

Brighton Council Annual Plan 2026-2027



**Brighton
Council**

We acknowledge the traditional owners who once walked this country: the Mumirimina people.

The Mumirimina belonged to the Oyster Bay Tribe. This was the largest tribe in Tasmania and covered 8000 square kilometres. Katalayna levee in Brighton was a significant meeting place where hundreds of generations of Aboriginal families hunted, gathered, corroboreed, camped and traded.

In the course of colonisation, dispossession of the Mumirimina was early, rapid and extensive.

We acknowledge the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community, today as the continuing custodians of the land, and pay our respects to Elders past and present. Through our words and actions we strive to build a community that reflects and respects the history and hopes for all the people in Brighton.



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Introduction from the Mayor & CEO

We are pleased to present Brighton Council's Annual Plan for the 2026/2027 financial year.

This plan has been prepared and adopted by Council in accordance with Section 71 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. It aligns with our strategic plan and outlines how we will achieve the stated goals and objectives.

In the upcoming year, we are committed to enhancing our community's wellbeing through several key initiatives. Some of these include:

- Delivering our innovative Community Creators program as part of our wider community development efforts).
- Commencing works on the Lennox Park precinct at Old Beach.
- Constructing Stage 2 of the Seymour Street Master Plan in Brighton.
- Constructing the South Brighton growth precinct infrastructure.
- Investing in key road and pathway improvements and reconstructions.
- Advocating for greater State and Federal investment in Brighton and collaboration on strategic opportunities, such as the planned growth of West Bridgewater.
- Continuing to drive environmental improvements and progress our climate adaptation and mitigation efforts.
- Implementing key long-term strategies.

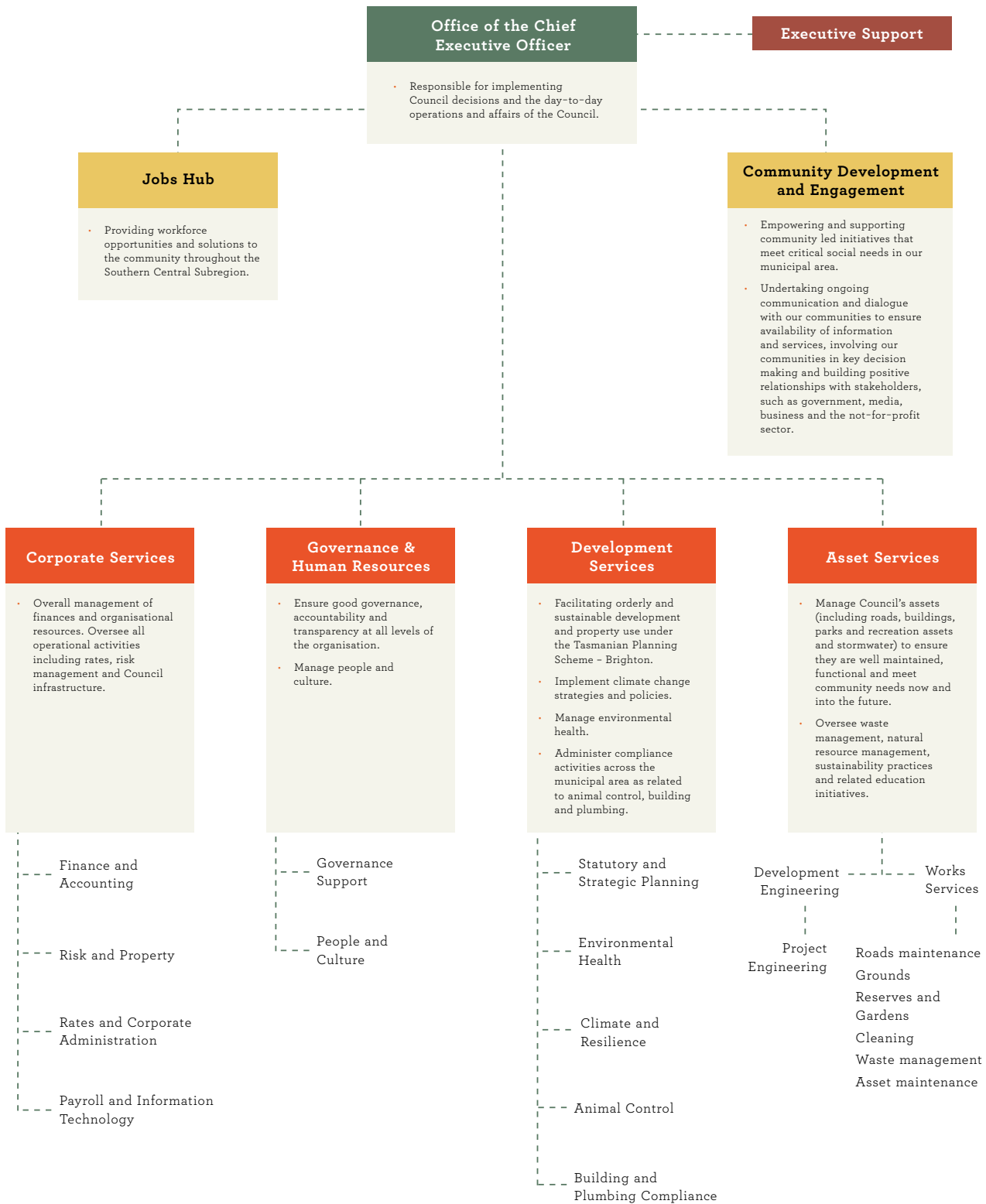
Additionally, we will continue our efforts in environmental stewardship, waste education programs and fostering strategic partnerships with local organisations.

