



Brighton Council

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
OF THE BRIGHTON COUNCIL, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
COUNCIL OFFICES, 1 TIVOLI ROAD, OLD BEACH
AT 5.30 P.M. ON TUESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 2024**

1. Attendance

Cr Gray (Mayor); Cr Curran (Deputy Mayor); Cr De La Torre, Cr Geard, Cr Irons; Cr McMaster; Cr Murtagh, Cr Owen, Cr Whelan

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr J Dryburgh (General Manager); Ms J Banks (Director Governance & Regulatory Services); Mr C Pearce-Rasmussen (Director, Asset Services); Mr D Allingham (Director Development Services) and Ms G Browne (Director, Corporate Services).

2. Apologies

All members were in attendance.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

3.1 Ordinary Council Meeting

The Minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 16th January 2024 were submitted for confirmation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the previous Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 16th January 2024, be confirmed.

DECISION:

Cr Irons moved, Cr Curran seconded that the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 16th January 2024, be confirmed.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

3.2 Finance Committee

The Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on the 6th February 2024 were submitted for confirmation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on the 6th February 2024, be confirmed.

DECISION:

Cr De La Torre moved, Cr Curran seconded that the Minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting held on the 6th February 2024, be confirmed.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

4. Declaration of Interest

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 8 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the chairperson of a meeting is to request Councillors to indicate whether they have, or are likely to have, a pecuniary interest or conflict of interest in any item on the Agenda.

In accordance with Section 48(4) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, it is the responsibility of councillors to then notify the general manager, in writing, the details of any interest(s) that the councillor has declared within 7 days of the declaration.

Cr Owen declared an interest in Items 12.1 and 13.5

Cr Curran declared an interest in Item 13.4

Cr Whelan declared an interest in Item 13.5; and

Cr Murtagh declared an interest in Item 12.1.

5. Public Question Time and Deputations

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 8 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the agenda is to make provision for public question time.

There was no requirement for public question time.

6. Reports from Council

6.1 Mayor's Communications

The Mayor's communications were as follows:

- 19/1 Meeting with Beyond Care (+ General Manager in attendance)
- 23/1 Citizenship Ceremony
- 1/2 Future of Local Government Review – Mayors Engagement Session
- 6/2 Finance Committee
- 6/2 Council Workshops
- 8/2 Meeting with Jane Howlett MP
- 14/2 TasWater half yearly briefing to Owners
- 19/2 STCA Meeting
- 19/2 Meeting with Brian Mitchell MP (+ General Manager in attendance)
- 20/2 Risk Appetite workshop
- 20/2 Council Meeting

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Mayor's communications be received.

DECISION:

Cr De La Torre moved, Cr Geard seconded that the Mayor's communications be received.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

6.2 Reports from Council Representatives

- Cr Geard attended the Local co-ordinators meeting at Kingborough which included a tour of the twin ovals facility.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the verbal report from Council representatives be received.

DECISION:

Cr Irons moved, Cr Murtagh seconded that the verbal report from Council representatives be received.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

7. Miscellaneous Correspondence

- Brighton Council submission to 'Keeping Hobart moving – transport solutions for our future' dated 31st January 2024.
- Brighton Council submission on 'Improving Residential Standards Discussion Paper' dated 1st February 2024.

8. Notification of Council Workshops

In accordance with the requirements of Section 8(2)(c) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

Three (3) Council workshop have been held since the previous Ordinary Council meeting.

A workshop was held on the 6th February 2024 at 4.30 pm to discuss the Old Beach Zoning Review. Cr Curran, De LaTorre (until 5.05pm), Gray (via Teams until 5.05pm), Irons, McMaster and Whelan attended.

A workshop was held on the 6th February 2024 at 5.35 pm to discuss Council Rate Revenue. Cr Curran, De La Torre, Gray (via Teams), Irons, McMaster, Murtagh, Owen and Whelan were in attendance.

A workshop was held on the 6th February 2024 at 7.00 pm to discuss Waste Management. Cr Curran, De La Torre, Gray (via Teams), Irons, McMaster, Murtagh, Owen and Whelan were in attendance.

9. Notices of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion.

10. Consideration of Supplementary Items to the Agenda

In accordance with the requirements of Part 2 Regulation 8(6) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the Council, by absolute majority may approve the consideration of a matter not appearing on the agenda, where the General Manager has reported:

- (a) the reason it was not possible to include the matter on the agenda, and
- (b) that the matter is urgent, and
- (c) that advice has been provided under Section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council resolve by absolute majority to deal with any supplementary items not appearing on the agenda, as reported by the General Manager in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

DECISION:

The General Manager advised that there were no supplementary agenda items.

11. Reports from Committees

11.1 Finance Committee - 6 February 2024

The recommendations of the Finance Committee of 6 February 2024 were submitted to Council for adoption.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the recommendations of the Finance Committee be adopted.

DECISION:

Cr Owen moved, Cr Curran seconded that the recommendations of the Finance Committee of 6 February 2024 be adopted.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

<u>In favour</u>	<u>Against</u>
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

12. Council Acting as a Planning Authority

Under the provisions of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* and in accordance with Regulation 25 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the Council will act as a planning authority in respect to those matters appearing under Item 13 on this agenda, inclusive of any supplementary items.

Cr Owen and Cr Murtagh had declared an interest in the following item and left the room at 5.38pm.

12.1 Planning Scheme Amendment - Old Beach Future Urban Zone

Type of Report:	Section 40K of <i>Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993</i>
Application No:	RZ 2023 -05
Owner/s:	Various
Requested by:	Brighton Council
Proposal:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rezone various properties from Rural Living Zone A to the Future Urban Zone Remove the Urban Rural Interface Specific Area Plan from various properties
Author:	B White (Strategic Planner)

Authorised:	Director Development Services (D Allingham)
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1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Council (Planning Authority), pursuant to section 40K of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* ('the Act'), to consider the representations received (s.40J) during the exhibition period (s. 40H) of draft amendment of RZ 2023 -05 to the Brighton Local Provision Schedule ('LPS') ('the draft amendment').

2. Background - Initiation of Draft Amendment

At its meeting of the 7th November 2023, the Council, of its own motion, initiated the draft amendment to the Brighton LPS.

The draft amendment relates to land on the eastern side of the East Derwent Highway, Old Beach, and proposes to:

- a) Rezone 95.86ha (103 properties) of land from 'Rural Living A' to Future Urban; and
- b) Remove the 'Urban Rural Interface Specific Area Plan from 103 properties of land (95.86ha).

This draft amendment is to implement the recommendations of the Old Beach Zoning Review Report, prepared by ERA Consultants ('the ERA Report'), as (partly) endorsed by the Council.¹

The area which the draft amendment relates is shown in Figure 1 below as the 'subject site'.



Figure 1 Subject site (Source: TheList)

¹ The ERA report and a summary of the project can be viewed via: <https://www.brighton.tas.gov.au/planning/strategic-plans/>

3. Public Exhibition of Draft Amendment

In accordance with sections 40G and 40H of the Act and section 7 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Regulations 2014*, the draft amendment was exhibited for a period of 28 days from 15th November 2023 – 13th December 2023.

The draft amendment was exhibited in the Mercury twice and made available for viewing at the Council during this period. Council officers sent letters to all properties to be affected by the draft amendment shown in Figure 1, as well as adjoining owners.

Letters were also sent to all properties on Compton Road and adjoining owners as these properties were involved in the ERA Report project. Compton Road is shown in Figure 1.

A total of 129 letters were sent out to advise people that the draft amendment had been initiated and explained how representation could be made.

Council received eleven (11) representations, with three (3) of those being from State Agencies (i.e., Department of State Growth, TasWater and TasNetworks).

4. Legislative & Policy Content

Section 40K of the Act requires that the Council provides to the Tasmanian Planning Commission a report regarding the representations received during the exhibition period of a draft amendment to the Local Provision Schedule.

Section 40K(2) of the Act requires, among other things, that the report includes Council's opinion of the merit of each of the representations and:

- i. Whether the planning authority is of the opinion that the draft amendment ought to be modified to take into account the representations; and
- ii. The effect on the draft amendment, and the LPS to which it relates, as a whole, of implementing the recommendations.

