based cultural asset within the Launceston and northern Tasmanian experience.

It is pleasing to note that in almost every aspect, and in a mere seven months of transition, we have realised significant achievements hitherto unrealised by the institution.

Transformation such as this does not occur by chance. The results are carefully considered, developed from demonstrable experience, and purposefully implemented strategic initiatives which are underpinned by qualitative data drawn from 12 months of review by the institution, culminating in the development and endorsement of the *Futures Plan* in June 2022.

Key among these was the in-house development, endorsement and phased implementation of a new institutional primary brand identity, outlining a contemporary vision for both the functional and public perception of our sites and collection.

# OUTPUTS

	21/22	22/23
Total number of Exhibitions	29	43
Total general visitation Exhibitions	76,368	120,353
Total number Public Programs	827	1,094
Total visitation Public Programs	13,780	29,304
Total number Education Programs	399	390
Total visitation Education Programs	7,112	8,606
Total number Volunteers	53	61
Total Volunteer Hours contributed	2,679	2,442
Total Marketing and Communications reach	2,936,769	5,291,229
Total \$ Donations / Bequests / Grants	\$374,209	\$1,859,564
Total \$ Commercial Result	\$520,678	\$872,732
Total Enquiries / Inquiries	3,621	4,959
Total number Acquisitions	466	263
Total \$ Acquisitions	\$280,569	\$876,515
<b>Grand Total number Programs</b>	<b>1,226</b>	<b>1,484</b>
<b>Grand Total Visitation</b>	<b>97,260</b>	<b>158,263</b>



This brand visualised a new, refreshed and relevant path forward for the institution, creating a modern representation of the future direction of QVMAG as we embarked on a whole-of-institution strategic realignment.

The revision facilitated a modernised, unique and scalable identity for the iconic Tasmanian brand, and worked to re-position the institutional identity within local and tourism audiences of Tasmania.

Following its endorsement, the 12-month implementation period saw the strategic activation of the QVMAG brand identity to build on new and existing audience engagement and development for the institution.

While the first 12 months of branding implementation has received an overwhelmingly positive reaction from the local community and visitors alike, future momentum and strategic direction of the brand is pivotal.

Through creative and authentic activation and strategic public relations, a wide range of brand activations were deployed in-market spanning digital, legacy and grass-roots community campaign tactics.

Such tactics welcomed a total marketing and communications reach of 5,291,229 for the institution; an 80% increase in reach from the previous financial year.

From an exhibitions standpoint we developed and delivered a total of 43 exhibitions, signifying an impressive increase in quantitative and qualitative outcomes respectively.

This figure represents a 48% increase in the provision of exhibitions from the year prior and following a committed strategic focus in the development of gallery-specific programmatic activation at the Art Gallery at Royal Park. A spectacular 120% increase was achieved, heralding the first time the Gallery has eclipsed the Museum in exhibition diversity during a reporting period.

Local artists and creative practitioners featured proudly and prominently in a total of 22 exhibitions that showcased the rich contemporary cultural practice present within our community. Through our exhibition program a total of 125 living practitioners were employed/engaged, demonstrating our commitment in supporting contemporary practice and cultural economic development.

26 major exhibitions were delivered during 2022/2023, of which 24 were QVMAG curated/developed projects. That is, each of these exhibitions is a unique QVMAG product developed entirely in-house by the institution.

This achievement cannot be overstated as it represents a significant shift in leveraging the unique expertise within the institution in the development and provision of high-quality cultural experiences for our region, often through collaboration with community organisations, local practitioners and/or drawing upon the significant material culture held within the QVMAG collection.

Highlights include the hugely popular *Archie 100: A Century of Archibald Prize*, which delighted local, State and national audiences alike with a total of **16,048 visitors** recorded to the exhibition and realising an economic return to the City in excess of **\$4.74 million** through cultural tourism.

The Natural History Museum's (London) international global phenomenon *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* competition exhibition returned to our shores and proved once again to be hugely popular with audiences, attracting a total of **24,660 visitors**.

In April 2023, we farewelled the much-loved interactive exhibition *Phenomena Factory*. For over 15 years *Phenomena Factory* was recognised as a staple in the northern Tasmanian community as a destination interactive exhibition that delighted and engaged the young and young at heart, attracting in excess of over 1.5 million visitors, including intergenerational repeat visitation.

And from June 2023, we welcomed Questacon's *Australia in Space* exhibition which has proved to be popular with audiences, recording an encouraging **6,586 visitors** to the exhibition during the initial 14 days of display that fall within this reporting period.

Engagement featured heavily throughout the year with a commitment in the development and delivery of authentic, relevant and experiential initiatives throughout our education activities, public programs and events.

The reporting period saw a total of **92 practitioners and community members** from all over Tasmania engaged by QVMAG in delivering institutional programs with the focus of developing new audiences while providing local content to enhance informal learning activities and further define our place-based programs.

This increased strategic focus on engaging with living practitioners (producers) not only employed, supported and nurtured our region's creative economy but clearly resonated with audiences and the community alike.

During 2022/2023, a staggering **1,094 public programs** were delivered to **29,304 participants**, well above the 827 public programs and 13,780 participants in the year prior.

Similar results have been realised in attendance in our Planetarium reaching an historical record with over **10,134** people attending shows during the reporting period.

Qualitative investment in the Planetarium occurred during the year with the acquisition and installation of the *DigiStar 7* system.

This new system provides increased digital capability, and in partnership with the international planetariums membership groups, the *DigiStar7* system allows Tasmania access to internationally significant digital programs, including from The Smithsonian, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and other member organisations around the world.

# CULTURAL BENCHMARKS

## 2022/2023 VISITATION

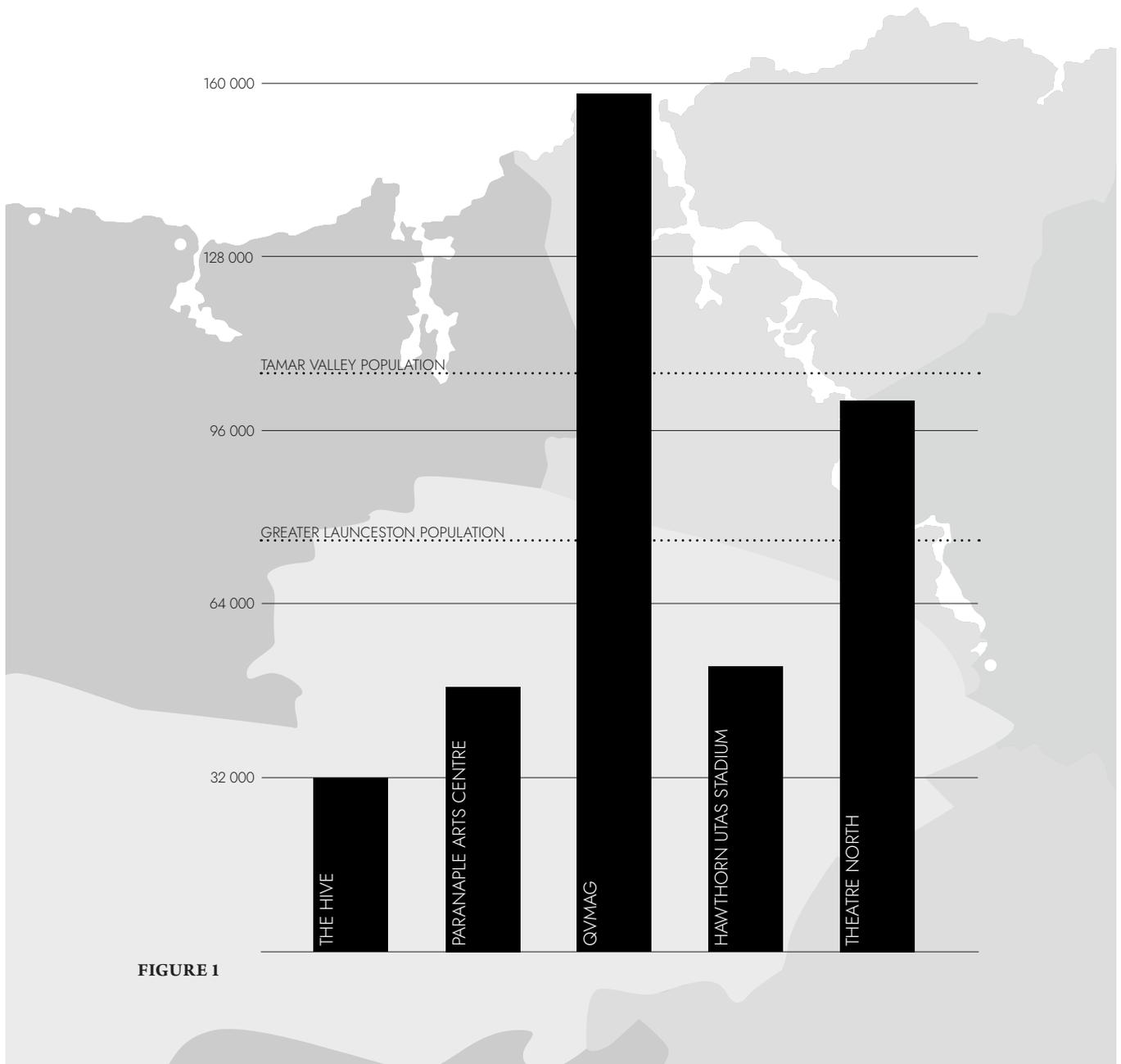


FIGURE 1



Life-long learning and STEAM-based education remained a central pillar within the strategic objectives of QVMAG, with a dedicated focus on embedding learning opportunities into all offerings as part of the institution's commitment to innovation, accessibility and excellence.

During 2022/2023, the institution delivered **390 educational programs** to **8,606 participants** across a diverse suite of programs, including student-led exhibitions, education tours, targeted classes, and workshops, to name a few.

Pleasingly, the institution broadened its appeal and reach to primary and secondary schools, colleges and universities, hosting on-site engagements with primary and secondary schools, colleges and universities across northern Tasmania, the State and southern mainland Australia. Throughout the reporting period a total **93 individual schools** participated in a QVMAG educational experience, increasing from 80 in the year prior.

Importantly, it is not solely the quantitative outcomes that determine our programmatic development. A key focus of any cultural institution is the provision, facilitation and dissemination of knowledge and qualitative experiences.

During the reporting period, QVMAG developed, delivered and supported a breadth of initiatives that showcased community, provided insights into contemporary research, provided opportunities for genuine Aboriginal cultural appreciation, or intimate insights into creative practice.

From a commercial standpoint, QVMAG realised its most successful result in its history recording a total operating result of **\$872,732**, heralding an unprecedented record for the institution.

Planetarium, education, library and public programs income totalled **\$100,794**, reflecting the record attendance figures associated with these initiatives.

Our QVMAG shop delighted visitors to the institution across both sites and returned an operating result of **\$570,295** – another historical institutional milestone.

In addition to contributing \$4.74 million into the Launceston economy, the successful staging of the popular *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* exhibition recorded a total of **\$185,558** in ticket sales.

This is a most encouraging outcome for the institution as the exhibition signified the first major ticketed experience held at QVMAG since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Venue hire returned a modest **\$16,085** for the institution, an increase on the \$7,162 received in the year prior. Importantly, and as part of a broader cultural ecosystem, QVMAG contributes to the realisation of a culturally active, dynamic and diverse City of Launceston through its support of a number of organisations, events and community groups. In 2022/2023, we supported a total of 16 community and cultural organisations, waiving a total of **\$84,400** in venue hire fees to support their associated initiatives.

Although this represents a significant reduction in income for QVMAG, the qualitative value in contributing to the success of these initiatives far outweighs the limited fiscal benefits.

Whilst efforts continue in the development of a dedicated and focused *Advancement Strategy and Framework* for the institution, as part of the **Organisational Strategic Development Program**, the 2022/2023 period signified an impressive **396% increase** in donations, bequests and grants totalling **\$1,859,564** in financial and material culture received.

This outcome will provide unique opportunities for the institution across a number of key deliverables, including renewal of our STEAM interactive exhibitions, implementation of three-dimensional photogrammetry of the collection, targeted education and programmatic experiences, and further research development and international collaborations, just to name a few.

Research during the reporting period further positioned QVMAG as a leading research institute within the State and an important contributor within the Australian Government's *National Research Infrastructure* network.

Throughout 2022/2023, QVMAG assisted more than **120 site visitors** in their research endeavours, and the institution hosted a total of **32 formal visiting researchers** from throughout the world, each undertaking cutting-edge research projects spanning species identification, climate science studies and ecosystem function research.

At least **12 species currently undescribed by science** were discovered, in addition to a further **12 species that were new records for Tasmania**.

The QVMAG collection is the largest and most diverse collection of any regional museum or gallery in Australia. Numbering more than 1.5 million items, the collection spans Aboriginal and First Nations cultures; fine, decorative and applied arts; history; technology; natural science and the natural environment; and archives and library.

During the reporting period a total of **2,418** individual objects underwent preventative or remedial conservation measures ensuring that these works are maintained in perpetuity as the city's cultural assets.

There was significant progress made during the 2022/2023 financial year in entering and correcting collection data in the Collection Management System (CMS).

More than **11,000 new records** were added, over **36,000 records** were edited/updated, and more than **28,000 images** added to the CMS.

Innovations in our digitisation strategy realised a total of **28,269 objects** digitised during the 2022/2023 period.

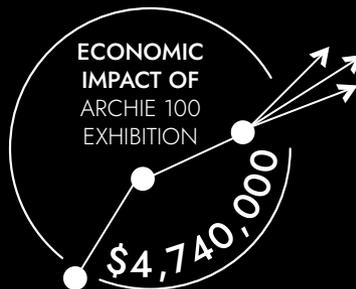
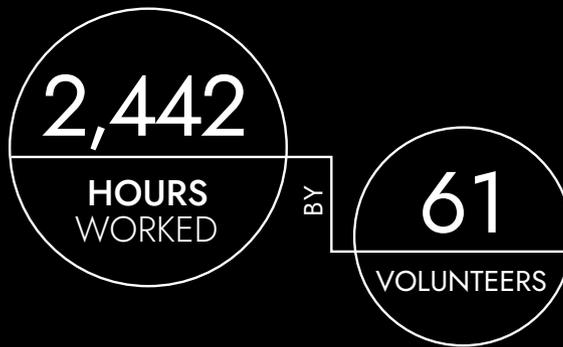
QVMAG also contributes to major national and global databases, where users can access information across multiple collections held by many organisations.



**12**  
NEW TASMANIAN  
SPECIES DESCRIBED



**12**  
NEW SPECIES FOUND BUT  
UNDESCRIBED BY SCIENCE



One such database is the *Atlas of Living Australia* (ALA), a vitally important resource for managing biodiversity and natural resources in Australia and a research tool for biosystematics researchers around the world. In 2022/2023, QVMAG entered more than **14,000 new collection records** into the ALA, bringing the number now available through ALA to over **111,000 QVMAG records**.

2022/2023 has been a year of extraordinary growth of the QVMAG collection. Whilst less objects were acquired into the collection than the year prior, the cumulative cultural, scientific, and financial value of these objects far eclipse that of previous years.

This shift in collecting prioritisation heralds a strategic repositioning in our collecting principles and methodologies, ensuring that collection growth is targeted and relevant. In 2022/2023, a total of **263 historic objects**, works of art and printed materials valued at **\$876,515**, were acquired for the QVMAG collection. Of these, a total of **246 objects** with a value of **\$751,667** were donated, and **17** objects, valued at **\$124,848** were purchased.

We offer our sincere appreciation to all of the generous donors of material culture to the collection in the 2022/2023 period. Your gifts are gratefully received, professionally cared for, and ensure the sustained growth of our region's public collection.

QVMAG is fortunate in having a number of specialist affiliates who support the strategic ambitions of the institution. Through the efforts of the Museum Governance Advisory Board, QVMAG Aboriginal Reference Group, QVMAG Friends and the QVMAG Arts Foundation, 2022/2023 has realised significant progress in strategic advancement, collections development, programmatic output and development in First Nations appreciation.

Whilst each individual affiliate report is outlined further in the Annual Report, QVMAG would like to acknowledge and express our deepest gratitude to the committed and dedicated members of each committee and their corresponding members, in advancing the institution throughout 2022/2023.

Volunteers continue to be an essential part of the institutional environment and support us in a variety of ways and across a number of areas.

A total of **61 Volunteers** contributed a total **2,442 hours** working alongside the QVMAG team and we would like to sincerely thank our Volunteers for their unwavering support and enduring commitment during 2022/2023.

2023/2024 is set to be another big year, with the delivery of a number of milestone projects that will see QVMAG further innovate and grow. To the team at QVMAG I commend and congratulate you on an outstanding year of achievement, commitment and dedication.

To our patrons, stakeholders, partners and to those members of the Launceston community who "discovered" QVMAG for the first time, we thank you for your support and look forward to seeing you at a QVMAG experience in the future.

**Shane Fitzgerald**  
General Manager  
Creative Arts and Cultural Services

## QVMAG STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT

Transformation on the scale that QVMAG has demonstrated in 2022/2023 does not occur by chance and is developed and nurtured through purposefully implemented strategic initiatives which are underpinned by qualitative data. During 2022 we undertook a commitment to dispense with traditional archetypes within cultural practice and instead reposition the institution as a progressive and innovative destination, firmly embedded in community, and national and international networks alike.

We implemented the most comprehensive institutional review process ever undertaken in QVMAG's history, consisting of a holistic **Service Level Review**, structural realignment, collections review, external stakeholder and community surveying, and consultative deep dive sessions with internal and external participants.

The data gathered throughout this reform process provided unprecedented insights into the unique opportunities QVMAG is afforded, yet often unrealised, alongside an entirely new perspective in what we should **start, stop and continue** in our strategic priorities.

Following the development and subsequent adoption of the *Futures Plan* in June 2022, we appointed a Special Advisor, Projects and Strategy, to work closely alongside the institution in the development and implementation of the **Organisational Strategic Development Program** (OSDP). The OSDP is undoubtedly an ambitious and holistic strategic development program representing a suite of strategic instruments and supporting frameworks across every functional environment of the institution.

Visually represented in **Figure 2**, the OSDP encompasses the implementation of a QVMAG *Strategic Plan* supported by a total 15 strategic frameworks. Collectively these strategic instruments will underpin our future development and process improvements in the years ahead.

It is noted that undertaking the development of such a broad suite of strategic instruments within such a short period of time represents a massive body of work. However, we similarly recognise that developing these instruments in concert and concurrently provides. QVMAG now has a unique opportunity to ensure that these transdisciplinary and intrinsically intertwined strategies are fit for purpose, integrated, and leverage their inherent interdependencies.

We are pleased to confirm that during the 2022/2023 reporting period the QVMAG *Strategic Plan* and 13 supporting frameworks are drafted and awaiting design development.

During the 2023/2024 period QVMAG will seek endorsement and adoption of our strategic instruments and look forward to the realisation of the strategic directions contained therein.

Finally, it is important to highlight that the development of the OSDP has not been undertaken in isolation, nor exclusive to the 2022/2023 reporting period. The successes achieved by QVMAG during the reporting period are a direct result of concurrent strategic activation through the implementation of several key strategic priorities captured within the draft strategic instruments.

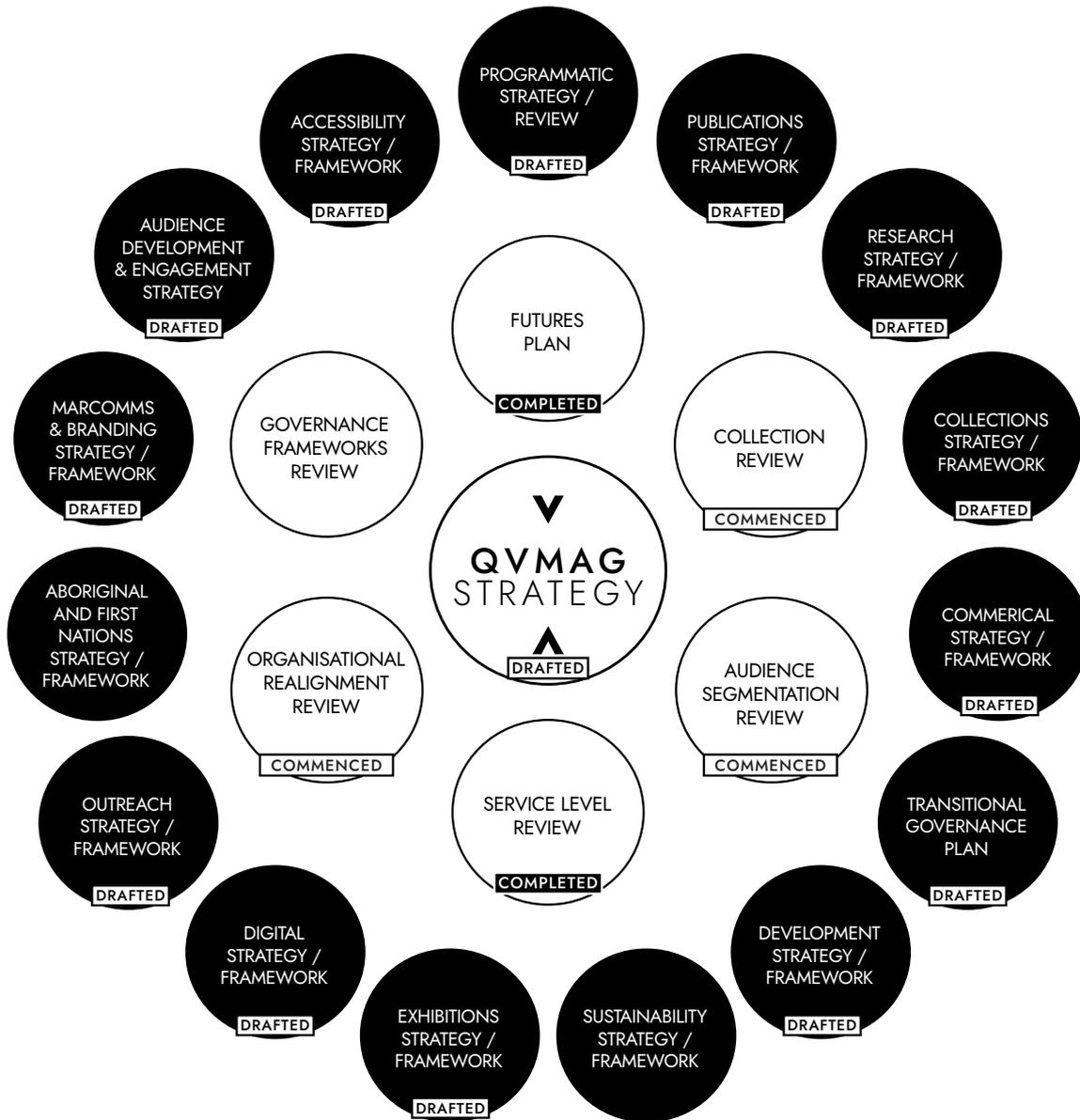


FIGURE 2

**Lisa REIHANA**

Born 1964, Aotearoa, New Zealand

***Te Wai Ngunguru - Nomads of the Sea*** [still] 2019

Installation, 3-channel video, duration 20:00 mins

Dimensions variable

photo: image courtesy of the Artist and Gallery Sally Dan-Cuthbert  
© Lisa Reihana





## EXHIBITIONS OVERVIEW

2022/2023 saw a total of **43 exhibitions** presented by the institution across its two sites – the Art Gallery at Royal Park and the Museum at Inveresk – and offsite at the Salamanca Arts Centre, Hobart, through the tour of QVMAG's *ArtRage* annual exhibition, and a newly developed *Showcase* situated at the City of Launceston's Town Hall.

This figure represents a **48% increase** in the provision of exhibitions from the year prior. Following a committed strategic focus in the development of art museum specific programmatic activation at the Art Gallery at Royal Park a spectacular **120% increase** was achieved. Heralding the first time the Gallery has eclipsed the Museum in exhibition diversity during a reporting period.

Increases were also achieved in all strategic exhibition content areas. Coinciding with the strategic development work being undertaken resulting from the *Futures Plan*, a dedicated focus on ensuring that our exhibitions delivered a diverse, inclusive, and relevant offer was realised during 2022/2023. This strategic approach towards programmatic development ensured that as the leading cultural destination in northern Tasmania our program was embedded with opportunities through which all audiences – local, national and international – could engage.

Most pleasing was the increase in the presentation of local content, with 22 exhibitions throughout the year being dedicated to or featuring work by artists from the region, and a total of **125 living practitioners** employed/engaged through these exhibitions.

Throughout 2022/2023, QVMAG delivered a diverse program of **26 major exhibitions**.

These major exhibitions provided a number of opportunities to celebrate the talents of our region's artists, the provision of unique cultural experiences drawn from throughout the world and showcased right here in Launceston, encouraged critical thinking and creative practice within students and our young people, or highlighted our region's rich historical legacies.

Of these 26 major exhibitions, a staggering **24 were QVMAG curated/developed** projects. Each of these exhibitions is a unique QVMAG product developed entirely in-house by the institution.

This achievement cannot be overstated as it represents a significant shift in leveraging the unique expertise within the institution in the development and provision of high-quality cultural experiences for our region, often through collaboration with community organisations, local practitioners and/or drawing upon the significant material culture held within the QVMAG collection.

A total of **six education-specific exhibitions** were presented during the reporting period, promoting the creative talents of **494 students** from throughout our region.

# OUTPUTS

	21/22	22/23
Total number of Local Component Exhibitions	17	22
Total number of Education Exhibitions	3	6
Total number of Students Exhibited	236	494
Total number of Community Exhibitions	3	7
Total QVMAG Touring/Offsite Exhibitions	1	3
Total number Collection Exhibitions	17	17
Total number QVMAG Curated Exhibitions	6	24
Total number Touring Exhibitions received	2	4
Total number Long-Term Exhibitions	12	10
Total number Temporary Exhibitions	5	30
Total number Living Practitioners Exhibited	63	125
Total number Exhibition Refresh/Changeovers	2	5
<b>Total Number of Exhibitions</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>43</b>



Lisa GARLAND

*Self Portrait* [detail] 2014  
silver gelatin print on Ilford paper  
92.0 x 110.0 cm  
photo: image courtesy of the Artist  
© Lisa Garland

*Artstart* showcased the creative talents of K–6 students through two thematic projects, *Artstart: Get Up! Stand Up! Show Up!* and *Artstart: Our Home, Tasmania*. With a total of 13,980 visitors engaging with these exhibitions, a special congratulations must be expressed to our student curatorial leads in the development of these outstanding projects.

In a first for Tasmania, QVMAG partnered with The Big Picture School in the development and display of student-led works in *The Big Picture* exhibition, and the 2022 iteration of *ArtRage* proved to be one of the series' best in its 28 year history.

Four major touring exhibitions were negotiated and brought to Tasmania by the institution throughout the reporting period. Collectively these exhibitions were exclusive to QVMAG in Tasmania and represented not only accessible world-class cultural experiences here at home, but further positioned QVMAG and Launceston as a **cultural destination of substance**.

The Natural History Museum's (London) international global phenomenon *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* competition exhibition returned to our shores and proved once again to be hugely popular with audiences attracting a total of 24,660 visitors, whilst both the Powerhouse Museum's *Southern Skies Astrophotography: 2022 David Malin Awards* and Questacon's *Australia in Space* provided audiences with engaging insights into our universe and Australia's aerospace development and innovations.

The hugely popular *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* delighted local, State and national audiences alike with a total of 16,048 visitors recorded. The exhibition realised an economic return to the City in excess of \$4.74 million through cultural tourism.

Local artists and creative practitioners featured proudly and prominently during 2022/2023, with a total of 22 exhibitions showcasing the rich contemporary cultural practice present within our community.

Key among these were community-led initiatives such as *United in Pink*, *Minds Do Matter*, *My World: Voice and Visibility* and *Urban Sketchers*.

Augmenting these group exhibitions, QVMAG's emphasis on profiling and celebrating solo practice was demonstrated through exhibitions such as *Tao Sublime*; *Lisa Garland: Inner Sanctums*; *Witness: Murray Fredericks*, *Te Wai Ngunguru: Nomads of the Sea*, *Lisa Reihana*; and *Tarkine Thine: A Log of our Undoing*, *Fiona Hall*.

Whilst by no means an exhaustive list of all the exhibitions staged at QVMAG, the above-mentioned examples highlight our commitment and demonstrable strategic shift towards the implementation and provision of a diverse, relevant and engaging exhibition program.

During 2022/2023 a total of 120,353 general visitors attended our exhibitions, with many supplementing this experience through engagement initiatives that provided greater insights and authentic and meaningful interactions.

Engagement outcomes and attendance figures are captured separately and are outlined within the Engagement section of the Annual Report.

## MAJOR EXHIBITIONS 2022/2023

The following is a list of the **major temporary** exhibitions presented at QVMAGs' two peak venues, the **Museum at Inveresk** and the **Art Gallery at Royal Park**, during the period 2022/2023.

These exhibitions were developed by QVMAG, by community groups with the support of QVMAG for display within the galleries, or curated by and toured from regional, state, national and international cultural organisations.

The listing also notes the category within which each exhibition aligns. QVMAG has established clear Exhibition Categories to ensure considered, transparent, and equitable programming of exhibitions is undertaken to cater to the community's needs and wants, and to provide foundations towards realising an **Activated** and **Accessible** QVMAG as defined in the *Futures Plan*.

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### MUSEUM AT INVERESK

- + ***HJ King: Cameras and Carburettors***  
28 August 2022 – 22 October 2023  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**
- + ***Suzanne Crowley***  
24 July – 30 September 2022  
**Local Component Exhibitions**
- + ***Minds Do Matter***  
1 October – 11 December 2022  
**Local Component Exhibitions**

- + ***United In Pink***  
15 October – 9 November 2022  
**Local Component Exhibitions**
- + ***Archie 100:  
A Century of the Archibald Prize***  
An Art Gallery of NSW Travelling Exhibition  
22 October 2022 – 8 January 2023  
**Major Touring Exhibitions**
- + ***Southern Sky Astrophotography:  
2022 David Malin Awards***  
A Powerhouse Museum  
Travelling Exhibition  
1 February – 30 April 2023  
**Major Touring Exhibitions**
- + ***Witness: Murray Fredericks***  
18 February – 21 May 2023  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**
- + ***My World: Voice and Visibility***  
20 May – 13 August 2023  
**Local Component Exhibitions**
- + ***2023 Tasmanian Art Teachers  
Association: Members Exhibition***  
22 May – 18 June 2023  
**Local Component Exhibitions**
- + ***Wildlife Photographer of the Year***  
A Natural History Museum, London,  
Travelling Exhibition  
10 June – 20 August 2023  
**Major Touring Exhibitions**
- + ***Australia In Space***  
A Questacon Travelling Exhibition  
17 June – 15 October 2023  
**Major Touring Exhibitions**

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**GALLERY AT ROYAL PARK**

- + *Tao Sublime*  
4 December 2021 – 6 November 2022  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**
- + *JMW Turner*  
2 July – 31 July 2022  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**
- + *Artstart: Get up! Stand Up! Show Up!*  
3 July – 30 October 2022  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**
- + *Artstart: Our Home, Tasmania*  
27 November 2022 – 19 February 2023  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**
- + *Tarkine Thine: A Log of our Undoing*  
*Fiona Hall*  
12 November 2022 – 22 January 2023  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**
- + *Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition*  
26 November 2022 – 28 May 2023  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**
- + *ArtRage*  
17 December 2022 – 11 April 2023  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**
- + *Lisa Garland: Inner Sanctums*  
4 February – 14 May 2023  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**
- + *Facetime: The Stories and Faces from*  
*St Giles 85 years*  
18 February – 25 June 2023  
**Local Component Exhibitions**
- + *Te Wai Ngunguru: Nomads of the Sea*  
*Lisa Reihana*  
3 March – 18 June 2023  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**
- + *The Big Picture*  
18 March – 18 June 2023  
**Local Component Exhibitions**
- + *Mason | Marsden*  
6 May – 16 July 2023  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**
- + *Urban Sketchers*  
27 May – 27 August 2023  
**Local Component Exhibitions**
- + *Evolution*  
10 June – 27 August 2023  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**
- + *RISE*  
24 June – 15 October 2023  
**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**

IN FOCUS

## TAO SUBLIME

### *Tao Sublime*

4 December 2021 – 6 November 2022

Art Gallery at Royal Park

QVMAG Curated Exhibitions

Drawing upon Tony Smibert's expertise and mastery in the representation of landscape through watercolour practice, *Tao Sublime* expanded upon Smibert's oeuvre, showcasing for the first time the artist's recent exploratory works in large scale painting.

With a creative practice spanning more than 40 years, his works are heavily influenced by European and Asian traditions, with Smibert's mastery in his chosen medium being recognised and celebrated by some of the world's most distinguished and recognised cultural institutions, such as Tate Britain, London, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. In late 2021, the Metropolitan Museum of Art engaged Smibert in the development and delivery of masterclasses to its audiences, affording the artist the opportunity to showcase to a global audience his mastery of the techniques of JMW Turner, and what is highly regarded as the British Golden Age of watercolour tradition.

In partnership with the Allport Library and Museum of Fine Art, QVMAG was pleased to loan and showcase as part of *Tao Sublime* arguably the only original Turner work held within Tasmanian collections.

*Cattewater, Plymouth circa 1820s* presented viewers to the exhibition with a unique opportunity to experience firsthand an original Turner watercolour, but further, offered a unique insight into the inspiration that has underpinned Smibert's creative practice.

Whilst globally renowned for his signature watercolour landscapes, *Tao Sublime* presented to audiences Smibert's recent large-scale paintings which draw heavily from Asian spirituality and ink wash brushwork. These bold, expressive and monochromatic works delighted audiences to the exhibition and herald an exciting new chapter in the artist's approach.

Smibert's practice clearly resounded with audiences with a total of **21,518 visitors** viewing the exhibition. Supporting *Tao Sublime*, QVMAG developed a dynamic and engaging suite of programs that provided participants with unparalleled access to the artist and unique experiences and insights into the artist's approach. A total of **15 programs** attracting **393 participants** were delivered, with a standout *Art + Performance* initiative that allowed participants to witness firsthand Smibert's practice live alongside interpretative music performed by solo contemporary harpist Emily Sanzaro.

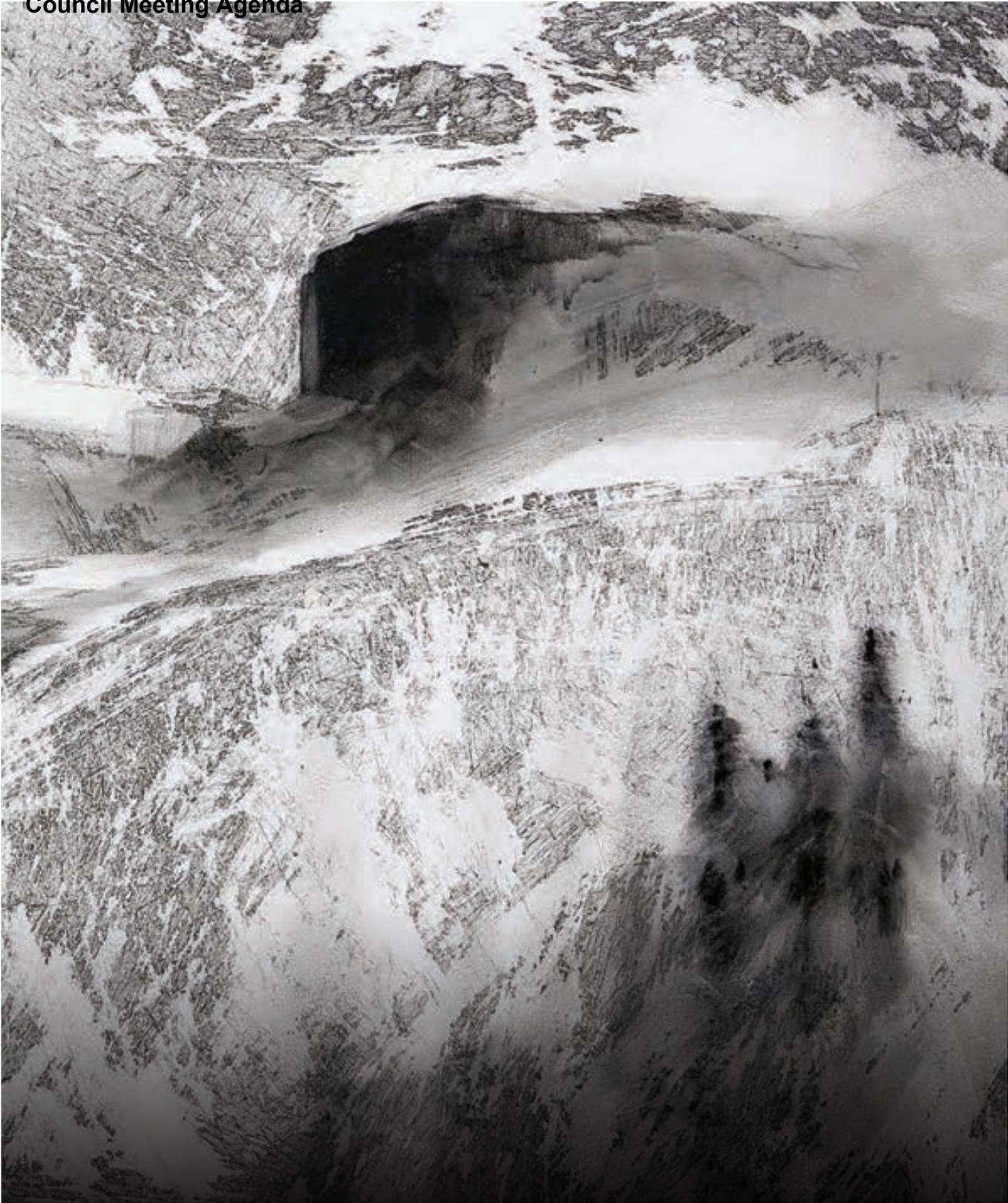


Tony Smibert in his studio, Deloraine  
photo: Carmencita Palermo  
© QVMAG



**Tony SMIBERT**  
Born 1949, Melbourne, Victoria

*Tao Sublime S* [detail] 2019  
acrylic on canvas  
121.0 x 183.0 cm  
photo: image courtesy of the Artist





**Natasha BIENIEK**  
Born 1984, Melbourne, Australia

**Wendy Whiteley [detail] 2016**  
oil on wood  
13.5 x 18.5 cm  
Collection of the Artist

IN FOCUS

# ARCHIE 100 A Century of the Archibald Prize

*Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize*  
22 October 2022 – 8 January 2023  
Museum at Inveresk  
Major Touring Exhibitions

From 22 October 2022 to 8 January 2023 QVMAG welcomed *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* to the Museum at Inveresk. The exhibition tour celebrated 100 years of Australia's most renowned portrait prize, and explored the Archibald Prize across its history, revealing fascinating stories behind 100 carefully selected artworks.

Resulting from many years of searching for lost portraits, the exhibition featured works from the Art Gallery of New South Wales' collection as well as works from libraries, galleries and museums across Australia and New Zealand, and private Australian and international collections alike.

QVMAG was thrilled to receive **16,048 ticketed visitors** to the *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* exhibition, generating an estimated **\$4.74 million** into the Launceston economy through cultural tourism and destination marketing.

We welcomed a wonderful percentage of international visitors through the exhibition doors and saw local Tasmanian communities show their support from right across the State to visit the display.

Visitation from the Victorian market to this exhibition was a positive reflection of our marketing strategy as part of overall campaigning efforts.

QVMAG partnered with Visit Northern Tasmania, Oroton, The Examiner, 7 Tasmania and Flying Colours to develop and deliver a saturated campaign to promote the exhibition and increase local and tourism exposure to this unique experience.

The campaign was activated through a mix of owned, earned and paid mediums spanning media releases, print media activations, television promotion, billboard activations, industry platforms (i.e. Arts Hub), industry collaborations (Tourism RTO's) and digital marketing mediums.

From a top-tier messaging stance, all primary marketing collateral anchored to the outlined exhibition brand guidelines. From a content marketing standpoint, a clear focus was channelled into the storytelling of works on display and the artists behind them for use across owned social media channels.

Visitor feedback both in-person and online throughout the duration of the exhibition was incredibly positive and supportive of the exhibition, particularly surrounding Launceston as the exclusive Tasmanian venue and the *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* as a destination experience for local, state and national cultural tourism.

The exhibition tour brought a sense of vibrancy and activation to the City during this holiday period, and provided opportunities for community and industry collaboration.

Supporting the exclusive hosting of this exhibition, QVMAG developed a diverse and dynamic suite of programs that engaged local and visiting audiences with a series of rich and diversified activities, both on and off-site, involving several local and mainland artists/facilitators.

Throughout the exhibition display period a total of **19 on-site programs**, attracting **410 participants** were delivered.

Highlights included a special curatorial talk by AGNSW Curator of Australian Art, Natalie Wilson, who provided insights about the journey of the *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* exhibition development and subsequent tour.

Throughout the exhibition duration, weekly free 30-minute floor talks were held for exhibition ticket holders within the exhibition space by QVMAG Senior Curators of History and Visual Art and Design.

The opening of the *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* exhibition in Launceston was widely praised and welcomed by community and industry. We welcomed **170 guests** through the doors of the Museum for the VIP exhibition opening launch, providing an exclusive opportunity for institutional Friends and Arts Foundation members alongside local politicians, industry guests and artists to enjoy.

QVMAG was proud to welcome Dr Bob Brown as guest speaker at the opening event, creating a wonderful link to the work by artist Geoff Dyer on display within the exhibition. Dr Brown was delighted to open the celebrations on the evening and to officially welcome this exhibition tour to Tasmania, of which his portrait is on display within. Guests on the evening enjoyed an evening of drinks, canapes and guest speakers, alongside live music and entry to the exhibition.

The event saw the activation of the large-scale entrance hall of the Museum at Inveresk with lighting, backdrops and a live portrait sketching for guests, with various Tasmanian portrait artists allowing the sitter to take home their own portrait at the end of the evening.

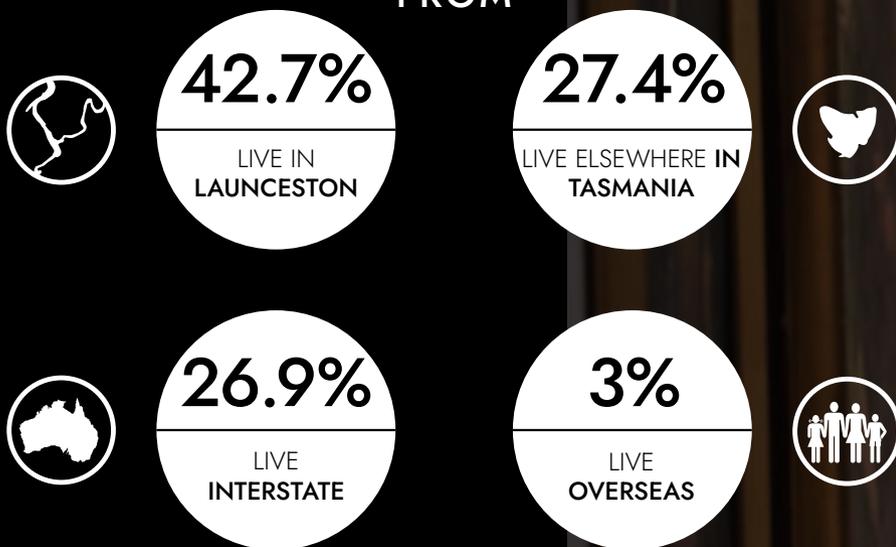
Feedback from the evening highlighted the high level of community anticipation around the opening of the *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* tour to QVMAG, creating a fantastic 'buzz' on the evening that continued into lasting community conversations throughout the display period.



Guests at the opening launch of  
*Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize*  
photo: Carmencita Palermo  
© QVMAG

16,048   
VISITORS

FROM



CONTRIBUTING  
**\$4.74 million**  
TO THE LAUNCESTON ECONOMY



*Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize Exhibition view*  
Photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG



*Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize exhibition view*  
Photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG



## IN FOCUS

# JIMMY POSSUM

## an Unbroken Tradition

### *Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition*

26 November 2022 – 28 May 2023

Art Gallery at Royal Park

QVMAG Curated Exhibitions

*Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition* realised the largest and most comprehensive exhibition ever developed in Australian history to explore, research, and highlight this uniquely northern Tasmanian tradition, affectionately known as the Jimmy Possum chair.

In partnership with Dr Mike Epworth, QVMAG curated, assembled, and showcased more than 50 unique works, drawn from 15 individual makers, enabling audiences to explore the mysterious origins of this unique chair-making tradition, alongside gaining valuable insights into the materials, techniques and aesthetics which define this often-overlooked furniture design in the national and international lexicon.

The exhibition not only showcased exemplars of this tradition, spanning 150 years of lineage and continuity, but further explored the rich and interconnected personal narratives that each work holds with makers and collectors alike.

Whilst a uniquely Tasmanian vernacular and focus, the exhibition drew broad interest and appeal from audiences nationally, with a total of **19,108 visitors** engaging with the works.

*Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition* was accompanied by a substantial publication which proved popular with visitors, throughout and following the close of the exhibition.

Given the unique northern Tasmanian context explored within the exhibition, QVMAG was pleased to receive and formally accept from Dr Mike Epworth and the QVMAG Arts Foundation, respectively, the donation of two works for permanent inclusion into the QVMAG Collection.

These works are exquisite examples of the tradition and herald the first works of this style to be held by QVMAG, establishing an enduring legacy resulting from the exhibition that will inspire, educate, and inform future generations.

image opposite:

### Jimmy POSSUM

*Jimmy Possum Chair* circa 1895  
timber

Courtesy of CM and KJ Bovill  
photo: Angela Casey  
© QVMAG





**Unknown Maker**

*Lovejoy Chair* circa 1980  
timber

Courtesy of Chris Donaldson  
photo: Angela Casey  
© QVMAG



**Mike EPWORTH**

Born 1962, Roma, Queensland

*This is not a Jimmy Possum Chair* 2015

timber and varnished collage

Courtesy of Mike Epworth and Bronwyn Harm

photo: Angela Casey

© QVMAG

IN FOCUS

# WITNESS Murray Fredericks

*Witness: Murray Fredericks*

18 February – 21 May 2023

Museum at Inveresk

**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**

**Murray FREDERICKS**

Born 1970, Sydney, New South Wales

**SALT 300** [detail] 2006

digital pigment print on cotton rag

120.0 x 250.0 cm

photo: image courtesy of the Artist

© Murray Fredericks



48

In a first for Tasmanian audiences, QVMAG proudly developed and showcased a selection of 32 works spanning three defining series, produced over a ten year period, of internationally renowned Australian photomedia artist Murray Fredericks.

Tasmanian audiences have long held an affinity with both landscape and photography, with Fredericks' works well placed to challenge preconceived notions, inspire reflection and provide a platform for engagement. Whilst undeniably beautiful, Fredericks' works transcend beyond the mere ocular and push the boundaries of photography and how we see and feel the natural world.

Typically, photographs of landscapes are conventionally perceived as mirroring something real, implying that the work requires the viewer some semblance of knowing the details of cultural, geographical or historical contexts through which to interpret the work, otherwise the subjective representation, without these contexts, merely becomes an encounter with the photographer as author, a self-portrait of its creator.

Understanding the formal rigour and discipline which underpins photomedia practice is to then truly appreciate the artistic integrity and excellence in Fredericks' works. Through his mastery of the constructs and theories of photography he produces works which redefine the language of photography, elevating his works beyond the mimetic confines normally associated with the medium.

Through the works presented in *Witness: Murray Fredericks*, audiences experienced a rare opportunity to gain an insight into the artist, his technique, commitment and how his works serve to remind us of the contradictory yet interwoven forces of nature, at once spectacular and sublime, destructive and transformative, and the spatial relationships prevalent in these regions.

Awe-inspiring... breathtaking... alien... spectacular... sublime... were just a few comments provided by the **19,309 visitors** to the exhibition when describing the work of Murray Fredericks as he shared with us the beauty, power and enormity of some of the most unique landscapes in the world.





**Murray FREDERICKS**  
Born 1970, Sydney, New South Wales

**SALT 21 [detail]** 2005  
digital pigment print on cotton rag  
120.0 x 150.0 cm

photo: image courtesy of the Artist  
© Murray Fredericks



IN FOCUS

## HJ KING Cameras and Carburettors

### *HJ King: Cameras and Carburettors*

28 August 2022 – 22 October 2023

Museum at Inveresk

**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**

*HJ King: Cameras and Carburettors* represents the culmination of years of research into the life and work of local amateur photographer Herbert John King (1892–1973).

Featuring two loan items, 59 large reproduced photographs, four oversized vinyl prints, 50 artefacts from the QVMAG collection, including original albums and objects, lantern slides, natural sciences specimens and oral history recordings, this exhibition is the first large-scale acknowledgement of the importance of the life and work of HJ King.

The exhibition is accompanied by a 160 page publication featuring essays by researcher Dr Nic Haygarth, exhibition curator Jon Addison and QVMAG General Manager Shane Fitzgerald, and 139 high quality photographs from the HJ King Collection.

The publication was launched with a talk from nationally recognised photograph and lantern slide expert Associate Professor Martyn Jolly.

HJ King was co-owner of John King and Sons - a motorcycle and bicycle shop. He was a passionate and highly talented photographer, who used motorcycles, cars and aircraft to explore his home State, and cameras to record it. He also left his mark as the photographer who undertook the first ever aerial survey of any Australian town or city. This groundbreaking image features in the exhibition, reproduced at a size that King himself would not have been able to consider, but which is testament to the quality of his work.

Although QVMAG already held a significant King collection, a further catalyst for the exhibition and publication was the donation in 2014 of over 3,500 of King's original glass plate slides and cellulose negatives, which, after scanning by QVMAG staff, allowed the reproduction of the photographs at superb quality.

This collection demonstrated the excellence and breadth of HJ King's photography; qualities that are well represented in this popular exhibition.

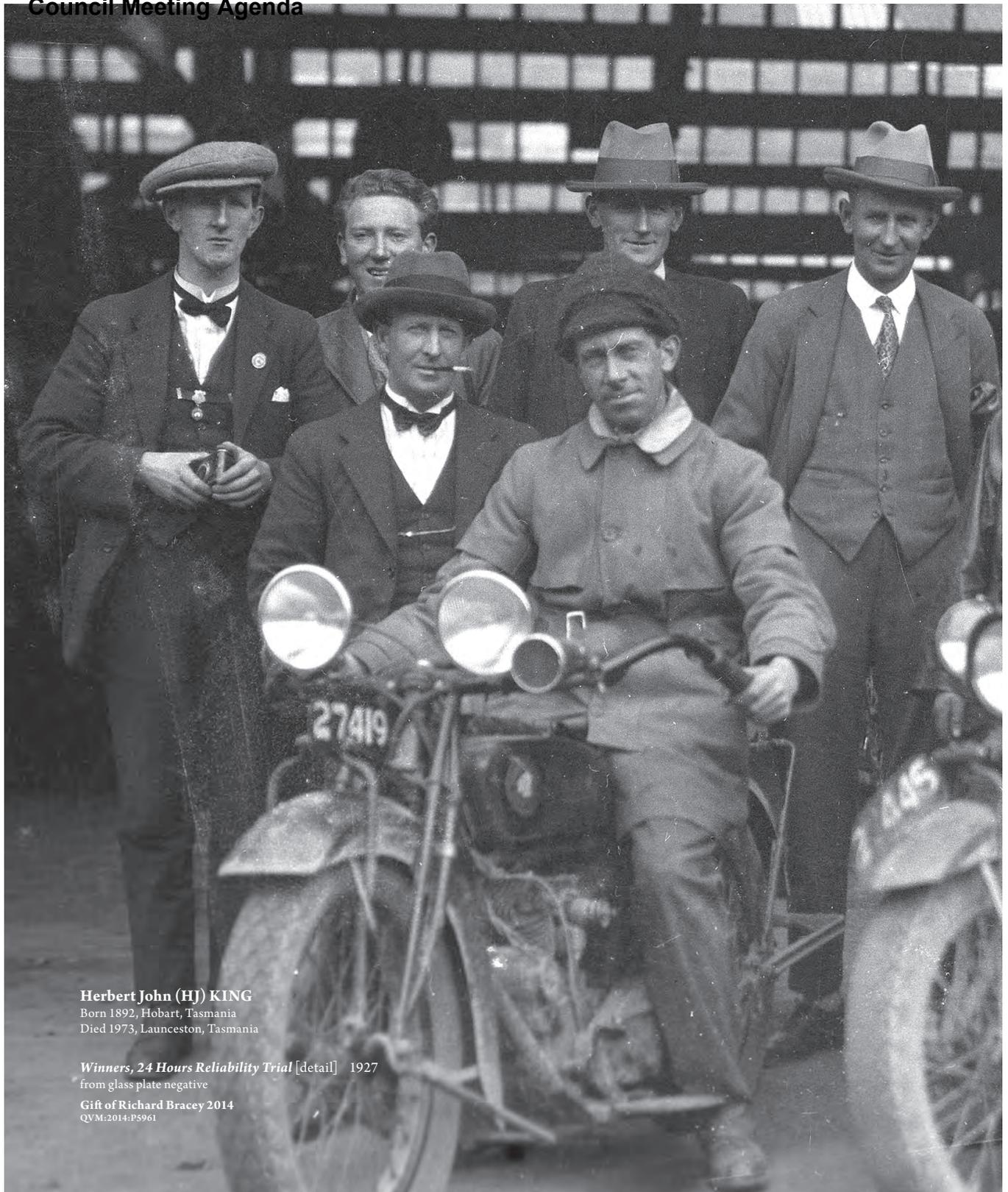


**Champion V-twin motorcycle 1919**

John King and Sons, Launceston

Exhibition view *HJ King: Cameras and Carburetors*  
Museum at Inveresk

photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG



**Herbert John (HJ) KING**  
Born 1892, Hobart, Tasmania  
Died 1973, Launceston, Tasmania

*Winners, 24 Hours Reliability Trial* [detail] 1927  
from glass plate negative

Gift of Richard Bracey 2014  
QVM:2014:P5961







IN FOCUS

## MASON | MARSDEN

### *Mason | Marsden*

6 May – 16 July 2023

Art Gallery at Royal Park

### **QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**

Showcasing and celebrating more than 50 years of artistic practice and creative partnership by two of Launceston's most loved and admired artists, Penny Mason and David Marsden.

*Mason | Marsden* proved to be immensely popular with audiences both familiar and unfamiliar with the Art Gallery at Royal Park.

More than 100 works from 19 lenders across Australia were showcased, capturing all periods of their solo and collaborative practice— from meeting at art school in the early 1970s through to works made in the past 12 months.

*Mason | Marsden* continues QVMAG's ongoing commitment to supporting local artists at all stages of their practice, and through the exhibition, celebrated and highlighted the profoundly significant impact and influence that both Mason and Marsden have affected within the Launceston cultural environment.

Mason and Marsden's huge impact on the growth of creative practice in Launceston is underpinned by their unwavering support of the local community and a commitment to education spanning more than 30 years of arts education and advocacy.

Individually and collectively, they have inspired generations of practitioners within our region, whilst establishing and nurturing their own individual creative practice, having worked alongside notable contemporaries such as Bea Maddock, Raymond Arnold, and Sue Henderson, with works held in major state and national collections throughout Australia.





**Penny MASON**  
Born 1950, Hobart, Tasmania

*North Esk River walks* [detail] 2021  
watercolour on paper  
75.0 x 105.0 cm  
photo: Peter Whyte Photography



**David MARSDEN**  
Born 1949, Camberwell, Victoria

*Untitled* [detail] 2019  
watercolour, gum bichromate, gouache, ink and pastel on paper  
25.0 x 50.0 cm  
photo: courtesy of the Artist

## IN FOCUS

## RISE

**RISE**

24 June – 15 October 2023

Gallery at Royal Park

**QVMAG Curated Exhibitions**

In a first in Tasmanian institutional cultural practice, the inaugural biennial *RISE* provides an innovative and unprecedented opportunity for artists, collectors, audiences, and students to engage and support early career creative practitioners, hitherto unrealised in the Tasmanian cultural environment.

QVMAG has a proud legacy in supporting creative practice at all stages of development; through nurturing curious minds and creative souls in primary and secondary education via *Artstart* and *ArtRage*, respectively; showcasing the creative practice of mid-career northern Tasmanian artists in group or solo exhibitions; and in partnership with our affiliates, such as the QVMAG Arts Foundation, through significant initiatives with established practitioners via major solo exhibitions and unique commissions such as the *Masterpieces for Tasmania Fund*.

*RISE* continues our commitment to Tasmanian cultural development and living contemporary practice advocacy, providing a unique platform for us to carefully curate a selection of the State's leading emerging practitioners, who are often overlooked and similarly drawn away from Tasmania to further develop their artistic careers on the mainland.

*RISE* 2023 showcases a diverse field of emerging artists heralding from all parts of the State and representing, collectively, a broad spectrum of creative practice and diverse media.

Audience responses to the *RISE* exhibition to date are extremely positive [*RISE* continues its display period until 15th October 2023] and qualitative support for the initiative has been resounding with two of the participating artists securing commercial gallery representation and six works from the exhibition being acquired by collectors.

**RISE 2023 Contributing Artists**

- + Katie Barron
- + Travis Bell
- + Harrison Bowe
- + Elizabeth Braid
- + Eloise Daintree
- + Katelyn Geard
- + Eddie James
- + Lorna Quinn
- + Frances Reeve-Palmer
- + Stephanie Reynolds



**Katie BARRON**  
Born 1994, Canada  
Movements: Launceston, Tasmania, Australia

*Under Wraps* 2023  
oil on canvas  
60.9 x 91.4 cm

photo: courtesy of the Artist



**Stephanie REYNOLDS**

*Anastasia* [detail] 2023  
lokta paper and fine Japanese lace paper  
72.0 x 170.0 cm  
photo: courtesy of the Artist





**Brandon GÜELL**  
Costa Rica / United States of America

*Treefrog pool party* [detail]  
Courtesy Natural History Museum, London

photo: Brandon Güell  
© Brandon Güell

IN FOCUS

## WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

### *Wildlife Photographer of the Year*

10 June – 20 August 2023

Museum at Inveresk

### **Major Touring Exhibitions**

Since 1965 the Natural History Museum, London, has captivated audiences worldwide by showcasing the unique and beautiful relationship between photography, science and art through its prestigious annual *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* international photographic competition.

Now in its 58th year, QVMAG was delighted to bring this outstanding global phenomenon to Tasmania, entering a three-year partnership with the Natural History Museum to ensure the international awards grace our shores for audiences to experience first-hand, right here in Launceston.

The competition's awe-inspiring images of wild animals in their environments, captured by photographers from around the planet, are equally thought-provoking, inspiring and poignant, as a reminder of the beauty, majesty and changing natural world within which we are placed.

Although most appreciated as a photographic competition, the works entered each year serve as important visual resources, allowing researchers and scientists at the Natural History Museum greater scientific understanding and insights into the natural realm, and animal habitats and behaviour, helping to further their conservation and protection.

In the 2022 finalists exhibition, QVMAG showcased 86 entries from photographers heralding from 36 countries from around the world. Within these finalists, four Australian photographers were included in the exhibition, each receiving highly commended awards for their works.

*Wildlife Photographer of the Year* demonstrated once again our community's enduring interest and passion for the natural environment with a pleasing **24,660 visitors** recorded to the exhibition. Attendees at the exhibitions launch were treated to a special live stream address from Mr Brad Irwin, Head of Global Engagement, Natural History Museum, London, who shared his insights into the impact of the exhibition in worldwide conservation efforts.



**Richard ROBINSON**  
New Zealand

*The right look* [detail]

Courtesy Natural History Museum, London  
photo: Richard Robinson  
© Richard Robinson



IN FOCUS

# AUSTRALIA IN SPACE

## *Australia In Space*

17 June – 15 October 2023

Museum at Inveresk

### **Major Touring Exhibitions**

For well over a century, QVMAG has supported and nurtured curious minds through the development and provision of STEAM based experiences for our community and visitors alike.

Our commitment to formal and informal learning is unwavering, and as an educational institution we seek to further develop unique opportunities that inspire the next generation of critical thinkers, engineers, creative practitioners, scientists, and so forth, ensuring that through our contribution, we provide hands-on learning experiences which supplement pathways for STEAM development.

In April 2023, we farewelled the much-loved interactive exhibition *Phenomena Factory*. For over 15 years, *Phenomena Factory* was recognised as a staple in the northern Tasmanian community as a destination interactive exhibition that delighted and engaged the young, and young at heart, attracting over 1.5 million visitors, including intergenerational repeat visitation.

From June 2023, QVMAG was delighted to enter into an exclusive partnership with Questacon, The National Science and Technology Centre, Canberra, in hosting their new major travelling exhibition *Australia in Space*.

Through immersive interactives, play-based learning, and hands-on activities, visitors to *Australia in Space* can explore Australia's rich history and significant contribution to space development, exploration and technological advancement, including Tasmania's role in our nation's innovation efforts in the aerospace industry.

*Australia in Space* has proved to be popular with audiences, recording an encouraging 6,586 visitors to the exhibition during the initial 14 days of display that fall within this reporting period.



Visitors exploring the *Australia in Space* exhibition  
Photo: Questacon  
© Questacon



City of Launceston Mayor Matthew Garwood exploring the  
*Australia in Space* exhibition

Photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG



## ENGAGEMENT OVERVIEW

From the period of July – November 2022, QVMAG underwent a significant strategic shift in the development, provision and delivery of qualitative engagement opportunities throughout all aspects of the institutional environment. This strategic development work culminated from the adoption and endorsement of the *Futures Plan* in June 2022, review of the statewide community, sector and stakeholder survey results, and our own **Service Level Review** activities undertaken throughout 2022.

In responding to a need to completely overhaul and revitalise our engagement strategies, and in a first for the institution, a dedicated **Programmatic Development Group** (PDG) was convened charged with identifying and implementing a holistic suite of exhibitions, programs, education initiatives and engagement opportunities which met the institutional objectives of being an accessible and activated QVMAG defined through Key Directions Three and Four of *Futures Plan*.

We recognise that engagement is the cornerstone of institutional practice, and as a distinctly regional institution, it is essential that QVMAG enables genuine and frequent connections between community and the arts and sciences through immersive online and curated experiences.

Access to a vibrant and dynamic QVMAG which reflects the ambitions and aspirations of our stakeholders and the community, and responsive to the distinctive identity, cultural legacies and traditions of the region, is pivotal.

As a public collecting institution with a diverse portfolio spanning research, natural sciences, history, visual arts and design, cultural activation, community capacity building and education, QVMAG's scope is broad and extends far beyond that seen in other regional centres.