We look forward to working inclusively with community members during 2026/2027 to achieve these goals and build a stronger, more connected community.

Cr Leigh Gray
MAYOR

James Dryburgh
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Organisation Structure



Note: Chief Executive Officer being the General Manager as appointed by Brighton Council pursuant to Section 61 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Councillors as at 1 July 2026



Cr Leigh Gray (Mayor)
Cr Barbara Curran (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Aaron De La Torre
Cr Peter Geard
Cr Greg Irons
Cr John McMaster
Cr Tennille Murtagh
Cr Philip Owen
Cr Michael Whelan

L-R: Cr Geard; Cr McMaster; Cr Murtagh;
Cr Whelan; Cr Gray; Cr De La Torre;
Cr Curran; Cr Irons & Cr Owen

Summary of Estimates for the 2026/27 Financial Year



Estimated revenue of the Council

\$29,240,745



Estimated expenditure of the Council

\$23,038,956



Estimated borrowings of the Council

\$2,500,000



Estimated capital works of the Council

\$12,940,603

Key Focus Areas & Summary of Strategies and Initiative for 2026/2027



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

1.1 Engage with and enable our community

- Embed place-based and Asset Based Community Development approaches into how we work alongside community.
- Embed the newly implemented Community Engagement Strategy.
- Progress the LGBTIQ+ Action Plan adopted in May 2026.
- Continue to support Brighton Alive administration and coordination, including the Brighton Alive Youth Network, with a focus on education, training and personal/professional development.
- Ensure a successful first year of our innovative Community Creators program, which is fully funded for 5 years by the Tasmanian Community Fund.
- Support Council's Youth Engagement Worker to build relationships with and empower our young people to be change makers now and into the future.
- Continue to support and grow the Brighton Youth Action Group (BYAG).
- Continue to work with Youth Justice in the Department of Education, Children and Young People (DECYP) to support place-based community initiatives that assist with implementing the Youth Justice Blueprint 2024-2034 and prioritise the rights of young people, rehabilitation and breaking the cycle of offending.
- Continue the publication of the Brighton Community News and the provision of information via Council's website and social media platforms.