Should the Council be satisfied that the representations received do not warrant changes to the draft amendment, the draft amendment, as exhibited, will be forwarded to the TPC who will make determine it accordingly.

Those people who made a representation regarding the draft amendment would be invited to attend public hearings before the TPC pursuant to section 40L of the Act and the relevant provisions of the *Tasmanian Planning Commission Act 1997*.

5. Risk & Implications

The amendment proposes no significant risks or implications for Council. Should Council decide to forward to the draft amendment to the TPC, the next stage of rezoning the area to provide urban densities via a master planning process will need to be budgeted for, and further community engagement undertaken.

6. Consideration of Representations

Table 1 provides a summary of each of the representations received and Council Officers comment pursuant to section 40K (2).

It is noted that many of the submissions received raised matters that related to the future residential subdivision and development of the site. These matters are more relevant to the next stage of rezoning to a residential zone and a future master planning project.

Table 1 Section 40K Response to Representations

Representor	Summary	Section 40K Response
<p>Department of State Growth.</p>	<p>Recommends that Council delays any significant strategic planning decisions regarding the rezoning of residential land in the Brighton municipality prior to the release of an ongoing residential supply and demand analysis being undertaken for southern Tasmania which will inform a review of the Southern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy.</p>	<p>The draft amendment is to implement the findings and recommendations of the ERA Report which was a project that arose out of the Brighton Structure Plan 2018 ('BSP').</p> <p>The BSP found that the current supply of zoned land in the municipality would likely not meet demand up until 2033 and therefore recommended that Council investigate possible rezoning of land both within and outside the current UGB. Old Beach and Brighton were identified as the most sought-after locations in the municipality, with most of demand up to 2033 being expected in these suburbs.</p> <p>The BSP therefore recommended that Council investigate the capacity of two (2) precincts in Old Beach, currently zoned Rural Living, to be restructured for urban densities. Council engaged ERA to undertake this investigation which found that the two (2) precincts had minimal constraints to further development at urban densities.</p> <p>Council subsequently endorsed the ERA Report's recommendation for the subject site but not for Compton Road. ERA recommended that Council rezone the subject site to Future Urban whilst a master planning project takes place and infrastructure upgrades occur.</p> <p>Therefore, the current rezoning is implementing current strategic planning documents endorsed by Council based and is considered appropriate.</p> <p>It is also noted that the draft amendment isn't to rezone the site to a residential zone at this stage.</p> <p>The representation does not raise any matters that warrant changes to the draft amendment. Furthermore, the representation does not affect the draft amendment meeting the LPS criteria.</p>
	<p>Recommends that no rezonings occur until the East Derwent Highway Corridor Plan is completed.</p>	<p>The proposed rezoning will not occur until it is considered and approved by the TPC. Part of the process will include hearing from representors, including DSG. Should DSG wish to</p>

Representor	Summary	Section 40K Response
		<p>raise issues with the East Derwent Highway at the hearings, then the TPC will consider them at this stage.</p> <p>The ERA report was based on a traffic impact assessment ('TIA') undertaken by Peter Hubble which has been considered by DSG. The report identified that upgrades would be needed to the East Derwent Highway even when the Tivoli Green Estate is fully developed, and no further subdivision occurred within the subject site.</p> <p>The Future Urban zone is a zone within the Tasmanian Planning Scheme to be applied to land within the UGB which is intended for future urban use and development where infrastructure capacity may not be yet available and/or where further structure or master planning is required before a rezoning can occur.</p> <p>It is Council officer's submission that this is the situation with the site regarding the East Derwent Highway upgrades.</p> <p>The representation does not raise any matters that warrant changes to the draft amendment.</p> <p>The representation does not affect the draft amendment meeting the LPS criteria.</p>
	<p>Recommends that any future residential development be designed to support access to public transport and provide for active transport networks.</p>	<p>Comment noted; however, no residential development forms part of the draft amendment. DSG would be involved in a future master planning process to rezone the land for urban densities.</p> <p>The representation does not raise any matters that warrant changes to the draft amendment and does not affect the draft amendment meeting the LPS criteria.</p>
<p>TasWater</p>	<p>TasWater have no comments on the draft amendment and do not wish to be present at hearings.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>
<p>TasNetworks</p>	<p>No issues from TasNetworks regarding the draft amendment.</p>	<p>Comment noted.</p>
<p>1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8.</p>	<p>Issues regarding losing rural idyll and loss of character due to rezoning and subdividing into smaller lots.</p>	<p>It is considered that the future master planning project can, based on expert reports, create a future planning framework within the subject site which can balance creating additional lots whilst maintaining those key elements that people desire about living in the area.</p>

Representor	Summary	Section 40K Response
		<p>The site is located within the Greater Hobart Urban Growth Boundary within the Southern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy ('STRLUS'). The UGB, according to the STRLUS, is where the 20-year supply of residential land in the region should occur and which has been mapped:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>on the basis of known constraints, values and opportunities including infrastructure capacity, environmental, landscape and heritage values and land hazards (p. 92).</i></p> <p>Therefore, STRLUS has identified this land as being suitable for future development by virtue of it being included in the UGB. Furthermore, the BSP has recommended the land be investigated for future growth so as Council can continue to maintain a sustainable level of housing supply in a sought-after location.</p> <p>The current rezoning is to start the process of a precinct structure plan/ master planning process of currently underutilised rural living zoned land within the UGB, which has been identified in strategic planning documents endorsed by the Council and has been found to have minimal constraints for future residential development.</p> <p>This position of master planning land within the UGB is supported by STRLUS (p.91):</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>precinct structure plans will be required to be completed and relevant aspects incorporated into planning schemes through the Specific Area Plan mechanism, and the rezoning process (under the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993) will then be triggered.</i></p> <p>The representations do not raise any matters that warrant changes to the draft amendment and does not affect the draft amendment meeting the LPS criteria.</p>
1, 2, 3, 4,	Concerns that Council has not adequately considered visual impacts in making its decision on the draft amendment.	<p>The ERA considered visual impacts in its analysis of whether the site had the capacity to accommodate future residential growth.</p> <p>ERA opined that the subject site does not have significant scenic values.</p>

Representor	Summary	Section 40K Response
		<p>ERA recommended that prior to any future residential rezoning that further studies are undertaken which will be inputs into a future masterplan for the area. One of those studies is for a landscape and visual impact assessment.</p> <p>The representations do not raise any matters that warrant changes to the draft amendment and does not affect the draft amendment meeting the LPS criteria.</p>
<p>3, 4, 5</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns that not all residents supported the future rezoning, and that the consultation methodology was inadequate. Concerns the report was based on an already preferred outcome. 	<p>ERA undertook consultation in accordance with their preferred approach which was considered appropriate.</p> <p>Not every town planning decision made by a planning authority will have full support from the community. This is a key aspect of town planning, where various factors need to be weighed up in making decisions on preferred future land use.</p> <p>In this instance, the Council has initiated the draft amendment for the site to be rezoned to Future Urban based on expert independent advice from a town planning consultant and strategic planning documents it has previously endorsed.</p> <p>It is Council Officers' view that urban consolidation within the UGB is a far more sustainable town planning outcome than leap frogging rural living areas on the urban fringe and impeding agricultural land and relying on more marginal and constrained land for residential uses.</p> <p>The representations do not raise any matters that warrant changes to the draft amendment and does not affect the draft amendment meeting the LPS criteria.</p>
<p>1, 2, 3,</p>	<p>Concerns with traffic, future roads, and other physical infrastructure.</p>	<p>The Future Urban Zone is a zone to be applied to land within the UGB identified for future growth where infrastructure may not yet be available or where future master planning is required.</p> <p>TasWater and TasNetworks have identified the land can be serviced subject to upgrades and DSG have signalled their intent of undertaking upgrades to the East Derwent Highway. Future master planning is required due to the unique nature of the land already been developed with single dwellings.</p>

Representor	Summary	Section 40K Response
		<p>Therefore, the FUZ is considered appropriate for the land and infrastructure can be managed as part of the future master planning/ precinct structure planning process.</p> <p>The representations do not raise any matters that warrant changes to the draft amendment and does not affect the draft amendment meeting the LPS criteria.</p>
1, 2, 3, 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues with clearance of vegetation and impacts on climate change and wildlife. • Concerns that rezoning the subject site will result in a loss of a green belt. 	<p>Only part of the site is subject to overlays in the LPS which regulates impacts on natural values.</p> <p>ERA recommended that prior to any future residential rezoning that further studies are undertaken which will be inputs into a future masterplan for the area. One of those studies is for a comprehensive natural values assessment which can be used to guide the future masterplan.</p> <p>It is considered that by virtue of the land being within the UGB that it has been identified as being suitable for 'urban' uses.</p> <p>The representations do not raise any matters that warrant changes to the draft amendment and does not affect the draft amendment meeting the LPS criteria.</p>
6	Support for draft amendment	Noted.