Through the focus and commitment of the PDG it is pleasing to note that in a mere seven months unprecedented quantitative and qualitative results have been achieved across all areas of activity throughout the institution.

These results not only provide confirmation of the initiatives developed and delivered throughout 2022/2023 but further demonstrate our community's desire for the provision of accessible and relevant creative and cultural experiences.

Within the public programs outcomes for the reporting period we have realised a staggering **112% increase**, with **1,094 public programs** delivered to **29,304 participants**, well above the 827 public programs and 13,780 participants in the year prior.

Similar results have been realised in attendance in our Planetarium reaching an historical attendance record during 2022/2023. An increase in student numbers through our education program was coupled with the realisation of QVMAG being a destination for schools not only throughout Tasmania but further afield in Victoria and New South Wales alike, and a **161% increase** in attendance to our launches, functions, and events.

# OUTPUTS

	21/22	22/23
Total number of Education Programs	399	390
Total visitation Education Programs	7,112	8,606
Total number of Schools Engaged	80	93
Total number of Public Programs	827	1,094
Total visitation Public Programs	13,780	29,304
Total number Launches/Functions/Events	20	28
Total attendees Launches/Functions/Events	818	2,136
Total number of Planetarium shows	588	650
Total attendees Planetarium	7,823	10,134
Total number Lectures	25	28
Total attendees Lectures	1,258	1,783
Total number of living Producers engaged	not recorded	92
<b>Total number all Programs</b>	<b>1,226</b>	<b>1,484</b>
<b>Total visitation all Programs</b>	<b>20,892</b>	<b>37,910</b>



Lunar New Year celebrations  
at the Art Gallery at Royal Park

Photo: Carmencita Palermo  
© QVMAG

These significant achievements are not only a testament to the quality and relevance of our programmatic strategies. They also affirm our approach in the activation of our sites, especially the Art Gallery at Royal Park, in addition to the quality and breadth of diversity of our programmatic offer, which clearly resonated with local, state and national audiences alike.

Broadly defined, our new strategies provide unique opportunities for genuine and authentic engagement, whether that be through personal insights into the practices of living practitioners, educators, scientists and researchers; unprecedented interaction and engagement between community and QVMAG staff, including the QVMAG collection; and the development and presentation of bespoke sensory experiences through the facilitation of multi-disciplinary initiatives as realised through the *Art + Performance* series, to name a few.

Importantly, it is not solely the quantitative outcomes that determine our programmatic development. A key focus of any cultural institution is the provision, facilitation and dissemination of knowledge and qualitative experiences. During the reporting period QVMAG developed, delivered and supported a breadth of initiatives that showcased community, provided insights into contemporary research, provided opportunities for genuine Aboriginal cultural appreciation, or intimate insights into creative practice.

Highlights amongst these included the diverse suite of initiatives and experiences as part of our *Community Connections* program, which celebrated and showcased perspectives and insights from a broad cross-section of our community.

These included **Lunar New Year Celebrations** at the Art Gallery at Royal Park, **NAIDOC Week** across all QVMAG sites, **Pride Month** at the Museum at Inveresk, which included a QVMAG brand takeover during this period, the recognition and celebration of our region's inspirational women through **International Women's Day** initiatives, **May the 4th** celebrations, **Mental Health Awareness**, and Launceston's migrant community in the *United in Pink* exhibition.

Notably, QVMAG hosted two major conferences during 2022/2023. The biennial *Oral History Australia Conference* was hosted 13–15 October 2022 and the biennial *Dragon Tails Conference* (exploring the Australasian Chinese diaspora) was hosted 10–14 November 2022.

Both attracted history researchers from around the country and provided valuable connections between attendees and the seeding of further opportunities in the future.

The above-mentioned overview is but a succinct and summarised insight into the engagement outcomes that were realised by QVMAG during 2022/2023.

A selected series of highlights follow throughout this section serving to provide a more detailed overview of key highlights within our Education and Public Programs initiatives, alongside the measures of success specific to each area of activity.



## EDUCATION OVERVIEW

Life-long learning and STEAM-based education is a central pillar within the strategic objectives of QVMAG, with a dedicated focus on embedding learning opportunities into all offerings as part of the institution's commitment to innovation, accessibility and excellence.

The ongoing aim of QVMAG is to develop and employ curriculum-based learning opportunities through formal education offerings, hosted sessions, classes and hands-on learning workshops and activities on-site and via educational outreach programs; with a clear focus on local content to create close connections within our community.

Throughout the year, a diverse range of novel and engaging, informal and formal, learning experiences were delivered, led by trained educators outside of a traditional educational environment. Such educational offerings allowed stakeholders to co-create with the institution to tailor programs for early-years, primary, secondary and tertiary student levels. The development of curriculum-based learning opportunities focused on STEAM education, guiding student inquiry, dialogue, and critical thinking. Programs were developed to deliver engaging content and experiential activities for students of all ages, exploring the Arts within the context of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

During 2022/2023, the institution delivered **390 educational programs to 8,606 participants** across a diverse suite of programs, including student-led exhibitions, education tours, targeted classes, and workshops, just to name a few.

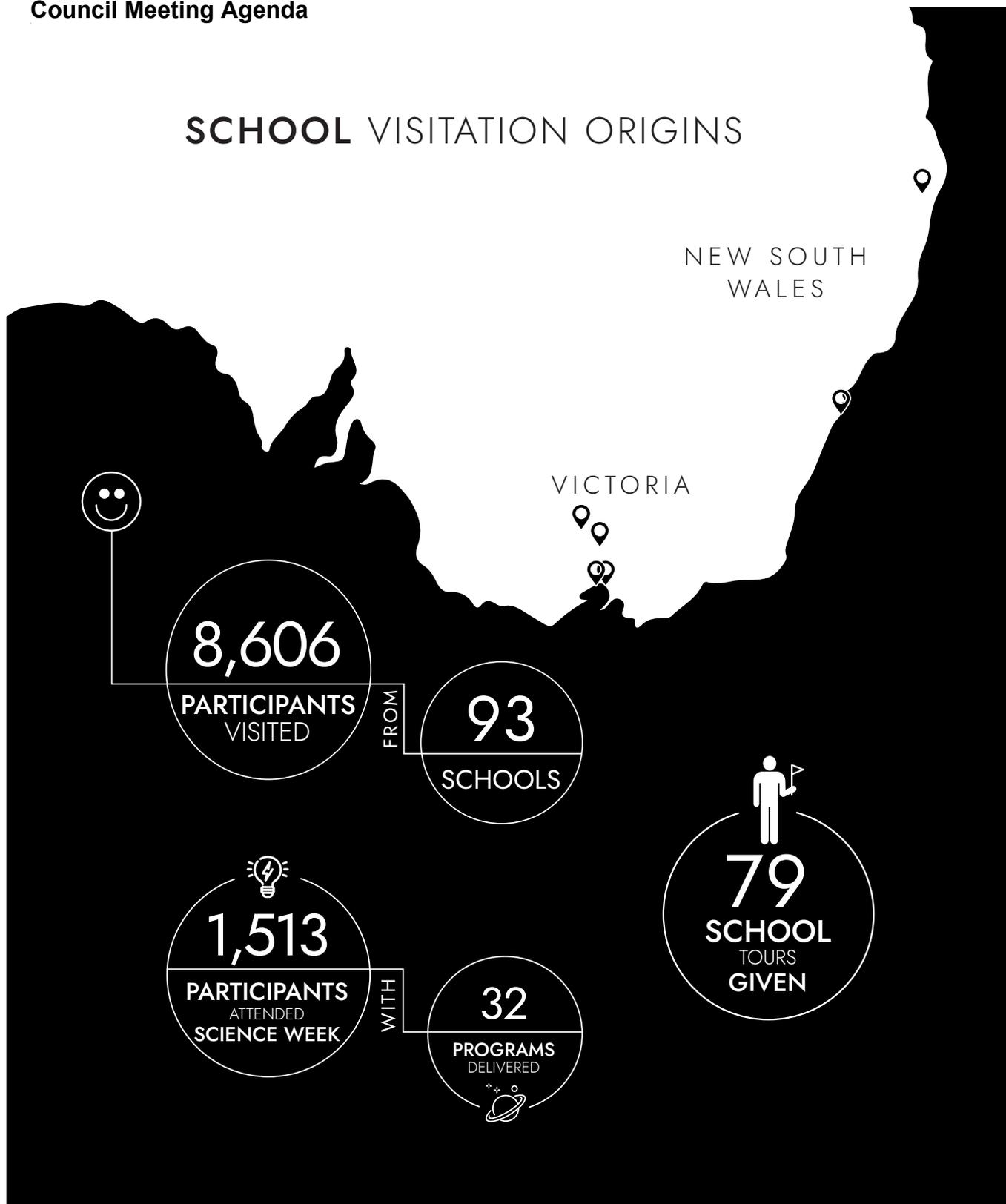
Pleasingly, the institution broadened its appeal and reach during the reporting period hosting on-site engagements with primary and secondary schools, colleges and universities across northern Tasmania, the State and southern mainland Australia. Throughout the reporting period a total **93 individual schools** participated in a QVMAG educational experience, increasing from 80 in the year prior.

As the institution continues to deliver renewed educational program delivery as outlined in the strategic priorities of the *Futures Plan*, our focus will equally be placed on developing and implementing online learning opportunities, outreach programs for schools throughout northern Tasmania, and increased off-site engagement linked with unprecedented access to our collections. In support of these initiatives, and over the next three years, QVMAG will continue to embrace ever-evolving digital culture, leading to better-connected contemporary cultural experiences for Tasmanian schools and broader education audiences, ensuring that our educational offer will become embedded within classrooms in addition to on-site engagement.

# OUTPUTS

	21/22	22/23
Total onsite Education Programs	398	386
Total offsite Education Programs	1	4
Total Primary Schools participation	55	48
Total Primary Students participation	4,112	4,395
Total Secondary Schools participation	23	31
Total Secondary Students participation	1,956	3,232
Total Tertiary Students participation	60	163
Total number of School Tours	93	79
Total number Students School Tours	2,237	1,498
Total number of Science Week Programs	30	32
Total attendance Science Week	687	1,513

## SCHOOL VISITATION ORIGINS





IN FOCUS

## ARTSTART

During 2022/2023, QVMAG realised a significant achievement in the holistic provision and delivery of creative and cultural initiatives which qualitatively span the entire spectrum of creative practice.

Through the introduction of the inaugural biennial **RISE** initiative, we are now **the only public institution in Tasmania**, and one of few in Australia more broadly, supporting creative expression, critical thinking and arts-based learning throughout every stage of cultural development.

Our collective suite of initiatives – **Artstart >> ArtRage >> RISE >> mid-career projects >> established artist surveys** – provide consistent and defined pathways for creative development, which foster, support, showcase and ultimately celebrate our region's young curious minds, aspiring artists, emerging practitioners, mid-career and established practitioners.

The qualitative outcomes from our strategic and holistic approach towards cultural development is profound and demonstrable.

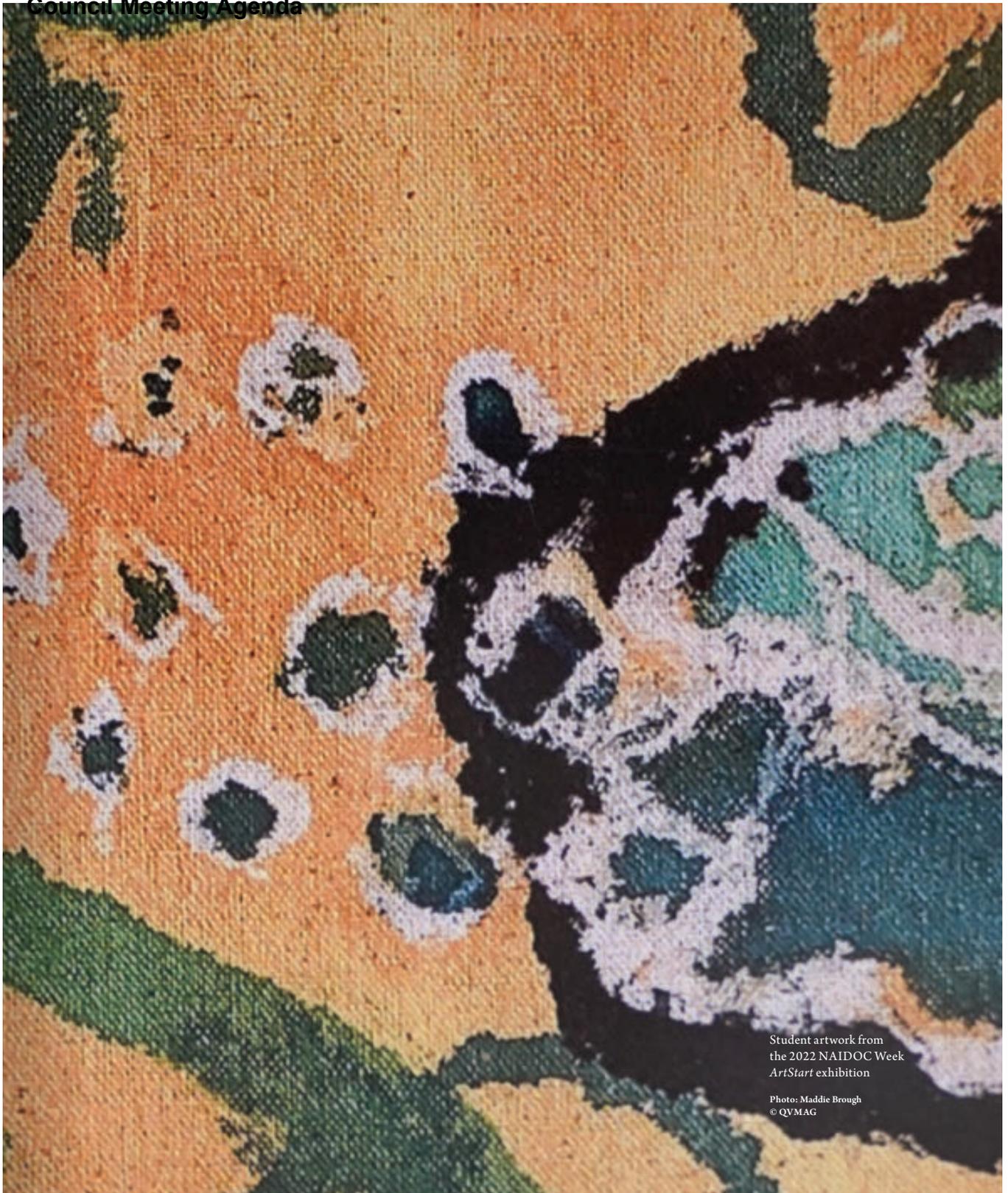
Over the past 28 years in the provision of **ArtRage**, QVMAG is proud to witness the professional development of student exhibitors who forge successful careers in creative practice in their adult life – many of whom return to the institution in future projects in initiatives such as **RISE** or through mid-career QVMAG developed projects.

A QVMAG initiative, **ArtStart** is the catalyst through which young curious minds commence their journey and is a K–6 art exhibition program developed and managed by QVMAG, designed to encourage children's participation in the visual arts.

Each iteration of the program is centred around a determined thematic construct which supports and fosters early critical thinking practice and student-led visual and curatorial development. Schools from northern Tasmania are invited to submit artworks around the nominated theme and a body of student-led curators are identified in the development of the exhibition, providing a unique opportunity into curatorial practice, artwork selection and exhibition management.

Each year QVMAG will develop and showcase between two to four **Artstart** initiatives with the resulting exhibition outcomes displayed in the Children's Gallery at the Art Gallery at Royal Park. During 2022/2023 QVMAG developed and delivered two **Artstart** initiatives each with their own student curatorial leads and identified thematic approaches.

**5,683 visitors** viewed **ArtStart: Get up! Stand Up! Show Up!** as part of QVMAG's NAIDOC Week celebrations, and from 27 November 2022 – 19 February 2023, **8,237 visitors** attended **ArtStart: Our Home, Tasmania**, a student-led visual exploration of what Tasmania represents to our youth.



Student artwork from  
the 2022 NAIDOC Week  
*ArtStart* exhibition

Photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG



**Max EDMUNDS**

Launceston College

*Wandering an eternal darkness* [detail] 2022

digital photograph

photo: Angela Casey

## IN FOCUS

## ARTRAGE

A QVMAG initiative *ArtRage* is the only annual exhibition which celebrates, promotes and recognises the outstanding achievement of art students from State and non-State secondary schools throughout Tasmania.

Over its 28-year history *ArtRage* has become an essential component in arts education in the secondary school environment, providing a platform through which student artists are able to showcase their creative practice.

Each year this exhibition shares a unique and inspiring snapshot into the creative minds of talented Tasmanian students at the height of their art-making abilities, with the 2022 iteration being no exception.

Featuring works by **167 students** studying pre-tertiary visual arts drawn from **25 schools and colleges** from around the State, more than **370 individual works** were included in the 2022 iteration of *ArtRage*, signifying the largest quantity of works selected for inclusion in this annual exhibition since its inception in 1994.

Continuing our commitment in the provision of professional cultural development within our community, QVMAG invited guest curator, Patrick Sutczak, to lead the curatorial vision and student selection for *ArtRage 2022*.

A recognised artist, educator and curator, with over a decade of arts teaching experience at the University of Tasmania, School of Creative Arts and Media, and more recently teaching pre-tertiary art units at the Newstead and Launceston colleges, Patrick's insight into the creative process of each student and his individual curatorial flair realised an exhibition unprecedented in its scale and student inclusion across the Art Gallery at Royal Park.

*'The student is a powerhouse of possibility, and the teacher is a facilitator, a mentor, listener and a guide. And then we get something that drives the arts forward and into new and unexpected places... Our young artists are the next generation and that is why ArtRage is such a celebration of what is now, and what is to come.'*

Patrick Sutczak, *ArtRage 2022* Guest Curator

*ArtRage* is one of QVMAG's most visited annual exhibitions with the 2022 exhibition attracting a total of **15,468** visitors. In addition to the initial connection with the schools whose students' works were selected for the exhibition, all schools from the region and broader northern Tasmania visited *ArtRage 2022* as part of their arts curriculum studies for secondary and TCE college students.



**Emma JORDAN**  
Don College  
*Plastered [detail]* 2022  
oil paint  
photo: Angela Casey

# PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

## 2022/2023

### **BURNIE**

Marist Regional College  
Hellyer College

### **DEVONPORT**

Don College  
St Brendan-Shaw College

### **HOBART**

Hobart College  
Rosny College  
Elizabeth College  
Claremont College  
The Friends' School  
St Michael's Collegiate School  
Guilford Young College  
Fahan School  
The Hutchins School  
St Mary's College

### **KINGSTON**

Calvin Christian School  
Southern Christian School

### **LATROBE**

Geneva Christian School

### **LAUNCESTON**

Launceston College  
Launceston Christian School  
Launceston Church Grammar School  
Scotch Oakburn College  
Newstead College  
St Patrick's College

### **SMITHTON**

Circular Head Christian School

### **ULVERSTONE**

Leighland Christian School



IN FOCUS

## THE BIG PICTURE

Each year the institution is accessed by Tasmanian educators as an educational resource for students studying in K–12.

In 2023, a new collaboration was formed between QVMAG and the Big Picture School in Launceston in response to the development of a global photography competition, created by student Armon Caster as part of his Year 9 studies.

Armon Caster enrolled into his Year 9 studies at the Launceston Big Picture campus in 2022, and along with guidance from his teacher Robert Lewandowski, created the idea for the digital photography competition as part of an assignment within the global Big Picture School.

The concept of the competition was to create an opportunity for students within the Big Picture global school network to submit photographs, with the competition's finalists and winners to be featured in an exhibition at QVMAG.

Securing a sponsorship from photography brand Nikon to supply two cameras as competition prizes, the competition spanned five categories, including: Nature, Architecture, Photographic Art, Portraiture and Open.

The competition enabled students from the Big Picture learning network the opportunity to share their unique perspectives on the world, with Launceston students gaining the opportunity to learn in a hands-on environment about the process of developing a public gallery exhibition.

Working closely with the curatorial team, students were able to learn about the considerations and steps taken to host an exhibition while completing the project as part of their studies.

Through this initial collaboration, both QVMAG and the Big Picture School have identified a wide range of educational benefits to students, resulting in a new three-year exhibition collaboration to further continue supporting the educational outcomes of students studying at the Launceston campus.

This partnership further develops the institution's commitment to the education of visual arts to students across Tasmania in years K–12, through curriculum-linked educational tours and programs, in-classroom resources, art competitions, annual exhibitions and more.





**Sienna KITCHEN**  
Silkwood School, QLD, Australia  
*Creativity fills my soul 2022*

digital print

photo: courtesy of the Artist



**Nannette SHAW**

Born 1953, Launceston, Tasmania

***Kelp water carrier*** 2016-17

Black bull kelp, woven handles

7.0 x 12.0 x 8.0 cm

Donated by the artist, 2017

QVMAG Collection. QVM.2017.D.0002

IN FOCUS

## ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

In partnership with the Tasmanian Government's Department for Education, Children and Young People, QVMAG employs one of three **Aboriginal Learning Facilitators (ALFs)** in Tasmania.

The ALF Program is funded through the Department of Education, Children and Young People (DECYP) and the role supported by QVMAG and the City of Launceston, with each position employed at 0.6 FTE (that is, three days a week). They are Aboriginal-identified roles.

Within QVMAG, the role of the Aboriginal Learning Facilitator is to collaboratively develop and deliver a range of public and educational programs using QVMAG exhibitions and collections in order to support the Australian Curriculum on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures, with a primary focus on northern Tasmanian Aboriginal histories and cultures.

As an extension of this, the Facilitator supports school, local community and museum activities to close the gap in Aboriginal educational/awareness outcomes and other relevant initiatives.

During 2022/2023, the ALF program has delivered a wide variety of engagement outcomes, with a focus on children but with the intention of spanning a wide range of audiences.

The 2022/2023 program included:

- + Delivery of art workshops using traditional/contemporary materials and techniques.
- + Tours through *The First Tasmanians: our story* exhibition, enabling students the opportunity to engage with, and ask questions about, culture and cultural practices from a First Nations perspective.
- + Workshops offered to students, teachers and the general public to gain understanding of why cultural practice is important to Tasmanian Aboriginal people, and insights into cultural protocols and what constitutes culturally inappropriate use of Aboriginal art, materials and techniques.
- + Informal learning experiences for visitors in the QVMAG Aboriginal garden to gain an understanding that nature has and still does provide Aboriginal people with an abundance of foods, medicines and resources.
- + *ArtStart NAIDOC* program.

In all the offerings, attendees from culturally diverse backgrounds were encouraged to participate in open discussions, which can be challenging. Emphasis is placed on the continuity of Aboriginal culture, cultural practices and protocols. The Facilitator also assisted in ensuring Elders and the community feel culturally safe when visiting for meetings and gatherings at QVMAG.

Like all museums, QVMAG continues to be a contestable place for Aboriginal people, given past practices and the histories that were portrayed here.

Within QVMAG, the Facilitator has a role in ensuring that Aboriginal people are consulted and included in institutional decision-making. In this function, the Facilitator interlinks with QVMAG's Aboriginal Reference Group, which is discussed further in the Committee Reports section. Museums have a legacy of cultural appropriation, and the Facilitator plays an important role in ensuring that QVMAG is aware of unintentional colonial paradigms in decision-making in relation to Aboriginal people.

*ArtStart* is a K-6 art exhibition program developed and managed by QVMAG, designed to encourage children's participation in the visual arts. Schools from northern Tasmania are invited to submit artworks around a theme. The Aboriginal Learning Facilitator runs the June *ArtStart* based on the theme of NAIDOC Week. Three Aboriginal students are invited to guest curate and choose the works for the exhibition. A key goal is to give children from culturally diverse backgrounds an understanding of Aboriginal culture and important social and political messages.

In 2022/2023, more than 1,200 school students, teachers and family members engaged with the ALF program through formal school programs. Among this audience were 13 primary and three high schools from the greater Launceston area.

In addition, Science Week 2022 saw more than 700 people learn about Aboriginal necklace making and 180 students participated in the 2022 NAIDOC Week *ArtStart* launch. More than 100 people participated in a variety of workshops through the year in activities spanning the cultural significance of Aboriginal possum cloaks, traditional jewellery making and yarnning, and an innovative workshop on sculpturing from Tasmanian kelp.

The QVMAG Tasmanian Garden at Inveresk was used to introduce audiences to Aboriginal land stewardship and relationships with traditional food sources. An art workshop was held for young Aboriginal people as part of the Cornerstone Youth Services program. Cornerstone Youth Services deliver a range of services to young people aged 12 to 25, their families and friends, in northern Tasmania, focussing on health promotion, education, early intervention and prevention, advocacy, case management and developing help-seeking behaviours. The ALF also supported a tour by participants of Tasmanian Leaders, Tasmania's premier leadership development organisation.

The Aboriginal Learning Facilitator program has a tremendous capacity to grow and the importance of resourcing it cannot be overstated. QVMAG considers it essential to have Aboriginal perspectives and Aboriginal people delivering Aboriginal cultural business, and that all Tasmanians benefit from enhanced understanding of the history and cultures of the First Tasmanians.

Currently, the part-time status of the role impacts significantly on the number of tours and workshops that can be delivered. The demonstrated demand far outweighs the capacity to supply, and the sharing of Aboriginal culture by a single Aboriginal Learning Facilitator places undue cultural trauma on a single individual.

Increasing Aboriginal staff numbers will be a priority for QVMAG over the next few years. Ideally, QVMAG would have at least one additional ALF position (at 0.6 FTE).

This would empower the growth and diversification of the ALF program, provision of cultural support, and result in greater engagement with increased numbers of Aboriginal people, especially young Aboriginal people, and connect more community members with Aboriginal culture and history.



QVMAG Aboriginal Learning  
Facilitator Vicki West hosting  
possum skin storytelling  
community workshops

Photo: Carmencita Palermo  
© QVMAG

IN FOCUS

## SCIENCE WEEK

STEAM engagement and education has been a prevailing focus for QVMAG over many decades and a cornerstone of our annual programmatic offer for families and children alike.

Through the development of diverse, immersive, hands-on and accessible activities we encourage our audiences to engage with scientific concepts through play-based initiatives.

Each year the team at QVMAG develop programs which support STEAM-based learning and critical thinking development. Often thematic in context, our programs augment national efforts in science appreciation, although with a Launceston based relevance and flavour.

Our week-long celebration of all things science culminates in QVMAG's own *Big Day of Science* which year-on-year sees attendance growing at the Museum at Inveresk to the delight of children and adults alike.

2022/2023 was no exception when in August, the institution welcomed 30 class groups from 14 schools across northern Tasmania to the annual *QVMAG Science Week for Schools* program at the Museum.

With the 2022 theme of *Glass: More Than Meets the Eye*, students engaged with a wide range of activities relating to the use of glass in everyday life.

Activities included shows in the Launceston Planetarium, a short film showcasing the science of glass blowing in the Nuala O'Flaherty Auditorium, hands-on activities using magnifying glasses and microscopes, learning about the use of glass by Tasmanian Aboriginal people and their connection to Country, and creating pendant necklaces using glass beads, kelp and thread.

As part of the institution's free public programming for Science Week, the annual *Big Day of Science* welcomed scientists from across northern Tasmania to the Museum at Inveresk.

A total of 657 visitors enjoyed a range of programs on the day, including activities to learn how prisms refract light, how double-glazing works, free films in the Nuala O'Flaherty Auditorium, shows in the Launceston Planetarium, activities with local community groups and more.



2022 Science Week for Schools program

Photo: Carmencita Palermo  
© QVMAG

## PUBLIC PROGRAMS OVERVIEW

Building on QVMAG's reputation as northern Tasmania's primary destination for arts, culture and natural sciences, the delivery of annual programs and experiences during the 2022/2023 period were designed to engage audiences with the institution's collections, exhibitions and research within these fields.

During the reporting period, a strategic focus was placed on the development of, and future-focused planning for, programming opportunities that enable the institution to develop and deliver fresh, exclusive and immersive experiences for the ever-evolving audiences of QVMAG.

Programming throughout 2022/2023 saw the institution engage with a broad range of producers living and working in our region. In doing so, a series of place-based programs were developed, referencing our lives – not only here in Tasmania – but throughout Australia, and around the world.

We respect that our uniquely Tasmanian stories belong in, and with, our communities through connected cultural experiences.

As such, the institution's focus during this period provided opportunity to share stories of northern Tasmania with both local, national and international audiences; creating programming experiences relevant to all age groups, allowing our diverse community to engage in lifelong learning.

The *Futures Plan* has been a pivotal instrument toward building a sustainable future for arts, culture and science in Tasmania, and in turn activating dynamic and diverse programmatic offerings for community.

This period introduced a series of program firsts, involving QVMAG collections, local artists, and specialists in the community to deliver talk series, 'in conversations', family-based STEAM activities, and skill-based masterclass opportunities, all supporting the institution's goals towards program diversification and community outreach.

The reporting period saw a total of **92 practitioners** and community members from all over Tasmania engaged by QVMAG in delivering institutional programs, with the focus of developing new audiences while providing local content to enhance informal learning activities and further define our place-based programs.

This increased strategic focus on engaging with living practitioners (producers) not only employed, supported and nurtured our region's creative economy but clearly resonated with audiences and the community alike.

During 2022/2023, **1,094 public programs** were delivered to **29,304 participants**, well above the 827 public programs and 13,780 participants in the year prior.

*Provided opposite is a selection of program highlights introduced within the 2022/2023 period. Those comparative 2021/2022 figures represented by 'na' indicate that those initiatives are new strategic opportunities developed and implemented in the 2022/2023 period.*

# OUTPUTS

	21/22	22/23
Total <i>Make It Place</i> programs	9	14
Total attendees <i>Make It Place</i>	551	726
Total <i>Art + Performance</i> programs	na	4
Total attendees <i>Art + Performance</i>	na	251
Total <i>Holiday Program</i>	15	20
Total attendees <i>Holiday Program</i>	163	341
Total <i>Community Connections</i> programs	na	10
Total attendees <i>Community Connections</i>	na	422
Total <i>In Conversation</i> programs	na	6
Total attendees <i>In Conversation</i>	na	174
Total Exhibition programs	33	51
Total attendees Exhibition programs	827	1,620
Total General programs	234	366
Total attendees General programs	9,476	24,094

IN FOCUS

## IN CONVERSATION

A key staple in any cultural institution is the provision of forums between creative practitioners and audiences.

It is through these intimate experiences that we, the audience, gain insights into creative practice, motivations, trials and triumphs and the explorations that often occur unseen within the artists' studio.

The QVMAG *In Conversation* program was developed to spark discussion, intrigue and curiosity in our community and provide access to our in-house experts and the institution's collection, alongside local and visiting researchers, scholars, identities, writers, artists, and makers.

Now in its first year, the program has grown to become a central pillar within our annual programmatic planning, supporting informal learning for both local and visitor audiences across the State.

With a long history of being recognised as a destination for sharing ideas, the 2023 *In Conversation* program continued to develop upon the 130-year-old legacy of celebrating, encouraging, and facilitating community-based conversations within the walls of QVMAG.

As this series continues to develop further so too will the format of delivery for audiences, with the future-focus of the program expanding to both in-person and online experiences in collaboration with partners and experts across Tasmania, Australia, and the globe. We will lead stimulating conversations, cultural collaboration, and bring togetherness to the fore here in Tasmania.

### **2022/2023 *In Conversation* Program**

*The QVMAG Aboriginal garden: a conversation*  
2 July 2022 - Museum at Inveresk

*Carving conversations with Carol Russell*  
4 February 2023 - Art Gallery at Royal Park

*Witness: in conversation with Murray Fredericks*  
23 February 2023 - Museum at Inveresk

*Inner Sanctums: in conversation with Lisa Garland*  
2 April 2023 - Art Gallery at Royal Park

*Mason | Marsden: in conversation with David Marsden and Penny Mason*  
6 May 2023 - Art Gallery at Royal Park

*A New Kind of Union: in conversation with Mish Meijers and Tricky Walsh*  
29 June 2023 - Art Gallery at Royal Park



*In Conversation* event with artists  
from *RISE* 2023

Photo: Carmencita Palermo  
© QVMAG



*Lunar New Year* celebrations at the  
Art Gallery at Royal Park

Photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG

IN FOCUS

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

A key direction during the year has been focused on the development and delivery of a diverse and accessible suite of programs for the broader Tasmanian community. Whether this is through formal or informal learning opportunities, QVMAG is committed to providing educational experiences to further enrich the cultural community engagement within northern Tasmania.

The period welcomed a range of new programming initiatives linked to exhibition offerings and cultural celebrations, providing existing and new audiences across Tasmania the opportunity to engage with community and industry in new, accessible, and creative ways.

During the year QVMAG delivered a series of events under the *Community Connections* program umbrella with the goal of facilitating community-based conversation and education opportunities. Events spanned key community celebrations, including **Pride Month**, the **Lunar New Year**, **International Women's Day**, **NAIDOC Week** and more.

During **Pride Month**, the Museum welcomed a collaboration with the Queer Artists Collective (QAC) to host community celebrations against the backdrop of the exhibition *My World: Voice and Visibility*. Held within the Community Gallery at Inveresk, visitors gathered to enjoy performances by poets, singers and drag artists while exploring works on display by members of QAC.

**Lunar New Year** welcomed a range of collaborations on both a local and national level, celebrating the Year of the Rabbit at the Art Gallery at Royal Park. With over 100 community members attending on the day, the Art Gallery was activated with Lion Dance displays, solo and choir singing, live music and Dharani swordplay, alongside tours of the *Guan Di Temple* exhibition.

2023 welcomed a series of **International Women's Day** programs for community at the Art Gallery, connecting community with stories of female artists and makers in northern Tasmania. Programming spanned conversations, morning tea and workshops with various Tasmanian artists, creating a vibrant week-long celebration.

June welcomed a series of Possum Skin Storytelling workshops at the Museum at Inveresk for **NAIDOC Week**, allowing attendees to pyrograph their stories onto diamond-shaped possum patches, before sewing them into a larger communal cloak.

Participants were invited to attend a series of workshops, with the final session focused on stitching all stories together over conversation placed on public display.

The year was filled with rich, immersive cultural experiences within the *Community Connections* program umbrella, and visitation to such programming has outlined the ongoing support for the continued development of this event series.

IN FOCUS

## ART + PERFORMANCE

This year welcomed an immersive new program series entitled *Art + Performance*. Taking place across both the Museum at Inveresk and the Art Gallery at Royal Park, this popular evening series welcomed sold out crowds to exhibitions on display, further sharing the methodology of artists on display.

With many QVMAG visitors delighted to explore a series of feature exhibitions during this period, such as *Tao Sublime* and the *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize*, the *Art + Performance* series offered a unique opportunity for viewers to go behind the scenes with artists.

Designed to showcase a fusion of multi-disciplinary practice, each event welcomed artists and performers to collaborate for the evening while developing a new piece of art to an enthralled crowd.

As live music played, artists were led by the rhythm and sound to inspire the direction of their live work, while sharing and explaining their technique along the way.

This unique experience offered many locals the opportunity to learn from nationally recognised artists, while watching the end-to-end method of each practitioner on the evening.

The *Art + Performance* program is an example of the institution's effort to strategically shift its approach to programmatic activation, and how annual exhibitions can be layered with supplementary experiences to benefit both community engagement and ongoing activation.

This event series grew quickly into a staple program throughout the year, which in turn encouraged further afield collaboration with Tasmanian artists, musicians, and makers.

The *Art + Performance* series is focused on the activation of the institution and our contribution towards a broader night-time economic development strategy in Launceston, alongside the facilitation of behind-the-scenes experiences for locals, providing unique, exclusive, and intimate offerings for art enthusiasts across northern Tasmania.

Due to the popularity of the program in 2023, a strategic effort will be placed towards the future growth and scalability of the *Art + Performance* program as a highlight for informal learning activation for northern Tasmanians.



*Imagining Deep Time* performance at  
the Art Gallery at Royal Park

Photo: Carmencita Palermo  
© QVMAG



QVMAG *Holiday Program* funky  
puppet creation  
Photo: Carmencita Palermo  
© QVMAG

IN FOCUS

## HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Throughout 2022/2023, QVMAG delivered a broad range of supervised holiday programs for children aged 5 to 12 at both the Art Gallery at Royal Park and the Museum at Inveresk.

Sessions at the Museum at Inveresk included *Incredible Insects*, *Exciting Engineering*, and *It's a Pirate's Life For Me*, whilst the Art Gallery at Royal Park held activities that explored the art of Chinese calligraphy, and the Jimmy Possum chair tradition, allowing participants to make their own miniature pieces of furniture to take home in a miniature twig chair format.

Utilising QVMAG's collections and diverse exhibition program, our holiday program provided immersive and dynamic informal educational opportunities for northern Tasmanian families.

### **Holiday Highlight: Funky Puppets**

As part of this holiday program, children delved into the wonderful world of storytelling with puppets.

As part of the program, participants made their own finger puppets, sock puppets and shadow puppets and told stories to the group in the puppet theatre.

Children were treated to a display of some early 20<sup>th</sup> century puppets from the QVMAG collection to inspire their puppet creations.

### **Holiday Highlight: Summer Program**

Free drop-in programs for families over the summer break were on offer, with 246 participants enjoying holiday-themed crafts, jewellery making with natural found materials, learn-to-draw sessions, and fun rhythm and sound workshops.

The ever-popular *Make It Place* continued to welcome in families to create everything from elephants to rockets and miniature foosball tables using recycled materials during our *Holiday Program*.

*Make It Place* continued to be a well-attended offering as QVMAG works to provide fun and accessible informal education opportunities as a part of our programmatic offerings year-round.

The popularity of *Make It Place* enabled a series of activations to coincide with other public programming opportunities, such as the *QVMADNESS: a Sci-Fi takeover of QVMAG* which included a range of drop-in activities on offer, including a Space 'craft' themed *Make it Place*.

Mini engineering conundrums and pom-pom critters were also on the agenda over the summer period, with 209 people participating in the activities set up in the Object Gallery.

This series offered, and will continue to offer, a free, accessible and engaging hands-on experience for family audiences during Tasmanian school holidays.

IN FOCUS

## LAUNCESTON PLANETARIUM

This year saw the Launceston Planetarium achieve its highest-ever audience attendances since its opening in 1968.

With over **10,134 people** attending shows during the reporting period, it is a testament to the quality of programs and content delivered by QVMAG and the ongoing, deep connection audiences, and society more broadly, has with the natural sciences, space exploration and the wonder of our universe.

As the institution continually looks to the future, a key strategic focus has been on boosting the Launceston Planetarium's capacity with the newly acquired **DigiStar 7** system; a benchmark lead as part of the institution's membership in the **International Planetarium Society** as the most advanced commercial system available to planetariums.

The new system provides increased digital capability, and in partnership with the international planetariums membership groups, the DigiStar7 system allows Tasmania access to internationally significant digital programs, including from The Smithsonian, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and other member organisations around the world.

During the year the Planetarium offered a range of curriculum-linked educational experiences for schools focused on earth and space sciences.

Doing so provided immersive and subject-matter specific educational experiences for students across all years of the Tasmanian curriculum, while building capacity of space science education in northern Tasmanian schools.

Alongside formal educational experiences, the Planetarium played host to a number of special programs and informal community learning experiences, including the *QVMadness: a Sci-Fi takeover of QVMAG* in May, welcoming sci-fi enthusiasts of all ages across northern Tasmania to the Museum for an afternoon of public programming activities, including a special public talk in the Planetarium discussing the space research.

This program is one of many examples of how the Launceston Planetarium continues to be activated and recognised as feature destination in northern Tasmania for community to celebrate, connect and share a passion for space research and education.



Visitors experiencing the  
Launceston Planetarium

Photo: Tourism Australia  
© QVMAG

IN FOCUS

## CURATORS IN THE PUB

August saw the newly developed *Curators in the Pub* series launched across the City, offering a unique opportunity for QVMAG curators to host a series of free, informal talks for the community at pubs in the heart of Launceston.

Spanning a wide range of topics, all anchored to the collection pillars of QVMAG, the first year of the program shared talks exploring the history of sporting clubs in Launceston, artists in northern Tasmania and the history of family heirlooms.

The series created a fresh, interactive way for the institution to engage in community outreach, while sharing stories from within the collection of objects and works not on display.

Partnering with local venues, the series enabled a new programming touchpoint for audiences that may traditionally not be frequent visitors to the institution. It encouraged local conversation through curiosity and welcomed locals and industry members as part of the broader QVMAG community.

Originally developed through collaboration with industry body **Launceston Central Marketing** as part of the annual *Launceston Winterlicious* campaign, the *Curators in the Pub* program anchored around the delivery of intimate, small group talks in unique venues that promote a conversational, two-way dialogue between attendee and presenter.

This approach encouraged guests to ask questions and share their own personal experiences while hearing from industry knowledge experts.

Sitting within the *Community Connections* programming umbrella, the series supports the institution's ongoing commitment to diverse programming opportunities, enabling stories from the collection to be taken outside the institution's 'walls' and into accessible, casual community formats. Designed to be informal in nature, the talk series encouraged participation from various audience demographics within the community, allowing the institution to trial new themes and topics. In doing so it became evident that there was large-scale appeal for more informal events from QVMAG, such as this series, to take place each year across northern Tasmania.

A key driver behind the *Curators in the Pub* series has been the delivery of a free, adult-focused community outreach program to, as outlined in the *Futures Plan*, create and deliver accessible and activated programming experiences for Tasmania. Furthermore, this series forms part of our commitment in the provision of, and contribution towards, a broader night-time economic development strategy in Launceston

Feedback from visitors in the program's inaugural year was extremely positive and encouraging for future programming, leading to further programmatic planning and program growth in 2023/2024.



2022 *Curators in the Pub* event series  
at The Kingsway Bar  
Photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG



Vicki DEWSBURY

*Traverse Way Inveresk* [detail]

pen and watercolour on paper

photo: courtesy of the Artist



## BUSINESS SUPPORT OVERVIEW

A fundamentally vital, yet often overlooked, aspect of the institutional environment is the business support functions which underpin successful service delivery.

Collectively, these functions serve to enable all areas of operation and allow those specialist core disciplines, such as curatorial development, collections management, exhibitions and engagement, to realise their strategic objectives.

Equally, business support activities serve as a reflection of service delivery outcomes, providing valuable insights into a diverse range of success measures such as marketing and communications, commercial performance, funding, strategic development, partnerships and customer service.

Throughout the 2022/2023 reporting period, QVMAG realised significant achievements and historic milestones in business support across several key areas. These outcomes and achievements not only positively affirm our strategic shift over the past seven months, but further provide enduring legacies which will benefit the institution, and our community, well into the future.

From a commercial standpoint QVMAG realised its most successful result in its history, recording a total operating result of \$872,732.

Planetarium, education, library and public programs income totalled \$100,794 and reflect the record attendance figures associated with these initiatives.

Our QVMAG shop delighted visitors to the institution across both sites and returned an operating result of \$570,295 – another historical institutional milestone.

In addition to contributing \$4.74 million into the Launceston economy, the successful staging of the popular *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* exhibition recorded a total of \$185,558 in ticket sales.

This is a most encouraging outcome for the institution as the exhibition signified the first major ticketed experience held at QVMAG since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Venue hire returned a modest \$16,085 for the institution, an increase on the \$7,162 received in the year prior. Importantly, and as part of a broader cultural ecosystem, QVMAG contributes to the realisation of a culturally active, dynamic and diverse City of Launceston through its support of a number of organisations, events and community groups.

In 2022/2023, we supported a total of 16 community and cultural organisations, waiving a total of \$84,400 in venue hire fees to support their associated initiatives. Although this represents a significant reduction in income for QVMAG, the qualitative value in contributing to the success of these initiatives far outweighs the limited fiscal benefits to a single institution.

# OUTPUTS

	21/22	22/23
Total number Public Enquiries	3,154	3,457
Total number of Volunteers	53	61
Total Volunteer hours contributed	2,679	2,442
Total \$ Venue Hire	\$7,162	\$16,085
Total \$ Program Fees	\$129,697	\$100,794
Total \$ Exhibition Fees	na	\$185,558
Total \$ Shop Sales	\$383,297	\$570,295
Total \$ Commercial result	\$520,678	\$872,732
Total \$ Waived Fees	na	\$84,400
Total \$ Donations / Bequests / Grants	\$374,209	\$1,859,564
Total Professional Development initiatives	nil	4



Handcrafted brooches by Tasmanian artist Monica Reeve

Photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG

Notable amongst these were \$17,550 waived to enable Stompin's performance at the Art Gallery at Royal Park as part of the 2022 Junction Arts Festival; \$17,420 waived to enable Tasdance's performance at the Museum at Inveresk as part of the 2022 Junction Festival; and \$ 9,150 waived to support Ten Days on the Island programmatic delivery.

QVMAG is a public collecting institution and as such is a recognised not-for-profit entity able to attract and accept donations, grants and bequests in support of our operations. Since the adoption of the *Futures Plan* in June 2022 we have undertaken a significant shift towards increasing our efforts in securing diversified support, rather than a reliance on governmental funding alone.

Whilst efforts continue in the development of a dedicated and focused **Advancement Strategy and Framework** for the institution, as part of the **Organisational Strategic Development Program**, the 2022/2023 period signified an **impressive 396% increase** in donations, bequests and grants **totalling \$1,859,564** in financial and material culture received.

This outcome will provide unique opportunities for the institution across a number of key deliverables, including renewal of our STEAM interactive exhibitions, implementation of three-dimensional photogrammetry of the collection, targeted education and programmatic experiences, and further research development and international collaborations, just to name a few.

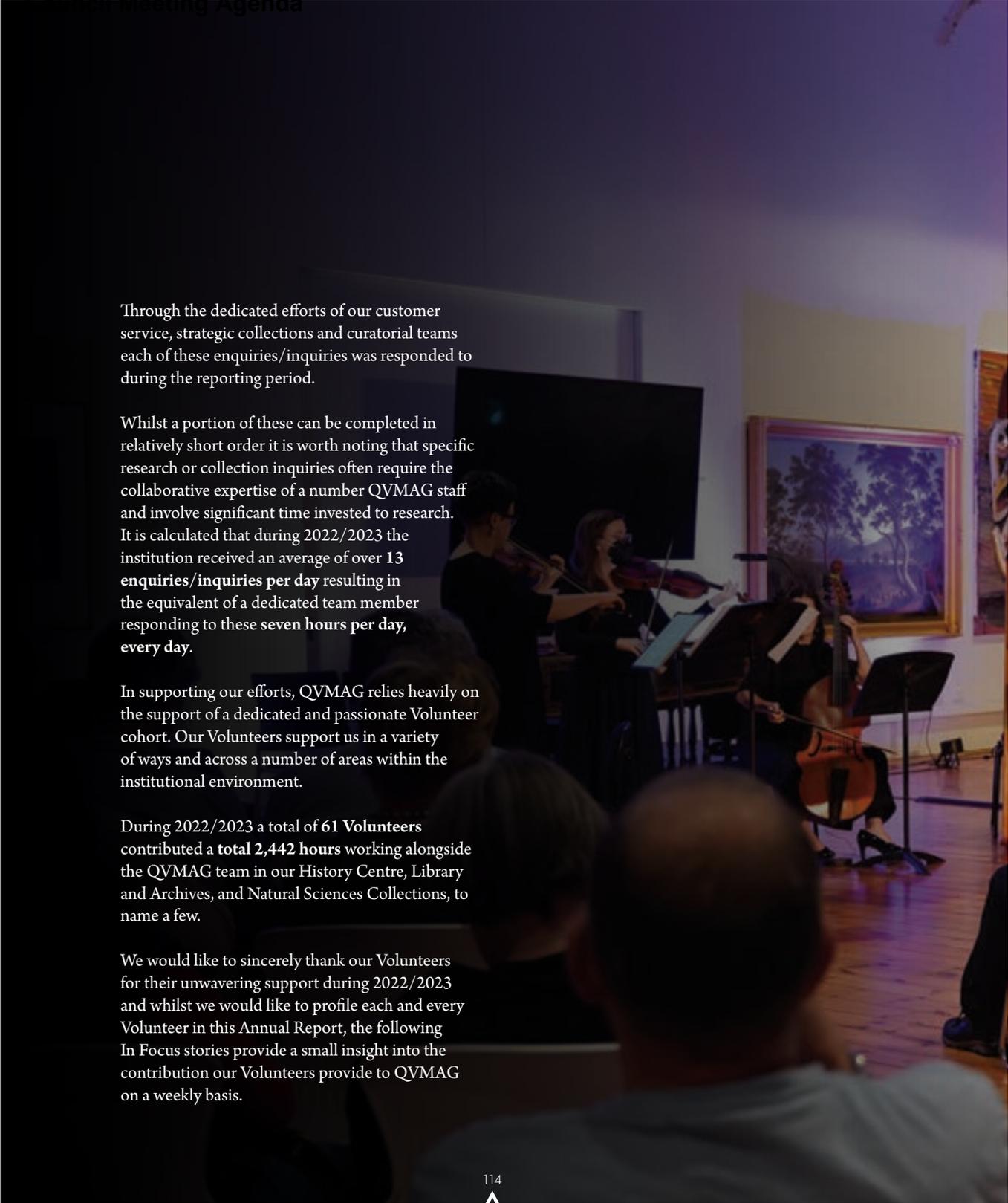
QVMAG is fortunate in having a number of specialist Affiliates who support the strategic ambitions of the institution.

Through the efforts of the Museum Governance Advisory Board, QVMAG Aboriginal Reference Group, QVMAG Friends and the QVMAG Arts Foundation, 2022/2023 has realised significant progress in strategic advancement, collections development, programmatic output and development in First Nations appreciation.

Whilst each individual Affiliate report is outlined further in the Annual Report, QVMAG would like to acknowledge and express our deepest gratitude to the committed and dedicated members of each committee and their corresponding members, in advancing the institution throughout 2022/2023.

As Australia's largest regional cultural institution with one of the country's most significant and diverse collections of over 1.5 million objects, our capacity to meet the needs of our strategic objectives coupled with increased awareness and external interest, is often difficult to manage.

Throughout the 2022/2023 period QVMAG received a total of **4,959 public enquires, and research and collection inquiries** combined, increasing on the 3,621 received the year prior.



Through the dedicated efforts of our customer service, strategic collections and curatorial teams each of these enquiries/inquiries was responded to during the reporting period.

Whilst a portion of these can be completed in relatively short order it is worth noting that specific research or collection inquiries often require the collaborative expertise of a number QVMAG staff and involve significant time invested to research. It is calculated that during 2022/2023 the institution received an average of over **13 enquiries/inquiries per day** resulting in the equivalent of a dedicated team member responding to these **seven hours per day, every day**.

In supporting our efforts, QVMAG relies heavily on the support of a dedicated and passionate Volunteer cohort. Our Volunteers support us in a variety of ways and across a number of areas within the institutional environment.

During 2022/2023 a total of **61 Volunteers** contributed a **total 2,442 hours** working alongside the QVMAG team in our History Centre, Library and Archives, and Natural Sciences Collections, to name a few.

We would like to sincerely thank our Volunteers for their unwavering support during 2022/2023 and whilst we would like to profile each and every Volunteer in this Annual Report, the following In Focus stories provide a small insight into the contribution our Volunteers provide to QVMAG on a weekly basis.



Van Diemen's Band as part of the  
*Ten Days on the Island* at the Art  
Gallery at Royal Park

Photo: Carmencita Palermo  
© QVMAG



## ANNE TOLSON

Legacy challenges are an ever-present impediment for curatorial and strategic collections staff working in museums, and given QVMAG's collections extend back 130 years, our Natural Sciences Collection has its own share of legacy issues.

In the early days of the institution and before the introduction of digital databases became common practice, many specimens were entered into large paper-based ledger books as they came into the collection.

Thankfully, many such entries were quite detailed and it is often possible to match specimens with paper-based records. In the early days when mechanised transport was the exception rather than the rule, specimens could arrive by mail or train from outlying districts with such accompanying correspondence.

Fortunately, much of this correspondence has been preserved and is present in paper records repositories. Matching all this vital information to specimens so they can be registered or audited requires focus and a great deal of time, and in this we are grateful for the support of our Volunteers.

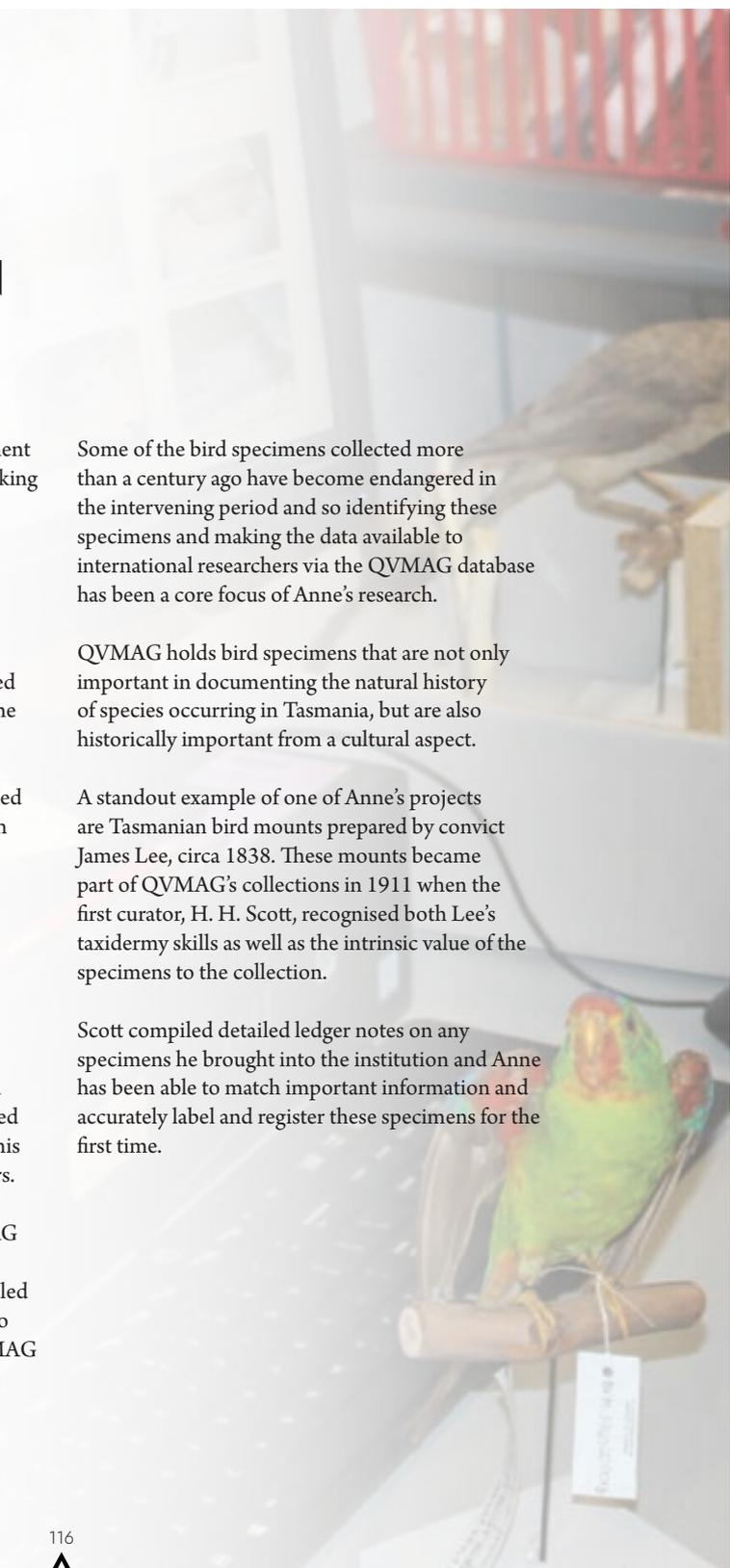
Anne Tolson has been volunteering for QVMAG for ten years and her patient and methodical approach to complex problem solving has enabled her to match early 20<sup>th</sup> century ledger records to historically important bird mounts in the QVMAG collection. Furthermore, Anne has been using digital sites to identify unnamed historic bird specimens from all over the world.

Some of the bird specimens collected more than a century ago have become endangered in the intervening period and so identifying these specimens and making the data available to international researchers via the QVMAG database has been a core focus of Anne's research.

QVMAG holds bird specimens that are not only important in documenting the natural history of species occurring in Tasmania, but are also historically important from a cultural aspect.

A standout example of one of Anne's projects are Tasmanian bird mounts prepared by convict James Lee, circa 1838. These mounts became part of QVMAG's collections in 1911 when the first curator, H. H. Scott, recognised both Lee's taxidermy skills as well as the intrinsic value of the specimens to the collection.

Scott compiled detailed ledger notes on any specimens he brought into the institution and Anne has been able to match important information and accurately label and register these specimens for the first time.





Anne Tolson working on the historically valuable James Lee collection.  
photo: QVMAG



## MARGARET BARLOW

Margaret Barlow has been volunteering for QVMAG for ten years and during this has become an invaluable part of the History team.

Margaret currently has two volunteering roles at the institution: firstly she is QVMAG's sewing volunteer. A member of the Embroiderer's Guild and the Spinners and Weavers, Margaret has excellent skills with textiles, and she puts these to good use, sewing custom bean bags for object movement and storage.

She uses Tyvek, a one-way permeable, non-reactive and inert synthetic fabric, which can be sewn or heat sealed, to make bags, which are filled with bean-bag beans and sewn shut.

These have a myriad of uses in the collection. They can be used to cushion objects in storage boxes, support objects during movement, and to provide padding between objects that are stored together.

The more Margaret makes, the more we seem to need!

Margaret also makes custom covers for items that are too big to fit in boxes. This protects the objects on the shelves from dust and, as a worst-case scenario, leaks.

This gives her access to a large range of unusual objects, keeping her volunteer role interesting.

More recently, Margaret has taken on an additional project. QVMAG holds a very large collection of Numismatics: coins, medals and tokens.

These coins cover not just local coinage, but coins, medals and tokens from around the world. If properly identified and accessible, this collection could be of great use in interpretation and research.

However, although the items are registered, the collection is badly in need of sorting and re-housing. Margaret's project involves checking all numismatic objects against existing lists, re-writing and correcting their labels, and re-housing the coins in new 'coin flips', which protect the items from handling, and allow viewers to see both sides of the coin.

This project has so far uncovered many hidden gems in the collection, as well as ironing out old cataloguing errors. This is a long-term project, which may take several years of work to complete.

Margaret's work at QVMAG shows how many different skills can be used to help improve the storage of objects in the collection, and her long-term commitment to the institution has made it possible for her to take on extended projects that make a real difference.





Margaret Barlow inspecting and updating object records in the QVMAG Numismatics collection  
photo: QVMAG

## IN FOCUS

ALAN PEACOCK  
AND BEV WHITE

Alan Peacock and Bev White have proven themselves to be a wonderful pair of volunteers for the Library/Archives/History sections, especially their work with photographic negatives and lantern slide collections. Once a week, for two or three hours, their friendly banter (good-natured stirring) of each other and QVMAG staff has brightened the day.

Alan and Bev developed a structure to a work pattern, each using their own organisational skills to deliver progress and efficient use of time to advance whatever project was asked of them at the time.

Their efforts have undoubtedly greatly assisted QVMAG staff with the processing and registration of large quantities of objects – an outcome which would have taken many years more without Alan and Bev's skills.

In particular, the work on the HJ King collection of glass and film negatives enabled staff to scan the images, then choose photographs to suit themes aligned with exhibition development and, ultimately, publication. Clearly written registration numbers on the special archival enclosures stored within various sized boxes led to ease of cataloguing time for our History staff.

The project structure was set up as: negatives scanned by Yvonne (and John) Leeming at high-resolution and saved as individually listed registration numbers.

Every week or two a new batch of original negatives and associated digital scans were returned to Ross Smith. He then prepared A3 screenshots of 18 images, each with an ID number under each jpeg/tiff.

Alan and Bev then settled, usually on a Friday morning, at the History Centre workspace at the Museum at Inveresk with pencils and archival sleeves (these being matched to the batch of negatives and correctly sized archival storage boxes).

Using a light box, Alan and Bev would identify the image, write the registration number on an archival sleeve, which was wrapped around the negative, and then placed in the box.

Later on, and whenever the opportunity arose, History staff visited the 'glass image' store, selected a box, entered new records onto the database and identified the permanent storage location.

Because the digital scans were saved to the network which curators and collection staff could access, research and development of the *HJ King: Cameras and Carbuettors* exhibition and publication became a much easier process than otherwise would have been the case.



Alan Peacock and Bev White in *HJ King: Cameras and Carburettors* exhibition  
photo: Kaye Dowling



Noisy miner *Manorina melanocephala* (left) and little wattlebird *Anthochaera chrysoptera* prepared by convict taxidermist James Lee circa 1838. Note the remarkable condition of these specimens.

photo: QVMAG



## MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS OVERVIEW

2022/2023 welcomed a period of significant growth and evolution for the QVMAG brand identity. On 30 June 2022, a new strategic direction and brand identity was endorsed for the institution, outlining a new, contemporary vision for both the operational and public perception of our sites and collection.

This brand visualised a new, refreshed and relevant path forward for the institution, creating a modern representation of the future direction of QVMAG as we embarked on a whole-of-institution strategic realignment reform process.

The revision facilitated a modernised, unique and scalable identity for this iconic Tasmanian brand, and worked to re-position the institutional identity within local and tourism audiences of Tasmania.

Following its endorsement, the 12-month implementation period saw the strategic activation of the QVMAG brand identity to build on new and existing audience engagement and development for the institution.

While the first 12 months of branding implementation has received an overwhelmingly positive reaction from the local community and visitors alike, future momentum and strategic direction of the brand is pivotal.

Through creative and authentic activation and strategic public relations, a wide range of brand activations were deployed in-market spanning digital, legacy and grass-roots community campaign tactics.

Such tactics welcomed a total marketing and communications reach of **5,291,229** for the institution; an **80% increase** in reach from the previous year.

As part of the broader Marketing and Communications strategy for QVMAG during the financial year, efforts to proactively engage local, statewide and national media coverage continued.

Through ongoing promotions of events, exhibitions and research, media calls held for the 2022/2023 financial year totalled to **47**; a **113% increase** from the previous reporting period.

During this period, a range of statewide and national campaign activations were leveraged to enhance audience engagement and brand awareness for the institution as part of the broader marketing mix.

Activations took the form of digital advertising placements, national industry editorial pitches, industry audience collaborations, television, print and radio campaigning, billboard coverage, transports activations, and more.