1.2 Build resilience and opportunity

- Continue to progress Council's work with our local Aboriginal communities.
- Continue to build upon our collaborative anti-racism advocacy and foster strong and supportive relationships with our multicultural communities.
- Continue to explore opportunities for the establishment of a Community Youth Hub in Bridgewater for young people 12-25 years, to deliver much needed justice diversion services and other wrap around services to be available for all young people in our communities.
- Continue to advocate for and facilitate greater investment in local health services and long-term community health well-being solutions, including supporting the Federal Government to deliver on its commitment to a Mental Health Clinic in Brighton.
- Continue implementing recommendations from Council's Social Infrastructure Plan.
- Continue ongoing roll out of new access kerb ramps and continue improving accesses and aged appropriate community infrastructure more generally.
- Complete planning and commence construction of a 'sensory park' in Pontville.
- Engage with Government and sporting bodies to support the ongoing and increasing presence of sporting opportunities and infrastructure across the region.
- Conduct annual school immunisations and promote the need for immunisation.

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

- Commence Stage 2 of the Seymour Street Precinct, which includes upgraded playground and next stage of clubroom construction
- Continue implementing the key priorities within Council's Open Space Strategy.
- Complete the construction of additional sections of gravel walkway along the Old Beach Foreshore.
- Commence the Lennox Park precinct, Old Beach facilities upgrade as per the new masterplan.
- Complete the construction of a truck stop rest area and 'pocket park' in the Brighton Hub.

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

- Continue implementing actions from Council's Public Art Strategy.
- Continue to support the Material Institute's community development work and community events, including at Bond Place, Gagebrook and Botanical, Eddington Street, Bridgewater.
- Foster cultural, social, environmental and educative partnerships, activities and events.



GOAL 2: Ensure a sustainable environment

2.1 Acknowledge and respond to the climate change and biodiversity emergency

- Continue to implement the Climate Resilience Strategy, including by continuing energy efficiency upgrades on assets.
- Encourage and support community with home energy efficiency and electrification.
- Continue progress towards Council's Climate Change targets:
 - corporate emission reduction target of 85% below 2021 levels by 2030 on the pathway to zero emissions by 2035; and
 - 100% corporate renewable electricity generation by 2030.
- Accelerate transitioning Council's vehicle fleet and plant to low emissions options, hybrid and electric; upgrade council EV chargers.
- Continue implementing Council's Weed Management Strategy, Natural Resource Management, Strategy and the Brighton Council Foreshore Management Plan.
- Continue implementing key actions of the Brighton Council Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2024.
- Participate in the Coastal Hazards Resilience Planning Project.

2.2 Encourage respect and enjoyment of the natural environment

- Foster strategic partnerships with environmental and social organisations to enhance environmental management outcomes and build greater community engagement in local environmental and social activities.
- Continue implementing the renewed Greening Brighton Strategy including through opportunities to empower community to take action on private land.
- Seek opportunities to educate the community about the region's significant natural values, such as interpretive signage, the BCN, online publications and other means.

2.3 Demonstrate strong environmental stewardship and leadership

- Prepare an over-arching Waste Strategy for Brighton Council.
- Continue Council's waste and sustainability education program and collaborate regionally and sector-wide when possible.
- Respond to evidence and recommendations regarding bushfire, inundation, coastal hazards and other environmental risks.
- Continue to support schools through collaboration and engagement, including with Council's waste, community development and sustainability education programs.



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

- Finalise options for the long-term upgrading of council’s waste management system and transfer station, with a focus on improving sustainability and reducing emissions, benefits to the community and financial outcomes.
- Promote opportunities for private and public investments within the region that align with our 2050 Vision and key strategies.
- Continue targeted growth planning projects and align funding requests and investments from other tiers of government and utilities providers towards these strategies.
- Commence the renovation of the Council Chambers Facility to ensure it meets Council needs for the next 15 years.