7. Conclusion

The representations received do not raise any matters that warrant changes to the draft amendment and does not affect the draft amendment meeting the LPS criteria.

On this basis, it is recommended that Council, pursuant to section 40K of the Act, provides to the TPC this report and the representations so the draft amendment can be determined accordingly.

8. Options:

- (a) To adopt the recommendation; or
- (b) To adopt an alternative recommendation satisfying the provisions of section 40K of the Act, with a full statement of reasons as determined by Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Council resolves to:

- a) Pursuant to Section 40K(1) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, provide this report and the representations provided as attachment A regarding draft amendment RZ 2023/ 005 to the Tasmanian Planning Commission.
- b) Pursuant to section 40K(1) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, advise the Tasmania Planning Commission that eleven (11) representations were received during the exhibition of draft amendment RZ 2023/ 005 that related to the draft amendment.
- c) Pursuant to section 40K(2)(a) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, provide to the Tasmanian Planning Commission a copy of the representations that were received during the advertising of draft amendment RZ 2023/ 005.
- d) Pursuant to section 40K (2)(c) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, advise the Tasmanian Planning Commission that the representations received during advertising do not warrant modifications to draft amendment RZ 2023/ 005 as detailed in this report.
- e) Pursuant to section 40(K)(2)(d) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* advise the Tasmanian Planning Commission that the planning authority is satisfied that the draft amendment of the LPS meets the LPS Criteria.

DECISION:

Cr Irons moved, Cr De La Torre seconded that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	

Cr Irons
Cr Whelan

Cr Murtagh and Cr Owen rejoined the meeting at 5.50pm.

13. Officers Reports

13.1 Review of Brighton Council Community Development Grants Program for 2024/25

Author: Manager Community Development & Engagement (A Turvey)

Authorised: General Manager (J Dryburgh)

Background

In 2023 Brighton Council's Community Grants Program was reviewed for the first time in 10 years and some changes agreed to. The main changes related to:

- Creating four (4) grant categories that included Quick Response Grants, Small Grants, Brighton Alive Grants and the Major Impact Grant.
- Small Grant to be offered twice a year.
- The Quick Response Grant to be available for all ages and all disciplines.

The overall budget for the grants program in 2023/24, including the Major Impact Grant and the Community Transport funding was \$151,000.

At the time that Council endorsed the changes, there was a commitment that Council would review how the new program had operated in practice and make any adjustments to the program for the new financial year.

As a result, it is recommended that the following adjustments are made for the 2024/25 Brighton Council Community Development Grants Program.

- The Quick Response Grants to once again be in line with the existing policy guidelines and exclude adults:
 - For individuals – this grant is for full-time students under the age of 18 years, who have been selected to represent Tasmania or Australia in a sport, the arts or another chosen field of expertise. The amounts are \$100 if representing Tasmania and \$200 if representing Australia.
- The Major Impact Grant is removed from the program due to these funds being allocated to the appointment of the Youth Engagement Officer for the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years.

- The 'Brighton Alive Grant' renamed to be simply 'Medium Community Development Grant' (\$5,000-\$15,000) to minimise confusion around who can apply (not just members of Brighton Alive Network) and to give a counter-balance to the 'Small Community Development Grant'.
- The Small and Medium Community Development Grants to be offered as just **one round** that opens at the beginning of March each year for approximately a four (4) week period. There was no obvious community demand for a second round, and it is anticipated that should Council be approached to consider funding a community initiative, this can be taken to Council for decision on its merits, outside of the official grant program period.

Consultation

General Manager, Director Governance, Community Development Officer.

Risk Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

The total grants budget for 2024/25 will exclude the Major Impact Grant funds and be approximately \$71,000, depending on final budget deliberations.

Strategic Plan

Goal 1: Inspire a proud community that enjoys a comfortable life at every age.

1.1: Engage with and enable our community.

1.2: Build resilience and opportunity.

1.4: Encourage a sense of pride, local identity and engaging activities.

Social Implications

Reviewing our Community Grants Program enables us to be more strategically responsive to changing community needs.

Environmental or Climate Change Implications

The original community grants review in 2023 was inclusive of our sustainability goals and encourages community to consider this as a priority when applying for grants.

Economic Implications

Community initiatives often require financial support to establish or maintain their projects. The original review in 2023 aimed to be more strategic about the economic outcomes of the program.

Other Issues

Nil.

Assessment

Council has reviewed the Community Grants Program in order to streamline the process and clarify the criteria and structure of the grants. The adjustments will ensure we continue to attract a broad range of grant applications for each financial year.

Options

1. Accept the proposed adjustments to the Community Grants Program for 2024/25
2. Reject the proposed adjustments to the Community Grants Program for 2024/25.
3. Other.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Brighton Council accept these adjustments and the updated Community Grants Policy Guidelines for the Brighton Council Community Development Grants program for the 2024-25 financial year.

Make a notation in the Grants program about the Major impact grant and that it has been deferred for 2 years based on the employment of a Youth Engagement Officer.

DECISION:

Cr De La Torre moved, Cr Whelan seconded that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

13.2 NRM Services 2023/24 - Progress Report

Author: Director, Asset Services (C Pearce-Rasmussen)

Background:

To receive the NRM Services 6 monthly progress report on various activities and achievements to date for 2023/24.

Consultation

Senior Management Team

Risk Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Strategic Plan

Goal 2 – ensure a sustainable environment

Social Implications

Nil.

Environmental or Climate Change Implications

The Derwent Catchment continues to build relationships and work to implement the NRM Strategy, Weed Management Plan and Foreshore Management Plan.

Economic Implications

Not applicable

Other Issues

Nil.

Assessment

A progress update on NRM Services will be provided to Council every 6 months. The next NRM Progress Update will be provided prior the end of the financial year to note achievements to date and determine any budget considerations.

Options

1. As per the recommendation.
2. Other.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the NRM Services 6 monthly Progress Report be received.

DECISION:

Cr De La Torre moved, Cr McMaster seconded that the NRM Services 6 monthly Progress Report be received.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	

Cr Gray
Cr Irons
Cr McMaster
Cr Murtagh
Cr Owen
Cr Whelan

13.3 Brighton Town Square - additional funding request

Author: Technical Officer (S Pulford)

Authorised: Director, Asset Services (C Pearce-Rasmussen)

Background

With construction of a new IGA supermarket in Brighton imminent, Council allocated an initial \$300,000 in 2022/23 with an additional \$300,000 for 2023/24 to construct a prominent modern town square that would give the Brighton community somewhere to gather for social interaction in a vibrant place day or night and be the heart of Brighton township.

Consultation

Director Asset Services, Technical Officer

Councils brief to our consultant landscape architect (the consultant) was for a detailed set of plans and specification for a total design and construct sum of \$550,000. Whilst discussion between the consultant and Council has been ongoing, it became clear the budget was not enough to achieve our goal of a vibrant gathering space. Therefore, the consultant has provided plans and budget estimates for what can be constructed with the budget we have, and the same for achieving our goal.

Risk Implications

Selecting the wrong town square design can pose various risks, affecting the functionality, aesthetics, and overall success of the project. Some potential risks associated with choosing an inappropriate town square design include:

Community dissatisfaction - If the chosen design does not align with the preferences and needs of the community, it can lead to dissatisfaction among residents. This discontent may result in a lack of community engagement and underutilisation of the square.

Economic - A vibrant town square is more likely to attract members of the community, therefore potentially exposing local businesses to a greater number of customers and improving economic outcomes.

Financial Implications

Below are cost estimates provided by the consultant reflecting two options.