# OUTPUTS

	21/22	22/23
Total Social Media reach	293,443	471,870
Total Facebook posts	445	398
Total Facebook followers	11,753	14,635
Total Facebook reach	248,708	423,999
Total Facebook impressions	1,692,583	3,426,139
Total Instagram posts	212	719
Total Instagram followers	2,626	3,311
Total Instagram reach	8,735	47,871
Total Instagram impressions	138,253	334,816
Total Media Calls	22	47
Total Website page views	294,172	414,530
Total Website user sessions	105,248	154,058
Total Marketing and Communications reach	2,936,769	5,291,229



Through key industry partnerships, the institution was able to amplify brand and project campaigns to new, untapped audiences; such as interstate travel audiences who are either researching for their next holiday or are actively holidaying in Tasmania.

One example of such a collaboration was the *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* exhibition weekend giveaway competition between QVMAG and local regional tourism operator, Visit Northern Tasmania.

This campaign offered a weekend getaway in Launceston, comprising flights, accommodation, dining vouchers, local produce, free entry to the exhibition and two luxury designer brands from the fashion house Orotan Australia.

Through this partnership, the competition attracted entries from every State and Territory in Australia, with one lucky winner from Melbourne taking out the prize.

A key focus area for the institution during this period was the review and realignment of the branded experience in response to the *Futures Plan* and new brand adoption.

This review took place in the form of audience advertising testing (A/B testing), a range of brand assets were trialled and tested to assess effectiveness in market to analyse:

- + Impact
- + Engagement
- + Content strategy
- + Content medium

Testing spanned content development (written brand tone), top-tier branded campaign development (design assets), content asset creation (website editorials, media releases, videography, photography, promotions assets), and more.

What followed from this initial testing period was a compilation of data to reflect audience engagement with the newly launched brand, while identifying marketing strategies that resonate most with new and existing audiences of the institution.

Throughout this process, key findings included:

#### **Brand Storytelling**

Audiences of the brand enjoy going behind the scenes with written content and videos showcasing collection areas, research, and community stories spanning art, history, culture and science.

#### **Digital First**

Audiences are largely engaged on the owned digital channels of the institution, and reference the institution's social media accounts as the primary channel of communication.

#### **Videos/Reels are Priority**

Many audience members are gravitating towards reels as the primary format of interaction on Instagram and Facebook, and this trend has been noticeable for audiences of QVMAG. As such, digital content generation in this period has adjusted to include a higher volume of short, educational videos for viewers, alongside static content posts and long form website editorials. In doing so, the institution has developed a rich and diverse portfolio of evergreen content capturing history, art, culture and science in Tasmania.

### **Frequency and Quality**

Data from the twelve month reporting period has shown that the institution's owned digital channels have experienced rapid growth due to the commitment to frequency of content sharing, and the quality of this content through strategic storytelling, versus a sole focus on promotional-only advertising.

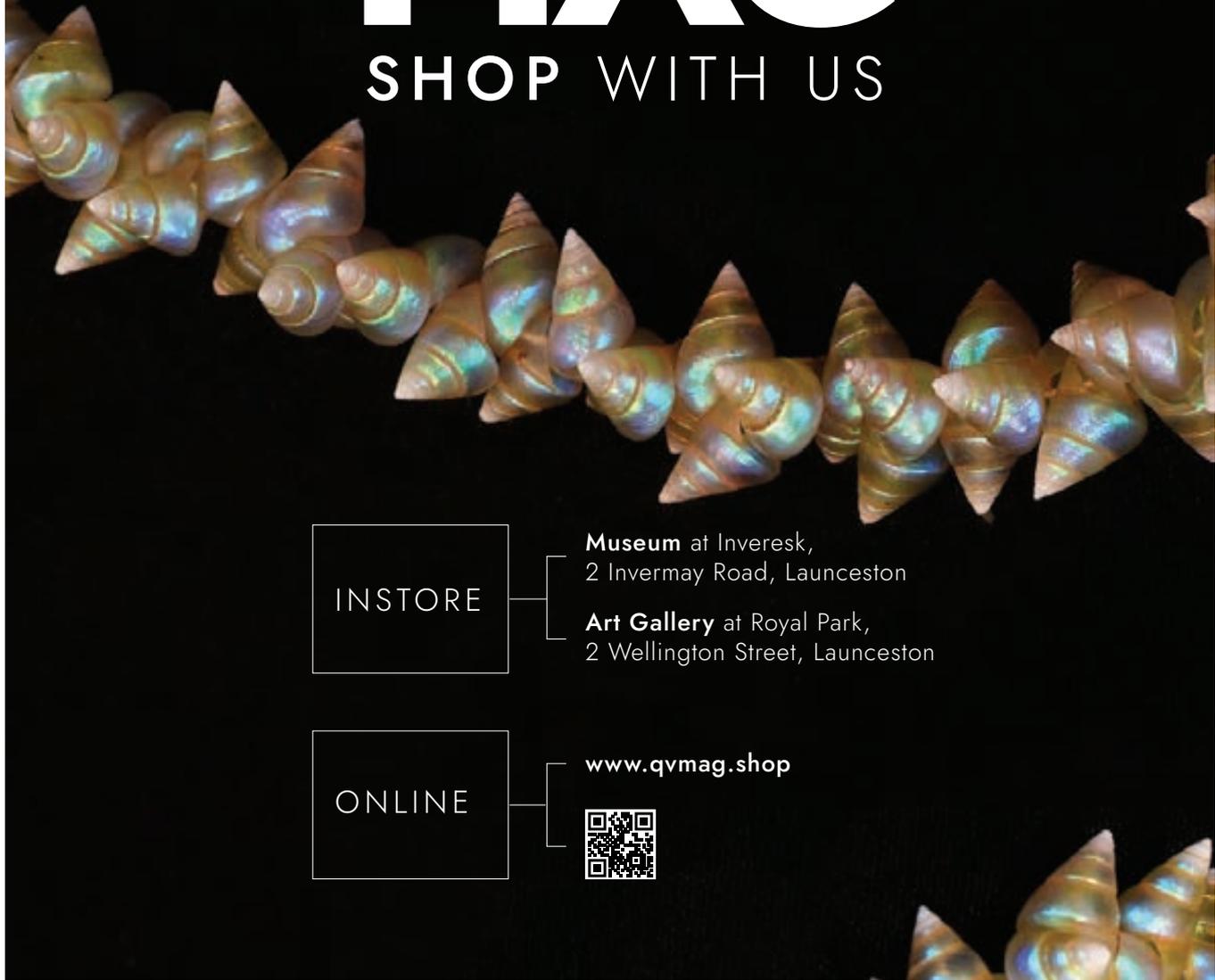
Throughout the year, the institution worked to develop an always-on marketing strategy for the ever-evolving offerings of QVMAG. In previous years, marketing for exhibitions and events was largely implemented as a reactive measure, missing the opportunity for long-lead campaigning. In doing so, opportunities to pre-pitch media coverage and generate in-market awareness of offerings had not been leveraged to its full potential.

Through a strategic effort to engage in long-term media buys and through an strategic shift to support the forward planning of exhibitions and events, the institution has since been able to engage in marketing campaigns on a statewide and national level that are either always-on, showcasing the top-tier institution brand, or long-lead exhibition campaigns to effectively drive engagement through a diverse range of market segments.

The 2022/2023 financial year has been a year of growth and success for the institution and its positioning within local, national and international tourism markets for now and into the future.

# QV MAG

SHOP WITH US



INSTORE

**Museum** at Inveresk,  
2 Invermay Road, Launceston

**Art Gallery** at Royal Park,  
2 Wellington Street, Launceston

ONLINE

[www.qvmag.shop](http://www.qvmag.shop)



## IN FOCUS

## DIGITAL

Thanks to a renewed brand presence across Tasmania, the institution experienced strong growth in audience engagement spanning owned brand channels such as Facebook, Instagram and the institutional website.

Over the 12-month reporting period, owned social media reach totalled **471,870 users**, generating a **60.8% increase** in reach from the year prior.

**Facebook followers grew by 24% and Instagram by 26%**, highlighting a positive reaction to renewed content strategies across these platforms.

Notably, the institution's Facebook impressions totalled **3,426,139**, generating a **102% increase** from the previous reporting year, and Instagram impressions totalled **334,816**, generating a **142% increase** from the 2021/2022 financial year.

Audience reach on Instagram grew by a staggering **448%**, with Facebook reach also enjoying a **49%** increase during the financial year.

During the reporting period, the Marketing and Media team led a strategic focus on brand storytelling across digital platforms, with content spanning artist profiles, behind the scenes collections interviews, exhibitions installation videography and more.

This strategic focus included storytelling via static posts, video content series (reels) and website editorials, generating an evergreen storehouse of Tasmanian culture, practice and history.

Content pillars spanned Library and Archives, History, Natural Sciences, Visual Arts and Design, and collection management.

All content generated enabled online audiences to go behind the scenes of the institution with various teams to learn about various species in Tasmania, discover artists within the collection, hear stories of Tasmania's past, watch the process of exhibition installation, object conservation and more.

Through this approach, online audiences were encouraged to engage with QVMAG in diverse new ways, encouraging interaction and conversation online.

Throughout the reporting period, the institution engaged in a range of organic and paid digital marketing tactics to further enhance brand engagement and awareness.





Strategic paid advertising took place across the Meta network, enabling the brand to interact with specific audience segments across Tasmania and Australia.

Paid campaigning on the network spanned top-tier brand awareness efforts, through to event and exhibition specific promotions as part of the marketing mix for the 2022/2023 financial year.

Doing so enabled the institution to reach active online audiences that were yet to engage with the QVMAG social media pages, alongside existing audiences, through demographic, geographic and interest-based advertising targeting.

Alongside positive audience growth on social media, the QVMAG website experienced a healthy level of growth, with page views totalling **414,530**, a **40%** increase on the previous year.

This growth can be attributed to both the renewed programmatic activation during this period, alongside a larger volume of high visibility marketing campaign assets both online and offline across northern Tasmania and the State.

Throughout the year a focus on generating evergreen, storytelling content for the institution's website was a key focus.

This took form in website editorials featuring artists on display, and the sharing of latest news through media releases online.

Presented in conversational tone, with supplementary imagery and videography, the focus of website editorial content enabled the institution to further develop a storehouse of cultural content for northern Tasmania, now and in the future.

## IN FOCUS

## MEDIA

Media coverage was a key strategic focus area for the institution during the 2022/2023 reporting period, welcoming a 113% growth in media calls compared to the year prior.

A strategic focus was placed on featuring all pillars of the institution's collection and programmatic outputs during the period.

The reporting period started out strong, sharing stories of new shows to launch at the *Launceston Planetarium*, events such as the *Art + Performance* series, the inaugural *Curators in the Pub* event series, *Masterclass* workshops with local Tasmanian artist Tony Smibert, *Science Week* celebrations and a milestone research record update of 104,916 zoology records to the Atlas of Living Australia.

In October, the Museum at Inveresk welcomed the blockbuster *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* exhibition to Launceston. As the exclusive venue for Tasmania, strategic media milestones were built into the overarching promotion of this exhibition, sharing stories of artists, curatorial information and aligned programming outputs.

Through collaboration with Visit Northern Tasmania, part of the exhibition media and marketing mix included a national campaign enticing art-lovers to enter for an exclusive weekend away in northern Tasmania to visit the exhibition.

Entries for this competition were received from Victoria (163), NSW (130), QLD (80), TAS (72), SA (38), WA (27), ACT (11) and the NT (4), generating a positive level of national audience engagement. The competition was proudly supported by the Art Gallery of NSW and Australian fashion house, Oroton.

As part of the *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* exhibition tour, media partnerships were formed with both The Examiner and 7 Tasmania.

Such partnerships, alongside the institution-led marketing campaign, supported the statewide delivery of strong brand awareness for the exhibition tour, resulting in a total attendance of 16,048 visitors.

During November, feature media coverage was generated for the opening of the *Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition* exhibition at the Art Gallery at Royal Park. This exhibition explored the mysterious identity of a man known as Jimmy Possum and featured more than 50 Tasmanian-made chairs all linked to an Australian bush chair-making tradition that spans more than 150 years.

January saw community media coverage in support of the community *Lunar New Year* celebrations at the Art Gallery at Royal Park, welcoming over 220 visitors to free events on the day.



*Lunar New Year celebrations  
at the Art Gallery at Royal Park*

Photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG

February was a busy month with seven media calls, featuring new exhibition openings and the identification of ten new species of Australian ground beetle within the natural sciences collection.

March celebrated the institution's **Summer/Autumn** program, welcoming a vibrant line-up of events, including new masterclasses, workshops and family-fun activities, alongside a blockbuster exhibition schedule including *Te Wai Ngunguru/Nomads of the Sea*, a digital installation by New Zealand artist Lisa Reihana; the *Southern Sky Astrophotography: 2022 David Malin Awards*; a showcase of powerful works by Tasmanian artist Lisa Garland in *Inner Sanctums*; the community exhibition *FaceTime*, celebrating 85 years of St Giles in Tasmania; and an exclusive exhibition of photography by internationally-renowned artist Murray Fredericks in *Witness*, marking the first time Fredericks' works have toured to Tasmania.

During this period, media coverage was generated for the closure of the beloved family exhibition, the *Phenomena Factory*. Since opening in 2008, the *Phenomena Factory* was a fan favourite, welcoming over 1.5 million visitors to the exhibition during its lifespan.

As part of media coverage managing the closure of this exhibition, the announcement of the institution's next family exhibition was shared, generating excitement for two beloved Australian STEAM brands *Australia in Space* (Questacon) and *Illuminate* (Museums Victoria).

In May, two feature exhibitions opened at the Art Gallery at Royal Park featuring the works of local artists Penny Mason and David Marsden in *Mason | Marsden* and the art of the Launceston chapter of the global urban sketchers art movement, in *Urban Sketchers*.

Finally, in June media coverage supported awareness for the launch of the *Wildlife Photographer of the Year* exhibition touring from the Natural History Museum, London, possum skin storytelling workshops, community *Pride Month* celebrations and the launch of the institution's inaugural, biennial exhibition *RISE*.

The 2022/2023 financial year was a positive year of media growth for the institution, supported by local and national media outlets during the period.

Coverage throughout the reporting period spanned print (newspaper and magazine), television, radio and digital media, creating a dynamic mix of coverage for local, statewide, national and international visitors.



David Marsden at work in his  
Launceston studio

Photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG

## DESIGN OVERVIEW

Throughout cultural institutions worldwide, design principles and methodologies underpin the successful development and delivery of exhibitions, publications, media and engagement and are considered fundamental in enhancing the audience experience.

Good design, by its very essence, is complementary to the project's purpose and fosters brand awareness, accessibility and an authentic exchange between the institution and its audience.

QVMAG is fortunate to have a talented and diverse design team who collectively work alongside the various functions of the institution in the development and delivery of unique material, including graphic design and publication production, web and social media management, major exhibitions and artwork displays, and numerous projects that enhance our institutional brand.

As could be expected with the delivery of 43 exhibitions across QVMAG's exhibition spaces, there were high volumes of design material produced throughout the 2022/2023 period.

These materials include supplementary resources such as digital and physical copies of invitations, flyers, activity booklets, education resources, publications, and also exhibition-related products, such as labels, didactics, signage, and banners.

Working on a diverse portfolio of projects during the reporting period, design assets spanned animation, illustration, merchandising, print collateral, publication design, advertising assets, exhibition design, 3D design, visitor-centric wayfinding design, brand identity development, and more.

Each project applied a high level of design thinking, accessibility and universal design principles to influence the development of outputs throughout the year.

Doing so enabled QVMAG to create contemporary and bold, yet minimalistic and modern representations of its brand.

Key achievements during the reporting period included the end-to-end brand development and implementation of 16 new exhibitions across the Museum at Inveresk and the Art Gallery at Royal Park sites, three feature exhibition publications, and the implementation of a new brand identity for the institution.

To ensure a seamless implementation of the new institutional brand, an asset audit was undertaken to identify existing collateral and new brand activation opportunities. This audit worked to define a strategic approach for the brand rollout, emphasising high visibility brand assets as a primary focus.

Requiring a high level of project management, the institution worked with external suppliers to prepare all assets for print and installation within a two-month go-live timeline post adoption on 30 June 2022.



# OUTPUTS

	21/22	22/23
Exhibitions with original branding	12	25
Total Exhibitions worked on	29	30
New QVMAG Programmatic Brands created	8	23
New 3D Exhibition design developed	1	20
Original Publications produced	28	47
Original Merchandise developed	not recorded	6
Learning and Engagement resources developed	3	5
Original promotional collateral developed	38	63
Original Social Media assets developed	41	185
Institutional Reports developed	1	4

## IN FOCUS

## QVMAG BRAND

On 30 June 2022, a new brand identity was endorsed for the institution.

Through the development of the brand, key guiding pillars were referenced: adaptability, inclusivity and accessibility. These pillars were identified to lead a strategic shift in the minds of the institution's audiences, creating connection, relevance and recognition through both online and offline activations.

As an image-led brand, the identity allows for visual storytelling to take the lead and share stories of both collection and community, supporting meaningful and honest connections with audiences.

*'The institutional brand is more than a five-letter logo.'*

It has activation and meaning, supporting the representation of diverse narratives while supporting a wide range of design applications. This enables the brand identity to remain highly adaptable in-market as a contemporary, relevant and beloved community identity.

The new identity supports a modern representation of QVMAG in the community, and in turn, has changed existing narratives and expectations of the 130-year-old institution.

As part of the brand development process, the simple 'unboxing' of the previous logo identity allowed the opportunity to remove the visual containment of the brand and support a free and fluid representation of the brand.

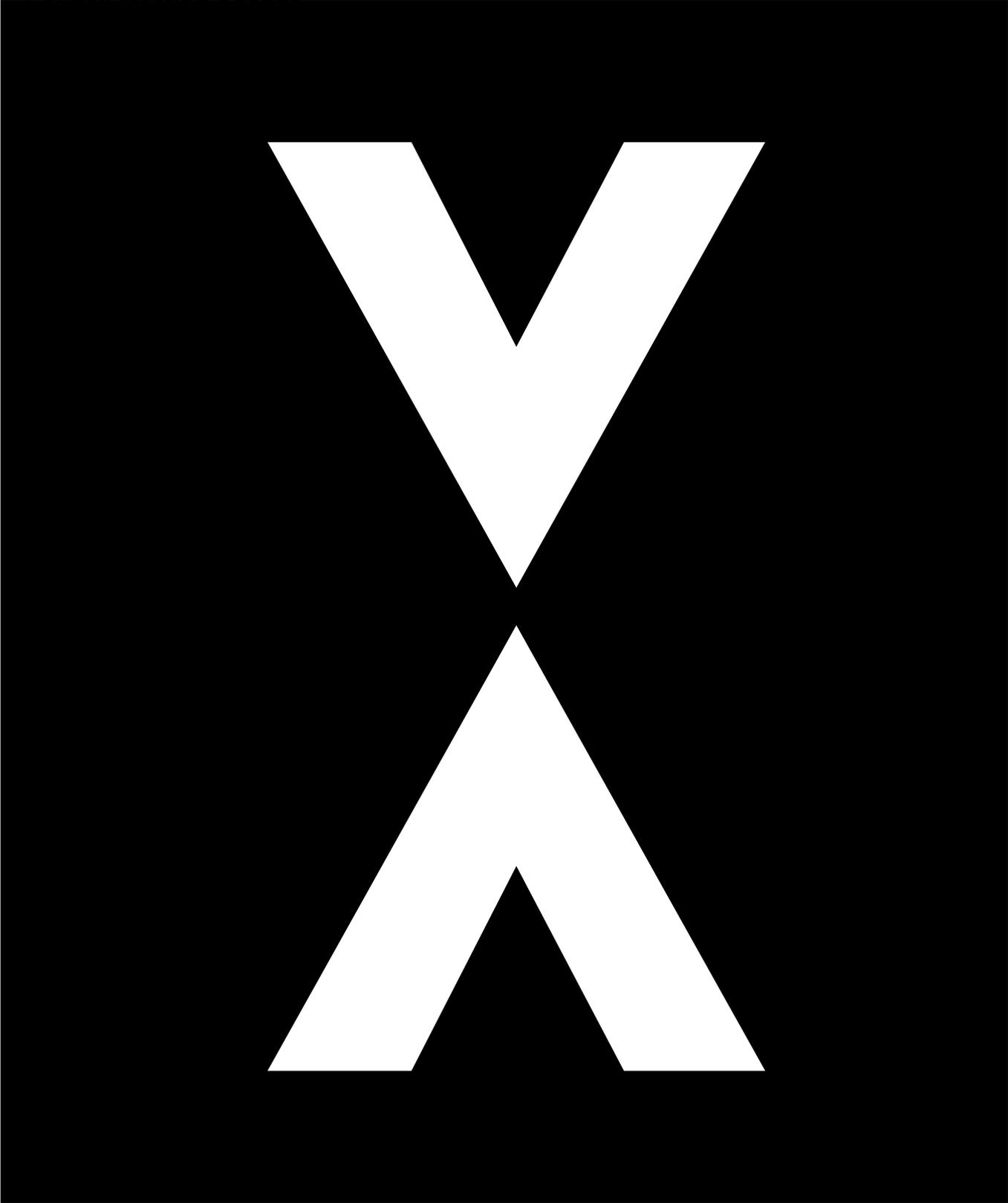
Within the logo, the 'V' and 'A' appear as a balanced set of pointers, symbolising a discussion between two ideas or paths. Be they science and history, old and new, or museum and art gallery, it is a meeting point of discovery, connection and conversation.

The simple activation of this graphic device within the logo supports visual harmony and dynamic application. Designed to be used as the brand's primary design device, the asset lends itself to a variety of aspect ratios and reinforces itself within the primary top-tier brand identity for the institution.

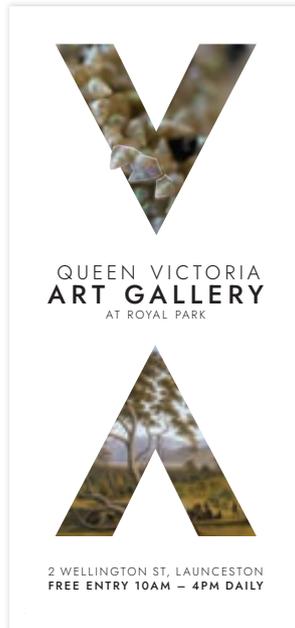
The brand has enabled QVMAG to visually represent itself in a competitive way on a national scale and generate consistency in the institution's public-facing and internal identity. This has been critical in the new brand.

It creates a unified brand tone, voice and experience, and has reinvigorated brand interest and reach in local and statewide audiences.

Whether brand touchpoints are in the form of public advertising, or represented in the form of modern, friendly staff uniforms greeting visitors, the QVMAG brand is immersive and holistic throughout all applications.









## PUBLICATIONS

During the year a suite of new publications were launched by the institution, supporting research undertaken for a diverse range of exhibitions on display.

Development and design for all publications were managed in-house, crafting unique and bespoke representations of the institution's diverse collection.

Ranging from books to catalogues, publications were developed to reflect the hand-picked stories best representing the exhibitions on display. Whether this be historical research or exploring the artistic inspiration of artists and makers on display, each design welcomed creative execution and stylised printing methods.

To accompany the launch of the exhibition *Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition* at the Art Gallery at Royal Park, a 92-page, section sewn, perfect bound publication was exclusively released for retail through the QVMAG Shop.

This publication shared the history, research and community connection to 50 chairs linked to the traditional Jimmy Possum method of chair making.

Bound to the people, place and history of the Meander Valley in northern Tasmania, the Jimmy Possum chair-making tradition is unlike any other in the world.

It's defining interlocking configuration and legs that intersect the seat and housed in the arms, back rungs that intersect the arms and housed in the seat, was reputedly developed at several Meander Valley bush camps by the fringe-dweller Jimmy Possum.

Chairs were made for family and friends and reflect the dimensions of the person they were intended for, as the makers enjoyed the ultimate creative freedom of making for loved ones rather than for profit.

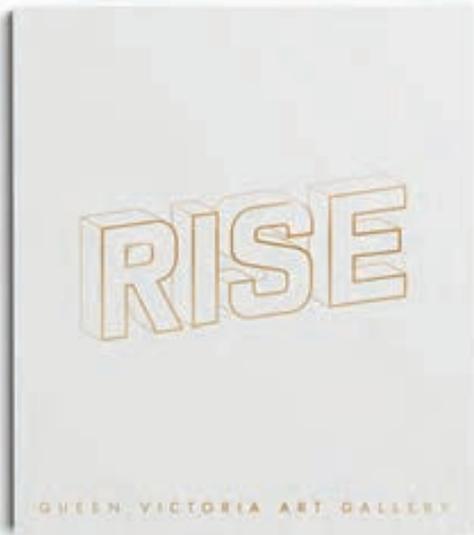
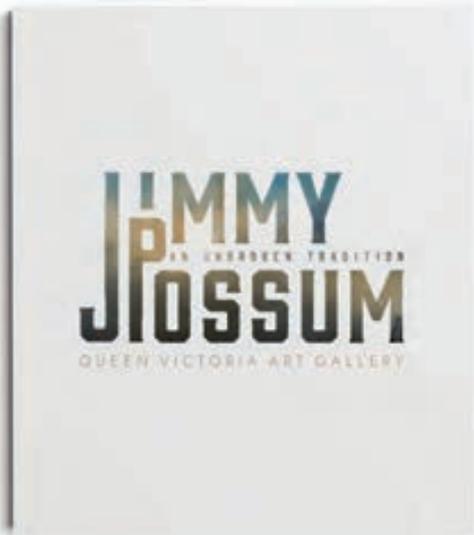
Inspired by the region, the creative direction for this publication anchored around natural tones and textures found within the Meander Valley.

Object photography within the publication focused on the texture, material, and method of each design, often against a muted background, allowing the design to be featured at the forefront.

Additionally, a focus of clean white space around text margins was leveraged throughout the design as a counterpoint for full page spreads of imagery throughout the design.

In the latter half of the financial year, the 160-page publication *HJ King: Cameras and Carburettors* was released for exclusive retail in the QVMAG Shop. Supporting the popular Museum exhibition, the publication offered a deep, historical representation of Tasmanian Herbert John King.







King ran a bicycle and motorcycle shop with his family in Launceston, and used motorcycles, cars and aircraft to reach many inaccessible parts of Tasmania.

He was an extremely talented amateur photographer and used his photographs to document his outdoor explorations. He experimented with photographic processes, won prizes for his black and white photographs, and took some of the earliest Australian examples of civilian aerial photography.

As such, the publication leveraged an elegant approach to design, allowing feature imagery by King to take the lead.

Featuring a strong collection of images from within the QVMAG Collection, alongside rich historical insight into the influence and significance of King's photography in Tasmania, the publication design offered a clean and crisp backdrop for the reader.

Utilising a matte laminate soft cover, satin stock and a section-sewn bind, the 160-page publication offers a timeless representation of the legacy left by King in Tasmania's history.

Alongside feature publications during the year, a range of exhibition catalogues were released, including:

- + *Mason | Marsden*
- + *ArtRage*
- + *Urban Sketchers*

Designed and developed in-house, each catalogue offered a branded experience for visitors while sharing supplementary content to further enhance the visitation experience and share stories of artists, makers and objects on display across the institution.

IN FOCUS

## EXHIBITION DESIGN

An often overlooked, yet vitally important, aspect of how cultural institutions worldwide engage with audiences is through the highly specialised field of exhibition design.

Broadly speaking exhibition design encompasses both two-dimensional and three-dimensional human-centred design principles spanning physical (built-form), collateral (print media), and digital formats.

Collectively these elements, when expertly harnessed, coalesce to allow cultural institutions to holistically engage with audiences through immersive storytelling experiences of the material culture presented through their exhibitions.

Exhibition design is more than a simple graphical element, or brand, and serves a critical function in ensuring that our exhibitions are engaging, accessible, and identifiable.

Through our exhibition design we facilitate meaningful exchanges between our research, contributing creative practitioners, collections, education and programmatic offerings with our audiences locally, nationally and internationally.

During the reporting period a wide range of unique exhibition designs and identities were developed, supporting our audience engagement strategies and key programmatic priority areas, as identified in the *Futures Plan*.

Of the 33 temporary and off-site exhibitions developed by QVMAG during 2022/2023 reporting period, 16 exhibitions were entirely new and unique projects that realised the development and implementation of holistic exhibition design, conceived, and produced entirely in-house.

Our exhibition design approach is firmly placed within the field of human-centred design. As such, we critically review the curatorial rationale and primary intent of the projects in which we commit ourselves in developing and showcasing to our audiences.

The breadth of design development during an exhibition's production phase encompasses a broad range of applications and is successfully realised through partnerships with local industry and service providers.

In this we, as a Launceston institution, are firmly embedded in, and financially support, local businesses in diverse areas such as manufacturing, print media, signage, media, just to name a few, and as such form part of our region's innovation effort (through challenging and exploring innovation in material use and presentation) and contribute significantly to Launceston's economy.

# THE JIMMY POSSUM CHAIR



Original illustration artwork  
created for *Jimmy Possum:  
an Unbroken Tradition*

© QVMAG



*Carving Conversations* with Carol Russell at the Art Gallery

Photo: Carmencita Palermo  
© QVMAG

Whilst a total of 16 exhibitions were developed by our Design team during the reporting period, the *Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition*, and the inaugural biennial *RISE*, are notable highlights in 2022/2023.

In August 2022, design planning began for the exhibition *Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition*. This exhibition required a high level of textural design. Planning for this show began by identifying a colour story that represented the geographical region of this exhibition content, largely focusing on the Meander Valley region in the 1890s.

This was achieved through photography of the region which identified warm yellow grass tones, cool eucalyptus tones, and overcast weather to represent the organic feel of the area.

To further activate the exhibition colour story, panels within the exhibition were created in timber to compliment the show; removing any harsh, modern textures and tones. To achieve a warm and natural feel, panels were printed on custom laser cut plywood circles.

Various considerations were given to the printed process on this material to both leverage and control the impact of the ink on the material during the printing process to achieve a specific tonal range within the agreed colour story.

The title wall treatment was inspired by the original Jimmy Possum chair-making tradition and its unique construction process. This influenced the graphic design of the title wall, altering letters to fit within and alongside one another, while using a typeface that emulates the 1890s.

Plywood was once again used for the printing of the title wall using a flatbed printer. Working with a local supplier, various test prints of the title wall and panels were completed to measure both ink absorption for colour range, and laser cutting techniques to test how dark the burning of the laser would appear.

While much of the exhibition lent itself to the surrounds of the Meander Valley, a creative direction was developed to not interrupt the feel of the exhibition with object labels.

In a first for QVMAG, entirely digital labels were leveraged through an online exhibition guide allowing visitors to explore extended label content in an accessible and customisable way, which similarly served to remove distracting collateral from the physical experience allowing audiences to fully engage with the works on display.

Doing so provided visitors to the exhibition with a stronger storytelling experience, creating visual depth to the show, while enhancing the presence of the Jimmy Possum chair-making tradition.

In April 2023, brand ideation began for the institution's newly developed biennial exhibition entitled *RISE*.

Showcasing the work of ten of Tasmania's top emerging artists, the exhibition identity anchored around the 'rising' profiles of all artists featured. Identified from the outset as an ongoing biennial initiative, as part of the institution's strategic direction, the exhibition's identity necessitated an approach that ensured longevity and brand flexibility to support the future growth of this exhibition showcase.

Using MDF wrapped in gold reflective vinyl, the exhibition title was developed in the form of custom large-scale 3D cut lettering spelling 'RISE'. Each letter was uniquely designed with 10cm of height removed from the base of each letter, creating the illusion of letters 'rising' from the flooring.

Placed in the centre of the exhibition, the title wall of the exhibition created a harmonious contrast between the exhibition walls, reflecting the diverse and powerful selection of works on display.

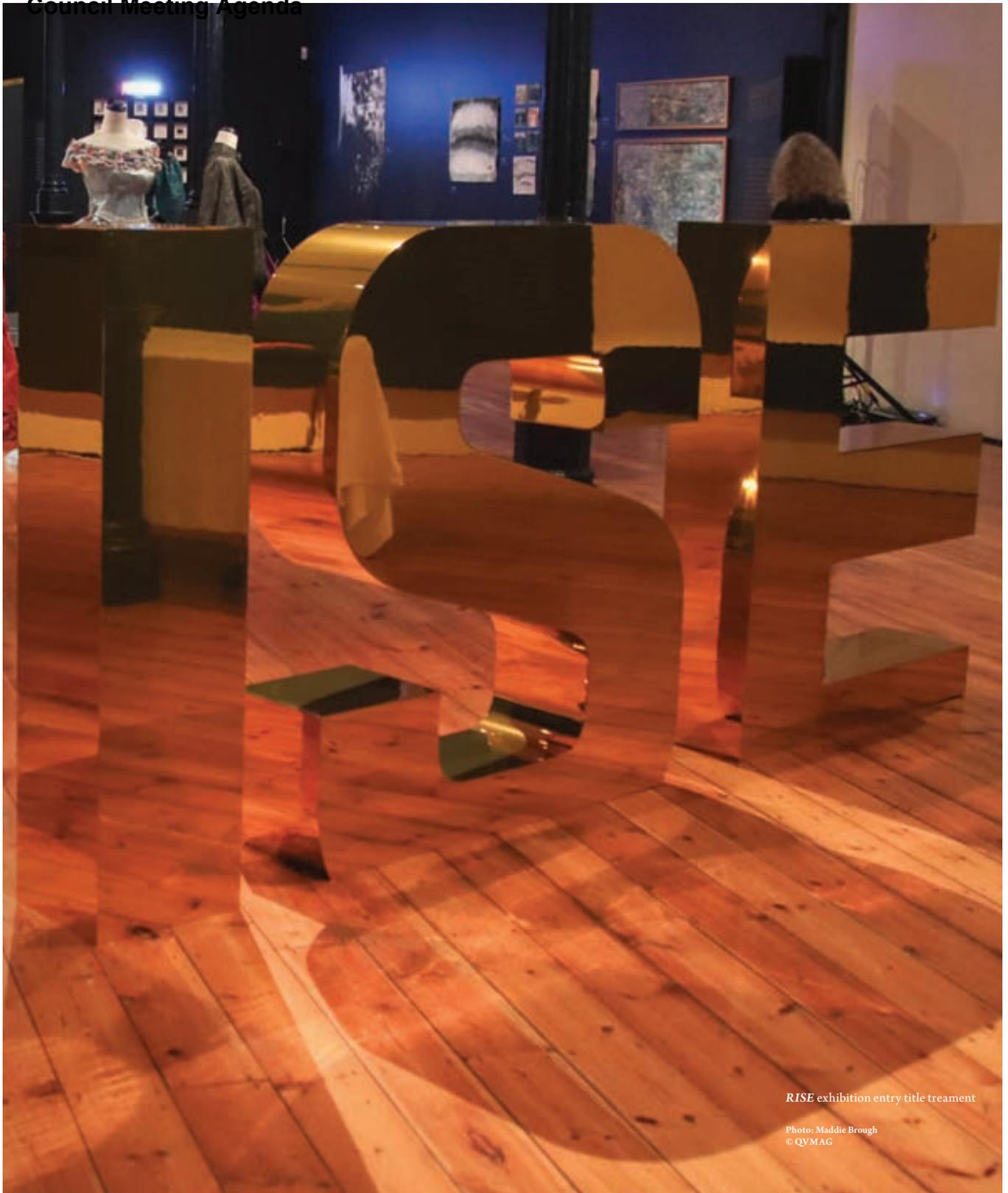
With all artist text panels printed from cut chrome vinyl against a navy-blue wall base, a matte lamination was used for all wall text to support accessibility while still providing a high impact visual result.

To create consistency in the space, all artist titles were additionally printed in large cut vinyl lettering on the walls of the gallery and installed on a slight lean to reinforce the narrative of each showcase.

The overall exhibition identity and supporting collateral were designed to be contemporary and clean with typography taking the lead, creating a identity that could be fluid and complementary to a diverse selection of works on display.

The 2022/2023 reporting period celebrated a record year in the development and provision of exhibitions across both our sites, especially at the Art Gallery at Royal Park.

The resulting increase in activity provided our audiences with unprecedented diversity in our programmatic offer and allowed the institution to creatively develop new visual experiences and inclusive design approaches for our growing audiences.



*RISE* exhibition entry title treatment

Photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG

## IN FOCUS

## COLLATERAL

A diverse portfolio of collateral was developed throughout the year to support education, marketing, programming, exhibition, and brand engagement. From on-site wayfinding signage and event promotions through to digital assets and exhibition merchandise, a diverse catalogue of designs was developed in-house to further enhance the brand identity of the institution and its offerings.

To support the in-market awareness of the newly endorsed identity for QVMAG in June, advertising outputs such as billboards, print newspaper ads, transport advertising, posters, social media assets, and signage activations were released statewide with the goal of driving local and tourism audience awareness toward the brand. Spanning top-tier and sub-brand promotion, all assets were focused toward featuring hero imagery in high visibility placements to capture the attention and curiosity of community.

The Launceston Planetarium welcomed a full collateral overhaul during this period, including a new suite of promotional brochures, new on-site banner signage, digital advertising assets, city billboards and more, re-igniting this iconic northern Tasmanian identity to existing statewide markets.

A new initiative of a 'Highlight tour' was developed for the Museum at Inveresk to trial supplementary assets for self-guided exploration of exhibitions. This specific design featured a diverse range of objects on display throughout the site, offering additional facts and information of items for visitors.

This concept design utilised the new institutional brand while once again leaning into hero imagery to create a contemporary, bold informal educational asset for visitors of the Museum.

In May, the Art Gallery at Royal Park welcomed the *Urban Sketchers* exhibition. Alongside this exhibition, interactive print collateral was developed for visitors, encouraging their participation in the global urban sketcher's movement. Collateral included a visitor booklet sharing information about urban sketching, alongside tips and tricks to get started with sketching urban landscapes.

The booklet included a range of pages and prompts for visitors to take with them to various locations and trial the sketching tips within, ultimately encouraging visitors to return and pin their local sketches to a communal sketch art display within the exhibition.

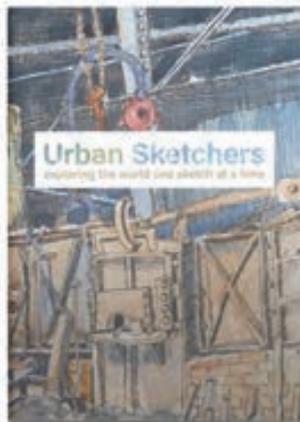
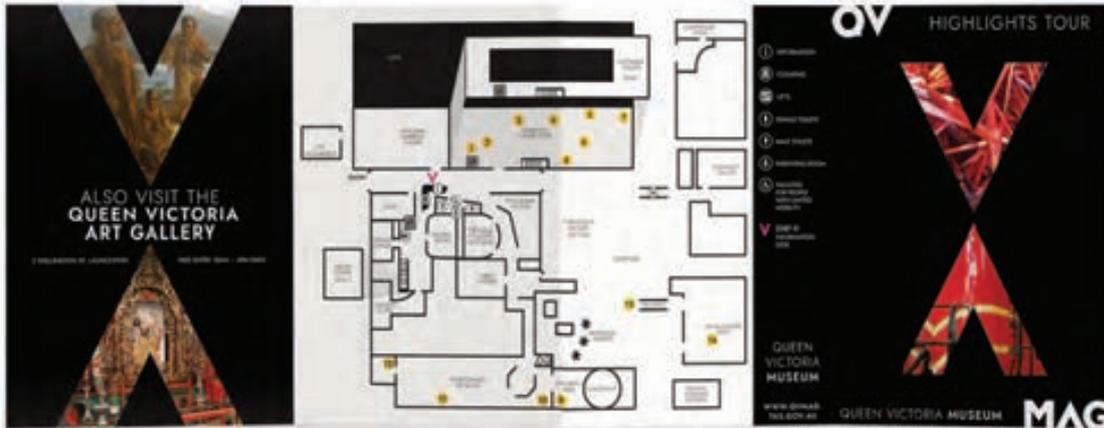
Merchandise was a key focus throughout the year, with a suite of QVMAG exhibition specific merchandise being released for retail in the QVMAG Shop. Designed in-house and exclusively for sale at QVMAG, merchandise spanned activations of key feature exhibition such as *HJ King: Cameras and Carburettors*, and *Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition*.

Spanning can coolers, tote bags, t-shirts, mugs, gift cards and more, the range offered a dynamic and custom range of merchandise for visitors exploring QVMAG throughout the year.



*HJ King: Cameras and Carburettors merchandise*

*Photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG*





*Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition merchandise*

Photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG

## RESEARCH OVERVIEW

QVMAG has a strong heritage in research dating back to its origins in 1891; in fact, dating back to the origin of its collection in 1842. This history of research is more akin to the State and Territory museums of Australia than most regional museums.

Like the size and diversity of its collections, this research legacy is a defining aspect of QVMAG. With collections and public programs as diverse as those of QVMAG, research too has spanned a broad spectrum.

The QVMAG collection is a holistic resource but for convenience in curatorial and management functions is identified as spanning **Visual Arts and Design, History, Natural Sciences, and Archives and Library**<sup>1</sup>. Research programs align with the same disciplinary taxa, although cross-disciplinary research is increasingly encouraged.

Museum research can feed into many aspects of museum operations, particularly those related to exhibitions, public programs, publications and documenting the collection.

It can also feed into societal responses to the important issues facing local and global communities, including the management of biodiversity and biodiversity loss, climate change, inclusive societies, sustainability, and so on.

Research into the collections reveals the stories that lie within them. Without research, the collection objects are just things.

*'With research, the collections come alive.'*

Research must be communicated if it is to have any impact. In the 2022/2023 financial year, QVMAG staff produced 10 publications based on their research. Of these, three were published by QVMAG: *RISE, H.J. King Cameras and Carburettors and Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition*.

These publications linked to major exhibitions and public programs developed by QVMAG in the same year and are discussed further in the **Exhibitions and Engagement** sections of this Annual Report.

The publications enhanced the educational impacts of the exhibitions and extended the reach of QVMAG to audiences who could not physically engage with the exhibitions. The three publications were designed in-house by QVMAG staff and are also discussed in the **Design** section of this Annual Report.

In addition to these in-house produced publications, QVMAG staff published four academic articles in external peer-reviewed journals and three popular articles for general audiences.

QVMAG encourages its research staff to communicate their research in many ways, to as diverse an audience as possible. For example, QVMAG staff communicate their research at a wide variety of public events, ranging across professional conferences, community organised events, and QVMAG exhibition and education programs.

# OUTPUTS

	21/22	22/23
Total onsite Research Studies	187	126
Total number visiting Researchers	not recorded	32
Total Research inquiries	187	455
Total Taxonomy records completed	4,672	5,062
Taxonomy records uploaded (ALA/OZCAM)	nil	14,182
Taxonomy records cumulative (ALA/OZCAM)	97,162	111,344
Total number Specimens collected (fieldwork)	10,000	2,000
Total new Species records Tasmania	not recorded	12
Total likely new Species – unidentified	not recorded	12
Total number Specimens digitised	5,662	18,114
Research Papers/Peer Reviewed Journals	6	4
Popular Articles/Publications produced	2	6
Total Manuscripts submitted	nil	2



Swift moth (*Abantiades hyalinatus*)  
from the QVMAG Natural Sciences  
collection

Photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG

One of the core natural science research streams for QVMAG is taxonomy: the identification and description of new species of plants and animals<sup>2</sup>.

If we are to protect biodiversity and the complex natural processes of ecosystems, we need to know what species comprise that diversity and which can only be certain when the species are formally described by science.

We know Tasmania has many thousands of species to yet be identified by science, most especially in highly diverse groups such as insects and spiders. In 2022/2023, QVMAG staff and Honorary Research Associates, working with the QVMAG collection, identified 12 new species, currently undescribed by science.

QVMAG is a highly accessible public resource to the people of northern Tasmania. As well as curating exhibitions, providing educational programs and writing publications that expand knowledge of Tasmania, QVMAG staff answer numerous public inquiries submitted in person, by telephone, email, online and in correspondence.

In 2022/2023, staff responded to **1,047 inquiries** relating to the collection and a further **455 research specific inquiries**. Some of these inquiries could be answered quickly but others required significant investment of time to undertake the research needed to arrive at a reply. Unless information is being used for a commercial purpose, these inquiries are attended to free of charge to the inquirer.

The QVMAG Exhibition Program for 2022/2023 is discussed in that section of the Annual Report. Suffice to note here that staff research supports most of the exhibitions in some way or another. In fact, QVMAG exhibitions can be seen as a major form of multiformat/multimedia publication for general (= non-specialist) audiences.

Many staff are involved in sourcing information for the exhibitions but the primary research staff are those in the curatorial sections. QVMAG staff were heavily involved in research for *HJ King: Cameras and Carbugettors*, one of the major curated exhibitions during the period.

Other historical research areas included the history of Chinese families in Tasmania, especially Launceston, and Tasmanian shipwreck history. The exhibition *Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition* required extensive research by QVMAG staff in concert with the exhibition's co-curator, Mike Epworth.

QVMAG is a highly multidisciplinary institution, and all curatorial areas are actively involved in research for the exhibition program. For some products, such as the forthcoming exhibition *Wetlands* (opening in September 2023), the research undertaken in 2022/2023 has been multidisciplinary, with research input from many staff and external advisors spanning natural environment studies, Aboriginal culture, history and art.



Collection acquisitions are discussed further in the Strategic Collections section. Collection objects are acquired to support the QVMAG public offering in exhibitions and as subjects for research. Primary modes of acquisition for artworks, historic artifacts, books and archives are through donations from the public and purchase.

In 2022/2023, 263 objects were acquired for these collections. Many of these objects will be the subject of future research.

In Natural Sciences, most specimens are obtained through active fieldwork, where the specimens are collected by QVMAG staff and associates using a variety of methods<sup>3</sup>. Fieldwork is also a form of research, as precise information is gathered about the locations and environmental conditions where specimens are collected. This information is recorded, including on the digital Collection Management System (CMS), and becomes a vitally important resource for researchers studying species evolution, biology and biogeography.

In the 2022/2023 financial year, approximately 2,000 specimens, mostly moths, were collected for the Natural Sciences collection by light trapping undertaken during fieldwork.

Cataloguing and storing data about the collection objects is a function of both research and collection management. For research, the data held in QVMAG digital systems, notably the CMS, is a resource to researchers around Australia and internationally.

Currently, approximately 18% of the QVMAG collections are digitised with this percentage increasing every year as we set ourselves the ambitious goal of digitising the entire 1.5 million objects held within the collection.

In addition to our own records, QVMAG enters its Natural Sciences collection data to open databases, such as the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA) and Online Zoological Collections of Australian Museums (OZCAM). The ALA is a repository of Australian biodiversity data which allows scientists, policy makers, environmental planners and land managers, industry and the general public, to access biodiversity data from many sources.

Data from the ALA feeds into the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), which is an international network aimed at providing anyone, anywhere, with open access to data about all types of life on earth. These records are regularly used by researchers around the world. In 2022/2023, QVMAG entered 14,182 specimen records into these databases, bringing the total QVMAG records publicly available (via ALA) to 111,344. The collection management dimension of the CMS is discussed further under Strategic Collections.

It has long been known that Australia is a mega-diverse continent with very high levels of taxonomic endemism (species and higher taxa that occur only in Australia).

*Discovering Biodiversity: A decadal plan for taxonomy and biosystematics in Australia and New Zealand 2018–2027* developed by Taxonomy Australia<sup>4</sup> set an ambitious target for documenting more of Australia's biodiversity but without significant investment from government, progress will continue to be slow.

A recent cost-benefit analysis of biosystematics research for the Australian Academy of Science, revealed that every \$1 spent on taxonomic research yields benefits to Australia of \$4 to \$35<sup>5</sup>.

The analysis explores the challenges and rewards of committing to document all the species of Australia over the next 25 years. It is estimated that more than 400,000 taxa, or 70% of the biodiversity of Australia, remains unknown, so the task is daunting. Achieving this outcome over 25 years would require a 16-fold increase in funding towards taxonomic studies. By many standards, the biota of Tasmania is less well known than that of many other areas of the continent.

As a regional museum, QVMAG is highly unusual in being recognised as part of Australia's *National Research Infrastructure*, notably for its contribution to taxonomic research. QVMAG's Natural Science collection of Tasmanian species is amongst the finest in the world and QVMAG staff are focusing its development on the most diverse of all animal groups, the insects.

It is to be hoped that Australian governments at federal and state levels and industry partners will respond to the call to invest in Australia's biosystematics research. QVMAG will be well placed to benefit from that investment.

Additionally, QVMAG is the only regional institution in Australia to be a core member of the Council of Heads of Australian Faunal Collections (CHAFC) and the Council of Australasian Museum Directors (CAMD). Resulting from this unique position, and the strength of the institution's collection, QVMAG loans items from its collection to other recognised institutions with similar missions for the primary purposes of public exhibitions and research. Collection loans are discussed at greater length in the Strategic Collections section.

Here, it is important to note that collection loans connect QVMAG (Launceston and Tasmania) to the world. They are one of the most important avenues for QVMAG's support of research happening around the country and internationally. In a very real sense, every research project and publication that incorporates items from the QVMAG collection, provided on loan by QVMAG staff or studied onsite in Launceston, is a research product supported by QVMAG.

As well as loaning collection objects for research, QVMAG welcomes researchers to work onsite with the collections.

These researchers can be staff of universities and other research institutions, many of whom are foremost authorities in their fields, or they can be members of the general public who have a passion for subjects related to the QVMAG collection. In 2022/2023, QVMAG assisted more than 120 site visitors in their research endeavours; of these 32 were formal visiting researchers from institutions around Australia and the world.



Arachnologist John Douglas working within  
the QVMAG Natural Sciences collection  
photo: Melanie Kate Photography



# COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF A MISSION TO DISCOVER AND DOCUMENT AUSTRALIA'S SPECIES\*



MORE THAN **70%**  
OF THE BIODIVERSITY OF AUSTRALIA IS UNKNOWN

**EVERY \$1** SPENT ON TAXONOMIC RESEARCH  
COULD YIELD BENEFITS TO AUSTRALIA OF \$4-\$35



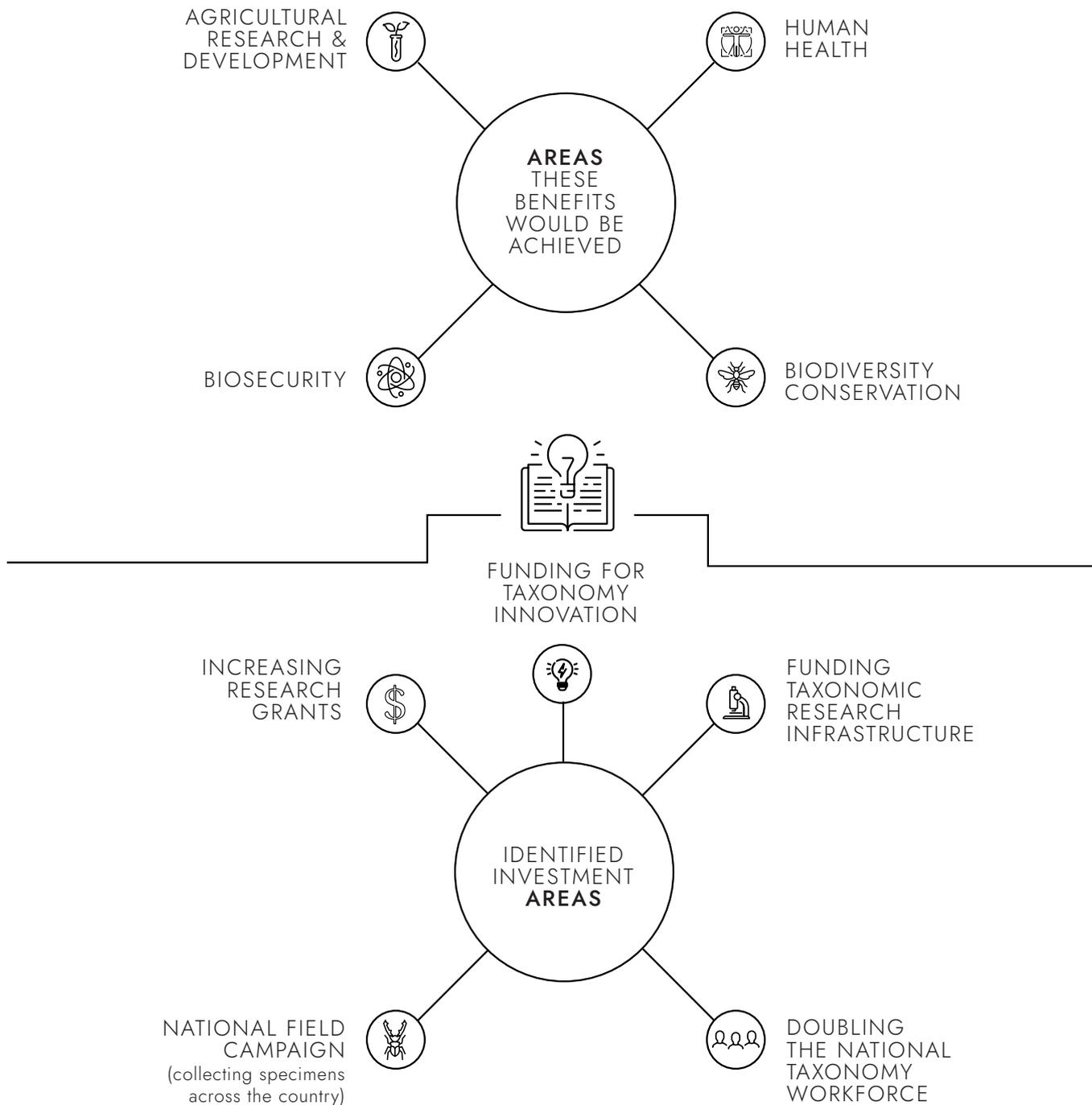
**\$824**  
MILLION  
INVESTMENT IN TAXONOMY AND BIOINFORMATICS

WOULD GENERATE BETWEEN

**\$3.7-28.9**  
BILLION  
OVER 25 YEARS



\*Deloitte Access Economics for the Australian Academy of Science, 2020.



## VISITING RESEARCHERS 2022/2023

**Raymond ARNOLD**

researched the photography of HJ King  
Queenstown, Tasmania

**Matthew BAKER**

reviewed the plant genus *Epilobium*  
Tasmanian Herbarium, Hobart, Tasmania

**Prof Renner BAPTISTA**

taxonomic revision of orb weaving spiders  
University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

**Dr Diane BARTON**

collected internal parasites from quolls, devils, bandicoots  
Charles Sturt University, New South Wales

**Dr Russell BICKNELL**

examined invertebrate palaeontological collections  
University of New England, New South Wales

**David BOARDER**

researched the Gruson Krupp field gun  
Firearms Collectors Guild, Launceston, Tasmania

**Dr Nicolas CAMPIONE**

examined vertebrate palaeontological collections  
University of New England, New South Wales

**Dr Pedro CASTANHEIRA**

taxonomic revision of orb weaving spiders,  
University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

**Bruce COPELAND**

examined WB Gould's works esp.  
*Flower Study - tulips and roses*  
independent curator, Melbourne, Victoria

**John DAVIES**

reviewed the plant genus *Epilobium*  
Tasmanian Herbarium, Hobart, Tasmania

**Rolan EBERHARD**

examined Scotchtown megafauna collection  
Environment, Heritage and Land Division, Hobart, Tasmania

**Rolan EBERHARD** [2nd visit and project]

examined thylacine cave material  
Environment, Heritage and Land Division, Hobart, Tasmania

**Ely FINCH**

researching the Guan Di Temple and Kaw collections,  
Historical Linguist and Consultant Translator, Literary  
Chinese and Cantonese, Melbourne, Victoria

**Dr Lynne FORSTER**

examined ground beetle collection, family Carabidae  
Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart, Tasmania

**Jane GIBLIN**

examined Imants Tiller's multi-panel artwork, *Cathedral*

**Anita GOWERS**

worked on QVMAG picture frame collection  
PhD student (Plomley Foundation grant recipient),  
Australian National University, Canberra

**Tobias JAHKE**

researched early 20th century backpacks  
and surveying equipment  
**Legendary Entertainment, Queensland**

**Roger de KEYSER**

examined the collection of stag beetles, Genus *Lissotes*  
**Australian Museum, New South Wales**

**Logan KRUSHKA**

researched tramway-related artefacts  
**Launceston Tramway Museum**

**MacKenzie KWAK**

collected fleas from Tasmanian devils and quolls  
**National University of Singapore, Singapore**

**Dr Juanita KWOK**

researched the Guan Di Temple and Kaw collections  
**President, Our Chinese Past Inc., Bathurst, New South Wales**

**Dr Paul MacGREGOR**

researched the Guan Di Temple and Kaw collections  
**independent Historian & Heritage Consultant,  
Kerrisdale, Victoria**

**Peter McQUILLAN**

examined Lepidoptera (moth) collection  
**University of Tasmania, Hobart, Tasmania**

**Professor Hamish MAXWELL-STEWART**

researched death masks and the  
John Watt Beattie Collection  
**University of Tasmania, Hobart, Tasmania**

**Mike NASH**

continuing research on Sydney Cove artefacts  
**Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Service, Hobart, Tasmania**

**Meagan POWLEY**

3D scanned sugar glider skulls  
**University of Wollongong, New South Wales**

**Maddison RANDALL**

3D scanned bettong skulls  
**Flinders University, South Australia**

**Dr Richard SCHAHINGER** [two visits]

examined aquatic plant genera *Ruppia* and *Lepilaena*  
**Botanist, Hobart, Tasmania**

**Michael SMITH**

researched Cascades Female Factory artefacts  
**Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority  
(PAHSMA), Tasmania**

**Prof Kipling WILL**

examined ground beetle collection, family Carabidae  
**University of California, United States of America**

**John WYLIE**

examined cave material from Loongana Karstand  
**Saving River Caving Club, Tasmania**

**Irena ZDANOWICZ**

continued work on Bea Maddock's  
*Catalogue Raisonné* volume 2  
**University of Melbourne, Victoria**



**Spotted-tail Quoll**  
*Dasyurus maculatus*  
Exhibition view *Tasmanian Connections*  
Museum at Inveresk  
photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG





## TASMANIA'S AMAZING BEETLE DIVERSITY

QVMAG has one of the largest and most important Tasmanian natural sciences collections in Australia. These specimens are a physical record of Tasmania's fauna, flora and geology.

Our animal specimens number in the hundreds of thousands and range from tiny fleas to gigantic whale skeletons. The collection is essentially a library of biodiversity that informs species discovery, their distribution and the role they play in ecosystem function as well as the genes they carry.

Perhaps the greatest benefit of the collection is allowing taxonomists to classify life—identifying the evolutionary relationships that underpin all other aspects of biology.

In the past year QVMAG has been very fortunate in hosting world class beetle taxonomists to examine significant portions of our entomological collections.

In November 2022, through a joint funding arrangement between QVMAG, CHAFC, and the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG), we engaged the services of Professor Kipling (Kip) Will from the University of California, Berkeley, USA to spend a week in QVMAG's collections.

Kip is the only authority (globally) on the enormously speciose and diverse predaceous ground beetles in the family Carabidae.

In the interests of fostering collaborative research as well as keeping some of Kip's skills in the State after his departure, Dr Lynne Forster (Honourary Research Associate, TMAG) was invited by QVMAG to participate in the week long taxonomic study.

Tasmania has a rich ground beetle fauna comprising more than 300 known species, and QVMAG has a large collection of specimens from field work conducted over the last decade.

Kip had three goals during his time with us:

1. Broadly reorganise the collection's linear arrangement to be consistent with the currently accepted phylogenetic classification using the Australian Beetles book series by CSIRO as the standard.
2. Identify to the lowest classification level possible as many specimens as possible in the allotted time.
3. Have a general exchange of knowledge on topics such as taxonomic practice, museum protocols, collection and curation methods, dissection techniques, and the state of knowledge for carabid beetles.

During his visit, Professor Will reorganised thousands of specimens in our collection which will make finding specimens for study and loan in future much more efficient.





Professor Kipling Will and Dr Lynne Forster  
working on naming ground beetle specimens  
in the QVMAG entomological collection  
photo: QVMAG

Among the nearly 100 species identified, approximately a dozen represent probable new species, four are new genus-level records for the State, and six are new species records for the State.

Several prominent and diverse groups have no modern revisionary treatment and so remain a challenge to identify. Many of these are further complicated by the need to reference type specimens and comparative material held in European or mainland Australian collections, further reinforcing the need to have comprehensive, local collections for Tasmanian research and biosecurity.

To accelerate future study of such groups, specimens were sorted into morphospecies. Having morphospecies and potentially undescribed species sorted also helps in prioritising collecting efforts and Bioblitz events.

Following on from the success of Kip's visit, CHAFC funds supported QVMAG in enlisting the expertise of beetle taxonomist Roger de Keyzer from the Australian Museum. Roger is a recognised global expert on Australian stag beetles (Family Lucanidae).

The stag beetle genus *Lissotes* is the most species rich in the family, comprising 29 species of which a remarkable 25 are endemic to Tasmania. Many of these species have restricted distributions in different parts of the State and almost nothing is known about precise distribution boundaries and biology of most species.

Roger spent two days in the collection and was able to identify to species level nearly a thousand specimens. The QVMAG specimens have greatly helped in clarifying species boundaries, and identifying considerable regional variation in taxonomic characters across the range of more widespread species.

These specimens reinforced Roger's suspicion that some of these species may in fact represent a species complex. The morphological variation can be quite considerable within males of some species and DNA sequencing will be required to determine how different some of the populations are. To get a better idea on relationships between taxa a more comprehensive DNA sequencing project is required for all taxa in Tasmania and on the Australian mainland.

Additional specimens of an undescribed but recognised species were noted by Roger as well as new locality records for four poorly collected species.

Both Kip and Roger's visits to QVMAG were a resounding success. Having reliably named specimens by the world's leading experts is one of the most critical aspects of any natural history collection.

#### *So, why is this so important?*

There are more species of insects than any other group of animals, and beetles are the most diverse group of insects.

Insects are sensitive to environmental changes such as habitat loss, pollution and climate change, making them important 'bioindicators' - meaning that changes in their abundance and distribution can indicate changes in the environment that we might not notice until that change had become much greater.

Such changes cannot be quantified without the powerful research tool of well named, base line collections.

Each and every one of the beetles named by Kip and Roger receive a unique registration identification number that is entered into the QVMAG database and then migrated to both national and international databases such as the **Atlas of living Australia (ALA)** and **Online Zoological Collections of Australian Museums (OZCAM)**. This enables specialists and researchers anywhere in the world to interact with QVMAG's collections.

Collaborations arising from such awareness identifies potential research projects, funding opportunities, and important information for networking in the entomological and museum community.

The visits by Kip and Roger have provided unprecedented development within our collection in addition to paving the way for future international and national collaborations and research directions based on the material held within the QVMAG collection.



