

SOUTHERN  
MIDLANDS  
COUNCIL



# **MINUTES**

## **ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

---

Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
10.00 a.m.

Broadmarsh / Elderslie Hall  
1218 Elderslie Road, Broadmarsh

# INDEX

<b>1. PRAYERS</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>3. ATTENDANCE</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>4. APOLOGIES</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>5. MINUTES</b> .....	<b>4</b>
5.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING.....	4
5.2 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.....	5
5.3 SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL MINUTES.....	5
5.3.1 <i>Special Committees of Council - Receipt of Minutes</i> .....	5
5.3.2 <i>Special Committees of Council - Endorsement of Recommendations</i> .....	5
5.4 JOINT AUTHORITIES (ESTABLISHED UNDER DIVISION 4 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993)5	
5.4.1 <i>Joint Authorities - Receipt of Minutes</i> .....	5
5.4.2 <i>Joint Authorities - Receipt of Reports (Annual &amp; Quarterly)</i> .....	6
<b>6. NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>7. COUNCILLORS – QUESTION TIME</b> .....	<b>8</b>
7.1 QUESTIONS (ON NOTICE).....	8
7.2 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE .....	9
<b>8. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>9. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS TO THE AGENDA</b> .....	<b>12</b>
<b>10. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (SCHEDULED FOR 10.30 A.M.)</b> .....	<b>13</b>
10.1 PERMISSION TO ADDRESS COUNCIL.....	14
<b>11. MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN UNDER REGULATION 16 (5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2015</b> .....	<b>16</b>
<b>12. COUNCIL ACTING AS A PLANNING AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO THE LAND USE PLANNING AND APPROVALS ACT 1993 AND COUNCIL’S STATUTORY LAND USE PLANNING SCHEME</b>	<b>17</b>
12.1 DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS .....	17
12.2 SUBDIVISIONS.....	17
12.3 MUNICIPAL SEAL (PLANNING AUTHORITY) .....	17
12.4 PLANNING (OTHER).....	17
<b>13. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – INFRASTRUCTURE) ..</b>	<b>18</b>
13.1 ROADS .....	18
13.2 BRIDGES .....	18
13.3 WALKWAYS, CYCLE WAYS AND TRAILS.....	18
13.4 LIGHTING .....	18
13.5 BUILDINGS.....	18
13.6 SEWERS / WATER .....	18
13.7 DRAINAGE .....	18
13.8 WASTE .....	19
13.9 INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY .....	19
13.10 OFFICER REPORTS – INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS .....	20
13.10.1 <i>Manager – Infrastructure &amp; Works Report</i> .....	20
<b>14. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – GROWTH) .....</b>	<b>26</b>
14.1 RESIDENTIAL .....	26
14.2 TOURISM .....	26
14.3 BUSINESS.....	26
14.4 INDUSTRY.....	26
<b>15. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME –LANDSCAPES).....</b>	<b>27</b>
15.1 HERITAGE.....	27
15.1.1 <i>Heritage Project Program Report</i> .....	27
15.1.2 <i>RSL Tasmania – “For Valour” Victoria Cross Awards</i> .....	29

15.2	NATURAL .....	31
15.2.1	<i>NRM Unit – General Report</i> .....	31
15.3	CULTURAL .....	34
15.4	REGULATORY (DEVELOPMENT).....	34
15.5	REGULATORY (PUBLIC HEALTH).....	34
15.6	REGULATORY (ANIMALS).....	35
15.6.1	<i>Animal Management Report</i> .....	35
15.7	ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY.....	37
<b>16.</b>	<b>OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – COMMUNITY).....</b>	<b>38</b>
16.1	COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING .....	38
16.2	RECREATION .....	38
16.2.1	<i>Oatlands Aquatic Centre – Progress Report</i> .....	38
16.3	ACCESS.....	39
16.4	VOLUNTEERS.....	39
16.5	FAMILIES .....	39
16.6	EDUCATION .....	39
16.7	CAPACITY & SUSTAINABILITY .....	40
16.7.1	<i>Tunbridge Community Club Inc. – Accessible Toilets Extension Project – Grant Deed (State Government and Southern Midlands Council)</i> .....	40
16.8	SAFETY .....	42
16.9	CONSULTATION & COMMUNICATION .....	42
<b>17.</b>	<b>OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – ORGANISATION).....</b>	<b>43</b>
17.1	IMPROVEMENT .....	43
17.1.1	<i>Amendment of Existing Policies</i> .....	43
17.2	SUSTAINABILITY .....	46
17.2.1	<i>Tabling of Documents</i> .....	46
17.2.2	<i>Elected Member Statements</i> .....	46
17.2.3	<i>SMC External Grant Projects – Quarterly Update</i> .....	47
17.2.4	<i>Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) – Southern Nomination for the Tasmanian Library Advisory Board</i> .....	55
17.2.5	<i>LGAT – Seeking Nomination for Representative on the Tasmanian Heritage Council</i> 59	
17.2.6	<i>LGAT – Nomination for State Fire Commission</i> .....	63
17.2.7	<i>Local Government Shared Services – Quarterly Update – Information Only</i> .....	67
17.2.8	<i>Local Government Board – ‘The future of local government review – Options Paper (Review Stage 2 – December 2022)’</i> .....	69
17.3	FINANCES.....	88
17.3.1	<i>Monthly Financial Statement</i> .....	88
17.3.2	<i>Monthly Oatlands Aquatic Centre Capital Expenditure Report</i> .....	104
<b>18.</b>	<b>MUNICIPAL SEAL .....</b>	<b>107</b>
16.7.2	<i>Oatlands – State Winner KAB Sustainable Communities Award December 2022</i>	108
<b>19.</b>	<b>CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS TO THE AGENDA .....</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>20.</b>	<b>BUSINESS IN “CLOSED SESSION” .....</b>	<b>123</b>
20.1	CLOSED COUNCIL MINUTES - CONFIRMATION.....	123
20.2	APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE .....	123
20.3	PROPERTY MATTER – OATLANDS .....	123
20.4	BLACKMAN WATER PTY LTD – SALE OF SHARES.....	123
<b>21.</b>	<b>CLOSURE .....</b>	<b>125</b>

## OPEN COUNCIL MINUTES

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL HELD  
ON WEDNESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2023 AT THE BROADMARSH / ELDERSLIE HALL  
COMMENCING AT 10.00 A.M.

### 1. PRAYERS

Reverend Dennis Cousens recited prayers.

### 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Mayor E Batt recited Acknowledgement of Country

### 3. ATTENDANCE

Mayor E Batt, Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, Clr A E Bisdee OAM, Clr D Blackwell, Clr D Fish  
Clr R McDougall and Clr F Miller.

Mr T Kirkwood (General Manager) (arrived at 11.25 a.m.), Mr A Benson (Deputy General  
Manager), Mr D Richardson (Manager, Infrastructure & Works), Mrs W Young (Manager  
Community & Corporate Development), Mrs J Crosswell (Executive Officer).

### 4. APOLOGIES

Nil.

### 5. MINUTES

#### 5.1 Ordinary Council meeting

The Minutes (Open Council Minutes) of the previous meeting of Council held on the 14<sup>th</sup>  
December 2022, as circulated, are submitted for confirmation.

#### DECISION

*Moved by Clr A E Bisdee OAM, seconded by Clr Clr McDougall*

**THAT the Minutes (Open Council Minutes) of the previous meeting of Council held on  
the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022, as circulated, be confirmed with amendment on page 20.  
(Agenda Item 15.1.1 missing recommendation).**

#### CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

## 5.2 Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Council held on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022, as circulated, are submitted for confirmation.

### DECISION

*Moved by Cllr D Fish, seconded by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon*

**THAT the minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Council held on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022, as circulated, be confirmed.**

### CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Cllr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Cllr D Blackwell	✓	
Cllr D F Fish	✓	
Cllr R McDougall	✓	
Cllr F Miller	✓	

## 5.3 Special Committees of Council Minutes

### 5.3.1 Special Committees of Council - Receipt of Minutes

Nil.

### 5.3.2 Special Committees of Council - Endorsement of Recommendations

Nil.

## 5.4 Joint Authorities (Established Under Division 4 of the *Local Government Act 1993*)

### 5.4.1 Joint Authorities - Receipt of Minutes

Minutes for the following Joint Authority, as circulated, are submitted for receipt:

- Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority – Meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022
- Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority – Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022

## RECOMMENDATION

**THAT the minutes for the above Joint Authority be received.**

## DECISION

*Moved by Cllr A E Bisdee OAM, seconded by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon*

**THAT the minutes for the above Joint Authority be received.**

## CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Cllr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Cllr D Blackwell	✓	
Cllr D F Fish	✓	
Cllr R McDougall	✓	
Cllr F Miller	✓	

### 5.4.2 Joint Authorities - Receipt of Reports (Annual & Quarterly)

Nil.

## 6. NOTIFICATION OF COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

In accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the Agenda is to include details of any Council workshop held since the last meeting.

One workshop has been held since the last Ordinary Meeting.

A workshop was held on the 18<sup>TH</sup> January 2023 at the Council Chambers, Oatlands commencing at 9.30 a.m.

Attendance: Mayor E Batt, Clrs A E Bisdee OAM, D Blackwell, K Dudgeon, D Fish, and R McDougall.

Apologies: Clr F Miller.

Also in Attendance: T Kirkwood, A Benson, D Richardson, W Young and J Crosswell.

The single purpose of the Workshop was to consider and discuss Council's position in relation to the Local Government Board's '*The future of local government review – Options Paper (Review Stage 2 - December 2022)*'.

Submissions are due by 19<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

An Item has been included in the Agenda to provide the relevant background information and create awareness of the local government reform issue, noting that the draft Submission will not be finalised to enable endorsement at the Council Meeting scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

The workshop concluded at approximately 12.00 noon.

### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT the information be received.**

### DECISION

*Moved by Clr R McDougall, seconded by Clr D Blackwell*

**THAT the information be received.**

### CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

## **7. COUNCILLORS – QUESTION TIME**

### **7.1 Questions (On Notice)**

Regulation 30 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* relates to Questions on notice. It states:

- (1) *A councillor, at least 7 days before an ordinary council meeting or a council committee meeting, may give written notice to the general manager of a question in respect of which the councillor seeks an answer at that meeting.*
- (2) *An answer to a question on notice must be in writing.*

Nil.



## 7.2 Questions Without Notice

Section 29 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* relates to Questions without notice.

It states:

**“29. Questions without notice**

(1) *A councillor at a meeting may ask a question without notice –*

- (a) of the chairperson; or*
- (b) through the chairperson, of –*
  - (i) another councillor; or*
  - (ii) the general manager.*

(2) *In putting a question without notice at a meeting, a councillor must not –*

- (a) offer an argument or opinion; or*
- (b) draw any inferences or make any imputations – except so far as may be necessary to explain the question.*

(3) *The chairperson of a meeting must not permit any debate of a question without notice or its answer.*

(4) *The chairperson, councillor or general manager who is asked a question without notice at a meeting may decline to answer the question.*

(5) *The chairperson of a meeting may refuse to accept a question without notice if it does not relate to the activities of the council.*

(6) *Questions without notice, and any answers to those questions, are not required to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.*

(7) *The chairperson of a meeting may require a councillor to put a question without notice in writing.*

An opportunity is provided for Councillors to ask questions relating to Council business, previous Agenda items or issues of a general nature.

**Clr F Miller** – Native Corners Road, Campania – Received a complaint from a resident that this has not been sealed properly. Raised concerns on safety.

*Manager Infrastructure & Works – is aware there is approximately a 20 metre section of the road that could have a slight defect but does not believe it to be a serious issue. The contractor is responsible to repair any issues during the 12 month defect period.*

**Clr F Miller** – Noted an amount of dwellings being built around Colebrook Dam that would not have appropriate building approvals.

*Deputy General Manager – Advised Clr Miller to provide written advice regarding these dwellings with the General Manager and he will advise the Compliance Officer who will investigate further.*

**Clr R McDougall** – Would like to make the public more aware of the “Oatlands Key” system. Could a Facebook page be created with information on sites and locations where the key can be collected.

*Deputy General Manager to follow up with Manager Heritage Projects.*

**Clr R McDougall** – Requested an update on the Bagdad Master Plan.

*Deputy General Manager advised an update will be provided at the next Council Meeting*

**Clr R McDougall** – Update on Oatlands Aquatic Centre and have defects been rectified?

*Deputy General Manager – An issues log is being kept for any defects. The contractor has a defect liability period of 12 months. There were previously some small incidents with grouting in the children’s pool but most of these have been rectified.*

Clr R McDougall made the comment that the Oatlands Aquatic Centre is absolutely fabulous. The water quality is excellent. The gym, fitness classes are fantastic and landscaping is looking really good. A possible oversight in the change rooms in that there is only one shower cubicle. Ideally there would have been more private shower cubicles.

**Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon** – Originally raised the issue at the October 2022 meeting, Justitia Court subdivision playground - broken play equipment has been removed but enquired whether it will be fixed and returned?

Villeneuve / Chevalier Streets have had light poles installed but no light connections.

*Manager Infrastructure and Works – play equipment will be returned and installed once the new components have arrived. Aurora to be notified regarding light poles.*

**Mayor E Batt** – Raised the issue of Campania and its lack a postal delivery service. As per advice from Australia Post a petition is required.

*Deputy General Manager – A report will be prepared for next Council Meeting*

**Mayor E Batt** – Lake Dulverton, Oatlands - Can some ‘No Parking’ signs be installed at Lake Dulverton where people are fishing. Vans are parking right to the water making it difficult for fishermen.

*Issue has been referred to the Callington Park & Lake Dulverton Management Committee to consider appropriate signage (and location).*

## **8. DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

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

Accordingly, Councillors are requested to advise of a pecuniary interest they may have in respect to any matter on the agenda, or any supplementary item to the agenda, which Council has resolved to deal with, in accordance with Part 2 Regulation 8 (6) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

Nil.

## 9. 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 decide at an ordinary meeting to deal with a matter that is not on the agenda if 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 Act.

1. Blackman Water Pty Ltd - Sale of Shares (In Closed Session)

### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT 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

*Moved by A E Bisdee OAM, seconded by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon*

**THAT Council resolve by absolute majority to deal with the above listed 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*.**

### CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

## 10. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (SCHEDULED FOR 10.30 A.M.)

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.

In particular, Regulation 31 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* states:

- (1) *Members of the public may give written notice to the General Manager 7 days before an ordinary meeting of Council of a question to be asked at the meeting.*
- (2) *The chairperson may –*
  - (a) *address questions on notice submitted by members of the public; and*
  - (b) *invite any member of the public present at an ordinary meeting to ask questions relating to the activities of the Council.*
- (3) *The chairperson at an ordinary meeting of a council must ensure that, if required, at least 15 minutes of that meeting is made available for questions by members of the public.*
- (4) *A question by any member of the public under this regulation and an answer to that question are not to be debated.*
- (5) *The chairperson may –*
  - (a) *refuse to accept a question; or*
  - (b) *require a question to be put on notice and in writing to be answered at a later meeting.*
- (6) *If the chairperson refuses to accept a question, the chairperson is to give reasons for doing so.*

### **Mrs Julia Jabour – Southern Midlands Regional News**

*Because we have no dedicated visitor centre, I have been asked to enquire whether Council has thought about the production and maintenance of a tourism website for the Southern Midlands. It was noted that an online search reveals only partial information – mostly outdated, and certainly not covering the whole municipal region.*

*An example of a good website is [stansburysa.com.au](http://stansburysa.com.au); would it be possible to create and maintain one for our region that is of similar quality and standard?*

General Manager's Response - As an initial response, it is acknowledged that the Tourism related data on both Council's Web Site and for the southern midlands region is minimal and outdated. In reference to Council's Strategic Plan, there are two initiatives:

- Encourage local tourism operators to establish and maintain exposure on the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse web site. That site allows tourism operators to easily promote their business on digital platforms that connect directly to consumers; and
- work in partnership with the HHTRA with a particular focus on web content.

In addition, we are conscious of Council's current web site and the need to allocate some resources internally to review all content and ensure current.

**Resident - Eileen McKenzie** – Elderslie Road / Blackbrush Road Junction - rocks need to be removed by the side of the road.

*Manager Infrastructure and Works – will have them removed.*

**Clr D Blackwell** – Cliftonvale Road, Elderslie – landslip in the vicinity of the Jenkins property. Are repairs planned?

*Manager Infrastructure and Works - Works are scheduled within the next two weeks – awaiting confirmation of machinery availability.*

**Resident – Anita Clark** – Query regarding Bluff Road – how often is it graded as it is currently quite corrugated.

*Manager Infrastructure and Works – it has been difficult to keep up with grading after the wet weather but works are scheduled.*

## **10.1 Permission to Address Council**

Mrs Nova Miller – Middle Tasmania – provided an update from Middle Tasmania to Council on initiatives to encourage, support and create opportunities.

Nova Miller provided a background for 'Middle Tasmania Business and Information Centre'.

Middle Tasmania is a private enterprise providing services in the areas of Promotion, Tourism, Event Management and Business Support. Our base is a Multi-Purpose Centre centrally located at 65 High Street, Oatlands.

Middle Tasmania aims are to enhance and create new opportunities for direct tourism operators and indirect businesses involved in the broader visitor economy, producers and community organisations, facilitate up skilling and programs that are relevant and meaningful to our enterprise partners; enable greater engagement opportunities in training and business development, drive promotional opportunities, support business growth and employment.

Middle Tasmania aims to showcase the people, landscapes, history, heritage sites and wonderful array of businesses and pursuits that are combined in the Southern & Northern Midlands regional areas.

**DECISION**

*Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Clr A E Bisdee OAM*

**THAT the meeting be adjourned for morning tea at 11.06 a.m.**

**CARRIED**

<b>DECISION</b>		
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Vote FOR</b>	<b>Vote AGAINST</b>
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

*The General Manager entered at 11.25 a.m.*

**DECISION**

*Moved by Clr A E Bisdee OAM, seconded by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon*

**THAT the meeting resume at 11.29 a.m.**

**CARRIED**

<b>DECISION</b>		
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Vote FOR</b>	<b>Vote AGAINST</b>
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

**11. MOTIONS OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN UNDER  
REGULATION 16 (5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MEETING  
PROCEDURES) REGULATIONS 2015**

Nil.



**12. COUNCIL ACTING AS A PLANNING AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO THE LAND USE PLANNING AND APPROVALS ACT 1993 AND COUNCIL'S STATUTORY LAND USE PLANNING SCHEME**

*Session of Council sitting as a Planning Authority pursuant to the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 and Council's statutory land use planning schemes.*

**12.1 Development Applications**

Nil.

**12.2 Subdivisions**

Nil.

**12.3 Municipal Seal (Planning Authority)**

Nil.

**12.4 Planning (Other)**

Nil.

**[THIS CONCLUDES THE SESSION OF COUNCIL  
ACTING AS A PLANNING AUTHORITY]**

## **13. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – INFRASTRUCTURE)**

### **13.1 Roads**

**Strategic Plan Reference 1.1**

*Maintenance and improvement of the standard and safety of roads in the municipal area.*

Nil.

### **13.2 Bridges**

**Strategic Plan Reference 1.2**

*Maintenance and improvement of the standard and safety of bridges in the municipality.*

Nil.

### **13.3 Walkways, Cycle ways and Trails**

**Strategic Plan Reference 1.3**

*Maintenance and improvement of the standard and safety of walkways, cycle ways and pedestrian areas to provide consistent accessibility.*

Nil.

### **13.4 Lighting**

**Strategic Plan Reference 1.4**

*Ensure adequate lighting based on demonstrated need / Contestability of energy supply.*

Nil.

### **13.5 Buildings**

**Strategic Plan Reference 1.5**

*Maintenance and improvement of the standard and safety of public buildings in the municipality.*

Nil.

### **13.6 Sewers / Water**

**Strategic Plan Reference(s) 1.6**

*Increase the capacity of access to reticulated sewerage services / Increase the capacity and ability to access water to satisfy development and Community to have access to reticulated water.*

Nil.

### **13.7 Drainage**

**Strategic Plan Reference 1.7**

*Maintenance and improvement of the town storm-water drainage systems.*

Nil.

### **13.8 Waste**

**Strategic Plan Reference 1.8**

*Maintenance and improvement of the provision of waste management services to the Community.*

Nil.

### **13.9 Information, Communication Technology**

**Strategic Plan Reference 1.9**

*Improve access to modern communications infrastructure.*

Nil.

## **13.10 Officer Reports – Infrastructure & Works**

### **13.10.1 Manager – Infrastructure & Works Report**

**AUTHOR:** MANAGER INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS (DAVID RICHARDSON)

**DATE:** 20 JANUARY 2023

**Enclosure(s):**

*Capital Works Program 2022-2023 Projected Timelines as at 31 December 2022*

#### **Roads Program**

Council's graders have been working on various Roads with the bus routes being the priority roads for grading as required. The focus has been to prioritise the higher traffic usage areas of roads. General road maintenance and repairs will continue, including works on pavement repairs and table drain clearing.

#### **Road Rehabilitation programme 2022/23**

Drainage works and road repair works continue throughout the municipality as required. Council's annual road stabilization tender has been awarded and preparation works are completed, the pavement re-construction works have commenced, Stonor road, Ballyhooly Road, Native Corners Road, sections of Woodsdale Road and Pelham Road sections have been completed. It is expected that sections of York Plains will be completed prior to the end of February and Woodsdale Road pavement and drainage repairs continue as required.

#### **Flood Damage Repairs**

Council has received a cost estimate to complete re-construction works to the footbridge that was damaged it is anticipated these works will be undertaken in the New Year. A section of the footpath located near Bagdad Community Club has been temporarily repaired, with construction of a boardwalk to commence in the coming weeks.

#### **Current Capital Work.**

Oatlands Aquatic Centre

Car park construction works are completed, landscaping and irrigation works continue

Kempton School Crossing works and footpath are continuing, it is expected the majority of these works will be completed prior to school returning.

#### **Parks and Reserves**

General maintenance of parks and reserves will continue with a focus on ensuring growth is maintained at an acceptable level. Extra casual personnel have been engaged to assist with the vegetation control works.

#### **Bridge Works**

A number of bridges will require some minor rectification works over the coming period as a result of weather conditions.

#### **Building Services Unit**

Council's building services employees are continuing to undertake committed contractual obligations that are a result of the transition from formerly Heritage Building Solutions to Council. The obligations are expected to take up to 6 months to complete the works.

## **Planned Works**

The following capital works are planned for the coming period

- Oatlands Aquatic Centre landscaping;
- Repair various road pavements and drainage;
- Drainage and pavement repair various roads;
- Undertake various bridge maintenance repairs;
- Kempton School Crossing and associated works (finalise works started prior to Christmas);
- Commence construction of dog enclosure Kempton (materials are on order) 2-3 weeks;
- Commence pole and light replacement works Kempton Recreation Ground;
- Storm water upgrade works Erskine Street Kempton;
- South Parade Oatlands footpath and curb construction works;
- Re-sheeting various un-sealed roads;
- Commence footpath and curb works Clime Street Campania-to Water Lane;
- Construct approx. 100m boardwalk near Community Club Bagdad.