Primary Design – Town square of higher value with extra trees, shrubs, seating, tables, play elements and an umbrella (see attached plan). Likely to result in higher usage and better engagement from the community. \$945,000

Reduced Scope Design – Town square of lower value as per attached plan. \$725,000

Catenary Lighting – Also provided by the architect is a third feature to further value add to options listed above with inclusion of catenary lighting (image attached). \$63,005

Strategic Plan

S1.3 Provide Public Facilities/Amenities

S1.4 Support Connected Communities

S3.3 Enabling Infrastructure

S4.1 Ensure Financial and Risk Sustainability

S4.4 Long-term thinking & evidence-based

Social Implications

Choosing one option over another may affect the community's requirements and expectations and therefore a decrease in its use and social interaction. This in turn has an adverse effect on the local economy from lack of social community networking.

From experience, we have found better quality infrastructure installed, particularly in reserves, is less likely to be vandalised.

Environmental or Climate Change Implications

The Town square will provide a much needed space for passive recreation under the shade of advanced trees drawing people to the outside environment and lengthen their stay in the area.

The Primary Design provides more trees and infrastructure for people to enjoy the space.

Economic Implications

Construction of the Town Square will have a positive effect on the local economy and business's by attracting and retaining people to the area. The Primary Design, with greater scope to attract and retain more people will add further economic benefit for the community. The Town square has been designed to allow for a food van to access the site, where the extra seating and tables in the Primary Design would be of benefit.

Other Issues

N/A

Assessment

A final decision whether to endorse the recommendation of Town Square funding needs to consider long term benefits to the community such as aesthetics, community identity, economic impacts and social cohesion. In order to progress the project without the need for adjustment of the current budget, a commitment is required for the coming financial year for the additional funds required.

Options

1. As per the recommendation.
2. As per the recommendation with addition of catenary lighting.
3. Council commit to include a budget of \$125,000 in the upcoming FY2024/25 to enable construction of Reduced Scope Design.
4. Council commit to include a budget of \$188,005 in the upcoming FY2024/25 to enable construction of Reduced Scope Design with inclusion of catenary lighting.
5. Council endorse an alternative recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION:

Council commit to include a budget of \$345,000 in the upcoming FY2024/25 budget to enable construction of Primary Design.

DECISION:

Cr De La Torre moved, Cr Whelan seconded that Council commit to include a budget of \$345,000 in the upcoming FY2024/25 budget to enable construction of Primary Design.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

Cr Curran had declared an interest in the following item and left the meeting at 6.09pm.

13.4 Brighton Regional Sports Pavilion Lease

Author: Director Corporate Services (G Browne)

Background

At its Ordinary Council Meeting of 15th June 2021, Council recommended to enter into a three-year licence agreement with the Brighton Football Club and Brighton District Cricket Club for the Brighton Regional Sports Pavilion. The first year would be at a reduced rate of \$2,500 and the second year there would be an increase to an amount between \$5,000 to \$10,000.

This would then result in the applicable club operating the Sports pavilion for six months of their relevant season.

This agreement was only ever entered into for a year at a time with the last licence signed on the 1st October 2022. This licence was from the 1st October 2022 to 1st October 2023 for the rental sum of \$7,500 per annum. The rent was to be raised for the remainder of the 2023/24 & 2024/25 year to \$10,000 per annum.

Late in 2023 Council were advised that the Brighton District Cricket Club has gone into recess. As the licence had only been signed for 1 year this has meant that there is no valid agreement currently in place on the Pavilion. The Brighton Football Club has written into Council with a proposal for the management of the sports centre and a request for support as sole occupier.

Consultation

Director Asset Services, Admin & Facilities Management Officer, Executive Officer – Risk & Property, Darren Clark (Brighton Football Club) & Phil Dodge (Brighton Football Club).

Risk Implications

Nil

Financial Implications

By having a valid lease on the Pavilion this offsets any expenditure that Council may incur on this facility.

Strategic Plan

Goal 1 – 1.1 – Engage with & enable our community

Goal 1 – 1.4 – Encourage a sense of pride, local identity and engaging activities

Social Implications

Nil

Environmental or Climate Change Implications

Nil

Economic Implications

Nil

Other Issues

Nil

Assessment

Council staff have met with relevant committee members from the Brighton Football Club and discussed their proposal.

From a community perspective it would be beneficial for Council to enter into a sole lease with the Brighton Football Club as this would mean that the building is utilised as much as it can be by an organisation that is dependent on volunteers.

The lease amount and any outgoings would also be offset against the running costs of the building.

Council has recently been supplied with an independent valuation of the building for the space that the two clubs have previously had a licence on. The independent valuation has come back at \$30,000 per annum. Council understands that market rate cannot be charged to not for profit organisations and it is also not intended for Council to have a full cost recovery on any of our buildings. Enquiries have been made to other southern councils to what is charged to not for profit organisations that have sole occupancy. The results are that the lease amount is \$5,000 to \$10,000 per annum with outgoings.

Options

1. As per the recommendation.
2. Not accept the recommendation and propose a new proposal.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Brighton Council agree to the following recommendations as per the Brighton Football Club requests:

1. Council to enter into a three-year lease with the Brighton Football Club
2. The leased amount of \$7,500p.a. and leased conditions to remain the same however the Brighton Football Club will also contribute a percentage to the gas expenditure, which has not been invoiced for previously. This percentage will be negotiated with the club.
3. Council to apply for a grant for solar panels on the facility to offset energy bills. If a grant is unable to be sourced then Council will look at installing a solar system which may mean a contribution from the club. This will be negotiated with the club.
4. Removal of Thompson oval synthetic pitch due to the Brighton Football Club being admitted into the premier league. Council to discuss this further with Cricket Tas and AFL Tas but will make an undertaking to remove this after the 2024 football season concludes.
5. Signage to be installed on Brighton Road, that will be able to be used by the Brighton Football Club for game day information. This is a current item in the budget, however there are currently planning issues that need to be resolved.
6. Support application for building signage facing Thompson and Fergusson Ovals, subject to planning requirements and subject to approval from Council.

7. Support application for an overarching structure to manage all sports using the Regional sporting pavilion under the Brighton Robins sporting club however the hire of the grounds will remain with Council.
8. Council to support Federal/State funding in the long term however there are other priorities within the municipality than Pontville park in the 10 year plan.
9. Support talks with the Brighton Show in relation to relocation of heavy vehicles from the sports grounds during the show period.

DECISION:

Cr Geard moved, Cr Irons seconded that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

Cr curran rejoined the meeting at 6.26pm.

Cr Owen and Cr Whelan had declared an interest in the following items and left the meeting at 6.26pm.

13.5 Hobart Gymnastics Academy, 27-29 Hurst Street, Bridgewater - Rent Reduction Extension

Author: Executive Officer Risk & Property (M Braslin)

Authorised by: General Manager (J Dryburgh)

Background

A decision was made at the Council Finance Committee meeting held in February 2023 to reduce the rent to 50% payable by the Hobart Gymnasium Academy (HGA) for a 12-month period. During this time Council was to explore opportunities with HGA with the goal to develop a new purpose-built gym facility in the Brighton Municipality.

Although we have made progress regarding the opportunities, we still have more to explore.

Consultation

General Manager.

Risk Implications

Low risk of a possible business failure.

Financial Implications

50% rent reduction of the current rent amount of \$62,379.

Strategic Plan

Goal 1 Inspire a proud community that enjoys a comfortable life at any age (1.3)

Goal 2 Ensure a sustainable environment (2.4)

Goal 3 Management infrastructure and growth effectively (3.3)

Social Implications

The Gymnasium serves as a hub for social interaction and community engagement in our community, it being one of the biggest sporting clubs in the Municipality.

Communities that participate in sport and recreation develop strong social bonds, are safer places and the people who live in them are generally healthier and happier than places where physical activity isn't a priority.

Environmental or Climate Change Implications

No significant climate or environmental-related issues. Any tenant will be required to engage in activities to promote sustainable living behaviours.

Economic Implications

Not applicable

Other Issues

Nil.

Assessment

Given the ongoing discussion for future plans for the Gymnasium it is reasonable to extend the discounted rent period.