Roger de Keyzer examining Lissotes stag beetles in the QVMAG entomology collection

photo: QVMAG



*Chlaenius darlingensis*

This colourful predatory ground beetle is a new species record for Tasmania and the only Tasmanian specimen represented in any faunal collection.

photo: QVMAG





Post graduate PhD researcher Meagan Powley collecting morphometric data from QVMAG's collection of sugar glider skeletal material

photo: QVMAG



IN FOCUS

## BIZARRE TALE OF TASMANIA'S SUGAR GLIDERS

QVMAG is internationally recognised as having the most important collection of Tasmanian mammals anywhere in the world.

This collection comprises whole mounts, study skins, skeletal material as well as whole spirit preserved animals and internal organs. Our specimens span 150 years of collecting and are constantly being used in ground-breaking biological research.

In October 2022, post graduate PhD researcher Meagan Powley from the University of Wollongong visited QVMAG to work on our extensive sugar glider collections.

Until 2021, it was thought that sugar gliders represented a single widespread species (*Petaurus breviceps*) from Tasmania, up the entire east coast and across Australia's top end.

Recent genetic studies have confirmed that a species complex of three species is involved. The species in Tasmania is Krefft's sugar glider *Petaurus notatus*.

Krefft's sugar gliders are an introduced species to Tasmania, becoming established around 1835. How they got to Tasmania is not certain but they could have been deliberately released, escaped pets or stowaways on sailing ships or (most likely) a combination of all those. Genetic research has shown that the Tasmanian population originated from Victorian populations.

**Sugar gliders spread rapidly across Tasmania and are now common throughout the State.**

Sugar gliders have been identified as a major causative agent in the rapid decline of the endangered swift parrot (*Lathamus discolor*) through eating eggs, hatchlings and even adult birds.

Sugar gliders and swift parrots both compete for hollows in large, mature eucalypts. Swift parrots only breed in Tasmania so sugar glider predation is of major conservation concern.

Sugar glider diets are typically omnivorous— including nectar, tree sap, insects and occasionally larger animals such as birds. However, sugar gliders in Tasmania may be evolving away from their mainland relatives to develop a more carnivorous diet.

Megan's research examined the cranium and mandible of sugar gliders and compared the mainland Australian Krefft's glider population with the gliders from Tasmania.

Morphological variation in skull and mandible structure resulting from the Tasmanian gliders diet of endangered swift parrots could be reflected in mandible changes to that of a more typical carnivore.



Specifically, typical carnivore mandible shape is an approximate right angle (or closer to 90 degrees) whilst an omnivore typically has a 30-60 degree angle of the ramus to the insertion direction of the molar teeth.

Meagan's research was quantified using 3D scans, 2D photographs and linear measurements of glider skulls and analysed using geometric morphometrics to compare morphological variation.

QVMAG has a very good collection of sugar glider skeletal material and Meagan was delighted with the quantity and quality of the material in our collections from which she generated 3D scans.

If Meagan's research does demonstrate that Tasmanian sugar gliders have skulls and mandibles more specialised for a carnivorous diet compared to their Victorian source populations, it will be an amazing example of selective adaptation in only a few centuries.

Such important research based on museum specimens collected across long time periods, highlights both the dangers of introduced species and their ability to rapidly thrive in novel habitats through selective adaptation but also the amazing science that is conducted through collaborations with museums and external stakeholders such as universities.



Examples of skeletal material, skulls and a study skin of Tasmanian Krefft's sugar gliders in the QVMAG Natural Sciences collection

photo: QVMAG



## ECOSYSTEM FUNCTION RESEARCH

A key component of the natural sciences collections are specimens preserved 'wet' - that is specimens permanently stored in 80% ethanol.

This includes many thousands of invertebrates (especially soft-bodied forms such as worms and spiders), the bulk of our reptile, amphibian and fish collections as well as small mammals under a kilo in weight.

In addition, the internal organs and/or gut contents of animals prepared as study skins or mounts are also stored in ethanol.

**Wet specimens in the QVMAG collection are used in a wide variety of molecular, taxonomic and ecological studies.**

In June 2023, a study on fungal spore dispersal was published based on QVMAG's collection of wet preserved brown bandicoots (*Isoodon obesulus*) and barred bandicoots (*Perameles gunnii*).

More than 500 species of mammals around the world are known to contribute to ecosystem health through their consumption of fungi and subsequent spore dispersal.

These ecological interactions are poorly studied in Australia even though fungi are an important dietary item for a range of small mammals, particularly potoroos.

Post Graduate PhD researcher Todd Elliott from the University of New England, NSW, exclusively used QVMAG's collection to investigate the level of mycophagy (fungus eating) in Tasmania's two bandicoot species and thus the level to which they contribute to ecosystem function and health through digging over soil to find subterranean fungi.

Such digging disturbance is known to promote decomposition of organic material as well as improving water penetration and soil hydration. The health and resilience of plant and fungal communities may depend in part on digging mammals such as bandicoots for these ecosystem services.

Before mammal specimens are placed in ethanol, an incision is made exposing the body cavity to the preservative. This museum practice allowed Todd to make a small incision directly into the stomach of the bandicoots to extract a small amount of stomach contents for analysis. In addition, any faecal material from the digestive tract was collected and examined.

The research clearly demonstrated that fungi are a significant component of bandicoot diets and that both Tasmanian species likely play a key role in ecosystem function through their dispersal of fungal spores.





Post graduate PhD researcher Todd Elliott  
with a brown bandicoot  
photo: courtesy of Todd Elliott



Spirit preserved brown bandicoots  
in the QVMAG collection  
photo: QVMAG

Obtaining such information by trapping wild bandicoots is time consuming, expensive and requires permitting and ethics approvals. Museum specimens can answer many dietary questions in a quick and cost effective manner.

Todd stated:

*“The Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery maintains a priceless natural history collection that has been instrumental to my research of vertebrate ecology. I was fortunate enough to be able to study a range of mammal specimens in this collection.*

*Some specimens were relatively recently collected and others had been carefully curated by the QVMAG staff for more than half a century.*

*Museum collections and curators are often the unsung heroes behind the work that myself and other scientists do, and I am grateful to add QVMAG to the list of those that have helped make my research possible!”*

While museums generally no longer actively collect vertebrate animals, we encourage the public to bring in good quality road kill. Such specimens can provide valuable scientific information in all sorts of unexpected ways.



Professor Renner Baptista, QVMAG Honorary Research Associate John Douglas and Dr Pedro Castanheira with field collected spider specimens

photo: QVMAG



IN FOCUS

## FOSTERING NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

Tasmania has a rich spider fauna that is not well documented. Thanks to the work of QVMAG's very own spider expert, Honorary Research Associate John Douglas, and the rate at which he is discovering new species of spiders in our collection, it appears that only around a third of all Tasmanian spider species have been described and named by taxonomists.

Recent advances in molecular research have resulted in a reappraisal of the precise evolutionary relationships between lineages of spiders.

Australian orb weaving spiders in the family Araneidae are a recent example. In the early days of Australian spider research many specimens were sent to pioneering taxonomists in the major European museums for naming.

An unintentional northern hemisphere bias saw many Australian species placed in genera that was inappropriate considering what we now know about the Gondwanan origins of many Australian spiders.

For example, around 100 species of orb weaving spiders were placed in the genus *Araneus* but it is becoming clear that this genus does not occur in Australia.

A joint research program through the University of Rio de Janeiro and Murdoch University, Western Australia, is using mitochondrial DNA as well as traditional morphological taxonomy to define the status of Australian orb weavers in the genus *Araneus*.

QVMAG has become involved in this project through John's collaborations with Australian spider expert Volker Framenau.

In January 2023, QVMAG was delighted to host visiting spider researchers from the University of Rio de Janeiro, Professor of Arachnology Renner Baptista and Dr Pedro Castanheira who is working under the supervision of Dr Framenau in Western Australia.

Renner and Pedro were working under permits to collect spiders in National Parks all over Tasmania for a week. Areas that suited their field work and locations where specimens had been collected in the past were priorities.

It was important to have fresh material for the DNA studies and more than 2,000 spider specimens were collected in the field and brought to QVMAG for sorting, preserving and labelling before returning to Murdoch University with Pedro for detailed study and DNA sequencing.

While they were at QVMAG they took the opportunity to examine and name specimens in our collection.

QVMAG is both fortunate and delighted to help facilitate such research. All the spiders collected by Renner and Pedro will be returned to QVMAG on the completion of their studies.



This will include any holotypes identified (the holotype is a single physical example of an organism used when the species was formally described). Such specimens are the most important and valuable that a museum can hold and so far three new Tasmanian species have been identified from Renner and Pedro's samples.

Through liaising with experts from around the world, QVMAG is developing an important and well named Tasmanian spider collection.

Accurate identifications by experts are vital in registering specimens and getting them onto regional, national and international databases ensuring that researchers and land managers everywhere can have access to the best possible information on species occurrence and distribution.



A male *Dolophones conifer*. One of the many species of orb weavers occurring in Tasmania  
photo: QVMAG

# RESEARCH PUBLISHED WORKS 2022/2023

## ACADEMIC / SCIENTIFIC

**Grove, SJ, Byrne, CJ, Forster, LG, Bonham, KJ,  
Fearn, S, Douglas, J, Maynard, D & McMahan, A 2022**

'Invertebrate fauna of the Stony Head Area, Tasmania,  
Australia: findings from an intensive survey, summer  
2020-21'

*Papers and Proceedings of the Royal Society of Tasmania*  
156: 121-133.

**Maynard, D & Fearn, S 2022**

'A new adult eucalypt food plant and western Bass Strait  
distributional records for the golden stag beetle *Lamprima*  
*aurata* (Scarabaeoidea: Lucanidae) in Tasmania'

*The Tasmanian Naturalist*  
144: 29-34.

**See, Z, Ledger, S, Goodman, L, Matthews, B, Jones,  
D, Fealy, S, Ooi, W & Amin, M 2023**

'Playable Experiences Through Technologies: Opportunities  
and Challenges for Teaching Simulation Learning and  
Extended Reality Solution Creation'

*Journal of Information Technology Education: Innovations  
in Practice*  
22: 67-90.

**Elliott, TF, Rainbird J & Vernes K 2023**

'Tasmanian bandicoots as fungal dispersers: A comparison  
in mycophagy between the southern brown bandicoot  
(*Isodon obesulus*) and the eastern barred bandicoot  
(*Perameles gunnii*)'

*Australian Mammalogy*  
Online early publication

## POPULAR / GENERAL

**Addison, J, Haygarth, N & Fitzgerald, S 2023**

*HJ King: Cameras & Carburettors*  
Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery,  
Launceston, Tasmania.

**Epworth, M, Bird, A & Fitzgerald, S 2022**

*Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition*  
Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery,  
Launceston, Tasmania

**Bird, A & Fitzgerald, S 2023**

*RISE*  
exhibition catalogue  
Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery,  
Launceston, Tasmania.

**Fearn, S 2022**

'The Lambkin/Knight collection'  
*Moths and butterflies Australia Inc. (MABA) newsletter*  
2: 4-6.

**Fearn, S 2022**

'Northern Tasmanian moth collection'  
*Moths and butterflies Australia Inc. (MABA) newsletter*  
2: 17-18.

**Fearn, S 2022**

'Member profile - Simon Fearn'  
*Moths and butterflies Australia Inc. (MABA) newsletter*  
2: 25-26.



Addison, J, Haygarth, N &  
Fitzgerald, S 2023

*HJ King: Cameras & Carburettors*  
Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery,  
Launceston, Tasmania.  
Published 2023.

photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG

## STRATEGIC COLLECTIONS OVERVIEW

The QVMAG collection is the largest and most diverse collection of any regional museum or gallery in Australia. Numbering more than 1.5 million items, the collection spans Aboriginal and First Nations cultures; fine, decorative and applied arts; history; technology; natural sciences and the natural environment; and archives and library.

The collection is at the heart of everything that QVMAG does and is a foundation to the exhibition, educational and research programs. It is a priceless resource to the people of Launceston, Tasmania, Australia, and indeed the world.

As the collection is ever expanding, preventative conservation measures ensure the collection is secure, accessible and environmentally balanced, and the monitoring, maintenance and cleaning of the collection and the Collections Rooms are conducted frequently.

During the reporting period a total of **2,418 individual objects** underwent preventative or remedial conservation measures, ensuring that these works are maintained in perpetuity as the city's cultural assets.

Work continued towards the re-cataloguing of the entire collection through the **Collection Audit Project**. The ongoing high level image capture of all works in the QVMAG collection has undertaken an exciting new development as we commence three-dimensional image capture of our material culture and natural sciences specimens.

This innovation in our digitisation strategy was realised through a substantial funding gift which has enabled QVMAG to acquire equipment relative to specialised image capture processes. A total of **28,269 objects** were digitised during the 2022/2023 period.

Throughout 2022/2023, Strategic Collections staff worked closely with the QVMAG Leadership Team to enable greater public access to the collection, resulting in the display of **7,958 works** drawn from the collection during the reporting period.

Acquisitions included notable historical objects and works of art by established local artists such as Raymond Arnold, and objects with inherent significance to the Tasmanian region and its history, such as John Glover's *Bill of Exchange* (1840), Tony Smibert's *Torrent: Gorge in Flood* (2017), Anne Zahalka's *Birds of a Feather Flock Together* (2021), and Krohne & Sesemann's late 19th century *Dr Siegel's Steam Spray Inhaler*.

The following section within the Annual Report provides greater insight into the achievements of this critical aspect of cultural institution management, providing insights into specialised expertise being undertaken by the QVMAG team on a daily basis, ensuring that the collection remains an enduring legacy and resource for our community.

# OUTPUTS

	21/22	22/23
Total Collection Objects audited	2,946	7,568
Total new and updated catalogue records	132,717	48,138
Total Collection inquiries	280	1,047
Total Collection objects conserved	not recorded	2,418
Total Objects prepared for exhibition	not recorded	359
Total Collection objects exhibited	11,865	7,958
Total number Loans (outward)	10	17
Total Collection objects loaned	30	94
Total Collection objects digitised	14,310	28,269
Total number Objects donated	367	246
Total \$ Objects donated	\$44,390	\$751,667
Total number Acquisitive purchases	99	17
Total number Deaccessions	nil	782
Total \$ Deaccessions	na	\$4,300
Total number Acquisitions	466	263
Total \$ Acquisitions	\$ 280,569	\$ 876,515



## REGISTRATION

Broadly defined, registration in a museum and gallery context includes oversight and management of primary core functions, such as collection auditing, movement control, outward and often inward loans of collection items, collection-related contracts and insurance, and the Collection Management System (CMS) and digitisation.

Significant achievements across the reporting period include the comprehensive location mapping of both QVMAG sites as part of the staged implementation of a new object barcoding system. The aim of this initiative was to establish an accurate and consistent location tracking system across QVMAG's highly diverse collections and sites.

Every object and storage location is assigned a unique barcode, enabling all collection movements to be tracked and updated via portable barcode scanners. The implementation of this system represents a notable advance in the ability to efficiently and reliably manage object movements and brings QVMAG into alignment with museum best practice standards.

Supporting these efforts, QVMAG outsourced the digitisation of approximately 20,000 pages of QVMAG's earliest original collection records dating from the early 1900s to the late 1960s. Comprising accession registers, donation and loan books, and donor index cards, these handwritten records provide fascinating insights into how our collections were acquired, shaped and managed in QVMAG's founding years.

Preserving digital copies of institutional records is an important means of providing access for researchers and staff to historic collection documentation, while also reducing unnecessary handling of fragile registers. The digitisation of these records has provided the Registration Team with ready access to accession details and provenance information that ultimately inform the cataloguing process, and enrich the research value and significance of an object.

Resulting from improved digital access to archival institutional records, output in the **Collection Audit Project** more than doubled from the previous financial year, with a total of **7,568 objects audited** in 2022/2023, compared to 2,946 objects in 2021/2022. This increase has been largely due to the institution undertaking process reform in cataloguing standards and workflows, preventive conservation measures and improved collection storage and access. The **Collection Audit Project** currently encompasses a broad range of collection areas, including History, Photography, Archives, Ceramics, Jewellery, Works on Paper, and First Nations. Unique and fascinating objects have been revealed along the way.

Some of the standouts from this past year include a bracelet made of human hair, a 'do-it-yourself' enema kit, a sword made from shark teeth, and a chilling photograph of a child ghost. Other highlights were rarely seen artworks of various notable artists such as Patricia Giles, Hugh Ramsay, and John Olsen.





QVMAG staff undertaking cataloguing of works  
on paper in the QVMAG collection

photo: QVMAG

As a leading public collecting cultural institution, QVMAG regularly loans items from its collection to other recognised institutions with similar missions, for the primary purposes of public exhibitions and research. Loaning collection objects for exhibitions at other institutions means that people remote from QVMAG can benefit from the QVMAG collection.

Loaning objects for research enables researchers who are unable to visit Launceston are able to integrate the objects into their research. In 2022/2023, a total of 17 outward loans were approved and processed by QVMAG.

Throughout 2022/2023, QVMAG continued the collection review begun in the previous financial year. This involved review of all collection policies, procedures and documentation, with a continued focus on digitisation of the collection.

Key to managing the collection is holding accurate information on the collection items, information that can be readily accessed for storing, conserving, moving, exhibiting, researching and loaning the items. Historically, that information has been held in multiple formats including a wide variety of written registers and cards.

Today, the focus is on digitising collection records and holding them on the CMS. All newly acquired collection items are entered directly to the CMS.

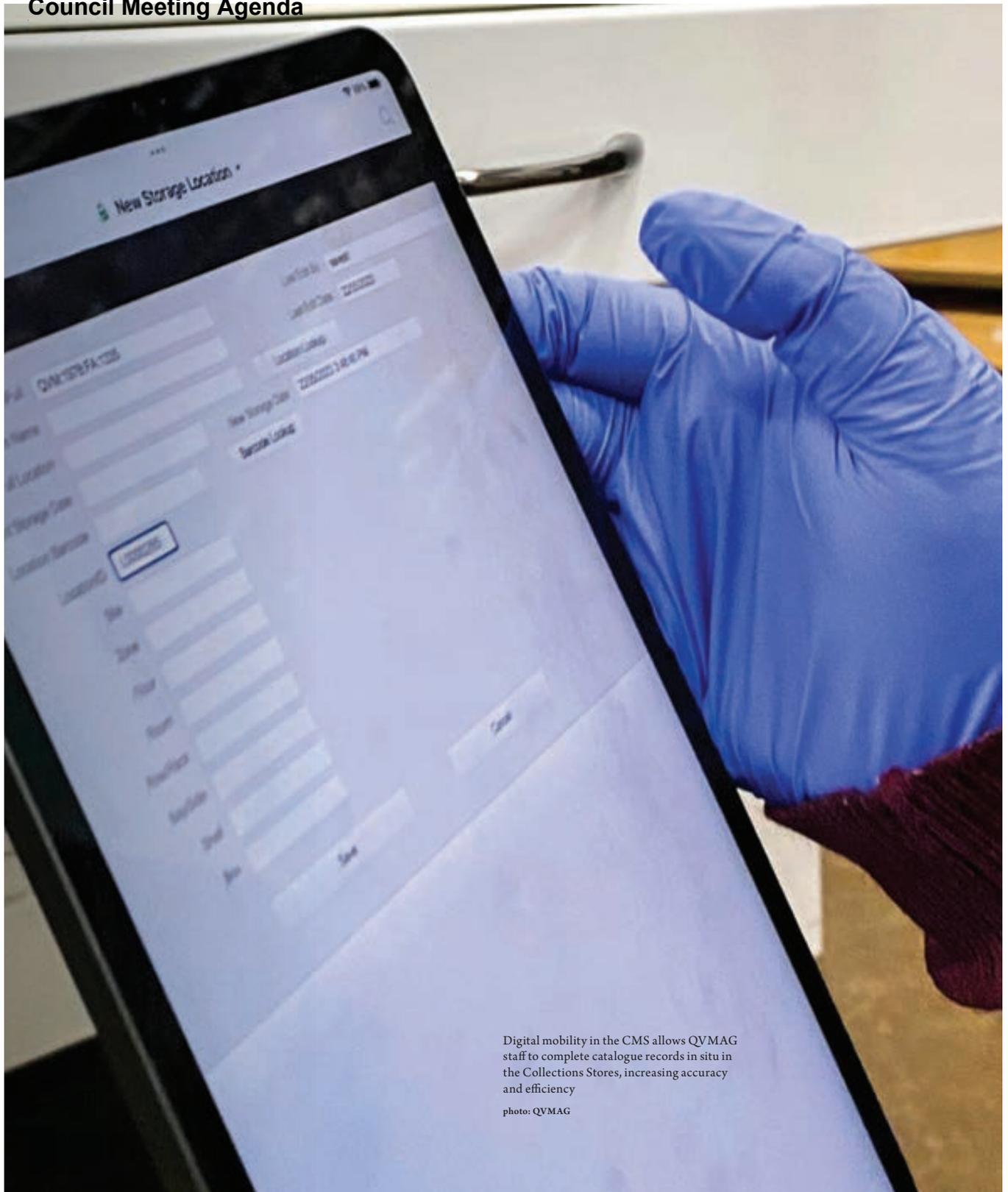
As well as entering data about new collection items and transferring data from written to digital storage, many of the records held on the CMS require checking and editing to ensure their accuracy and comprehensiveness, and confirming the location of the item.

There was very significant progress made during the 2022/2023 year in entering and correcting collection data in the CMS. More than 11,000 new records were added, over 36,000 records were edited/updated, and more than 28,000 images added to the CMS.

QVMAG also participates in major national and global databases, where users can access information across multiple collections held in many organisations.

One such database is the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA), a vitally important resource to managing biodiversity and natural resources in Australia and a research tool for biosystematics researchers around the world.

In 2022/2023, QVMAG entered more than 14,000 new collection records to the ALA, bringing the number now available through ALA to over 111,000 records.



Digital mobility in the CMS allows QVMAG staff to complete catalogue records in situ in the Collections Stores, increasing accuracy and efficiency

photo: QVMAG



Conservation assessments of objects in the collection are undertaken regularly to monitor condition and storage provisions

photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG

IN FOCUS

## CONSERVATION

Caring for the QVMAG collection requires ongoing attention to the housing, environmental conditions, handling and treatment of objects that vary from works on paper to whale skeletons.

Conservation is the process of preserving the structural integrity and authenticity of objects in the collection. There are two main areas of conservation: preventive and remedial conservation.

Preventive conservation is focused on the environment surrounding an object and aims to prevent or reduce damage to objects by environmental factors such as light and ultraviolet radiation, incorrect temperature and relative humidity and museum pests.

Staff at QVMAG contribute to preventive conservation by monitoring the environment, documenting the condition of collection material and rehousing and relocating objects to improved storage environments.

Remedial conservation focuses on the repair and treatment of collection material to mitigate deterioration and improve aesthetics and interpretation. QVMAG conducts remedial conservation treatments on objects in the collection to ready them for display and ensure their longevity.

There was a strong focus in 2022/2023 on preventive conservation, including rehousing and relocation of objects to improved storage conditions alongside regular monitoring and reporting activities, culminating in 1,142 preventive conservation improvements plus a further 1,233 objects rehoused in the History collection.

A significant project was the rehousing of a collection of leather sculptures and costumes by acclaimed leather sculptor Garry Greenwood, which took place from July through October 2022 following the closure of the exhibition *Skin: Garry Greenwood*. Objects were fitted with custom boxes and tailored supports, which will aid in their safe storage and transport.

Also in October, several hundred objects were relocated from the Old Archaeology store to more optimal storage conditions, based on an assessment of environmental monitoring data. These improvements will help arrest the deterioration of new acquisitions and historic objects alike.

As well as the ongoing condition assessment of works in QVMAG's collection, the conservation staff were responsible for the condition assessment and care of significant works on loan to QVMAG this year.

Of particular significance was portraiture displayed for *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize*, nineteenth century chairs for *Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition* and contemporary felt sculpture and paper costumes for *RISE* were documented to ensure continuity of care between the lender and QVMAG.

47 objects were prepared for outward loan through cleaning, documentation and preparation of containers for transport, including over 30 objects representing the diversity of our collections which were loaned for display at the City of Launceston Town Hall.

In-house remedial treatments this year consisted of focused projects, including the treatment and matting of water-affected works on paper and the low temperature treatment of incoming acquisitions.

A significant project undertaken this year was the treatment of 30 water-affected furniture works from the Visual Arts and Design collection.

In August 2022, the objects were sent to Sydney for treatment by specialised furniture conservators. Treatments were completed on a range of historic and contemporary furniture objects, including an inlaid card table, a pair of wicker bottomed chairs and three carved blackwood panels.

Treatments completed included realignment of joints, cleaning and reviving of polished surfaces and stabilisation and relaying of veneers and inlay.

It is expected further works will be completed in 2023/2024, culminating in the return of a revived and improved collection of works.

The completion of this project will allow the continued enjoyment of QVMAG's extensive furniture collection, with the remedial treatments allowing the aesthetic and historic significance of these works to shine through.



Specimens in the  
QVMAG collection  
photo: Maddie Brough  
© QVMAG



## ARCHIVE & LIBRARY

The priority for Library collection work in 2022/2023 was the acquisition and registration of 78 new titles. Most of the acquisitions for the year were, unusually, donations for two of the Library's special collections: books donated by Daniel Thomas for the (Bea) Maddock Collection and by (Peter) Sims for his own collection. In addition, holdings for 138 titles were added to the national union catalogue, Libraries Australia (Trove).

The 4th of June 2023 marked the third anniversary of the launch of *Operation Transform*, an initiative of the unified Library and Archives section (merged in December 2019) to address the inconsistencies within the collection relating to storage, organisation and registration in QVMAG Archives and provide all of the collections with improved standards for inclusivity, robust structures and a strategic focus.

A key priority during the reporting period was the restructuring, compactus reorganisation and rehousing of the Manuscripts, Community History Series, Cosmic Ray (data recorded by Cosmic Ray observatories in Australia, Antarctica and Papua New Guinea), and QVMAG (administrative records) collections that form part of QVMAG Archives.

Over an eight-month period from early July 2022 to late February 2023, 852 shelves totaling 1,014 linear metres, or the equivalent of 5,112 archival Type 1 boxes, were processed and finalised.

This also included hundreds of kilos of material previously stored on the floor having been transferred onto shelves or removed from the Archives store entirely. Included amongst the latter were un-registered State records, with the last transfer back to Tasmanian Archives of (unregistered) State records held out of custody by QVMAG Archives taking place in December.

With these tasks completed, the focus of collection management efforts from March 2023 centred on resolving registration backlogs and collection structures within the audio-visual (AV) collections. Work on the AV collections has been ongoing for a number of years in conjunction with the Collection Audit, focusing on the registration and auditing of glass plate negatives and photographs. From March 2023, attention was also directed towards the Oral History collection.

The small army of Archives volunteers continued to assist with collection management tasks. Five volunteers worked on photographic material, including re-boxing glass plate negatives and photographs and preparing un-registered collections of photograph donations for addition to the Collection Management System.

Three volunteers assisted with the sorting of ephemeral material, preliminary stocktaking of the Community History Series as a lead-in to a full audit of those collections, and reorganization of the Oral History collection.



# PASTOR'S FIRE-SIDE.

A NOVEL,

BY

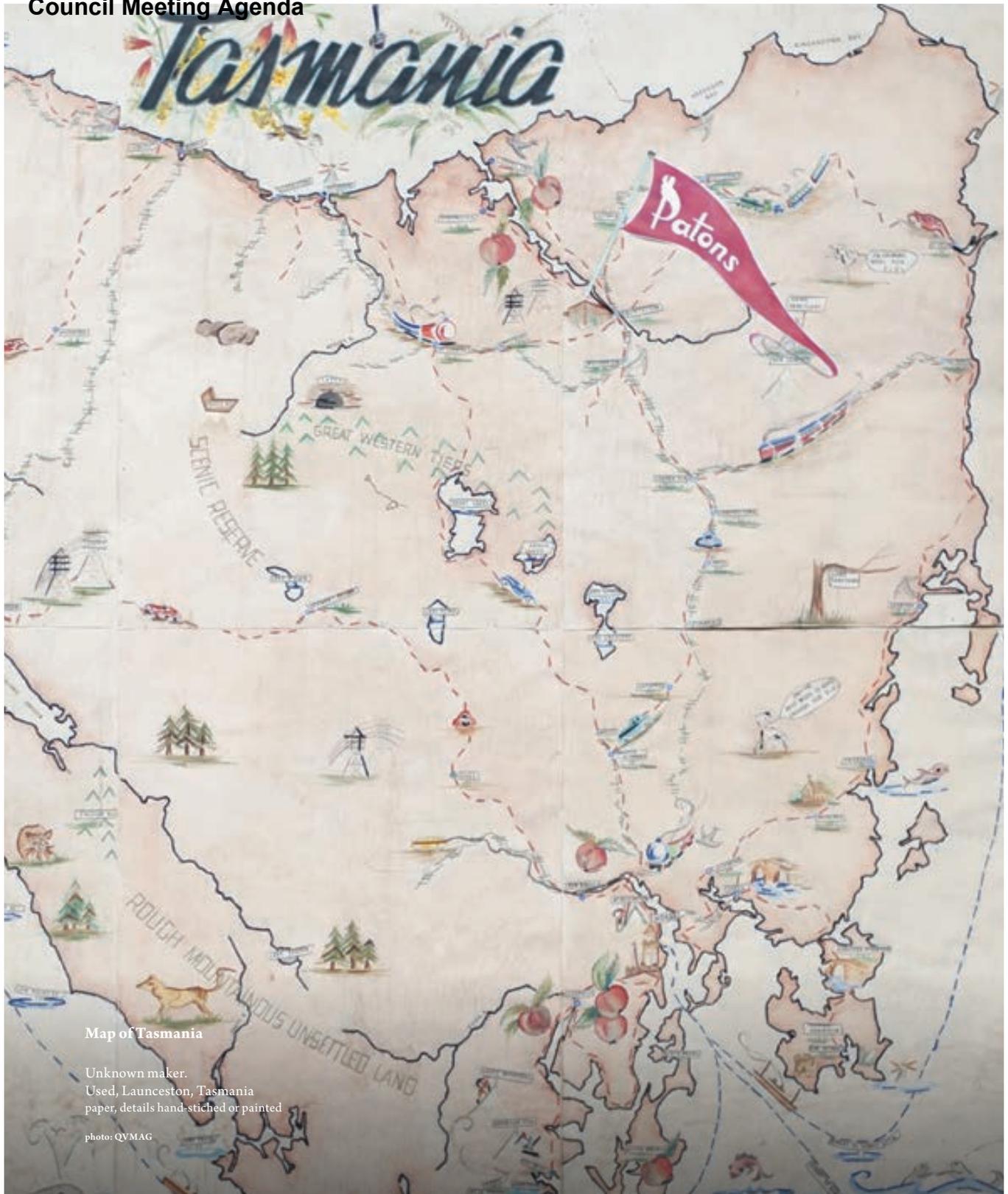
JANE PORTER.

VOL. I.



Jane PORTER  
Pastor's fire side. Vol. I 1832  
Purchased QVMAG

*In one of these fearful moments, a huge wave, rolling towards the island, raised the man and horse upon its immense bosom, to a height almost level with the rock.*



Map of Tasmania

Unknown maker.  
Used, Launceston, Tasmania  
paper, details hand-stitched or painted

photo: QVMAG

As part of her Rural Launceston Heritage Study (published in May 2000 and available via the QVMAG website), Margaret Tassell took over 1,400 colour slides. Auditing of this material began during mid 2023. Margaret almost always recorded the Tasmapi grid references of each photograph and already there has been public feedback using those reference points to match 2023 Google map markers.

Other milestones included 341 manuscripts being registered and audited during the reporting period, with this collection completely restructured during this process. 653 individual oral history recordings, comprising 868 cassette tapes and 180 discs (CD-ROM and DVD), were registered and audited. These collection objects (recordings and transcriptions) were individually assessed, categorised and rehoused.

A further 1,959 photographs were newly registered as part of a total of 3,007 photographic works audited in 2022/2023.

#### **A SURPRISE DISCOVERY**

As part of an ongoing assessment and review of the Community History Series (CHS) collection in the Archives store, staff discovered a large rectangular package that had been leaning up against a wall for many years, hidden behind a multitude of other objects.

With the turnover of staff during the preceding years, any knowledge of the package's contents was lost in time. When unwrapped, the contents of the package astonished all those present. It contained a map of Tasmania measuring 1.73 metres wide and 1.65 metres high.

The map is now itemised as part of the Coats Patons Collection. Coats Patons was a textile company and significant employer in Launceston until the mill closed on 31 July 1997. The map is presumed to have come to QVMAG in the late 1990s, after the mill closed.

Little is known about the object, other than it was probably produced during the 1930s by Patons Baldwins (the precursor to Coats Patons) as a publicity piece. The map is exquisite and has an olde worlde charm to it, exhibiting a Tasmania of yesteryear.

The map is mostly hand painted with many features, such as roads and rail lines, sewn in with wool. Although the work does not follow formal cartographic traditions, through its colloquial representations technical structure, it is now considered as an iconic object within the Archives collection due to its unique qualities and subject matter.



Chinese Figurines from the Guan  
Di Temple Collection, 1880s

Donated by Jee Harm on behalf of the  
north east Chinese community, 1934  
Made Guangdong, China  
silk, papier-mâché, wood, cotton

photogrammetric scans by Haireena Ooi  
© QVMAG



IN FOCUS

## DIGITISATION

The core strength of QVMAG lies in the vast and deep collections which traverse all subject areas and media.

These collections represent the past knowledge of Launceston and the surrounding region, the natural world within which we live, and contemporary arts practice, intersecting with the local community, Tasmania, Australia and the world, providing both critical historic reference points and springboards to new ideas.

Through the curation, interpretation, and access to our collections, our galleries and museums build and disseminate knowledge while at the same time fostering the confidence, critical thinking, creativity and problem solving abilities which provide the basic prerequisites for new ways of thinking, and innovations across a number of sectors and industries.

QVMAG's cultural collections provide a critical resource for researchers and also generate in-house research projects and collaborations with other research agencies and academics, across the sciences and humanities, between disciplines and with regional, national and international partners.

QVMAG is recognised as part of the Australian Government's *National Research Infrastructure* and plays a key role in leading and supporting science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM) based research and education.

As part of an increasingly connected global network of cultural institutions, which collectively represent a vast repository of our collective knowledge and data, the emphasis and impetus in the provision of access to our material cultural collections in the digital realm has never been so crucial.

With advancements in technology, image capture processes and consolidated databases ensuring that the 1.5 million objects within the collection are available online is a key strategic focus for the institution.

During 2022/2023, significant advancements were achieved in this area of activity. A total of **63,066 objects and specimens** from the collection were digitised and processed for publishing online, many of which have hitherto been inaccessible to our global community.

Supporting these efforts, we achieved a substantial milestone during the reporting period through the publishing (cumulative) in excess of **100,000 taxonomic records** from the collection to notable online databases: Atlas of Living Australia, and the Online Zoological Collections of Australian Museums.

This milestone cannot be overstated as it represents unprecedented inclusion in, and access to, internationally recognised data repositories of Australia's biodiversity.



A significant highlight during the reporting period was a notable strategic shift in our ability and capacity to digitally represent material from the collection, specifically through the introduction and implementation of photogrammetry.

Through the generosity of a substantial private gift of funding, QVMAG has incorporated within its digital strategies an ongoing program of three-dimensional visual capture of our objects and specimens.

This innovation in our core operations represents a profound opportunity in the provision of virtual access to our collection, enabling unprecedented research, species identification, education, and access to the collection for stakeholders worldwide.

As we finalise the data repository systems required to support the acquisition of such vast visual material, we look forward to welcoming the development of new projects, partnerships and outcomes that this innovation will realise.





from left to right:  
Death masks of Richard Copping,  
Martha Needle and Napoleon Bonaparte  
John Watt Beattie Collection, purchased 1927  
plaster  
photogrammetric scans by Haireena Ooi  
© QVMAG

IN FOCUS

## ACQUISITIONS

The QVMAG collection is far from a static entity and continues to grow. As a leading public collecting institution with a diverse material cultural collection which spans natural sciences, visual and fine arts, history, archives and library, QVMAG applies a stringent process of assessment to identify those collection acquisitions that will strategically enhance the collection for the purposes of public education and research.

Our core collecting policy emphasises a particular focus upon material culture that has a strong association with the history, culture and environment of Tasmania, especially northern Tasmania, and with those people who have made Tasmania home.

All objects taken into the collection must be adequately provenanced, meaning there must be substantial information about the origins and history of the object.

This requirement is for two primary reasons. Firstly, QVMAG must ensure that it can accept the object legally and ethically, and that there are no uncertainties about its legal ownership.

Secondly, without adequate data, the objects are of much-diminished value for exhibition and research purposes.

In some cases, retrospective research can fill in the provenance gaps, but often that is not possible. This is especially true for natural science specimens, where if information about their origins (such as where and when they were collected) is lacking, it is typically impossible to retrofit those data and the specimens are of little value for research purposes.

In 2022/2023, a total of 263 historic objects, works of art and printed materials valued at \$876,515<sup>6</sup>, were acquired for the QVMAG collection.

To be defined as acquired, the objects are those that were registered into the QVMAG collection following a rigorous process of critical review through QVMAG's own internal **Collections Committee** and, finally, following formal review and endorsement by the institution's **Museum Governance Advisory Board**.

QVMAG acquires its material culture through purchase, donations and active fieldwork (the last being most relevant to natural science specimens). The figures above do not include field-collected natural science specimens. These are discussed on the following pages.



**Rodney POPLE**  
Born 1952, Launceston, Tasmania  
*Duck Reach* [detail] 2017  
Oil and tempera on linen  
234.0 x 184.0 cm  
Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program  
photo: courtesy of Felicity Fenner

**Murray FREDERICKS**

Born 1970, Sydney, New South Wales

*Icesheet* #5133 2013

Digital pigment print

161.0 cm x 200.0 cm

Donated through the Australian Government's

Cultural Gifts Program

photo: courtesy of the Artist

© Murray Fredericks

Budget constraints severely restrict the capacity of QVMAG to purchase more than a small number of collection objects each year. In 2022/2023, **17 objects** were purchased, comprising works of art, books and one archival record.

The value of objects purchased by QVMAG in the last year was **\$124,848**.

Museums and art galleries rely heavily on donations from the public to enhance their collections and most of QVMAG's acquisitions other than in natural science were donations. A total of **246 objects** with a value of **\$751,667** were donated to the QVMAG collection in 2022/2023.

Donations were made by members of the public, researchers, and, very importantly, by the QVMAG Arts Foundation who supported the acquisition of 10 artworks in the past year, valued at **\$24,100**.

The QVMAG Arts Foundation is a long-time partner of QVMAG supporting the growth and development of the Visual Arts and Design collection, and is discussed further in the QVMAG Affiliates section of this Annual Report.

Fieldwork is an important method for acquiring natural science specimens and is both a collection acquisition tool and a form of active research.

In 2022/2023, natural science fieldwork focused on collecting Tasmanian insects especially moths, with approximately **2,000 specimens** collected by light trapping.

These specimens will be registered as they are identified, at least to morphospecies. As that level of identification can require a very high level of taxonomic expertise, with in some cases only a handful of individuals worldwide capable of the task, the registration process can take months or years with the specimens not being formally accepted into the QVMAG collection until such time as that taxonomic identification has occurred.

*The research dimension of fieldwork is discussed in the Research section of this Annual Report.*

The value of acquisitions in 2022/2023 of \$876,515 compares to the acquisitions value of \$280,569 in 2021/2022. This increase reflects the emphasis that QVMAG has placed upon strategic acquisitions in meeting the strategic realignment of the institution as outlined in the *Futures Plan*.

It is not the number of new collection objects that best manifests a strategically growing collection, but rather the value of the objects – value identified in monetary, cultural and scientific terms, respectively.

As part of this strategic approach towards managing the QVMAG collection, a number of items were proposed for deaccession during the reporting period.

Deaccessioning is an important aspect of collections management and follows the same rigour and process as acquisitions in that they are carefully considered, reviewed and require a mandatory six-month cooling-off period to allow for further information to come to light which may impact the proposed deaccession.

Two objects from the History collection and 780 items from the Archives were proposed for deaccessioning during the reporting period. A full list of the proposed deaccessioned objects can be requested by contacting QVMAG.

## ACQUISITION HIGHLIGHTS

In 2022/2023, the QVMAG Arts Foundation purchased and donated a suite of eight prints from the highly acclaimed Tasmanian born printmaker, Milan Milojevic. Milojevic combines his Yugoslavian heritage with Australian flora and fauna to create a unique, multi-referenced visual language while combining traditional etching and modern digital printing techniques.

*Flora Terra Incognita (after WB Gould)* is a significant contemporary study of the botanical work of William Buelow Gould and was created in direct response to the QVMAG collection for the 2018 *Undercurrents* exhibition.

Two exceptional donations were made of Tasmanian artist and printmaker, Raymond Arnold, a *Glover Prize* winning artist with an international reputation. Arnold's works speak of the western Tasmanian landscape like no other, masterfully describing the ongoing processes of restoration, resurrection and relief.

One of the donations of 69 etchings and silkscreens formed the single largest gift of Arnold's works to any institution in Australia and gives an unparalleled catalogue of the artist's work.

The second donation was *Synecdoche*, a 40-panel oil on canvas composition. These acquisitions have established QVMAG as the leading institution to represent one of Tasmania's and Australia's most celebrated artists.

A diptych and several works on paper by the artist Tony Smibert were added to the collection. The acrylic on canvas diptych, *Torrent: Gorge in Flood*, references Cataract Gorge in Launceston and was featured in the *Tao Sublime* exhibition, where Smibert's works combined the awe-inspiring power of nature with the delicate wisdom and thought behind Taoism.

The watercolours reflect Smibert's interest in British, Japanese and Chinese watercolours, inspired by sites around the world, as he seeks to share a universal experience of lakes, mist, and waterfalls of *The Sublime*, a concept that has influenced artists for centuries.

Following the successful *Jimmy Possum: an Unbroken Tradition* exhibition, QVMAG acquired two chairs by Mike Epworth. Best known for his collecting and promotion of the Jimmy Possum bush chair making style in northern Tasmania, Epworth uses his furniture making practice to embed the social fabric of this 150-year furniture tradition.

His contemporary chairs are unique pieces that craft an ongoing conversation around the Jimmy Possum tradition, furniture design and modern bush carpentry. The *Re Examine Chair* uses timbers to chart the development of the different facets of Jimmy Possum chair making among the people of the Meander Valley who helped keep this tradition alive.

The *Miniature Jimmy Possum Chair* is made in the same design of the first Jimmy Possum chairs, using wood from a bed thought to have been made by Jimmy Possum.

A highlight acquisition for the History collection during the reporting period was a collection of 19th century personal medical items from the Greenhill family of Westbury, Tasmania. The collection relates directly to the life and activities of Augusta ('Gussie') Sophia Greenhill (née Wright). Objects include a steam spray inhaler for the administration of 'artificial sprays', a double-action breast reliever, and a Carbolic Smoke Ball, marketed as a cure for influenza and a number of other diseases.

Domestic items such as these, with known provenance and use history, are rare. These items provide an excellent insight into a number of concerns of women in the late 19th Century in Tasmania.

Augusta Greenhill is also significant as at the time of her death in 1954 she was the State's oldest resident, at 104 years old. The steam spray inhaler was used in the treatment and prevention of diseases of the throat, larynx, trachea and lungs, including the early treatment of asthma.

The Carbolic Smoke Ball reflects concern about influenza, particularly given the incidence of the 1889–90 influenza pandemic.

This item also tells a story of quackery and legal cases, as it was the subject of the well-publicised 1892-93 case of *Carlill v Carbolic Smoke Ball*, relating to an advertisement by the company offering £100 to anyone who contracted influenza while using the smoke ball.

Mrs Carlill did catch the flu while using the smoke ball, but the company refused to pay up, arguing that their advertisement was a contract with the world, and thus not legally enforceable.

The judge found otherwise, and an important legal precedent was set. An extensive search did not turn up any Carbolic Smoke Balls in any other known museum collections, although many held copies of the advertisement.

**This item may be one of the few surviving examples of this short-lived device in the world.**

Also significant was the acquisition of six items of clothing and a company-branded plastic bag from Tamar Knitting Mills, a Launceston business operating from 1926 to approximately 2002.

The founder was JE Thyne, who migrated from Scotland in 1890, and set up a textile and knitting mill in Victoria.

When his business partner left, he moved to Launceston and established a new company, Thyne Bros. Pty. Ltd. with his two sons. He chose Launceston because of its ample supply of soft, clean water, and cheap hydroelectricity (from Duck Reach Power Station).

This collection was all produced by the company around 1982 when the factory was based at premises on Hobart Road, Youngtown. These examples were company samples, machine knitted on the premises.

They have been donated to QVMAG by the previous owner of the business. They represent a time when the company was expanding its range of products and running factory tours to increase sales.

The items are significant because Launceston was previously a major manufacturing centre for textile industries, with weaving mills including Waverley Woollen Mills, Coats Patons and Kelsall and Kemp all operating here. Thyne Brothers/Tamar Knitting Mills was the only knitting mill.

**Anne ZAHALKA**

Born 1957, Sydney, New South Wales

**As *The Crow Flies*** [detail] 2020

Archival pigment on paper

145.0 cm x 170.0 cm

**Purchase QVMAG**

photo: courtesy of the Artist

© Anne Zahalka





Donations of books to the QVMAG Library by Daniel Thomas and Peter Sims saw the completion of the Bea Maddock Collection and Peter Sims Collection.

A special purchase was the recently published *Birds of Tasmania* by Sue Lester, significant not only for its exquisite illustrations of Tasmania's birds but also for the fact that Sue worked closely on the illustrations with then QVMAG zoology curator Bob Green in the 1980s.

An interesting acquisition was a handwritten bill of exchange dated 1 May 1840 for £350, signed by John Glover (1767–1849) to Gamaliel Butler (1783–1852), crossed and accepted payable at the Commercial Bank.

Glover, a significant Tasmanian artist, utilised bills of exchange to fund his trips to England in order to sell the paintings and sketches he produced in Tasmania.

Butler was an English barrister and banker residing in Hobart. This is one of two known private bills of exchange from Glover to Butler created in the 1840s.

In our natural sciences collection fieldwork focussing on light trapping in northeast Tasmania yielded approximately 2,000 moth and other insect specimens. The majority of the moth specimens are new records for the north of the State. Several species were new Tasmanian records and after a preliminary assessment, moth taxonomist Professor Peter McQuillan flagged a number of likely new species. Also collected was a new species of wolf spider that will be named after QVMAG staff member, Judy Rainbird.

A number of vertebrates including quolls and Tasmanian devils were donated to the collection by researcher MacKenzie Kwak.

**A full itemised list of all acquisitions entering the QVMAG collection in 2022/2023 are outlined in the following pages.**

**Shane FITZGERALD**

Born 1973, Hobart, Tasmania

***Selune*** [detail] 2016

Archival pigment print

120.0 cm x 176.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's**

**Cultural Gifts Program**

photo: courtesy of the Artist

© Shane Fitzgerald

# ACQUISITIONS

## 2022/2023

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### VISUAL ARTS

#### **Raymond ARNOLD**

Born 1950, Melbourne, Victoria

#### ***Iron blow re-excitation – justify the line* 1991**

Etching on paper

88.0 x 218.0 cm

Edition AP

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

#### ***Mt. Lyell II* 2012**

Etching on paper

20.0 x 20.0 cm

Edition 1/20

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

#### ***Eastern Curlew* [PRI] 2017**

Multi panel etching on paper

152.0 x 40.0 cm

Edition 7/10

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

#### ***Sun breaking over Cathedral I* 1982**

Screenprint

81.0 x 101.0 cm

Edition 2/15

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

#### ***Dream of absolutes* 1978**

Screenprint

71.0 x 99.0 cm

Edition AP

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

#### ***Figure-ground, Valentine River* 1980**

Silkscreen

68.0 x 100.0 cm

Edition 18/20

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

#### ***Eye saw / I saw / eye sore* 1990**

Etching on paper

80.0 x 121.0 cm

Edition 2/20

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

#### ***Source* [Round] 1997**

Etching on paper

68.0 x 67.5 cm

Edition 4/10

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

#### ***Spectacle of Nature* 1994**

Etching on paper

186.0 x 186.0 cm

Edition EA/5

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

#### ***Mr Natural* 1995**

Screenprint

214.0 x 154.0 cm

Edition AP3/10

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

#### ***To Refuge* [triptych] 1982**

Silkscreen

81.0 x 321.5 cm

Edition 2/20

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

#### ***Footprint to grid* 1980**

Colour etching on paper

75.5 x 75.5 cm

Edition 2/20

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM



**Dr Siegel's Steam Spray Inhaler**

Late 19th Century

Krohne & Sesemann. Invented, Germany, 1864.

Used at Egmont, Westbury, Tasmania.

Steel, tin, cork

12.4 x 13.6 x 87.6 cm

**Gift of Christine Minchin**

photo: QVMAG

**Source – Walking into Courbet's shadow** 1997  
Installation (etchings, sculpture and light)  
280.0 x 200.0 x 300.0cm  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Surfaces** 1980  
Etching and aquatint on handmade paper  
82.0 x 114.0 cm  
Edition 10/20  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Le chevalier inexistant/d'apres Calvino** 2004  
Etching on paper  
20.0 x 15.0 cm  
Edition 6/20  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Bayeux soldat I (study)** 2004  
Etching on paper  
34.5 x 19.5 cm  
Edition 1/20  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Bayeux soldat II (study)** 2004  
Etching on paper  
34.5 x 19.5 cm  
Edition 1/20  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Bayeux soldat IV (study)** 2004  
Etching on paper  
34.5 x 20.0 cm  
Edition 1/20  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Somme haystack (a new dawn)** 2005  
Two-plate etching on paper  
34.5 x 49.5 cm  
Edition TP/5  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Orange/Blue, Flinders Island** 1988  
Screenprint  
42.0 x 52.0 cm  
Edition 2/8  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Nocturne – Entre Ginchy et Fleurs/Delville  
wood in the distance** 2006  
Etching and aquatint on paper  
25.0 x 79.0 cm  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Register** 2006  
Etching on paper  
18.5 x 13.0 cm  
Edition 5/10  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Caen soldier field study 8** 2005  
Two-plate etching on paper  
34.5 x 29.5 cm  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Caen soldier field study 7** 2005  
Two-plate etching on paper  
34.5 x 29.5 cm  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Bayeux soldat V** 2005  
Two-plate etching on paper  
69.5 x 69.5 cm  
Edition TP1  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Bayeux soldat VI Plate 1 (Blue horizon)** 2005  
Etching on paper  
69.5 x 69.5 cm  
Edition TP1  
**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Orient blue** 1980  
Silkscreen  
88.0 x 60.0 cm  
Edition 1/20

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Western Tasmanian Paintings** 2010  
Book and editioned etching on paper  
Variable dimensions  
Edition 46/50

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Memorial Figure** 2010  
Etching on paper  
29.5 x 20.0 cm  
Edition 3/21

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Cubist Conservationist – Queenstown  
3AM January** 1983  
Multiplate etching on paper  
129.0 x 70.0 cm  
Edition AP1

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Exquisite corpse** 1979  
Etching on paper  
40 x 60.5 cm  
Edition AP2/10

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Definitions 2** 1977  
Etching on paper  
50.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 1/10

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Forty views to Mt. Oberon** 1980  
Silkscreen  
56.0 x 89.5 cm  
Edition AP1/14

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Bank line** 1978  
Silkscreen  
75.0 x 115.0 cm  
Edition AP/10

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Zone V, Rocky Valley** 1981  
Silkscreen  
96.0 x 66.0 cm  
Edition 10/10

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Snowy Mountains Identikit – Self Portrait on Mt Twynam,  
Mt Kosciusko on Skyline – Atomic Theatre** 1982  
Silkscreen on rag board  
97.0 x 118.5 cm  
Edition 8/12

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Iron Blow – Mine/My** 1991–2008  
Multipanel etching on paper  
168.0 x 120.0 cm

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Where can it be found again,  
an elsewhere world beyond** 2012  
Etching on paper  
34.0 x 65.5 cm  
Edition AP

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM



**Murray FREDERICKS**  
Born 1970, Sydney, New South Wales

**Salt 404** 2015  
Digital pigment print  
140.0 cm x 240.0 cm

**Purchase**  
photo: courtesy of the Artist  
© Murray Fredericks





**Tony SMIBERT**

Born 1949, Melbourne, Victoria

*The Great Tower* [detail] 2017

Watercolour on paper

120.0 x 38.0 cm

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program

photo: courtesy of the Artist



*Henri IV – Le cuissard gauche* 2002

Etching on paper  
70.5 x 63.5 cm  
Edition 15/15

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

*Henri IV – Le renfort de l'épaulière* 2002

Etching on paper  
92.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 15/15

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

*Henri IV – Le cuissard droit* 2001

Etching on paper  
91.0 x 59.0 cm  
Edition 15/15

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

*Henri IV – Le renfort de l'épaulière* 2002

Etching on paper  
92.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition AP/15

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

*Henri IV – Le jambière* 2001

Etching on paper  
91.0 x 59.0 cm  
Edition 15/15

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

*Henri IV – La cubitière gauche* 2002

Etching on paper  
92.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 15/15

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

*Henri IV – L'épaulière droite* 2001

Etching on paper  
91.0 x 59.0 cm  
Edition 15/15

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

*Henri IV – Le plastron arrière* 2002

Etching on paper  
92.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 15/15

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

*Henri IV – Le casque* 2001

Etching on paper  
69.3 x 58.5 cm  
Edition 15/15

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

*Henri IV – La deuxième cubitière* 2003

Etching on paper  
69.5 x 62.5 cm  
Edition 15/15

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

*Henri IV – Le plastron* 2002

Etching on paper  
92.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 15/15

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

*Henri IV – Mainfaisne* 2003

Etching on paper  
69.5 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 15/15

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Henri IV – La deuxième gant 2003**

Etching on paper  
69.5 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 15/15

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Henri IV – Volante 2003**

Etching on paper  
69.5 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 15/15

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Henri IV – La jambière droit 2002**

Two-plate etching on paper  
92.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 15/15

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth 2004**

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 1/16

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth 2004**

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 2/16

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth 2004**

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 3/16

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth 2004**

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 4/16

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth 2004**

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 5/16

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth 2004**

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 6/16

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth 2004**

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 7/16

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth 2004**

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 8/16

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth 2004**

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 9/16

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth 2004**

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 10/16

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM**





**Milan MILOJEVIC**  
Born 1954, Hobart, Tasmania

***Flora Terra Incognita***  
**(after WB Gould) 5 [detail] 2018**  
Multilayered digital, etching, unique state  
23.0 cm x 19.0 cm

Gift of the QVMAG Arts Foundation

**Sue PEDLEY**

Born 1954, Launceston, Tasmania

**Correction Mapping** [detail] 2022

Ink and gouache on paper

84.1 x 118.9 cm

**Purchase**

photo: courtesy of the Artist



**Henri IV – Cut your cloth** 2004

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 11/16

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth** 2004

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 12/16

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth** 2004

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 13/16

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth** 2004

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 14/16

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth** 2004

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 15/16

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Henri IV – Cut your cloth** 2004

Etching on paper  
69.0 x 63.0 cm  
Edition 16/16

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program by Stuart Purves AM

**Synecdoche** 1988

oil on canvas  
193.0 x 779.0 cm

Donation

**Robert Anning BELL**

Born 1863, London, England; Died 1933, London, England

**Seated nude study** 1908

Conté crayon on paper  
33.6 x 22.7 cm

Donation

**Les BLAKEBROUGH**

Born 1930; Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, England; Arrived  
Australia 1948; Died 2022 Coledale, New South Wales

**Case and mould for cup handles #1** 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

Donation

**Case and mould for cup handles #2** 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

Donation

**Case and mould for cup handles #3** 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

Donation

**Case and mould for cup handles #4** 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

Donation

**Case and mould for cup handles #5** 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

Donation





**Anne ZAHALKA**  
Born 1957, Sydney, New South Wales  
*Birds of a Feather Flock Together* [detail] 2021  
Archival pigment on paper  
145,0 cm x 170,0 cm  
**Purchase QVMAG**  
photo: courtesy of the Artist  
© Anne Zahalka

**Case and mould for flared vase** 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

**Donation**

**Case and mould for double walled bowl** 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

**Donation**

**Case and mould for sugar bowl** 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

**Donation**

**Case and mould for teacup #1** 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

**Donation**

**Case and mould for teacup #2** 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

**Donation**

**Case and mould for bowl** 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

**Donation**

**Moulds for spherical box** 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

**Donation**

**Case for teapot spout** 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

**Donation**

**Case and base model for spherical box**

(Royal Copenhagen Pottery) 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

**Donation**

**Case for top of cylindrical box**

(Royal Copenhagen Pottery) 1990s

Plaster  
Dimensions variable

**Donation**

**Jo CHEW**

Born 1978, Hobart, Tasmania

**Mended frame** 2019-20

Oil on canvas, steel eyelets, vintage guy ropes and wood  
216.0 x 170.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

**Fernando DO CAMPO**

Born 1987, Mar del Plata, Argentina; Arrived Australia 1997

**Call to non-verbal action #1** 2020

Handled fabric banner (mixed fabric, thread, timber poles)  
180.0 x 120.0 cm

**Donation**

**Who's Laughing Jackass** 2017

Acrylic on board  
20.0 x 390.0 cm

**Purchase**

**The Kookaburra Self-relocation Project –**

**Performance** 2020

Time based media  
Duration: 12 mins

**Purchase**

**Mike EPWORTH**

Born 1962, Wallumbilla, Queensland

***Miniature Jimmy Possum Chair* 2016**

Timber

19.0 x 11.0 x 12cm

**Donation**

***Re Examine Chair* 2016**

Various timbers

113.0 x 66.0 x 68.0 cm

**Gift of the QVMAG Arts Foundation**

**Shane FITZGERALD**

Born 1973, Hobart, Tasmania

***Incendiary II: Incandescere* 2017**

Archival Pigment Print

146.0 cm x 75.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

***Benthic II: Dusk* 2017**

Archival Pigment Print

110.0 cm x 157.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

***Benthic rhythm II* 2017**

Archival Pigment Print

150.0 cm x 225.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

***Capricornia requiem* 2017**

Archival Pigment Print

120.0 cm x 199.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

***Central Desert, mirage* 2014**

Archival Pigment Print

110.0 cm x 161.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

***Incendiary I: Canefire* 2016**

Archival Pigment Print

153.0 cm x 225.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

***Incongruous landscape I* [vista] 2016**

Archival Pigment Print

120.0 cm x 398.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

***Incongruous landscape II* [monolith] 2017**

Archival Pigment Print

120.0 cm x 447.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

***Moonrise requiès* 2016**

Archival Pigment Print

120.0 cm x 179.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

***Orpheus (Goolboddi requiem)* 2017**

Archival Pigment Print

120.0 cm x 186.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

***Paluma* 2014**

Archival Pigment Print

110.0 cm x 308.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

**Selène** 2016

Archival Pigment Print  
120.0 cm x 176.0 cm

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program

**River** 2012

Archival Pigment Print  
120.0 cm x 935.0 cm

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program

**Murray FREDERICKS**

Born 1970, Sydney, New South Wales

**Icesheet #5133** 2013

Digital pigment print  
161.0 cm x 200.0 cm

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program

**Salt 404** 2015

Digital pigment print  
140.0 cm x 240.0 cm

Purchase

**Lisa GARLAND**

Born 1970 Wynyard, Tasmania

**Matthew** 2022

Giclée print from large format film  
95.0 cm x 120.0 cm

Purchase QVMAG

**Garry GREENWOOD**

Born 1943, Erith, Kent, England; Arrived 1962 Australia;  
Died 2005, Mount Barrow, Tasmania

**Purple Dom** 1999

Sculpted leather  
Body suit: 100.0 x 45.0 x 15.0 cm;  
wrist gauntlets: 24.0 x 9.0 x 7.0 cm;  
ankle guards: 32.0 x 15.0 x 10.0 cm

Donation

**Neil HADDON**

Born 1967, Epsom, Surrey, England; Arrived Australia 1996

**We'll Make Our Own Mistakes** 2017

Acrylic and oil on canvas painting  
137.5 x 122.0 cm

Donation

**Amber KOROLUK-STEPHENSON**

Born 1988, Hobart, Tasmania

**Australian Painted Ladies at Mills Plains** 2017

Oil on linen  
142.5 x 42.5 cm

Gift of the QVMAG Arts Foundation

**Bea MADDOCK**

Born 1934, Hobart, Tasmania; Died 2016, Launceston, Tasmania

**Plaster mould for ceramic platter** 1974

Plaster cast  
3.5 x 26.7 x 26.7 cm

Donation

**Milan MILOJEVIC**

Born 1954, Hobart, Tasmania

***Flora Terra Incognita (after WB Gould) 1*** 2018

Multilayered digital, etching, unique state  
23.0 cm x 19.0 cm

**Gift of the QVMAG Arts Foundation**

***Flora Terra Incognita (after WB Gould) 2*** 2018

Multilayered digital, etching, unique state  
23.0 cm x 19.0 cm

**Gift of the QVMAG Arts Foundation**

***Flora Terra Incognita (after WB Gould) 3*** 2018

Multilayered digital, etching, unique state  
23.0 cm x 19.0 cm

**Donation / Purchase Foundation**

***Flora Terra Incognita (after WB Gould) 4*** 2018

Multilayered digital, etching, unique state  
23.0 cm x 19.0 cm

**Gift of the QVMAG Arts Foundation**

***Flora Terra Incognita (after WB Gould) 5*** 2018

Multilayered digital, etching, unique state  
23.0 cm x 19.0 cm

**Gift of the QVMAG Arts Foundation**

***Flora Terra Incognita (after WB Gould) 6*** 2018

Multilayered digital, etching, unique state  
23.0 cm x 19.0 cm

**Gift of the QVMAG Arts Foundation**

***Flora Terra Incognita (after WB Gould) 7*** 2018

Multilayered digital, etching, unique state  
23.0 cm x 19.0 cm

**Gift of the QVMAG Arts Foundation**

***Flora Terra Incognita (after WB Gould) 8*** 2018

Multilayered digital, etching, unique state  
23.0 cm x 19.0 cm

**Gift of the QVMAG Arts Foundation**

**Sue PEDLEY**

Born 1954, Launceston, Tasmania

***Correction Mapping*** 2022

Ink and gouache on paper  
84.1 x 118.9 cm

**Purchase**

**Rodney POPLÉ**

Born 1952, Launceston, Tasmania

***Duck Reach*** 2017

Oil and tempera on linen  
234.0 x 184.0 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