### Remote Roads Upgrade Pilot Program – Interlaken Road

The Manager Infrastructure & Works informed Council that confirmation has now been received that the Australian Government has allocated \$5,346,180 to reconstruct, upgrade and seal 16.74 kilometres of Interlaken Road which is predominately an unsealed road. The Southern Midlands Council is to contribute a minimum of \$300,000.

An 'Offer of Funding Agreement' has been received and the provision of the required detail will enable a formal Funding Agreement to be prepared.

Works are not commence until this Agreement is finalised and the project has to be completed by December 2024.

## **QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE TO MANAGER, INFRASTRUCTURE & WORKS**

**Clr F Miller** – Queried whether a new mobile phone tower has been installed near Colebrook?

*Manager Infrastructure and Works – taken on notice.*

**Clr D Fish** – Tunnack Main Road / Inglewood Road Junction – Department of State Growth Sign) – sign has deteriorated and requires replacement.

*DSG to be notified accordingly.*

**Clr R McDougall** – Tunnack Township – Directional Sign ('finger pointing' design) – needs to be straightened

**Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon** – 'Safer Rural Roads Program' – will Council be making an application?

*The Manager Infrastructure and Works confirmed that application(s) are being prepared and will be submitted. The Program is for implementing low-cost road safety infrastructure treatments on rural and regional roads and the Council applications will be focussed on the installation of guard rail and signage.*

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the Infrastructure & Works Report be received and the information noted.**

## **DECISION**

*Moved by Clr R McDougall, seconded by Clr A E Bisdee OAM*

**THAT the Infrastructure & Works Report be received and the information noted.**

## **CARRIED**

<b>DECISION</b>		
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Vote FOR</b>	<b>Vote AGAINST</b>
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

**ENCLOSURE(S)**  
Agenda Item 13.10.1

Capital Works Program 2022-2023 Projected Timelines  
as at 31 December 2022

Project	Total Project Cost (\$)	2022						2023						
		July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	
<b>Roads Resheeting - Gravel Roads</b>	500,000													
Oatlands - Inerlaken Road Resheeting 5km	100,000													
Mangalore - Blackbrush Road Resheeting 3km	50,531													
Elderslie - Bluff Road Resheeting 2km	30,000													
Bagdad - East Bagdad Road 1.5km	20,000													
<b>Road Resealing - Sealed Roads</b>	270,000													
Woodsdale - Woodsdale Road	50,000													
Parattah - Inglewood Road	130,000													
<b>Road Reconstruction &amp; Seal</b>														
Campania - Native Corners Road (to complete section)	260,000													
Elderslie - Pelham Road (Stabilisation and drainage)	200,000													
Oatlands - South Parade (including Kerb, Channel and Footpath)	170,000													
Stonor - Stonor Road (stabilise - two sections)	245,000													
Woodsdale Road (Whitefoord - four sections)	255,000													
York Plains - York Plains Road A (pavement failures) (500 metres)	82,500													
York Plains - York Plains Road B (Starting 5km from Midland Hwy)	130,000													
<b>Construct &amp; Seal (Unsealed Roads)</b>														
Campania - Hall Street (Seal and stormwater upgrade)	70,000													
Mangalore - Ballyhooly Road (approx. 500 metres)	90,000													
Oatlands - Interlaken Road (Year 1 of 3 - Total contribution \$300K)	1,169,236													
<b>Minor Seals</b>														
Oatlands - Bentwick Street	40,000													
Dust Suppressants	37,777													
<b>Junction / Road Realignment / Other</b>														
Campania - Town gateway/Streetscape - pending outcome community consultation	40,000													
Campania - Estate Road (vicinity Mallow property)	49,000													
Campania - Main Intersection/Carpark Design Concept	50,000													
Campania - Reeve St / Clime Street (includes Footpath)	70,000													
Campania - Reeve St Junction/footpath/kerb & channel VRUP	200,000													
Colebrook - Junction Craigbourne Road and Colebrook Road	24,000													
Elderslie - Bluff Road Intersection Upgrade	150,000													
Elderslie - Elderslie Road Widening Investigation & Trial (Sth Blackbrush Rd)	40,000													
Elderslie - Pelham Rd / Clifton Vale Rd (junction upgrade)	65,000													
Mt Seymour - Junction Blackgate Road and Tunnack Road	24,000													
Oatlands - Hastling Street Junction	15,000													
Runnymede quarry - Rehabilitation	20,000													
Tea Tree - Grices Road (Tree removal, set-back of embankment, drainage)	15,000													
Tunnack - Link Road Landslip	25,000													
<b>Bridges</b>														
Interlaken Road (Dulv Rvlt - Bridge No 3861) - Widening	42,218													
Jones Road Broadmarsh (Jordan River - Bridge 5083) - Flood Damage	80,000													
York Plains Road (Kitty's Rivulet - Bride No 457)	60,000													

Capital Works Program 2022-2023 Projected Timelines  
as at 31 December 2022

Project	Total Project Cost (\$)	2022						2023						
		July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	
<b>Footpaths</b>														
Footpaths - General Streetscapes	98,000													
Bagdad - East Bagdad Road	210,000													
Bagdad - Midland Highway - Walking Path Upgrade (500 metres)	100,000													
Campania - Reeve Street - Footpath through to Hall	30,000													
Kempton - Midlands Hwy - pending consultation with DSG re Mood Food access	147,565													
Kempton - Grange Road (Retaining Wall)	30,000													
Kempton - Streetscape Plan - Footpath Renewal (southern end)	60,000													
Kempton - Main St, Sophia to Erskine (145m) - Footpath/kerb & gutter/stormwater	78,032													
Kempton - Old Huntingground Road (Footpath / School Crossing etc.)	80,000													
Melton Mowbray - Streetscape Works (Trough / Shelter etc)	30,000													
Oatlands - Campbell Street (Footpath)	45,000													
Oatlands - Stanley Street (Footpath -120 metre link)	25,000													
Tunnack - Streetscape concept Plan	50,000													
<b>Public Toilets</b>														
Colebrook - History Room Toilets (Tiling etc.)	10,000													
Campania - Flour Mill Park - Concrete Pathways/drainage/remove pavers	15,000													
<b>Stormwater Drainage</b>														
Kempton - Erskine Street - Stormwater Upgrade & Footpath	60,000													
<b>Waste Management</b>														
Dysart WTS (Gates)	4,150													
<b>Tourism</b>														
Jericho - Memorial Avenue - Plaques (Stage 1 of 2 - \$20K per year)	20,000													
Kempton - Memorial Avenue Park - Interps (Stage 1 of 2 - \$20K per year)	19,545													
<b>Heritage</b>														
Oatlands - Commissariat (Boundary Fence)	6,000													
Oatlands Court House (Wall Stabilisation)	15,000													
Oatlands Gaolers Residence (Ceiling Reinstatement)	5,000													
Oatlands Gaolers Residence (Wingwall)	23,000													
Oatlands - Roche Hall Forecourt (Interps - Planning Condition of Approval)	40,000													
Oatlands Swimming Pool (Staged demolition)	200,000													
Parattah - Railway Station -Shed for Gangers Trolley -TBC with Committee	2,000													
<b>Natural</b>														
Chauncy Vale - Wombat Walk	39,250													
Chauncy Vale - Day Dawn Cottage Improvements	12,000													
Municipal Area - Preventing Roadkill (Signs)	5,000													
<b>Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>														
Water Bottle Refill Stations	7,980													
<b>Environmental Sustainability</b>														
Oatlands Aquatic Centre - Electric Vehicle Charge Station	40,500													



Capital Works Program 2022-2023 Projected Timelines  
as at 31 December 2022

Project	Total Project Cost (\$)	2022						2023					
		July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June
<b>Recreation</b>													
Bagdad - Bagdad Community Club (Precinct Plan)	25,000												
Bagdad - Bagdad Community Club (Repair of Oval) - deferred pending cost of lighting	20,000												
Bagdad - Iden Road Park Dev. - deferred pending strategic review of preferred location	75,000												
Campania - Recreation Ground Drainage	25,000												
Campania - Public Open Space dev (Justitia Park)	6,375												
Kempton - Off-lead Dog Park	60,331												
Kempton - Recreation Ground (Hot Water System)	4,209												
Kempton - Recreation Ground (Lighting)	16,000												
Kempton - Recreation Ground (Site Dev and Play Equipment)	24,250												
Kempton - Recreation Ground (Irrigation)	60,000												
Kempton - Skate Park (Council Commitment)	5,000												
Mt Pleasant Rec Ground - Building Improvements	259,000												
Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (New Pool) - Construction	9,678,126												
Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (Gymnasium Equipment)	15,000												
Oatlands - Callington Park (Lighting & Surveillance)	14,000												
Oatlands - Callington Park Toilet	140,000												
Oatlands - Community Hall (Maintenance Program)	51,300												
Oatlands - Midlands Community Centre (External Painting - Front of Building)	5,000												
Oatlands - Midlands Community Centre (Roof & Insulation)	39,000												
Tunbridge - Park Gates	3,040												
<b>Access</b>													
Tunbridge Comm. Club - Accessible Toilets - on hold pending advice from TCC Man. Comr	20,000												
<b>Community</b>													
Campania - Bush Reserve / Cemetery	300,000												
Kempton - Carriage Shed - Toilets	15,000												
Oatlands - Community Shed (Shipping Container)	6,600												
Oatlands - Stanley Street Master Plan	20,000												
<b>Administration Buildings</b>													
Kempton Council Chambers - Clock Restoration Works	10,672												
Oatlands Council Chambers - Internal Toilets Upgrade	100,000												
Oatlands Council Chambers - Damp Issues & Stonemasonry	15,000												
Oatlands Council Chambers - Works Office (floor coverings)	5,000												
<b>Depot Buildings</b>													
Kempton Depot - Perimeter Fencing	25,000												
Kempton Depot - Employee PPE Storage Lockers	2,000												
<b>Legend</b>													
Scheduled		Infrastructure & Works		Heritage Projects									
WIP / Completed		Infrastructure & Works		Heritage Projects									

## **14. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – GROWTH)**

### **14.1 Residential**

**Strategic Plan Reference 2.1**  
*Increase the resident, rate-paying population in the municipality.*

Nil.

### **14.2 Tourism**

**Strategic Plan Reference 2.2**  
*Increase the number of tourists visiting and spending money in the municipality.*

Nil.

### **14.3 Business**

**Strategic Plan Reference 2.3**  
*Increase the number and diversity of businesses in the Southern Midlands / Increase employment within the municipality / Increase Council revenue to facilitate business and development activities (social enterprise).*

Nil.

### **14.4 Industry**

**Strategic Plan Reference 2.4**  
*Retain and enhance the development of the rural sector as a key economic driver in the Southern Midlands / Increase access to irrigation water within the municipality.*

Nil.

## **15. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – LANDSCAPES)**

### **15.1 Heritage**

<b>Strategic Plan Reference – Page 22</b>	
3.1.1	Maintenance and restoration of significant public heritage assets.
3.1.2	Act as an advocate for heritage and provide support to heritage property owners.
3.1.3	Investigate document, understand and promote the heritage values of the Southern Midlands.

#### **15.1.1 Heritage Project Program Report**

**AUTHOR:** MANAGER HERITAGE PROJECTS (BRAD WILLIAMS)

**DATE:** 15 JANUARY 2023

#### **ISSUE**

Report from the Manager, Heritage Projects on various Southern Midlands Heritage Projects.

#### **DETAIL**

During the past month, Southern Midlands Council Heritage Projects have included:

- Support & administration of the Artist in Residence Program. The December Artist was Simone Darcy. Simone uses performance strategies within the still image, constructing ideas of embodiment and self; along with experimental photographic processes often in collaboration with nature to give visual form to the intangible and the ephemeral. Simone has shown her work in Australia & internationally.
- Current Artist Meredith Connie is mid-way through her stay & preparing for open studio sessions on the 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan with a free performance planned for Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Jan at the Oatlands Supreme Court. Meredith is a storyteller that uses the medium of music. She is a composer, performer, classical guitarist, educator, Alexander technique teacher & creator of “narrative guitar” storytelling. These elements are combined together to explore the intersection between narrative & music, between live performance & recorded soundscapes and extend the notions of what a classical music ‘concert’ might mean.
- Social media for Southern Midlands Heritage & Collections plus Airspace. Heritage collections has an audience of 1575 people which has doubled over the last year with an average engagement of each post of approx. 400 people. Airspace’s audience is smaller of 637 following the page with the engagement equalling the audience. Airspace has attracted 200 new followers in the last year.

## RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received and information noted

## DECISION

*Moved by Cllr R McDougall, seconded by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon*

**THAT the information be received and the information noted.**

## CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Cllr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Cllr D Blackwell	✓	
Cllr D F Fish	✓	
Cllr R McDougall	✓	
Cllr F Miller	✓	

## **15.1.2 RSL Tasmania – “For Valour” Victoria Cross Awards**

**Author:** GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

**Date:** 11 JANUARY 2023

### **ISSUE**

Council to confirm its support to recognise the recipient(s) of the Victoria Cross (VC) Award.

### **DETAIL**

RSL Tasmania has written to Mayor Edwin Batt requesting Council support to recognise the recipient(s) of the Victoria Cross Award within the relevant municipal areas.

The RSL's letter indicates that Tasmania has the highest number of Victoria Cross (VC) awards per capita of any state of Australia.

Queen Victoria introduced the VC on 29 January 1856 to honour acts of valour during the Crimean War. Since then, the medal has been awarded 1,358 times to 1,355 individual recipients. Only eight VC's have been awarded to members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) for acts of valour since the end of the Second World War.

The significance of a VC cannot be understated. It is the highest military award, and under Queen Victoria's instructions, it does not recognise birth or class, only bravery.

The RSL State Branch would like to see every town that a VC hails from recognised, and believe that a sign should indicate a VC winner at the entry to every town or city.

The following VC Recipient was from with the Southern Midlands Council area:

### **Lieutenant Colonel John Hutton Bisdee VC OBE**

**Human Resources & Financial Implications** – At this stage the RSL are just seeking 'in principle' support for the proposal and have yet to determine what direct assistance may be required from Council. This could simply be the erection of the sign.

As an outcome an initial enquiry made to the RSL, it was recommended that the RSL should adopt a common template for the Signage (as opposed to individual Councils being responsible). This would achieve consistency and improve recognition. In terms of location, the site for installation could be determined in consultation with the relevant Council.

**Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications** – Refer comment above.

**Policy Implications** – N/A

**Priority - Implementation Time Frame** – The RSL seeks Council's support to move this proposal forward with the aim of having signs in place by ANZAC Day 2023.

## RECOMMENDATION

### THAT:

- a) the information be received; and
- b) Council confirm its support for the proposal submitted by the RSL Tasmania.

## DECISION

*Moved by Clr A E Bisdee OAM, seconded by Clr D Fish*

### THAT:

- a) the information be received; and
- b) Council confirm its support for the proposal submitted by the RSL Tasmania; and
- c) Council strongly recommend to the RSL that it develop a common template for the Signage.

## CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

## 15.2 Natural

### Strategic Plan Reference – page 23/24

3.2.1	Identify and protect areas that are of high conservation value.
3.2.2	Encourage the adoption of best practice land care techniques.

### 15.2.1 NRM Unit – General Report

**AUTHOR:** NRM PROGRAMS MANAGER (MARIA WEEDING)

**DATE:** 16 JANUARY 2023

**ISSUE:** Southern Midlands NRM Unit Monthly Report.

#### DETAIL

- Helen and Mary spent time dealing with some patches of cumbungi in Lake Dulverton – see report below.
- Helen spent time on Drum Muster – working on a new system that has been adopted for all Councils to use when processing the drums collected at the various waste transfer sites. The new system is internet / cloud based and came into effect the second week of January. Southern Midlands was apparently the first to be fully registered and on board with the new requirements.
- Maria continues to be busy with works relating to the Mt Pleasant Recreation Ground change room upgrade project. The project is progressing well. The building externally is fully clad, the internal framing is in situ, insulated and lined. The plumbing lines and connection points to sinks, showers and toilets are in place. Electrical wiring cables have been run ready for lights, fans etc to be fitted.
- Maria continues to work with Duo Designs and Council's Heritage Dept in regard to the toilet block proposed for Callington Park. Waiting on a surveyor to confirm levels before the project can proceed further with the design drawings. An unexpected delay in being able to progress this project further.
- Helen was away on leave for nearly all of December and now is away for much of January.

Weeds Officer Report for the period Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023 is as follows:

#### Enquiries/feedback

4 (Storksbill, Paterson's curse, general garden weeds)

#### Site visits

Total = 13

Couple of sessions hand weeding embankments along Lake Dulverton.

Property owner near Campania shown the Chilean needle grass on their property and they have since sprayed the lot. Follow-up slated for November this year to check for new seedlings on roadside and adjacent property.

Checked out three sites of historical records of Chilean needle grass: Reeve Street, Campania; Elderslie Road, Broadmarsh, and the last on Brodribbs Road near Colebrook. Not present in first two locations but two mature plants found (and removed) along Brodribbs Road. Also spoke to the manager of the land either side of Brodribbs Road and he is keen to eradicate CNG from the area.

Surveyed the edges of the old road at Spring Hill where Serrated tussock occurs; 40 + plants found. Paddocks adjacent not surveyed due to very thick tall grass. Landowner informed, map produced and sent to the contractor controlling the ST at this location.

Viewed a property in Kempton regarding complaints about thick mallow weeds. Feedback provided.

Sprayed spots (approximately 1m square) around each of the Blackwoods planted around the tanks near the sullage site in Oatlands. Most of the blackwoods are doing well (as are the weeds!).

Sprayed all St. John's wort plants in an isolated infestation along Little Plains Road.

5 roadside clumps of Paterson's curse dug out from two locations along the Midland Highway, one a couple of kilometers south of the Bowhill Road/Oatlands turnoff, and the other near Stonor Road. Technically these are State Growth roads and not part of my area but as a concerned citizen I can't drive past isolated roadside clumps of Paterson's curse anywhere in SMC without doing something about it.

Started Cumbungi control on Lake Dulverton. Considerably fewer plants present than last year but plenty to keep us busy, complete with waders, boat and binoculars.

### **Communication**

Introductory piece for the Southern Midlands Regional Newsletter published in January edition. Working on Cumbungi for the February edition.

Produced a piece on Chilean needle grass for the January edition of the ratepayers' newsletter.

### **Research**

Spoke with two members of the Derwent Catchment Group regarding scope and charges for their contract weed work and nursery operations.

### **Roadside weeds data base**

Another 57 waypoints from around the northern areas of SMC. Getting very close to being able to finalise data and tease out priority woody weed control locations for the next 12 months.

### **Weed of the Week**

Winged slender thistle, African boxthorn, and St. John's wort (with accompanying pamphlets) have been displayed in the Oatlands front office this reporting period. A couple of pamphlets taken.

A chance conversation with a local and the proprietor of the Colebrook Roadhouse has led to another weeds display, this time on the shop counter at the roadhouse. First weed was Cumbungi. Other weeds will be displayed at least fortnightly when I'm passing.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the NRM Unit Report be received and the information noted.**

### **DECISION**

*Moved by Clr A E Bisdee OAM, seconded by Clr D Fish*

**THAT the NRM Unit Report be received and the information noted.**

### **CARRIED**



<b>DECISION</b>		
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Vote FOR</b>	<b>Vote AGAINST</b>
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

### 15.3 Cultural

**Strategic Plan Reference 3.3**

*Ensure that the cultural diversity of the Southern Midlands is maximised.*

Nil.

### 15.4 Regulatory (Development)

**Strategic Plan Reference 3.4**

*A regulatory environment that is supportive of and enables appropriate development.*

Nil.

### 15.5 Regulatory (Public Health)

**Strategic Plan Reference 3.5**

*Monitor and maintain a safe and healthy public environment.*

Nil.

## 15.6 Regulatory (Animals)

### Strategic Plan Reference 3.6

*Create an environment where animals are treated with respect and do not create a nuisance for the community*

### 15.6.1 Animal Management Report

**AUTHOR:** ANIMAL MANAGEMENT OFFICER (RACHEL COLLIS)

**DATE:** 17 January 2023

**Enclosure:**

*Animal Management Statement 2023*

### ISSUE

Consideration of the Animal Management/Compliance Officer's report for January 2023

The purpose of the report is twofold:

1. To inform Council and the Community of infringements issued by Council Officers in relation to Animal Management for the period October; *and*
2. Provide a brief summary of actions and duties undertaken by Council Officers in relation to animal management.

This in turn informs the community of the requirements and expectations of the Council to uphold and enforce the relevant legislation. This reminds Council and the community of the importance of responsible ownership of animals.

The infringements detailed in this report were all issued under the *Dog Control Act 2000*.

### Resource Sharing

Southern Midlands Council currently provide Animal Management services to the Central Highlands Council through resource sharing arrangements. Jobs of note are itemised in the enclosed statement.

### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT the Animal Management report be received and the information noted.**

### DECISION

*Moved by Clr D Fish, seconded by Clr D Blackwell*

**THAT the Animal Management report be received and the information noted.**

### CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

**ENCLOSURE**  
*Agenda Item 15.6.1*

**YTD ANIMAL MANAGEMENT STATEMENT**  
**January 2023**

<b>DOG IMPOUNDS</b>	<b>RECLAIMED</b>	<b>ADOPTED/DOGS HOME</b>	<b>EUTHANISED</b>	<b>OTHER IMPOUNDS</b>
	3			3 sheep

**JOBS ATTENDED**  
**January 2023**

<b>DOGS AT LARGE</b>	<b>DOG ATTACKS</b>	<b>DOG BARKING</b>	<b>DOG GENERAL</b>
0	0	1	4
<b>NEW KENNEL LICENCES</b>	<b>WELFARE</b>	<b>STOCK</b>	<b>Central Highlands</b>
1 active licence		3	1

**REGISTERED DOGS: 1762**  
**KENNEL LICENCES: 60**  
**INFRINGEMENTS ISSUED: 0**

## 15.7 Environmental Sustainability

**Strategic Plan Reference 3.7**

*Implement strategies to address the issue of environmental sustainability in relation to its impact on Councils corporate functions and on the Community.*

Nil.

## **16. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – COMMUNITY)**

### **16.1 Community Health and Wellbeing**

**Strategic Plan Reference 4.1**

*Support and improve the independence, health and wellbeing of the Community.*

Nil.

### **16.2 Recreation**

**Strategic Plan Reference 4.2**

*Provide a range of recreational activities and services that meet the reasonable needs of the community.*

#### **16.2.1 Oatlands Aquatic Centre – Progress Report**

Report template being prepared. Reporting to commence next meeting.

### 16.3 Access

**Strategic Plan Reference 4.3**

*Continue to explore transport options for the Southern Midlands community / Continue to meet the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act.*

Nil.