Options

1. As per the recommendation.
 2. Do not adopt the recommendation.
 3. Other
-

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve an extension for a further 12 months of the 50% discount off the Hobart Gymnastic Academy rent whilst Council continues to explore opportunities for a new or upgraded facility.

DECISION:

Cr De La Torre moved, Cr Geard seconded that Council approve an extension for a further 12 months of the 50% discount off the Hobart Gymnastics Academy rent whilst Council continues to explore opportunities for a new or upgraded facility.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	

Cr Owen and Cr Whelan rejoined the meeting a 6.34pm.

13.6 Representatives - Finance Committee & Waste Management Committee

Author: General Manager (J Dryburgh)

Background

Representatives as listed below for each of the following Council committees were originally appointed on the 20th December 2022 following the local government elections.

Cr J McMaster has indicated his interest in being appointed as a representative on both the Finance Committee and Waste Management Committee.

Current representatives of these committees is as follows:

Finance Committee (Representatives: Crs Curran, De La Torre, Gray, Geard, Murtagh, Owen & Whelan)

Waste Management Committee (Representatives: Crs Owen, Geard, Gray, Curran, Murtagh & Whelan)

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, Section 23 provides the following information relating to Council committees:-

- (1) a council may establish, on such terms as it thinks fit, council committees to assist it in carrying out its functions under this or any other Act.
- (2) A council committee consists of councillors appointed by the council and any councillor who fills a vacancy for a meeting at the request of the council committee.
- (3) A meeting of a council committee is to be conducted in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Consultation

Finance Committee Chairperson (Cr B Curran); Waste Management Committee Chairperson (C P Owen)

Risk Implications

Nil.

Financial Implications

Nil.

Strategic Plan

Goal 4 – Ensure a progressive, efficient and caring Council

S4.2: Be well-governed, providing quality service and accountability to our community.

Social Implications

Not applicable.

Environmental or Climate Change Implications

Not applicable.

Economic Implications

Not applicable.

Options

1. As per the recommendation.
2. Other

RECOMMENDATION:

That Cr J McMaster be appointed to the Finance Committee & Waste Management Committee.

DECISION:

Cr Owen moved, Cr Whelan seconded that Cr J McMaster be appointed to the Finance Committee and Waste Management Committee.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

13.7 Submission - The Future of Local Government Review - Final Report

Author: General Manager (J Dryburgh)

Background

The submission to the Local Government Review Board was to confirm Council's position relating to each of the 37 recommendations contained within the Local Government Board's Final Report.

The Local Government Board was established by the State Government to make recommendations on the future role, functions and design of local government.

There have been three stages to the review process:

- Stage 1 - engagement and evidence stage with the Interim Report released in July 2022.
- Stage 2 - analyse options with an Options Paper released in December 2022 and Interim Report submitted to the Minister in March 2023. The Interim Report was released in April 2023, followed by the release of 'Information Packs for Community Catchments' in May 2023.
- Stage 3 - Final Report and Recommendations issued in October 2023.

Brighton Council have made submissions at each stage of the review process along with attending various forums, hearings and engagement sessions.

Council's majority preferred position is to maintain the status-quo, however, if amalgamations were pursued, Brighton broadly agrees with the Board's finding that Brighton would be more of a hub for the sub-region to the north with Southern Midlands rather than part of a larger metro council.

Council's submission also notes that the long running reform process is resource intensive for all council's involved and would fully support additional funding being provided to LGAT to be able to resource and progress some of the key recommendations within the final report.

The attached submission lists each of the final recommendations and notes Councils comments in relation to each recommendation. Submissions are due by the 29th February 2024.

Consultation:

Councillors; Senior Management Team

Risk Implications:

Nil.

Financial Implications:

Nil.

Strategic Plan

Goal 4 – Ensure a progressive, efficient and caring Council.

S4.1: Be big picture, long-term and evidence-based in our thinking.

S4.3: Ensure strong engagements and relationships to shape the agenda an advocate for our community.

Social Implications

Not applicable.

Environmental or Climate Change Implications

Not applicable.

Economic Implications

Not applicable.

Options

1. As per the recommendation.
2. Other.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council endorse the submission relating to The Future of Local Government Review – Final Report.

DECISION:

Cr De La Torre moved, Cr Owen seconded that Council endorse the submission relating to The Future of Local Government Review – Final Report with minor amendments on page 3.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	

Cr Gray
Cr Irons
Cr McMaster
Cr Murtagh
Cr Owen
Cr Whelan

13.8 Annual Plan 2023/24 Progress Update

Author: General Manager (J Dryburgh)

Background

Every year Council prepares an Annual Plan. The Annual Plan is a requirement under the *Local Government Act 1993* and must closely align with the budget.

The purpose of this report is to provide a mid-year update on Council's progress against the actions within the Annual Plan for 2023-24.

Consultation

Senior Management Team and relevant staff.

Risk Implications

None.

Financial Implications

This report is not a budget review. It is a summary of progress against the Annual Plan but it does also give an indication of how council is tracking against many key items in the budget.

Strategic Plan

The Annual Plan was prepared consistent with Council's Strategic Plan.

Providing a mid-year update on the progress of the Annual Plan furthers Goal 4 of the Strategic Plan to 'ensure a progressive, efficient and caring Council' especially with regard to:

S4.1: Be big picture, long-term and evidence based in our thinking

S4.2: Be well-governed, providing quality service and accountability to our community

S4.4: Ensure financial & risk sustainability

Social Implications

The Annual Plan includes a range of actions focussing on social outcomes.

Environmental or Climate Change Implications

The Annual Plan includes a range of actions focussing on environmental issues and opportunities.

Economic Implications

A range of actions in the Annual Plan have economic implications.

Other Issues

Nil.

Assessment

The Key Focus Areas and Summary of Strategies and Initiatives for 2023/2024 are listed below, with comments in italics provided below each action.

1. INSPIRE A PROUD COMMUNITY THAT ENJOYS A COMFORTABLE LIFE AT EVERY AGE

1.1 Engage with and enable our community

- Commence the development of an overarching Community Development Strategy, that incorporates a Youth Engagement Strategy.

Project commenced, including consultation with the Brighton Youth Action Group (BYAG). Aiming for presentation to Council mid-2024.

- Prepare a Community Engagement Framework.

Project commenced. Aiming for presentation to Council April/May 2024.

- Continue to support Brighton Alive administration and coordination, including the Brighton Alive Youth Network.

Council's community development team have been working with Brighton Alive to establish more clear objectives, with training and learning programs for members emerging as a key focus area. For example, Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) training delivered by the Jeder Institute is arranged in May in conjunction with Volunteer Week.

- Continue to support and grow the Brighton Youth Action Group (BYAG).

BYAG has gone from strength to strength this year, with a focus on growing the leadership group. BYAG received awards from LGAT and Keep Australia Beautiful for their work this year, including for the Big Banging Youth Night. They have held three other youth engagement activities and are co-creating a Youth Week event in April 2024.

BYAG members have also provided input from their perspective into council submissions and advocacy on a range of matters, including public transport.

- Develop a Brighton Volunteering Strategy in conjunction with Volunteering Tasmania.

This work is very well progressed. The Strategy will be launched in National Volunteer Week in May 2024.

- Continue the publication of the *Brighton Community News* and provision of information via Council's website and social media platforms.

Council continues its ongoing information provision and communication with the community via the BCN, social media, website and other platforms.

- **Support community to improve how services and supports are connected and promoted throughout the municipality, including food security.**

Council's community development team have made a concerted and ongoing effort to build and strengthen relationships with a wide range of organisations operating in our community.

Brighton Council assisted the Food Hub into a more fit-for-purpose and sustainable facility – now leasing a council building in Old Beach.

- **Continue to work with the Department of Education on the development of the new Brighton High School precinct and seek opportunities to share social infrastructure.**

Council has continued regular dialogue with the High School and has assisted in its physical development. Council's Mayor and General Manager also have a meeting scheduled with the new Principal to build a good relationship from day one.

1.2 Build resilience and opportunity

- **Continue to progress Council's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).**

Council paused further development of the RAP, whilst the Voice Referendum was occurring, other than to play an impartial role in provision of information regarding the referendum via Council platforms.

Discussions are underway with Council's SWN Jobs Hub to explore an Aboriginal-focussed employment program.