**Tony SMIBERT**

Born 1949, Melbourne, Victoria

***Tao Sublime Watercolours #1*** 2017

Watercolour on paper  
38.0 x 28.5 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

***Tao Sublime Watercolours #2*** 2017

Watercolour on paper  
38.0 x 28.5 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

***Tao Sublime Watercolours #3*** 2017

Watercolour on paper  
38.0 x 28.5 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**

***Tao Sublime Watercolours #4*** 2017

Watercolour on paper  
38.0 x 28.5 cm

**Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program**



**Shane FITZGERALD**  
Born 1973, Hobart, Tasmania

*Orpheus (Goolboddie requiem)* [detail] 2017  
Archival pigment print  
120.0 cm x 186.0 cm  
Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program  
photo: courtesy of the Artist  
© Shane Fitzgerald



***Tao Sublime Watercolours #5*** 2017

Watercolour on paper  
38.0 x 28.5 cm

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program

***Tao Sublime Water colours #6*** 2017

Watercolour on paper  
38.0 x 28.5 cm

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program

***Tao Sublime Watercolours #7*** 2017

Watercolour on paper  
38.0 x 28.5 cm

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program

***Tao Sublime Watercolours #8*** 2017

Watercolour on paper  
38.0 x 28.5 cm

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program

***Tao Sublime Watercolours #9*** 2017

Watercolour on paper  
38.0 x 28.5 cm

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program

***Tao Sublime Watercolours #10*** 2017

Watercolour on paper  
38.0 x 28.5 cm

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program

***The Great Tower*** 2017

Watercolour on paper  
120.0 x 38.0 cm

Donated through the Australian Government's  
Cultural Gifts Program

***Torrent: Gorge in Flood*** 2017

Acrylic on canvas  
Diptych: 91.5 cm x 183.0 cm (ea)

Purchase

**Anne ZAHALKA**

Born 1957, Sydney, New South Wales

***Birds of a Feather Flock Together*** 2021

Archival pigment on paper  
145.0 cm x 170.0 cm

Purchase QVMAG

***As The Crow Flies*** 2020

Archival pigment on paper  
145.0 cm x 170.0 cm

Purchase QVMAG

***A Colony of Boffins*** 2020

Archival pigment on paper  
130.0 cm x 265.0 cm

Purchase QVMAG

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**A R C H I V E S**

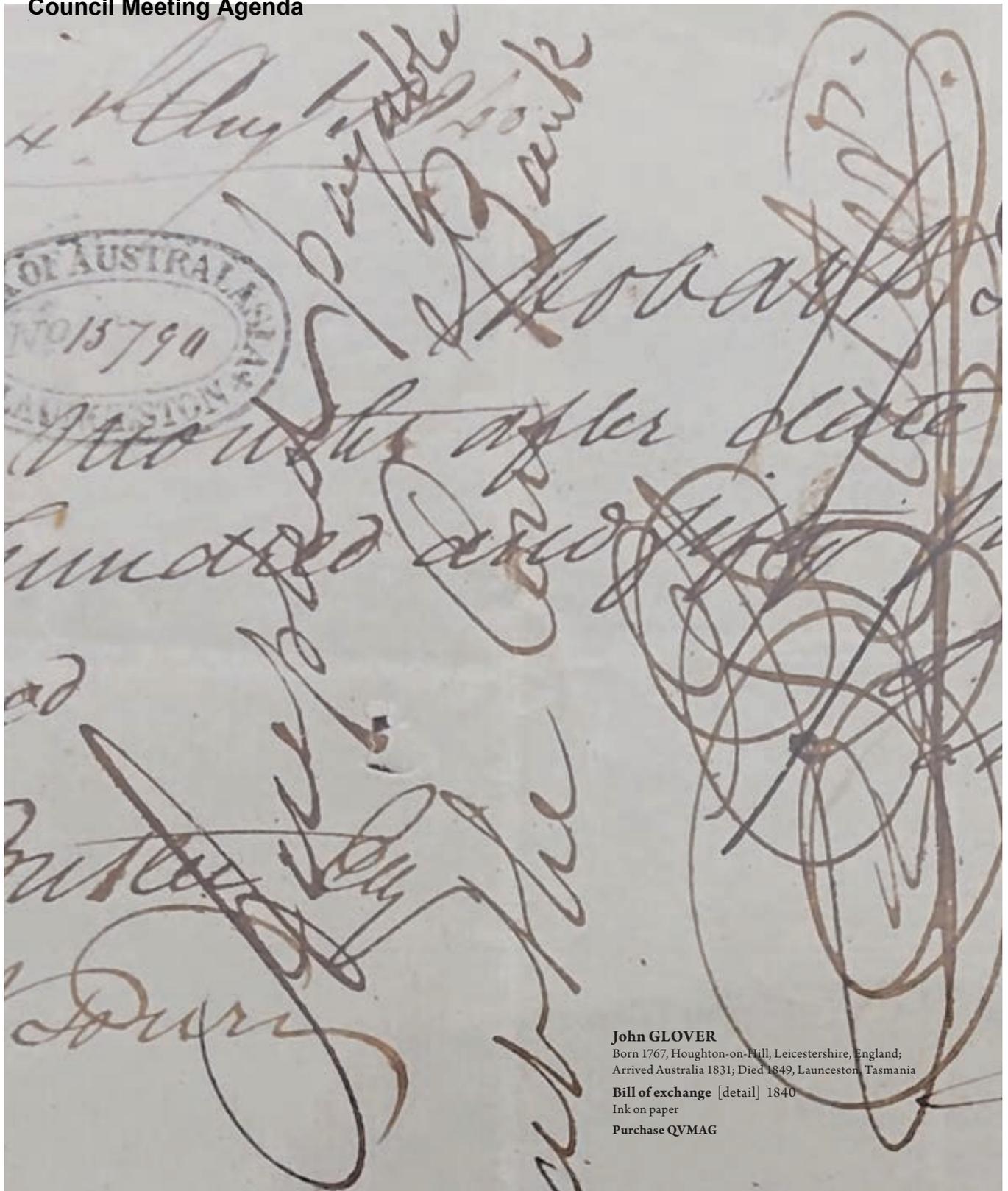
**John GLOVER**

Born 1767, Houghton-on-Hill, Leicestershire, England; Arrived  
Australia 1831; Died 1849, Launceston, Tasmania

**Bill of exchange** 1840

Ink on paper

Purchase QVMAG



**John GLOVER**

Born 1767, Houghton-on-Hill, Leicestershire, England;  
Arrived Australia 1831; Died 1849, Launceston, Tasmania

**Bill of exchange** [detail] 1840

Ink on paper

Purchase QVMAG



**Neil HADDON**

Born 1967, Epsom, Surrey, England  
Arrived Australia 1996

*We'll Make Our Own Mistakes* [detail] 2017

Acrylic and oil on canvas painting  
137.5 x 122.0 cm

**Donation**

photo: courtesy of the Artist

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**L I B R A R Y**

**A G Webster and Sons**

*Webster's Tasmanian agriculturist & machinery gazette*  
vol. 4, no. 41 1891

Donated by Judith Christie

**Julie AULT**

*Come alive! : the spirited art of Sister Corita* 2006

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Helene BARTLESON**

*Golden leaves* 2008

Donated by Jon Addison

**Thomas BOASE**

*St. Francis of Assisi* 1968

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Nicholas BONHAM**

*The Philip Morris Arts Grant* 1982

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Russell BRADDON**

*Naked island* 1952

Purchased QVMAG

**Barry BRIMFIELD**

*The Aboriginal children at the*  
*Kings/Queens Orphan School* 2020

*Putalina* 2022

Donated by Barry Brimfield

**Graeme BROXAM**

*Shipwrecks of King Island* 2023

*Shipwrecks of the Furneaux Group* 2023

Donated by Mike Nash

**Alisa BUNBURY**

*Bea Maddock* 2013

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Janine BURKE**

*Field of vision* 1990

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**J H BURRIDGE**

*Science, miracles and inspiration* Circa 1890s

Purchased QVMAG

**Charles DALEY**

*The history of South Melbourne* 1940

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Roger BUTLER**

*Place made : Australian print workshop* 2004

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**John Lloyd DAVIES**

*Atlas of Tasmania* 1965

Donated by Peter Sims

**Graeme CALDER**

*Levee, line and martial law* 2010

Donated by Peter Sims

**Dinah DYSART**

*Art Bank : Australian art in public spaces* 2001

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Thomas Evans CHAPMAN**

*Six views of Hobart Town* 1967

Donated by Peter Sims

**Dietmar ELGER**

*Expressionism : a revolution in German art* 2007

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Thomas CROW**

*The rise of the sixties* 2004

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Janet FENTON**

*Win & Clyde* 2011

Donated by Peter Sims

**Simon CUBIT**

*A high country heritage* 1988

Donated by Peter Sims

**George B GALLOWAY**

*History of the United States House of Representatives* 1962

Donated by Don Peck

**Dave mangenner GOUGH**

*Luwa tara luwa waypa* 2022

Donated by Peter Sims

**Jill JOHNSTON**

*Jasper Johns : privileged information* 1996

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Sarah C HAYES**

*A forgotten landscape* 2004

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Deidre KESSLER**

*Afternoon horses* 2009

Donated by the City of Launceston

**Geoffrey HINDS**

*The Hinds family of Holwell* 1991

Donated by Don Peck

**Melissa KEYS**

*Between appearances: the art of Louise Weaver* 2019

Donated by Louise Weaver

**Gertrude HOLLIS**

*A scholar of Lindisfarne* Circa 1902

Purchased QVMAG

**Kevin KIERNAN**

*Eroding the edges of nature* 2018

Donated by Peter Sims

**Walter HOPPS**

*Robert Rauschenberg : a retrospective* 1997

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Jane KINSMAN**

*The prints of R. B. Kitaj* 1994

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Karl Gunnar HULTEN**

*Malevitch: [exposition retrospective],  
14 mars-15 mai 1978* 1978

Donated by Daniel Thomas





**Collection of 28 painted toy soldiers  
and cannon**

Circa 1890

Unknown maker. Used, Launceston, Tasmania

Lead alloy

25 x 25 cm

Donated by Christine Minchin

photo: QVMAG

**Simon KLEINIG**

*Frenchmans Cap*, [rev. ed.] 2022

*Frenchmans Cap* 2012

*Jack Thwaites* 2008

*Rambles in Western Tasmania* 2010

Donated by Peter Sims

**John LENDIS**

*Legends of the mountain* 2000

Donated by Peter Sims

**Sue LESTER**

*Birds of Tasmania* 2023

Purchased QVMAG

**Ronald LIGHTBROWN**

*Piero della Francesca* 1992

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Gareth LINNARD**

*Thylacine : the history, ecology and loss  
of the Tasmanian tiger* 2023

Donated by Gareth Linnard

**Chris LONG**

*Tasmanian photographers 1840-1940* 1995

Donated by Peter Sims

**Bea MADDOCK**

*Bea Maddock : prints, 1960-1982* 1982

*Paintings, drawings, prints : Bea Maddock,  
April 18 - May 2 1964* 1964

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Christobel MATTINGLEY**

*King of the wilderness* 2001

Donated by Peter Sims

**Liz MCQUISTON**

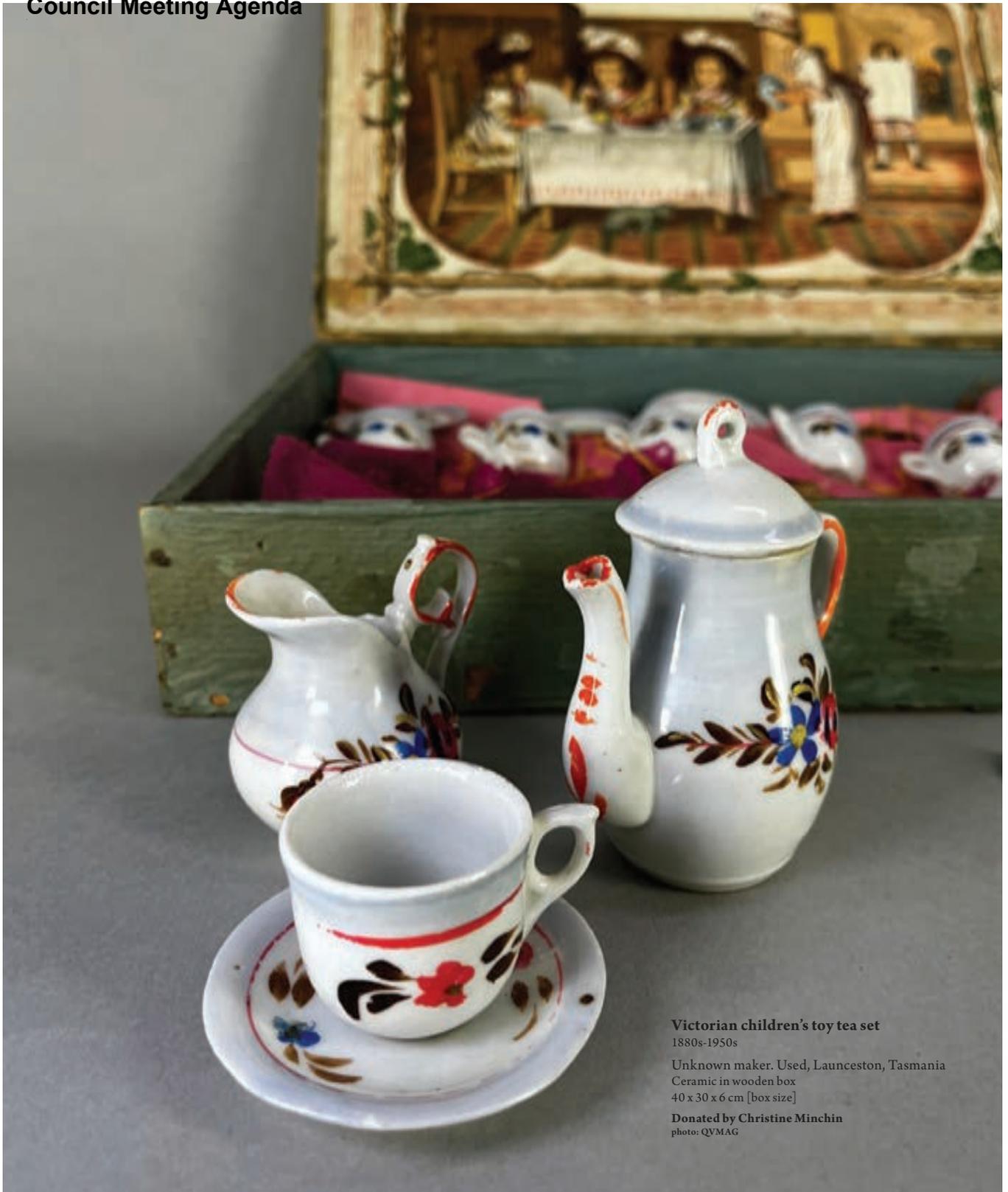
*Graphic agitation* 1995

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Nick MITZEVICH**

*Vision: art, architecture and the NGA* 2022

Donated by Daniel Thomas



**Victorian children's toy tea set**  
1880s-1950s

Unknown maker. Used, Launceston, Tasmania  
Ceramic in wooden box  
40 x 30 x 6 cm [box size]

Donated by Christine Minchin  
photo: QVMAG

**Henry MOORE**

*Henry Moore : sculpture 1950-1960* 1960

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Sarina NOORDHUIS-FAIRFAX**

*Cressida Campbell* 2022

Donated by the National Gallery of Australia

**Gilles NERET**

*Kazimir Malevitch 1878-1935 and suprematism* 2003

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Fred ORTON**

*Figuring Jasper Johns* 1994

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**NO NAMED AUTHOR**

*The Book of Psalms* 1858

Purchased QVMAG

*Eleven British artists* 1949

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Sue PAINE**

*The story of Paine's carriage works  
and the family Buick* 2021

Donated by Michael Paine

*Humorist 1st ed.* 1989

Donated by Kim Lehman

**Felix RPATURI**

*Prehistoric heritage* 1979

Donated by Peter Sims

*Larrikin nos. 4-7* 1986-1987

Donated by Kim Lehman

**Patricia PICCININI**

*Every heart sings* 2020

Donated by the National Gallery of Australia

*Parsons family scenic journey 1877-1879* 2022

Donated by Jon Addison

*Rouault : an exhibition of paintings,  
drawings and documents* 1966

Donated by Daniel Thomas

*Vision splendid* 2010

Donated by the City of Launceston

**Jane PORTER**

*Pastor's fire side. Vol. I* 1832

*Pastor's fire side. Vol. II* 1832

Purchased QVMAG

**Ron RADFORD**

*John Glover : Patterdale farm* 2022

Donated by Ron Radford

**Anne ROBBINS**

*Cezanne in Britain* 2006

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**James RONDEAU**

*Jasper Johns: gray* 2007

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Barbara ROSE**

*Monochromes* 2006

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Theresa SAINTY**

*taypani milaythina-tu = Return to country* 2023

Donated by the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

**Aimee SELBY**

*Art and text* 2009

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Kelly SLATER**

*Residence : pinmatik/Rocky Cape* 2019

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Garrett STEWART**

*The look of reading* 2006

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**TASMANIAN ARCHIVES**

*Tasmanian Archives* 2002

Donated by Tasmanian Archives



**Breast reliever**  
Late 19th Century  
S Maw, Son & Thompson. Made in London,  
used at Egmont, Westbury, Tasmania  
Glass, rubber  
14.2 x 7 x 5 cm  
Donated by Virginia and Bill Greenhill  
photo: QVMAG

**Kirk VARNEDOE**

*Jasper Johns: a retrospective* 1996

*Jasper Johns: writings, sketchbook notes, interviews* 1996

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Carbolic smoke ball**

Late 19th Century

Carbolic Smoke Ball Co. Made in London,  
used at Egmont, Westbury, Tasmania.

Rubber, Bakelite, cardboard  
6.7 x 5 x 5 cm

Gift of Christine Minchin

**Rohan WILSON**

*The roving party* 2011

Donated by Peter Sims

**Breast reliever**

Late 19th Century

S Maw, Son & Thompson. Made in London,  
used at Egmont, Westbury, Tasmania

Glass, rubber  
14.2 x 7 x 5 cm

Donated by Virginia and Bill Greenhill

**Irena ZDANOWICZ**

*Masters of emotion* 2007

Donated by Daniel Thomas

**Green dress pullover jumper**

1982

Tamar Knitting Mills. Made in Launceston, Tasmania  
Wool, nylon

70 x 60 cm [approx. unfolded]

Donated by Peter Thyne

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**H I S T O R Y**

**Dr Siegel's Steam Spray Inhaler**

Late 19th Century

Krohne & Sesemann. Invented, Germany, 1864.

Used at Egmont, Westbury, Tasmania.

Steel, tin, cork

12.4 x 13.6 x 87.6 cm

Gift of Christine Minchin

**Beige v-neck dress pullover**

1982

Tamar Knitting Mills. Made in Launceston, Tasmania  
Wool

70 x 60 cm [approx. unfolded]

Donated by Peter Thyne

**White pullover with blue and gold stripes**

1982

Tamar Knitting Mills. Made in Launceston, Tasmania  
Wool

70 x 60 cm [approx. unfolded]

Donated by Peter Thyne

**Sample ribbed pullover**

1982

Tamar Knitting Mills. Made in Launceston, Tasmania  
Wool  
70 x 60 cm [approx. unfolded]

**Donated by Peter Thyne**

**Baton, Legion of Frontiersmen**

Circa 1920

Unknown maker. Used, Launceston, Tasmania  
Wood, metal  
55 x 20 cm [diameter]

**Donated by Christine Minchin**

**Thermal singlet knitted**

1982

Tamar Knitting Mills. Made in Launceston, Tasmania  
Wool  
70 x 60 cm [approx. unfolded]

**Donated by Peter Thyne**

**Collection of 28 painted toy soldiers and cannon**

Circa 1890

Unknown maker. Used, Launceston, Tasmania  
Lead alloy  
25 x 25 cm

**Donated by Christine Minchin**

**Work pullover**

1982

Tamar Knitting Mills. Made in Launceston, Tasmania  
Wool  
70 x 60 cm [approx. unfolded]

**Donated by Peter Thyne**

**Victorian manicure set**

1880s-1950s

Unknown maker. Used, Launceston, Tasmania  
Steel, silver, ivory, wood, velvet  
15 x 8 x 6.5 cm

**Donated by Christine Minchin**

**Plastic shopping bag**

1982

Tamar Knitting Mills. Made in Launceston, Tasmania  
Plastic  
50 x 40 cm [approx. unfolded]

**Donated by Peter Thyne**

**Victorian children's toy tea set**

1880s-1950s

Unknown maker. Used, Launceston, Tasmania  
Ceramic in wooden box  
40 x 30 x 6 cm [box size]

**Donated by Christine Minchin**

**Plastic shopping bag**

1982

Tamar Knitting Mills. Made in Launceston, Tasmania  
Plastic  
50 x 40 cm [approx. unfolded]

**Donated by Peter Thyne**

**A-frame hiking backpack**

Circa 1950s

Paddy Pallin. Purchased, Hobart, used in Tasmania  
Canvas, leather, steel  
80 x 65 x 80 cm

**Donated by John Berry**





**Milan MILOJEVIC**  
Born 1954, Hobart, Tasmania  
*Flora Terra Incognita*  
(after WB Gould) 2 [detail] 2018  
Multilayered digital, etching, unique state  
23.0 cm x 19.0 cm  
Gift of the QVMAG Arts Foundation



**Jointed flail (threshing stick)**

19th century

Unknown maker. Made and used in Tasmania

Wood, leather

180 cm

**Donated by Robert Pennington**

**Alexander tennis racquet, Spede model**

Circa 1945

Alexander Patent Racquet Company.

Varnished ash, leather

**Donation**

**Dennis Wooley's 1962 Schoolboy Champion jersey**

1962

Polyester

Approx. 70 x 50 cm

**Donation**

**Philips valve radio**

1946

Ricketts & Thorp Ltd

Band spread console in highly polished walnut veneer cabinet

88 x 21 x 71 cm

**Donation**

image opposite:

**A-frame hiking backpack**

Circa 1950s

Paddy Pallin. Purchased, Hobart, used in Tasmania

Canvas, leather, steel

80 x 65 x 80 cm

**Donated by John Berry**

photo: QVMAG



**Victorian children's toy tea set**

1880s-1950s

Unknown maker. Used, Launceston, Tasmania

Ceramic in wooden box  
40 x 30 x 6 cm [box size]

Donated by Christine Minchin  
photo: QVMAG



# MUSEUM GOVERNANCE ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

This has been a watershed year for QVMAG.

The strategic shift that has been underway over the past 12 months has led to a record-breaking year for the institution on just about any measure that you could imagine.

It has been fantastic to experience the results of this shift firsthand. Over the past year, when I have attended exhibition openings and other QVMAG events, I have been impressed by the diverse range of people from our local community in attendance.

It has felt as though the local community has been re-engaging with this renewed institution and seeing the Museum and Art Gallery as their institutions; places where exhibitions and events will speak to their local life and their lived experience.

I have been particularly impressed by the high quality and diversity of exhibitions on display, where exhibitions have showcased local creative practitioners in exhibitions such as *Urban Sketchers*, LGBTIQ+ artists and community in *My World: Voice and Visibility*, our region's students in *The Big Picture*, and celebrated Tasmanian artists with well-established careers in initiatives such as *Mason | Marsden*, alongside innovative advocacy projects supporting emerging Tasmanian artists in the inaugural *RISE* biennial.

Supporting these diverse and considered exhibitions of our Tasmanian creative communities were blockbuster exhibitions sourced from around the country and the world, providing unique opportunities for local audiences to engage with high quality cultural and education experiences right here at home.

Notable amongst these were the *Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2022* finalist's exhibition direct from United Kingdom's Natural History Museum, Questacon's interactive and immersive education focused *Australia in Space*, and the hugely popular *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize*, which delighted audiences from throughout Australia and contributed an impressive \$4.74 million into our local economy.

As I have attended these exhibitions and openings, I have been struck by the diverse community of people who have explored these exhibitions, which to me represent the breadth of our community in Tasmania.

With this diversity of exhibitions, QVMAG has reminded us that the arts, culture and sciences belong to everybody. It has been particularly exciting to see so many of these exhibitions being installed in the Art Gallery at Royal Park, which has seen a real injection of energy over the past twelve months.



Portrait of Tasmanian artist Leoni Duff by artist Sally Ryan  
at the Museum at Inveresk

photo: Maddie Brough



Installation of the *Urban Sketchers* exhibition  
at the Art Gallery at Royal Park  
photo: Maddie Brough

This year has also marked an expansion of the role of the Museum Governance Advisory Board (MGAB).

The Board now serves as an acquisitions committee for the institution, with acquisitions and deaccessions being submitted by the institution as part of best practice in the governance, transparency and management of the strategic direction of the collection.

With the support of the MGAB through this process, the QVMAG collection welcomes 263 significant strategic acquisitions valued at \$876,515.

Each of these acquisitions has gone through a rigorous process, which begins with the QVMAG Collections Committee and then is reviewed and ratified by the MGAB.

The MGAB as a whole has been impressed with the quality of acquisitions that were proposed in the past financial year and the hard work that the institution has undertaken to carefully evaluate each potential donation or purchase for the collection.

During the past year, we farewelled Dr Kim Lehman as Chair and member of the MGAB, and also Dr Varuni Kulasekera. Both Kim and Varuni provided valued advice and wisdom to the committee and we wish them well for their future projects.

The outstanding results that have been achieved by QVMAG this year are testament to the hard work, enthusiasm and enormous dedication shown by the entire QVMAG team.

We commend the team for their efforts and we recognise that the kinds of transformation and strategic shifts that have occurred over the past year do not happen by chance, nor without a lot of effort from a lot of people.

We are excited to see where the institution will go over the coming year, as this strategic shift continues to take shape and bear fruit, and we look forward to continuing to play a role to support the institution along the way.

**James Riggall**

Chair  
Museum Governance Advisory Board



# QVMAG ABORIGINAL REFERENCE GROUP CHAIR'S REPORT

2022/2023 has realised an unprecedented period of growth, change and cultural shift in the institution.

The endorsement of the *Futures Plan* in late June 2022 highlights the initiatives and aspirational strategies through which to further develop an accessible institution for Aboriginal Tasmanians and First Nations peoples more broadly.

These key initiatives, which include the establishment of Australia's first cultural institutionally aligned **Centre for Aboriginal Science and Education** at the Art Gallery at Royal Park, represent a major shift in how public collecting institutions are transforming archetypal practice from traditional European constructs in favour of a consultative and culturally inclusive institution.

During the reporting period the QVMAG Aboriginal Reference Group (ARG) continued to work closely alongside the new QVMAG Director, Shane Fitzgerald, in the repatriation of the Tasmanian Aboriginal petroglyphs that were held at the museum. The petroglyphs' repatriation from the institution had been a long ongoing process and focus of the ARG in managing and guiding the sensitivity of the repatriation with Aboriginal staff and community statewide, and working with the Aboriginal Land Council to enable them to be taken back to Country, from which they were taken some 60 years earlier at preminghana - the indigenous protected area on the west coast of Tasmania.

**In November 2022, the petroglyphs were removed from the institution and welcomed back to Country by community.**

Further developments in realising the repatriation of First Nations material included the ARG welcoming Te Herekieke Herewini, Head of Repatriation, Te Papa Tongarewa, Aotearoa, New Zealand to Launceston.

Te Herekieke was joined by the ARG in the planning and development of the repatriation of Māori ancestral remains held within the QVMAG collection.

Planning continues with this culturally sensitive initiative and we look forward to working alongside Te Herekieke in realising a positive outcome in 2023/2024.

Throughout 2022/2023 the ARG continues to guide the institution on Aboriginal sensitivities and advises where required on developing stronger policies and procedures in relation to first peoples collections and materials. The Chair of the ARG is additionally a member of the Museum Governance Advisory Board and meets on a regular basis.

**Dave mangenner Gough**  
Chair  
QVMAG Aboriginal Reference Group



Detail of *aymi ningina never ceded* by Darryl Rogers, Vicki West and Dave manganer Gough at the Art Gallery at Royal Park

photo: Maddie Brough

## QVMAG ARTS FOUNDATION YEAR IN REVIEW

It gives me great pleasure in providing a summary of achievements and outcomes of the QVMAG Arts Foundation for 2022/2023, during which we have witnessed, and contributed to, a significant year of progressive strategic development, unprecedented in scope and scale in recent memory, that has repositioned the institution as a cultural destination of substance, diversity and excellence.

Supporting the institution, the QVMAG Arts Foundation's mission is the development, growth and promotion of the fine arts collection, ensuring that the collection remains at the forefront of cultural practice. Whilst the QVMAG Arts Foundation does not itself choose the works for acquisition into the collection, we play a pivotal role in supporting those recommendations that are identified by the QVMAG Director, as part of a broader strategic approach in building on the collection.

In 2022/2023, the QVMAG Arts Foundation proudly supported, purchased and subsequently donated, a total of ten outstanding works that now form part of the collection. These works are highlighted in detail within the Acquisitions section of the Annual Report. In summary, these ten works included an exquisite series of etchings by Milan Milojevic, a captivating oil on canvas by Amber Koroluk-Stephenson, and an outstanding contemporary example of a Jimmy Possum chair by artist Mike Epworth.

Further initiatives included a significant contribution towards the commissioning of a major work by Tasmanian-based, internationally significant artist, Fiona Hall; supporting the institution's new biennial

initiative *RISE* with funding towards the acquisition of works from the exhibition, all of which will enter the collection in 2023/2024.

The 2022/2023 period proved to be one of heightened activity and engagement for our membership with a significant number of events, experiences and social gatherings that assist the Committee in engaging potential donors and further promote the mission of the QVMAG Arts Foundation.

Key among these was the inaugural *Nuala O'Flaherty Memorial Lecture*. Through the gracious support and professional reputation of QVMAG Director, Shane Fitzgerald, the QVMAG Arts Foundation welcomed Dr Nick Mitzevich, Director National Gallery of Australia, as he shared with us insights as to how the National Collection has defined and influenced Australian culture over the past 40 years.

Other notable events included a special guest lecture by John McPhee, a former Senior Curator at QVMAG, as he reminisced on his contribution in building the collection from 1974-1978; a special event for Foundation Members as part of the successful *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* exhibition; and the presentation of the Art Foundation Medallion Award to *ArtRage* exhibitor Annabelle Zeeman from Fahan School, just to name a few.

**Brian Hartnett**  
Chairman  
QVMAG Arts Foundation



Exhibition view of Stephanie Reynolds's works in the inaugural biennial RISE exhibition at the Art Gallery at Royal Park

photo: Maddie Brough

## QVMAG FRIENDS YEAR IN REVIEW

Supporting the institution's strategic objectives through the provision of authentic and engaging experiences for the QVMAG Friends' membership remained a core focus throughout the reporting period.

2022/2023 realised a period of unprecedented growth and transformation for QVMAG, which in turn provided a dynamic and diverse suite of initiatives for the Friends membership being delivered.

As a result of this heightened activity the Friends membership almost doubled during the year with an additional **78 new memberships**, comprising **119 individual members**, recorded.

This is a pleasing outcome for our membership base as it surpasses the 42 new memberships, comprising 72 individual members, received the year prior, demonstrating the impact of the dynamic new approaches being undertaken in the institution.

A number of key institutional objectives were supported by the QVMAG Friends over the course of the year and included significant support in the collection's development, visitor experiences and advocacy.

Working in partnership with the various teams from QVMAG, the Friends donated a total of \$3,710 to assist QVMAG in the engagement of a qualified significance assessor to document and assess a proposed donation from the Jenny Gill Estate.

The proposed donation comprises one of Australia's richest and most diverse collection of several thousand matchboxes, matchbooks and matchbook covers.

QVMAG's History Team have identified that a qualified assessment is required to critically review the proposed donation. Working in partnership with the Friends, a suitably qualified historian will be engaged to undertake this significance assessment.

As part of the institution's **Organisational Strategic Development Program (OSDP)**, in particular the development of the supporting *Audience Development and Engagement Strategy and Framework*, the QVMAG Friends and the institution partnered in the financial support and provision of three delegates in the attendance to the national *2023 Australian Art Gallery Guides Organisation National Conference*.

Representation at the national conference, in August 2023, with delegates comprising QVMAG and Friends members, will allow unprecedented insights into contemporaneous best practice in institutional guiding, tours and engagement, which will assist in the development of QVMAG's new *Audience Development and Engagement Strategy and Framework*.



Kaye Dowling, President QVMAG Friends at the opening of the *Australia in Space* exhibition at the Museum at Inveresk  
photo: Maddie Brough



Visitors exploring the *Archie 100: A Century of the Archibald Prize* exhibition

Photo: Maddie Brough

Throughout 2022/2023, the Friends Members were provided, and participated in, a broad and diverse programmatic offer from the institution and the QVMAG Friends Committee: including exhibition launches, guest lectures, workshops, in conversation artist talks, and much more.

A highlight excursion for our Membership included the *Source to Sea* run by Tamar NRM for QVMAG Friends members and their guests as we explored the journey of the Kings Meadows Rivulet and its place in the Tamar Estuary Catchment in early November 2022.

In addition, QVMAG Friends together with Tamar NRM, were successful in an application to Inspiring Tasmania, receiving a grant of \$1,000 to develop and present the Community Science activity *Investigating Microplastics* at **National Science Week** in August.

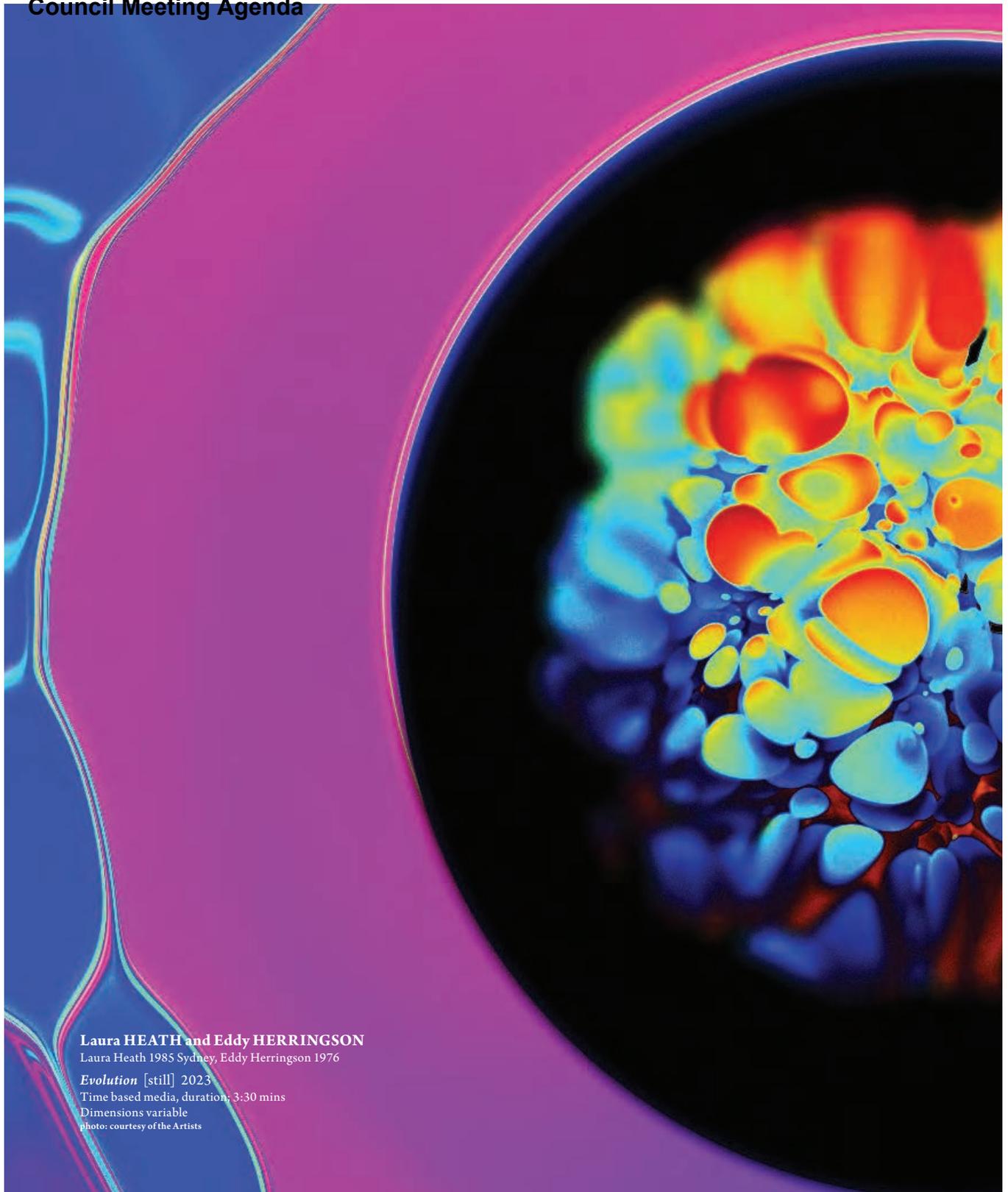
The QVMAG Friends continued to present our public event program *Our people their stories: oral histories of Northern Tasmania* at the Museum at Inveresk throughout 2022/2023.

Guest presenters during the period were diverse, engaging and authentic, once again affirming the broad appeal and popularity of this much loved annual lecture series and we look forward to bringing further stories to our community in the 2023/2024 .

**Kaye Dowling**  
President  
QVMAG Friends

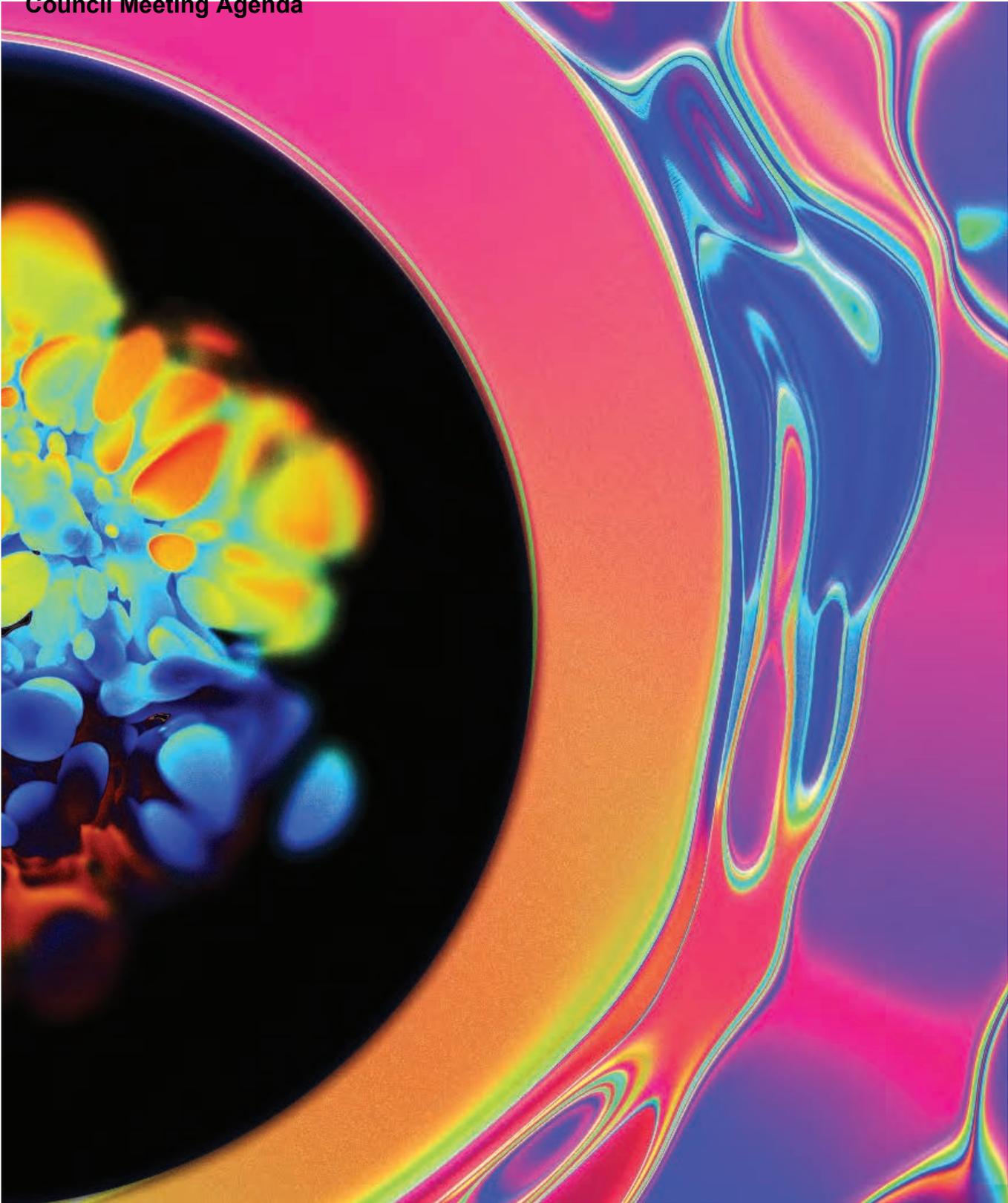
*Our people their stories: oral histories of Northern Tasmania 2022/2023 Program*

- + 27 July 2022  
*Australia's Foreign Aid Program: Successes and Challenges*  
Catherine Walker – foreign aid worker
- + 24 August 2022  
*Of Wine and Women*  
Tony Walker – marketer, historian
- + 27 September 2022  
*Flight and Flying: The Royal Flying Doctor Service in Tasmania*  
Malcolm White – engineer, pilot and Board Member and Chair RFDS
- + 26 October 2022  
*Art by Chance and Design*  
Penny Mason – artist and university lecturer
- + 23 November 2022  
*A life in, around and beside the theatre*  
Dr Donald Pulford – actor, director and university lecturer
- + 22 March 2023  
*The Power of Prayer*  
Albert van Zetten – chartered accountant, former CEO of City Mission, former Mayor of Launceston
- + 26 April 2023  
*What's Stella Got to Do with It*  
Danielle Blewett – journalist and General Manager Profile and Engagement St Giles
- + 26 May 2023  
*Stories of a Boy from the Bush*  
Ivan James – former General Manager Repco Bearing Co and CEO ACL Group
- + 28 June 2023  
*From Nursing in Launceston to Caring in Africa*  
Diana Butler OAM – Co-founder and CEO of Care for Africa Foundation, and After-Hours Manager Launceston General Hospital



**Laura HEATH and Eddy HERRINGSON**  
Laura Heath 1985 Sydney, Eddy Herringson 1976

*Evolution* [still] 2023  
Time based media, duration: 3:30 mins  
Dimensions variable  
photo: courtesy of the Artists



## ENDNOTES

1. The First Nations collection is currently curated and managed across Visual Art and Design and History. This arrangement is under review.
2. QVMAG also holds an important herbarium collection that is being digitised but the institution does not actively pursue a research program in plant sciences.  
  
Some specimens are acquired through road kills. Active strategic collecting is occurring only in invertebrate taxonomic groups, most notably insects, a taxonomic area of speciality and focus for QVMAG.
3. QVMAG holds internationally important collections of Tasmanian mammals and birds but is not actively collecting in those areas.  
  
Some parts of the collection are very hard to assign a monetary value (such as field-collected natural science specimens) and it is generally not appropriate to assign monetary value to some cultural collections, especially First Nations collections.  
  
All of the collection has cultural, educational and research value, and as such, collection valuations inherently under-value the true societal worth of heritage collections.
4. Taxonomy Australia is a program of the Australian Academy of Science, with input from biosystematics research and collection institutions across Australia.
5. *Cost benefit analysis of a mission to discover and document Australia's species*, Deloitte Access Economics for the Australian Academy of Science, 2020.
6. Financial value is only one value of the QVMAG collection. Some collection items have readily assigned financial value.  
  
This is particularly true for artworks and rare books and archives, and can be true for some history and cultural objects and some natural science specimens.



# QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

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## LEADERSHIP

**Shane Fitzgerald**

General Manager Creative Arts and Cultural Services

**Louise Towns**

Executive Assistant  
General Manager Creative Arts and Cultural Services

**Jon Addison**

Senior Curator History

**Ashley Bird**

Senior Curator Visual Arts and Design

**Maddie Brough**

Leader Marketing and Communications

**Alisanne Butler**

Leader Exhibitions

**Sumeena Keshow**

Leader Learning and Engagement

**Fiona Lehman**

Team Leader Visitor Operations (acting)  
Museum Attendant

**Gary Morgan**

Advisor Special Projects and Strategy

**Andrew Parsons**

Archivist / Librarian

---

## BUSINESS SUPPORT

**Errin Chapple**

Business Support Officer

**Christine Gleeson**

Shop Coordinator

**Anna Wilkins Heeps**

Coordinator Visitor Operations

---

## CURATORIAL

**Katie Davies**

Assistant Curator Visual Arts and Design

**Simon Fearn**

Museum Collections Officer Natural Sciences

**Burcu Keane**

Assistant Curator History

**Yvonne Leeming**

Museum Collections Officer History

**Judith Rainbird**

Museum Assistant Natural Sciences

**Ross Smith**

Museum Collections Officer History

**EXHIBITIONS**

---

**Mathew Carey**  
Exhibitions Officer

**Paul Eggins**  
Exhibitions Officer

**Louise French**  
Graphic Designer

**Renee Singline**  
Graphic Designer

**Louise Thrush**  
Graphic Designer

**LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT**

---

**Christopher Arkless**  
Senior Planetarium Officer

**Carmencita Palermo**  
Public Programs Officer

**Georgina Perkins**  
Education Officer (acting)  
Museum Attendant

**Vicki West**  
Aboriginal Learning Facilitator

**Evelyn Williams**  
Education Officer (acting)  
Museum Attendant

**STRATEGIC COLLECTIONS**

---

**Imogen Colton**  
Conservation and Registration Technician

**Tallulah Eaves**  
Assistant Registrar QVMAG Collection Audit

**Sarah Farquhar-Still**  
Registrar QVMAG Collection Audit

**Aaron Humphries**  
Assistant Registrar QVMAG Collection Audit

**Jayne McPhee**  
Registrar QVMAG Collection Audit

**Wooi Har Ooi**  
Collections Database Administrator

**Antoinette Smith**  
Assistant Registrar QVMAG Collection Audit

**Rebecca Stephenson**  
Assistant Registrar QVMAG Collection Audit

**Cindy Thomas**  
Assistant Registrar QVMAG Collection Audit

**Katherine Turner**  
Assistant Registrar QVMAG Collection Audit

**VISITOR SERVICES**

---

**Pauline Black**  
Museum Attendant

**Victoria Boulton**  
Museum Attendant

**James Britton**  
Museum Attendant

**Andrew Brooks**  
Museum Attendant

**Shu Han Chen**  
Museum Attendant

**Melanie Do**  
Museum Attendant

**William Evans**  
Museum Attendant

**Paul Farrell**  
Museum Attendant

**Christine Gorjup**  
Museum Attendant

**Darryn Greene**  
Museum Attendant

**James Harrison**  
Museum Attendant

**Jye Horan**  
Museum Attendant

**Lesley Ikin**  
Museum Attendant

**Karen Jenkins**  
Museum Attendant

**Donald Keddie**  
Museum Attendant

**Emma Magnusson-Reid**  
Museum Attendant

**Patricia Marshall**  
Museum Attendant

**Heather McInnes**  
Museum Attendant

**Karen Murgatroyd**  
Museum Attendant

**Joanne Myers**  
Museum Attendant

**Kristen Potts**  
Museum Attendant

**John Read**  
Museum Attendant

**Isabel Shapcott**  
Museum Attendant

**Jane Taylor**  
Museum Attendant

**Katherine Taylor**  
Museum Attendant

**Dominique Tempone-Wiltshire**  
Museum Attendant

**Robyn Thomas**  
Museum Attendant

**Jo-Anne Worsfold**  
Museum Attendant



## QVMAG ANNUAL REPORT

With a collection in the making since 1842, the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery is proud to care for significant donations and acquisitions from across the globe.

It is northern Tasmania's home of art, natural science and history, where our community is inspired to explore and connect with the Collections.

QVMAG spans two locations—the Art Gallery at Royal Park and the Museum at Inveresk—both of which are open 363 days of the year and offer an immersive, educational and fun experience for all ages to enjoy.

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Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery  
Creative Arts and Cultural Services | City of Launceston

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To read the full 2022-23 *City of Launceston Annual Report*, alongside annual financial reports, please visit [www.launceston.tas.gov.au/Council/Strategies-and-Reports](http://www.launceston.tas.gov.au/Council/Strategies-and-Reports)

### Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery

*Museum at Inveresk*  
2 Invermay Road, Launceston, Tasmania 7250

*Art Gallery at Royal Park*  
2 Wellington Street, Launceston, Tasmania 7250

(03) 6323 3777  
[enquiries@qvmag.tas.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@qvmag.tas.gov.au)

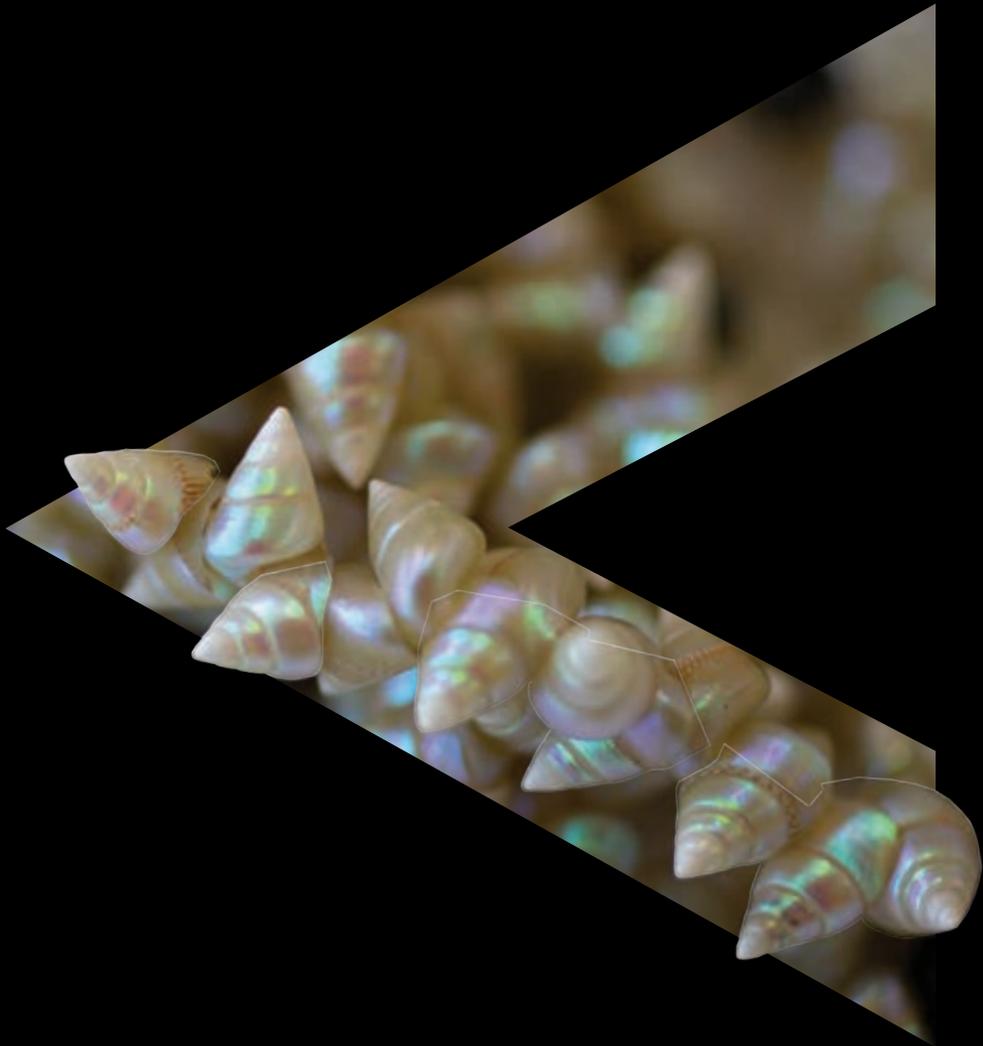
### City of Launceston

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Launceston, Tasmania 7250  
(03) 6323 3000  
[contactus@launceston.tas.gov.au](mailto:contactus@launceston.tas.gov.au)

QVMAG is proudly owned and operated by the City of Launceston and supported by the Tasmanian Government.









**15. ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES NETWORK**

**15.1. Local Government Association of Tasmania General Meeting - 1 November 2023**

**FILE NO:** SF0331/SF2218

**AUTHOR:** Kelsey Hartland (Team Leader Governance)

**GENERAL MANAGER APPROVAL:** Louise Foster (Organisational Services Network)

**DECISION STATEMENT:**

To provide voting direction to the Council's delegate for the items listed for decision at the Local Government Association of Tasmania General Meeting to be held on 1 November 2023.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**

Pre-Council Workshop - 5 October 2023 - Local Government Association of Tasmania - Notices of Motions

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council, in respect of the items listed for decision at the Local Government Association of Tasmania's General Meeting to be held on 30 June 2023, directs its delegate to vote as follows:

<b>Ag Item</b>	<b>Pg. No</b>	<b>Items for Decision</b>	<b>Submitting Body</b>	<b>City of Launceston Comment</b>
1.1	5	<b>Confirmation of Minutes</b> <i>That the Minutes of the Meetings held on 30 June 2023, as circulated, be confirmed.</i>	LGAT	Confirmed
1.2	5	<b>Business Arising</b> <i>That Members note the information.</i>	LGAT	Noted
1.3	6	<b>Confirmation of Agenda</b> <i>That consideration be given to the Agenda items and the order of business.</i>	LGAT	Confirmed
1.4	6	<b>Follow Up of Motions</b> <i>That Members note the following report.</i>	LGAT	Noted
1.5	6	<b>President's Report</b> <i>That Members note the report on the President's activity from 9 June 2023 until 29 September 2023.</i>	LGAT	Noted

Ag Item	Pg. No	Items for Decision	Submitting Body	City of Launceston Comment
1.6	9	<b>Chief Executive Officer's Report</b> <i>That the Meeting note the report on the CEO's activity from 9 June 2023 until 29 September 2023.</i>	LGAT	Noted
1.7	11	<b>Council Round Ups</b> <i>That Members note that there will not be a council round up this meeting.</i>	LGAT	Noted
2.1	11	<b>Motion - Parks And Wildlife Service And Crown Land Services Review And Resourcing</b> <i>That LGAT lobby the Tasmanian Government to undertake a review of the administrative activities of the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) and Crown Land Services (CLS) with a particular focus on ensuring that the required level of resources are available to assess applications and deal with enquiries in a timely manner.</i>	Break O'Day	<b>Officer Comment:</b> Louise Foster (General Manager Organisational Services Network)  <b>Supported</b>  The City of Launceston (CoL) has no complaints with the level of service it receives from PWS and CLS.  The CoL supports equality of access to the services provided by Parks Wildlife and Crown Land Services for all local government authorities.

Ag Item	Pg. No	Items for Decision	Submitting Body	City of Launceston Comment
2.2	19	<p><b>Motion - Road Line Marking Responsibilities</b>  <i>That LGAT undertake advocacy on behalf of Councils to have road line marking responsibilities legislated and additional funding provided by the State Government.</i></p>	Kingborough	<p><b>Officer Comment:</b>            (Nick Browne - Manager Infrastructure and Engineering)</p> <p><b>Not Supported</b></p> <p>The City of Launceston (CoL) is comfortable that as the road authority, it has maintenance responsibility for line marking on its roads.</p> <p>However, there has been a long standing arrangement that Department of State Growth (DSG) undertakes a line marking maintenance program on local roads. This may be because these are critical traffic control devices alongside signs, which the State also reimburse Council's for renewal costs. Whilst the CoL accepts responsibility for line marking maintenance, it does support the continuation of State funding for line marking. Without it, the level of maintenance for these markings may decrease across the State, leading to poor traffic safety outcomes.</p> <p>The CoL does recognise that the current arrangement does not have sufficient capacity (financial and contractor availability) to fully renew lines within the municipality. Each year, a backlog of incomplete work continues to grow.</p> <p>The CoL has considered a need to supplement the DSG program with its own program</p>

			<p>in order to responsibly manage municipal roads. This introduces some confusion and complexity though.</p> <p>The CoL would prefer a scheme where the funds for this program were directly allocated to Councils to undertake their own renewal works. Potentially, this could be easily delivered through the existing Road Preservation Grant scheme. This allows greater control over this element that Councils are responsible for, whereas Councils are currently at the whim of the DSG as to what and when renewal occurs, with the annual program often failing to be completed each year.</p> <p>There are some drawbacks to this, arguably the State receives better rates in their contract due to the volume of work involved. Individual, particularly smaller Councils, may receive non-competitive rates and end up achieving less renewal for the same amount of funds.</p>
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Ag Item	Pg. No	Items for Decision	Submitting Body	City of Launceston Comment
2.3	21	<p><b><i>Motion - Diversity and Inclusion Statement</i></b>  <i>That Members note the Diversity and Inclusion Statement developed by Kingborough Council and agree to consider developing and adopting a similar statement to support safe, welcoming and inclusive communities across Tasmania.</i></p>	Kingborough	<p><b>Officer Comment:</b>            (Dan Ryan - General Manager Community and Place Network)</p> <p><b>Supported</b></p> <p>The City of Launceston (CoL) congratulates Kingborough Council on its Diversity and Inclusion Statement and is supportive of considering the development of a similar statement for the Launceston municipality.</p> <p>In 2020 the CoL Council endorsed its Access Framework for Action 2020-2024 which references key focus areas that that the Council is committed to supporting in order to improve access and inclusion within the community.</p> <p>Preliminary work has also been undertaken to develop a Social Inclusion Policy which will assist in promoting increased understanding of differences and to build trust and cooperation amongst our people and our communities.</p> <p>An extension to the actions already undertaken through the development of a Diversity and Inclusion Statement will further reinforce the CoL's commitment to a safe, accessible and inclusive community where diversity is welcomed, respected and valued.</p>

Ag Item	Pg. No	Items for Decision	Submitting Body	City of Launceston Comment
2.4	22	<p><b>Motion - Review of 42 Day Planning Application Timeframes</b>  <i>That LGAT be requested to convene a reference group from member Councils to develop options and recommendations for the sector to:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>1. Assess the impact of the 42-day rule on planning outcomes across local Councils in Tasmania (including both qualitative and quantitative data).</i></li> <li><i>2. Identify what practices and delegations councils currently utilise to manage the 42- day rule, including the impact of those practices and delegations on representor objections.</i></li> <li><i>3. Review equivalent 'deemed approval' and timeframe extension mechanisms of other jurisdictions to compare with Tasmania's arrangements.</i></li> <li><i>4. Based on the findings of points 1, 2 and 3 above, identify whether the 42-day rule operates in a manner that is fair and equitable to all parties to a development application; that is both applicants and representors.</i></li> <li><i>5. Recommend changes be implemented to ensure development applications are not required to be resolved under delegation because an applicant refuses to grant an extension of time for an application to be considered at a Council meeting.</i></li> </ol>	Clarence	<p><b>Officer Comment:</b>            (Dan Ryan - General Manager Community and Place Network)</p> <p><b>Partially Supported</b></p> <p>The City of Launceston (CoL) is of the view that the 42 day timeline applied to Development Applications is appropriate and when applied with sound internal systems and practices, provides for a fair and equitable process for both applicants and representors. However, if there are learnings and opportunities for improvements that can be shared between local Councils through the convening of a reference group on this matter, the CoL would be a willing and active participant.</p>

Ag Item	Pg. No	Items for Decision	Submitting Body	City of Launceston Comment
4.1	26	<b>Future of Local Government Review</b> <i>That Members note the update on the Future of Local Government Review – Stage 3.</i>	LGAT	Noted
4.2	28	<b>State Budget 2024-2025</b> <i>That Members note the update on our intended content for LGAT's submission to the State Budget 2024-2025.</i>	LGAT	Noted
4.3	29	<b>Planning Reforms Update</b> <i>That Members note the update on current planning reforms.</i>	LGAT	Noted
4.4	33	<b>Housing</b> <i>That Members note the update on housing policy matters and its driving influence on planning policy at both state and national levels.</i>	LGAT	Noted
4.5	35	<b>Workplace Health and Safety</b> <i>That Members note the progress on the implementation of the Workplace Health and Safety Review of Elected Representatives (WH&amp;S Review).</i>	LGAT	Noted
4.6	36	<b>Road Management Legislation Review</b> <i>That Members note the update on the Road Management Legislation Review and the consultation period for the Discussion Paper.</i>	LGAT	Noted
4.7	37	<b>Emergency Management Update</b> <i>That Members note the update on emergency management.</i>	LGAT	Noted

Ag Item	Pg. No	Items for Decision	Submitting Body	City of Launceston Comment
4.8	40	<b>Royal Commission Recommendations and Child Safe Organisations</b> <i>That Members note the update on Child and Youth Safe Organisation Act 2023 and Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, recommendation 6.12.</i>	LGAT	Noted
4.9	41	<b>Local Government Health and Wellbeing Network and Lift Local Project</b> <i>That Members note the progress of the Local Government Health and Wellbeing Network and Lift Local Funding.</i>	LGAT	Noted
4.10	42	<b>Environmental Protection Authority Memorandum of Understanding</b> <i>That Members note the report on LGAT's refreshed Memorandum of Understanding with EPA Tasmania.</i>	LGAT	Noted
4.11	43	<b>Climate Change</b> <i>That Members note the update on climate change activities.</i>	LGAT	Noted
4.12	45	<b>Waste and Resource Recovery</b> <i>That Members note the report on waste and resource recovery.</i>	LGAT	Noted
4.13	47	<b>LGAT Procurement</b> <i>That Members note the following update on procurement support for councils.</i>	LGAT	Noted
4.14	50	<b>Events and Professional Development Overview</b> <i>That Members note the report on events and discuss the opportunities for the Association with elected representative learning and development.</i>	LGAT	Noted

Ag Item	Pg. No	Items for Decision	Submitting Body	City of Launceston Comment
4.15	53	<b>Policy Update</b> <i>That Members note the update on various policy matters.</i>	LGAT	Noted

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**REPORT:**

A Local Government Association of Tasmania General Meeting will be held on 1 November 2023. An outline of the General Meeting's Agenda Items, with recommended voting direction for consideration by Councillors, is included in this report's Recommendation. The Minutes of the General Meeting held on 30 June 2023 are included in Attachment 1.

**RISK IMPLICATIONS:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

**ECONOMIC, ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

**STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:**

*City of Launceston Corporate Strategic Plan 2014 - 2024*

Strategic Priority 3: We are a progressive leader that is accountable to our governance obligations and responsive to our community.