### 16.4 Volunteers

**Strategic Plan Reference 4.4**

*Encourage community members to volunteer.*

Nil.

### 16.5 Families

**Strategic Plan Reference 4.5**

*Ensure that appropriate childcare services as well as other family related services are facilitated within the community / Increase the retention of young people in the municipality / Improve the ability of seniors to stay in their communities.*

Nil.

### 16.6 Education

**Strategic Plan Reference 4.6**

*Increase the educational and employment opportunities available within the Southern Midlands*

Nil.

## 16.7 Capacity & Sustainability

### Strategic Plan Reference 4.7

*Build, maintain and strengthen the capacity of the community to help itself whilst embracing social inclusion to achieve sustainability.*

### 16.7.1 Tunbridge Community Club Inc. – Accessible Toilets Extension Project – Grant Deed (State Government and Southern Midlands Council)

**Author:** GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

**Date:** 16 JANUARY 2023

**Attachment(s):**

*Grant Deed*

### ISSUE

Council to authorise affixing the Common Seal to the Grant Deed between the Crown in Right of Tasmania and the Southern Midlands Council.

### BACKGROUND

This Grant Deed relates to a 2021 State Election Commitment.

The \$40,000 Grant funding (ex-Local Communities Facilities Fund) is to be provided by the State Government to the Southern Midlands Council to contribute towards the construction of accessible toilet facilities for the Tunbridge Community Club, the conditions of which are described in the 'Agreed Terms and Conditions'.

### DETAIL

The Grant Deed has been prepared by the Department of Premier and Cabinet following confirmation of the various sources of funding to enable completion of the project.

The Southern Midlands Council, at its meeting held 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022, confirmed its total contribution of \$30,000, with the total project cost being estimated at \$116,183.

*Note: \$20,000 allocated in the Council 2021/22 Budget and the remaining \$10,000 from the sale proceeds of its 45 megalitre entitlement in Blackman Water Pty Ltd.*

The Tunbridge Community Club Inc. will fund the balance.

**Human Resources & Financial Implications** – refer detail provided.

**Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications** – The Tunbridge Community Club is a valuable community owned asset. It is the only licensed premises in Tunbridge. In the absence of any council owned infrastructure, this property together with the community owned Community Hall, provides a much needed social and meeting place.

**Policy Implications** – N/A

**Priority - Implementation Time Frame** – Immediate.



## RECOMMENDATION

### THAT:

- a) The information be received; and
- b) Council authorise affixing the Common Seal to the Grant Deed between the Crown in Right of Tasmania and the Southern Midlands Council.

## DECISION

*Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Clr R McDougall*

### THAT

- a) The information be received; and
- b) Council authorise affixing the Common Seal to the Grant Deed between the Crown in Right of Tasmania and the Southern Midlands Council.

## CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

## DECISION

*Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Clr A E Bisdee OAM*

**THAT consideration of Agenda Item 16.7.2 be deferred until 12.45 p.m.**

## CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

## **16.8 Safety**

**Strategic Plan Reference 4.8**

*Increase the level of safety of the community and those visiting or passing through the municipality.*

Nil.

## **16.9 Consultation & Communication**

**Strategic Plan Reference 4.8**

*Improve the effectiveness of consultation & communication with the community.*

Nil.

## 17. OPERATIONAL MATTERS ARISING (STRATEGIC THEME – ORGANISATION)

### 17.1 Improvement

#### Strategic Plan Reference 5.1

*Improve the level of responsiveness to Community & Developer needs / Improve communication within Council / Improve the accuracy, comprehensiveness and user friendliness of the Council asset management system / Increase the effectiveness, efficiency and use-ability of Council ICT systems / maintain the Business Process Improvement & Continuous Improvement framework*

#### 17.1.1 Amendment of Existing Policies Code of Tenders and Contracts Code of Conduct for Employees and Workers

**AUTHOR:** DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER, (Andrew Benson)

**DATE:** 9 JANUARY 2023

#### Attachment(s)

1. Draft version 7\_Code of Tenders and Contracts
2. Draft version 2\_Code of Conduct for Employees and Workers

#### ISSUE

Council are required to review and update its various policies from time to time. The two nominated policies have been reviewed, amendments made, and now require consideration, then adoption by Council.

#### **EXTRACT December 2022 Council Minutes**

##### 17.1.1 Amendment of Existing Policies

- Code of Tenders and Contracts
- Code of Conduct For Employees and Workers

**AUTHOR:** DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER, (Andrew Benson)

**DATE:** 9 DECEMBER 2022

#### Attachment(s):

1. Draft version 7\_Code of Tenders and Contracts
2. Draft version 2\_Code of Conduct for Employees and Workers

#### ISSUE

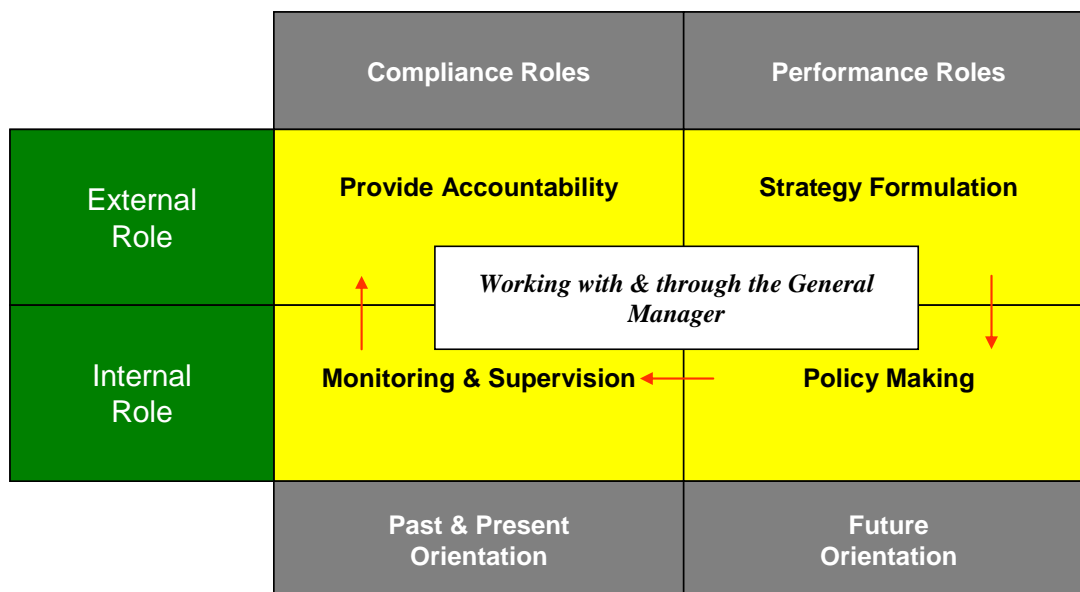
Council are required to review and update its various policies from time to time. The two nominated policies have been reviewed, amendments made, and now require consideration, then adoption by Council.

#### BACKGROUND

FRAMEWORK FOR ANALYSING COUNCIL'S GOVERNANCE FUNCTION

The diagram below along with its explanation has been the subject of previous presentations to Council; however, it is meaningful to reflect on this governance framework when policy documents

are presented to Council. As part of this framework it is important for Council to be aware of and monitor audits and related governance review mechanisms that are undertaken within the organisation, based on Council’s strategies and policies.



### DETAIL

As Councillors are aware, the process for any policy document is, that it is tabled at one meeting and then “lays on the table” until the next meeting, to enable Councillors sufficient time to work through and consider all of the ramifications of the strategy/policy, before the document is finally considered for adoption at the following meeting, subject to any amendments agreed by Council.

Draft version 7 of the Code of Tenders and Contracts is attached and shows some minor changes to the document. There are no major changes required by legislation.

Draft version 2 of the Code of Conduct for Employees and Workers is also attached and likewise shows some minor changes to the document. It was felt desirable in the interpretation of the policy that the word ‘Worker’ be included in the title and subsequent elements of the policy to reinforce the understanding of the obligations of contractors working for Council being bound by this policy.

### RECOMMENDATION

#### THAT Council

1. **Receive and note the report;**
2. **Consider the revised version 7 of the Code for Tenders and Contracts in preparation for the adoption of the revised policy, at the January 2023 Council meeting, subject to any Council amendments; and**
3. **Consider the revised version 2 of the Code of Conduct for Employees and Workers in preparation for the adoption of the revised policy, at the January 2023 Council meeting, subject to any Council amendments.**

**DECISION**

*Moved by Clr A E Bisdee OAM, seconded by Clr D Fish*

**THAT Council:**

1. **Receive and note the report;**
2. **Consider the revised version 7 of the Code for Tenders and Contracts in preparation for the adoption of the revised policy, at the January 2023 Council meeting, subject to any Council amendments; and**
3. **Consider the revised version 2 of the Code of Conduct for Employees and Workers in preparation for the adoption of the revised policy, at the January 2023 Council meeting, subject to any Council amendments.**

**CARRIED**

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

**END OF EXTRACT December 2022 Council Minutes**

**DETAIL**

This is the second reading of these policies and the opportunity for Council to consider any changes to the policies prior to their adoption.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT Council:**

1. **Receive & note the report;**
2. **Adopt the Code of Tenders and Contracts, version 7; and**
3. **Adopt the Code of Conduct for Employees and Workers, version 2**

**DECISION**

*Moved by Clr D Blackwell, seconded by Clr A E Bisdee OAM*

1. **Receive & note the report;**
2. **Adopt the Code of Tenders and Contracts, version 7; and**
3. **Adopt the Code of Conduct for Employees and Other Workers, version 2 (noting the addition of the word ‘Other’ in advance of ‘Workers’).**

**CARRIED**

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

## 17.2 Sustainability

### Strategic Plan Reference 5.2

*Retain corporate and operational knowledge within Council / Provide a safe and healthy working environment / Ensure that staff and elected members have the training and skills they need to undertake their roles / Increase the cost effectiveness of Council operations through resource sharing with other organisations / Continue to manage and improve the level of statutory compliance of Council operations / Ensure that suitably qualified and sufficient staff are available to meet the Communities need / Work co-operatively with State and Regional organisations / Minimise Councils exposure to risk / Ensure that exceptional customer service continues to be a hallmark of Southern Midlands Council*

### 17.2.1 Tabling of Documents

Nil.

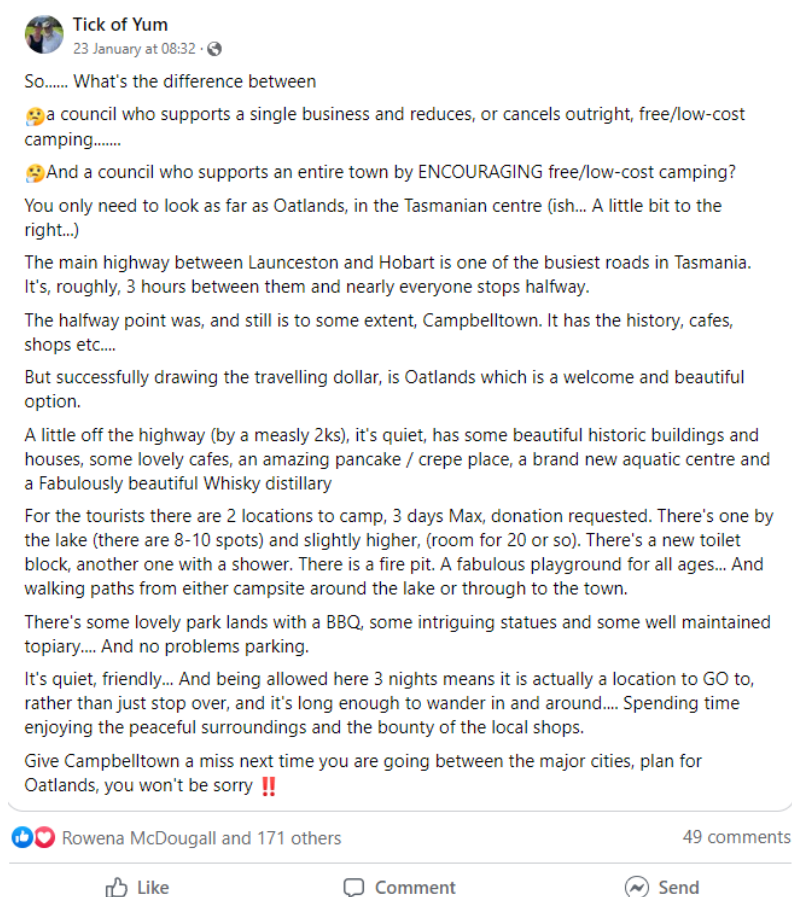
### 17.2.2 Elected Member Statements

An opportunity is provided for elected members to brief fellow Councillors on issues not requiring a decision.

**Clr K Dudgeon** – Informed the meeting that a long-term resident and ratepayer of Oatlands has commented to her about the excellent standard of the Aquatic Centre and the Callington Mill Playground. Despite past reservations, their position has changed totally.

**Clr R McDougall** – Discovered a post on a Facebook Page ‘The Very Best of Caravan and Camping in Tassie’ commending Oatlands on fantastic facilities.

A copy of the post is below:



**Tick of Yum**  
23 January at 08:32 · 🌐

So..... What's the difference between

- 🤔 a council who supports a single business and reduces, or cancels outright, free/low-cost camping.....
- 🤔 And a council who supports an entire town by ENCOURAGING free/low-cost camping?

You only need to look as far as Oatlands, in the Tasmanian centre (ish... A little bit to the right...)

The main highway between Launceston and Hobart is one of the busiest roads in Tasmania. It's, roughly, 3 hours between them and nearly everyone stops halfway.

The halfway point was, and still is to some extent, Campbelltown. It has the history, cafes, shops etc....

But successfully drawing the travelling dollar, is Oatlands which is a welcome and beautiful option.

A little off the highway (by a measly 2ks), it's quiet, has some beautiful historic buildings and houses, some lovely cafes, an amazing pancake / crepe place, a brand new aquatic centre and a Fabulously beautiful Whisky distillery

For the tourists there are 2 locations to camp, 3 days Max, donation requested. There's one by the lake (there are 8-10 spots) and slightly higher, (room for 20 or so). There's a new toilet block, another one with a shower. There is a fire pit. A fabulous playground for all ages... And walking paths from either campsite around the lake or through to the town.

There's some lovely park lands with a BBQ, some intriguing statues and some well maintained topiary.... And no problems parking.

It's quiet, friendly... And being allowed here 3 nights means it is actually a location to GO to, rather than just stop over, and it's long enough to wander in and around.... Spending time enjoying the peaceful surroundings and the bounty of the local shops.

Give Campbelltown a miss next time you are going between the major cities, plan for Oatlands, you won't be sorry !!

Rowena McDougall and 171 others · 49 comments

Like Comment Send

### 17.2.3 SMC External Grant Projects – Quarterly Update

**Author:** DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER (ANDREW BENSON)

**Date:** 09 JANUARY 2023

**Enclosure:**

*Report to Council on Various SMC Grant Projects as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022*

#### ISSUE

Council have a quite a number of external grants that are in various stages of implementation and it is meaningful to provide Council with a status report in respect of the external grants on a quarterly basis.

#### BACKGROUND

The application of grants is a major contributor to Council's infrastructure budget. Some grants are fully funded by the Grant body, for example 'election promises realised', others require part funding, ie Communities Sport & Recreation (Tasmanian State Government), with a minimum of 50% funding by Council, and others require matching funding.

All Council Business Units are focused on bringing in funded projects that meet the objectives of the Strategic Plan and that add value to our Community. That way the budget goes further and we are able meet, to some extent the expectations of the Community.

#### DETAIL

This update is provided for Councillors information only and will be updated on a quarterly basis.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT Council receive and note the report.**

#### DECISION

*Moved by Clr R McDougall, seconded by Clr D Blackwell*

**THAT receive and note the report.**

#### CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

**ENCLOSURE**

*Agenda Item 17.2.3*

**Report to Council on Grant Funded Projects as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

Project Title	Brief Description	Grant Body	Project Value Grant Funds	Project Value SMC Funds	Project Manager	Current Project Status (% complete)	Anticipated Completion Date	Remarks
<b>Oatlands Aquatic Centre</b>	Development of the proposed Aquatic Centre in Oatlands	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Australian Government</li> <li>2. Tasmanian Government</li> <li>3. Station Child Care Centre</li> <li>4. Loan Funds by SMC</li> </ol>	\$2,000,000 \$2,000,000 \$80,350	\$4,365,000	Tim Kirkwood <i>(Project Financials)</i> Andrew Benson <i>(Project Delivery)</i>	Design & Documentation completed, Tender awarded. Construction underway completion shortly	Changed again to the end of October 2022 for Practical Completion (PC) Soft opening 14 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 and Official Opening 10.30 Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	<p>Australian Government Grant Deed – Variation signed to include both \$1.50 million and \$0.5 million. Another Deed of Variation required by the State.</p> <p>VOS Constructions commencement on site 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2021. The Defects Liability period has commenced and will be in place for 12 months from PC date.</p>
<b>Mt Pleasant Recreation Ground – Change Room Upgrade</b>	New change rooms including shower and unisex toilet facilities.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Department of Communities Tasmania, 2021-22 Improving the Playing Field</li> <li>2. Southern Midlands Council</li> <li>3. Mt Pleasant Football Club</li> <li>4. Mt Pleasant Cricket Club</li> </ol>	\$200,000 \$5,000 \$3,000	\$25,000	Maria Weeding	1%	Early 2023	Project start delayed 2 months due to late advice re a Bushfire Hazard Assessment and Emergency Mgmt Plan required. Both now completed. Building and Plumbing plans assessed. Permits still to be re- issued. Builder will likely start work week of 24 Oct 22, once permits approved.
<b>South Central Sub-region – Workforce Development Coordinator Project</b>	The submission of grant for a workforce coordinator for the Southern Midlands, Central Highlands, Brighton and Derwent Valley to (three year	Tasmanian Community Fund	\$400,000 over three years	\$15,000	Andrew Benson	70%	July 2024	Contract targets of people to be employed are being significantly exceeded, plus working with schools and employers on a range of activities



**Report to Council on Grant Funded Projects as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

Project Title	Brief Description	Grant Body	Project Value Grant Funds	Project Value SMC Funds	Project Manager	Current Project Status (% complete)	Anticipated Completion Date	Remarks
	contract). The coordinator works under the guidance of an Advisory Board. This is a partnership with the three other Councils.							Project funding for a Jobs Hub for \$M1.625 by Tas State Government and the project will run until October 2024
<b>Elderslie Rd / Bluff Rd Junction Improvements</b>	Junction Improvements	Blackspot Roads Program Department of State Growth	\$150,000		Andrew Benson	99%	August 2022	All works completed apart from fencing and survey
<b>Southern Midlands Drought Weeds Grant 2020 – Support for Farmers</b>	\$30,000 for on ground works, \$25,000 for wages.	State Government of Tasmania	\$55,000	\$0	Mary Smyth Weeds Officer and Maria Weeding	80%	2023	More on ground work to be planned.
<b>Reeve St / Native Crns Rd Junction plus carpark at Campania</b>	Reeve Street Junction with Climie St plus carpark	Department of State Growth, under the Vulnerable Road User Program	\$200,000.00	\$50,000.00	Andrew Benson	10%	June 2023	Engineering Survey completed, Engineering Design commenced. TIA undertaken. Community consultation undertaken. Light redesign required.
<b>Wombat Woodland Walk</b>	Nature interpretation and adventure trail for children at Chauncy Vale	Healthy Tasmania Fund	\$29,250	\$10,000	Graham Green	80%	April 2023	All work complete except for rope bridge.
<b>2019-20 Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program</b>	Support impacted Communities – Refurbishment of the Broadmarsh Hall as a Emergency Management Recovery Centre	National Recovery and Resilience Agency	\$M1.55	Nil <i>(In-kind)</i>	Andrew Benson/ Donna Blackwell Broadmarsh Elderslie Progress	3.5%	2024	SMC will work in partnership with the Broadmarsh/Elderslie Progress Assn Inc on this grant program to maximize the benefits to the Community.