- **Lobby Government and build relationships with a range of partners to ensure better educational, health and wellbeing outcomes for our community.**

Council recently signed an MOU with TALS and the Red Cross to scope out a potential Youth Hub.

Council has lobbied and facilitated a range of discussions and outcomes for health and GP services, dental, psychology and youth mental health services.

Well-being and health issues and opportunities have been raised directly with politicians and in various submissions, not just from the perspective of health services, but also in the realm of housing developments, active recreation and transport.

- **Continue to advocate for and facilitate greater investment in local health services and long-term solutions to the current lack of General Practitioners and other medical services in the region.**

Council played a very active role in addressing the closure of the Greenpoint Medical Clinic when it was announced in 2023. This involved facilitating and hosting stakeholder meetings, regular meetings with state and federal representatives and discussions with medical providers. Ultimately, a new owner has taken over the practice with exciting plans for increased hours and services.

Council has completed the construction of a new GP clinic in Brighton and has invested in the precinct around this area. Tenants in Council's nearby Bedford Street facility now include dentists, GPs and psychology.

- **Prioritise and implement recommendations from Council's Social Infrastructure Plan.**

Council's Social Infrastructure Plan assists in council decision making in an ongoing manner, for example, when reviewing council long term financial and capital plans. It is very helpful when making submissions to government initiatives and for grant applications.

The recent MOU signed between Council, Red Cross and TALS to jointly investigate the potential development of a youth hub space, provides a good example of a recommendation from the Plan being pursued.

The Plan won a Planning Institute of Australia award in 2023.

- **Continue ongoing roll out of new disabled access kerb ramps and continue improving disability access and aged friendly community infrastructure more generally.**

This work is carried out year on year, incrementally improving safe and easy accessibility for all users.

- **Continue to assist with the promotion of MONA's 24 carrot program and the School Farm to increase food production learning in local schools.**

Council supported the 24 Carrot Program through assisting the Material Institute with a Tas Community Fund grant application, which was ultimately successful for a commercial kitchen/classroom/café at the Bridgewater site. The project is expected to be complete and operating this year.

- **Continue construction on a General Practice Clinic on Brighton Road and upgrade the Bowls Club & Community Carpark.**

This project has gone very well, with completion and handover expected this month (February 2024). Associated carparking works are complete.

- **Support the Hobart Gymnastics Association's ongoing presence in Bridgewater by collaborating to try to ensure long and successful operation.**

Council has been engaging with HGA and the Sports and Recreation department to better understand the needs for gymnastics across the region now and into future, including what investments in infrastructure are likely elsewhere. This is critical to informing options for council's support of gymnastics in future.

- **Conduct monthly immunisation clinics, annual school immunisations and promote the need for immunisation.**

Council's support for immunisations in schools and the community has continued as normal throughout the year.

1.3 Ensure attractive local areas that provide social, recreational and economic opportunities

- **Commence Ted Jeffries Memorial Park upgrades, including new soccer pitches and clubrooms, play, car parking and off-lead dog area.**

The dog park component of this project is almost complete, including fencing and landscaping.

Final detailed designs are now complete, including for the clubrooms. It is expected tenders will go out mid-2024.

- Undertake an internal review of Council's Open Space Strategy 2012.

Project commenced. Aiming for mid-year presentation of draft to Council.

- Continue working with all key stakeholders to develop Pontville Park into a first-class regional sporting, recreation and community facility in line with the site master plan.

New show shed and associated landscaping is almost complete; New equipment shed commenced; pitch levelling and renovations completed and ongoing dialogue with users.

- Construct a pump track in Bridgewater.

Project complete. Launch planned for Youth Week in April.

- Plan, design and undertake community consultation for an additional section of gravel walkway along the Old Bach Foreshore from Morrisby Road to Blackstone Drive.

Councillors briefed in a workshop and presented with a summary of the background work undertaken. Final project scoping and background reports being compiled. Aiming for community consultation during first half of 2024.

- Commence Stage 1 of Cris Fitzpatrick Park in accordance with the Master Plan and in collaboration with project partners.

This project is well-commenced, with completion expected in April/May.

- Commence construction for upgrades of Swan Park in Herdsmans Cove.

Construction has commenced.

- Complete planning and design for a town square in Brighton and commence construction.

Council has endorsed the final plan with a revised final costing to come to Council in February.

- Replace lights at Weily Park Oval.

Lighting replacement has been completed.

1.4 Encourage a sense of pride, local identity and engaging activities

- Continue implementing actions from Council's Public Art Strategy.

Last year's Block Party included a council—commissioned paint by numbers artwork, which will be mounted at the Civic Centre. Council officers are working with stakeholders to investigate the restoration and relocation of the "Bridgewater Jerry".

- Continue to support MONA's community development work, including at Bond Place, Gagebrook and Eddington Street, Bridgewater.

Council has continued support via grant submission support, engagement and investment in surrounding public areas.

- Continue and enhance cultural, social, environmental and educative partnerships, activities and events, including for youth. Continue to collaborate with MONA, BighArt, Vibrance, Libraries Tasmania, Volunteering Tasmania, Landcare and PCYC.

Council engagements and relationships with a range of other organisations is increasing thanks to now having a more active community development section within council.

2. ENSURE A SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

2.1 Acknowledge and respond to the climate change and biodiversity emergency

- Continue to implement the Climate Resilience Strategy.

Council has been supporting the establishment of a sector wide climate role within LGAT and funded by the State Government. This role has now been appointed and will help to support council's recently advertised climate officer role.

Council has submitted and is preparing several grants in this area, including one for energy efficiency and renewables measures on council building and another improving stormwater catchment management.

Council is in the final stages of its coastal inundation study and is soon to commence a similar study looking at bushfire risk.

- Develop a corporate emissions reduction plan, identifying opportunities for Council to further reduce emissions and save on its energy bills.

This work has been done and will feed into Council's ongoing capital plan and budget deliberations.

- Continue to report on Council's Climate Change targets:
 - corporate emission reduction target of 85% below 2021 levels by 2030 on the pathway to zero emissions by 2035 based on 2021 levels;
 - 100% corporate renewable electricity generation by 2030, based on 2022 levels; and
 - a community aspirational target of doubling local renewable electricity generation by 2030, based on 2022 levels.

Ongoing reporting is in place.

- Investigate coastal hazard impacts and building resilience through the Brighton Derwent River Foreshore Coastal Hazards Project.

Council officers are reviewing the final recommendations and council responses after the public consultation process for this project. Council workshop expected May/June 2024.

- Implement Council's new Weed Management Strategy.

Strategy implemented by Derwent Catchment Project and Council staff. (See separate update report on the work conducted by DCP on behalf of council).

- **Implement Council's new Natural Resource Management Strategy.**

Strategy implemented by Derwent Catchment Project and Council staff. (See separate update report on the work conducted by DCP on behalf of council).

- **Implement Council's new Brighton Council Foreshore Management Plan.**

Strategy implemented by Derwent Catchment Project and Council staff. (See separate update report on the work conducted by DCP on behalf of council).

- **Prepare a Corporate Climate Change Mitigation Policy.**

Partially drafted.

2.2 Encourage respect and enjoyment of the natural environment

- **Develop strategic partnerships with environmental and social organisations to enhance environmental management outcomes and build greater community engagement in local environmental and social activities.**

Discussions have been held recently with Landcare, Derwent Catchment Project (DCP), Kutalayna Collective, Material Institute, UTAS and council to discuss collaboration opportunities.

Council supports Landcare, who have a local group in Bridgewater and Old Beach.

Council's partnership with DCP is a good example of an effective strategic partnership in this space. (See separate update report on the work conducted by DCP on behalf of council).

- **Seek opportunities to educate the community about the region's significant natural values, such as interpretive signage or other means.**

Council supports the Derwent Estuary Program as a long-term member, who undertake significant work in this space, including the recent publication of a native duck identification booklet. This is also a key part of the ongoing work of DCP for Council, including in their general work and at events such as the Brighton Show.

2.3 Demonstrate strong environmental stewardship and leadership

- **Continue Council's waste and sustainability education program and its support for overall waste management in the area.**

This project continues to operate successfully.