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 Areas:

2. To fairly and equitably discharge our statutory and governance obligations.

**BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

Not considered relevant to this report.

**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

The Author and General Manager have no interests to declare in this matter.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Local Government Association of Tasmania - General Meet Agenda - 1 November 2023 [15.1.1 - 150 pages]



# General Meeting

## Agenda

**1 November 2023**

**Commencing at 9.00am**

**Morning Tea 10.45am**

**Paranaple Convention Centre, Devonport**

326 Macquarie Street,  
GPO Box 1521, Hobart, Tas 7000  
Phone: (03) 6146 3740  
Email: [admin@lgat.tas.gov.au](mailto:admin@lgat.tas.gov.au)  
Home Page: <http://www.lgat.tas.gov.au>

**PROCEDURAL MATTERS.  
RULES REGARDING CONDUCT OF MEETINGS**

**13. WHO MAY ATTEND A MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION**

- (a) Subject to Rule 13(f), each Member shall be entitled to send a Voting Representative to any Meeting of the Association, such Voting Representative exercising the number of votes determined according to Rule 16(a).
- (b) In addition to the requirements set out in Rule 13(f), after each ordinary Council Election, the Chief Executive Officer shall request each Member to advise the name of its Voting Representative and the proxy for the Voting Representative for Meetings of the Association until the next ordinary Council Elections.
- (c) Subject to Rule 13(f), Members may change their Voting Representative or proxy at any time by advising the Chief Executive Officer in writing of the Voting Representative prior to that representative taking his or her position at a Meeting of the Association.
- (d) A list of Voting Representatives will be made available at the commencement of any Meeting of the Association.
- (e) Members may send other elected members or Council officers as observers to any Meeting of the Association.
- (f) Each Member must provide the Association with written notice of the details of the Voting Representative who was by a resolution of the Member lawfully appointed as the Voting Representative of the Member at a Meeting of the Association.

**14. PROXIES AT MEETINGS**

- (a) Up to 1 hour prior to any Meeting of the Association, a Member may appoint another Member as its proxy.
- (b) The form of the proxy is to be provided by the Chief Executive Officer and is to be signed by either the Mayor or General Manager of the Council appointing the proxy.
- (c) The Chair of the meeting is not entitled to inquire as to whether the proxy has cast any vote in accordance with the wishes of the Member appointing the proxy.
- (d) Proxies count for the purposes of voting and quorum at any meeting.

**15. QUORUM AT MEETINGS**

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

**16. VOTING AT MEETINGS**

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

Population of the Council Area	Number of votes entitled to be exercised by the voting delegate	Colour placard to be raised by the voting delegate when voting
Under 10,000	1	Red
10,000 – 19,999	2	White
20,000 – 39,999	3	Blue
40,000 and above	4	Green

- (b) Electronic voting buttons will be the first choice for voting on all decisions, with placards only to be used if the technology fails.
- (c) Voting buttons allow councils to vote for or against a motion or formally abstain from voting. An abstain is not to be taken as a negative vote.
- (d) The Chair of the meeting shall be entitled to rely upon the electronic vote or the raising of a coloured placard as the recording of the vote for the Member and as evidence of the number of votes being cast.
- (e) Except as provided in sub-rule (f), each question, matter or resolution shall be decided by a majority of the votes for a motion. If there is an equal number of votes upon any question, it shall be declared not carried.
- (f)
  - (i) When a vote is being taken to amend a Policy of the Association, the resolution must be carried by a majority of the votes capable of being cast by Members present at the meeting.
  - (ii) When a vote is being taken for the Association to sign a protocol, memorandum of understanding or partnership agreement, the resolution must be carried by a majority of votes capable of being cast by Members and by a majority of Members, whether present at the meeting or not.
  - (iii) When a vote is being taken to amend these Rules of the Association, the resolution must be carried by at least two-thirds of the votes capable of being cast by Members, whether present at the meeting or not.
- (g) A Voting Representative or his or her proxy in the name of the Member is entitled to vote on any matter considered at a Meeting of the Association.

**Table of Contents**

<b>1. GOVERNANCE</b> .....	<b>5</b>
1.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES *	5
1.2 BUSINESS ARISING *	5
1.3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA	6
1.4 FOLLOW UP OF MOTIONS *	6
1.5 PRESIDENT’S REPORT	6
1.6 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT	9
1.7 COUNCIL ROUND UPS	11
<b>2. ITEMS FOR DECISION</b> .....	<b>11</b>
2.1 MOTION - PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE AND CROWN LAND SERVICES REVIEW AND RESOURCING	11
2.2 MOTION - ROAD LINE MARKING RESPONSIBILITIES	19
2.3 MOTION - DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT	21
2.4 MOTION – REVIEW OF 42 DAY DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION TIMEFRAME	22
<b>3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION</b> .....	<b>26</b>
<b>4. ITEMS FOR NOTING</b> .....	<b>26</b>
4.1 FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW	26
4.2 STATE BUDGET 2024-2025	28
4.3 PLANNING REFORMS UPDATE	29
4.4 HOUSING	33
4.5 WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY REVIEW *	35
4.6 ROAD MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION REVIEW	36
4.7 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE	37
4.8 ROYAL COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS AND CHILD SAFE ORGANISATIONS	40
4.9 LOCAL GOVERNMENT HEALTH AND WELLBEING NETWORK AND LIFT LOCAL PROJECT	41
4.10 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING *	42
4.11 CLIMATE CHANGE	43
4.12 WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY	45
4.13 LGAT PROCUREMENT	47
4.14 EVENTS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW	50
4.15 POLICY UPDATE	53
<b>5. Other Business and Close</b> .....	<b>55</b>

\* Denotes Attachment



## GENERAL MEETING SCHEDULE

9.00am	Meeting Commences
10.40am	Meeting Concludes
10.45am	Morning Tea



## 1. GOVERNANCE

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### **Acknowledgement of Country**

The President will acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land Tasmania, the Palawa people, and recognise their continuing connection to the lands, skies, and water. We pay respect so the elders, past and present.

### **Welcome and Apologies**

#### **1.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES \***

##### **Decision Sought**

**That the Minutes of the meeting held on 30 June 2023, as circulated, be confirmed.**

##### **Background**

The Minutes of the General Meeting held on 30 June 2023, as circulated, are submitted for confirmation and are at **Attachment to Item 1.1**.

#### **1.2 BUSINESS ARISING \***

##### **Decision Sought**

**That Members note the information.**

##### **Background**

At **Attachment to Item 1.2** is a schedule of business considered at the previous meeting and its status.

1.3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

**Decision Sought**

**That consideration be given to the Agenda items and the order of business.**

**Background**

Delegates will be invited to confirm the Agenda for the meeting and the order of business.

1.4 FOLLOW UP OF MOTIONS \*

**Decision Sought**

**That Members note the following report.**

**Background**

A table detailing action taken to date in relation to motions passed at previous meetings is at **Attachment to Item 1.4.**

1.5 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Contact officer: Dion Lester**

**Decision Sought**

**That Members note the report on the President's activity from 9 June to 29 September 2023.**

**Meetings and events**

- June GMC meeting
- ALGA Board meetings
- General meeting and AGM
- July GMC meeting and induction day
- PLGC meeting
- ALGA post National General Assembly meeting
- ALGA CEO recruitment
- September GMC meeting
- ALGA Roads Congress
- Dinner with Leader of the Opposition and Spokesperson for Local Government

**Media and correspondence**

- LGAT News – August
- Local government review
  - Media release, 16 July
  - Radio
    - LAFM – Mornings, 23 June
    - ABC Hobart – Breakfast, 17 July
    - Triple M – Breakfast, 17 July
    - LG News Roundup Podcast, 19 July
    - ABC Northern Tas, 3 August
    - LAFM – Mornings, 19 September
  - Articles
    - Tasmanian Times, 16 July
    - ABC, 16 July
    - The Examiner, 17 July
    - Great Oyster Bay Community News, 18 July
    - Derwent Valley Gazette, 19 July
    - Circular Head Chronicle, 19 July
  - TV
    - ABC Nightly News, 16 July
- Planning reform
  - Media release, 18 July
  - Articles
    - Tasmanian Times, 18 July
    - Derwent Valley Gazette, 19 July
    - The Examiner, 19 July
    - The Mercury, 19 July
    - Kingborough Chronicle, 25 July
    - Great Oyster Bay Community News, 25 July
    - East Coast View, 6 August
    - Sorell Times, 23 August
    - Tasman Gazette, 25 August
  - TV
    - WIN TV, 18 July
    - ABC, 18 July
    - Channel 7 News, 18 July

- Radio
  - Sea FM – News, 18 July
  - ABC, 18 July
  - 7AFM, 18 July and 20 July
  - LG News Roundup Podcast, 19 July
- LGAT President and GMC Election
  - Media release, 15 June
  - Radio – ABC Hobart, 16 June
  - Article – Inside Local Government, 26 June
- Open Spaces Grant
  - Joint media release with State Govt, 30 June
  - Article – Derwent Valley Gazette, 5 July
- Dorset Council Inquiry
  - Media query, 7 August
  - Article – North Eastern Advertiser, 9 August
  - Radio – LAFM, 19 September
- Northern Tasmanian Alliance for Resilient Councils
  - Article – The Examiner, 29 August
- Petitions to councils
  - Article – The Advocate, 30 August
- Code of Conduct
  - Media release, 18 September
  - Radio
    - LAFM, 19 September
    - 7HOFM, 19 September
    - ABC Hobart, 19 September
    - ABC Hobart, 20 September
- Merit-based employment
  - Radio – LAFM, 19 September

1.6 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Contact officer: Dion Lester

**Decision Sought**

**That Members note the report on the CEO's activity from 9 June until 29 September 2023.**

**Advocacy**

In the period since my last report our advocacy activity across our key priorities of planning / housing and the Future of Local Government Review has been very successful across multiple channels.

Some of the key activities included:

- Submissions on the Draft Tasmanian Planning Policies, Housing Strategy Exposure Draft and Stage 3 of the Future of Local Government Review. Full copies of these and our other public submissions can be viewed on the LGAT website at: <https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/lgat-advocacy/reports-and-submissions>.
- Separate Opinion Editorials in the three regional papers cover planning and housing (Mercury) and financial sustainability, with a focus on the Heavy Vehicle Motor Tax (Advocate and Examiner).
- Articles in the Advocate and Examiner widely quoting our FoLG Review submission as it related to Independent Living Units.
- Briefing of the Local Government Board on our Stage 3 submission.
- Briefing of the oppositions Ella Haddad (Housing) and Luke Edmonds (Local Government and Planning) on infrastructure contributions.
- Letter welcoming the new Minister for Housing and outlining our key advocacy priorities.
- Briefing the Minister on local government housing priorities.
- The inaugural meeting of the Local Government Housing Reference Group (as per the resolution from the June 2023 General Meeting).
- A meeting of the Minister's Housing Reference Group.
- A meeting with Minister Jaensch and regional groups, to discuss climate change funding for local government. This work subsequently resulted in \$500,000 funding for local government climate change activities.
- Meetings with the Public Health Service and Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to discuss the Environmental Health Officers workforce and opportunities for setting up shared service arrangements.

- Sector workshop on General Manager recruitment and performance management.
- Ongoing and significant work with the Office of Local Government on managing interests, the Code of Conduct and managing unreasonable behaviour.

### Sector Services

LGAT Procurement's support for the sector continues to grow, with work on the key initiatives in our business plan all progressing better than our expectations. The procurement update in this agenda provides further details.

Events and training work has focused on finalising the details for our Annual Conference, Mayors and General Managers workshops and the introduction of a workshop for Deputy Mayors in October.

### Governance and Operations

In the current period inducting GMC members has been the main focus.

### Media

The following summarises the traditional media the LGAT CEO or Secretariat<sup>1</sup> has secured during the reporting period.

- Tenders
  - Media query (The Mercury, 28 June 2023)
- Dorset Council Inquiry
  - Media query (various outlets, 2 August 2023)
- Local government financial sustainability
  - Radio (ABC Hobart, 9 June 2023)
  - Opinion editorial
    - The Advocate, 11 August 2023
    - The Examiner, 11 August 2023
- Independent Living Units
  - Article – The Advocate, 14 August 2023
- Planning and development
  - Opinion editorial – The Mercury, 18 August 2023
- Housing
  - Article – Inside Local Government, 18 August 2023
  - Media query – The Mercury, 4 September 2023
  - Article – The Mercury, 18 September 2023

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<sup>1</sup> LGAT President media is listed separately in the President's Report.

### 1.7 COUNCIL ROUND UPS

**Decision Sought**

**That Members note there will not be a council round up this meeting.**

**Background**

The session also allows time for questions and provides an opportunity to briefly share and highlight problems or opportunities facing councils.

## 2. ITEMS FOR DECISION

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### 2.1 MOTION - PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE AND CROWN LAND SERVICES REVIEW AND RESOURCING Council – Break O’Day

**Decision Sought**

**That LGAT lobby the Tasmanian Government to undertake a review of the administrative activities of the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) and Crown Land Services (CLS) with a particular focus on ensuring that the required level of resources are available to assess applications and deal with enquiries in a timely manner.**

**Background Comment**

Regular reviews of administrative activities and resourcing levels are essential for maintaining effective, efficient, and accountable government agencies that can adapt to evolving circumstances and best serve the public and the environment.

At a local government level, we interact with the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service and Crown Land Services on a continuous basis and we, local government agencies, have all experienced extremely lengthy delays in the processing of simple applications.

The delays in receiving the required approval for a simple project can be extremely frustrating and can potentially lead to the applicant just going ahead and doing what they were seeking approval for without waiting. This can have serious ramifications that ultimately have to then be addressed retrospectively and in a reactionary way. This defeats the protections that are afforded by going through the application process.

Anecdotally we hear that many of these delays come down to the low level of resourcing within the agency resulting in unrealistic workloads and ultimately the loss of experienced staff. This turnover of staff compounds the problem and delays being experienced.

Discussions with PWS and CLS staff involved in application processing over the last few years reveals that the amount of applications received has increased substantially. This has led to an increase in revenue flowing to Treasury, and whilst there has been an increase in revenue, the level of resources to deal with the applications received hasn't increased as required.

Another area for concern for local government is the perception that delays to projects have within the community. The community is always quick to blame local government when there is a hold-up in a development even if it is out of our hands. The community more often than not hold us responsible for project delays. This can have serious impacts on a Council's image within community as well as cause blow outs to time frames. This can be particularly problematic when grant funding is involved.

In requesting this review, the Break O' Day Council is asking that there be a particular focus on the level of resources that are available for administrative activities such as dealing with applications and permits. We believe that resources should be increased. With a greater level of resources applications will be dealt with within an appropriate timeframe.

#### **State Government Comment**

In recent years there has been significant and sustained growth in the number and complexity of applications to the Department of Natural Resources and Environment's Parks and Wildlife Services (PWS)'s Property Services branch (formerly Crown Land Services), including for leases, licences, sales, transfers, works, landowner consents and events (refer Table C as an example). These transactions often underpin the progress of both private and commercial developments including housing and more increasingly, major infrastructure projects. As the land manager for over 50 percent of the State's land and waters, more recently there has been a further increase in development proposals arising from both Commonwealth and State initiatives for renewable energy generation.

As a guide, Table A below is a summary of average processing times for *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* landowner consents where those timeframes have been reasonably and reliably recorded. Please note that this information was recorded up until 2019 and is representative of a typical development year (pre-Covid). By way of explanation, the averages are cumulative (i.e., the average completion time of applications processed under 30 calendar days includes applications processed under 15 days and so on). The approximate timeframes only record when an application work task is received, commenced, and effectively closed. The 'clock' does not stop, for example, when waiting for information from clients (i.e., an application that has been put on hold at a client's request at day 12 and withdrawn several months later could be recorded as an application actioned over 90 days).

The ‘received’ date is the date an application is submitted to the NRE Tas. Following receipt of an application it is registered in the Property Services systems, undergoes a preliminary assessment to check whether the site is likely Crown land, managed by NRE Tas, and to identify any particular urgency in the application. It is then subsequently assigned to an officer to assess. It may take a number of days to be registered, assigned, and for the assigned officer to commence the full assessment process.

Once the full assessment commences, the cumulative average assessment time of all applications processed under 90 calendar days is approximately 15 calendar days.

While approximately 85 per cent of all applications are actioned within 90 calendar days, outliers do exist. Applications that take longer often have additional applications associated with them, such as a request for a lease or a purchase, which may require assessment before providing landowner consent.

Applications can also be delayed when: they are incomplete or NRE Tas is awaiting further details from clients; where NRE Tas is awaiting feedback from relevant agencies (e.g., Marine and Safety Tasmania, TasWater); or, due to the inherent complexity of the proposal.

**TABLE A - Summary of average processing times for LUPAA landowner consents (2019)\***

	<b>Number</b>	<b>Average time from received to commencement (cumulative)</b>	<b>Average time from commencement to completed (cumulative)</b>	<b>Average total time from received to completed (cumulative)</b>
All actioned (incl. 15% outliers over 90 days)	433	22.15 days	31.31 days	<b>53.46 days</b>
85% actioned within 90 days	367	17.32 days	14.93 days	<b>32.25 days</b>
73% actioned within 60 days	314	14.22 days	11.22 days	<b>25.44 days</b>
48% actioned within 30 days	207	10.17 days	6.05 days	<b>16.22 days</b>
24% actioned within 15 days	102	5.31 days	3.25 days	<b>8.56 days</b>

\* Only includes data where timeframes have been reasonably and reliably recorded

Table B is the cumulative figures of application received and actioned in the present calendar year up until June 2023, excluding outliers.

TABLE B – Received and action planning related consents in 2023 (Jan-Jun)

	Number	Average time from received to commencement (cumulative)	Average time from commencement to completed (cumulative)	Average total time from received to completed (cumulative)
All actioned (incl. 6% outliers over 90 days)	52	21.38 days	17.15 days	<b>38.53 days</b>
94% actioned within 90 days	49	18.63 days	15.02 days	<b>33.65 days</b>
75% actioned within 60 days	39	15.84 days	8.20 days	<b>24.04 days</b>
54% actioned within 30 days	28	9.21 days	6.32 days	<b>15.53 days</b>
42% actioned within 15 days	22	6.68 days	6.22 days	<b>12.09 days</b>

The due diligence assessment process for simple requests has been streamlined. These processes are aimed at establishing that there are no obvious impediments preventing a proposal from proceeding for example, the class of land prohibits the development.

Processes for assessing more significant, complex, or environmentally sensitive proposals are purposefully thorough, but have also been streamlined to remove risks or showstoppers to the development proposal once it progresses through the Development Application process or should it be at risk of legal challenge.

#### **Crown Land Transaction Turnaround Initiative**

To address this growing demand the Government has initiated a program to improve turnaround timeframes for transactions. The State Government provided funding of \$1.9 million in the 2020-21 Budget. This commitment also included \$300,000 to support associated business systems. Additional funding of \$1.9 million over two years has been provided in the 2023-2024 Budget to extend the Increasing Transaction Turnaround Time initiative (the Initiative).

The Initiative includes the sale and transfer of Crown land to local and State Government or through open market sale to achieve the highest and best use of the parcel. The Initiative also includes making leases and licences more transparent by publishing the lease and licence agreements on a central website accessible to the public. This is an ongoing program of work that will eventually lead to all future agreements being publicly available.

In relation to landowner consents, since the provision of additional funding in early 2021, the average processing times for planning related applications currently has reduced by approximately 25 percent.

The additional budget allocation and consolidation of more permanent staffing will support the continued improvement in PWS's resourcing capacity to address the need to meet demand and provide for appropriate timeframes for the assessment and processing of lease, licence and permit applications, planning permit applications, as well as land transfers and sales across the State.

The Crown reviews applications as a landowner and the custodian of the public land, not as a regulator. When a proposal uses Crown land, the Crown can be considered a party to the project. Consequently, the Crown must consider a range of additional matters over and above strict planning concerns, such as the Crown's longer-term strategic use of a site, whether a lease or licence can adequately protect the Crown's interests, whether a Right of Way can be granted, or whether the Crown may be left with legacy issues if infrastructure (e.g., a sea wall) fails etc. NRE Tas (through the PWS) therefore works towards making certain threshold determinations prior to providing Crown landowner consent.

Unfortunately, Councils often make application for grant programs for projects on speculative proposals that have not been comprehensively designed or assessed. They are often funded on the basis of the "concept". Whilst this is accepted as normal practice at the early stage of a grant submission, the grant, if successful, is often time-bound, leading to very short timeframes for Councils to adequately develop the proposal concept and to undertake the necessary investigations (including cultural heritage; geotechnical; hydrological or other).

As many projects submitted to the Crown for assessment are proposed in natural or culturally significant environments, the investigations are often subject to defined / seasonal flowering or species breeding or habitat requirements. Any delays in obtaining or providing this information can significantly defer the project until the next flowering or breeding period. If these factors and assessment impediments are not factored into the grant approval timeframes, then unreasonable expectations for delivery are transferred to NRE Tas. These issues are beyond and outside of the control of NRE Tas and should be more judiciously considered by a proponent at the time of grant application.

A simple application from a planning point of view can create significant land management challenges for the Crown, or, depending on the class of Crown land, may not even be permissible because other statutory approvals cannot be granted due to restrictions imposed by the legislation applicable to the class of Crown land in question. Public safety and public liability are significant issues that are often unresolved before applications are lodged. Other matters, such as disputes between neighbouring users of Crown land or encroachments onto Crown land, which the planning authority may not be aware of, can also complicate what may otherwise appear to be a straightforward assessment.

It is in the best interest of the proponent and the council that these due diligence investigations and assessments are performed with rigor to ensure that once approved, the development proposal is able to withstand future appeal or challenge.

The Crown's role in assessing and issuing landowner consents is more than a mere formality to enable a planning application to enter the State's planning system. It is a critical opportunity for the Crown to ensure a defensible approval pathway for the proponent and council and that the public lands it administers are utilised in an appropriate and sustainable manner.

**TABLE C - Types of applications**

- The types of Development Applications (DAs) vary widely, ranging from large commercial projects like a woodchip export facility, new marina, or mini-hydro scheme etc., to cutting down a tree on Crown land or a Council replacing a toilet block within a park held under a Crown lease etc.
- Below is a snapshot of some of the DAs. These are simply an overview of the types of applications we receive.
- Some developments fall entirely on Crown land, while others relate to developments on private property, but impact on neighboring Crown land (e.g., stormwater is over the Crown land etc.).

TABLE C - Snapshot Examples

MUNICIPALITY	DETAILS
BREAK O'DAY	Demolition of unauthorised house
BREAK O'DAY	Golf course, hotel, visitor accommodation, subdivision – includes use of Reserved Roads
BREAK O'DAY	New bike trail
BRIGHTON	Removal of below-ground fuel tanks, and installation of above ground fuel tanks
BRIGHTON	Run stormwater into Derwent Conservation Area via Crown land Public Reserve
BURNIE CITY COUNCIL	Installation of toilet block and landscaping
BURNIE CITY COUNCIL	Breakwater bund reconstruction
CENTRAL COAST	Landfill and excavation works on Crown Land – retrospective approval
CENTRAL COAST	Flood Remediation – replacement of boat ramps, walkway and rock wall, and car parking
CENTRAL COAST	2 shipping containers adjacent to existing hall
CIRCULAR HEAD	2 new storage sheds, one to replace an existing shed to be demolished
CIRCULAR HEAD	Erection of large tourist photo frame on lease area
CIRCULAR HEAD	Replace existing series of foreshore retaining walls with a new armour rock wall
CIRCULAR HEAD	Wind farm – 7 turbines over 2 titles – site includes Crown land Reserved Roads
CLARENCE	Construction of 7 storage lockers in place of existing dinghy storage racks
CLARENCE	Public toilets, car parking, shelter and access road
CLARENCE	Alterations and additions to an existing outdoor dining area
CLARENCE	Retirement village
CLARENCE	Conversion of pavilion to restaurant
CLARENCE	Marina extension, car parking and relocation of rowing shed
DERWENT VALLEY	New communication tower – associated lease application
DEVONPORT	Jetty and bridge
DORSET	Accommodation on freehold title – services on a Crown Reserved Road
DORSET	Increase in volume of sand extraction
FLINDERS	Hall extension and refurbishment
FLINDERS	Installation of portable office

MUNICIPALITY	DETAILS
GEORGE TOWN	Erect a shade structure over existing BBQ and construct a new storage shed 7 x 5m
GLAMORGAN-SPRING BAY	Change of Use from Café to restaurant
GLAMORGAN-SPRING BAY	Decking and entry upgrade
GLAMORGAN-SPRING BAY	Raw water pipeline
GLAMORGAN-SPRING BAY	Wharf upgrades within existing lease area
GLAMORGAN-SPRING BAY	Proposed upgrades to carpark and access, landscaping and footpaths
GLENORCHY	Hotel building
GLENORCHY	Change of use from "Jetty" to "Marina"
HOBART	Market event
HOBART	Above ground fuel facility and conversion of existing jetty to a fuel berth
HOBART	Widening of beach access and grassed rigging area / upgrades to the club
HOBART	Modifications to boatshed
HUON VALLEY	Partial change of use to visitor accommodation
HUON VALLEY	River bank rock beaching and re-vegetation due to flooding / erosion
HUON VALLEY	Building commercial dog kennels
HUON VALLEY	A new boat building shed to be adjacent the existing boat building shed on the leased site
HUON VALLEY	Woodchip loading facility
KENTISH	Subdivision and consolidation – associated purchase application
KINGBOROUGH	Crown consent to install a groundwater bore in a Public Reserve
KINGBOROUGH	Installation of recycled water pipeline
KINGBOROUGH	Upgrading of road to bushfire standard
KINGBOROUGH	Visitor accommodation – relies on access over a Reserved Road
KINGBOROUGH	Canoe slalom site
LATROBE	S33 scheme amendment rezoning – relies on access over a Reserved Road
LAUNCESTON	Remove a large tree on Crown land to facilitate the repair of existing stone retaining wall
LAUNCESTON	Extra car parking on Crown land – associated purchase application
MEANDER VALLEY	Forest Practices Plan and request for Crown consent to DA
MEANDER VALLEY	Netball courts and associated infrastructure
NORTHERN MIDLANDS	Install a vibration monitoring camera
SORELL	New signage at cemetery entrance and additions to crematorium wall
WEST COAST	Authority to sell food from mobile van

#### LGAT Comment

Members have previously resolved to call for additional resources for the Parks and Wildlife Service. None of the previous resolutions concerned administrative resourcing.

2.2 **MOTION - ROAD LINE MARKING RESPONSIBILITIES**  
**Council – Kingborough**

**Decision Sought**

**That LGAT undertake advocacy on behalf of Councils to have road line marking responsibilities legislated and additional funding provided by the State Government.**

**Background Comment**

There is a long-standing arrangement that the Tasmanian Government provides for the renewal of road line marking, although it is not a legislated responsibility. This covers renewal of all line marking except for parking bays and yellow lines and new installations a part of Council projects.

Each year the Department of State Growth (DSG) asks for a list of possible line marking renewal projects. Kingborough Council staff undertake an audit and provide a list and generally DSG fund a selection of what has been identified.

Kingborough Council Safety Committee members have noted that line markings on local roads are often faded and not fit for purpose and are an ongoing safety hazard for road users. There has not been adequate funding allocated to sustain local road line marking to an appropriate standard, noting that line marking needs to be renewed regularly.

It is noted that this matter was previously raised at a Local Government Association Tasmania (LGAT) in 2016 and it was agreed to advocate with the State Government.

LGAT did advocate with the State Government, however their position was they provided funding towards line marking on local government roads rather than taking responsibility for adequately managing all line marking.

This is a matter that concerns all councils and rather than advocating directly with State Government as a single council it would be prudent to seek whether there was an appetite for LGAT to again advocate to the State Government on behalf of the collective councils.

The intention with the advocacy would be to increase the funding for line marking on local government roads and to more clearly define the roles and responsibilities of the State Government and councils within the legislation frameworks available.

**Tasmanian Government Agency Comment**

The Department of State Growth notes the LGAT motion and advises that currently the provision of local government line marking operates as follows:

- As an identified road safety issue, the State Government has, for many years now, allocated funding for local road line-marking.
- For reasons of “economies of scale”, the Department of State Growth has also arranged for the line marking to be completed, under a State Contract along with the State Government line marking program.
- The annual line marking program is developed under an agreed equitable allocation formulae based on the submissions from Local Government Authorities.
- The *Local Government (Highways) Act 1982* clearly identifies the Local Government Authority is the responsible authority for road maintenance of its local road network, including line marking. In this context, the Government funding allocation is not intended to provide full coverage of the required line marking on local roads with the expectation that the Local Government Authority will arrange its own line marking programs as appropriate.
- The State Government has commenced a review of the Road Management Legislation and invites Local Government to make a submission on legislative responsibilities for line marking and other traffic facilities for consideration under the review.

#### **LGAT Comment**

LGAT has one previous motion on record regarding road line marking, from November 2016:

*That LGAT be asked to lobby the State Government to increase the level of funding available for line marking on Local (Government) roads, including railway crossing stop/warning lines, to cover the annual requirements across the state.*

LGAT advocated at the time but was advised that it was an open question whether the Tasmanian Government or councils should be responsible for line marking on local roads, and that this could challenge the existing funding provided by the Tasmanian Government for local roads. We assess that this remains the case.

The Tasmanian Government is undertaking a review of road management legislation (see item 4.6 in this agenda). However, line marking appears to be more an operational asset management question as to how an appropriate level of service is best achieved and resourced.

Tasmanian Government financial and asset management is different from Tasmanian councils. Councils have legislative requirements to complete a comprehensive set of financial and asset management policies, plans and strategies to deliver service levels. The Tasmanian Government tends to allocate funding to asset management operations on an as-needed basis. This creates a divergence in expected service levels by the community.

2.3 MOTION - DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STATEMENT  
Council – Kingborough Council

**Decision Sought**

**That Members note the Diversity and Inclusion Statement developed by Kingborough Council and agree to consider developing and adopting a similar statement to support safe, welcoming, and inclusive communities across Tasmania.**

**Background Comment**

Kingborough Council is committed to creating a safe, welcoming, and inclusive community. In 2022, a subcommittee of Kingborough's Disability Inclusion and Access Advisory Committee was formed to consider how Council may better recognise and support the needs of people in the community who are neurodiverse, to address any potential discrimination. The subcommittee and Council officers developed a Diversity and Inclusion Statement, which was subsequently endorsed by the Disability Inclusion and Access Advisory Committee. The Statement refers to diversity of thought and background, including diversity of cultures, sexualities, beliefs, abilities, genders, and ages.

*Diversity and Inclusion Statement*

*Kingborough Council strives to be the model of an inclusive culture where diversity of thought and background is valued.*

*We acknowledge, value and respect people of all cultures, sexualities, beliefs, abilities, genders and ages, and support their rights of equal access, equity and participation.*

*We believe diversity of thought and background, together with an inclusive work environment are critical to support every person and team to excel.*

*We want to enable innovation for continuous improvement of service delivery.*

*We strive for an environment where people feel they belong, are valued as an individual, and are respected with a shared sense of fairness.*

On 5 June 2023, Kingborough Council endorsed the Diversity and Inclusion Statement prepared by the Disability Inclusion and Access Advisory Committee. The Diversity and Inclusion Statement is intended to raise awareness of neurodiversity amongst staff and the broader community, and to encourage inclusivity and reduce discrimination. Kingborough Council is committed to providing workplace accommodations, providing senior staff with specific training on identifying and working positively with employees who are neurodiverse,

and putting greater emphasis on diversity during recruitment and induction processes. The Statement has been promoted on Council's website and is used to promote Council's approach to diversity and inclusivity in Council's recruitment and induction process.

**State Government comment**

This motion was not received in time for Tasmanian Government Agency comment to be made.

**LGAT comment**

LGAT does not have any previous resolutions on this matter.

LGAT notes the part of local government's functions under the *Local Government Act 1993* (Section 20) is:

- (a) to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the community;*
- (b) to represent and promote the interests of the community;*

This motion is consistent with these functions.

**2.4 MOTION – REVIEW OF 42 DAY DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION TIMEFRAME  
Council – Clarence City**

**Decision Sought**

**That LGAT be requested to convene a reference group from member Councils to develop options and recommendations for the sector to:**

- 1 Assess the impact of the 42-day rule on planning outcomes across local Councils in Tasmania (including both qualitative and quantitative data).**
- 2 Identify what practices and delegations councils currently utilise to manage the 42-day rule, including the impact of those practices and delegations on representor objections.**
- 3 Review equivalent 'deemed approval' and timeframe extension mechanisms of other jurisdictions to compare with Tasmania's arrangements.**
- 4 Based on the findings of points 1, 2 and 3 above, identify whether the 42-day rule operates in a manner that is fair and equitable to all parties to a development application; that is both applicants and representors.**
- 5 Recommend changes be implemented to ensure development applications are not required to be resolved under delegation because an applicant refuses to grant an extension of time for an application to be considered at a Council meeting.**

**Background Comment**

This follows from the motion passed by Clarence City Council on 17 July 2023.

Clarence City Council has seen an increasing number of instances that have involved the requirement to finalise development applications under delegation because applicants have refused an extension of time to allow an application to be determined by Council.

The operation of the 42-day rule in this circumstance denies representors objecting to a development application the right to be fairly heard and denies elected Councillors the opportunity to represent community concerns in respect to the operation of the planning scheme, particularly where there are a number of objections.

The 42-day rule places the entire right to grant an extension of time with the applicant and does not give any other party to the application (Council or representors) any rights at all.

There is a clear interest from the community in having contentious development applications debated in a Council forum by elected members, which is not recognised by LUPAA in its current form.

The 42-day rule is the shortest timeframe for determination of a development application of any Australian planning jurisdiction. The 42-day rule can be maintained, but consideration needs to be given to options such as allowing for a Development Application to be referred to the next Council meeting after the 42 days expires. This type of provision would negate the need to request time extensions and make the system fair to all participants.

It should also be noted that the request for an extension of time is also used in other circumstances, such as when critical referral authorities are taking longer than anticipated or relevant information is outstanding. It means that if applicants are not willing to extend, they will get a deemed approval if Council does not make a decision prior. It puts pressure on the entire system, operates contrary to natural justice principles and significantly adds to the potential for a matter to be appealed at TASCAT.

The repeated nature of this delegation and that the provision has the capacity to be misused means that the consequences for not meeting the 42-day timeframe are too harsh.

**Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993**

The statutory timeframes commence for a discretionary (s57) or permitted (s58) planning application once an application is made "valid". A valid application contains the completed application form (including landowner consent if required), a current copy of titles and plans; and the fees must be paid (there are other steps around the fees that can affect the validity).

S51 for what is a valid application; and s52 for landowner consent.

When a permit takes effect is described in s53.

Additional information (s54) is requested on or before 21 days for a discretionary application, and on or before 14 days for a permitted planning application. The statutory clock pauses until the information is satisfactorily received by the planning authority. There are other timeframe requirements for additional information, but those timeframes do not alter the "clock". Except, the 21- or 14-day timeframes may be extended if the office is closed on regular business days, e.g., Council closure over Christmas. If this is extended, the 42-day or 28-day timeframes are not extended without agreement.

For discretionary planning applications, s57(3) to s57(5B) outlines the public exhibition / advertising requirements and the representation requirements. The 14-day public exhibition / advertising timeframe may be extended under certain circumstances, but this must be disclosed on the first day of public exhibition / advertising and cannot be changed once this timeframe has commenced. Importantly, the public exhibition / advertising must be within the 42-day timeframe or the agreed extended timeframe.

The Land Use Planning and Approvals Regulations 2014 set out requirements for advertising discretionary applications but does not include timeframes.

S57(6) outlines the 42-day timeframe, and s58(2) outlines the 28-day timeframe for permitted planning application.

S57(6A) allows the planning authority to request an extension of the 42-day timeframe via agreement with the applicant. The applicant reserves the right to not agree to this extension, at which time the application must be determined within the 42-day timeframe (delegation becomes relevant).

S58(2A) is the equivalent section for permitted applications to request an agreement to extend the 28-day timeframe.

S57(7) and s58(3) are the relevant sections that require the planning authority to notify the applicant and any representors (if applicable) of the decision to approve or refuse (if applicable) the application within seven days of that decision.

S59 is for the failure to determine an application for a permit. Essentially, if the application is not decided within the required timeframe, s59 directs the planning authority to notify the applicant and representors within seven days of the end of the required timeframe that the application is deemed approved subject to conditions to be determined by the tribunal. The applicant may then lodge an appeal with the tribunal. This is when the tribunal becomes aware of the failure to determine the application within the required timeframe. If an appeal is lodged, costs can be awarded against the planning authority.

S60 is for the timing of determination of compliance with certain permit conditions. This section is quite lengthy and concerns “condition satisfied” process, where the applicant lodges documentation to show how they comply with particular conditions, such as landscape plan condition that requires approval from the relevant department head or manager.

S56 sets out the timeframes for minor amendments.

#### **State Government comment**

This motion was not received in time for Tasmanian Government Agency comment to be made.

#### **LGAT Comment**

LGAT does not have any previous motions about deemed approvals specifically. However, there was a previous motion from 2007 expressing concerns around fast-tracking mechanisms weakening the Resource Management and Planning System of Tasmania.

Assessing deemed decision mechanisms requires consideration of the interaction between a number of factors in the statutory planning process including:

- Levels of assessment – does the level of assessment (i.e., permitted, discretionary, prohibited) where a deemed decision applies, convey an expectation of likely approval, refusal, or no preference?
- Time extension mechanisms – does the statutory process provide the assessing authority with the flexibility to adapt to the variation in proposal complexity by extending decision making time, in order maintain decision-making quality?
- Deemed decision – does the deemed decision mechanism align with the expectation set by the level of assessment of the likelihood of approval or refusal?

Other states do have mechanisms for deeming decisions as either approved or refused when not made within the statutory timeframe. However, these are generally linked to levels of assessment where approval is the likely expected outcome. That is, deemed approvals in other states usually seem to apply only to “permitted” type levels of assessment (and interstate equivalent) and, typically, not for levels of assessment where refusal is a potential outcome, such as Tasmania’s “discretionary” level of assessment and interstate equivalent. Other jurisdictions do have deemed refusals for levels of assessment where the end decision is more uncertain.

Some interstate planning processes can also have different mechanisms for extending the time period. For example, allowing council the once-off, exclusive, unconditional right to formally extend the time by 10 business days, to allow for circumstances where the development proposal is particularly challenging, or when there have been procedural

complications (e.g., late referral responses), or where the councils development assessment workload exceeds their capacity.

Discretionary development applications can vary widely in their complexity, site and context considerations, and level of community interest and resistance. These place challenges on decision-making. A robust statutory assessment process should not only encourage timely decision-making for simpler proposals but also contain mechanisms that allow flexibility for more challenging proposals.

### 3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

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**There are no Items for Discussion**

### 4. ITEMS FOR NOTING

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#### 4.1 FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW

**Contact officer: Dion Lester**

**Decision Sought**

**That Members note the update on the Future of Local Government Review – Stage 3.**

**Background**

At the time of writing the Local Government Board had completed its series of community catchment hearings and are in the process of preparing the final report for the Minister, due on the 31 October 2023.

LGAT advocated strongly for an extension to the consultation period and financial support to allow councils, through LGAT, to engage one another on the options presented in the 'community catchment' reports. Our advocacy was successful, with an additional six weeks being provided by the State Government for submissions and funding for LGAT to conduct 21 face-to-face sessions and 12 online sessions across the nine 'community catchments'.

On Sunday 16 July 2023, the Premier and the Minister for Local Government announced that there would be no forced amalgamations. Rather that the State Government would work with councils interested in structural reform. This will include the detailed design and implementation processes and also transition and other funding to support the changes.

The Local Government Board continued with its community and council hearings and taking formal submissions. LGAT provided a [submission](#) to this stage of the Review. In broad terms it focussed on:

- Financial sustainability and the opportunities associated with infrastructure contributions, collaborative procurement, fairer road funding and depreciation of externally funded assets.
- Workforce – noting this is a major challenge for councils (and other sectors), we recommended future actions to better understand the local skills demand, strategically tailor needs and bridge gaps, and support local career entry and progression.
- Solutions for the community – the three main challenges councils raised during our Stage 1 consultation for the review were climate change, emergency management and health and wellbeing. We requested various recommendations from the Board to Government to better support councils' role and capacity across each of these important areas.

On the 9 August 2023 the LGAT CEO presented to the Board at the Peak Body hearing. 15 minutes was allowed and as such I emphasised:

- The government grant environment, seeking a move to funding programs that are allocated on a needs basis and provide for maintenance and renewal costs.
- Heavy vehicle motor tax, infrastructure charging and depreciation of certain assets, such as aquatic centres.
- The opportunities associated with expanding LGAT Procurement.
- State and local government co-regulation.

In the intervening period our advocacy has included successful media pick up of our submission and on direct discussions with the review team to elaborate on our prioritise and to provide guidance on other options being considered by the Board.

#### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate
- Sector services

2023 Annual Priority

- Local government reform
- Sector development

**4.2 STATE BUDGET 2024-2025**

Contact Officer – Ben Morris

**Decisions Sought**

**That Members note the update on our intended content for LGAT’s submission to the State Budget 2024-2025**

**Background**

In line with past practice, LGAT will be preparing a State Budget submission as part of ‘community consultation’, which is due 30 November 2023. Our [budget submissions](#)<sup>2</sup> have tended to focus on two areas: where we have built advocacy momentum on key policy positions and those areas where LGAT is seeking resources to increase the support we provide to the sector. In identifying the proposed themes to put forward, the Secretariat has considered our Annual Plan, General Meeting resolutions and other advocacy work and opportunities. The following are the themes that are proposed for our submission:

- Local government service delivery – linked with the Future of Local Government Review’s identification of workforce, pursuing support for ‘regional skilled pathways’ that would include para-professionals and a cadetship program, similar to what has been run by LGNSW.
- Infrastructure contributions – seeking work to understand and develop a Tasmanian infrastructure contributions framework.
- Development conservatism – seeking a community-focused campaign that brings the community along with how Tasmania needs to develop to support its growing population and housing stresses, for example with medium-density housing.

<sup>2</sup> 2023-24 LGAT State Budget Priority Statement, available at:

[https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0027/1228086/LGAT-State-Budget-Priority-Statement-2023-24.pdf](https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0027/1228086/LGAT-State-Budget-Priority-Statement-2023-24.pdf)

- Planning effectiveness – seek support for a multi-agency/local government working group to find accessible opportunities within planning and related legislation that will streamline development and support housing.
- Child and Youth Safety – seeking support for councils to meet the requirements under the new *Child and Youth Safe Organisation Act 2023* and expectations under recommendation 6.12 of the *Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse* (refer to Child Safety item in this agenda item 4.8).
- Learning and development framework – seeking direct seed investment for the local government Learning and Development Framework to deliver effectively to councils.

#### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

#### **Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate
- Sector services

2023 Annual Priority

- Local government reform
- Workplace health and safety for elected representatives
- Ready for growth communities
- Sector development

### **4.3 PLANNING REFORMS UPDATE**

**Contact Officer – Michael Edrich**

#### **Decision Sought**

**That Members note the update on current planning reforms.**

#### **Tasmanian Planning Policies – Commission Review**

In March this year, the State Planning Office (SPO) provided the draft Tasmanian Planning Policies (TPPs)<sup>3</sup> to the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) for its statutory review. The TPC sought representations on the draft TPPs<sup>4</sup>. We ran a workshop with council planning professionals to share views and help develop sector submissions.

<sup>3</sup> SPO page: <https://planningreform.tas.gov.au/planning-reforms-and-reviews/tasmanian-planning-policies>

<sup>4</sup> TPC page: <https://www.planning.tas.gov.au/assessments-and-hearings/current-assessments-and-hearings/draft-tasmanian-planning-policies>

The TPC received 59 submissions. LGAT and 21 councils provided submissions, indicating how important the sector views the TPPs to our planning framework.

Our submission<sup>5</sup> focused on major advocacy items and issues reported by the sector, including:

1. Settlement policy –
  - a. regional development – the draft TPPs appear to suppress growth in smaller regional settlements, alarming many councils. Reworking this policy in consultation with councils could help resolve these concerns.
  - b. infill development – reworking this policy could better support Tasmania’s need to achieve optimised infill development.
2. Infrastructure policy – the need for the TPPs to set the policy basis for a best practice infrastructure contributions framework.
3. General drafting:
  - a. clearly articulating the functional role and effect of the TPPs.
  - b. supporting change management including explicitly talking about how Tasmania is evolving.

The TPC will be holding hearings in mid-October to early November 2023, likely in each of the three regions (Burnie, Launceston and Hobart).

We are continuing to represent councils to resolve the major policy issues in the TPPs for the sector.

### **State Planning Provisions Review**

The SPO released a State Planning Provisions (SPPs) Review scoping consultation report in July<sup>6</sup>. The SPO’s work has been very good in triaging the range of issues and collating them into groups for action. They have also consulted councils on these groups and delivered a general information session on the Review.

Some actions are particularly relevant to our advocacy, including:

1. Action Group 2 – more complex issues requiring further investigation or research:
  - a. improving residential standards in Tasmania
  - b. reviewing the subdivision standards.
2. Action Group 3 – issues requiring policy context from TPPs:
  - a. alignment with council roles and legislation for infrastructure – including infrastructure contributions and stormwater management.

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<sup>5</sup> LGAT’s TPPs submission: [https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0031/1446484/LGAT-Submission-Draft-TPPs-TPC-review-v2.pdf](https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0031/1446484/LGAT-Submission-Draft-TPPs-TPC-review-v2.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> SPPs Review page: <https://planningreform.tas.gov.au/planning-reforms-and-reviews/review-of-the-state-planning-provisions>

3. Action Group 6 – non-statutory measures for improving SPPs guidance:
  - a. LGAT's Tasmanian Development Manual Project.

This list of actions in the SPPs Review scoping consultation report show that:

- Housing issues are being prioritised.
- Changes to the TPPs are crucial to achieving better infrastructure contributions support in the SPPs
- LGAT's Tasmanian Development Manual Project is highly valued by the SPO to compliment Tasmania's planning reforms.

#### **Development Assessment Panels Announcement**

On 18 July 2023, the Premier announced<sup>7</sup> that the Government will be introducing new legislation for some planning decisions to be made by independent expert Development Assessment Panels (DAPs).

The announcement came as a surprise to everyone in the local government sector, including LGAT. Our disappointment with lack of consultation leading to this announcement was firmly expressed at the 27 July 2023 Premiers Local Government Council and through a media release<sup>8</sup>.

We have had preliminary discussion with the SPO on the possible nature of the DAPs and process. Our advice was to consult with councils closely and properly in developing the legislation amendment, to keep the process as close to existing planning processes (especially [section 57](#) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*). Then, to ensure DAPs are properly funded and resourced to avoid impacting council funding and fee structures. We also advised that LGAT has a member resolution seeking pathways to deconflict planning decisions when a councillor, or the council, is the applicant. It was also made clear that there are a variety of positions across the local government sector on which planning decisions should be deferred to an appropriate third party.

Given the breadth of views within the sector, LGAT's view is that councils should be given wide latitude to choose when they may want to refer a decision to a DAP, and the TPC resourcing should reflect this.

Clear criteria should be created to meet genuine proponent needs for TPC development decision making, rather than simply bypassing well-tested planning authority decision making.

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<sup>7</sup> Premier's media release: [https://www.premier.tas.gov.au/site\\_resources\\_2015/additional\\_releases/taking-the-politics-out-of-planning](https://www.premier.tas.gov.au/site_resources_2015/additional_releases/taking-the-politics-out-of-planning)

<sup>8</sup> LGAT media release: [https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0029/1437185/MR-Planning-reform-July-2023.pdf](https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0029/1437185/MR-Planning-reform-July-2023.pdf)

### **National Cabinet – planning reform push**

Australia’s housing crisis is creating pressure at the national level for planning reforms. At the 16 August 2023 meeting, National Cabinet announced a National Planning Reform Blueprint<sup>9</sup>. The Tasmanian Premier sought to reassure stakeholders by implying that this would require no additional reforms in Tasmania<sup>10</sup>, however, the Premier’s previous announcement of DAPs shows that housing is driving rapid policy changes and planning reforms beyond the current extensive tranche of work.

LGAT’s recent submission<sup>11</sup> to the Exposure Draft Tasmanian Housing Strategy makes a strong case:

1. that blaming local government development regulation for the housing crisis is misguided or nonsensical; and
2. for state and federal governments to focus on developing the housing market to deliver on our economic needs for housing by reforming the current land, housing, and property transaction taxation regime to properly incentivise housing construction and release to market and disincentivise withholding housing from the market.

### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

### **Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023–24 Annual Priority

- Local government reform
- Ready for growth communities

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<sup>9</sup> National Cabinet media release: <https://www.pm.gov.au/media/meeting-national-cabinet-working-together-deliver-better-housing-outcomes>

<sup>10</sup> Premier media release: [https://www.premier.tas.gov.au/site\\_resources\\_2015/additional\\_releases/additional-housing-funding-welcomed](https://www.premier.tas.gov.au/site_resources_2015/additional_releases/additional-housing-funding-welcomed)

<sup>11</sup> LGAT’s Housing submission: [https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0023/1443704/LGAT-Submission-Exposure-Draft-Tasmanian-Housing-Strategy-2023.pdf](https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0023/1443704/LGAT-Submission-Exposure-Draft-Tasmanian-Housing-Strategy-2023.pdf)

#### 4.4 HOUSING

Contact Officer – Michael Edrich

##### Decision Sought

**That Members note the update on housing policy matters and its driving influence on planning policy at both state and national levels.**

##### Submission – Exposure Draft Tasmanian Housing Strategy

The Tasmanian Government released the Exposure Draft of the Tasmanian Housing Strategy for public comment on 6 June 2023, with an extremely short consultation period of only four weeks. We immediately sought an extension for the sector, which was granted for an additional two weeks. A six-week comment period is still too short for such an important subject, indicating that the Tasmanian Government may be prioritising speed of release over quality.

We hosted a well-attended workshop with council planning and community development professionals to develop LGAT and council submissions. Interest from local government in housing is extremely high, as councils are dealing with the consequences of the housing crisis on a daily basis.

Our submission<sup>12</sup>:

1. Notes the lack of meaningful problem identification to properly inform real action.
2. Identifies how the Strategy could set measurable housing security objectives.
3. Makes an attempt at describing the nature of the housing crisis and its causal factors.
4. Demonstrates:
  - a. how the rate of housing supply is overwhelmingly governed by landowner decisions
  - b. that our housing crisis is caused by market failure, not local government development regulation
  - c. how market incentivisation regime drives housing market failure
  - d. the need to make construction and sale (i.e., release to the market) more desirable and profitable than withholding properties from the market.
5. Identifies the difference between systemic actions to resolve market failure and intervention actions to temporarily alleviate housing stress.
6. Lists recommended systemic and intervention actions.

<sup>12</sup> LGAT's submission: [https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0023/1443704/LGAT-Submission-Exposure-Draft-Tasmanian-Housing-Strategy-2023.pdf](https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0023/1443704/LGAT-Submission-Exposure-Draft-Tasmanian-Housing-Strategy-2023.pdf)

7. List LGAT member resolutions related to housing from the last five years to demonstrate council motivation and barriers in dealing with housing.

The Federal and state governments will continue to need to invest heavily in housing interventions, even as they remain reluctant to examine the housing market settings under their control. Unfortunately, they continue to be tempted to misplace blame for housing problems on local government planning and development regulation.

#### **LGAT Housing Reference Group**

At the June 2023 LGAT General Meeting, members resolved for LGAT to convene an expert reference group from member councils to develop recommendations for the sector in responding to the housing crisis. The resolution considers the housing crisis generally, and both short stay accommodation and unoccupied dwellings specifically.

LGAT has now set up this reference group and the first meeting has been held. Priority areas to be addressed include:

- investigating differential rating and other tools to manage short stay properties
- investigating options around land and permit banking and vacant dwellings that are holding up supply for housing and other beneficial uses.

LGAT is also feeding back the relevant outcomes of LGAT's Housing Reference Group to the State Planning Office for consideration for their upcoming Improving Residential Standards in Tasmania project, part of their State Planning Provisions Review<sup>13</sup>.

#### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources

#### **Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023 Annual Priority

- Ready for growth communities

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<sup>13</sup> SPPs review: <https://planningreform.tas.gov.au/planning-reforms-and-reviews/review-of-the-state-planning-provisions>

4.5 **WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY REVIEW \***

Contact officer: Dion Lester

**Decision Sought**

**That Members note the progress on the implementation of the Workplace Health and Safety Review of Elected Representatives (WH&S Review).**

**Background**

LGAT continues to progress the implementation of the Workplace Health and Safety Review of Elected Representatives (WH&S Review) recommendations.

The Implementation Plan, **Attachment 4.5A** to this item, outlines the work that has progressed since the last meeting. **Attachment 4.5B** to this item is the response from the Learning and Development Framework Governance Group on the relevant recommendations from the WH&S Review.

In particular, we note the development of the draft Managing Challenging Customers Framework and policy. Engagement by the Office of Local Government with the sector on this draft suite of documents is expected to commence in October 2023.

The Local Government Amendment (Code of Conduct) Bill 2022 was passed by Parliament in September 2023. The bill progresses some of the key reforms committed to by the State Government in its response to consultation about potential targeted legislative changes to the Code of Conduct Framework.

LGAT will commence finalising the suite of documents that support the legislative change including the development of:

- Model Councillor Charter (the charter)
- Dispute Resolution Policy (the policy)
- Mediators Panel.

Engagement with the sector on the draft documents in this suite is expected to commence in late 2023.

This suite of documents will support the work being undertaken by the Office of Local Government including:

- A review of the model Code of Conduct.
- Assessment of the feasibility of transferring the Code of Conduct Panel to the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (TasCAT).
- Consideration of options that could better address instances of very serious councillor misconduct that may not fall within the parameters of the current Code of Conduct Framework.

#### **Budget Impact**

Implementation of the recommendations is being undertaken with LGAT's existing resources.

#### **Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate
- Sector Services

2023 Annual Priority

- Local government reform
- Workplace health and safety for elected representatives

#### **4.6 ROAD MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION REVIEW**

**Contact Officer – Michael Edrich**

##### **Decision Sought**

**That Members note the update on the Road Management Legislation Review and the consultation period for the Discussion Paper.**

#### **Background**

The Department of State Growth (DSG) has initiated the Road Management Legislation Review (RMLR)<sup>14</sup>, as previously reported at the March and June 2023 General Meetings. The review is focused on legislation related to the management of roads and road infrastructure. It excludes road user and operation legislation.

At the time of writing, a discussion paper on the review has just been published for comment. The consultation period runs until 6 November 2023. DSG has been sensitive to the concurrent reviews imposing a workload on councils, especially the Future of Local Government Review. LGAT advised them that the quality of the road management review is

<sup>14</sup> Available at:

[https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/projectsplanning/plans\\_strategies\\_and\\_policies/road\\_management\\_legislation\\_review](https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/projectsplanning/plans_strategies_and_policies/road_management_legislation_review)

more important to the sector than rapid review. Subsequently they delayed the review until now.

Councils and local road managers are currently reviewing the discussion paper. LGAT intends to arrange an information session with DSG and road managers to inform our submissions.

**Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023–24 Annual Priority

- Ready for growth communities

**4.7 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE**

**Contact Officer – Bec Stevenson**

**Decisions Sought**

**That Members note the update on emergency management.**

**Background**

We continue to engage with the Australian and Tasmanian Governments on emergency management issues of importance for local government, including the many reviews underway. We are meeting monthly with Regional Coordinators from the Emergency Service (SES) and Resilience and Recovery Tasmania (RRT). These regular meetings have enabled a working relationship to be formed between LGAT’s Senior Policy Advisor and several new staff members across both agencies. This also helps to ensure our advocacy is reflected in the reviews and reform.

We have been participating in several reviews and working groups relevant to emergency management on behalf of the sector, including:

- Development of RRT Emergency Accommodation Policy Statement.
- All hazards spatial infrastructure project (LISTMap/COP Redevelopment).
- Re-establishment of Service Providers Network.
- Development of recovery service delivery partnerships agreements.

#### **Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Grants Program**

LGAT has applied for funding in round five of the Natural Disaster Risk Reduction Grants Program to deliver the Tasmanian Local Government Emergency Management Recovery Audit. This audit will assess the capability and capacity of up to 18 Tasmania's councils to deliver their emergency management and recovery responsibilities, in particular the functions prescribed in legislation and emergency management doctrine. We expect to know the outcome of the application by December 2023.

#### **Inter-council emergency management resource sharing protocol**

A review of the LGAT [Inter-council emergency management resource sharing protocol](#) is currently underway. The protocol is an agreed position between councils regarding the provision of council resources (human, equipment and facilities) to assist other councils with response and recovery tasks during emergencies. Once updated an invitation will be extended to all councils to participate.

#### **Tasmanian Emergency Management Arrangements Review**

The Tasmanian Emergency Management Arrangements (TEMA) Review Project commenced in June 2022, with the final version of the TEMA approved by the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) at their March 2023 meeting for endorsement by the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management. Endorsement by the Minister is now complete, and a final version available [here](#).

#### **State Special Emergency Management Plan – State Recovery Plan**

The Department of Premier and Cabinet have commenced a comprehensive review of the State Recovery Plan, with the aim of delivering a Plan to the State Emergency Management Committee in December 2023 for endorsement.

The State Recovery Committee released an Issues Paper that consolidated known issues and gaps in the current recovery arrangements. We lodged a [submission](#) on behalf of the sector into the paper. The Recovery Working Group, which LGAT is a member, will consider the feedback and develop options for change. The fifth version of the State Recovery Plan is expected to be presented to the State Emergency Management Committee for endorsement in December 2023.

#### **Fire Services Act Review**

After six years of comprehensive reviews and public consultation the Tasmanian Government [announced](#) early in the year that it would:

- Merge the Tasmania Fire Service and the State Emergency Services to create the Tasmania Fire and Emergency Service (TFES).
- The State Fire Commission will become the State Fire and Emergency Services Committee, allowing the membership to grow and include representatives from SES and other key stakeholders.

These changes will be enacted through new legislation - the Fire and Emergency Services Act, that will replace the *Fire Services Act 1979*.

A Fire Service Act Reform Steering Committee has been established to oversee the reform. The chair of the Steering Committee, Police Commissioner Donna Adams, wrote to all Mayors on 18 July 2023, advising consultation on the implementation of the reform objectives will commence soon. The Police Commissioner recognised local government as a key partner to be engaged to determine the implications of the reform for councils. LGAT has written to the Commissioner seeking an update and timeline for sector participation in the review.

### **Independent Review of Commonwealth Disaster Funding**

The Australian Government has commissioned an [Independent Review of Commonwealth Disaster Funding](#). The review to be conducted by Andrew Colvin AO, and will consider how Commonwealth arrangements for disaster funding can be optimised to enable a system that:

- Supports wellbeing, national productivity, prosperity and economic security.
- Maintains state, territory and local government roles and responsibilities in the context of projected increase in natural disasters over the coming decades.

In July and August 2023, LGAT staff participated in two focus groups offering an opportunity to provide insights and key concerns for disaster funding. One session was national with the local government Associations and the second was focused on Tasmanian local government stakeholders.

The key feedback and themes included:

- The need for stronger collaboration between the Federal and state governments with local government.
- To accelerate and fully implement recommendation 11.1 of the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements - *“that where State and Territory Governments delegate responsibilities to local government, they need to ensure that they retain oversight and understanding of the capabilities and capacity of local government to perform these responsibilities, and to provide support as necessary”*.
- For the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) - make betterment a core principle, reduce the evidence requirements and administrative burden on councils under the DRFA claims process and provide specific targeted funding assistance to councils to identify and reduce their disaster risk and increase their resilience.

We will continue to monitor the progress of the review and provide a further update on its outcomes once complete.

### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

**2023 Annual Priority**

- Emergency management

**4.8 ROYAL COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS AND CHILD SAFE ORGANISATIONS**

Contact Officer – Lynden Leppard

**Decision Sought**

**That Members note the update on *Child and Youth Safe Organisation Act 2023* and Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, recommendation 6.12**

**Background**

LGAT has been actively engaging with the Department of Justice (DoJ) and the Office of Local Government (OLG) since late last year on the implications for local government of the Tasmanian Government's response to the Commonwealth's *Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse*. That response is made up of two parts.

1. The Office of Local Government has carriage for implementing Recommendation 6.12, the creation of council child safety officers for the purpose of supporting child safe sport and recreation environments. Councils have been told that this is an expectation of the Tasmanian Government but is not compulsory.
2. The Tasmanian *Child and Youth Safe Organisation Act 2023*. The Act and regulations identify compulsory roles for all councils. These include implementation of the [Child Safe Framework](#) and participation in the [Reportable Conduct Scheme](#).

Our advocacy acknowledges the importance of responding to the Royal Commission's Report and a willingness of the sector to prepare for effective implementation of the State Government's policies and regulations. Support is required not only for initial implementation but also for the ongoing extra expectations this policy will place on councils in their communities. Councils do not have the financial resources, policy experience, or suitably qualified staff to plan for and implement the Framework, or to undertake investigations arising from the Reportable Conduct Scheme.

LGAT has written to the Minister for Education, Children and Youth, Hon Roger Jaensch MP, outlining the need for a funded local government plan to support effective implementation of this important government policy.

**Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023 Annual Priority

- Health and wellbeing
- Sector development

**4.9 LOCAL GOVERNMENT HEALTH AND WELLBEING NETWORK AND LIFT LOCAL PROJECT**

**Contact Officer: Lynden Leppard**

**Decision Sought**

**That Members note the progress of the Local Government Health and Wellbeing Network and Lift Local Funding.**

**Background comment**

The importance of local government's role in preventative health and improved community wellbeing is recognised in the State Government's *Healthy Tasmania Five Year Strategic Plan 2022-26*. The Public Health Service (PHS) has funded LGAT for the last six years to support councils in their work to support community health and wellbeing.

Ongoing collaboration between LGAT and PHS has resulted in the new Lift Local program where \$20,000 is available to every council. This is not competitive, and the purpose of the funding is decided by each council's view of what health and wellbeing priority is most relevant to their community. Twenty-eight councils are participating with their projects progressing in line with community and council circumstances.

The network is developing through workshops, online discussion, and direct contact between councils with similar projects. Some projects have developed quickly, and the network is enabling them to be valuable resources to others.

Workshops in September and October will bring officers together to work with Public Health Service staff. Council feedback from the March 2023 workshop was positive.

**Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current grant resources from the Department of Health, Public Health Services.

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023 Annual Priority

- Health and wellbeing.