Report to Council on Grant Funded Projects as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

Project Title	Brief Description	Grant Body	Project Value Grant Funds	Project Value SMC Funds	Project Manager	Current Project Status (% complete)	Anticipated Completion Date	Remarks
					Association (BEPA) Wendy Young (Project Finances)			Grant Application successful.
<b>2019-20 Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants Program</b>	Support impacted Communities – Waste Water Reuse for Fire Services from the Oatlands Aquatic Centre	National Recovery and Resilience Agency	\$290,000	\$85,000 (from 2021/2022 budget)	Andrew Benson	100%	2023	SMC will provide a waste water reuse facility storing firefighting resource of 500,000lts to maximize the benefits and resilience of the Community. One month extension of time due to OAC being behind time. Deed of Variation required  Works completed awaiting sign from the Australian Government.
<b>Electric Vehicle ChargeSmart Grants – Fast Charging</b>	The proposed charger will be capable of charging two cars simultaneously with up to 100 kW total capacity shared between the two vehicles. This offers a faster charging rate than typical 50kW. Location at the OAC.	Tasmanian Climate Change Office - Department of Premier and Cabinet	\$45,000  (EHT to provide balance of approximately \$100,000 and undertake a lease with SMC on the two spaces in the OAC)	Nil The OAC Project had an allowance for the pre-provisioning of conduits for EV Charging	Andrew Benson / Clive Attwater (EHT)	100%	Sept 2022	A strategic alliance with Electric Highway Tasmania. Waiting for carpark to be completed all ready for installation, delay due to OAC behind time.  Grant works completed.
<b>Premier's Fund for Children</b>	Equipment for the Oatlands Aquatic Centre	Department of Premier & Cabinet	\$50,000	Nil	Adam Briggs	20% Equipment side of the funding	October 2023	Letter from the Premier received on 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2022 advising success

**Report to Council on Grant Funded Projects as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

Project Title	Brief Description	Grant Body	Project Value Grant Funds	Project Value SMC Funds	Project Manager	Current Project Status (% complete)	Anticipated Completion Date	Remarks
and Young People						has been delivered, with the program side to be completed in 2023.		
<b>Encouraging Active Ageing</b>	Ageing members of our community activity program	Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal	\$10,000	Nil	Wendy Young	50%	June 2023	Letter from the FRRR received on 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2022 advising success
<b>Healthy Lift - Expression of Interest</b>	Lift Local grants are for local government to support activities that strengthen planning for health and wellbeing.	Healthy Tas (Dept. of Health Tas)	\$20,000	Nil	Andrew Benson	0% EoI submitted in December 2022		
<b>COMPLETED PROJECTS</b>								
<b>Lake Dulverton Conservation Area Walkway Upgrade Project</b>	New path from High Street along foreshore to stop over area. Upgrade of existing path from	Community Development Grant Australian Government ( <i>Election Commitment</i> )	\$ 220,000		Maria Weeding	100%	20 April 2022.	Completed. Letter from Aust Govt – 14 <sup>th</sup> May 2022 advising that the final report

**Report to Council on Grant Funded Projects as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

Project Title	Brief Description	Grant Body	Project Value Grant Funds	Project Value SMC Funds	Project Manager	Current Project Status (% complete)	Anticipated Completion Date	Remarks
	Aquatic building to just past school. Total distance 1500M approx..							accepted and grant acquitted.
<b>Come on, DIVE into Southern Midlands</b>	Community Sports Day event at the Oatlands Aquatic Centre	Sports Australian	\$6,000	Nil	Adam Briggs	100%	November 2022	Completed
<b>Campania Bush Reserve Shared Pathway</b>	Widening the 650m walking track within the Reserve. Pathway surface is to be upgraded to polymer hardened aggregate gravel.	Community Development Grant Australian Government (Election Commitment) and Southern Midlands Council	\$100,000		Jack Lyall (Helen Geard)	100%	June 2021	Completed.
<b>Kempton Town Development Project</b>	Alteration to Victoria Memorial Hall entrance and landscaping forecourt area. Clock tower – lettering works as required.	Community Development Grant Australian Government (Election Commitment) and Southern Midlands Council	\$75,000	\$25,000	Maria Weeding	100%	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2021	Completed. Letter from Aust Govt – 5 Jan 2022 advising that the final report accepted and grant acquitted.
<b>Oatlands Destination Playground.</b>	Upgrade of the playground and adjacent ground area (including installation of underground watering system) at Callington Park	Community Development Grant Australian Government (Election Commitment)	\$ 500,000	\$7,400	Maria Weeding	100%	Feb 2021	Completed
<b>Mt Pleasant Recreation Ground Facilities Upgrade</b>	Addition of a new unisex toilet block to existing club rooms (3 toilets including D/A toilet)	Australian Govt. Dept of Industry, Innovation and Science- Stronger	\$20,000	\$78,000	Maria Weeding	100%	Dec 2020	Completed

**Report to Council on Grant Funded Projects as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022**

Project Title	Brief Description	Grant Body	Project Value Grant Funds	Project Value SMC Funds	Project Manager	Current Project Status (% complete)	Anticipated Completion Date	Remarks
		Communities Program Round 5						
<b>Chauncy Vale Wildlife Sanctuary Pedestrian Bridge Project</b>	Design and construction of two (2) pedestrian bridges across the Browns Cave Creek. The bridges allow for a permanent, safe and pleasant crossing of the creek as part of the overall walking track(s).	Community Development Grant Australian Government (Election Commitment)	\$55,000	Nil	Graham Green	100%	Sept 2020	Completed.
<b>Day Dawn Creek Riparian Rehabilitation</b>	Erosion control, bank stabilization and vegetation plantings for improved biodiversity and ground stability in vicinity of the "Day Dawn Creek".	Communities Environment Program (Australian Government)	\$15,000	Nil	Graham Green	100%	June 2021	Completed
<b>Mangalore Recreation Ground Twin Arenas Project</b>	Two new arenas for the pony clubs that call Mangalore Rec Grd home	Major Sport & Rec Grants Program Communities Sport & Recreation (Tas Government)	\$36,784		Andrew Benson	100%	Completed	Grant acquitted
<b>Kempton Medical and Community Centre</b>	Conversion of the former Principal's Residence and establishment of car parking	Department of Communities (Tas) Election Commitment	\$75,000	\$25,000	Tim Kirkwood / Andrew Benson	100%	Completed	Grant Acquittal Received from Tas Audit Office
<b>Oatlands Underground Power Project</b>	Undergrounding the overhead power cable on the	Community Development Grant Australian	\$250,000		Andrew Benson	100%	Completed	Acquittal submitted and Australia Government have signed off. Project Completed

Report to Council on Grant Funded Projects as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022

Project Title	Brief Description	Grant Body	Project Value Grant Funds	Project Value SMC Funds	Project Manager	Current Project Status (% complete)	Anticipated Completion Date	Remarks
	Esplanade and Barrick Street	Government ( <i>Election Commitment</i> )						
<b>Broadmarsh Streetscape Project</b>	Construction of footpath and bridge construction as well as traffic calming within the Broadmarsh Village	Community Development Grant Australian Government ( <i>Election Commitment</i> )	\$230,000		Andrew Benson	100%	Completed	Acquittal submitted and Australia Government have signed off. Project Completed
<b>Kempton Skate Park Facility</b>	Green Pond Progress Assn applied for funding with TCF and Council contributed \$5,000	Tasmanian Community Fund	\$50,000 ( <i>Administered by the GPPA</i> )	\$5,000	A Benson	100%	June 2022	Construction completed of the Skate Board structure by the Contractor. Project Completed
<b>Tunbridge Community Hall – Repair Works</b>	Repair works following vehicle damage.	DPAC (Local Government Division)	\$17,500	\$12,500	Tim Kirkwood	100%	Dec 2021	Final acquittal of Grant submitted. Project Completed
<b>Rejuvenation of the Runnymede Recreation Ground playing surface</b>	Installation of a bore, pumps and 100,000 ltr tank, sprinklers and surface treatment	Major Sport & Rec Grants Program Communities Sport & Recreation (Tas Government Tas Fire Service Contribution SMC Community Small Grants Program	\$35,142  \$1,000	\$40,000  \$ 3,000 ( <i>from SMC Community Small Grants Program for Runnymede Cricket Club</i> )	Andrew Benson	100%	Dec 2021	Acquittal submitted and signed off by the Grant body.
<b>UNSUCCESSFUL GRANTS APPLICATIONS</b>								
<b>Improving the Playing Field</b>	New Practice Cricket Nets and upgrading of toilets to comply with DDA requirements at Kempton Rec Grd	Department of Communities (Tas)	\$156,605	\$27,636	Wendy Young	0%	Dec 2023	Covered off in the Master Plan for the Kempton Rec Grd.  Grant Application submitted but unsuccessful

#### **17.2.4 Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) – Southern Nomination for the Tasmanian Library Advisory Board**

**Author:** GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

**Date:** 16 JANUARY 2023

**Enclosure(s):**

*LGAT Representation Statement*

**Attachment(s):**

*Tasmanian Library Advisory Board Terms of Reference July 2021*

#### **ISSUE**

LGAT is seeking assistance for the nomination of a representative for a vacancy on the Tasmanian Library Advisory Board (TLAB) (one position). This vacancy has arisen following the recent local government elections.

The term of office of current TLAB members expires on 31 December 2024, with the new appointment having the same term.

LGAT is to put forward at least two nominees, representing a mix of urban and rural interests from the southern area.

The TLAB Chair is keen to get people on board who can act as strong advocates and are networkers in general, as well as anyone who would be interested in supporting the Board's push for a much-needed redevelopment of the Hobart building as our 'flagship', being the home of the State Library and Archives. A general interest in libraries, literacy or lifelong learning is welcome attribute.

To nominate, the following will be required:

- the nominee's Curriculum Vitae
- two current referees for the nominee
- nominee to provide a brief statement outlining their reasons for nominating and merits of their nomination (refer LGAT template attached).

Nominations are to be submitted by Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT Council consider nominating a representative for the Tasmanian Library Advisory Board.**

**DECISION**

*Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Clr A E Bisdee OAM*

**THAT the information be received.**

**CARRIED**

<b>DECISION</b>		
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Vote FOR</b>	<b>Vote AGAINST</b>
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	



**ENCLOSURE**  
*Agenda Item 17.2.4*



**Local Government Representation Statement  
in Support of Nomination for**

**Tasmanian Library Advisory Board**

<b>Name of Nominee</b>	
<b>Council</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Phone</b>	
<b>Email</b>	

<b>Do you currently hold other positions as a representative of local government? Please detail.</b>

<b>Statement in support of nomination</b>
Please provide a short statement in support of your nomination which describes your interest in the role and your capacity to meet the requirements of the role as specified in the terms of reference and/or criteria supplied and noting any relevant qualifications and experience.
Please attached a copy of CV to support your nomination

--

<b>Referees</b>	
Please provide two referees who are able to speak in support of your capacity to meet the requirements of the role.	
<b>Referee 1: name</b>	
<b>Referee 1: email and phone</b>	
<b>Referee 2: name</b>	
<b>Referee 2: email and phone</b>	

**Nomination acknowledgement**

Nominations to sit on a body on behalf of LGAT require the approval of the nominee’s council. As General Manager I acknowledge that this approval has been given.

<b>General Manager Name</b>	
<b>General Manager Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

I acknowledge and accept that should I be appointed to represent LGAT that I will:

- Provide LGAT with updates of the group’s discussions following each meeting via email. This update can be provided in conjunction with other LGAT members of the Tasmanian Library Advisory Board.
- Seek the advice and direction of LGAT as needed on policy or advocacy matters that are likely to be of interest to the local government sector or LGAT. This will be informed by, but not limited to, LGAT’s Strategic Plan, Annual Plan and resolutions made at LGAT’s General Meetings.

<b>Nominee name</b>	
<b>Nominee signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

This form will be submitted to the Local Government Association of Tasmania General Management Committee and a copy will be kept in the Association records system.

Authorised LGAT officers will have access to information provided.

Support staff for General Management Committee members may have access to the details in this form.

## 17.2.5 LGAT – Seeking Nomination for Representative on the Tasmanian Heritage Council

**Author:** GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

**Date:** 16 JANUARY 2023

**Enclosure(s):**

*LGAT Representation Statement*

*Fact Sheet – Membership of the Tasmanian Heritage Council*

### ISSUE

LGAT is seeking assistance for the nomination of a representative for a vacancy on the Tasmanian Heritage Council.

The Chair of the Tasmanian Heritage Council is seeking a local government representative with a strong working knowledge of the application of heritage protections in the local government context.

The representative may be an elected member or professional council officer.

Nominations are to include:

- the Curriculum Vitae of the nominee
- completed nomination form – included statement in support, two referees and signed acknowledgement by GM and nominee.

Nominations are to be submitted by Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023.

### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT Council consider nominating a representative for the Tasmanian Heritage Council.**

### DECISION

*Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Clr D Fish*

**THAT the information be received.**

### CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

**ENCLOSURE**  
*Agenda Item 17.2.5*



**Local Government Representation Statement  
in Support of Nomination for  
Tasmanian Heritage Council**

<b>Name of Nominee</b>	
<b>Role</b>	
<b>Gender</b>	
<b>Council</b>	
<b>Phone</b>	
<b>Email</b>	

<b>Please detail any other local government representative positions (if applicable)</b>

<b>Statement in support of nomination</b>
Please provide a short statement in support of your nomination that describes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• your interest in the role</li><li>• your skills and experience in the application of heritage protection in local government</li><li>• your capacity to meet the requirements of the role as specified in the terms of reference supplied and noting any relevant qualifications and experience.</li></ul>
Please attach your resume to support your nomination

--

<b>Referees</b>	
Please provide two referees who are able to speak in support of your capacity to meet the requirements of the role.	
<b>Referee 1: name</b>	
<b>Referee 1: email and phone</b>	
<b>Referee 2: name</b>	
<b>Referee 2: email and phone</b>	

**Nomination acknowledgement**

Nominations to sit on a body on behalf of LGAT require the approval of the nominee’s council. As General Manager I acknowledge that this approval has been given.

<b>General Manager Name</b>	
<b>General Manager Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

I acknowledge and accept that should I be appointed to represent LGAT that I will:

- Provide LGAT ([reception@lgat.tas.gov.au](mailto:reception@lgat.tas.gov.au)) with updates of the group’s discussions following each meeting via email.
- Seek the advice and direction of LGAT as needed on policy or advocacy matters that are likely to be of interest to the local government sector or LGAT. This will be informed by, but not limited to, LGAT’s Strategic Plan, Annual Plan and resolutions made at LGAT’s General Meetings.

<b>Nominee name</b>	
<b>Nominee signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

This form will be submitted to the Local Government Association of Tasmania General Management Committee and a copy will be kept in the Association records system.

Authorised LGAT officers will have access to information provided.

Support staff for General Management Committee members may have access to the details in this form.

# FACT SHEET



---

## MEMBERSHIP OF THE TASMANIAN HERITAGE COUNCIL

### Tasmanian Heritage Council

The Heritage Council is a 15-member statutory body appointed by the Government to implement the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995 (the Act)*. Membership comprises a Chairperson, members with technical expertise and representatives of specific community organisations, as specified in the Act.

The current Chairperson is Ms Brett Torossi.

The Heritage Council's role is to promote the identification, assessment, protection and conservation of places of historic cultural heritage significance to Tasmania. It does this by entering places of State significance to the Tasmanian Heritage Register and applying a development control process to protect their historic heritage values.

The Heritage Council has broad functions and powers, outlined in Section 7 of the Act, and uses a Strategic Plan to prioritise and guide its work in these areas.

### Membership

Membership of the Heritage Council is usually for a term of up to three-years.

It meets for half a day on the third Wednesday of every second month, and according to need. When required, it may conduct some business out-of-session, via email.

Most meetings are held in Hobart, with one meeting usually also held in a regional area each year. Reimbursement of reasonable travel expenses can be made.

Members receive an annual sitting fee (paid fortnightly) in accordance with a Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) Sizing Statement for the Heritage Council.

Vacancies that arise on the Heritage Council are usually filled in one of two ways: i) representative bodies are asked to nominate up to three candidates who are interested and they consider are suitable to fill the vacancy; and ii) vacancies for all other positions are usually advertised in Tasmania's three regional newspapers.

Those interested are asked to provide a *curriculum vitae* that provides two referees and a statement outlining knowledge, skills or experience of relevance to the position, including previous experience in contemporary governance and statutory decision-making.

---

For further information you can go to [www.heritage.tas.gov.au](http://www.heritage.tas.gov.au) or contact Felicity Britten (Executive Officer) or Andrew Roberts (Director) at Heritage Tasmania on 1300 850 332.

22 July 2021

## 17.2.6 LGAT – Nomination for State Fire Commission

**Author:** GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

**Date:** 16 JANUARY 2023

**Enclosure(s):**

*LGAT Representation Statement*

### ISSUE

LGAT is seeking assistance for the nomination for local government representatives to the State Fire Commission.

LGAT has two members on the commission. They have previously sought and received nominations from the sector and provided these to the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management. The Minister subsequently asked that we provide additional nominations that included women to provide a balance of genders for a more diverse, representative commission.

Nominees are therefore sought with skills and experience across one or more of the following areas: finance, governance, community engagement, recovery and community resilience.

Nominees are not required to have previous direct experience in fire management.

The *Fire Service Act 1979* (sections 7 – 9) details the members, powers, functions and term of the State Fire Commission.

The State Fire Commission plays the critical role of overseeing the Tasmanian Fire Service and how it effectively prevents and protects from fire across the state. Under the review of the *Fire Services Act 1979*, this role is mooted to expand to include the resources and activities of the now State Emergency Service.

Nominations are to include:

- the Curriculum Vitae of the nominee
- completed nomination form – included statement in support, two referees and signed acknowledgement by GM and nominee.

Nominations are to be submitted by Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2023.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT Council consider nominating a representative for the State Fire Commission.**

**DECISION**

*Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Clr A E Bisdee OAM*

**THAT the information be received.**

**CARRIED**

<b>DECISION</b>		
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Vote FOR</b>	<b>Vote AGAINST</b>
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	



**ENCLOSURE**  
*Agenda Item 17.2.6*



**Local Government Representation Statement  
in Support of Nomination for  
State Fire Commission**

<b>Name of Nominee</b>	
<b>Gender</b>	
<b>Council</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Phone</b>	
<b>Email</b>	

<b>Do you currently hold other positions as a representative of local government? Please detail.</b>

<b>Statement in support of nomination</b>
Please provide a short statement in support of your nomination which describes your interest in the role and your capacity to meet the requirements of the role as specified in the terms of reference and/or criteria supplied and noting any relevant qualifications and experience.
Please attached a copy of CV to support your nomination

--

<b>Referees</b>	
Please provide two referees who are able to speak in support of your capacity to meet the requirements of the role.	
<b>Referee 1: name</b>	
<b>Referee 1: email and phone</b>	
<b>Referee 2: name</b>	
<b>Referee 2: email and phone</b>	

**Nomination acknowledgement**

Nominations to sit on a body on behalf of LGAT require the approval of the nominee’s council. As General Manager I acknowledge that this approval has been given.

<b>General Manager Name</b>	
<b>General Manager Signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

I acknowledge and accept that should I be appointed to represent LGAT that I will:

- Provide LGAT with updates of the group’s discussions following each meeting via email.
- Seek the advice and direction of LGAT as needed on policy or advocacy matters that are likely to be of interest to the local government sector or LGAT. This will be informed by, but not limited to, LGAT’s Strategic Plan, Annual Plan and resolutions made at LGAT’s General Meetings.

<b>Nominee name</b>	
<b>Nominee signature</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

This form will be submitted to the Local Government Association of Tasmania General Management Committee and a copy will be kept in the Association records system.  
 Authorised LGAT officers will have access to information provided.  
 Support staff for General Management Committee members may have access to the details in this form.

## 17.2.7 Local Government Shared Services – Quarterly Update – Information Only

**Author:** FINANCE OFFICER (MANDY BURBURY)

**Date:** 12 JANUARY 2023

**Enclosure(s):**

*Shared Services Report – Southern Midlands Council – October to December 2022*

### ISSUE

To inform Council of the Common Services Joint Venture activities for the period October to December 2022.

### BACKGROUND

There are seven existing members of the Common Services Joint Venture Agreement, with two other Council's participating as non-members.

Members: Brighton, Central Highlands, Glenorchy, Huon Valley, Sorell, Southern Midlands and Tasman.

Council now include a standard internal report for Council's information on SMC hours on a quarterly basis.

### DETAIL

Refer to the enclosed summary of services provided by and provided to the Southern Midlands.

### RECOMMENDATION

**THAT the information be received.**

### DECISION

*Moved by Clr R McDougall, seconded by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon*

**THAT the information be received.**

### CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

**ENCLOSURE**  
*Agenda Item 17.2.7*

**2022/23 Shared Services Report  
to 31 December 2022**

PROVIDED BY SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL					Total Hours Dec 2022 Quarter	Total Hours Sept 2022 Quarter	Total Hours to Date
Council	Fortnight Ending	Officer	Service Provided	Hours			
Brighton Council	09.10.22	P Krause	Planning Compliance	16.75			
	23.10.22	P Krause	Planning Compliance	8.25			
	06.11.22	P Krause	Planning Compliance	39.25			
	20.11.22	P Krause	Planning Compliance	48.5			
	04.12.22	P Krause	Planning Compliance	14.25			
	18.12.22	P Krause	Planning Compliance	8.25			
					135.25	98.25	233.50
Central Highlands	09.10.22	L Brown	Regulatory	16.5			
		D Mackey	Regulatory	4			
		D Dwyer	Animal Control	5.5			
		R Collis	Animal Control	7.25			
	23.10.22	L Brown	Regulatory	15			
		D Mackey	Regulatory	2			
		R Collis	Animal Control	5			
		D Mackey	Regulatory	7			
	06.11.22	R Collis	Animal Control	13			
		L Brown	Regulatory	12			
	20.11.22	D Mackey	Regulatory	16			
		L Brown	Regulatory	7.5			
		R Collis	Animal Control	3			
	04.12.22	D Mackey	Regulatory	21			
L Brown		Regulatory	18				
18.12.22	D Mackey	Regulatory	19				
	L Brown	Regulatory	11				
	R Collis	Animal Control	5				
		D Dwyer	Animal Control	5			
					192.75	224.00	416.75
Derwent Valley	09.10.22	B Williams	Heritage	2			
	23.10.22	B Williams	Heritage	10			
	20.11.22	B Williams	Heritage	3			
	18.12.22	B Williams	Heritage	4			
					19.00	5.00	24.00
Glenorchy	09.10.22	S Mitchell	Plumbing Surveying	5			
		S Mitchell	Plumbing Surveying				
		S Mitchell	Plumbing Surveying				
		S Mitchell	Plumbing Surveying				
					5.00	12.00	17.00
<b>Total Hours Provided by Southern Midlands</b>					<b>352.00</b>	<b>339.25</b>	<b>691.25</b>
PROVIDED TO SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL							
Council	Fortnight Ending	Officer	Service Provided	Hours			
Brighton	04.09.22	L Wighton	Development Engineering	8			
	18.09.22	L Wighton	Development Engineering	8.25			
	02.10.22	L Wighton	Development Engineering	3.25			
	16.10.22	L Wighton	Development Engineering	3.25			
	16.10.22	B Duffy	Permit Authority Plumbing	10			
	30.10.22	L Wighton	Development Engineering	3.75			
	30.10.22	B Duffy	Permit Authority Plumbing	4			
	13.11.22	L Wighton	Development Engineering	4.5			
	27.11.22	L Wighton	Development Engineering	13.75			
					58.75	35.50	94.25
<b>Total Hours Provided to Southern Midlands</b>					<b>58.75</b>	<b>35.50</b>	<b>94.25</b>

## 17.2.8 Local Government Board – ‘The future of local government review – Options Paper (Review Stage 2 – December 2022)’

**AUTHOR:** GENERAL MANAGER (TIM KIRKWOOD)

**DATE:** 20 JANUARY 2023

**Enclosure:**

*Report – ‘The future of local government review – Options Paper (Review Sage 2 – December 2022)’*

*Council Submission – Future of Local Government Stage 1 – Interim Report (July 2022)*

### ISSUE

1. The principal aim of this report is to inform the community that this local government review process is being undertaken; and
2. Provide the community with detail of the **draft** content to be included in Councils submission to the Local Government Board and the position being taken by Council in relation to this issue.

*Note: As indicated, this submission is in draft form only following a Council Workshop held 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Additional detail is to be included prior to finalisation and lodgement prior to 19h February 2023.*

### BACKGROUND

The State Government established the Local Government Board in late 2021 and requested that it review the way Tasmanian councils operate. The State Government requested that the Board make recommendations about how the current system needs to change so that councils are ready and able to meet the challenges and opportunities the community will face over the next 30 – 40 years.

The review commenced in January 2022 and is structure in three mains stages:

Stage 1 – involved community consultation and evidence-gathering. The outcome being the issue of an Interim Report which highlighted the key role played by local government in Tasmania as well as the current and emerging challenges, opportunities and priorities for reform.

Stage 2 (the current stage) is concerned with developing and testing a broad range of possible reform options to address the issues, challenges and opportunities identified in the Stage 1.

The Board is to provide a further interim report to the Minister with a refined set of options by the end of March 2023.

Stage 3 – will see the delivery of a specific set of reform recommendations to the State Government, supported by a clear and practical implementation plan. The Final Report is scheduled to be delivered by 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

At the end of the formal review process, The Government will consider the Boards’ recommendations and decide how it wants to respond.

## DETAIL

Councillors will recall that a submission was submitted in response to the State 1 Interim Report and a copy is included as an enclosure. Reference will be made to the initial submission as required.

This Options Paper is divided into seven sections. Draft comments are provided in response to each:

Section 1- The journey so far – information only.