- **Continue implementing the Greening Brighton Strategy, including Council's ongoing tree planting program.**

This year, this work has predominantly involved working with DSG about potential plantings and landscaping within the Brighton Hub.

- **Commence a review of Council's Greening Brighton Strategy.**

DCP have commenced this work for Council.

- **Continue transitioning Council's vehicle fleet to hybrid and electric vehicles.**

Ongoing.

- Continue to support schools through collaboration and engagement, including with Council's waste and sustainability education programs.

This project continues to operate successfully. Meeting requests have been submitted to meet the two new school principals in the area.

2.4 Ensure strategic planning and management of assets has a long-term sustainability and evidence-based approach

- Continue investigating options for council's waste management system and transfer station operations, with a focus on improving sustainability, benefits to the community and financial outcomes.

Project to scope, design and cost options for a new waste transfer station has commenced.

- Update the flood-prone hazards overlay based on modelling from catchment management plans so that it is readily available to the public.

Project commenced. Waiting on external GIS assistance.

- Continue to install solar panels on Council buildings that have favourable payback periods.

Analysis has predominantly been done. Grant application for 50:50 funding currently being prepared for a federal funding program.

- Investigate opportunities for circular economy and renewable energy investment within the Brighton Hub area.

Council has been involved in trying to assist projects in the hydrogen and solar space.

As part of the new waste transfer project, Council (via its consultant team) will be looking for any opportunities to collaborate with relevant stakeholders and to circularise more of our regional economy.

3. MANAGE INFRASTRUCTURE AND GROWTH EFFECTIVELY

3.1 Implement strategic long-term asset management plan aligned to long-term financial plan.

- Keep budget processes and general rate increases in line with Long Term Financial and Asset Management plans and strategies.

Council have achieved this. Recently, council have also had a workshop considering rating and revenue, with new LTFP and Asset plans now being drafted for council consideration.

- Pursue grant opportunities that clearly align with Council's endorsed 10 Year Infrastructure Plan.

Council officers continually track potential grant opportunities (including election promises) and aim to ensure the opportunities align with council strategies and long term financial and asset plans. Council currently has several applications both pending decisions and in preparation, including for the completion of the Seymour Street Masterplan, the Bridgewater catchment project and energy efficiency measures on council assets, especially Pontville Pavilion.

Council has already been successful during this financial year with grants for the Bridgewater Parkland spine, a bushfire risk management study and the Brighton Hub truck stop/pocket park, totalling close to \$1 million in external funding towards council strategic priorities.

- **Reconstruct sections of Andrew Street, Scott Road, Elderslie Road and Myna Park Road.**

Elderslie Road and Myna Park Road are complete.

Scott Road and Andrew Street have been commenced.

- **Reseal sections of Childs Drive, Landermere Drive, Harvest Lane and Mollinaeux Drive.**

Landermere Drive, Harvest Lane and Mollinaeux Drive are complete.

- **Seal parts of Millvale Drive and Rifle Range Road.**

Millvale Road is complete.

- **Formalise the overland flow path from Andrew Street to the Jordan River to improve stormwater and reduce flooding risk in the area.**

This work is part of the Andrew Street reconstruction, which has commenced.

3.2 Infrastructure development and service delivery are guided by strategic planning to cater for the needs of a growing and changing population.

- **Continue implementing the priority actions from the Brighton Industrial Estate Brand & Place Strategy, including entry signage and associated landscaping.**

Negotiations are ongoing with DSG regarding tree planting and landscaping.

Brighton Hub signage has been approved by the Tasmanian Planning Commission and DSG and should be installed this financial year.

Council successfully received confirmation of 80 per cent funding towards a truck stop / pocket park rest and amenity area in the Hub in February.

- **Optimise use of council land for community benefit and long-term council sustainability, including exploring potential sales and purchases.**

Council's Civic Centre has portions being leased as a successful private café and a section will soon be used to ensure the presence of police locally, whilst their new premises is being built. Council is working to facilitate a container café in Lennox Park.

A parcel of Council-owned land has been developed for the new GP clinic in Brighton.

Council continues to work with Centacare Evolve to explore opportunities land without a significant public benefit.

Council has recently released an Expression of Interest process for the potential sale of residential land in Cheswick Crescent, Bridgewater.

Council undertook a joint master planning project with the state, which looked at the precinct around the new bridge, including council-owned sites.

Council officers have begun exploring how to renovate or expand the council chambers to accommodate for the growth of our organisation.

- Continue to progress master planning for the South Brighton Precinct, incorporating the new Brighton High School design and development.

Ongoing. Tasmanian Planning Commission hearing scheduled for February 28th.

- Investigate rezoning for infill development around Sorell Street and Samuel Street Bridgewater.

Commenced.

- Finalise the Old Beach Zoning Review and commence implementing any endorsed recommendations.

Council endorsed the proposed changes and initiated an amendment, which as been publicly exhibited. The final report will go to the February Council Meeting.

- Investigate other rezoning opportunities within the Urban Growth Boundary.

This work is now being undertaken at the regional level via the STRLUS process, which Brighton is very actively involved in, with its general manager on the steering committee and Director Development Services on the working group.

- Prepare a Commercial Demand & Supply Strategy to better understand the needs of our growing community.

Further work has defined this project as an 'activity centre strategy'. A request for quotes is expected to go out in March/April.

- Prepare an Integrated Transport Strategy that considers pedestrian & cycling, freight, public transport and general traffic movements for a growing population.

Given work being undertaken by other agencies, Council agreed to shift focus towards an Active Transport Strategy.

3.3 Community facilities are safe, accessible and meet contemporary needs

- Continue footpath network development, with specific attention to age and disability access improvements.

Ongoing. Recent improvements include the link between the East Derwent Highway and the Cove Hill Shopping Centre.

- Continue upgrade and development of community park facilities.

Major upgrade to Cris Fitzpatrick Park almost completed.

Major upgrades to Swan Park commenced.

Shelter at Polonia Park commenced.

Pump Track in Bridgewater complete and grant application for further development being prepared.

Major upgrades in Seymour Street to commence mid year.

Investigation of container café in Lennox Park ongoing.

- **Improve access to Bridgewater Parkland through construction of a new roundabout at the intersection of Eddington Street and Thompson Crescent.**

Project on hold pending budget review. Design complete.

- **Construct an additional equipment shed at Pontville Park.**

Commenced.

3.4 Advocate and facilitate investment in our region

- **Lobby and build relationships for a more holistic approach to public and affordable housing projects that have greater consideration and investment in design, quality, integration with surrounding infrastructure, community building and harmony and with a clear eye on the long-term legacy of single and collective projects.**

Council have raised a number of matters in this regard, within various submissions to state government, the Local Government Review Board, Homes Tasmania, Centacare, directly to relevant ministers and via LGAT.

- **Lobby for and prepare grant applications for external funding for community infrastructure projects within Council's 10 Year Infrastructure Plan.**

Council's mayor and general manager regularly meet with and communicate with politicians and candidates and ensure that council priorities are expressed.

Council officers continually track potential grant opportunities (including election promises) and aim to ensure the opportunities align with council strategies and long term financial and asset plans. Council currently has several applications both pending decisions and in preparation, including for the completion of the Seymour Street Masterplan, the Bridgewater catchment project and energy efficiency measure on council assets, especially Pontville Pavilion.

Council has already been successful during this financial year with grants for the Bridgewater Parkland spine, a bushfire risk management study and the Brighton Hub truck stop/pocket park, totalling close to \$1 million in external funding towards council strategic priorities.

- **Investigate mechanisms to minimize negative social and infrastructure impacts created by large numbers of multiple dwelling developments in close proximity, including the potential for more equitable infrastructure and open space charges for unit developments.**

Council have raised a number of matters in this regard, within various submissions to state government, the Local Government Review Board, directly to relevant ministers and via LGAT.

- **Advocate for improved public and active transport, including ferry infrastructure and services.**

Council has advocated particularly strongly on this issue in recent months. Brighton got several media releases in print, radio and television media, as well as an opinion piece and letters to the editor in the Mercury.

This strong advocacy has also been put to ministers and opposition members both directly and in correspondence and formal submissions to the government Ferry Masterplan and Keep Hobart Moving projects.

This advocacy has results in other individuals, stakeholders and organisations taking up the Brighton cause themselves in various forums.