**4.10 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING \*  
Contact Officer – Bec Stevenson**

**Decision Sought**

**That Members note the report on LGAT's refreshed Memorandum of Understanding with EPA Tasmania.**

**Background**

In 2017, LGAT and the Environmental Protection Authority Tasmania (EPA) first established a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a framework for LGAT, councils and the EPA to work together on environmental protection. In particular, so that the parties work more cooperatively in assessing and regulating environmentally relevant activities and responding to events that may cause environmental harm or nuisance.

A new five-year MoU has recently been signed that builds on the previous MoU. The refreshed MoU reflects on the strong relationship between LGAT and EPA and the ongoing, shared desire to show leadership and engage in a structured, cooperative, and productive way to support councils.

The Strategic Priorities have been informed by engagement with the local government sector and areas that EPA has identified in their work alongside councils. The priorities outlined in the MoU are:

- environmental complaints, incident preparedness and response
- illegal dumping
- environmental investigations and prosecutions
- capability building
- capacity
- national standard implementation
- collaboration on more complex development applications and regulation.

The signed MoU is at **Attachment 4.10** to this item for reference.

An annual action plan will be produced each year and tabled at the first LGAT General Meeting in the new financial year. This plan will become the workplan for the EPA's Local Government Engagement Program.

The MoU will be overseen by the LGAT CEO and the Director of EPA, supported by a working group of senior LGAT and EPA officers. The governance arrangements will develop, oversee and review progress of the annual action plan and address any issues that arise, including new matters that may require consideration as Strategic Priorities.

#### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

#### **Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

#### **4.11 CLIMATE CHANGE**

**Contact Officer – Ben Morris**

**That Members note the update on climate change activities.**

#### **Background**

Further to the [30 June 2023 General Meeting](#), the Tasmanian Climate Change Action Plan, released in June 2023, includes the action (3.3) to collaborate with local government to prepare for the impacts of climate change, with the following specific actions:

Action	Approach
Building climate change action capability in local government	Work with local government to co-design and implement a program of statewide climate change action in local government that builds the sector's capacity to respond to the impacts of a changing climate and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
Managing coastal hazards	Work with coastal managers across the state and local government to develop a consistent statewide approach to managing the impacts of coastal hazards under a changing climate.
Developing a Risk Information Portal	Explore the development of a Risk Information Portal for Tasmania that spatially enables municipal emergency risk assessments. The risk assessments will seek to identify and utilise hazard models (for example: flood, fire, coastal hazards, drought) that incorporate climate projections.

The *Building climate change action capability in local government* action follows a proposal developed by council regional groups (southern Tasmania Regional Climate Change Initiative, Cradle Coast Authority and the Northern Tasmanian Alliance for Resilient Councils) in conjunction with LGAT. LGAT met with the State Government agency responsible for the plan, Renewables, Climate Change and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT) to discuss program. The objective of this program will be to build local government capability in implementing actions to mitigate climate change. The intention is that LGAT will host a program coordinator who will then engage other resources as defined by the sector. The program, over two years, has \$500,000 in funding. LGAT and ReCFIT will be engaging key regional groups and council officers to design the details of the program and the engagement approach with the local government sector. LGAT is drafting a position description for the coordinator role. The overall program will be governed by a Steering Committee comprising, LGAT, ReCFIT and General Managers from each region.

A group of eight northern councils have collaborated to form the Northern Tasmanian Alliance for Resilient Councils (NTARC). The councils include West Tamar, Launceston, George Town, Dorset, Meander Valley, Northern Midlands, Flinders and Break O'Day. The goal of the new alliance is to develop the region's resilience to increasing natural hazards, current and changing climate and the challenges of transitioning to a low carbon economy. Member councils have each contributing financially to employ a dedicated regional coordinator. Further information on NTARC is available at [www.ntarctas.com.au](http://www.ntarctas.com.au)

#### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

#### **Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023 Annual Priority

- Climate change
- Sector development

**4.12 WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY**  
**Contact Officer – Bec Stevenson**

**Decision Sought**

**That Members note the report on waste and resource recovery.**

**Background**

A number of reforms and programs are underway at a state and national level.

**Container Refund Scheme: Draft Material Recovery Refund Protocol**

Consultation commenced on 29 June 2023 on the draft Container Refund Scheme (CRS): Draft Material Recovery Refund Protocol. The draft regulations have been developed by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania to outline how Tasmanian Material Recovery Facilities will count CRS-approved containers, process refunds and split refunds with local government where appropriate. A copy of the draft protocol was provided to the Regional Waste Authorities to review and provide a submission if required.

**Waste Data Readiness Grant Program**

The Tasmanian Government has committed \$1 million to the Waste Data Readiness Grant Program. This program will assist operators of resource recovery facilities with the cost of modifying business systems and infrastructure to be able to comply with new legislative requirements. Applications closed on 22 September 2023, with LGAT a member of the grant assessment panel.

**Draft Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy**

Engagement on the Draft Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy closed in late February 2023. LGAT provided a submission on behalf of the sector, available on our [website](#). Submissions are currently being considered by the Waste and Resource Recovery Board with the release of the Strategy imminent.

**Draft Landfill Levy Support Program for Public Authorities**

Engagement by the Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Board has commenced on the draft Landfill Levy Support Program for Public Authorities. Comments on the scope and detail of the draft program closed on 29 September 2023. LGAT will continue to monitor the implementation of the program.

**Waste Sector Emissions Reduction and Resilience Plan**

The Tasmanian Government agency, Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT) is preparing an Emissions Reduction and Resilience Plan for the waste sector. This is the second in a series of sector-based plans, following transport earlier in the year. LGAT attended a workshop as a key stakeholder where the Minister for Environment and Climate Change, the Hon. Roger Jaensch MP, opened the workshop and outlined the purpose of the Plan. The workshop was a focused consultation to develop a collaborative approach to emissions reduction and building resilience in the waste sector. Further workshops with the sector are being planned for early 2024. The final Emissions Reduction and Resilience Plan for the waste sector is to be delivered by November 2024.

**National Kerbside Harmonisation**

The Federal Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water have commenced engagement with local government Associations to discuss the development of a national kerbside collection roadmap. The purpose of this engagement is to ensure a fit-for-purpose roadmap. LGAT will continue to participate in these discussions and share information as the roadmap progresses.

**Regional Waste Authority Support**

LGAT continues to work with the Regional Waste Authorities with a particular focus in the next quarter on defining the focus of the work of the Authorities and LGAT to avoid duplication.

It is anticipated that with the foundation policy measures, such as the statewide waste levy and container refund scheme now in place, Tasmania has a pathway to improve its resource recovery rates.

**Local Government Associations Waste Policy Network**

LGAT participates in the ALGA Local Government Associations Waste Network meetings to understand work being undertaken at the national level and leverage work completed by other Associations. The September meeting had updates on the paper and cardboard waste export ban implications for local government, managing waste from other jurisdictions assets, national waste policy action plan and Tyre Stewardship Australia survey.

#### **Asbestos Strategic Plan Review**

The Australian Government Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency has commenced consultation on [Phase Three of the Asbestos National Strategic Plan \(ANSP\)](#).

The [Asbestos National Strategic Plan](#) focuses on safe and sustainable ways to remove asbestos containing materials from our built environment and eliminate asbestos-related diseases in Australia. An online workshop for councils was held on Wednesday 27 September 2023. Written submissions are also invited by Friday 13 October 2023.

#### **Battery Safety**

LGAT are supporting a battery safety awareness campaign commissioned by the ACCC and Battery Stewardship Council. The campaign will commence on 9 October 2023 and aims to achieve consistent messaging for all Australians about how to protect their families and broader community by taping and recycling their used batteries. Assets will be provided to councils to support the national media campaign, which will run through to December 2023.

#### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources

#### **Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023 Annual Priority

- Waste and resource recovery

### **4.13 LGAT PROCUREMENT**

**Contact Officer – Georgia Palmer**

#### **Decision Sought**

**That Members note the following update on procurement support for councils.**

#### **Background**

LGAT Procurement aims to help councils undertake best practice procurement and deliver value for money for their communities.

LGAT Procurement is now in its second year of implementing the business case for sustainable and progressive growth. Year one of implementation was successful, delivering on new

initiatives, whilst also resulting in greater than predicted increase in the use of panels and other LGAT Procurement products and services.

Key projects to be delivered this year as part of the business case include procurement training and the civil works panel.

### **Procurement Training**

LGAT Procurement has worked in partnership with an experienced trainer to develop and deliver *Procurement Essentials* skills training. This is currently offered as a one-day course. It is available on a fee for service basis.

The training was developed in consultation with the LGAT Procurement Reference Group. It is specifically designed to meet the requirements of Tasmanian councils and addresses a demand for training - identified in various Auditor General reports and council feedback.

The course was first made available in June 2023. To date, five sessions have been run and around 60 individuals across the State have attended training. Two additional councils have expressed interest in accessing training for their staff. There is significant opportunity for expansion to others.

Feedback from participants has been exceptionally positive. Some examples of testimonials include:

#### **Large – metro council**

*“The sessions were well attended and received by participants across different areas of Council”.*

*“The training has been very valuable in increasing the understanding of procurement amongst Council’s buyers and how to achieve best value for money outcomes for Council”.*

*“I would recommend this training to all councils”.*

#### **Smaller – rural council**

*“The LGAT Procurement Training was very informative”.*

*“Rene was a great facilitator who provided real life examples whilst providing our team with valuable information to ensure we are always compliant and transparent with our processes”.*

LGAT Procurement is continuing to offer the Procurement Essentials training through the financial year 2023/2024. In addition, training courses that cover risk management, negotiation skills and contract management have been identified as priority areas for further

consideration. Sessions that cover these areas will be developed by LGAT Procurement and offered to councils in 2024.

**LGAT Procurement Civil Works Panel**

A local civil works panel or suite of panels was identified through both the review of LGAT Procurement and Future of Local Government Review as being a significant opportunity.

In recent years, we have partnered with Local Buy to provide a Road, Water, Sewerage and Civil Works (BUS 270) panel to councils. We have seen a small but increasing use of this panel but are aware of several key barriers to this increasing, including the lack of Tasmanian suppliers and council involvement in development of the panel.

The new panels will address these barriers as well as:

- Create a contract that reflects the minor/major civil works requirements of councils.
- Secure competitive pricing based on the combined purchasing influence of councils.
- Provide a streamlined approach for councils to engage contractors via a request for quotation rather than a full tender process, while still meeting legislative obligations.

A working group of council staff has been established to provide expert advice into the process and to be part of the evaluation team. It has been agreed that two civil works panels would meet Tasmanian Council needs. A Minor and Major Civil Works Panel and a Civil Works Material Panel. The two tenders will be run concurrently.

The working group has highlighted the benefit of a harmonised customer contracts for major works ensuring consistent contracts across councils.

The specification for the panels has been drafted and tender and contractual documents are in development.

Legal advice will be required to review the draft contract documentation.

It is important that councils engage in the development of the panel and use the panel once established. The use of the panel by councils will also provide LGAT Procurement with the opportunity to provide strategic oversight of civil works procurement with the sector.

**LGAT Procurement arrangement activity and saving for 2022/2023**

Over the 12 months to end June 2023, the key LGAT panel arrangements continued to be well used by councils. Of particular note were:

- hardware (used by 27 councils, total spend of \$467,462)
- telecommunications (used by 23 councils, total spend of \$1,394,486)
- office supplies (used by 24 councils, total spend of \$455,090)

- ICT (used by 5 councils, total spend of \$2,202,257)
- small plant and machinery (used by 12 councils, total spend of \$1,856,727)
- trucks (used by 13 councils, total spend of \$4,304,390).

Council spending under the contracts exceeded \$16.1 million and total estimated savings for councils was in excess of \$2.6 million, made up of direct (\$2,158,660) and indirect (\$483,000) savings<sup>15</sup>.

The total savings under these contracts exceeded the total 2022/2023 LGAT subscriptions of \$1.32 million. Eighteen councils made savings through the LGAT panel arrangements that were sufficient to fully offset their LGAT annual subscriptions.

#### **Budget Implications**

The legal advice required to support the development of contractual documents for the civil works panel has been budgeted.

#### **Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Sector services

2022 – 23 Annual Priority

- LGAT Procurement
- Sector development

#### **4.14 EVENTS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW**

**Contact Officer – Georgia Palmer**

##### **Decision Sought**

**That Members note the report on events and discuss the opportunities for the Association with elected representative learning and development.**

##### **Background Comment**

LGAT provides a series of events throughout the year to support the professional development of, and engagement with, our members. During 2022/2023 we delivered over 29 events to members with an additional 21 face to face and 12 online consultation sessions organised in June 2023 to support the sectors engagement as part of the Future of Local

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<sup>15</sup> Direct savings being the estimated savings on item price (i.e. discounts). Indirect savings being the estimated savings as a result of streamlined procurement processes (i.e. a request for quotation rather than full tender).

Government Review Stage 3. In addition to regular face-to-face events LGAT also hosts a series of webinars on various issues to update and engage with officers on emerging policy and legislative change.

LGAT will continue to provide a suite of professional development opportunities and events to elected members and council officers in the coming year.

### **2023 Annual Conference**

This year's annual conference is taking place on the 1-2 November 2023 at the paranapple convention centre in Devonport. The theme of the conference is "embracing change". Registrations for the Annual Conference are open [on our website](#), with of number of delegates already signed up. Highlights from the program include Dr. Toby Newstead, Director of Minds at Work Jason Clarke, Professor Richard Eccleston, the Hon. Kristy McBain MP and more. The speakers have been carefully selected to speak to the overall conference theme of embracing change.

### **Mayor's Workshop**

We will be delivering the second Mayor's Workshop of the year, on 4 October 2023 at the Hotel Grand Chancellor in Hobart. This session will include updates from Mike Mogridge, Acting Director of Local Government, as well as a session exploring residential land supply from Nick Byrne, RemPlan, Peter Frazer OAM, from Safer Australian Roads and Highways, and Christopher Lock speaking on how to navigate financial assistance grants.

### **Deputy Mayor's Workshop**

This year we are delivering a Deputy Mayor's Workshop on 5 October 2023 at Peppers Silos in Launceston. This session will include media training with Timmins Ray, as well as an update on the State Government's planning reform agenda from the Director of the State Planning Office. Interest in this event has been very strong from Deputy Mayors.

### **General Manager's Workshop**

We will be delivering the second General Manager's Workshop of the year, on 9-10 November 2023 at the RACV Hotel in Hobart. The program will feature updates from Mike Mogridge, Acting Director of Local Government, Will Joscelyne, Acting Deputy Secretary Parks and Wildlife Service and Matthew Atkins. It also includes a short, strategic procurement session from Rene Kling, of Supply Chain Management Education Australia (SCMEA).

### **Elected Member's Day**

The Elected Member's Day was held on 1 July 2023 in conjunction with the LGAT Annual General Meeting (AGM) at the Crowne Plaza Hobart. Forty-five elected members attended the day. Speakers included David Dilger from Edge Legal, Brett de Chastel speaking on his experience on reform and Amy Imms from the Burnout Project.

As part of the event, we hosted a networking dinner the night before at the Crowne Plaza that was attended by 49 guests. The overall feedback on Elected Member's Day and the dinner was very positive.

**Learning and Development Framework \***

The Learning and Development Framework is being progressed, primarily with resources from the Office of Local Government. The framework is overseen by a Governance Group including GMC members, Mayor Mary Duniam, Mayor Paula Wriedt, as well as John Brown, General Manager Break O'Day Council and Ben Morris, LGAT Policy Director. The Governance Group has endorsed a capability framework that combines the best of what Tasmania has already developed with the frameworks from New South Wales and South Australia. Work is underway on branding, website and consideration of the other structures to support professional development by elected representatives.

The Governance Group has been considering how to finance the ongoing management and development of the framework. We expect that the degree that councils will contribute to this will rest upon legislative requirements for elected representatives to have and maintain competencies and understanding, in line with the capability framework. This requirement would then lead to a need for the sector to fund a learning and development function. It is hoped that the FoLGR final report may give this matter due consideration.

**Budget Impact**

Events are being undertaken within current resources.

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Sector services

2023 Annual Priority

- Local government reform
- Sector development

4.15 POLICY UPDATE

Contact Officer – Ben Morris

**Decision Sought**

**That Members note the update on various policy matters.**

**Heavy Vehicle National Law Reform – Implementation**

For many years, councils and the Department of State Growth have been working effectively together to deliver heavy vehicle access to road networks. This work prudently manages risk to road networks while facilitating the economic benefit that heavy vehicles deliver to all Tasmanians.

Tasmania’s Heavy Vehicle Access Management System (HVAMS) is widely seen as best practice in Australia, and current improvements under development may see it result in a world-leading platform for managing road networks and HV access. The Heavy Vehicle National Law Reform Implementation Steering Committee<sup>16</sup> issued the following statement on their 24 July 2023 meeting:

*“Work is progressing on a national automated access system (NAAS). States and territories have agreed to implement the optimal technical solution for the system, as recommended by WSP in their final report on the interoperability between the different systems. This will see the Tasmanian Heavy Vehicle Access Management System (HVAMS) being used as the basis for a NAAS, while the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) Portal will continue to be the entry and exit point for all applicants seeking access. Integration with other NHVR Portal functions will help maximise the benefits to industry users of the system. Austroads will now drive the implementation of the NAAS”.*

This is a great result for Tasmania, including councils, other road managers and the heavy vehicle industry, as it reinforces our hard work and achievements to date, and helps to expand their impact nationally. LGAT has played a crucial role in facilitating the development of Tasmania’s HVAMS and promoting its benefits to interstate colleagues, other jurisdictions and the Australian Government.

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<sup>16</sup> HVNL Reform Implementation Steering Committee webpage:

<https://www.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure-transport-vehicles/transport-strategy-policy/infrastructure-and-transport-ministers-meetings/heavy-vehicle-national-law-reform-implementation-steering-committee>

### **Tasmanian Development Manual Project**

LGAT continues work on the Tasmanian Development Manual Project (TDMP), as previously reported at the June 2023 General Meeting. The TDMP seeks to replace the current set of local government municipal standards with a more comprehensive and contemporary suite of development guidelines and standards that sit within a more complete Development Manual.

The TDMP is majority funded by the State Planning Office (SPO) and with other funding from councils and LGAT contributions. We are grateful for the SPO's recognition of the value of this project and support to achieve its objectives. The project is noted in the SPO's State Planning Provisions (SPPs) review issues scoping consultation report<sup>17</sup> within Action Group 6. This confirms the value of the TDMP work to Tasmania's planning reform agenda.

Since June 2023, we have published a project brief and delivered an information session for the sector in July 2023. A steering committee for the project has been convened and has met to develop the project.

The project has also attracted the attention of the Greater Hobart Strategic Partnership (GHSP) program. Their interest stems from having identified the need for similar work contemplated by the TDMP<sup>18</sup>, specifically for subdivision design guidelines (i.e., the urban design of subdivision), highlighting an opportunity to work closely together or perhaps to combine delivery. LGAT will provide the Greater Hobart Strategic Partnership with a specific briefing and explore these opportunities. The SPO has also expressed an interest in this aspect.

### **Bus Stop Ownership – All Access All Weather Bus Stop Upgrade Program**

The Department of State Growth continues to progress the rollout of their All Access All Weather Bus Stop Upgrade Program<sup>19</sup>. For Round one of the grants, we understand that around 14 councils applied, with 11 meeting the funding criteria.

Prior to applying, two councils were uncomfortable with the terms of the grant deed presented to them, as it created questions around ongoing bus stop ownership and maintenance. These councils raised this with LGAT. We provided advice to DSG to remove and reword several conditions of the grant deed. DSG took most, but not all, of that advice on and presented amended grant deeds to councils.

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<sup>17</sup> See: <https://planningreform.tas.gov.au/planning-reforms-and-reviews/review-of-the-state-planning-provisions>

<sup>18</sup> See Greater Hobart Plan – Implementation arrangements:  
[https://www.greaterhobart.tas.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/423249/Greater\\_Hobart\\_Plan\\_-\\_Implementation\\_arrangements.PDF](https://www.greaterhobart.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/423249/Greater_Hobart_Plan_-_Implementation_arrangements.PDF)

<sup>19</sup> See: <https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/public-transport/bus-stop-upgrade-program>

Of the 11 councils with a compliant grant, nine councils have signed the deed and proceeded with the grant. Two councils withdrew their applications or did not proceed with the grant due to the ownership terms under the deed.

Councils broadly support the accessibility objectives of this grant; however, bus stop ownership, liability, and maintenance obligations remain a barrier. We have been advocating consistently to DSG that this issue should be addressed within the broader Road Management Legislative Review, rather than this grant process.

**Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan  
Advocate

2023–24 Annual Priority

- Ready for growth communities

## **5. OTHER BUSINESS AND CLOSE**

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**Attachment for**



Local Government Association Tasmania

# General Meeting

## Minutes

30 June 2023

Commencing at 12.00pm

### Crowne Plaza, Hobart

326 Macquarie Street,  
GPO Box 1521, Hobart, Tas 7000  
Phone: (03) 6146 3740  
Email: [admin@lgat.tas.gov.au](mailto:admin@lgat.tas.gov.au)  
Home Page: <http://www.lgat.tas.gov.au>

**PROCEDURAL MATTERS.  
RULES REGARDING CONDUCT OF MEETINGS**

**13. WHO MAY ATTEND A MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION**

- (a) Subject to Rule 13(f), each Member shall be entitled to send a Voting Representative to any Meeting of the Association, such Voting Representative exercising the number of votes determined according to Rule 16(a).
- (b) In addition to the requirements set out in Rule 13(f), after each ordinary Council Election, the Chief Executive Officer shall request each Member to advise the name of its Voting Representative and the proxy for the Voting Representative for Meetings of the Association until the next ordinary Council Elections.
- (c) Subject to Rule 13(f), Members may change their Voting Representative or proxy at any time by advising the Chief Executive Officer in writing of the Voting Representative prior to that representative taking his or her position at a Meeting of the Association.
- (d) A list of Voting Representatives will be made available at the commencement of any Meeting of the Association.
- (e) Members may send other elected members or Council officers as observers to any Meeting of the Association.
- (f) Each Member must provide the Association with written notice of the details of the Voting Representative who was by a resolution of the Member lawfully appointed as the Voting Representative of the Member at a Meeting of the Association.

**14. PROXIES AT MEETINGS**

- (a) Up to 1 hour prior to any Meeting of the Association, a Member may appoint another Member as its proxy.
- (b) The form of the proxy is to be provided by the Chief Executive Officer and is to be signed by either the Mayor or General Manager of the Council appointing the proxy.
- (c) The Chair of the meeting is not entitled to inquire as to whether the proxy has cast any vote in accordance with the wishes of the Member appointing the proxy.
- (d) Proxies count for the purposes of voting and quorum at any meeting.

**15. QUORUM AT MEETINGS**

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

**16. VOTING AT MEETINGS**

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

Population of the Council Area	Number of votes entitled to be exercised by the voting delegate	Colour placard to be raised by the voting delegate when voting
Under 10,000	1	Red
10,000 – 19,999	2	White
20,000 – 39,999	3	Blue
40,000 and above	4	Green

- (b) Electronic voting buttons will be the first choice for voting on all decisions, with placards only to be used if the technology fails.
- (c) Voting buttons allow councils to vote for or against a motion or formally abstain from voting. An abstain is not to be taken as a negative vote.
- (d) The Chair of the meeting shall be entitled to rely upon the electronic vote or the raising of a coloured placard as the recording of the vote for the Member and as evidence of the number of votes being cast.
- (e) Except as provided in sub-rule (f), each question, matter or resolution shall be decided by a majority of the votes for a motion. If there is an equal number of votes upon any question, it shall be declared not carried.
- (f)
  - (i) When a vote is being taken to amend a Policy of the Association, the resolution must be carried by a majority of the votes capable of being cast by Members present at the meeting.
  - (ii) When a vote is being taken for the Association to sign a protocol, memorandum of understanding or partnership agreement, the resolution must be carried by a majority of votes capable of being cast by Members and by a majority of Members, whether present at the meeting or not.
  - (iii) When a vote is being taken to amend these Rules of the Association, the resolution must be carried by at least two-thirds of the votes capable of being cast by Members, whether present at the meeting or not.
- (g) A Voting Representative or his or her proxy in the name of the Member is entitled to vote on any matter considered at a Meeting of the Association.

**Table of Contents**

<b>1. GOVERNANCE</b> .....	<b>5</b>
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY .....	5
WELCOME AND APOLOGIES .....	5
1.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES * .....	6
1.2 BUSINESS ARISING * .....	6
1.3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA .....	6
1.4 FOLLOW UP OF MOTIONS * .....	7
1.5 PRESIDENT'S REPORT .....	7
1.6 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT .....	8
1.7 COUNCIL ROUND UPS .....	11
<b>2. ITEMS FOR DECISION</b> .....	<b>11</b>
2.1 MOTION - RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS ON USE OF LAND AND PROPERTY.....	11
2.2 MOTION – COUNCIL LEAVE OF ABSENCE PROVISIONS .....	12
2.3 MOTION – SHORT STAY .....	17
<b>3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION</b> .....	<b>18</b>
THERE ARE NO ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION.....	18
<b>4. ITEMS FOR NOTING</b> .....	<b>19</b>
4.1 FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW .....	19
4.2 WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY REVIEW * .....	20
4.3 CLIMATE CHANGE .....	21
4.4 LGAT LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE AWARDS * .....	22
4.5 PLANNING REFORM .....	23
4.6 TASMANIAN DEVELOPMENT MANUAL PROJECT.....	25
4.7 BUS STOP OWNERSHIP AND UPGRADE GRANT PROGRAM .....	27
4.8 REGIONAL TOWNS CCTV PROJECT .....	29
4.9 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE .....	30
4.10 WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY.....	32
4.11 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING .....	34
4.12 CHILD AND YOUTH SAFE ORGANISATIONS.....	35
4.13 COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING LIFT LOCAL PROJECT .....	37
4.14 EVENTS OVERVIEW .....	38
4.15 POLICY UPDATE.....	40
4.16 LGAT PROCUREMENT UPDATE .....	42
<b>5. Other Business and Close</b> .....	<b>44</b>

\* Denotes Attachment



## GENERAL MEETING SCHEDULE

11.30am	Lunch
12.00pm	Meeting Commences
1.45pm	Meeting concludes



## 1. GOVERNANCE

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### **Acknowledgement of Country**

The President will acknowledge and pay respect to the Tasmanian Aboriginal community as the traditional and original owners and continuing custodians of this land.

### **Welcome and Apologies**

The President welcomed Members and declared the meeting open at 12.00pm.

### **Apologies were received from:**

Mr James Dryburgh	Brighton Council
Mr Warren Groves	Flinders Island Council
Ms Kelly Grigsby	City of Hobart
Mayor Teeny Brumby	Burnie City
Mr John Marik	Dorset Council
Mayor Cheryl Arnol	Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
Mayor Marcus Blackie	King Island Council
Mr Wayne Johnston	Meander Valley Council
Acting Mayor Matthew Garwood	City of Launceston
Mr Des Jennings	Northern Midlands Council
Mr Robert Higgins	Sorell Council

1.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES \*

Kingborough Council / Clarence City Council

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2023, as circulated, be confirmed.

Carried

**Background:**

The Minutes of the General Meeting held on 17 March 2023, as circulated, are submitted for confirmation and are at **Attachment to Item 1.1.**

1.2 BUSINESS ARISING \*

Dorset Council / Break O' Day Council

That Members note the information.

Carried

**Background:**

At **Attachment to Item 1.2** is a schedule of business considered at the previous meeting and its status.

1.3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Devonport City Council / Waratah-Wynyard Council

That consideration be given to the Agenda items and the order of business.

Carried

**Background:**

Delegates will be invited to confirm the Agenda for the meeting and the order of business.

1.4 FOLLOW UP OF MOTIONS \*

Huon Valley Council / Burnie Council

That Members note the following report.

Carried

**Background:**

A table detailing action taken to date in relation to motions passed at previous meetings is at Attachment to Item 1.4.

1.5 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Kentish Council / Northern Midlands Council

That Members note the report on the President's activity from 28 February 2023 until 9 June 2023.

Carried

**Meetings and events**

- March General Meeting and GMC meeting
- Mayor's workshop March
- Elected Reps Planning Authority Training April; and May
- May GMC Meeting
- ALGA Board Meetings
- Presentation to the LGA South Australia on compulsory voting and reform
- Minister Street on Elected Representative behaviour

**Media and correspondence**

- LGAT News – April
- Local government review
  - Radio interviews
    - LAFM – Tasmania Talks, 2 March
    - ABC Hobart – Breakfast, 15 March
    - 7HOFM – News, 29 March
    - ABC Hobart – Mornings, 17 April
    - ABC Hobart – Drive, 20 April
    - ABC Hobart – News, 20 May

- ABC Hobart – Breakfast, 31 May
- TV interview (WIN TV)
- Media release (20 April)
- Article (The Mercury)
- Media release – Timeframe extension (19 May)
- Articles - Timeframe extension (The Mercury, The Examiner, King Island Courier, Kingborough Chronicle, Kentish Voice, Kingston Classified, Circular Head Chronicle, Derwent Valley Gazette and Southern Midlands Regional News)

**LGAT President nominations**

- Article (The Mercury)

**Visa processing delays**

- Newspaper articles (Tasman Gazette)
- Newspaper articles (Derwent Valley Gazette, Tasman Gazette)

**LRCI Federal Funding Announcement**

- Media release

**Resignation of Danny Gibson as Mayor**

- Radio interview (LAFM)

**Dorothies Awards**

- Media release

**1.6 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Contact officer: Dion Lester

**Break O'Day Council / Brighton Council**

That Members note the report on the CEO's activity from 27 February 2023 until 9 June 2023.

Carried

**Advocacy**

In the period since my last report our advocacy activity remained high across our key priorities of planning and housing, elected member workplace health and safety, climate change and the Future of Local Government Review.

Some of the activities included:

- Submissions on the Tasmania's Population Strategy and Regional Planning Framework Consultation Papers - full copies of our submissions can be viewed on the LGAT website at: <https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/lgat-advocacy/reports-and-submissions>
- A meeting with Central Coast Council and Minister Barnett on housing.
- A meeting with the new CEO of Homes Tasmania, Eleri Morgan-Thomas, who also recently presented at the May General Manager's Workshop.
- Discussions have commenced with the Minister's Office on the MOU for housing.
- Ongoing work with the Office of Local Government on managing interests, GM recruitment and performance management, the Code of Conduct.
- A meeting with Minister Street on Elected Representative behaviour.
- A meeting with Minister Jaensch, with regional groups, to discuss climate change funding for local government. This work subsequently resulted in \$500,000 funding for local government climate change activities.
- Participation in the first meeting of the Climate Change Reference Group, tasked with providing the Tasmanian Government with advice and feedback on strategic priorities and emerging opportunities in climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Negotiating a six-week extension to the Future of Local Government Review consultation period and also funding for independent facilitators to gather sector feedback on the scenarios presented by the Board.

#### **Sector Services**

LGAT Procurement's support for the sector continues to grow, with work on the key initiatives in our business plan all progressing better than our expectations. The procurement update in this agenda provides further details.

In April we delivered two workshops on councillors role as a Planning Authority and Managing Growth. Both sessions received positive feedback, with the format (morning capability session and afternoon policy session) likely to be repeated in future professional development activities.

There has been significant resource efforts in pulling together 36 Future of Local Government Review engagement sessions with the sector – all occurring in June. These constitute 21 face to face sessions and 15 online sessions.

#### **Governance and operations**

LGAT operations have focussed on the introduction of the Customer Relationship Management software, office upgrades (new furniture, heating, and lighting) and supporting the induction of new staff members.

**Media**

Integrity Commission recruitment investigation

- Media query (The Mercury)
- Newspaper article (The Mercury)

Shopping trolleys

- Media query (News Corp)

Conflict of interest register

- Media query (The Examiner, ABC)
- Articles (The Examiner, ABC)

The Voice

- Media query (ABC)

Development applications

- Media query (The Examiner)

Local government review

- Media query (The Examiner)
- Articles (The Examiner, The Advocate, The Mercury)

Skills shortages in local government

- Media query (The Mercury)
- Article (The Mercury)

Tiny Homes

- Media query (ABC)

Population growth

- Article (The Advocate)

Elected Representative mental health support

- Media query (The Examiner)
- Article (The Examiner)

## 1.7 COUNCIL ROUND UPS

George Town Council / Waratah-Wynyard Council

That Members note there will not be a council round up this meeting.

Carried

### Background

The session also allows time for questions and provides an opportunity to briefly share and highlight problems or opportunities facing councils and is better suited to a face-to-face meeting.

## 2. ITEMS FOR DECISION

### 2.1 MOTION - RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS ON USE OF LAND AND PROPERTY

Council – Clarence City Council

Clarence City Council / Tasman Council

That LGAT lobby the State Government urging legislative change to outlaw the creation of covenants which place restrictions on the use of land and property for:

- a. public, social or affordable housing; or
- b. tenants or occupants based on their source of income, or social or financial circumstances.

Carried

### Background

It was reported on ABC News Tasmania and ABC Radio's PM Program on Monday 20 February 2023 that restrictive covenants were being applied to housing estates in Tasmania disallowing the use of properties for public housing or to lease to tenants in receipt of government payments.

Some people including welfare agencies have expressed concern that allowing such covenants makes it more difficult for Tasmanians who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to secure affordable accommodation.

While the regulation of covenants is a matter for the Tasmanian Government and Parliament, it is appropriate for local government to adopt a position on this issue as advocates for the rights of people to access affordable housing. Such restrictive covenants also have the

potential to curtail efforts by local government to improve the supply of affordable housing through the instruments available to us.

There appears to be little, if any, legislative restriction on using covenants in this way in either the *Land Titles Act 1980* or other legislation relevant to the administration of land rights. There is also no restriction on covenants being in this way in the *Anti Discrimination Act 1998* because economic circumstances are not a prescribed attribute. It would be prudent of the Attorney-General to consider whether amendments to both legislative instruments are required.

#### **LGAT comment**

LGAT does not have an existing resolution similar to the motion proposed.

The two primary tools for local government to manage the use of land within its municipality is the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*. These establish the primary role of councils to plan their municipalities now and into the future to provide for the health, safety, and welfare (amongst other things) for their communities. There is a range of other legislation that operates outside this framework that constrains or encourages different land uses.

## **2.2 MOTION – COUNCIL LEAVE OF ABSENCE PROVISIONS**

### **Council – Clarence City Council**

#### **Clarence City Council / West Tamar Council**

**That LGAT and Member Councils support Clarence City Council's position which:**

- A. Recognises that the current process for requests for leave of absence by councillors is inappropriate as it does not reflect the rights and responsibilities applicable in contemporary work environments.**
- B. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Local Government on behalf of Council to request the Tasmanian Government to introduce updated regulations as soon as practicable to provide for the following:**
  - i. That a councillor be able to advise the relevant council of a leave of absence 'as of right', subject to conditions being met (as set out below).**
  - ii. A councillor's request for leave may be for a cumulative period of up to three months in any 12-month period in ordinary circumstances or up to six months in any 12-month period should a councillor or their spouse or domestic partner—**
    - (a) become the natural parent of a child (including any period during pregnancy); or**

- (B) adopt a child under the age of 16 years— and the councillor has responsibilities for the care of the child during that period.
- iii. Any application for extended leave that is greater than three or six months, whichever is applicable, must be supported by evidence that would satisfy a reasonable person that the absence is reasonable in the circumstances, and be approved by the relevant council.
- iv. Should a council have concerns regarding a councillor leave of absence, (other than for parental leave), by an absolute majority decision, a council may refer any request for leave of absence to the Minister for Local Government / Director of Local Government for review and determination”.

#### Amendment

Dorset Council / George Town Council

That LGAT and Member Councils support Clarence City Council’s position which:

- A. Recognises that the current process for requests for leave of absence by councillors is inappropriate as it does not reflect the rights and responsibilities applicable in contemporary work environments.
- B. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Local Government on behalf of Council to request the Tasmanian Government to introduce updated regulations as soon as practicable to provide for the following:
  - i. That a councillor be able to advise the relevant council of a leave of absence ‘as of right’, subject to conditions being met (as set out below).
  - ii. A councillor’s request for leave may be for a cumulative period of up to three months in any 12-month period in ordinary circumstances or up to six months in any 12-month period should a councillor or their spouse or domestic partner—
    - (a) become the natural parent of a child (including any period during pregnancy); or
    - (b) adopt a child under the age of 16 years— and the councillor has responsibilities for the care of the child during that period,
    - (c) sustain a significant injury or be struck down by a long-term illness.
  - iii. Any application for extended leave that is greater than three or six months, whichever is applicable, must be supported by evidence that would satisfy a

reasonable person that the absence is reasonable in the circumstances, and be approved by the relevant council.

- iv. Should a council have concerns regarding a councillor leave of absence, (other than for parental leave), by an absolute majority decision, a council may refer any request for leave of absence to the Minister for Local Government / Director of Local Government for review and determination”.

The amendment was put and carried

#### Amendment

##### Circular Head Council / Central Coast Council

That LGAT and Member Councils support Clarence City Council’s position which:

- A. Recognises that the current process for requests for leave of absence by councillors is inappropriate as it does not reflect the rights and responsibilities applicable in contemporary work environments.
- B. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Local Government on behalf of Council to request the Tasmanian Government to introduce updated regulations as soon as practicable to provide for the following:
- i. That a councillor be able to advise the relevant council of a leave of absence ‘as of right’, subject to conditions being met (as set out below).
- ii. A councillor’s request for leave may be for a cumulative period of up to three months in any 12-month period in ordinary circumstances or up to six months in any 12-month period should a councillor or their spouse or domestic partner—
- (a) become the natural parent of a child (including any period during pregnancy); or
- (b) adopt a child under the age of 16 years— and the councillor has responsibilities for the care of the child during that period,
- (c) sustain a significant injury or be struck down by a long-term illness.
- iii. Any application for extended leave that is greater than three or six months, whichever is applicable, must be supported by evidence that would satisfy a reasonable person that the absence is reasonable in the circumstances, and be approved by the relevant council.
- iv. Should a council have concerns regarding a councillor leave of absence, (other than for parental leave), by an absolute majority decision, a council may refer

any request for leave of absence to the Minister for Local Government / Director of Local Government for review and determination”.

- v. A Councillor seeking a leave of absence is required to provide reasonable notice in advance and this should not be less than three days unless in exceptional circumstances

The amendment was put and carried

#### Amendment

Glenorchy City Council / Dorset Council

That LGAT and Member Councils support Clarence City Council’s position which:

- A. Recognises that the current process for requests for leave of absence by councillors is inappropriate as it does not reflect the rights and responsibilities applicable in contemporary work environments.
- B. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Local Government on behalf of Council to request the Tasmanian Government to introduce updated regulations as soon as practicable to provide for the following:
  - i. That a councillor be able to advise the relevant council of a leave of absence ‘as of right’, subject to conditions being met (as set out below).
  - ii. A councillor’s request for leave may be for a cumulative period of up to three months in any 12-month period in ordinary circumstances or up to six months in any 12-month period should a councillor or their spouse or domestic partner—
    - (a) become the natural parent of a child (including any period during pregnancy); or
    - (b) adopt a child under the age of 16 years— and the councillor has responsibilities for the care of the child during that period,
    - (c) sustain a significant injury or be struck down by a long-term illness.
  - iii. Any application for extended leave that is greater than three or six months, whichever is applicable, must be supported by evidence that would satisfy a reasonable person that the absence is reasonable in the circumstances, and be approved by the relevant council.
  - iv. A Councillor seeking a leave of absence is required to provide reasonable notice in advance and this should not be less than three days unless in exceptional circumstances

The amendment was put and Lost

Amendment

Circular Head Council / Central Coast Council

That LGAT and Member Councils support Clarence City Council's position which:

- A. Recognises that the current process for requests for leave of absence by councillors is inappropriate as it does not reflect the rights and responsibilities applicable in contemporary work environments.
- B. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Local Government on behalf of Council to request the Tasmanian Government to introduce updated regulations as soon as practicable to provide for the following:
  - i. That a councillor be able to advise the relevant council of a leave of absence 'as of right', subject to conditions being met (as set out below).
  - ii. A councillor's request for leave may be for a cumulative period of up to three months in any 12-month period in ordinary circumstances or up to six months in any 12-month period should a councillor or their spouse or domestic partner—
    - (a) become the natural parent of a child (including any period during pregnancy); or
    - (b) adopt a child under the age of 16 years— and the councillor has responsibilities for the care of the child during that period,
    - (c) sustain a significant injury or be struck down by a long-term illness.
  - iii. Any application for extended leave that is greater than three or six months, whichever is applicable, must be supported by evidence that would satisfy a reasonable person that the absence is reasonable in the circumstances, and be approved by the relevant council.
  - iv. Should a council have concerns regarding a councillor leave of absence, (other than for parental leave), by an absolute majority decision, a council may refer any request for leave of absence to the Minister for Local Government / Director of Local Government for review and determination".
  - v. A Councillor seeking a leave of absence is required to provide reasonable notice in advance and this should not be less than three days unless in exceptional circumstances

The amendment became the motion which was put and carried

### Background

The current arrangements for the requesting, granting or refusal of leave for councillors serving on Tasmanian local councils does not reflect the appropriate balance of rights and responsibilities expected in contemporary work environments. For example, The Fair Work Act provides that an employee's request for annual leave can only be refused by an employer if the refusal is reasonable. There is no such consideration or protection for councillors under the current regulations covering local government in Tasmania. With the exception of Victoria, where a Council must approve all reasonable requests for leave, all other jurisdictions in Australia also fail to adequately address the issue of requests for leave (see Attachment 1). A councillor should be able to expect reasonable requests for leave are granted as a matter of right. In an environment where those assessing leave applications are also elected members of the Council, it is even more important the application process for leave is built upon clearly demonstrated rights and responsibilities that are consistent with the provisions that apply to all other contemporary workplaces.

### LGAT comment

LGAT does not have an existing resolution similar to the motion proposed.

The 2020 review of the local government legislation did not consider this issue.

## 2.3 MOTION – SHORT STAY

### Local Government Association

#### Break O'Day Council / Hobart City Council

That LGAT convene an expert reference group from member councils to develop recommendations for the sector to consider on:

- What further data and support is required to assist local government in responding to the housing crisis.
- What changes are required to manage short stay accommodation's contribution to housing availability, local amenity, economic development and equitable rating.
- What tools are available to encourage owners of unoccupied dwellings to make their properties available as long term rentals.

Carried

### Background

LGAT received this motion from Clarence City Council and a request from the City of Launceston to *“investigate and report on the implementation of a vacant residential land tax for unoccupied homes within the State.”*

It is further noted that the City of Hobart has unsuccessfully sought amendments to their Local Provision Schedule to limit the number of entire home short stay listings in some parts of the city. A number of councils are also investigating the introduction of a differential rate for short stay accommodation, consistent with the information provided by LGAT at the September 2022 General Meeting ([Item 8.1](#)):

Given the breadth of activity occurring across our sector it is proposed to set up an overarching reference group to develop recommendations for how councils respond in a consistent and constructive way.

Clarence City Council has agreed to withdraw its motion, however the contents of this and also the request from the City of Launceston will form the basis for the reference groups initial considerations.

## 3. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

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**There are no Items for Discussion**

## 4. ITEMS FOR NOTING

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### 4.1 FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW

Contact officer: Dion Lester

Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council

That Members note the update on the Future of Local Government Review.

Carried

#### Background

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of April the Government released the Stage 2 Interim Report from the Local Government Board. The report proposed a reform approach that would result in “boundary changes to deliver larger, more capable councils, supported by mandated shared service arrangements where there is a clear need or benefit”. The details of the proposed changes were not outlined, instead a series of ‘community catchments’ were presented within which future reform scenarios would be based.

On release of the Interim Report local government (and the broader community) was provided until the 21<sup>st</sup> June to provide feedback, with no process outlined for how local government would work through the forthcoming scenarios. LGAT subsequently developed a proposed engagement plan to accompany a request for additional time and funding for independent facilitators. This advocacy was successful, with an additional six weeks being provided by the Government for submissions. In addition, LGAT received funding sufficient to conduct 21 face-to-face sessions and 12 online sessions across the nine ‘community catchments’.

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of May the Board then released a series of scenarios for each ‘community catchment’ outlined in the Interim Report. There were also three supporting discussion documents covering shared service models, State and Local Government partnership opportunities, and supporting strong and empowered local communities.

At the time of writing nine of the face-to-face sessions had been conducted, with good levels of engagement across staff in particular.

On conclusion of the engagement, LGAT will be providing the feedback to each council to support local decision making.

#### Budget Impact

The engagement program has been supported with State Government funding.

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023 Annual Priority

- Local government reform

**4.2 WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY REVIEW \***

Contact officer: Dion Lester

Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council

That Members note the progress on the implementation of the Workplace Health and Safety Review of Elected Representatives (WH&S Review).

Carried

**Background**

At the March 2023 General Meeting members resolved:

*That Members discuss and confirm the proposed high level implementation plan for the workplace health and safety review of elected representatives and communicate the key components to their councils.*

*That Members request that the more detailed project implementation plan be reported to the next General Meeting, including any new resources that may be required.*

*That Members request that a summary of the findings and links to the in-depth documents of the review be sent to all Mayors with a request that they table this and report back to their elected members.*

A detailed implementation plan is included as an **Attachment 4.2** to this item. Since the March General Meeting, Members will note that in addition to the summary of findings being sent to all Mayors as sought by the resolution, a number of the other recommendations have been completed.

**Budget Impact**

The original review was undertaken with State Government funding. At this stage implementation is being undertaken with LGATs existing resources.

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate
- Sector Services

2023 Annual Priority

- Local government reform
- Workplace health and safety for elected representatives

**4.3 CLIMATE CHANGE**

Contact Officer – Ben Morris

Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council

That Members note the update on climate change.

Carried

**Background**

In recent months LGAT has been working with council regional groups (Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, Cradle Coast Authority and northern General Managers group) to develop a proposal for a structured local government climate change program. Thanks to this initiative and direct advocacy to the Minister for Climate Change, Roger Jaensch, the Tasmanian Government's Climate Change Action Plan<sup>1</sup>, has committed \$500,000 over two years to build climate change action capability in local government. The commitment is for the State Government to work with local government to co-design and implement a program of state-wide climate change action in local government that builds the sector's capacity to respond to the impacts of a changing climate and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

In addition, the LGAT CEO is participating in a new State Government-led Climate Change Reference Group. The group is tasked with providing the Tasmanian Government with advice and feedback on strategic priorities and emerging opportunities in climate change mitigation and adaptation. Our seat at this senior table enables local government to have a better voice in climate risk and adaptation and with greenhouse gas emissions.

**Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

<sup>1</sup> Available at: [https://recfit.tas.gov.au/climate/climate\\_change\\_action\\_plan](https://recfit.tas.gov.au/climate/climate_change_action_plan)

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023 Annual Priority

- Climate change

**4.4 LGAT LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE AWARDS \***

Contact Officer – Ben Morris

Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council

That Members note the updated LGAT Local Government Service Awards.

Carried

**Background**

The LGAT General Management Committee (GMC) requested that the secretariat review the current suite of awards under our Local Government Service Awards, which are awarded at our Annual Conference.

We reviewed the awards provided by our peer local government associations and considered the key requirements for a set of contemporary awards. These key requirements include that they must:

- encourage and recognise the service of elected representatives and officers to local government
- have distinct eligibility and assessment criteria
- provide proportionate criteria for elected representatives and officers.

The review of our awards found that there was significant overlap and there was not a clear delineation between recognition of service versus excellence.

This resulted in the LGAT GMC endorsing some amendments to our current award structure. The following are the awards endorsed by the GMC:

- Recognition of service – for elected members, recognising service more than ten years in five-year increments.
- Mayor Emeritus – recognition for retiring Mayors who have served two or more terms.

- Outstanding commitment and service to local government – for elected members and officers that have demonstrated outstanding service and contribution to advance Tasmanian local government.
- Life member – for elected members (more than ten years services) and senior officers (more than 15 years' service). Those awarded are recognised leaders and champions of Tasmanian local government and have demonstrated excellence in service and contribution to advance the local government sector – within and beyond Tasmania.

The full details of the awards, eligibility, assessment criteria and nature of recognition are included as an **Attachment to this item 4.2**.

#### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

#### **Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Governance and operations

2023 Annual Priority

- Sector development

### **4.5 PLANNING REFORM**

**Contact Officer – Michael Edrich**

**Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council**

**That Members note the update on the progress of planning reforms.**

**Carried**

#### **Background**

The Tasmanian Government's planning reforms continue to progress. There are four major areas of work:

1. preparation of the Tasmanian Planning Policies (TPPs)<sup>2</sup>
2. review of the Regional Planning Framework<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> TPPs progress: <https://planningreform.tas.gov.au/planning-reforms-and-reviews/tasmanian-planning-policies>

<sup>3</sup> Regional Planning Framework progress: <https://planningreform.tas.gov.au/planning-reforms-and-reviews/regional-planning-framework>

3. review of the Regional Land Use Strategies (RLUSs)
4. review of the State Planning Provisions (SPPs)<sup>4</sup>.

There are several updates since the March 2023 General Meeting update.

The Minister has submitted the Draft Tasmanian Planning Policies (TPPs) to the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) for public exhibition and review. Submissions on the Draft TPPs are due 26 June.

LGAT made a [submission](#) on the Regional Planning Framework Discussion Paper and draft Structure Plan Guidelines. Our key points were the need to:

1. resolve the lack of maintenance of the RLUSs and responsiveness to emerging local issues (e.g., housing and meeting development demand)
2. resolve the lack of clear ownership of the RLUSs and the lack of ability for planning authorities to act decisively and responsively on local planning matters bound to the RLUSs
3. clarify the role and involvement of different state government agencies within the RLUSs, and how these agencies should interface with the RLUSs when they are in operation.

Our submission supported improving consistency between regions, with the framework allowing flexibility for councils to express their region's development narrative and to address local and regional challenges and opportunities.

The State Planning Office (SPO) has met with council planners regarding the State Planning Provisions (SPPs) Review. The SPO has triaged the issues received through consultation and are now inviting local government planning experts to work with them on reviewing and progressing these issues in logical groups. The SPO's detailed work and close collaboration with local government planners has been very well received by councils.

The Local Provisions Schedules of Waratah-Wynyard and Latrobe Councils' have now taken effect. This brings the total to 21 councils having fully transitioned to the Tasmanian Planning Scheme<sup>5</sup>.

#### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources

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<sup>4</sup> SPP Review progress: <https://planningreform.tas.gov.au/planning-reforms-and-reviews/review-of-the-state-planning-provisions>

<sup>5</sup> TPS progress: [https://planningreform.tas.gov.au/planning/scheme/local\\_provisions\\_schedules](https://planningreform.tas.gov.au/planning/scheme/local_provisions_schedules)

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023 Annual Priority

- Ready for growth communities
- Climate change

**4.6 TASMANIAN DEVELOPMENT MANUAL PROJECT**

Contact Officer – Michael Edrich

**Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council**

**That Members note the work LGAT is undertaking to overhaul the Tasmanian Municipal Standards and inform Tasmania’s planning system with the Tasmanian Development Manual Project.**

**Carried**

**Background**

LGAT maintains the Tasmanian Municipal Standards (TMS) documents in collaboration with the Institute of Public Works Engineers Australasia Tasmania (IPWEA Tas) and councils. The TMS is hosted on the LGAT website<sup>[1]</sup> and consists of three documents:

- TMS – Specifications
- TMS – Drawings
- Subdivision Guidelines.

LGAT and IPWEA Tas have recognised the need for these documents to be substantially updated and consolidated. The Tasmanian Planning Scheme (TPS) provides only for the regulation of use and development and doesn’t set out any detailed design guidelines to inform and support development. Addressing these gaps would benefit proponent understanding and councils as planning authorities under the TPS.

LGAT has been successful in advocating to the Tasmanian government to co-fund work to address these gaps. The work will combine all components of the existing TMS and create a comprehensive Development Manual. The manual would include a range of both pre-application design guidelines and post-approval construction standards. Its aim will be a convenient single reference point for developers, and councils, in informing development proposals submitted and compliance requirements for construction.

<sup>[1]</sup> See: <https://www.lgat.tas.gov.au/member-services/engineering-local-government-standards-and-guidelines>

### Project Concept

The manual will be modular, allowing councils to adopt or apply the components they choose and allowing the manual to be developed over time, component-by-component, in a prioritised form.

The aim is to provide guidelines, resources and tools that reduce uncertainty and support voluntary uptake of consistent development regulatory approaches, supporting proponents, approvers, and regulators. The manual must be flexible to support widespread uptake and appropriate local application from our major cities to our islands and remote areas.

The scope for the first modules will be confirmed through a local government steering committee, formed by LGAT. Some of the items that may be in the Development Manual include:

- Design guidelines and standards for:
  - urban design
  - footpath and cycleways design
  - transport, access, and parking design
  - water sensitive urban design
  - hazards planning and design – bushfire, coastal, flood
  - stormwater drainage
  - standard drawings and material requirements.
- Administrative and procedural matters, such as:
  - application checklists
  - compliance procedures and checklists
  - plan sealing procedures
  - flexible template conditions.

### Legal Effect

The Development Manual and its requirements will be non-statutory, until called up by councils under their existing legal authority. This will include:

1. under conditions of planning permit approval – [section 51](#) (3A and 4) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA)
2. requests for additional information – [section 54](#) of LUPAA
3. agreements relating to development and infrastructure – [Part 5](#) of LUPAA.

The Tasmanian Development Manual will sit alongside the Tasmanian Planning Scheme (TPS) in regulating and setting the standards for development. The TPS generally covers which development is regulated and the objective or outcome to be achieved. The Development Manual will provide more detail on how to achieve the objectives or outcomes.

#### **Budget Impact**

The project is being co-funded by the Tasmanian Government (State Planning Office), all councils (through existing contributions to the TMS), and LGAT. LGAT is contributing in-kind resources for project management and stakeholder engagement support.

#### **Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate
- Sector services

2023 Annual Priority

- Ready for growth communities
- Sector development

#### **4.7 BUS STOP OWNERSHIP AND UPGRADE GRANT PROGRAM**

Contact Officer – Michael Edrich

Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council

**That Members note the update on the Department of State Growth's All-Access All-Weather Bus Stop Upgrade Grant Program and the issue of bus stop ownership.**

**Carried**

#### **Background**

Bus stops are an important part of the public transport system across rural and urban areas. In the past, ownership has not been a prominent issue with councils and State Government agencies maintaining and repairing infrastructure as needed. However, the requirement for bus stop infrastructure to be compliant with the Commonwealth *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (DDA) has meant that an entity must be responsible. The Department of State Growth (DSG) has initiated the All-Access All-Weather Bus Stop Upgrade Program to fund upgrade of bus stops to DDA compliance<sup>6</sup> with costs shared between councils and the State Government.

Today, the ownership, and responsibility that comes with that to upgrade, maintain and renew is a very contested issue. The State Government position has been that bus stop infrastructure on local roads and on state roads within urban areas is owned by and an obligation of local government, irrespective of who constructed it, who manages the transport provider service levels, and who controls the bus route and stop location.

<sup>6</sup> See: [https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/public\\_transport/bus\\_stop\\_upgrade\\_program](https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/public_transport/bus_stop_upgrade_program)

The position of local government has been overall, that the ownership of assets within the road reserve remain owned by the public transport operator and/or the constructor of the asset. Responsibility can be transferred through voluntary agreement to another party for ongoing ownership and/or maintenance, much like any other utility, such as electricity, water supply, wastewater reticulation, and telecommunications.

The All-Access All-Weather Bus Stop Upgrade Program has been welcomed by councils who have wanted to improve the accessibility of bus stops. However, they are very wary of attempts to use the grant to pass ownership and responsibility of bus stops on to councils. DSG was cautioned by councils and LGAT not to attempt this.

However, in March, DSG wrote to councils declaring their intention to have their position on bus stop ownership and maintenance reflected in the program deeds. Several councils immediately reacted against this and alerted LGAT.

As a result, LGAT has written to and met with DSG to separate the bus stop ownership and maintenance issue from the program, to allow the upgrade of bus stops for the benefit of the community. Our advice to DSG is to use a separate negotiated process to work towards resolving the ownership issue, such as through the concurrent Road Management Legislation Review<sup>7</sup>. At the time of writing, it appears that DSG is taking this recommendation and is amending the Grant Program draft deeds.

The local government sector, supported by LGAT, will need to work through a negotiated process for how the public transport stop infrastructure is maintained. It may be that there are certain tasks that councils are better placed to deliver than the State – but only by agreement and with appropriate cost recovery. Councils are critical to the success of a substantially improved public transport delivery and operation system that meets the aspirations of our communities.

**Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

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<sup>7</sup> See:

[https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/projectsplanning/plans\\_strategies\\_and\\_policies/road\\_management\\_legislation\\_review](https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/projectsplanning/plans_strategies_and_policies/road_management_legislation_review)

4.8 REGIONAL TOWNS CCTV PROJECT  
Contact Officer – Wade Berry

Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council

That Members note the update on the Regional Towns CCTV project.

Carried

**Background**

As noted in the December General Meeting Agenda<sup>1</sup>, LGAT has commenced a \$4 million program, funded by the Tasmanian Government, to increase community safety in regional towns with closed circuit security cameras (CCTV).

Invitations to participate have been sent to all councils with 21 councils expressing an interest in being part of the project. We have directly engaged all interested councils, including commencing the review of existing CCTV and server infrastructure, and holding meetings and briefings with key infrastructure and IT staff.

Tasmania Police have expressed their full commitment to supporting the project. We have met with District Commanders and Inspectors to discuss the key requirements of this project. Tasmania Police will assist with project guidance at a state-wide level, as well as provide local input into the identification of key CCTV sites. Tasmania Police are also investigating opportunities to link this project into their future automatic number plate recognition projects.

To test the project approach, understand costs and timelines, the project has determined four municipalities as 'proof of concept sites', before rolling the project out to a broader set of municipalities. In each of the four council areas, four contractors have been selected to get the design and installation under way. A kick-off meeting with proof-of-concept councils and Tasmania Police was held on 30 May 2023.

The design is aiming for a consistent state-wide CCTV hardware and software delivery method. The design emphasises existing assets, where councils have invested in suitable infrastructure.

**Budget Impact**

Being undertaken with external grant funds from the Tasmanian Government, via the Department of State Growth.

2023 Annual Priority

- Sector development

#### 4.9 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Contact Officer – Bec Stevenson

Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council

That Members note the update on emergency management.

Carried

#### Background

LGAT continues to engage with the State Government on emergency management issues of importance for local government, including several reviews underway.

#### Tasmanian Emergency Management Arrangements Review

In June 2022, the Tasmanian Emergency Management Arrangements (TEMA) Review Project commenced. The *Emergency Management Act 2006* requires that the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) review the TEMA and State Special Emergency Management Plans at least once every two years. The TEMA is the guiding document outlining the emergency management arrangements in Tasmania.

We have made two submissions on behalf of the sector; [Issue 2](#) and [Issue 3](#). The draft TEMA was approved by the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) at their March 2023 meeting for endorsement by the Minister for Police and Emergency Management. SEMC noted our concerns raised in relation to the level of detail in the recovery section of the TEMA recognising the State Recovery Plan is under review. The TEMA is currently with the Minister for endorsement.

#### State Special Emergency Management Plan – State Recovery Plan

The Department of Premier and Cabinet have commenced a comprehensive review of the State Recovery Plan, with the aim of delivering a Plan to the State Emergency Management Committee in December 2023 for endorsement.

An Issues Paper, endorsed by the State Recovery Committee, has been released that consolidates known issues and gaps in the current recovery arrangements. The paper poses a set of questions to draw further insights and experiences from recovery partners at the local and State Government level, as well as within the NGO sector. The paper was distributed to councils on 27 April 2023 for feedback.

We are preparing a submission on behalf of the local government sector and will provide a link to our final submission at a future meeting.

#### Fire Services Act Review

After six years of comprehensive reviews and public consultation the Tasmanian Government [announced](#) on 24 January 2023 that it would:

- Merge the Tasmania Fire Service and the State Emergency Services to become Tasmania Fire and Emergency Service (TFES).
- The State Fire Commission will become the State Fire and Emergency Services Committee, allowing the membership to grow and include representatives from SES and other key stakeholders.

These changes will be effected through new legislation - the Fire and Emergency Services Act, that will replace the *Fire Services Act 1979*.

We understand a reform project team is being established to implement the recommendations endorsed by Government and work with key stakeholders to inform the development of a draft Bill.

Local government has been confirmed as a key stakeholder in the project and appropriate engagement has been assured as the reform progresses. To date however, no engagement has occurred. We have been and will continue to seek information and sector participation in the review.

#### **Disaster Ready Fund**

The Australian Government [announced](#) on 10 January 2023 the establishment of the [Disaster Ready Fund](#) (DRF). A number of councils nominated projects for consideration during round one. These applications have been assessed by the Tasmanian evaluation panel and referred to the Australian Government for assessment. We are currently waiting on an announcement of the successful projects by the Australian Government, which we understand is imminent.

A review of feedback received following round one will be undertaken prior to the release of round two. The short timeframes that hampered local government participation have been raised by the Australian Local Government Association with the Federal Minister for Emergency Management, Senator the Hon. Murray Watt.

#### **Review of the State Tsunami Plan**

The State Emergency Service has been coordinating a review of the State Tsunami Plan. This has involved the LGAT contact officer participating in an exercise working group delivering a multi-agency exercise event to test the draft Plan. We have also provided a sector response to the review. The revised Plan is expected to be presented to the SEMC meeting scheduled for June for final endorsement.

#### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023 Annual Priority

- Emergency management

**4.10 WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY**

Contact Officer – Bec Stevenson

**Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council**

**That Members note the report on waste and resource recovery.**

**Carried**

**Background**

LGAT continues to engage with the State Government, Waste and Resource Recovery Board and the three Regional Waste Authorities on waste and resource issues of importance for local government. We have also been supporting ReThink Waste<sup>8</sup> to increase their social media reach through our media channels.

**Draft Container Refund Scheme Regulations**

Consultation commenced on 11 May 2023 on the draft *Container Refund Scheme Regulations 2023*. The draft regulations have been developed to provide operational detail around the *Container Refund Scheme Act 2022* including:

- exclusion of the beverage containers from the scheme when it commences (such as unflavoured milk, wine, and spirits)
- the 10 cents per container refund amount
- technical details for barcodes and refund messages to be included on beverage labels
- circumstances where a refund is not payable (such as where a container is broken or contaminated).

The draft regulations are consistent with national efforts to harmonise container types, refund amounts, labelling, and education, providing consistency for beverage producers and simplifying schemes for consumers.

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<sup>8</sup> A Tasmanian initiative to support communities to reduce, reuse and recycle. It is a joint initiative of the Cradle Coast Waste Management Group, Northern Tasmanian Waste Management Group, and Southern Tasmanian Regional Waste Authority in partnership with the Tasmanian Government. See: <https://rethinkwaste.com.au>

A copy of the draft regulations was provided to the Regional Waste Authorities to review and provide a submission if required.