Whilst no specific comment is required, the following dot points reflect Council's discussion:

- Council noted the limited number of submissions received, both from within local government and external. This level of input (or interest) does not seem to reflect the importance that is being placed on the whole issue of (and need for) local government reform by the State Government and/or the Board.
- Minimal feedback from the community is due to lack of awareness
- Survey of almost 500 Tasmanians (aged 16 – 44) – limited focus group - is this number of surveys sufficient to obtain an accurate reflection and be statistically valid
- Median age is 44 southern midlands (median age of the postcode 7120 is 52) – a large proportion of our Municipality– not captured for SMC - median age outside the survey range
- no information available regarding the outcomes of the various consultation sessions and workshops. The paper mentions 33 'divergent views' – no detail.

Section 2 – The enduring importance of local communities

The commentary provided in this section of the report does not require any specific response however the following key statement is highlighted in this section:

**“The adaptation of local government to meet changing community needs is not just desirable, it is essential”.**

From Council's perspective, the need to adapt is an ongoing issue that Council is already responding to through regular review of its Strategic and Operation Plans. These changes are influenced through a range of community consultation forums and direct feedback.

A number of examples were cited in Council's previous submission to indicate its preparedness and ability to respond to changing community needs.

Section 3 – the future role of local government

### 3.1 Breaking down councils' roles and functions

For information, the reference to the model adapted from the *Brighton Council's 2050 Vision* is very similar to the model adopted and reported in the Southern Midlands Council's Strategic Plan (refer attached extract). The SMC's plan also seeks to identify the potential partnership options and relationships.

The Options Paper indicates that there is support for developing a Tasmanian Local Government Charter which would be included within the Local Government Act.

As a principle, any documentation that can provide clarity and raise awareness of the role and responsibility of local government for communities should be supported. In addition, support is provided for the Charter to include detail to clarify the relationship, roles, and responsibilities of local government in relation to, and in collaboration with, other spheres of government, particular around funding.

Having said that, the level of detail which would be required to draft a Charter that is meaningful and provides the desired level of clarification (and allocate funding responsibility) would be considerable and no doubt mean another lengthy formal review process. History has shown that the extent of work that went into the review of the financial relationship between State and Local Government extended over a long period of time.

### 3.2 Supporting wellbeing – ‘core business’ for local government

The commentary provided in this section of the report does not warrant any specific response.

### 3.3 Strategic, structured, and sustainable partnerships

There are numerous examples whereby partnership arrangements have delivered improved outcomes and benefits for the community. These include single project partnerships (e.g. funding of significant capital projects such as the Oatlands Aquatic Centre and refurbishment and reconstruction of the 1837 Callington Mill). There are many other ongoing relationships for the provision of health and wellbeing programs; and community services in general.

#### Consultation Questions:

Which of the four core roles of councils needs more emphasis in the future? Why?

- This question infers that Councils are not doing well in these areas. Further detail, or evidence, is sought.
- The need to be a ‘service provider’; ‘regulator’; ‘facilitator’ or ‘advocate’ will vary significantly between individual councils; will consistently change; and be influenced by local circumstances.
- A simple assessment of the roles (and focus) between urban vs rural is evidence of the above.

Do you agree that there is general community support for councils continuing to deliver their current range of functions and services? Are there any functions and services councils deliver now that they shouldn’t? Why?

- The delivery of functions and services is influenced by ‘local knowledge’ and through consultation with communities. It is suggested that direct feedback will inform a Council if it is delivering services that they shouldn’t, or alternatively, be funding services that should be, or can be better provided, by another level of government or service provider.
- Concern raised that organisations are being funded to provide services within the southern midlands that are not delivering
- Councils do however need to be conscious of long-term financial impacts and ability to resource services on a sustainable basis

Assuming they have access to the right resources and capability, are there services for functions you think councils could be more involved in? Why?

- The need to respond and recover from natural disasters is becoming more evident. Local Government could certainly benefit from additional resources in this area.
- Community Services – particularly youth and recreational

Where do councils currently make the biggest contribution to community wellbeing? What wellbeing functions and services should they provide in the future and how can they be supported to do that?

- This is an extremely broad question.
- In order to respond, Council considered the definition of 'community wellbeing':

*“Community wellbeing is the combination of social, economic, environmental, cultural, and political conditions identified by individuals and their communities as essential for them to flourish and fulfill their potential.”*

- In terms of what Council is currently contributing, following examples were recorded to demonstrate Council's contributions:
  - o Oatlands was named the overall winner for the 2022 Tasmania Sustainable Communities – Tidy Town Award. The award is for demonstrations of sustainability, care for the environment, pride in amenities and facilities and community spirit and inclusiveness.
  - o delivery of a range of Arts and Cultural programs;
  - o Council Community Small Grants Program - From an historical perspective it is interesting to note that since the inception of the Southern Midlands Community Small Grants Program in 2007, Council have paid out to Community Groups through this Program \$397,697.00, supporting \$1,264,410.00 worth of Community Projects. School Holiday programs – coordinating programs and providing transport assistance due to remoteness and lack of public transport
  - o Senior Week Activities, Encouraging Active Ageing - These activities provide opportunities for our community to participate in activities that provide them with social benefits, allowing them to socially interact, be part of a community and develop close relationships.
  - o Southern Midlands Council was responsible for the initially establishment of Rural Alive and Well Inc. (RAW) and continues to provide financial and 'in-kind support'. – this organisation supports individuals, families and rural and remote communities to build resilience and capacity to be navigate challenging life circumstances. RAW has now been reaching out and providing assertive outreach for over 13 years across Tasmania. It is a unique suicide prevention program.

As a final comment, having examined each of these questions, Council did ask how structural reform will enhance the ability to address these circumstances.

#### Section 4 – Reform outcomes

The Board identifies eight reform outcomes:



Reform Outcomes	Comments
<p>Councils are clear on their role, focused on the wellbeing of their communities and prioritising their statutory functions</p>	<p>Support for a Local Government Charter on the basis that it provides clarity and identifies responsibility for funding.</p> <p>A Charter does however appear to be a retrograde step going back to the period prior to the 1993 legislation. During the development of the 1993 Act, the focus was on reducing the level of prescription and providing Council with enterprise powers (Section 20) to enable it to carry out a range of functions in order to respond to community need (not dissimilar to what the Board is aiming to achieve now).</p> <p>In the absence of greater detail, Council is unable to comment in regard to the proposal to require Council's to undertake a 'Community Impact Assessment' for significant new services or infrastructure (assuming that some form of regulatory requirement is envisaged).</p> <p>Will this be expanded upon in Stage 3?</p>
<p>Councillors are capable, conduct themselves in a professional manner, and reflect the diversity of their communities</p>	<p>In general Council is not in favour of mandatory training. Each Council should however facilitate and ensure that reasonable training options are available to elected members depending upon need and individual circumstances.</p> <p>Any mandatory training should be uniform across both State and Local Government. If deemed unnecessary for State elected members, then Council is strongly opposed.</p> <p>Number of Councillors representing a council area – Southern Midlands has undertaken a voluntary review in the past resulting in the reduction in the number of elected members to 7. Remuneration is outside the scope of local government.</p> <p>How - Question raised by Council: To try and ensure that Councillors reflect the diversity of their communities, is this inconsistent with the principals of democracy?</p> <p>The key issue is here is to ensure that no reasonable barriers exist to prevent or deter nomination.</p>

<p>The community is engaged in local decisions that affect them</p>	<p>Fully support the principle of engaging the local community in decisions that affect them which is a current practice.</p> <p>General support for the introduction / implementation of a performance reporting and benchmarking system on the basis that it would add value and complement existing reporting (e.g. CDCS). Support is however subject to a cost/benefit analysis to assess the value of performance reporting, compared to the actual cost to prepare reliable and robust information for benchmarking.</p>
<p>Councils have a sustainable and skilled future workforce</p>	<p>The current skills shortage is not limited to local government. It reflects the current environment and possibly the lack of planning by other levels of government.</p> <p>Council has introduced and maintains a very flexible employment ‘mix’ combining full-time; part-time; contract; casual and resource sharing arrangements (both provider and receiver). These arrangements are extremely efficient, cost effective and ensures that Council can readily adapt to changing needs and circumstances.</p>
<p>Regulatory frameworks, systems and processes are streamlined, simplified, and standardized</p>	<p>The Southern Midlands Council strongly opposes any proposal to establish a regional planning authority (or similar). Statutory planning should be the responsibility of the local authority. Similarly, strategic land-use planning should also be done at the local level and is an absolutely critical role of local government.</p> <p><u>External referral body</u>      Council thinks there is a role for an external assessment body (e.g. another Council or skills based entity) for some applications where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Council is the applicant or has had a significant role in advancing the proposal.</li> <li>- there is potential for conflict of interest</li> </ul>

	<p>The question was raised as to who would fund this proposed Tasmanian Government appointed panel? Would it be funded by the State or based on a ‘user-pays’ system?</p> <p>Major project (i.e. State) assessment options are not currently attractive to developers due to long time frames and uncertainty.</p>
<p>Councils collaborate with other councils and State Government to deliver more effective and efficient services to their communities</p>	<p>Agreed.</p> <p>In terms of increasing integration (including co-location) of ‘front desk’ services between local and state governments at the community level, it should be noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Service Tasmania is already co-located at the Council’s Oatlands Office.</li> <li>- Tasmania Police is also co-located at Council’s Kempton Office.</li> <li>- A significant percentage of SMC employees are active volunteers with TFS and SES (or both)</li> </ul>
<p>The revenue and rating system efficiently and effectively funds council services.</p>	<p>General agreement with all comments provided in relation to this reform outcome.</p> <p>In terms of achieving an equitable distribution of the rates liability, there is an urgent need to review the existing ‘Exemption from rates’ provision within the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> to ensure that all entities contribute equitably to the funding of services (e.g. charitable organisations).</p>
<p>Councils plan for and provide sustainable public assets and services</p>	<p>Whilst there is merit in standardising asset lives for performance benchmarking and consistency. This is however inconsistent with or in opposition to the engineering perspective that asset lives vary depending upon a range of factors, including level and type of use; terrain; climate; and a range of other considerations.</p> <p>Publishing of ‘full-life-cycle’ cost estimates for new infrastructure projects – it is assumed that this requirement would include a dollar threshold or relate to a</p>

	<p>percentage of revenue (or similar). Any requirement to publish should be limited to electronic means as there is clear evidence that publication in local newspapers does not achieve anything (i.e. few persons still read the hard copy of 'Notices Section' local Mercury newspaper).</p> <p>Regular service reviews for existing services - agreed in principle</p> <p>Asset management systems, processes and software – agreed 'in-principle' subject to a cost/benefit analysis.</p>
--	--

## Section 5 – Building local government capability and capacity now and for the future

### 5.1 Anticipating future needs

Based on the report, it is clearly apparent that the Board is focussed (and concerned) about the more regional and remote communities. It states that many of these councils have the lowest levels of structural sustainability, capacity and capability.

Whilst the Board suggest that there is broad agreement from the sector that the status quo is not an optimal model for the section as a whole given the growing demands, complexity and sustainability challenges local government is facing, this is not a view shared by the Southern Midlands Council.

As stated in its earlier submission, Council does not support any form of merger (or major boundary adjustment). Council has created a strong and cohesive 'brand' and 'community of common interest' since the creation of the municipal area in April 1993 and the community's expectation is that this will be maintained. The Southern Midlands being an amalgamation of the former Green Ponds and Oatlands Councils, and the rural areas of the previous Brighton and Richmond Councils.

This position is based on the firm belief that it has the resources, ability and structure that can readily adapt to future community needs and changing circumstances. In fact, the Southern Midlands has demonstrated on numerous occasions that it has been proactive in a number of unique areas and activities. A prime example being management of the vast array of heritage assets that exist within Oatlands and the surrounding areas.

Council is extremely concerned that large or significant boundary adjustments will impact on its ability to maintain strong connections with its existing communities. Localised democracy, being a strength of local government, will be lost.

Any proposal impacting on the southern midlands will not be supported (voluntarily or otherwise) unless there is clear evidence (based on reliable and robust information) that confirms significant improvement and benefit.

## 5.2 Emerging capability gaps

Again, the focus seems to be on smaller councils, particularly in rural and remote areas.

In relation to the four ‘capability gaps’ listed in the Options Paper, Council has been able to ensure that any skills shortages are addressed through existing resource sharing arrangements (not mandated) which include the following”

- Animal Control – SMC providing services to the Central Highlands Council
- Development Engineering – Brighton Council providing development engineering services to SMC
- Heritage Project Management – SMC providing services to the Derwent Valley Council
- Land Use Planning – SMC providing statutory land use planning services to the Central Highlands Council
- Plumbing Surveying – SMC providing relief services to the Brighton Council (and vice versa) and to the Glenorchy City Council for a period of time that it experienced a shortage;
- Strategic Land Use Planning – SMC providing services to the Central Highlands Council
- Development Services and more recently, the Tasman Council

Having said that, it is acknowledged that there is a severe shortage of resources relating to the enforcement of building and plumbing regulations. This purely relates to the current work environment where there is evidence of shortages across a range of professional and skilled services.

## 5.3 Building capability the benefits of consolidation and scale

The Southern Midlands Council does not agree with the Board’s statement that it is necessary to reform Tasmania’s local government system to enhance capability and capacity across the sector so that councils can provide or advocate for the quality services and facilities communities, need, expect and deserve.

Council, with full support of its community (including significant funding contributions), has demonstrated that it is more than capable of advocating for the local community where a particular need has been identified. There is a major risk that wholesale reform will lead to a loss of community involvement and preparedness to develop local solutions.

Consultation questions:

Do you agree with Board’s assessment that Tasmania’s current council boundaries do not necessarily reflect how contemporary Tasmanians live, work and connect?

- No - This is a meaningless question posed by the Board.
- Can the Board clarify or explain the difference between ‘contemporary Tasmanians’ and ‘other Tasmanians’?

We have heard that councils need to be “big enough to be effective and small enough to care”. How big is big enough to be effective? How small is small enough to care? What factors determine that? How do we strike the balance between these factors?

- History suggest that maintaining sense of ‘place’ and ‘commonality of interests’ is a major factor to retain the ‘local’ in local government.
- This is not necessarily influenced simply by a minimum population number; budget;
- Further detail to be included

Thinking about Tasmania now, and how it might change over the next 50 years, what are the most important things to consider if we were to ‘redraw’ our council boundaries?

- Refer comment provided under question 2
- 

It is however evident from the Board’s paper that it has concluded that amalgamation, provided it is well planned and properly supported by the State government, is essential. The only issue that the Board has identified as being in doubt is determining the size and scale in order to achieve the economies of scale without placing at risk ‘loss of community’.

#### Section 6 – Structural reform – three potential pathways

The Board has identified three reform pathways:

##### 1. Significant (mandated) sharing and consolidation of services

To some extent, consideration of this pathway is premature pending the finalisation of the roles and responsibilities of local government referred to in section 2.

In reference to the range of alternative models, Council believes that the first three components’ are the most efficient and cost effective, with the model enabling the provision via a regional organisation of councils being supported where it is evident that this model will enhance compliance; improved services and outcomes for the community. Accountability to the community must be a key factor.

As identified by the Board in relation to a point of caution when assessing **infrastructure and service delivery**. If a regional/sub-regional model (or other model) is considered for the provisions of services, the Board needs to be conscious that the local authority must retain sufficient resources (both human and physical) at the end of the process to satisfy its remaining obligations and be able to respond to local needs.

It is apparent that the Board has shifted away from its position referred to in its earlier paper that refer to ‘local approaches’.

##### 2. Boundary consolidation to achieve fewer, larger councils

The Southern Midlands Council has previously stated its opposition to significant boundary consolidation. This position is supported by numerous studies undertaken in the past.

Again the Board is encouraged to consider the report entitled ‘Independent Review of Structures for Local Governance & Service Delivery in Tasmania’. It is noted that this report, prepared by an independent panel consisting of Ms Jude Munro AO (Chair), Mr Saul Eslake;

and Mr Stephen Haynes, was commissioned by the Southern Tasmanian Council's Authority.

Whilst this report was focussed on southern Tasmania, the commentary and findings within the Report are relevant to the State as a whole. In particular, referral to the State Grants Commission and the need to review its methodology for the distribution of the FAGS should be a focus of the Review Board when considering financial sustainability.

Any proposed changes to the structure of local government should be modelled by the State Grants Commission as part of the decision making process.

### 3. A 'hybrid' model combining service consolidation with boundary reform

No further comment warranted at this point of time

### Section 7 – Having your say and the road ahead

Submission for the Options Paper close 19<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

In early February 2023, as part of the Board's engagement program, it will be **visiting communities** all around the State to hold town hall style meetings. There are separate sessions for elected members and staff. The following is a list of meetings being held which Councillors may wish to attend (need to RSVP by 28<sup>th</sup> January 2023):

Location	Time: Elected Reps	Time: Staff
Wednesday 1 February 2023 Queenstown Memorial Hall, 53 Orr St, Queenstown	11:00am – 12:30pm	1:30pm – 3:00pm
Thursday 2 February 2023 Gnomon Pavillion - Wharf Precinct, 3 Wharf Road, Ulverstone	11:00am – 12:30pm	1:30pm – 3:00pm
Monday 6 February 2023 Kingborough Community Hub - Auditorium, 7 Goshawk Way, Kingston	11:00am – 12:30pm	1:30pm – 3:00pm
Tuesday 7 February 2023 Sorell Bowls Club, 11 Parsonage Pl, Sorell	11:00am – 12:30pm	1:30pm – 3:00pm
Thursday 9 February 2023 Bicheno Memorial Hall, 78 Burgess St, Bicheno	11:00am – 12:30pm	1:30pm – 3:00pm
Wednesday 15 February 2023 Longford Memorial Hall, 55 Wellington St, Longford	11:00am – 12:30pm	1:30pm – 3:00pm
Monday 13 February 2023 Online workshop 1 Zoom	11:00am – 12:30pm	1:30pm – 3:00pm
Tuesday 14 February 2023 Online workshop 2 Zoom	11:00am – 12:30pm	1:30pm – 3:00pm

## Section 8 – References

**Human Resources & Financial Implications** – In terms of human resources – refer above comments.

**Community Consultation & Public Relations Implications** – To be considered.

**Priority - Implementation Time Frame** – Submission for the Options Paper close 19<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

#### **THAT:**

- 1. The information be received;**
- 2. Councillors provide further feedback on the draft submission; and**
- 3. It be acknowledged that the submission is to be finalised and lodged by 19<sup>th</sup> February 2023.**

### **DECISION**

*Moved by Clr A E Bisdee OAM, seconded by Clr R McDougall*

- 1. The information be received;**
- 2. Councillors provide further feedback on the draft submission; and**
- 3. It be acknowledged that the submission is to be finalised and lodged by 19<sup>th</sup> February 2023.**

### **CARRIED**

<b>DECISION</b>		
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Vote FOR</b>	<b>Vote AGAINST</b>
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	



**ENCLOSURE**  
*Agenda Item 17.2.8*

**SUBMISSION – FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT STAGE 1 – INTERIM REPORT  
(JULY 2022)**

25<sup>th</sup> August 2022

The Hon. Sue Smith AM  
Chair – Local Government Review Board  
Via Email: [lgboard@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:lgboard@dpac.tas.gov.au)

Dear Chair

**Re: Future of Local Government Stage 1 – Interim Report (July 2022)**

The Southern Midlands Council has considered the Board's Interim Report and whilst it is acknowledged that the Board will further the Review process by investigating six 'priority reform areas', Council has taken this opportunity to provide comment in response to some of the issues and questions posed in the Interim Report.

This submission records the comments made through a Council workshop process and subsequent input provided by Councillors.

It is stated at the outset that the Southern Midlands Council does not support any form of merger (or major boundary adjustment). Council has created a strong and cohesive 'brand' and 'community of common interest' since the creation of the municipal area in April 1993 and the community's expectation is that this will be maintained. The Southern Midlands being an amalgamation of the former Green Ponds and Oatlands Councils, and the rural areas of the previous Brighton and Richmond Councils.

Firstly, the Board has indicated that the Interim Report has been based on the community engagement and evidence gathering during the initial phase of the Review. In respect to the community engagement, the Board indicates (in part) that it has been encouraged by the positive way that the broader Tasmanian community have approached and engaged with the Review in Stage 1. From a Council perspective it is apparent that there is little (or no) knowledge within the community of the Board's review process. This is evidenced by the fact that until such time as the Review was promoted through Council's own newsletter issued to all residents, there has been no general discussion or feedback received. Following issue of the Council Newsletter, the main comments have been centred around 'no amalgamation', despite the broader intent of the Review.

In reference to the way forward, it is noted that the Board intends to do a targeted survey of community members under-represented in Stage 1 – people under 45 and particularly people under 30 were under-represented. If possible, consideration should also be given to undertaking targeted surveys based on geographical areas where there is clear evidence of under-representation or participation (i.e. rural areas).

The Board has stated that there is a growing consensus that there are a number of complex social, economic, and environmental problems that need to be addressed in the future.

Council, to some extent, agree with this statement. At this stage of the Review, Council is not convinced of the need for wholesale reform within the local government sector to address these issues. Council certainly does not endorse the Board's position that there is now broad acceptance of this.

### **Report – Section 2 – The role for local government in 21<sup>st</sup> century Tasmania**

No comment is provided in relation to what the Board proposes to do as part of Stage 2 of the Review, however a point of caution when assessing **infrastructure and service delivery**. If a regional/sub-regional model (or other model) is considered for the provisions of services, the Board needs to be conscious that the local authority must retain sufficient resources (both human and physical) at the end of the process to satisfy its remaining obligations and be able to respond to local needs.

- *Do you agree with the Role Statement? Does it make sense? Are there any gaps?*

There are three components to the proposed Role Statement. Council has no comment with respect to the first or third dot points.

The second dot point states:

#### ***Providing infrastructure and services that, to be effective, require local approaches.***

This makes sense, however the commentary provided under this dot point contradicts the statement.

The commentary goes on to say that this means local government direct its resources to delivering those things that are shown to work best when designed and delivered at the 'sub-regional' scale. It also means that infrastructure and services should be delivered at a regional or statewide level if it is more effective and efficient to do so.

The above is inconsistent with the role statement which refers to 'local approaches'.

- *What services do you think benefit most from 'local' design and delivery? Why? When it comes to those services, how local is 'local enough' to deliver for the community?*

The answer to this question is best determined in consultation with the respective communities and this is generally identified through an individual Council's Strategic Planning processes; consultation with the community; and ultimately the electoral process. It should be acknowledged that there are existing regional approaches which have proven to be totally ineffective and inefficient and have failed to meet a community's needs or requirements.

- *What do you think about the idea of a 'charter' for local government? If we develop a charter, should it be included in the Local Government Act 1993?*

This would appear to be a retrograde step going back to the period prior to the 1993 legislation. During the development of the 1993 Act, the focus was on reducing the level of prescription and providing Council with enterprise powers (Section 20) to enable it to carry

out a range of functions in order to respond to community need (not dissimilar to what the Board is aiming to achieve now).