Brighton also became the first Council member of the Committee for Greater Hobart and assisted with their first issue-based forum and formal submission to government, which were about public transport issues. The views and stories of the Brighton Youth Action Group (BYAG) were represented at this forum.

- Continue to advocate for the significant freight route between Brighton and Cambridge to be taken over as a State Road and upgraded accordingly.

Thanks to council lobbying, DSG is currently undertaking an options analysis for freight between Brighton and Cambridge. It is expected this work will be completed in late 2024.

- Advocate for Pontville Park to be considered as a high-performance facility for a Tasmanian AFL team.

Council met with stakeholders and provided information into this process. However, Clarence has been confirmed as the site.

4. ENSURE A PROGRESSIVE, EFFICIENT AND CARING COUNCIL

4.1 Be big picture, long-term and evidenced based in our thinking.

- Continue implementing 2050 Vision.

Council's 2050 Vision is primarily implemented via subordinate plans and strategies. Sections of Brighton's 2050 Vision were used by the Local Government Review Board to highlight what they saw as best practice in terms of defining the roles of councils.

- Continue to participate in the Outer Hobart Residential Demand and Supply Study in partnership with other Councils and the State Government.

Council officers have played an important role in this work, which is at the final draft stage.

- Participate in the review of the Southern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy and changes to the Urban Growth Boundary to support fair, efficient and sustainable growth of the region.

Council is extremely active in this project, with Council's Director Development Services on the Working Group and Council's General Manager on the Steering Committee. The main risk to this project as always, is the State Government dragging their feet and changing their approach, timelines or priorities partway through.

- Prepare master plans for key project areas and grant opportunities for the next 10 years, in line with Council's 10 Year Infrastructure Plan.

Master plans that have been created or revised this year include:

- Seymour Street soccer facilities and parkland masterplan.
- Brighton Hub truck stop / pocket park and amenities.
- The Bridgewater Bridge Precinct Plan.
- Scoping work for the Old Beach Foreshore trail network.

- **Continue to participate fully in the Future of Local Government Review process and ensure that the views of our council and our community are heard.**

Council have taken every available opportunity to engage proactively with the Future of Local Government Review process. This has taken the form of meeting, hearings, formal submissions and a range to sectoral forums. Council's submission to the third and final stage of the process will go to council in February.

It is reasonable to assume that Brighton's voice was heard and understood in the process as the final recommendations broadly align with Council's submissions.

4.2 Be well governed, providing quality service and accountability to our community.

- **Continue to embed Council's updated values at all levels throughout the organization.**

Council values are simple and clear and underpin everything we do, but of special note in the past six months are the values of Vision and Community.

Council officers have put a strong focus into setting our council up for the future, this has including organizational review and workforce growth planning, rates/revenue workshopping to develop new long term financial and asset plans and commencing the work of ensuring our core operational assets (our offices, depot and waste transfer station) are fit for the future.

Council has established a renewed strategic focus and resourcing into a wide range of community development activities that should pay dividends over time.

Our values are Vision – Community – Respect - Integrity

- **Continue the smooth and successful running of the 'Regional Jobs Hub' (Southcentral Workforce Network) on behalf of the region and support its on-going expansion of services and programs.**

The Jobs Hub remains an institution celebrated by all three tiers of government. The range of programs it delivers and the people and organizations it assists continues to increase. Longer term funding appears to have been secured, with the Federal government keen to study the model for potential adoption more widely around the country.

The Hub is holding a major employer-focused event at Shene in late February.

The Hub also often assists the four member councils directly with identifying potential employees.

- **Continue to improve processes and efficiency to carry out Council's statutory obligations such as planning, building, plumbing, animal control and environmental health.**

This work is always ongoing. However Council will look to recruit a specialized compliance officer this financial year to assist council with more proactive compliance across these regulatory functions.

4.3 Ensure strong engagements and relationships to shape the agenda and advocate for our community

- Engage with all levels of government and with the Greater Hobart Committee to help realise the opportunities for Brighton within a regional context.

Brighton plays an active role in the region, engaging strong with all representative bodies and having some key roles within them, such as Chair of the South Central Subregion and sitting on the steering committee for the STRLUS review.

Communication from the Greater Hobart Committee (City Deal group) has been less proactive in the past year or so, but Brighton has made every attempt to provide its voice in a collaborative manner.

Regular engagements occur with all relevant ministers and their offices, relevant department bureaucrats and with not government members of parliament and the Upper House.

- Collaborate with Government to ensure best possible outcomes for the Bridgewater Bridge Project.

Council completed the joint master planning project with DSG/The Bridgewater Bridge Team for the precinct affected by the bridge on the northern side of the river. This is now a critical document for further discussions with both State and Federal Government to not only ensure the bridge is completed successfully, but that the three tiers of government collaborate to address local issues and seize opportunities created by the bridge project around this precinct.

This discussion has been raised in multiple meetings with ministers and in formal submissions to various government projects and strategies.

- Continue to build relationships with critical infrastructure authorities such as TasWater, TasNetworks, TasGas, Metro Tas, etc. to deliver community outcomes.

Council has strong relationships with all critical infrastructure authorities. Relevant staff have met with each of TasWater, TasNetworks, TasGas, Metro, TasRail and the Department of State Growth within the past six months to discuss a range of specific matters and to brief these entities on Brighton's priorities.

4.4 Ensure financial and risk sustainability

- Closely monitor the economic and social impacts of external circumstances and events, such as COVID-19.

Council officers continue to monitor such matters, which in recent times have had a focus on inflation, cost of living, geopolitical instability, local politics/elections and health advice.

- Ensure integrated and active risk management.

Council continues to increase its active management of risk, including with the undertaking of studies into foreshore inundation and bushfire risk, as well managing our more direct operational risks.

Council has a workshop to set its 'risk appetite' in February.

- Prepare an IT strategy for the organisation with a focus on cyber security.

IT strategy work has commenced, but in the meantime a range of actions have been implemented to decrease council's cyber security risks and a new cyber security policy has been drafted pending review.

- Continue to keep risk exposure to a minimum by helping reduce injuries and potential loss. Management practices will involve identifying risks, analysing and treating by taking appropriate action.

Council's risk management systems and processes are regularly reviewed and improved, and Council now has a dedicated risk officer driving this work.

- Continue to be proactive in inspections and reviews of roads, footpaths, written agreements with clubs/user groups, building & financial services, town planning and recreation functions.

This work is ongoing. Several of these functions fall to two roles created under our organisational review, facilities management and property management, as well as by Field Services crew and officers undertaking compliance activities.

- Educate community groups on importance and activities involved with risk management.

This activity is built into our processes when hiring facilities or hosting events. It will soon include child safety advice consistent with the new requirements.

- Integrate climate change risks into key strategic documentation.

This work is ongoing, but will hopefully speed up once council reappoint a climate officer.

4.5 Ensure Council is a desirable place to work with exceptional workplace culture, attracting and retaining high performing, committed and fulfilled staff.

- Investigate and plan for potential Council Chambers renovation and expansion.

Commenced.

- Implement the recommendations of Council's organisational review.

All the core recommendations have been implemented and the review is helping to guide organisational growth, office renovation ideas and employee performance management and career development processes.

- Ensure Brighton remains a desirable place to work with a reputation for being a progressive, caring, fulfilling place to work with a strong culture.

Brighton is still considered a desirable place to work with a good work culture. Recent advertised positions have received a high number of quality candidates, which indicates that Brighton is seen as a desirable place to work.

- Provide cultural diversity awareness training to all staff.

Complete.

Options

1. As per the recommendation.
2. Other.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Annual Plan 2023/24 Progress Update be received.

DECISION:

Cr Irons moved, Cr McMaster seconded that the Annual Plan 2023/24 Progress Update be received.

CARRIED

VOTING RECORD

In favour	Against
Cr Curran	
Cr De La Torre	
Cr Geard	
Cr Gray	
Cr Irons	
Cr McMaster	
Cr Murtagh	
Cr Owen	
Cr Whelan	

14. Questions on Notice

There were no Questions on Notice for the February meeting.

Meeting closed: 6.45pm

Confirmed: _____
(Mayor)

Date: _____
19 March 2024