**Landfill Levy Support Program**

We have been advised that consultation on the Waste and Resource Recovery Board (WRRB) Landfill Levy Support Program will commence shortly. The WRRB will engage directly with Councils.

**Waste and Resource Recovery Board (WRRB)**

LGAT has continued to engage and support the WRRB, including with the recruitment of their CEO, with the LGAT CEO a member of this recruitment panel.

Engagement on the Draft Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy closed in late February 2023, with submissions currently being considered and the final strategy due to be released soon. A number of councils provided submissions on the draft strategy with a full list available on the Natural Resources and Environment [website](#). LGAT provided a submission on behalf of the sector, available on our [website](#).

**Garage Sale Trail**

Since the last update, we have met with, and supported the Garage Sale Trail General Manager to increase their engagement with the local government sector. A case study has been published on our website promoting the Trail and information distributed to councils on joining the Garage Sale Trail.

**Regional Waste Authority Support**

We continue to work with the Regional Waste Authorities. In particular, we have supported the formation of the Southern Tasmanian Regional Waste Authority (STRWA), representing the southern councils. This has included foundation governance rules and supporting the board and CEO appointment process. The STRWA is now operating with its own CEO, Paul Jackson, who is leasing office space from LGAT, and we are providing administrative support under a formal fee-for-service arrangement.

We anticipate that with the foundation policy measures, such as the state-wide waste levy and container refund scheme, now in place Tasmania is well positioned to improve our resource recovery rates.

**Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023 Annual Priority

- Waste and resource recovery

**4.11 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

Contact Officer – Bec Stevenson

**Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council**

**That Members note the report on LGAT's refreshed Memorandum of Understanding with EPA Tasmania.**

**Carried**

**Background**

Since 2017, LGAT and the Environmental Protection Authority Tasmania (EPA) have had a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish and implement a framework for LGAT, councils and the EPA to work together on environmental protection. In particular, so that the parties work more cooperatively in assessing and regulating environmentally relevant activities and responding to events that may cause environmental harm or nuisance.

A new five-year MOU has recently been established that builds on from the previous MoU. The refreshed MoU reflects on the strong relationship between the LGAT and EPA and an ongoing, shared desire to show leadership and engage in a structured, cooperative, and productive way to support councils.

The Strategic Priorities have been informed by engagement with the local government sector and areas that EPA has identified in their work alongside councils. The priorities outlined in the MoU are:

- environmental complaints, incident preparedness and response
- illegal dumping
- environmental investigations and prosecutions
- capability building
- capacity
- national standard implementation
- collaboration on more complex development applications and regulation.

An annual action plan will be produced each year and tabled at the first LGAT General Meeting in the new financial year. This plan will become the workplan for the EPA's Local Government Engagement Program.

A working group will be established comprising of Senior LGAT and EPA officers to develop, oversee and review progress with the annual action plan and address any issues that arise, including new matters that may require consideration as Strategic Priorities.

**Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

**4.12 CHILD AND YOUTH SAFE ORGANISATIONS**

Contact Officer – Lynden Leppard

**Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council**

**That Members note the update on Child and Youth Safe Organisation Bill and Recommendation 6.12 from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse Report.**

**Carried**

**Background**

The Child and Youth Safe Organisation Bill establishes a legislative framework for the regulation of Child and Youth Safe Standards and the establishment of a Reportable Conduct Scheme, including information sharing provisions, aligning with the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. The Bill has now passed the Legislative Council and awaits Royal Assent.

The bill identifies all councils as entities that are required to comply with the Child and Youth Safe Standards (the Standards). Council compliance with the standards will be monitored and enforced by the Independent Regulator. Councils will also be required to comply with the Reportable Conduct Scheme from 1 January 2024.

The Independent Regulator and their office will provide education and advice to councils to support their compliance with the Standards and to undertake their responsibilities under the Reportable Conduct Scheme.

Details about the Standards can be found at [Child and Youth Safe Standards](#) on the Department of Justice website.

Recommendation 6.12 from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse Report is that (emphasis added):

*With support from governments at the national, state and territory levels, local governments should designate child safety officer positions from existing staff profiles to carry out the following functions:*

- a. developing child safe messages in local government venues, grounds and facilities*
- b. assisting local institutions to access online child safe resources*
- c. providing child safety information and support to local institutions on a needs basis*
- d. supporting local institutions to work collaboratively with key services to ensure child safe approaches are culturally safe, disability aware and appropriate for children from diverse backgrounds.*

The Tasmanian Government accepted, in principle, recommendation 6.12 in its response to the Commission's Report. The Office of Local Government (OLG) is responsible for monitoring and implementing recommendation 6.12. Councils are encouraged to implement the recommendations. LGAT is advocating to the OLG on the need for adequate resourcing for individual councils and a coordinated approach to implementation.

LGAT continues to represent council interests as the implementation of recommendation 6.12 and pending regulations in the Child and Youth Safe Organisation Bill. Both have significant resourcing, training, organisational, and community engagement implications for councils.

LGAT is advocating the view that, while local government strongly supports the intent and value of both, effective implementation requires resources and support beyond the sector's capability.

#### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

#### **Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023 Annual Priority

- Health and wellbeing

#### 4.13 COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING LIFT LOCAL PROJECT

Contact Officer – Lynden Leppard

Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council

**That Members note the update on the Community Health and Wellbeing Project and Lift Local grants.**

**Carried**

##### **Background**

LGAT has a funding agreement with the Public Health Service (PHS) in the Department of Health with the core purpose to build a state-wide community health and wellbeing network between all councils, LGAT, and PHS.

The funding agreement's focus is in response to feedback from council officers that they wanted support to share good practice, a direct connection with PHS expertise, and opportunities to collaborate across councils. The importance of local government's role in preventative health and improved community wellbeing is recognised in the state government's Healthy Tasmania Five Year Strategic Plan 2022-2026 and the funding agreement is a practical expression of that.

LGAT is collaborating with PHS on building the network and facilitating the development and implementation of the Lift Local Grants program. Feedback from councils during the previous community health and wellbeing project included the view that the Department of Health's grant funding model had to change. The new model, now underway, has been influenced by LGAT's advocacy of that view. Collaboration with PHS in support of that advocacy has resulted in the new program where \$20,000 is available to every council. This is not competitive, and the purpose of the funding is decided by each council's view of what health and wellbeing priority is most relevant to their community.

Twenty-eight councils have expressed interest in participating and many projects have already been funded. Most of these councils attended regional workshops in March facilitated by LGAT and PHS officers. There is strong council interest in repeating these in September. The non-competitive funding and support for what individual councils judge as important to them was very well received.

The network is being developed through collaboration between councils with similar projects and an advisory group of council officers will guide the purposes and approaches of the network.

##### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current grant resources from the Public Health Service in the Department of Health.

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023 Annual Priority

- Local government reform
- Health and wellbeing

**4.14 EVENTS OVERVIEW**

**Carly Hay, Events and Training Coordinator**

**Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council**

**That the Committee note the report on recent and future events.**

**Carried**

**Background**

During 2022/2023 LGAT has delivered over 26 events for members with an additional 21 face to face and 12 online consultation sessions organised in June to support the sectors engagement as part of stage three Future of Local Government Review.

**Annual Conference**

The 2023 Annual Conference will be held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2023 at the paranapple Convention Centre in Devonport. The conference theme has now been finalised and will be “Embracing Change”. LGAT is currently locking in a fantastic line up of speakers and the program will be released as soon as finalised.

The structure of this year’s conference will be slightly different from last year. The first day of the conference will be a full day of conference including the General Meeting. This will be followed by a half day ending at lunch time to allow for travel. This change has been informed by delegate feedback from last year.

Sponsorship opportunities for the conference are available on our website and potential sponsors have been approached.

While the conference is still a few months away, we highly recommend securing accommodation at the Novotel Hotel. This can be done through our [webpage here](#).

**GM’s Workshop**

A General Manager's Workshop was held on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023, at Barnboughle in Bridport.

The session included roundtable discussions with the GM's and discussions with the Office of Local Government, the CEO of Homes Tasmania, and a workshop from Cultural Alchemy on adaptive leadership for evolving organisation.

#### **Planning Workshops**

As part of the ongoing professional development of elected representatives, LGAT is delivering regular events to supplement the online training modules available through the Learning and Development Framework. The first topic in the series was Managing Growth. The day was split into two parts, the morning session targeted elected members and focused on learning about their role as a planning authority. The afternoon session targeted both elected members and council officers and covered planning for our current and future population. Two sessions were held, one in the South on 5<sup>th</sup> May and one in the North on 28<sup>th</sup> May.

Both sessions were very well attended with 60 delegates at the southern session and 78 at the northern session.

Feedback from the workshops was positive and the format, with learning opportunities for both elected members and officers, was well received. This format will be utilised again as part of the future sessions.

#### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

#### **Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Sector services

2023 Annual Priority

- Sector development

#### 4.15 POLICY UPDATE

Contact Officer – Ben Morris

Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council

That Members note the update on a range of policy matters.

Carried

#### Road Management Legislation Review

The Tasmanian Government has initiated a review of Tasmania's road management legislation<sup>9</sup>, primarily the *Roads and Jetties Act 1935*, the *Local Government (Highways) Act 1982*, and the *Highways Act 1951*. The review is not looking more broadly at road user legislation, such as registration, licencing, road safety or public transport.

This is welcomed as a holistic review of road management legislation has been an important request of local government for some time.

The Department of State Growth (DSG) undertook a series of consultation sessions with local road managers in February 2023, which were very well received. A summary of consultation findings has been provided to councils and attendees.

DSG intends to publish a discussion paper for comment. The intended release has been delayed due to resourcing. However, given the array of concurrent review and reform work affecting local government, the considerate pacing of this review is welcomed and supports better council engagement.

We will update councils when the discussion paper is published.

#### Cybersecurity

The awareness of cybersecurity breaches has increased with recent cases including Optus, Medibank, Latitude Financial, and the Tasmanian Government. These breaches impacted large, well-resourced organisations causing significant, and in some cases ongoing harm to customers.

Local government is also a target, with two Tasmanian councils falling victim to cyber-attacks that impacted on their ability to provide services to their community. Councils provide important services and functions to the community, hold personal and financial information of residents and employees, and have important local and state political influence. Cyber-

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<sup>9</sup> Review:

[https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/projectsplanning/plans\\_strategies\\_and\\_policies/road\\_management\\_legislation\\_review](https://www.transport.tas.gov.au/projectsplanning/plans_strategies_and_policies/road_management_legislation_review)

crime is a multi-billion-dollar business, with an ecosystem of bad actors looking to make money by:

- finding, then selling or renting, software exploits or weaknesses
- using the weaknesses to capture data or systems and then seeking a ransom or other payback for the 'safe' release of the system
- extracting data for on selling

Cyber risk has been identified as a key risk by the major local government insurer, who alongside the community, are putting increasing pressure on councils to make sure that data and local services, and function, are safe and resilient.

LGAT has been working with the Department of Premier and Cabinet' Digital Strategy and Services team and the Australian Government Cyber Security Centre to lift the understanding of the threats to local government and the actions that can be taken. The potential for strengthened formal partnership to build councils' digital capability is highlighted in the Future of Local Government Review discussion paper - *State Government partnership opportunities for Local Government*<sup>10</sup>.

#### **Budget Impact**

Being undertaken within current resources.

#### **Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Advocate

2023 Annual Priority

- Ready for growth communities
- Sector development

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<sup>10</sup> Available at: [https://engage.futurelocal.tas.gov.au/information-packs#Supporting\\_Discussions](https://engage.futurelocal.tas.gov.au/information-packs#Supporting_Discussions)

#### 4.16 LGAT PROCUREMENT UPDATE

Contact Officer – Georgia Palmer

Kingborough Council / Huon Valley Council

That Members note the update on procurement support to councils.

Carried

#### Background

Last year, LGAT Procurement had an independent review undertaken of the services it provides to Tasmanian councils. The purpose of the review was to identify how to best structure this member service to support the current and future needs of Tasmanian councils via the delivery of a five-year strategic/business plan and initiatives.

We are now one year into the strategic/business plan and are progressing well in implementing the initiatives. The new activities implemented in the first year have included:

- The establishment of a reference group to guide LGAT Procurement initiatives.
- Engagement of Business Development manager to build greater understanding of the LGAT Procurement services by councils.
- Investment in a CRM to capture key engagement activity and drive efficiencies.
- Establishing panel criteria to review existing contracts to determine whether we retire some and to inform future panel involvement and development.
- Website update to reflect new services.

The new initiatives have resulted in increased utilisation of the services by councils leading to increased savings and procurement support. During 2022/2023, there has been a 35% increase in use of the panel arrangements compared to 2021/2022.

In addition to the above, more recently our focus has been on the two key initiatives outlined below.

#### LGAT Procurement Training

Basic/foundation and intermediate procurement skills training was delivered on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of May as a pilot program. These sessions were LGAT hosted (online and onsite) and were attended by 30 participants, with another council committed to in house training in June.

Feedback on the content and trainer has been overwhelmingly positive. Some of the comments were as follows:

- *“Listening to the war stories of actual events or incidents in the past, proves why these training sessions are required more and more.”*

- *“Councils and other organisations would benefit from new employees having a requirement to undertake this training from the beginning.”*
- *“It was engaging, the activities were well organized.”*
- *“Thank you for organising such a good session. I am often dubious about these kinds of training sessions, especially remotely, but the trainer was excellent, and it was well organised with good content.”*

Next steps include understanding the potential barriers to engagement and exploring additional potential units, which could include contract management, risk management and negotiation skills, to name a few.

A suite of procurement training offerings will be provided on the LGAT website in July.

#### **Civil Works and Roads Panel/s**

A local civil works panel or suite of panels was identified through both the review of LGAT Procurement and Future of Local Government Review as being a significant opportunity.

In recent years, we have partnered with Local Buy to provide a Road, Water, Sewerage and Civil Works (BUS 270) panel to councils. We have seen a small but increasing number of requests and spend through the panel but are aware of several barriers to expanding its use, including the lack of Tasmanian suppliers and council involvement in development of the panel.

The new panel will address these barriers as well as:

- Create a contract that reflects the minor and major civil works requirements of councils.
- Secure competitive pricing based on the combined purchasing influence of councils.
- Provide a streamlined approach for councils to engage contractors via a request for quotation rather than a full tender process while meeting legislative obligations.

A working group made up of council staff will be established in the coming weeks to provide expert advice into the process and to form the evaluation team. To support the activity of the working group a survey has been sent to councils with the information provided supporting development of the draft specifications and contract documents. Council engagement in the development of the panel will be crucial to the success of the arrangement.

To develop the civil works panel, legal advice will be required to ensure appropriate contract documentation.

**Budget Impact**

The legal advice required to support the development of contractual documents for the civil works panel has been budgeted. Current LGAT procurement staff resourcing will be provided to facilitate the project.

**Current Policy**

Strategic Plan

- Sector Services

2023 Annual Priority

- LGAT Procurement

## 5. OTHER BUSINESS AND CLOSE

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There being no further discussion the President declared the meeting closed at 1.45pm.

**CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD**

Dated this

day of

2023

.....

**Mick Tucker  
PRESIDENT**

**1.1 Confirmation of Minutes**

**Total Responses: 57**

**1.1 Confirmation of Minutes**

Kingborough/Clarence

That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2023, as circulated, be confirmed.

- 1. For  53
- 2. Against 0
- 3. Abstain  4



Participant	Response	Weight
Break O'Day Council	For	1
Brighton Council	For	2
Burnie City Council	For	2
Central Coast Council	For	3
Central Highlands Council	[No Response]	1
Circular Head Council	For	1
Clarence City Council	For	4
Derwent Valley Council	For	2
Devonport City Council	Abstain	3
Dorset Council	For	1
Flinders Council	For	1
George Town Council	For	1
Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council	For	1
Glenorchy City Council	For	4
Hobart City Council	For	4
Huon Valley Council	For	2
Kentish Council	For	1
Kingborough Council	For	3
King Island Council	[No Response]	1
Latrobe Council	For	2
Launceston City Council	For	4
Meander Valley Council	For	3

Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	For	2
Southern Midlands Council	For	1
Tasman Council	Abstain	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	For	2
West Coast Council	For	1
West Tamar Council	For	3

1.2 Business Arising

Total Responses: 57

1.2 Business Arising

Dorset/Break O'Day

That Members note the information.

1. For  52  
2. Against  1  
3. Abstain  4



Participant	Response	Weight
Break O'Day Council	For	1
Brighton Council	For	2
Burnie City Council	For	2
Central Coast Council	For	3
Central Highlands Council	[No Response]	1
Circular Head Council	For	1
Clarence City Council	For	4
Derwent Valley Council	For	2
Devonport City Council	Abstain	3
Dorset Council	For	1
Flinders Council	For	1
George Town Council	For	1
Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council	For	1
Glenorchy City Council	For	4
Hobart City Council	For	4
Huon Valley Council	For	2
Kentish Council	For	1
Kingborough Council	For	3
King Island Council	[No Response]	1
Latrobe Council	For	2
Launceston City Council	For	4
Meander Valley Council	For	3

Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	For	2
Southern Midlands Council	Against	1
Tasman Council	Abstain	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	For	2
West Coast Council	For	1
West Tamar Council	For	3

**1.3 Confirmation of Agenda**

**Total Responses: 57**

**1.3 Confirmation of Agenda**

Devonport/Waratah-Wynyard

That consideration be given to the Agenda items and the order of business.

- 1. For  54
- 2. Against 0
- 3. Abstain  3



Participant	Response	Weight
Break O'Day Council	For	1
Brighton Council	For	2
Burnie City Council	For	2
Central Coast Council	For	3
Central Highlands Council	[No Response]	1
Circular Head Council	For	1
Clarence City Council	For	4
Derwent Valley Council	For	2
Devonport City Council	Abstain	3
Dorset Council	For	1
Flinders Council	For	1
George Town Council	For	1
Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council	For	1
Glenorchy City Council	For	4
Hobart City Council	For	4
Huon Valley Council	For	2
Kentish Council	For	1
Kingborough Council	For	3
King Island Council	[No Response]	1
Latrobe Council	For	2
Launceston City Council	For	4
Meander Valley Council	For	3

Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	For	2
Southern Midlands Council	For	1
Tasman Council	For	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	For	2
West Coast Council	For	1
West Tamar Council	For	3

1.4 Follow up of Motions

Total Responses: 57

1.4 Follow up of Motions

Huon Valley/Burnie

That Members note the following report.

1. For  54  
 2. Against 0  
 3. Abstain  3



Participant	Response	Weight
Break O'Day Council	For	1
Brighton Council	For	2
Burnie City Council	For	2
Central Coast Council	For	3
Central Highlands Council	[No Response]	1
Circular Head Council	For	1
Clarence City Council	For	4
Derwent Valley Council	For	2
Devonport City Council	Abstain	3
Dorset Council	For	1
Flinders Council	For	1
George Town Council	For	1
Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council	For	1
Glenorchy City Council	For	4
Hobart City Council	For	4
Huon Valley Council	For	2
Kentish Council	For	1
Kingborough Council	For	3
King Island Council	[No Response]	1
Latrobe Council	For	2
Launceston City Council	For	4
Meander Valley Council	For	3

Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	For	2
Southern Midlands Council	For	1
Tasman Council	For	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	For	2
West Coast Council	For	1
West Tamar Council	For	3

**1.5 Presidents Report**

**Total Responses: 57**

**1.5 Presidents Report**

Kentish/Northern Midlands

That the Meeting note the report on the President's activity from 28 February 2023 until 9 June 2023.

- 1. For  52
- 2. Against  1
- 3. Abstain  4



Participant	Response	Weight
Break O'Day Council	For	1
Brighton Council	For	2
Burnie City Council	For	2
Central Coast Council	For	3
Central Highlands Council	[No Response]	1
Circular Head Council	For	1
Clarence City Council	For	4
Derwent Valley Council	For	2
Devonport City Council	Abstain	3
Dorset Council	For	1
Flinders Council	For	1
George Town Council	Abstain	1
Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council	For	1
Glenorchy City Council	For	4
Hobart City Council	For	4
Huon Valley Council	For	2
Kentish Council	For	1
Kingborough Council	For	3
King Island Council	[No Response]	1
Latrobe Council	For	2
Launceston City Council	For	4
Meander Valley Council	For	3

Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	For	2
Southern Midlands Council	Against	1
Tasman Council	For	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	For	2
West Coast Council	For	1
West Tamar Council	For	3

1.6 Chief Executive Officer's Report

Total Responses: 57

1.6 Chief Executive Officer's Report

Break O'Day/Brighton

That Members note the report on the CEO's activity from 27 February 2023 until 9 June 2023.

1. For  54  
2. Against 0  
3. Abstain  3



Participant	Response	Weight
Break O'Day Council	For	1
Brighton Council	For	2
Burnie City Council	For	2
Central Coast Council	For	3
Central Highlands Council	[No Response]	1
Circular Head Council	For	1
Clarence City Council	For	4
Derwent Valley Council	For	2
Devonport City Council	Abstain	3
Dorset Council	For	1
Flinders Council	For	1
George Town Council	For	1
Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council	For	1
Glenorchy City Council	For	4
Hobart City Council	For	4
Huon Valley Council	For	2
Kentish Council	For	1
Kingborough Council	For	3
King Island Council	[No Response]	1
Latrobe Council	For	2
Launceston City Council	For	4
Meander Valley Council	For	3

Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	For	2
Southern Midlands Council	For	1
Tasman Council	For	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	For	2
West Coast Council	For	1
West Tamar Council	For	3

**1.7 Council Round Ups**

**Total Responses: 57**

**1.7 Council Round Ups**

George Town/Waratah-Wynyard

That Members note there will not be a council round up this meeting.

- 1. For  53
- 2. Against  1
- 3. Abstain  3



Participant	Response	Weight
Break O'Day Council	For	1
Brighton Council	For	2
Burnie City Council	For	2
Central Coast Council	For	3
Central Highlands Council	[No Response]	1
Circular Head Council	For	1
Clarence City Council	For	4
Derwent Valley Council	For	2
Devonport City Council	Abstain	3
Dorset Council	For	1
Flinders Council	For	1
George Town Council	For	1
Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council	For	1
Glenorchy City Council	For	4
Hobart City Council	For	4
Huon Valley Council	For	2
Kentish Council	For	1
Kingborough Council	For	3
King Island Council	[No Response]	1
Latrobe Council	For	2
Launceston City Council	For	4
Meander Valley Council	For	3

Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	For	2
Southern Midlands Council	Against	1
Tasman Council	For	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	For	2
West Coast Council	For	1
West Tamar Council	For	3



Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	For	2
Southern Midlands Council	For	1
Tasman Council	For	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	For	2
West Coast Council	For	1
West Tamar Council	For	3



Meander Valley Council	For	3
Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	Against	2
Southern Midlands Council	Against	1
Tasman Council	For	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	For	2
West Coast Council	For	1
West Tamar Council	For	3



Meander Valley Council	For	3
Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	Against	2
Southern Midlands Council	Abstain	1
Tasman Council	For	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	Against	2
West Coast Council	For	1
West Tamar Council	For	3

2.2 Motion – Council Leave of Absence Provisions

Total Responses: 58

2.2 Motion – Council Leave of Absence Provisions

Amendment Motion  
Glenorchy / Dorset

That LGAT and Member Councils support Clarence City Council's position which:

A. Recognises that the current process for requests for leave of absence by councillors is inappropriate as it does not reflect the rights and responsibilities applicable in contemporary work environments.

B. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Local Government on behalf of Council to request the Tasmanian Government to introduce updated regulations as soon as practicable to provide for the following:

i. That a councillor be able to advise the relevant council of a leave of absence 'as of right', subject to conditions being met (as set out below).

ii. A councillor's request for leave may be for a cumulative period of up to three months in any 12-month period in ordinary circumstances or up to six months in any 12-month period should a councillor or their spouse or domestic partner—

(a) become the natural parent of a child (including any period during pregnancy); or

(b) adopt a child under the age of 16 years— and the councillor has responsibilities for the care of the child during that period.

(c) sustain a significant injury or be struck down by a long term illness

iii. Any application for extended leave that is greater than three or six months, whichever is applicable, must be supported by evidence that would satisfy a reasonable person that the absence is reasonable in the circumstances, and be approved by the relevant council.

iv. A councillor seeking a leave of absence is required to provide reasonable notice in advance and this should not be less than 3 days unless in exceptional circumstances.

1. For  27
2. Against  30
3. Abstain  1



Participant	Response	Weight
Break O'Day Council	Against	1
Brighton Council	Against	2
Burnie City Council	Against	2
Central Coast Council	For	3
Central Highlands Council	Against	1
Circular Head Council	Against	1
Clarence City Council	Against	4
Derwent Valley Council	Against	2
Devonport City Council	Against	3
Dorset Council	For	1
Flinders Council	Against	1
George Town Council	For	1
Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council	Abstain	1
Glenorchy City Council	For	4
Hobart City Council	Against	4
Huon Valley Council	Against	2
Kentish Council	For	1
Kingborough Council	For	3
King Island Council	[No Response]	1
Latrobe Council	Against	2
Launceston City Council	For	4

Meander Valley Council	For	3
Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	For	2
Southern Midlands Council	Against	1
Tasman Council	For	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	For	2
West Coast Council	Against	1
West Tamar Council	Against	3

2.2 Motion – Council Leave of Absence Provisions

Total Responses: 58

2.2 Motion – Council Leave of Absence Provisions

Amendment Motion

Circular Head / Central Coast

That LGAT and Member Councils support Clarence City Council's position which:

A. Recognises that the current process for requests for leave of absence by councillors is inappropriate as it does not reflect the rights and responsibilities applicable in contemporary work environments.

B. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Local Government on behalf of Council to request the Tasmanian Government to introduce updated regulations as soon as practicable to provide for the following:

i. That a councillor be able to advise the relevant council of a leave of absence 'as of right', subject to conditions being met (as set out below).

ii. A councillor's request for leave may be for a cumulative period of up to three months in any 12-month period in ordinary circumstances or up to six months in any 12-month period should a councillor or their spouse or domestic partner—

(a) become the natural parent of a child (including any period during pregnancy); or

(b) adopt a child under the age of 16 years— and the councillor has responsibilities for the care of the child during that period.

(c) sustain a significant injury or be struck down by a long term illness

iii. Any application for extended leave that is greater than three or six months, whichever is applicable, must be supported by evidence that would satisfy a reasonable person that the absence is reasonable in the circumstances, and be approved by the relevant council.

iv. Should a council have concerns regarding a councillor leave of absence, (other than for parental leave), by an absolute majority decision, a council may refer any request for leave of absence to the Minister for Local Government / Director of Local Government for review and determination".

~~A councillor seeking a leave of absence is required to provide reasonable notice in advance and this should not be less than 3 days unless in exceptional circumstances.~~

1. For ██████████ 49
2. Against ████████ 8
3. Abstain █ 1



Participant	Response	Weight
Break O'Day Council	For	1
Brighton Council	For	2
Burnie City Council	Against	2
Central Coast Council	For	3
Central Highlands Council	For	1
Circular Head Council	For	1
Clarence City Council	For	4
Derwent Valley Council	For	2
Devonport City Council	For	3
Dorset Council	For	1
Flinders Council	Against	1
George Town Council	Against	1
Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council	Abstain	1
Glenorchy City Council	For	4
Hobart City Council	For	4
Huon Valley Council	For	2
Kentish Council	For	1
Kingborough Council	For	3
King Island Council	[No Response]	1
Latrobe Council	For	2
Launceston City Council	Against	4

Meander Valley Council	For	3
Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	For	2
Southern Midlands Council	For	1
Tasman Council	For	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	For	2
West Coast Council	For	1
West Tamar Council	For	3



Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	For	2
Southern Midlands Council	For	1
Tasman Council	For	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	For	2
West Coast Council	For	1
West Tamar Council	For	3

Items for Noting

Total Responses: 58

Items for Noting

Kingborough/Huon Valley

That Items 4.1 – 4.16 be endorsed.

1. For  58
2. Against 0
3. Abstain 0



Participant	Response	Weight
Break O'Day Council	For	1
Brighton Council	For	2
Burnie City Council	For	2
Central Coast Council	For	3
Central Highlands Council	For	1
Circular Head Council	For	1
Clarence City Council	For	4
Derwent Valley Council	For	2
Devonport City Council	For	3
Dorset Council	For	1
Flinders Council	For	1
George Town Council	For	1
Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council	For	1
Glenorchy City Council	For	4
Hobart City Council	For	4
Huon Valley Council	For	2
Kentish Council	For	1
Kingborough Council	For	3
King Island Council	[No Response]	1
Latrobe Council	For	2
Launceston City Council	For	4
Meander Valley Council	For	3

Northern Midlands Council	For	2
Sorell Council	For	2
Southern Midlands Council	For	1
Tasman Council	For	1
Waratah - Wynyard Council	For	2
West Coast Council	For	1
West Tamar Council	For	3

**Attachment for**

**Business Arising  
General Meeting 30 June 2023**

Item No		
<b>2</b>	<b>Items for Decision</b>	
2.1	Motion - Restrictive Covenants on Use of Land and Property	Refer to Item 1.4 Follow up of Motions
2.2	Motion - Council Leave of Absence Provisions	Refer to Item 1.4 Follow up of Motions
2.3	Motion - Short Stay	Refer to Item 1.4 Follow up of Motions
<b>4</b>	<b>Items for Noting</b>	
4.1	Future of Local Government Review	Refer to Item 4.1
4.2	Workplace Health and Safety Review	Refer to Item 4.5
4.3	Climate Change	Refer to Item 4.11
4.4	LGAT Local Government Service Awards	Ongoing
4.5	Planning Reform	Refer to Item 4.3
4.6	Tasmanian Development Manual Project	Ongoing
4.7	Bus Stop Ownership and Upgrade Grant Program	Ongoing
4.8	Regional Towns CCTV Project	Ongoing
4.9	Emergency Management Update	Refer to Item 4.7
4.10	Waste and Resource Recovery	Refer to Item 4.12
4.11	Environmental Protection Authority Memorandum of Understanding	Refer to Item 4.10
4.12	Child and Youth Safe Organisations	Refer to Item 4.8
4.13	Community Health and Wellbeing Lift Local Project	Refer to Item 4.9
4.14	Events Overview	Refer to Item 4.14
4.15	Policy Update	Refer to Item 4.15
4.16	LGAT Procurement Update	Refer to Item 4.13
<b>5</b>	<b>Other Business</b>	
	Nil	

Follow up of Motions Report

Motion	Topic	Sub-topic	Meeting date	Member Update
That LGAT lobby the State Government urging legislative change to outlaw the creation of covenants which place restrictions on the use of land and property for: a. public, social or affordable housing; or b. tenants or occupants based on their source of income, or social or financial circumstances.	Planning	Motion - Restrictive Covenants on use of land and property	30/06/2023	LGAT has written to the Minister responsible for the Land Titles Office, Hon Roger Jaensch MP on this resolution. We also noted this issue in our submission to the draft Housing Strategy, as a potential impediment to more housing.
That LGAT and Member Councils support Clarence City Council's position which:  A. Recognises that the current process for requests for leave of absence by councillors is inappropriate as it does not reflect the rights and responsibilities applicable in contemporary work environments. B. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Local Government on behalf of Council to request the Tasmanian Government to introduce updated regulations as soon as practicable to provide for the following:  ☐ That a councillor be able to advise the relevant council of a leave of absence 'as of right', subject to conditions being met (as set out below).  ☐ A councillor's request for leave may be for a cumulative period of up to three months in any 12-month period in ordinary circumstances or up to six months in any 12-month period should a councillor or their spouse or domestic partner— ☐ (a) become the natural parent of a child (including any period during pregnancy); or ☐ (b) adopt a child under the age of 16 years— and the councillor has responsibilities for the care of the child during that period, ☐ (c) sustain a significant injury or be struck down by a long-term illness.  ☐ Any application for extended leave that is greater than three or six months, whichever is applicable, must be supported by evidence that would satisfy a reasonable person that the absence is reasonable in the circumstances, and be approved by the relevant council.  ☐ Should a council have concerns regarding a councillor leave of absence, (other than for parental leave), by an absolute majority decision, a council may refer any request for leave of absence to the Minister for Local Government / Director of Local Government for review and determination".  ☐ A Councillor seeking a leave of absence is required to provide reasonable notice in advance and this should not be less than three days unless in exceptional circumstances	Governance	Motion - Council leave of absence provisions	30/06/2023	LGAT has written to the Minister for Local Government, Hon Nic Street MP on this issue.
That LGAT convene an expert reference group from member councils to develop recommendations for the sector to consider on: •What further data and support is required to assist local government in responding to the housing crisis. •What changes are required to manage short stay accommodation's contribution to housing availability, local amenity, economic development and equitable rating. •What tools are available to encourage owners of unoccupied dwellings to make their properties available as long term rentals.	Housing	Short Stay	30/06/2023	LGAT has convened this group and they met on the 30 August to define the key priorities within the resolution list. LGAT and members will develop discussion papers on the issues and potential responses for the sector to consider.
That LGAT lobby the State Government to encourage the development of affordable housing, as a matter of urgency through measures that promote the efficient supply of well located, diverse housing.	Housing	Affordable Housing - diversity and supply	8/12/2022	We included this issue in our submission to the draft Housing Strategy in July and raised this directly with the new Minister in a recent meeting.
That LGAT lobby the State Government to encourage the development of affordable housing, as a matter of urgency through promoting the development of affordable housing with specific incentives for affordable housing enabled through planning schemes and policies.	Housing	Affordable Housing - incentives	8/12/2022	Our submission to the draft Housing Strategy in July highlighted these issues and the need for a multifaceted approach. We also highlight these issues directly with the new Minister in a recent meeting.

**City of Launceston  
Council Meeting Agenda**

**Thursday 19 October 2023**

Motion	Topic	Sub-topic	Meeting date	Member Update
That LGAT seek revisions to the Property Agents and Land Transactions Act 2016 to consider: a) Requiring a 337 Certificate prior to listing of a property and making it available as part of the sale process; and b) Requiring full disclosure for properties as part of the listing process."	Governance	Review of Property Agents and Land Transactions Act 2016	8/12/2022	LGAT wrote to the Law Society on this issue, seeking to discuss the matter and the best ways to address the problem. We will be meeting the Law Society's Property and Commercial Law Committee to progress the issue before the end of September.
That LGAT raise concerns with the Tasmanian Government in relation to the quality of maintenance and new construction work which is being undertaken on the network of roads which are the responsibility of the Department of State Growth, and ask the Tasmanian Government to implement an independent review of the construction and maintenance methodology being used.	Infrastructure	State Road Maintenance	16/09/2022	The Tasmanian Government's Road Legislation Management Review discussion paper has been released, with comments due 6 November 2023. Further details are provided in this meeting's Agenda.
That LGAT investigate mechanisms to enable councils to differentially rate vacation rental properties and bring back to the next general meeting for a discussion and decision.	Planning	Differential Rating	18/03/2022	LGAT met with the Valuer-General in September to discuss council's needs around the categorisation of properties as Short Stay (R7). It was agreed that the OVG would prioritise the R7 supplementary valuations. This motion will be closed following the November General Meeting.
That LGAT lobby the State Government to investigate a legislative mechanism to provide local government authorities with enhanced power to appropriately act on dilapidated, derelict and abandoned buildings registers and to charge levies in respect to those properties.	Building	Abandoned buildings	18/03/2022	The range of planning reforms underway has put the proposed guidance note on hold. The intention is for LGAT, with CBOS and the State Planning Office, to prepare a guidance note for councils on their existing powers and tools available to act on dilapidated and derelict buildings.
That LGAT lobby the State Government and TasFire Services to investigate the accreditation of fire bunkers and other structures legalised in other Australian states for use in Tasmania.	Building	Fire Bunkers	18/03/2022	CBOS have established a technical working group to establish guidelines for Bushfire Shelters in Tasmania. In addition to establishing guidelines CBOS are considering what, if any, potential options are available for accreditation of these structures.  The working group consists of nominees from each of the following organisations: Local Government Association of Tasmania; Tasmania Fire Service; Australian Institute of Building Surveyors  LGAT is represented by Kingborough Council's Coordinator Building and Plumbing. A terms of reference has been developed with the first meeting held 11 September.  This resolution will be closed following the November General Meeting.
That LGAT lobby the State Government to initiate and fund the development and implementation of a family and sexual violence prevention framework for local government across the state.	Society	Family and sexual violence	18/03/2022	The Department of Communities, we understand has developed, but not released, a plan that includes engagement with councils.
That LGAT continue to lobby the State Government to implement funding change by- a. A 3 year, phased in reinstatement of the equitable distribution of the heavy motor vehicle road tax distribution to the percentage of funds collected; and b. A one off additional annual payment allocation of the heavy motor vehicle road tax distribution as compensation for 25 years of no indexation of the funding allocation and to support enhanced road infrastructure development in all local government areas.	Finance	Heavy Vehicle Road Tax	5/08/2021	The CEO referenced this issue in his Opinion Editorial around local government financing in The Mercury 11 August 2023 and was a key part of our submission to the Future of Local Government Review and related presentation. We will explore how road funding can be included as part of the reviews on road management legislation that are currently underway.
That LGAT coordinate arrangements for a more collaborative arrangement between Local Government and State Government and all compliance agencies with responsibilities that include dog control and wildlife management and protection.	Animals and wildlife	Dog Control and Wildlife Management	3/12/2020	We understand that the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS) is reconsidering its approach on how it approaches dog management for wildlife protection. The previous intent to prepare a Dog Management Policy, with guidance on the management of dog exercising on PWS managed land is on hold.  Recruitment is underway with PWS Policy roles expected to be filled before the end of 2023, allowing this work to recommence.

**City of Launceston  
Council Meeting Agenda**

**Thursday 19 October 2023**

Motion	Topic	Sub-topic	Meeting date	Member Update
That LGAT ask the Tasmanian Government to improve and increase its education and enforcement programs for the conservation of shorebirds and other coastal wildlife values	Environment	Shorebirds and Coastal Wildlife Values	3/12/2020	We are waiting on the Parks and Wildlife Service who are working on clarifying roles and responsibilities between state and local government. This work is contingent on PWS resourcing.  Recruitment is underway with PWS Policy roles expected to be filled before the end of 2023, allowing this work to recommence.
That LGAT: Advocate on behalf of all Councils the deep concern at the level of the Fire Service Contribution that councils are expected to collect from ratepayers each year on behalf of the State Fire Commission; and Seek justification for the excessive level of financial burden that has been imposed over the last five years.	Emergency management	Fire Services Levy	25/07/2018	DPAC's Steering Committee wrote to all councils in July 2023 advising consultation will commence shortly on the draft new legislation. LGAT wrote to the Chair of the Steering Committee in September seeking an update on engagement and timing.

**Attachment for Item  
4.5 A**

# WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY REVIEW- IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE September 2023

This report outlines the progress of implementing the suite of recommendations resulting from the Workplace Health and Safety Review of Elected Representatives (WH&S Review). Recommendations from the review are presented alongside of relevant State Government actions where appropriate. This report will be updated progressively as recommendations are implemented.

## **Code of Conduct Reform**

In September 2023 the *Local Government Amendment (Code of Conduct) Bill 2022* was passed by Parliament. The changes progress some of the key reforms committed to by the State Government in its response to prior public consultation about potential targeted legislative changes to the Code of Conduct Framework.

The next stage of the Code of Conduct reforms includes the following activities:

- A review of the model Code of Conduct.
- Assessment of the feasibility of transferring the Code of Conduct Panel to the Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (TasCAT).
- Consideration of options that could better address instances of very serious councillor misconduct that may not fall within the parameters of the current Code of Conduct Framework.

A number of WH&S Review recommendations have been placed on hold until the success of the changes mentioned above have been assessed. These include:

- 1.15a & 1.15b - Introduction of additional council level behavioural policies and processes.
- 1.16a, 1.16b & 1.16c - Initial assessment to be undertaken by expert in behaviour and local government appointed by the GM.
- 1.16d - Separate process for minor and serious breaches.
- 1.19d - GM training for referrals to respectful conduct advisor.

The progress of the remaining relevant recommendations are outlined in the following table.

WHS Report Reference	WHS Recommendation	Priority	Actions	Lead	Comments/Update
1.15c, 1.15d, 1.16g, 1.16h, 1.16m, 1.16n	Review of sanctions for serious misconduct	High	In March 2023 the Office of Local Government (OLG) released a discussion paper regarding serious councillor misconduct and potential legislative amendments to address it. A copy of the discussion paper is available <a href="#">here</a> .	OLG	LGAT is waiting on further details on the outcomes from the consultation.
1.17d, 1.17e, 1.17f, 1.17g	Develop local dispute resolution process.	Medium - High	LGAT will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop terms of reference for the position of Respectful Conduct Advisors / mediators for councils to access.</li> <li>- Establish a panel of providers.</li> <li>- Develop a template Dispute Resolution Policy for councils.</li> <li>- Create a standardised behavioural monitoring template and reporting process for councils.</li> </ul>	LGAT	LGAT has begun drafting this work, with substantial work to be completed over the coming months.
1.16i, 1.16j	Review of the Model Code of Conduct.	Low	Review of the Model Code of Conduct to be commenced after the Code of Conduct legislation amendment is completed.	OLG	LGAT will continue to monitor and advocate for progress.
1.16e, 1.16k, 1.16l, 1.16o	Conduct a feasibility review of transferring the Code, or elements of it, to TasCAT.	Medium	Request sent to the OLG for work to commence as a priority.	OLG	OLG have commenced the review.

WHS Report Reference	WHS Recommendation	Priority	Actions	Lead	Comments/Update
1.15f	Amend the <i>Integrity Commission Act 2009</i> to facilitate referral by the Integrity Commission to the Code of Conduct.	High	The Department of Justice are currently drafting legislative amendments to the <i>Integrity Commission Act</i> .	Department of Justice	LGAT will continue to monitor progress.

#### Learning and Development Framework

OLG and LGAT are working together to expand on the Local Government Learning and Development Framework that aims to increase the knowledge and skills of councillors. Currently the framework consists of three online learning packages. However, work has commenced on scoping further training and development options to support councillors in their role.

The progress of the relevant recommendations are outlined below:

WHS Report Reference	WHS Recommendation	Priority	Actions	Lead	Comments/Update
1.18a – 1.18s 1.20	Introduce additional training and education focused and tailored for elected representatives.	Med - high	Recommendations referred to the Learning and Development Framework Governance Group for consideration.	LGAT	<b>Complete</b> - LGAT will continue to monitor progress.

#### Future of Local Government Review

Recommendations that have been put on hold pending completion of the Future of Local Government Review and implementation of the Learning and Development Framework are the following more controversial ones related to additional training and education, including mandatory requirements:

- 1.21a - The requirement for qualification similar to a Company Director’s Course as a mandatory pre-condition for seeking election.
- 1.21b - Ongoing requirement for Continuing Professional Development (CPD).
- 1.21c - CPD to have a mandatory requirement for appropriate behavioral standards.

#### Review of the Local Government Act

Recommendations relating to the *Review of the Local Government Act* have been put on hold pending the completion of the Future of Local Government Review. Once re-commenced it offers an opportunity for implementation of some of the lower priority recommendations. These recommendations are:

- 1.15e – Introduce provisions for disruption of public meetings.
- 1.17m – Introduce standardised process for meetings.
- 1.19a – Clarifying the role of GM as a PCBU.

**Other actions**

There are several recommendations that relate to either LGAT projects or specific council actions. These are outlined below.

The following recommendations will be closed as actions have been completed since the last meeting:

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1.17o	Develop and introduce a diversity campaign.	<b>Complete</b> - To support the 2022 local government elections LGAT successfully delivered the 'stand for council' campaign that resulted in an increase in the diversity of candidates and those elected (only data on gender and age was captured). It is expected a similar campaign will be developed for the 2026 local government elections.  <b>Complete</b> - The LGAT CEO wrote to all General Managers in June encouraging implementation of these recommendations, noting a number of councils already have similar processes established.
1.17p	Extend EAP to ERs.	
1.17r	Introduce practical measures which focus on building, maintaining, and improving relationships between Elected Representatives (e.g., dinners, events, etc).	
1.17s	Internal monitoring of behavioural standards.	
1.17t	Full disclosure of correspondence by ERs.	

The remaining recommendations and associated actions are outline below:

WHS Report Reference	WHS Recommendation	Priority	Actions	Lead	Comments
1.17a - 1.17c	<p>LGAT to coordinate with OLG, Equal Opportunity Tasmania (EOT), Integrity Commission and WorkSafe Tasmania (WST) to review the status quo/improvements in relation to behavioural management and publish annual results for the industry.</p> <p>LGAT (from the information above) will provide clear guidance materials to Chair of Code of Conduct Panel and publish statistics on matters to demonstrate appropriate monitoring (e.g., due diligence) within the industry.</p>	Medium	<p>Discussions with the OLG have resulted in this action being transition to the OLG leading the work.</p> <p>Engagement with each of the relevant named agencies will commence in late 2023, followed by scoping of the process and then development of relevant reporting documentation for each agency.</p>	Department Premier and Cabinet (OLG)	OLG have commenced engagement with the named agencies.
1.17i	Standard policy for unreasonable community conduct.	High	LGAT is participating in a working group with the OLG to develop a guide to managing challenging behaviours, including unreasonable community conduct.	Department Premier and Cabinet (OLG)	A draft framework and policy have been developed. Engagement with the sector by OLG is expected to commence in September 2023.
1.17h, 1.17j, 1.17k, 1.17l, 1.17n	Community education program.	Medium	Once the guide to managing challenging behaviours (above) is complete then work will	LGAT	This work will commence in early 2024.

WHS Report Reference	WHS Recommendation	Priority	Actions	Lead	Comments
			commence on designing a community education campaign.		
1.17q	Extend Workplace Behaviour Policies to ERs.	High	Review the LGAT the Grievance Resolution and Workplace Behaviour Toolkit for applicability to elected representatives and if necessary, prepare templates for consideration by councils.	LGAT	Work will commence following drafting of the local dispute resolution process (Rec 1.17d - 1.17g).
1.19b, 1.19c, 1.19d	LGAT training for GMs covering dispute resolution, dealing with unreasonable complaints conduct and referrals to respectful conduct advisor.	High	<p>LGAT will deliver training to GMs / CEOs to support the introduction of the dispute resolution process and dealing with unreasonable complaints conduct.</p> <p>Referrals to respectful conduct advisors will be put on hold pending an assessment of the success of the Code of Conduct Bill changes, expected to be active in 2023.</p>	LGAT	This is in hold, pending completion of the local dispute resolution process (Rec 1.17d - 1.17g).

WHS Report Reference	WHS Recommendation	Priority	Actions	Lead	Comments
1.21d	Introduce coaching / mentor panel.	High	Develop a panel of mentors / coaches for elected representatives.	LGAT	Work has commenced on determining potential mentors. The Learning and Development Framework project is developing a 'guide to mentoring' that will be useful.

**Review of *Workplace Health and Safety Review of Elected Representatives* recommendations against Framework**

Late in 2022, Edge Legal completed a workplace health and safety review of elected representatives (the Review), which included the following suite of deliverables:

- an Executive Summary of the review, including all recommendations;
- full report;
- stand-alone reports on council, elected representatives and council staff responsibilities under the various legislative instruments (e.g. WH&S, Code of Conduct, Anti-Discrimination Act etc.); and
- statewide assessment of the health and safety hazards to elected representatives and appropriate risk mitigation actions (pursuant to the *Work Health and Safety Act 2012*) that can be taken by individual councils, depending on local circumstances.

Each of these documents have been made available to councils on the LGAT Member Portal and promoted.

In addition, LGAT produced a high-level summary for elected representatives and a detailed implementation plan was included in the [June 2023 General Meeting agenda](#).

The Review included several recommendations related to the learning and development of elected representatives. Note that the Review was prior to the implementation of the online modules for pre- and post-election learning and development. Given the concurrent work of the learning and development Governance Group, the following recommendations are provided for consideration of the Governance Group's in relation to the next stages of the development of the Framework.

	<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>Planned, underway or implemented actions</b>	<b>New actions</b>
	<b>Recommendation 1.20 - Training for Mayors</b>		
	The management of meetings and chairing meetings under the meeting regulations.	The management of meetings is covered in Learning Package (LP) 2 - Module 2 and includes a 17-minute video that was remade from a LGAT presentation on meeting procedures. The role of mayors is also touched on throughout the online modules in relation	NFA

		to their leadership roles and good governance. LP3 - M1 and M2 cover the role of mayor in scenarios. Mentorship training for mayors is included in the Framework. LGAT has commenced work on recruiting mentors. Other learning opportunities can occur in the workplace and/or following identified need. OLG is developing a cheat-sheet for mayors on mentoring.	
	<b>Recommendations 1.18 (a) to (r) – Training Elected Representatives</b>		
a)	Introduce additional training and education focused and tailored for 3 main stages of an Elected Representative's Journey:		
	i. pre-election,	Online modules are available for potential candidates providing information on the election process and the role of councillor. Councils were also encouraged to provide local information sessions. It is noted that sector is not supportive of mandatory pre-election qualifications such as a Company Directors Course.	NFA
	ii. induction; and	Online modules are available to assist councillors to get through the first few months as a new councillor with more detailed information provided after that. An Induction Checklist was developed and provided to all councils to assist them in developing induction sessions for councillors.	NFA
	iii. refresher.	The online modules will be available for councillors throughout their term with hard copies soon to be available. Councillors can use these to refresh their knowledge at anytime.	NFA

b)	Understanding of Elected Representative's obligation to move from activism (personal interest) to a whole of Council's approach (Community interest).	This is covered in the pre-election and post-election online modules and in understanding your role in LP3. It can be addressed further through work-based or relationship-based learning.	NFA
c)	Understanding of genuine leadership and how to implement leadership in an Elected Representative's multi-faceted role.	This has not been, nor is planned to be, included in online modules.	Added to the Framework as an in-person session for all councillors. This is also to include representation.
d)	Understanding of the role functions of the Mayor and GM/ CEO.	This is covered in LPI, 2 and 3. Work-based or relationship-based learning can provide further clarification.	NFA
e)	Understanding of meeting regulations.	The management of meetings is covered in LP 2 - M2 and includes a 17-minute video that was remade from a LGAT presentation. Councils can use work-based and relationship-based learning to further explore topic.	NFA
f)	Capacity to work constructively and collaboratively within the Council's framework.	This relates to having good relationships. It is covered in LP3 – M2 – building good relationships. It may also include aspects from decision-making and community representation in LP3 – M4 and working within legislative parameters, this will be covered in LP3 – M8.	NFA
g)	Capacity to make decisions on merit.	This is covered in LP3 – M4, decision-making. Further clarification can be obtained through work-based and relationship-based learning.	NFA
h)	Capacity to accept decisions made by Council and how to appropriately respond to constituents who continue to disagree with such decisions.	This is covered in LP3 – M1 and 4. Further clarification through work-based and relationship-based learning.	NFA
i)	Understanding of psychosocial safety.	Is to be included in LP3 – M7 – risk management. Further clarification through work-based and relationship-based learning.	NFA

j)	Bystander skills to 'respond' to unacceptable behaviour at the earliest opportunity.	Could be covered by the Good Practice Guide for Managing Challenging Behaviours in Local Government that is being developed by OLG and LGAT.	Managing challenging behaviours has been added to the Framework as an in-person session.
k)	Capacity to manage conflicts.	In-person communications skills training is recommended for 2023/24. Further clarification through work-based and relationship-based learning.	NFA
l)	Understanding of the dispute resolution process.	LGAT will develop a model dispute resolution policy with accompanying documents and guidance. Additionally, the role of this process can be covered in LP3 – M8 – legislation as it is the step before formal complaints.	NFA
m)	Communication skills.	In-person communications skills training is recommended for 2023/24. Further clarification through work-based and relationship-based learning.	NFA
n)	Civility skills.	Many, if not all, topics that might be covered under civility are included in online modules (active listening, building positive relationships, ethical behaviour, managing meetings, decision-making, psychosocial safety) and in additional sessions such as communications skills and emotional intelligence. Areas needing further clarification can be addressed through work-based or relationship-based activities.	NFA
o)	Representation skills.	This should be covered under b) and c) above.	Pre- and post-election modules and LP3 – understanding your role to be reviewed and adjust as necessary to clarify representation.

			To also be included in leadership in-person session added to Framework.
p)	Media and Social Media skills.	Managing social media was covered in LP2 – M2, However, as technology changes frequently suggest ongoing education is needed. Work-based or relationship-based learning activities can provide further clarification and updates.	NFA
q)	Clarify the role of GM/ CEO as an Officer of the PCBU with certain obligations under WHS law which cannot be unreasonably interfered with.	WHS was covered in LP2 – M2. Further information could be provided by experts in the area.	NFA
r)	Dealing with unreasonable complaints conduct.	This would be covered by the Good Practice Guide for Managing Challenging Behaviours in Local Government which is being developed by OLG and LGAT.	Managing challenging behaviours has been added to the Framework as an in-person session.

**Attachment for Item  
4.10**



**Memorandum of Understanding**  
**between**  
**the Local Government Association Tasmania (LGAT)**  
**and**  
**the Environment Protection Authority (EPA)**  
**on**  
**Environmental Regulation and Pollution Control**

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**1. Rationale**

The parties acknowledge that:

- 1.1 Environmental regulation and pollution control is a critical public good in Tasmania, which is complex due to legislative, legal, social, economic, governance, scientific, technical, compliance, enforcement, and operational considerations.
- 1.2 Councils and the EPA are responsible for administering and enforcing core legislation relevant to environmental management and pollution control and which forms part of Tasmania's integrated Resource Management and Planning System (RMPS).
- 1.3 Councils have responsibility under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (LUPAA) for considering development proposals, during which they must either assess environmental impacts or refer proposals to the Board of the EPA for assessment under the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (EMPCA). Councils and the EPA are also relevant parties for implementation of the State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997. Councils have other legislative requirements and functions that intersect with environmental regulation, including the *Public Health Act 1997*.
- 1.4 EMPCA positions the EPA as Tasmania's principal independent environmental regulator. In addition, councils have wide ranging compliance and enforcement obligations and powers under EMPCA. The varying capacity of individual councils to enact these is acknowledged.

- 1.5 The EPA is responsible for subordinate and additional environmental legislation and statutory policies such as those dealing with underground petroleum storage systems, waste transport and management, air quality, noise, smoke, marine pollution, littering, and national environment protection measures and standards. Council advice and other practical support is vital to the EPA's ability to effectively administer these laws.
- 1.6 Given the above, and the broad scope of legislative responsibilities held by both Parties, it is essential for councils and the EPA to work together to further the objectives of the RMPS and EMPCA for the benefit of the Tasmanian environment, community and economy.
- 1.7 Such collaboration requires commitment and regular, purposeful engagement to achieve lawful, fair, equitable, consistent, timely and evidence-based decision-making on environmental and pollution control matters.
- 1.8 This MoU follows on from the first MoU between LGAT and the EPA executed in 2017, reflecting the strong relationship between the parties and ongoing, shared desire to show leadership and engage in a structured, cooperative and productive manner. The parties will continue to develop an environment where EPA and councils collaborate and share resources and information.
- 1.9 LGAT, as the representative body for Local Government in Tasmania, enters this MoU on behalf of its member Councils but does not purport to represent the views of individual Councils.
- 1.10 LGAT and the EPA recognise that the effectiveness of this MOU is dependent on the size, distribution, and capabilities of the EHO and authorized officer workforce in local government.

## 2. Purpose

The purpose of this agreement is to establish and implement a framework under which LGAT, Councils and the EPA will work collaboratively and cooperatively in assessing and regulating environmentally relevant activities and responding to events which may cause environmental harm or nuisance. The framework comprises the items listed at 4 below.

## 3. Principles

The parties agree to abide by the following principles:

- 3.1 MoU Work is Achievable – recognising the broader business of each Party and councils is large and diverse, the Parties will strive to ensure that work proposed under the MoU is realistic in its nature and scope, and able to be achieved within existing resources.
- 3.2 MoU Effectiveness – the Parties agree that workforce planning, coordination and management, as described in *A workforce development strategic plan for Environmental Health Officers (2020)*, are issues essential to describing what is achievable.

- 3.3 MoU Work is Prioritised – noting that each Party and councils must retain flexibility to respond to other issues, the Parties will make best endeavours to give priority to work planned under the MoU.
- 3.4 MoU Governance – the Parties agree to abide by the governance arrangements set out in this MoU and always conduct themselves in an honest, open, consultative, and respectful manner. This includes raising any issues at the earliest appropriate opportunity, allowing sufficient time for consultation, joint decision-making on MoU matters of mutual interest, sufficient record keeping, and upholding any commitments made.
- 3.5 MoU Reporting – the Parties agree to undertake regular reporting of MoU work internally, to councils and to the public, and maintain a high level of transparency and openness to feedback.

#### 4. Strategic Priorities 2023 – 2027

The Strategic Priorities for 2023-2027 in no particular order are:

##### 4.1 Environmental Complaints, Incident Preparedness and Response

Councils and the EPA routinely deal with environmental complaints and incidents, liaising on complaint referrals, sharing information or providing on-ground support to each other. Councils and the EPA will continue to work together in this way and strengthen collaboration.

In the event of significant natural disasters, councils, and the EPA each have responsibilities under the Tasmanian Emergency Management Arrangements. TEMA also recognises the EPA as the statutory lead agency for marine pollution events in Tasmanian waters, with councils having critical support and community recovery functions.

During the term of the MoU, the EPA will conduct pollution incident, including marine pollution incident, preparedness activities such as training and scenario exercises, and will invite participation by relevant councils.

##### 4.2 Illegal Dumping

The introduction in 2022 by the Tasmanian Government of a levy on waste taken to landfills to encourage reuse and recycling and support a circular economy may also exacerbate unlawful disposal of waste.

The EPA will design and lead an illegal dumping compliance and enforcement program. This program will involve active engagement and collaboration with councils, including on program planning for compliance education and enforcement activities. To complement EPA's work, the parties will work together to advocate for additional resources and direct funding for councils.

4.3 Environmental Investigations and Prosecutions

The EPA routinely liaises with and seeks advice and information from councils in the course of its investigations into potential breaches of EMPCA and other environmental legislation. Similarly, councils may request advice or information from the EPA during environmental investigations they lead. Councils and the EPA will continue to work together in this way.

The EPA, while investigating potential contraventions of legislation it administers, may also discover potential breaches of a development permit under section 63(3) LUPAA. In this event, the EPA may take carriage of the LUPAA offence, alongside any breach of EMPCA, rather than referring the LUPAA breach to council, yielding a more efficient use of public resources.

An agreed procedure will be developed to set out the way this mechanism could be used, noting that it would only be used if a LUPAA breach was found during an EMPCA investigation, and with agreement of the relevant council.

4.4 Capability Building

Councils and the EPA both stand to benefit, better understand and support each other's environmental regulatory business by undertaking joint capability and skills development. This will be based on existing<sup>1</sup> and new data describing the local government workforce engaged in EMPCA and LUPAA across the state.

An annual calendar of training and professional development opportunities and products will be formulated under the MoU and made available to all councils and EPA staff.

4.5 Capacity

LGAT will work with the EPA, other key agencies such as Public Health Tasmania and Consumer Building and Occupational Services, to develop an understanding of individual council capacity and the relevant local government workforces ability to respond to regulatory obligations under legislation including EMPCA, LUPAA, Building Act, and the Public Health Act. This work will consider, and complement, relevant recommendations of the Local Government Board's Future of Local Government Review and the *A workforce development strategic plan for Environmental Health Officers (2020)*. This shared understanding will help the key State agencies support councils in fulfilling their regulatory obligations under the legislation identified above.

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<sup>1</sup> For example, LGAT's 2020 report *Strengthening the front-line health protection and environmental management workforce in Tasmania: A workforce development strategic plan for Environmental Health Officers*

4.6 National Standard Implementation

The National Standard for Environmental Risk Management of Industrial Chemicals (IChEMS) is an important COAG reform intended to result in improved and consistent management of environmental risks posed by industrial chemicals. All jurisdictions agreed in 2015 to a cooperative implementation model for IChEMS with each jurisdiction adopting decisions made under Commonwealth law through their own mechanisms and taking responsibility for compliance. Commonwealth legislation to create an IChEMS chemical register was passed in 2021 which establishes risk-based schedules, mechanisms for assessing which schedule a chemical spill falls into, and for prescribing risk management measures. IChEMS is led by the Australian Government.

The EPA and the Department of Natural Resources and Environment are working on implementation arrangements for IChEMS in Tasmania and will commence promotion and awareness raising for councils and other stakeholders in 2023.

4.7 Collaboration on more complex development applications and regulation

Some councils need extra resources and expertise support to assist with more complex development applications and regulation. EPA will continue to provide guidance on more complex development applications and regulation. The parties will work together to identify the best way to share the lessons learnt from more complex development applications.

**5. Annual Action Plan**

5.1 An annual action plan will be produced each year for the term of the MoU, specifying the activities the parties will undertake to further the strategic priorities. The action plan will provide a short description of each activity and identify who will lead, who will support, how success will be measured and timeframe for completion.

5.2 The annual action plan follows the financial year business planning cycle. LGAT and the EPA will commence drafting each annual action plan in March and finalise it by the end of May. The annual action plan will be tabled at the first LGAT General Meeting in the new financial year and will become the workplan for the EPA's Local Government Engagement Program.

**6. MoU Governance and Progress Reporting**

6.1 The term of this MoU is five years from the date of signing.

6.2 A working group comprising LGAT and EPA officers will meet quarterly to develop, oversee and review progress with the annual action plan and address any issues that arise, including new matters that may require consideration as Strategic Priorities.

- 6.3 The working group will be chaired in rotation by the Policy Director, LGAT and the Director Environmental Regulation, EPA, who will also brief their respective Chief Executive Officers after each quarterly meeting. The EPA will provide meeting coordination, minute taking and other secretariat services for the quarterly meetings.
- 6.4 LGAT and EPA working group members will provide information on key activities under the MoU for the annual reports for their respective organisations, to councils and where appropriate otherwise promote joint work on their websites and in other corporate communications.
- 7. Dispute Resolution**
- 7.1 LGAT and EPA officers will endeavour to settle any disputes that arise about the operation of the MoU in the first instance, and if necessary, refer the matter to their respective Directors. If the Policy Director, LGAT and Director Environmental Regulation, EPA are unable to resolve a matter, each will brief their Chief Executive Officer, including on options for a way forward.

**8. Execution**

Signed on behalf of the Local Government Association Tasmania



.....  
Dion Lester

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Date: 29/8/2023

Signed on behalf of the Environment Protection Authority



.....  
Wes Ford

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Date: 29/8/2023

**16. MEETING CLOSURE**

**17. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING DATE**

**The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held at 1.00pm on 2 November 2023 at the Council Chambers, Town Hall, 18-28 St John Street, Launceston.**