GOAL 3: Manage infrastructure and growth effectively

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

- Embed Long-term Financial Plan and 10 Year Asset Plans into council decision making and keep budget processes and general rate increases consistent with these.
- Pursue grant opportunities that clearly align with Council's 10 Year Infrastructure Plans and endorsed strategies.
- Build strong relationships and shared understandings with key utilities providers and other tiers of government to encourage a strong pipeline of strategic and co-ordinated infrastructure investment in our region.
- Reconstruct sections of Killarney Road, Bridgewater; Old Beach Road, Old Beach and Cheswick Crescent, Bridgewater.
- Seal section of Bedford Street, Brighton.
- Construct extensions to the playing surface on Gunn Oval, Pontville.
- Construct infrastructure associated with the South Brighton Growth Precinct grant, including Dylan Street and the shared pathway linking Brighton High School through to the Brighton Hub.
- Construct shared pathways connecting the East Derwent Highway with the Bridgewater Bridge precinct.
- Undertake strategic renewals across our infrastructure network, including kerb and channel, footpath and accessibility improvements, dig outs, drainage, guard rail and street lighting works.

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 our key strategies.
- Continue optimising use of council land for community benefit and long-term council sustainability, including exploring potential leases, sales and purchases.
- Finalise and commence implementation of the Local Area Plan for the Brighton and Pontville townships.
- Collaborate with the other five Councils of Greater Hobart, including to finalise a Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Strategy for the region.
- Integrate the master planning work for the Bridgewater Bridge Precinct, the Sorell Street and Samuel Street area and the Boyer Road master plan into a broader vision for the combined area, in partnership with the Tasmanian Government.
- Complete the Structure Plan for Brighton Industrial Hub in partnership with the Tasmanian Government.

3.3 Community facilities are safe, accessible and meet contemporary needs

- Continue footpath network improvements, with specific attention to access improvements for the elderly and people with a disability.
- Continue upgrades and improved service levels of community park, sporting and facilities.

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.
- Lobby for State, Federal and utilities providers to support the growth precinct to the west of the new Bridgewater Bridge.
- Lobby for State, Federal and utilities providers for investment in the infrastructure and services required to support the Brighton community and its continued growth.
- Lobby for and prepare grant applications for external funding for projects within Council's 10 Year Infrastructure Plans and key strategies.
- Continue to advocate for improved public and active transport, including bus, park and ride, active transport and ferry infrastructure and services.
- Continue to advocate for the significant freight route between Brighton and Cambridge to be taken over as a State Road and upgraded accordingly to meet current and future needs for the State's economic growth.



GOAL 4: Ensure a progressive, efficient and caring Council

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

- Continue implementing Brighton's 2050 Vision and Strategy 2023 – 2033.
- Continue to participate actively in regional and sectoral activities, including via the STCN, SCS, Committee for Greater Hobart, City Deal/Greater Hobart Committee activities, LGAT and the Office of Local Government.

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

- Continue to embed Council's endorsed values, strategies and policies at all levels throughout the organisation.
- 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. Advocate for on-going funding with State and Federal Governments.
- Continue to improve processes and efficiency to carry out Council's statutory obligations such as planning, building, plumbing, animal control, environmental health and an increasing focus on improving compliance levels.
- Maximise the use of emerging technology to improve service delivery and customer experience, including improved performance reporting.
- Improve access to current information via Council's website and communications, and broaden opportunities for community feedback and involvement.

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

- Consult with the community on updating Council's Dog Management Policy.
- Expand opportunities for community consultation and input into council activities, projects and strategies.
- Seek to collaborate with Government to ensure best possible outcomes for our community.
- Continue to build relationships with critical infrastructure authorities such as TasWater, TasNetworks, TasGas, Metro Tas, etc. to deliver community outcomes.

4.4 Ensure financial and risk sustainability

- Closely monitor the local economic, environmental and social impacts of external circumstances and events.
- Ensure integrated and active risk management.
- Embed climate change into Council BAU.

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

- Ensure Brighton remains a desirable place to work with a reputation for being a progressive, caring, fulfilling place to work with a strong culture.
- Provide relevant support, training and professional development to all staff.



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