### **Report – Section 3 – Capability for the future: Successful and sustainable Councils**

The Board has set out a number of ‘Capability and outcome aspirations’.

No specific comments are provided in relation to these ‘high-level’ statements which adequately address all elements.

### **Report – Section 4 – Opportunities, issues and challenges**

#### Review Themes:

#### 1. Infrastructure provision and management

*Do you think the Future Visions capture what ‘success’ would like if all councils were working well? Is there anything you would add or remove?*

Use of the word “Vision’ suggests that this can actually be achieved at some stage in the future, as opposed to being aspirational.

Whilst it would be an ideal situation if local government could plan, fund, and build all the required new infrastructure that is needed, the fact is that there is insufficient resources available within all levels of government to build what is required!

It is not appropriate to include such a statement (or commitment). There will always need to be a process of prioritisation in relation to the provision of infrastructure.

#### 2. Finance and administration

*Do you think the Future Visions capture what ‘success’ would like if all councils were working well? Is there anything you would add or remove?*

No comment is provided in relation to the Vision.

It is acknowledged that the Board has commissioned detailed financial sustainability analysis covering a 10-year period. It is important to understand the future financial position of Councils going forward taking into account assumptions based on reliable projected data (both financial and non-financial e.g. land use strategies).

To simply refer to a Table which reports ‘Average Underlying Surplus Ratio’ for the past ten years (referring to Fig. 4 p.39 Interim Report), in the absence of referring to a Council’s Long-Term Financial Management Plan and associated Asset Management Strategies, does not form the basis for informed decision making.

The Board also suggests in its Interim Report that smaller rural councils will continue to experience shrinking rate bases. This needs to (and no doubt will) be tested on an individual Council basis as part of the next review stage.

It is strongly recommended that the Board consider the report entitled ‘Independent Review of Structures for Local Governance & Service Delivery in Tasmania’. It is noted that this report, prepared by an independent panel consisting of Ms Jude Munro AO (Chair), Mr Saul Eslake; and Mr Stephen Haynes, was commissioned by the Southern Tasmanian Council’s Authority and is not included as a Reference document.

Whilst this report was focussed on southern Tasmania, the commentary and findings within the Report are relevant to the State as a whole. In particular, referral to the State Grants Commission and the need to review its methodology for the distribution of the FAGS should be a focus of the Review Board when considering financial sustainability.

Any proposed changes to the structure of local government should be modelled by the State Grants Commission as part of the decision making process.

### 3. Planning and other regulatory functions

*Do you think the Future Visions capture what ‘success’ would like if all councils were working well? Is there anything you would add or remove?*

No comment is provided in relation to the Vision, though as with ‘Infrastructure provision and management’, it does feel somewhat aspirational with the current skills shortage across planning and other regulatory fields.

The Southern Midlands Council strongly opposes any proposal to establish a regional planning authority (or similar). Statutory planning should be the responsibility of the local authority. Similarly, strategic land-use planning should also be done at the local level and is an absolutely critical role of local government.

In terms of opportunities for improvement, Council offers the following:

#### Standard Advice Documents

Standardised advice pamphlets/info sheets/website info and the like would be useful to explain the roles and processes of planning and other regulatory approvals to the public.

Assistance with educating the public generally around these LGA responsibilities and how they interact would be useful.

#### External referral body

Council thinks there is a role for an external assessment body for some applications such as those where Council is the applicant or has had a significant role in advancing the proposal.

Major project (i.e. State) assessment options are not currently attractive to developers due to long time frames and uncertainty.

Councillor training and appropriate support from management (including potentially legal advice) is essential for Councillors to understand and execute their role appropriately.

Other Comments:

- the idea that Councils are “*leading strategic land use planning for their council area*” and have/can actively set a strategic direction with their LPS/current planning scheme and associated zoning is somewhat misguided. Firstly, the application of zones and other planning controls is highly regulated by the State. Further, in many areas there has been no real strategic review of planning zones for many years. The reform processes that have taken place over the last decade or so to introduce first the Interim Planning Schemes and now the Local Provisions Schedule of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme have largely been undertaken as translation exercises from previous planning schemes – as directed and enforced by the State. It is only where new strategic work has been undertaken that any departure from this has occurred. In Southern Midlands there have been essentially no review of zoning in urban areas during this time.
- It is often said that if a Planning Authority doesn’t like the decisions they feel forced to make under their current Planning Scheme then they should change it. However, if a Planning Authority does see a need to alter their planning scheme to better deliver outcomes/expectations for the community the process for planning scheme amendments is incredibly time and resource intensive and any changes must be in accordance with those

State and Regional rules and strategic directions. There is also no appeal mechanism to review decisions of the Tasmanian Planning Commission.

- Planning is important but the other regulatory roles (i.e. building and plumbing) should not be overlooked – they are essential and important. Continuing to improve transparency, consistency and links between planning and other regulatory legislation e.g. building/plumbing is important to reduce the overall load on Councils and developers/the public.
- The impact that the other Statutory Authorities have in relation to the timely processing of development applications; the barriers that are frequently experienced through this process of referral and sign-off; and finally their ability to deliver their services in the field.

#### Economic development and local promotion

*Do you think the Future Visions capture what ‘success’ would like if all councils were working well? Is there anything you would add or remove?*

Nil Comments.

#### 4. Environment

*Do you think the Future Visions capture what ‘success’ would like if all councils were working well? Is there anything you would add or remove?*

Council has considered this Vision statement in detail, with suggested amendments being highlighted:

#### **Future Vision – environment**

Councils fulfil all their statutory obligations for environmental protection, ~~and~~ have systems in place to manage and update climate change risk as new data becomes available, and have planned for and resourced the achievement of any additional environmental objectives their communities support.

Councils can do this because they:

- Have access to regularly updated climate change data (resourced by the State) on which to base their climate risk management planning, and clarity around the process required to ensure key climate risks are understood at an executive level and are reflected in existing frameworks such as the corporate risk register and relevant planning scheme overlays;
- Have access to the necessary technical and legal advice, and the necessary systems ~~(e.g. record management, delegation etc)~~, to fulfill their statutory obligations, including for waste disposal and, ~~weed control, and feral animal control;~~
- Note: Clarity is sought in terms of what is intended in relation to feral animal control.
- Have access to cost effective services to deliver both their statutory obligations and any additional environmental objectives they have adapted;
- Have documented all environmental objectives, both statutory and non-statutory, in their strategic planning documents and have appropriately resourced their achievement;
- Play an important leadership role in their communities’ in the transition to renewable energy by adoption of available technologies for building efficiency, transport efficiency and emissions reduction across all business areas;~~Have clear local-level plans that support sustainability;~~ and
- Have undertaken the required community consultation on those documents.

5. Governance, accountability, and representation

*Do you think the Future Visions capture what ‘success’ would like if all councils were working well? Is there anything you would add or remove?*

No comment is provided in relation to the Vision.

The following comments were noted during the discussion related to this topic:

- Council would not be opposed to the re-introduction of a ward system which provides better clarity for constituents in terms of a point of contact at the elected member level. It would also ensure adequate representation from rural and remote areas.
- It was also mentioned through the workshop process that the Board’s reform process should also revisit:
  - a) the issue of ‘half-in/half-out’ elections. Council is of the view that this model should be reinstated to ensure that some level of continuity is maintained following an election process; and
  - b) the requirement for a Mayor to have previously served on a Council.

6. Community wellbeing

*Do you think the Future Visions capture what ‘success’ would like if all councils were working well? Is there anything you would add or remove?*

Nil Comments.

In closing, the Southern Midlands Council certainly recognises that our local government system is not a static or ‘natural’ institution’ and there will always be a need to adapt and reflect the changing needs of the community.

Council felt it necessary to cite the following examples which not only demonstrates Council’s ability to respond to an individual community needs, but the level of commitment and ‘ownership’ of the issues within the local community:

- \$500K investment in an accommodation facility at Oatlands for locum General Practitioners and other visiting medical specialists (\$200,000 cash contributions from the community);
- \$200,000 (approx.) investment in an expansion of the Child Care Centre at Bagdad. A major issue in this growing community that is attracting a large number of younger families. Local community members have committed both cash and in-kind contributions to assist with construction and fit-out.
- Major investment in sport and recreation infrastructure across the municipal area, including \$9.60 million to construct a new Aquatic Centre. Note: \$80,000 community donation to provide equipment for the small pool; \$50K Destination Playground at Oatlands.
- Substantial spending on the management (and eradication) of weeds in conjunction with primary production property owners and voluntary organisations;
- Substantial investment in expert resources; infrastructure and activities to address and manage ‘climate change’ initiatives;
- Attracting significant economic development, including Callington Mill Distillery and associated Development – total value of approx. \$25 million); Shene Estate – Lark Distillery expansion; Hotel Accommodation Development at Oatlands (THN Hospitality).

Please feel free to contact myself or the General Manager (Tim Kirkwood) should the Board seek clarification or additional detail in relation to any comment provided in this submission.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A O Green'.

A O Green

**Mayor**

## 17.3 Finances

### Strategic Plan Reference 5.3

*Community's finances will be managed responsibly to enhance the wellbeing of residents / Council will maintain community wealth to ensure that the wealth enjoyed by today's generation may also be enjoyed by tomorrow's generation / Council's financial position will be robust enough to recover from unanticipated events, and absorb the volatility inherent in revenues and expenses.*

### 17.3.1 Monthly Financial Statement (Period ending 31 December 2022)

**AUTHOR:** FINANCE OFFICER (MANDY BURBURY)

**DATE:** 12 JANUARY 2023

#### ISSUE

Provide the Financial Report for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

#### BACKGROUND

The Operating Expenditure Report includes a Year to Date (YTD) Budget Column, with variations (and percentage) based on YTD Budgets.

*Note: Depreciation is calculated on an annual basis at the end of the financial year. The budget and expense for depreciation are included in the June period.*

#### DETAIL

The enclosed Report incorporates the following: -

- Statement of Comprehensive Income – 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022.
- Operating Expenditure Report – 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022.
- Capital Expenditure Report – 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022.
- Cash Flow Statement – 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022.
- Rates & Charges – as at 10 January 2023.

#### OPERATING EXPENDITURE (OPERATING BUDGET)

Overall operating expenditure to end of October was \$4,472,016 which represents 99.3% of the Year to Date Budget.

Whilst there are some variations within the individual Program Budgets (refer following comments), expenditure is consistent with the Budget.

#### ***Strategic Theme - Infrastructure***

**Sub-Program – Roads** - expenditure to date (\$876,133 – 136.47%). Additional expenditure of \$234,151 relates to road maintenance required due to ongoing rain events leading to an increased level of call-outs for emergency works, road inspections, drainage works, maintenance grading, bitumen patching and tree removal. As previously reported, we



anticipate the level of operational expenditure on roads will decrease with dryer weather and an increase in capital works.

***Strategic Theme – Growth***

**Sub-Program – Business** - expenditure to date (\$136,032 – 168.34%). Additional expenditure relates to private works. The additional expense will be offset by an increase in private works income.

***Strategic Theme – Landscapes***

Nil.

***Strategic Theme – Community***

Nil.

***Strategic Theme – Organisation***

**Sub-Program – Sustainability** - expenditure to date (\$1,133,805 – 111.8%). Additional expenditure relates largely to the operational costs of our computer system, particularly increases to the cost of internet data and computer software.

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM**

Capital Expenditure Projects are colour coded to signify the grant program and show the completion deadlines. A legend of the colour coding is as below:

**Legend – Completion Deadlines for Grant funded projects**

Roads to Recovery	It is the Government's intention that the full allocation is budgeted and spent in the year allocated
Local Road and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Phase 3	To be completed by 30 June 2023 (use or lose)
Other Specific Purpose Grants	Completion date as per grant deed or approved extension date

## RECOMMENDATION

**THAT the Financial Report be received and the information noted.**

## DECISION

*Moved by Cllr D Blackwell, seconded by Cllr A E Bisdee OAM*

**THAT the Financial Report be received and the information noted.**

## CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Cllr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Cllr D Blackwell	✓	
Cllr D F Fish	✓	
Cllr R McDougall	✓	
Cllr F Miller	✓	

**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
for the period 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022

	Annual Budget \$	Year to Date as at 31 December \$	%	Comments
<b>Income</b>				
General rates	6,405,004	6,351,952	99.2%	Includes Interest & Penalties on rates
User Fees (refer Note 1)	1,094,687	770,882	70.4%	Includes Private Works
Interest	48,000	156,015	325.0%	
Government Subsidies	69,838	24,726	35.4%	Heavy Vehicle Licence Fees, Road Rescue MAIB reimbursements & Interest Subsidy
Contract Income	0	0		
Other (refer Note 2)	232,400	141,973	61.1%	Includes TasWater Distributions
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>7,849,929</b>	<b>7,445,547</b>	<b>94.8%</b>	
Grants - Operating	3,785,930	664,209	17.5%	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>11,635,859</b>	<b>8,109,756</b>	<b>69.7%</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>				
Employee benefits	-4,802,251	-2,010,574	41.9%	Less Roads - Resheeting (Capitalised)
Materials and contracts	-3,432,747	-2,241,645	65.3%	Less Roads - Resheeting (Capitalised), Includes Land Tax & Private Works
Depreciation and amortisation	-3,521,000	-1,770,120	50.3%	Percentage Calculation (based on year-to-date)
Finance costs	-58,919	-32,054	54.4%	Interest
Contributions	-258,156	-129,078	50.0%	Fire Service Levies
Other	-154,951	-81,914	52.9%	Audit Fees and Councillor Allowances
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>-12,228,024</b>	<b>-6,265,386</b>	<b>51.2%</b>	
<b>Surplus (deficit) from operations</b>	<b>-592,165</b>	<b>1,844,370</b>	<b>-311.5%</b>	
Grants - Capital (refer Note 3)	3,795,990	952,099	25.1%	
Contributions - Natural Disaster Relief Fund	80,000	0	0.0%	
Sale Proceeds (Plant & Machinery)	0	97,000		
Sale Proceeds (Land)	0	0		
Sale Proceeds (Other Assets)	0	1,260		Includes used wheelie bins & sale of Mill assets
Net gain / (loss on disposal of non-current assets)	0	0		
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>3,283,825</b>	<b>2,894,729</b>	<b>88.2%</b>	

**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
for the period 1 July 2022 to 31 December 2022

	Annual Budget \$	Year to Date as at 31 December \$	%	Comments
<b>NOTES</b>				
<b>1. Income - User Fees</b>				
- All other Programs	795,241	329,021	41.4%	
- Private Works	299,446	389,326	130.0%	
- HBS interest on New Business Funds (since 30.08.2010)	0	52,535		
	<u>1,094,687</u>	<u>770,882</u>	70.4%	
<b>2. Income - Other</b>				
- Tas Water Distributions	182,400	76,000	41.67%	
- Public Open Space Contributions	50,000	50,000	100.00%	
- "Gardeners of 7120" Donation for seating on High Street	0	2,720		
- Donations to Kempton Recreation Ground	0	210		
- Donations for use of recreation facilities	0	175		Including Blue Gum Rovers
- Worker's Comp. Wage Reimbursement	0	12,868		
	<u>232,400</u>	<u>141,973</u>	61.1%	
<b>3. Grants - Capital</b>				
- Roads To Recovery	665,531	35,000	5.26%	
- LRCl - Phase 3 (Total \$1,331,062)	1,088,402	665,531	61.15%	\$1,331,062 Projects to be completed by 30.06.23
- LRCl - Rural & Remote Roads (Total \$5,346,180)	1,069,236	0	0.00%	
- Comm Dev Grant - Oatlands Aquatic Centre (\$500K)	500,000	0	0.00%	
- Dept of Communities Tas (Levelling the Playing Field)	234,000	0	0.00%	
- Aust Govt - Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grant	238,821	208,968	87.50%	
- ChargeSmart (Second instalment)	0	36,000		
- Mens Shed Grant (Shipping Container)	0	6,600		
	<u>3,795,990</u>	<u>952,099</u>	25.08%	
<b>4. Grants - Operating</b>				
- FAGS 2022/23	3,785,930	608,529	16.1%	
- FAGS 2023/24	0	0		2023/24 Payment in Advance
- Communities for Children - School Holiday Program	0	4,166		
- Dept. Premier & Cabinet - Splash-in Good Fun Program	0	50,000		
- Dept. Premier & Cabinet - Australia Day Funding	0	1,514		
	<u>3,785,930</u>	<u>664,209</u>	17.5%	

**SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL : OPERATING EXPENDITURE 2022/23  
SUMMARY SHEET**

PROGRAM	YTD ACTUAL (as at 31 Dec 22)	YTD BUDGET (as at 31 Dec 22)	YTD VARIANCE	YTD %	FULL YEAR BUDGET - REVISED INC. GRANTS & OTHER
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>					
Roads	876,133	641,982	-234,151	136.47%	3,317,298
Bridges	15,189	22,032	6,843	68.94%	448,063
Walkways	126,713	132,305	5,592	95.77%	239,610
Lighting	33,570	40,753	7,183	82.37%	81,506
Public Toilets	44,971	41,316	-3,655	108.85%	80,478
Sewer/Water	-	-	-	-	-
Stormwater	3,140	13,974	10,834	22.47%	81,948
Waste	514,477	522,597	8,120	98.45%	1,217,693
Information, Communication	-	-	-	-	-
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,614,192</b>	<b>1,414,959</b>	<b>-199,233</b>	<b>114.08%</b>	<b>5,466,596</b>
<b>GROWTH</b>					
Residential	-	-	-	-	-
Tourism	24,117	30,500	6,383	79.07%	42,200
Business	229,000	136,032	-92,968	168.34%	272,063
Industry	-	-	-	-	-
<b>GROWTH TOTAL:</b>	<b>253,117</b>	<b>166,532</b>	<b>-86,586</b>	<b>151.99%</b>	<b>314,263</b>
<b>LANDSCAPES</b>					
Heritage	165,030	228,646	63,616	72.18%	453,974
Natural	101,590	116,286	14,696	87.36%	201,271
Cultural	-	9,750	9,750	0.00%	19,500
Regulatory - Development	315,283	481,112	165,829	65.53%	962,224
Regulatory - Public Health	7,010	11,250	4,241	62.31%	22,500
Regulatory - Animals	60,642	56,593	-4,050	107.16%	115,386
Environmental Sustainability	-	5,000	5,000	-	10,000
<b>LANDSCAPES TOTAL:</b>	<b>649,554</b>	<b>908,636</b>	<b>259,082</b>	<b>71.49%</b>	<b>1,784,855</b>
<b>COMMUNITY</b>					
Community Health & Wellbeing	131,236	157,589	26,353	83.28%	315,178
Recreation	356,629	462,442	105,813	77.12%	954,884
Access	-	-	-	-	-
Volunteers	26,365	37,500	11,135	70.31%	45,000
Families	6,608	8,250	1,642	80.10%	11,500
Education	-	-	-	-	-
Capacity & Sustainability	28,976	32,603	3,626	88.88%	54,405
Safety	8,065	19,850	11,785	40.63%	39,700
Consultation & Communication	4,452	8,650	4,198	51.46%	17,300
<b>LIFESTYLE TOTAL:</b>	<b>562,330</b>	<b>726,883</b>	<b>164,553</b>	<b>77.36%</b>	<b>1,437,967</b>
<b>ORGANISATION</b>					
Improvement	39,426	54,091	14,665	72.89%	72,642
Sustainability	1,133,805	1,014,138	-119,667	111.80%	2,809,812
Finances	190,220	186,777	-3,442	101.84%	341,888
<b>ORGANISATION TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,363,451</b>	<b>1,255,006</b>	<b>-108,445</b>	<b>108.64%</b>	<b>3,224,342</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$4,442,645</b>	<b>\$4,472,016</b>	<b>\$29,371</b>	<b>99.3%</b>	<b>\$12,228,023</b>

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2022-23**  
**As at 31 December 2022**

		BUDGET \$	EXPENDITURE \$	BALANCE \$	COMMENTS	COMPLETION DEADLINE
<b>INFRASTRUCTURE</b>						
<b>ROAD ASSETS</b>						
Resheeting Program	Roads Resheeting	500,000	146,662	353,339		
	Oatlands - Interlaken Road Resheeting 5km	100,000	0	100,000	RTR	30 June 2023
	Mangalore - Blackbrush Road Resheeting 3km	50,531	0	50,531	RTR	30 June 2023
	Elderslie - Bluff Road Resheeting 2km	30,000	0	30,000	RTR	30 June 2023
	Bagdad - East Bagdad Road 1.5km	20,000	0	20,000	RTR	30 June 2023
Reseal Program	Roads Reseal Program	0	0	0	\$270K moved to Reconstruct & Seal	
	Woodsdale - Woodsdale Road Reseal	50,000	54,909	-4,909		
	Parattah - Inglewood Road Reseal	130,000	0	130,000	(RTR \$75K)	30 June 2023
Reconstruct & Seal	Reconstruct & Seal Program	270,000	0	270,000	\$270K from Roads Reseal Program	
	Campania - Native Corners Road (to complete section)	260,000	135,943	124,057	LRCI P3	30 June 2023
	Elderslie - Pelham Road (Stabilisation and drainage)	200,000	189,645	10,355	LRCI P3	30 June 2023
	Oatlands - South Parade (including Kerb, Channel and Footpath)	170,000	9,371	160,629	RTR 21/22 c/f WIP \$9,264 (RTR \$150K)	30 June 2022
	Stonor - Stonor Road (stabilise - two sections)	245,000	151,264	93,736	LRCI P3	30 June 2023
	Woodsdale Road (Whitefoord - four sections)	255,000	26,123	228,877	RTR	30 June 2023
	York Plains - York Plains Road A (pavement failures) (500 metres)	82,500	2,738	79,763	LRCI P3 c/f	30 June 2023
	York Plains - York Plains Road B (Starting 5km from Midland Hway)	130,000	17,892	112,108	LRCI P3	30 June 2023
Construct & Seal (Unsealed Roads)	Campania - Hall Street (Seal and stormwater upgrade)	70,000	0	70,000	RTR	30 June 2023
	Mangalore - Ballyhooly Road (approx. 500 metres)	90,000	67,932	22,068	LRCI P3 - \$50K	30 June 2023
	Oatlands - Interlaken Road (Year 1/3 - Total contribution \$300K)	1,169,236	0	1,169,236	Remote Roads - \$1,069,236 of \$5,346,180	30 June 2026
Minor Seals (New)	Dust Suppressants	40,000	0	40,000		
	Oatlands - Bentwick Street	37,777	0	37,777	LRCI P3 - \$17,777	30 June 2023

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2022-23**  
**As at 31 December 2022**

		BUDGET	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE	COMMENTS	COMPLETION
		\$	\$	\$		DEADLINE
Other	Campania Structure Plan - Town gateway and Streetscape	40,000	0	40,000		
	Campania - Estate Road (vicinity Mallow property)	49,000	13,544	35,456	Budget c/f WIP \$13,544	
	Campania - Main Intersection/Carpark Design Concept	50,000	0	50,000	Budget c/f	
	Campania - Reeve St / Clime Street (includes Footpath)	70,000	16,209	53,791	Budget c/f WIP 30/6/22 \$16,209	
	Campania - Reeve St Junction/footpath/kerb & channel	200,000	10,094	189,906	WIP \$16,209 Vulnerable Road Users	31 March 2023
	Colebrook - Junction Craigbome Road and Colebrook Road	24,000	0	24,000		
	Elderslie - Bluff Road Intersection Upgrade	150,000	134,189	15,811	WIP \$130,674 Black Spot	31 August 2022
	Elderslie - Elderslie Road Widening Investigation & Trial (Sth Blackbrush Rd)	40,000	6,777	33,223	Budget c/f WIP \$6,777	
	Elderslie - Pelham Rd / Clifton Vale Rd (junction upgrade)	65,000	7,647	57,353	RTR	30 June 2023
	Mt Seymour - Junction Blackgate Road and Tunnack Road	24,000	0	24,000		
	Oatlands - Hasting Street Junction	15,000	959	14,041	Budget c/f WIP \$959	
	Runnymede quarry - Rehabilitation	20,000	17,045	2,955		
	Tea Tree - Grices Road (Tree removal, set-back of embankment, drainage)	15,000	0	15,000	Budget c/f	
	Tunnack - Link Road Landslip	25,000	107	24,893	Budget c/f WIP \$107	
	Woodsdale - Woodsdale Road Landslip	0	11,951	-11,951		
		<b>4,687,044</b>	<b>1,020,999</b>	<b>3,666,045</b>		
<b>BRIDGE ASSETS</b>	Interlaken Road (Dulv Rvlt - Bridge No 3861) - Widening	42,218	67,095	-24,877	Budget c/f WIP \$53525	
	Jones Road Broadmarsh (Jordan River - Bridge 5083) - Flood Damage	80,000	3,302	76,698		
	York Plains Road (Kitty's Rivulet - Bride No 457)	60,000	92,826	-32,826	Budget c/f WIP \$69,342	
		<b>182,218</b>	<b>163,223</b>	<b>18,995</b>		

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2022-23**  
**As at 31 December 2022**

		BUDGET \$	EXPENDITURE \$	BALANCE \$	COMMENTS	COMPLETION DEADLINE
<b>WALKWAYS</b>	Footpaths - General Streetscapes	16,000	0	16,000	Budget \$84K c/f	
	Bagdad - East Bagdad Road	160,000	156,553	3,447	Budget c/f WIP \$151,524	
	Bagdad - Midland Highway Walking Path Upgrade (500 metres)	100,000	4,160	95,840	Budget \$50K c/f	
	Bagdad - Midland Highway Walking Path Footbridge Repairs	130,000	0	130,000	Funded from savings on East Bagdad Rd project and general streetscapes budget	
	Campania - Reeve Street - Footpath through to Hall	30,000	0	30,000	Budget c/f	
	Kempton - Midlands Highway/Mood Food	147,565	0	147,565	\$147,565 Budget c/f	
	Kempton - Grange Road (Retaining Wall)	30,000	0	30,000		
	Kempton - Streetscape Plan - Footpath Renewal (southern end)	60,000	0	60,000	LRCI P3 c/f	30 June 2023
	Kempton - Main St, Sophia to Erskine (145m) - Footpath/kerb & gutter/stormwater	80,032	80,476	-444	Budget c/f WIP \$58,404 /\$28K from General Streetscapes	
	Kempton - Old Huntingground Road (Footpath / School Crossing etc.)	80,000	67,221	12,779	Budget \$27K c/f WIP \$8,391	
	Melton Mowbray - Streetscape Works (Trough / Shelter etc)	30,000	5,318	24,682	Budget c/f WIP \$5318	
	Oatlands - Campbell Street (Footpath)	45,000	0	45,000		
	Oatlands - Stanley Street (Footpath -120 metre link)	25,000	0	25,000		
	Tunnack - Streetscape concept Plan	50,000	46,676	3,324	Budget c/f WIP \$42,970	
		<b>983,597</b>	<b>360,403</b>	<b>623,194</b>		
<b>LIGHTING</b>	Nil					
		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>		
<b>PUBLIC TOILETS</b>	Colebrook - History Room Toilets (Tiling etc.)	10,000	0	10,000		
	Campania - Flour Mill Park - Concrete Pathways/drainage/remove pavers	15,000	0	15,000	Budget c/f	
	General Public Toilets - Upgrade Program	20,000	0	20,000	Budget c/f	
		<b>45,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>45,000</b>		
<b>DRAINAGE</b>	Kempton - Erskine Street - Stormwater Upgrade & Footpath	60,000		60,000		
		<b>60,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>60,000</b>		
<b>WASTE</b>	Wheelie Bins and Crates	5,000	0	5,000		
	Dysart WTS (Gates)	4,150	4,150	0		
	WTS Safety & Operational Improvements	20,850	0	20,850		
		<b>30,000</b>	<b>4,150</b>	<b>25,850</b>		



**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2022-23**  
**As at 31 December 2022**

	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE	COMMENTS	COMPLETION
	\$	\$	\$		DEADLINE
<b>GROWTH</b>					
<b>TOURISM</b>					
Jericho - Memorial Avenue - Plaques (Stage 1 of 2 - \$20K per year)	20,000	0	20,000	Budget c/f	
Kempton - Memorial Avenue Park - Interps (Stage 1 of 2 - \$20K per year)	19,545	155	19,390	Budget c/f WIP \$155	
Oatlands Accommodation Facility	0	42,283	-42,283	WIP \$40,373 (Offset by Barrack Street Property)	
	<b>39,545</b>	<b>42,438</b>	<b>-2,893</b>		
<b>LANDSCAPES</b>					
<b>HERITAGE</b>					
Heritage Collections Store	10,000	3,700	6,300	Budget c/f WIP \$3,700	
Kempton - Watch House (Heat Pump)	0	3,800	-3,800		
Oatlands - Commissariat (Boundary Fence)	6,000	0	6,000	Budget c/f	
Oatlands - Commissariat (Toilet Improvements)	0	5,705	-5,705	Contribution from Mission Australia	
Oatlands Court House (Wall Stabilisation)	15,000	1,187	13,813		
Oatlands - Gaol Aluminium Temporary Steps (Entrance)	3,500	0	3,500	Budget c/f	
Oatlands Gaolers Residence (Ceiling Reinstatement)	5,000	0	5,000		
Oatlands Gaolers Residence (Wingwall)	23,000	0	23,000	Budget \$15K c/f	
Oatlands - Barrack Street Police House (Year 2/2 Budget of \$110K)	55,000	0	55,000	Budget c/f	
Oatlands - Roche Hall Forecourt (Interps - Planning Condition of Approval)	40,000	7,820	32,180	Budget c/f	
Oatlands Swimming Pool (Staged demolition)	200,000	0	200,000		
Parattah - Railway Station - Shed for Gangers Trolley	2,000	0	2,000	Budget c/f	
	<b>359,500</b>	<b>22,213</b>	<b>337,287</b>		
<b>NATURAL</b>					
Chauncy Vale - Wombat Walk	39,250	29,438	9,812	Includes \$29,250 grant WIP 3\$24,547.59	31 Dec 2022
Chauncy Vale - Day Dawn Cottage Improvements	12,000	0	12,000		
Municipal Area - Preventing Roadkill (Signs)	5,000	8,038	-3,038	Budget c/f WIP \$1,980	
	<b>56,250</b>	<b>37,475</b>	<b>18,775</b>		

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2022-23**  
**As at 31 December 2022**

		BUDGET	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE	COMMENTS	COMPLETION
		\$	\$	\$		DEADLINE
CULTURAL	Nil	0	0	0		
		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>		
REGULATORY	Kempton Council Chambers - Clock Restoration Works	10,672	1,384	9,288	Budget c/fwd WIP \$726.5	
- DEVELOPMENT	Kempton Council Chambers - Office Furniture & Equipment	5,000	7,766	-2,766		
		<u>15,672</u>	<u>9,150</u>	<u>6,522</u>		
REGULATORY	Water Bottle Refill Stations	7,980	0	7,980	Budget c/f	
- PUBLIC HEALTH		<u>7,980</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>7,980</u>		
REGULATORY	Nil					
- ANIMAL CONTROL		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>		
ENVIRONMENTAL	Oatlands Aquatic Centre - Electric Vehicle Charge Station	40,500	40,500	0	ChargeSmart Grant	
SUSTAINABILITY		<u>40,500</u>	<u>40,500</u>	<u>0</u>		
COMMUNITY						
FAMILIES	Bagdad - Child Care Centre Building	237,314	10,665	226,649	Council Commitment (\$100K grant funded)	
		<u>237,314</u>	<u>10,665</u>	<u>226,649</u>		

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2022-23**  
**As at 31 December 2022**

	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE	COMMENTS	COMPLETION DEADLINE
	\$	\$	\$		
<b>RECREATION</b>					
Recreation Committee	20,791	0	20,791		
Bagdad - Bagdad Community Club (Precinct Plan)	25,000	17,417	7,583	Budget c/f WIP \$14,160	
Bagdad - Bagdad Community Club (Repair of Oval)	20,000	17,042	2,958		
Bagdad - Iden Road Park Development	75,000	0	75,000		
Broadmarsh - Broadmarsh Hall "The Haven"	61,692	61,692	0	Administration of Progress Assoc. Grant	
Campania - Recreation Ground Drainage	25,000	56,708	-31,708		
Campania - Public Open Space dev (Justitia Park)	6,375	0	6,375	Budget c/f	
Kempton - Off-lead Dog Park	60,331	4,755	55,576	LRCI Phase 3 \$43,125 WIP \$3,915	30 June 2023
Kempton - Recreation Ground (Hot Water System)	4,209	4,209	0	From Committee Budget	
Kempton - Recreation Ground (Lighting)	16,000	0	16,000	Budget c/f	
Kempton - Recreation Ground (Site Dev and Play Equipment)	24,250	0	24,250	Budget c/f	
Kempton - Recreation Ground (Irrigation)	60,000	0	60,000		
Kempton - Skate Park (Council Commitment)	5,000	13,667	-8,667	WIP \$11,364.23	
Mt Pleasant Rec Ground - Building Improvements	259,000	71,148	187,852	Department of Communities Grant	31 December 2023
Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (New Pool) - WIP prior to 2020/21	941,987	941,987	0	WIP \$941,987	
Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (New Pool) - Construction	9,678,126	9,127,259	550,867	WIP \$6,519,656	
Oatlands - Aquatic Centre (Gymnasium Equipment)	15,000	10,778.87	4,221		
Oatlands - Callington Park (Lighting & Surveillance)	14,000	0	14,000		
Oatlands - Callington Park Toilet	140,000	3,220	136,780		
Oatlands - Community Hall (Maintenance Program)	51,300	0	51,300	Budget c/f	
Oatlands - Midlands Community Centre (External Painting - Front of Building)	5,000	0	5,000		
Oatlands - Midlands Community Centre (Roof & Insulation)	39,000	21,810	17,190	Budget c/f WIP \$468	
Tunbridge - Park Gates	3,040	3,058	-18	Budget c/fwd	
	<b>11,550,101</b>	<b>10,354,752</b>	<b>1,195,349</b>		
<b>ACCESS</b>					
All Buildings (Priority Approach)	50,000	0	50,000	Budget c/f	
Tunbridge Community Club (SMC Contribution Accessible Toilets)	20,000	200	19,800	Budget c/f WIP \$200	
	<b>70,000</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>69,800</b>		

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2022-23**  
**As at 31 December 2022**

		BUDGET	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE	COMMENTS	COMPLETION
		\$	\$	\$		DEADLINE
<b>CAPACITY &amp; SUSTAINABILITY</b>	Campania - Bush Reserve / Cemetery	300,000	41,139	258,861	WIP \$14,817	
	Kempton - Carriage Shed - Toilets	15,000	0	15,000		
	Levendale - Community Centre	38,390	0	38,390	Budget c/f	
	Oatlands - Community Shed (Shipping Container)	6,600	6,602	-2	Men's Shed Grant	
	Oatlands - Church Street/South Parade Sub-Division	0	34,924	-34,924	WIP \$32,471- Offset by sale of properties	
	Oatlands - MMPC Church Street Sub-Division	0	4,686	-4,686	WIP \$733.18 Offset by sale of property	
	Oatlands - Stanley Street Master Plan	20,000	172	19,828	Budget c/f	
	Oatlands - Structure Plan	25,000	34,155	-9,155	\$25K Budget c/fwd WIP \$23,203	
		<b>404,990</b>	<b>121,678</b>	<b>283,312</b>		
<b>SAFETY</b>	SMC Flood Mapping Project (subject to external Grant Funding)	40,000	0	40,000		
		<b>40,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40,000</b>		
<b>ORGANISATION</b>						
<b>SUSTAINABILITY</b>	Oatlands - Council Chambers - Internal Toilets & Access Upgrade	100,000	9,357	90,643	Budget c/fwd WIP \$1538	
	Oatlands - Council Chambers - Damp Issues & Stonemasonry	15,000	0	15,000	Budget c/fwd	
	Oatlands - Council Chambers - Works Office (floor coverings)	5,000	0	5,000	Budget c/fwd	
	Oatlands - Town Hall (General - Incl. Office Equip/Furniture)	5,000	5,650	-650		
	Computer System (Hardware / Software) - includes CISCO 3 yrs	62,800	109,795	-46,995	Budget c/fwd \$12,800	
	Ipads (2) (Animal & Building Control)	4,000	0	4,000		
	New Server - New Domain Controller/Main Server	20,000	14,226	5,774		
	Municipal Revaluation	0	40,250	-40,250	\$64,400 paid in 2021-22	
		<b>211,800</b>	<b>179,278</b>	<b>32,522</b>		

**CAPITAL EXPENDITURE PROGRAM 2022-23**  
**As at 31 December 2022**

	BUDGET	EXPENDITURE	BALANCE	COMMENTS	COMPLETION
	\$	\$	\$		DEADLINE
<b>WORKS</b>					
Kempton Depot - Perimeter Fencing	25,000	19,171	5,829		
Kempton Depot - Property Purchase (Year 4/4 Budget of \$180K)	45,000	45,000	0	Total Project Cost - to be funded over 4 yrs (Yr 4 - \$45K)	
Kempton Depot - Storage Lockers	2,000	1,593	407	Budget c/fwd	
Oatlands Depot - General repairs & alterations	28,000	0	28,000	Budget c/fwd	
Minor Plant Purchases	9,500	1,735	7,765		
Minor Plant Purchases - Building Services Unit	0	10,789	-10,789	To be funded from proceeds from HBS	
Second Hand MISU Screening Bucket	0	12,000	-12,000		
Radio System	3,000	0	3,000		
<b>Plant Replacement Program</b>					
Heavy Vehicles	714,199	144,167	570,032		
Light Vehicles	354,086	115,286	238,800		
(Trade Allowance - \$218K & \$229)					
	<b>1,180,785</b>	<b>349,741</b>	<b>831,044</b>		
<b>GRAND TOTALS</b>	<b>20,202,296</b>	<b>12,716,865</b>	<b>7,485,431</b>		

**Southern Midlands Council**  
Minutes – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023

<b>CASH FLOW 2022/2023</b>	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Jul 2022 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Aug 2022 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Sept 2022 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Oct 2022 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Nov 2022 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) Dec 2022 \$	INFLOWS (OUTFLOWS) (Year to Date) \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>							
<b>Payments</b>							
Employee costs	(280,887)	(470,851)	(307,392)	(304,949)	(331,818)	(334,886)	(2,030,783)
Materials and contracts	(372,338)	(282,093)	(259,278)	(153,830)	(414,310)	(295,309)	(1,777,158)
Interest	(3,244)	0	0	0	(1,266)	(27,544)	(32,054)
Other	(48,103)	(68,139)	(128,628)	(71,252)	(64,186)	(124,969)	(505,277)
	<u>(704,572)</u>	<u>(821,083)</u>	<u>(695,298)</u>	<u>(530,030)</u>	<u>(811,580)</u>	<u>(782,708)</u>	<u>(4,345,271)</u>
<b>Receipts</b>							
Rates	90,401	1,757,594	1,473,724	191,542	469,284	376,779	4,359,325
User charges	94,343	417,276	1,595,316	63,774	91,723	65,942	2,328,374
Interest received	2,867	78,065	27,557	22,069	37,842	40,150	208,550
Subsidies	0	0	0	0	0	23,976	23,976
Other revenue grants	0	304,265	52,500	0	305,931	1,514	664,209
GST Refunds from ATO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	(36,958)	(97,132)	80,168	(53,397)	83,756	26,255	2,693
	<u>150,654</u>	<u>2,460,067</u>	<u>3,229,265</u>	<u>223,988</u>	<u>988,537</u>	<u>534,615</u>	<u>7,587,126</u>
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b>(553,918)</b>	<b>1,638,984</b>	<b>2,533,967</b>	<b>(306,042)</b>	<b>176,957</b>	<b>(248,093)</b>	<b>3,241,855</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>							
Payments for property, plant & equipment	(198,831)	(1,065,572)	(1,103,032)	(205,257)	(638,110)	(1,096,103)	(4,306,906)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant & equipment	134	54,250	33	39,339	4,505	0	98,260
Proceeds from Capital grants	208,968	77,600	665,531	0	0	0	952,099
Proceeds from Investments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Repayment of Investments	0	200,000	0	0	0	0	200,000
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<b>10,270</b>	<b>(733,722)</b>	<b>(437,469)</b>	<b>(165,919)</b>	<b>(633,604)</b>	<b>(1,096,103)</b>	<b>(3,056,547)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>							
Repayment of borrowings	(7,965)	0	0	0	(16,278)	(115,845)	(140,088)
Proceeds from borrowings							0
<b>Net cash from (used in) financing activities</b>	<b>(7,965)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(16,278)</b>	<b>(115,845)</b>	<b>(140,088)</b>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	(551,613)	905,262	2,096,498	(471,961)	(472,925)	(1,460,041)	45,221
Cash at beginning of reporting period	14,355,848	13,804,235	14,709,497	16,805,995	16,334,034	15,861,109	14,355,848
<b>Cash at end of reporting period</b>	<b>13,804,235</b>	<b>14,709,497</b>	<b>16,805,995</b>	<b>16,334,034</b>	<b>15,861,109</b>	<b>14,401,069</b>	<b>14,401,069</b>

<b>SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL</b>				
<b>SUMMARY OF RATES AND CHARGES LEVIED, REMITTED AND COLLECTED</b>				
	This Financial Year 4th January 2023		Last Financial Year 10th January 2022	
Arrears brought forward as at July 1		\$ 414,040.53		\$ 434,414.30
ADD current rates and charges levied		\$ 6,314,263.72		\$ 5,943,246.41
ADD current interest and penalty		\$ 44,164.95		\$ 43,525.00
<b>TOTAL rates and charges demanded</b>	100.00%	\$ 6,772,469.20	100.00%	\$ 6,421,185.71
LESS rates and charges collected	60.54%	\$ 4,099,913.98	61.15%	\$ 3,926,594.52
LESS pensioner remissions	4.02%	\$ 272,116.82	3.91%	\$ 251,124.11
LESS other remissions and refunds	-0.05%	-\$ 3,501.91	-0.23%	-\$ 15,064.20
LESS discounts	0.53%	\$ 35,984.17	0.54%	\$ 34,725.14
<b>TOTAL rates and charges collected and remitted</b>	65.04%	\$ 4,404,513.06	65.37%	\$ 4,197,379.57
<b>UNPAID RATES AND CHARGES</b>	34.96%	\$ 2,367,956.14	34.63%	\$ 2,223,806.14

**17.3.2 Monthly Oatlands Aquatic Centre Capital Expenditure Report  
(Period ending 31 December 2022)**

**AUTHOR:** FINANCE OFFICER (MANDY BURBURY)

**DATE:** 20 JANUARY 2023

**ISSUE**

Provide the capital expenditure report for the Oatlands Aquatic Centre to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

**DETAIL**

The enclosed Report includes all capital expenditure relating to the Oatlands Aquatic Centre prior to 2020/2021, and budget and expenditure for 2020/2021; 2021/2022 and 2022/23.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the Financial Report be received and the information noted.**

**DECISION**

*Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Clr A E Bisdee OAM*

**THAT the Financial Report be received and the information noted.**

**CARRIED**

<b>DECISION</b>		
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Vote FOR</b>	<b>Vote AGAINST</b>
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr R McDougall	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	



**OATLANDS AQUATIC CENTRE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE RECONCILIATION  
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022**

	BUDGET \$	EXPENDITURE \$	BALANCE \$	COMMENTS
<b>Total Expenditure to 31 December 2022</b>		<b>10,236,153</b>		
Council Labour & On-costs		5,255		
Materials - Council		195		
External Plant Hire - Council		6,217		
SMC Planing / Building Permits		6,495		
SMC Planing / Building Permits - June 2020		6,868		
SMC - Other Contractor Costs		901		
August 2012 - Purchase of 70 High Street, Oatlands		166,908		Total Cost (includes legals etc.) Gov't Land Value - \$23,000
<b>Bzowy Architecture &amp; Other Consultants</b>				
<b>2016/17</b>		27,056		Best described as Project Revival
Contract No 1 (part of \$107,660)		16,227		
<b>2017/18</b>				
Contract No 1 (part of \$107,660)		92,471		Includes Disbursements of \$1,038
Other Costs - Variations & Redesign		63,579		Additional Floor / Redesign etc.
Bio-Energy (review & assessment)		24,867		
Appeal Costs		140,153		Various
<b>2018/19</b>				
Bzowy - Other Costs - Variations & Redesign		108,611		Includes Survey & Legal
Engagement Agreements		21,470		
Formal Contract - Tenders / Design etc (part of \$379,960)		265,905		

2019/20

Bzowy - Other Costs - Variations & Redesign	96,779	Includes Survey & Legal
Bzowy - Formal Contract - Tenders / Design etc (part of \$379,960)	39,921	
Building Surveying	350	
Communications (Nylander)	180	
Legal (BMB)	18,488	

Construction Phase (to date) - July 2020 - to 31 December 2022			
Legal (BMB)	0	15,996	-15,996
Construction Contract (Vos)	7,783,604	7,606,593	177,011 14 progress claims (work to 19.12.22)
Consultants Fees (SMG)	581,712	591,640	-9,928
Furniture, Fittings and Equipment (SMG)	50,000	38,677	11,324
Principal Supplied Goods (SMG)	62,284	2,284	60,000
Principal Works (SMC)	300,000	443,515	-143,515
Contingency Sum (SMG)	400,000	0	400,000
Demolition of CT Fish Building	10,000	24,673	-14,673
Construction of Waste Water Holding Facility	490,526	403,881	86,645 Budget includes Grant (\$298,526)
<b>Construction Budget and Expenditure</b>	<b>\$ 9,678,126</b>	<b>\$ 9,127,259</b>	<b>\$ 550,867</b>

**Total Expenditure to 31 December 2022** \$ 10,236,153

**Reconciliation to Capital Expenditure Report**

Work in Progress (expenses prior to 2020/21)	941,987
2020/21 expenditure	1,741,641
2021/22 expenditure	4,810,340
2022/23 expenditure	2,575,277
Expenditure as per Capital Expenditure Report	9,127,259
add purchase of 70 High Street	166,908
	<b>\$ 10,236,153</b>

**18. MUNICIPAL SEAL**

Nil.

*Clr R McDougall departed the meeting at 12.32 p.m.*

**Agenda Item 16.7.2 (previously deferred) was considered.**

**16.7.2 Oatlands – State Winner KAB Sustainable Communities Award December 2022**

**AUTHOR:** DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER (ANDREW BENSON)

**DATE:** 17 JANUARY 2023

**Enclosure(s):**

*Submission to KAB for Oatlands*

**ISSUE**

Oatlands was awarded the Annual KAB Sustainable Community Award for Tasmania in December 2022. The Chairman, Chief Executive Office and the State Judge have been invited to the Council meeting to formally present the award to Council. There were a number of individuals and projects that were identified/recognised during the process and those individuals have been invited to the meeting to receive their Certificates of Excellence Awards as well.

**BACKGROUND**

Keep Australia Beautiful (KAB) was founded in 1968, Keep Australia Beautiful was our nation's first anti-litter campaigner and sustainability advocate. Since then, they have been working with their state-based offices and local community groups to raise awareness on how we can all live more sustainably.

In 1991 the Australian Tidy Towns Awards commenced (a concept borrowed from Ireland, commenced in Australia in WA in 1968). In 2009 Judging visits for the Australian Sustainable Communities Awards consisting of Tidy Towns, Sustainable Cities and Clean Beaches.

**DETAIL**

The submissions for the State Awards were called for in July 2022. A copy of the Oatlands submission is attached. Following the submission assessment, a two hour comprehensive interview was undertaken with Deputy General Manager, Andrew Benson, by the State Judge, Lona Turvey and the KABTas CEO, Geoff Marsh (who attended part of the interview and had to depart because of an emergency).

The State Awards were held on King Island, as they were the winners for the previous year (it is the protocol that the previous year's winner host the following year's event). Deputy Mayor Karen Dudgeon and Manager Community & Corporate Development attended the Awards Ceremony. Andrew Benson provided a 'Zoom' presentation on the Heritage & Bullock Festival to the assembled audience. Minister Roger Jaensch also attended and had the pleasure of making the presentations.

The Oatlands Awards was accepted by Deputy Mayor Karen Dudgeon on behalf of Southern Midlands Council. This puts Oatlands in the running for the National Award to be judged in May 2023.

The following Awards will be presented at the Council meeting by the Chairman of KABTas and the recipients will be invited to join Councillors for a lunch following the presentations.

<b>KAB Certificates December 2022</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>CITATION</b>
<b>Projects</b>	
SMC Project	Cows in the Lake
SMC Project	Underground Power Oatlands
SMC Project	Dulverton Walkway
SMC Project	Callington Park Destination Play Ground
SMC Project	Oatlands Aquatic Centre
SMC Project	Artist in Residence
SMC Project	Heritage & Bullock Festival - Oatlands
<b>Other Projects Recognised</b>	
Broadmarsh & Elderslie Prog Assn.	Certificate of Excellence
John Ibrahim	Callington Mill Distillery
<b>Individual Contributions Recognised</b>	
Brian & Lyn Fish	Bullocks & Displays - Heritage & Bullock Festival (HBF)
Dr Simpson AM, Col(Retd)	Fishing, Casting & Fly Tying Interactive Exhibition - HBF
Edwin Batt & His Theatre Group	Theatre Performances - HBF
Michael Isles	Fishing, Casting & Fly Tying Interactive Exhibition - HBF
Tasmanian Fly Tiers Club	Fly Tying Interactive Display - HBF
John Diggle Director IFS	Historic Salmon & Trout Display - HBF
David Wells & Family	Commissariat Heritage Bakery - HBF
Athols & Jill Bennett	Commissariat Heritage Bakery - HBF
Jennifer French	Quilting Display - HBF
<b>State Awards</b>	
Oatlands State Winner	Culture & Heritage
Oatlands State Winner	Appearance & Amenities
Oatlands State Winner	Population Category - Under 1,000 people
Oatlands State Winner	Overall State Winner - Sustainable Community

These are significant Awards that hold considerable merit and the recipients should be justifiably proud of their contribution to their Community.

## RECOMMENDATION

THAT the

1. Report be received and noted; and
2. Recipients be congratulated on their individual and collective recognition.

## DECISION

*Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Cllr D Blackwell*

THAT the

1. Report be received and noted; and
2. Recipients be congratulated on their individual and collective recognition.

## CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Cllr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Cllr D Blackwell	✓	
Cllr D F Fish	✓	
Cllr F Miller	✓	

**ENCLOSURE**

*Agenda Item 16.7.2*



2022 KABTAs  
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES TIDY TOWNS AWARDS  
- OATLANDS -



Submission compiled  
by  
*Andrew Benson*  
Acting General Manager Southern Midlands Council  
2022



## CATEGORY REQUIREMENTS

### 1. 2022 KABTas Sustainable Communities Tidy Towns Awards

#### 2. Population Categories

Best Sustainable Community - Tidy Town in Tasmania with a Population Under 5,000

#### 3. Appearance, Amenities & Facilities

Is your town or your community facility/venue looking good and/or providing something great or interesting to your local community?

#### 4. Litter, Waste & Resource Recovery

Projects that reduce waste or litter, recycling and resource recovery.

#### 5. Habitat & Wildlife Conservation

Any projects or events caring for the natural environment can be entered here.

#### 6. Community Spirit & Inclusion

Tasmanians are renowned for their community spirit. There are many unsung heroes and wonderful examples of communities looking out for each other and caring for vulnerable community members. We want to hear about projects, big or small, one offs or on-going. Enter this category to acknowledge and reward the community spirit in your town or community group.





## **CATEGORY 2.**     *Population Under 5,000*

### **2.1 Oatlands in the Southern Midlands LGA**

Population 728 in the 2021 Census

*It is the largest intact Georgian Village in Australia and the whole Village was an entry in the Register of the National Estate as a Georgian Village with 83 heritage listed buildings in the High Street. The High Street in Oatlands is wide enough to turn a laden Bullock team around in its width. Oatlands is a living, working heritage village.*



## **CATEGORY 3.**    *Appearance, Amenities & Facilities*



### **3.1 Callington Mill historic Site**

This historic site is owned by the State Government with Council leasing it. It is a unique precinct that was established in 1837 comprising a cluster of buildings built of local Oatlands Sandstone, which consists of a fully operational Windmill, Granary, Miller's Cottage, Mill Owners Cottage, Stables and Piggery. Council accessed funding from the Australia Government and the Tasmania Government of \$M1.25 each to bring it back to life in 2009. Council flew a Millwright out from England to measure up for the sails and the workings. He went back to England fabricated all of the components in traditional ways, brought them all out to Oatlands and the Council Team did all of the work in supporting the Millwright to recreate this wonderful Mill. Council operated the re-energised Callington Mill site with a Visitor Information Centre, Café' retail sales, Mill Tours plus the Mill producing flour for sale to many bakeries around Tasmania. It was accredited as a food production facility. Council operated is for seven years at a considerable loss and eventually entered into a sub lease for 40 years with Callington Mill Distillery, which has been built on the adjoining land. It is interesting to note that Callington Mil was operated as an illegal grog production facility in its early days, isn't it funny how the pendulum turns back to the original roots of the use of the site. Callington Mill Distillery was officially opened on the 6<sup>th</sup> October 2022 and was built at a cost of nearing twenty million dollars. There are eighteen Bond Stores built in Oatlands and also a Bottling Plant planned as well as another 30 Bond Stores.

### **3.2 Callington Park Destination Playground**

This playground was established by Council at a cost of approximately \$M.5, Council Officers ran a number of workshops with the pupils of Oatlands District High School to arrive at the final design. It is a roaring success.

### **3.3 Oatlands Aquatic Centre**

About to be opened is the new constructed OAC a \$M10 project with grant funding of \$M2 from both State and the Australian Government, \$80,000 from the local child care centre and the rest being funded by Council. It will be a far cry from the old pool that was built in 1954. It is a full enclosed 25m, 6 lanes, with a toddlers pool and a gym.

### **3.4 Underground Power in the Streetscape**

The High Street in Oatlands has approximately 85% of its length as underground power and recently the Heritage precinct in Oatlands has had its power undergrounded which was possible through an Australia Government grant program.

### **3.5 Oatlands Boutique Accommodation Project**

Council have facilitated a tremendous development opportunity and entered into a Development Agreement following an EoI with the owners of Hadleys Hotel and the Old Woolstore Hotel to build a 43 bed hotel in the heritage precinct at Oatlands it is estimated to cost \$M18 and will be opened in October 2024. The Architects are Fender Katsalidis who are the Architects for MONA

## CATEGORY 4. *Litter, Waste & Resource Recovery*



### 4.1 Oatlands Aquatic Centre Solar Panels

Council has installed 160 x 500W Photo Voltaic panels on the roof of the new Oatlands Aquatic Centre to supplement the energy supply to the OAC.

### 4.2 Oatlands Aquatic Centre Waste Water Management System

The waste water from the pool is being diverted to a tank farm in Oatlands, that will treat the waste water from the OAC and store it for fire fighting purposes. This will mean that instead of the OAC waste water, ie 10,000 to 13,000 litres of backwash water every seven to ten days going down to the TasWater treatment plant, Council will manage its own waste water in providing a supporting method to develop a resilience for the fire protection of the Village and its surrounds. There will be over 500,000 litres stored for use, rather than drawing any fire fighting water from the town supply of potable water or from farmers dams (which are probably dry during the summer months when the fire fighting water would be needed. Council has four 12,000 litre tanks that can be secured on the Council's ten yard trucks to provide backup water into the fire ground to save the fire fighting pumpers leaving the fire ground.

### 4.3 Oatlands Aquatic Centre Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

The proposed charging station will be capable of charging two cars simultaneously with up to 100 kW total capacity shared between the two vehicles. This offers a faster charging rate than typical 50kW sites for those cars that can use this level of power, and provides assurance for those coming off the Midland Highway to charge.

The charging bays are in the car park of the new Oatlands Aquatic Centre, a feature site in the centre of Oatlands. The bays will be visible from High Street and will be easily seen by any users of the Aquatic Centre. There is the opportunity for further bays as needs require. The project will be finished in December 2022 and is a partnership between Southern Midlands Council & Electric Highway Tasmania Pty Ltd and has been made possible through a grant from the State government.

### 4.4 Climate Change Adaption

The original SMC Climate Change Action Plan was endorsed by Council over 10 years ago and since then many actions have been achieved: Council's commitment to contributing action on climate change is part of the Strategic Plan 2022-2032 : '3.5.1 Implement strategies to address the issue of climate change in relation to its impact on Council's corporate functions and on the Community.'

The updated Southern Midlands Council Climate Change Action Plan has three areas of focus:

- energy efficiency projects inclusive of solar and electric/hybrid vehicle upgrades;
- land care projects inclusive of tree planting and landscape protection options; and
- waste management projects that are related to emission reduction.

For all actions in the Action Plan there has been an attempt to identify: resourcing; emission reduction benefit; cost benefit; community leadership benefit; and timeframe for implementation.

## CATEGORY 5. *Habitat & Wildlife Conservation*



### 5.1 Lake Dulverton Wife Life Sanctuary - Oatlands

In 2002 a Lake Dulverton Management Strategy was developed by Council to assist with maintaining the long term sustainability of the lake and the recreational opportunities it presents on the edge of the Village. The Strategy outlines the overall management of four zones identified within the lake area to the high water mark, plus the surrounding foreshore. The Lake Dulverton and Callington Park Management Committee is a Special Committee of the Southern Midlands Council. The Committee is predominantly made up of volunteer community members, who oversee the implementation of the Action Plan, - guided by the higher level Management Strategy.

Lake Dulverton Conservation Area and Foreshore covers an area of 231.54 hectares which comprises the lake and sections of foreshore, with the foreshore sections having been added into the Conservation Area in 2007.

The desire to retain water in the lake has been a high priority for environmental, social and economic reasons. With the announcement of the Midlands Water Scheme (MWS), an ongoing winter season allocation was secured for Lake Dulverton in 2011. This 2011 allocation is used to assist in maintaining water in the lake and Council purchases this water at a cost of nearly \$30,000 pa.

The foreshore is one of the most important areas of the lake in terms of intensity of use by visitors and local residents. The area continues to be enhanced in terms of facilities such as the walking track, seating and picnic tables. Establishment of sections of native vegetation has also been ongoing since 1984. Native vegetation has been favoured in place of the older conifer trees that are now in their final mature years, particularly on the town side of the foreshore. Establishment of mainly native vegetation on the steep slopes has also served to make use of ground areas that are difficult to maintain in a tidy state. These areas are also a relatively safe environment for wildlife to use, as they are not easily accessed by humans. The tree and shrub planted areas have not only improved the amenity of the area, but are now providing important habitat for wildlife.

The specific objectives of the Lake Dulverton Management Strategy are to maintain the long term sustainability of the fauna and flora habitat of the lake with the recreational opportunities it presents. Recreational fishing has been a feature of Lake Dulverton for many decades when there are sufficient water levels in the lake. The Inland Fisheries Service (IFS) stock the lake with trout and eel when appropriate. Eels are harvested under a commercial arrangement with Inland Fisheries Service (IFS). Environmental conditions such as aquatic plant growth and changes to water level determine fishing activity that varies from nil to being a popular pursuit at times of the year. Council's Natural Responses Management Team do a wonderful job in managing this delightful Sanctuary.

### 5.2 Southern Midlands Weed Management Strategy

The increase in the spread of invasive weeds has been an issue of concern for the Southern Midlands Council (SMC) since Council's inception in 1993. Council's NRM team and their Weeds Management have an ongoing role in providing advice to farmers and also managing Council properties.

## CATEGORY 6. *Community Spirit & Inclusion*



### 6.1 Heritage & Bullock Festival

The Heritage & Bullock Festival held in Oatlands on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of August 2022 was a great success, albeit with some challenging weather conditions on the Saturday night and early Sunday morning. Approximately 5,100 people came along and enjoyed the Festival with all it had to offer. The street parade, Brian and Lyn Fish with their Bullocks being the star attractions, along with, steam engines; Edwin Batt with his theatre company performances in the Supreme Court building; the Antiques Road Show, by Council's Heritage Team, the Lion Dancers from the Buddhist Academy; Artisans everywhere in both private spaces and public spaces; Athol plus David from the RT Fish Bakery making wonderful bread at the Commissariat; Michael Isles and Dr Simpson AM (Col. Retd.) with their casting/fly tying colleagues, along with historic memorabilia from the Inland Fisheries - Salmon Ponds Museum, thanks to the Director of ILF, John Diggle; volunteers and exhibits from the Wooden Boat Centre at Franklin; Brian Fish and his Bullock Committee team heating up a steel tyre to put onto a wooden cart wheel; wood splitting, sandstone cutting, shearing, timber lathe work and also John Mathews with a display of his amazing craftsmanship in creating highly detailed scale models of carts and carriages from a bygone era. We estimate that there were over 750 hours contributed to the led up and over that weekend by volunteers that donated their time & effort to making this Festival the success that it is. The Council team had the Oatlands Village looking wonderful. The businesses in Oatlands again got right behind the event. Brian Fish along with his Heritage & Bullock Festival Committee have made this event a must see experience. Everyone involved should feel rightfully proud of what we have achieved and indeed continue to achieve. We estimate that it returns over \$288,000 back into the region. What a great Community effort!!

### 6.2 Rural Alive & Well

(suicide prevention project) commenced as a SMC project in Oatlands from a grant applied for to the Australian Government's Department of Health & Ageing in 2009. It initially operated in Southern Midlands and Central Highlands LGAs, then grew to Glamorgan-Spring Bay during the first twelve months of the project, and then it became incorporated and grew to cover all of Tasmania with its headquarters still in Oatlands.

#### **Aim of the Rural Alive & Well Project**

To build the resilience and capacity of men, their families and the Community to react to challenging life experiences including mental health issues with a specific focus on suicide through:

- recognising the issues along with the context in which they have occurred, such as social / geographical isolation and exceptional circumstance brought about by drought
- facilitating pathways which could address the issues
- establishing individual and group interventions
- provision of tangible support for individuals, families and the Community
- establishment of training and education for the Community as well as health professionals

## Category 6. *Community Spirit & Inclusion - continued*



### 6.3 'The Missing' (Aboriginal History Silhouettes)

The *Shadows of the Past* Silhouettes are an institution along the Midland Highway (Heritage Highway) through the Southern Midlands LGA. '*The Missing*', is a supplement to the colonial heritage silhouettes along the Midland Highway just North and South of Oatlands. This was a collaboration between MONA FOMA and Southern Midlands Council with acclaimed Aboriginal artist Julie Gough. There are three locations along the highway through Southern Midlands, just north and south of Oatlands. They are confronting & powerful images that portray our first nations people and white settlers in the early years of the colony.

### 6.4 There are a range of **Council funded initiatives that add value to the Oatlands Community**, these include

- Community Shed Oatlands – both male as well as female,
- Community Garden at Callington Mill
- Community Blacksmith at Callington Mill up until recently
- Sports ground lighting of the Oatlands Football Ground for night football
- A number of Council building – at a peppercorn rental to many Community groups
- Council has a Community Charter with the Oatlands District High School
- Cows in the Lake sculptures
- Heritage & Bullock Festival which is a whole of Village Community Development activity
- Oatlands Key – self paced access to Council's heritage buildings
- Artist in Residence Program

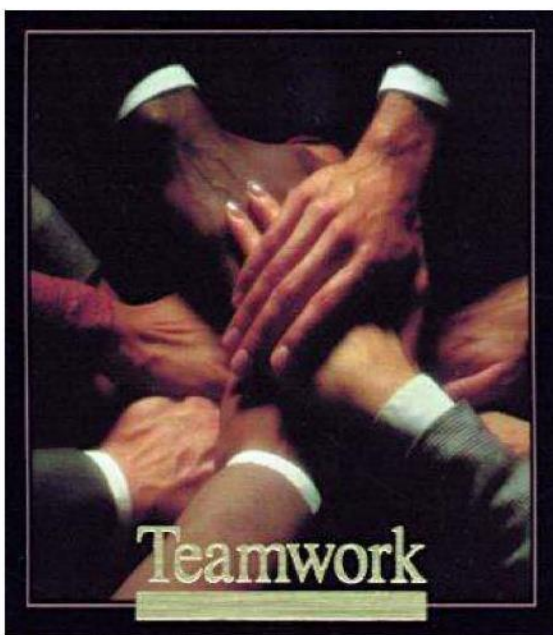
### 6.5 Community Groups and Activities in Oatlands

- Community Radio 7 Mid fm 91.7
- Football Club
- Golf Club
- Swim Club
- Community Advisory Committee to the Midlands Multi-Purpose Health Centre
- Oatlands Historic Society
- Oatlands Arts Group
- Hospital Auxiliary
- Hobart City Mission Outreach
- Oatlands Bargain Centre (distributes revenue of many thousands of dollars to local groups)
- Oatlands Community Association (distributes Waterbridge pre-prepared meals for disadvantaged folk)
- Southern Midlands Regional News
- Scottish Dancing group
- Parterre Gardens



*SOUTHERN MIDLANDS COUNCIL AND THE COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER*

*Carpe Diem – Seize the Day*



*Community Event - Southern Midlands*

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has."

*Margaret Mead*

**DECISION**

*Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Clr D Blackwell*

**THAT the meeting be adjourned for lunch at 1.09 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

<b>DECISION</b>		
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Vote FOR</b>	<b>Vote AGAINST</b>
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

**DECISION**

*Moved by Clr A E Bisdee OAM, seconded by Clr D Blackwell*

**THAT the meeting reconvene at 1.48 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

<b>DECISION</b>		
<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Vote FOR</b>	<b>Vote AGAINST</b>
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	



**19. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS TO THE AGENDA**

Nil.

## RECOMMENDATION

**THAT in accordance with Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the following items are to be dealt with in Closed Session.**

### DECISION

*Moved by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon, seconded by Clr A E Bisdee OAM*

**THAT in accordance with Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the following items are to be dealt with in Closed Session.**

### CARRIED

Matter	<i>Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 Reference</i>
<i>Closed Council Minutes - Confirmation</i>	15(2)
<i>Applications for Leave of Absence</i>	15(2)(h)
<i>Oatlands Property Matter</i>	15(2)(e)(ii)
<i>Blackman Water Pty Ltd – Sale of Shares</i>	15(2)(e)(ii)

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

## RECOMMENDATION

**THAT in accordance with Regulation 15(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, Council move into Closed Session and the meeting be closed to members of the public.**

### DECISION

*Moved by Clr D Fish, seconded by Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon*

**THAT in accordance with Regulation 15(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, Council move into Closed Session and the meeting be closed to members of the public.**

### CARRIED

DECISION (MUST BE BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY)		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Clr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Clr D Blackwell	✓	
Clr D F Fish	✓	
Clr F Miller	✓	

## **CLOSED COUNCIL MINUTES**

### **20. BUSINESS IN “CLOSED SESSION”**

#### **20.1 Closed Council Minutes - Confirmation**

*In accordance with the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the details of the decision in respect to this item are to be kept confidential and are not to be communicated, reproduced or published unless authorised by Council.*

*Item considered in Closed Session in accordance with Regulation 15 (2) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.*

#### **20.2 Applications for Leave of Absence**

*In accordance with the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the details of the decision in respect to this item are to be kept confidential and are not to be communicated, reproduced or published unless authorised by Council.*

*Item considered in Closed Session in accordance with Regulation 15 (2)(h) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.*

#### **20.3 Property Matter – Oatlands**

*In accordance with the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the details of the decision in respect to this item are to be kept confidential and are not to be communicated, reproduced or published unless authorised by Council.*

*Item considered in Closed Session in accordance with Regulation 15 (2)(e)(ii) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.*

#### **20.4 Blackman Water Pty Ltd – Sale of Shares**

*In accordance with the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the details of the decision in respect to this item are to be kept confidential and are not to be communicated, reproduced or published unless authorised by Council.*

*Item considered in Closed Session in accordance with Regulation 15 (2)(e)(ii) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.*

## RECOMMENDATION

**THAT Council move out of “Closed Session”.**

## DECISION

*Moved by Deputy Mayor E Batt, seconded by Cllr D Fish*

**THAT Council move out of “Closed Session”.**

## CARRIED

DECISION		
Councillor	Vote FOR	Vote AGAINST
Mayor E Batt	✓	
Deputy Mayor K Dudgeon	✓	
Cllr A E Bisdee OAM	✓	
Cllr D Blackwell	✓	
Cllr D F Fish	✓	
Cllr F Miller	✓	

## OPEN COUNCIL MINUTES

### 21. CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 2.23 p.m.