



CITY OF HOBART

AGENDA

Economic Development & Communications Committee Meeting

Open Portion

Thursday, 26 November 2020

at 4:30 pm

THE MISSION

Working together to make Hobart a better place for the community.

THE VALUES

The Council is:

People	We care about people – our community, our customers and colleagues.
Teamwork	We collaborate both within the organisation and with external stakeholders drawing on skills and expertise for the benefit of our community.
Focus and Direction	We have clear goals and plans to achieve sustainable social, environmental and economic outcomes for the Hobart community.
Creativity and Innovation	We embrace new approaches and continuously improve to achieve better outcomes for our community.
Accountability	We are transparent, work to high ethical and professional standards and are accountable for delivering outcomes for our community.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Business listed on the agenda is to be conducted in the order in which it is set out, unless the committee by simple majority determines otherwise.

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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**Economic Development & Communications Committee Meeting (Open Portion)
held Thursday, 26 November 2020 at 4:30 pm.**

This meeting of the Economic Development and Communications Committee is held in accordance with a Notice issued by the Premier on 3 April 2020 under section 18 of the *COVID-19 Disease Emergency (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020*.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Thomas (Chairman)
Zucco
Sexton
Dutta
Ewin

Apologies:

Leave of Absence:

Alderman Dr P T Sexton

NON-MEMBERS

Lord Mayor Reynolds
Deputy Lord Mayor Burnet
Briscoe
Harvey
Behrakis
Sherlock
Coats

**1. CO-OPTION OF A COMMITTEE MEMBER IN THE EVENT OF A
VACANCY**

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Open Portion of the Economic Development & Communications Committee meeting held on [Thursday, 29 October 2020](#) and the Special Economic Development & Communications Committee meeting held on [Monday, 9 November 2020](#), are submitted for confirming as an accurate record.

3. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

Ref: Part 2, Regulation 8(6) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

Recommendation

That the Committee resolve to deal with any supplementary items not appearing on the agenda, as reported by the General Manager.

4. INDICATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Ref: Part 2, Regulation 8(7) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

Members of the committee are requested to indicate where they may have any pecuniary or conflict of interest in respect to any matter appearing on the agenda, or any supplementary item to the agenda, which the committee has resolved to deal with.

5. TRANSFER OF AGENDA ITEMS

Regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

A committee may close a part of a meeting to the public where a matter to be discussed falls within 15(2) of the above regulations.

In the event that the committee transfer an item to the closed portion, the reasons for doing so should be stated.

Are there any items which should be transferred from this agenda to the closed portion of the agenda, or from the closed to the open portion of the agenda?

6. REPORTS

6.1 Presentation - Australia's New Ice Breaker RSV Nuyina File Ref: F20/122846; 17/298

Memorandum of the Deputy General Manager of 18 November 2020.

Delegation: Committee



City of **HOBART**

**MEMORANDUM: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNICATIONS
COMMITTEE**

Presentation - Australia's New Ice Breaker RSV Nuyina

Mr Rob Bryson, Manager of Assets and Infrastructure, Australian Antarctic Division will provide the Committee with an update on Australia's new ice breaker the *RSV Nuyina* along with arrangements with Macquarie Point and the Australian Antarctic Division.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received and noted.

As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.

Tim Short
DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER

Date: 18 November 2020
File Reference: F20/122846; 17/298

**6.2 COVID-19 Economic Response and Recovery Framework and
Action Plan 2020-22
File Ref: F20/119793; F20/119793**

Report of the Senior Advisor Research and Policy, Manager Economic Development Engagement and Strategy and the Deputy General Manager of 19 November 2020 and attachments.

Delegation: Council

**REPORT TITLE: COVID-19 ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY
FRAMEWORK AND ACTION PLAN 2020-22**

REPORT PROVIDED BY: Senior Advisor Research and Policy
Manager Economic Development Engagement and
Strategy
Deputy General Manager

1. Report Purpose and Community Benefit

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to provide elected members with the first version of the City's Covid-19 economic response and recovery framework and action plan (**Attachment A**).
 - 1.1.1. This version captures the City's work that is currently underway, as well as those initiatives that will commence shortly (within the next few months).
 - 1.1.2. It focuses on Covid-19-specific economic initiatives, as opposed to any project with an economic impact.
 - 1.1.3. A one-page summary is available at **Attachment B**.
- 1.2. The report also provides an update on economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic on Hobart.
- 1.3. The community benefit of this report is that it presents a document that provides a single source of information on the current and near-future direction of the City's economic recovery work.

2. Report Summary

- 2.1. Although in many ways the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic have eased in Hobart, longer-term economic impacts persist and there is a prevailing climate of uncertainty.
- 2.2. According to profile.id, accommodation and food services, arts and recreation services and retail trade are currently Hobart's most affected industries, expected to lose the most jobs in September Quarter 2020, as compared with the same period in 2019. (-1,810 jobs, with 110 jobs supported by JobKeeper)
- 2.3. According to ABS payroll jobs data, between 14 March and 31 October 2020, Tasmania has seen a decrease in payroll jobs of 4.6 per cent, second only to Victoria (6.0 per cent).
 - 2.3.1. Hobart's estimated job losses are consistent with Tasmania's overall as at the week ending 3 October 2020.

- 2.4. In response to the impacts and the economic uncertainty facing Hobart, this report introduces the first version of the Covid-19 Economic Response and Recovery Framework and Action Plan (Attachment A).
 - 2.4.1. The framework is more static and sets the guiding ideas behind the City's approach to economic response and recovery work.
 - 2.4.2. The action plan is designed to be more flexible and adapt to the changing economic situation in the city.
 - 2.4.3. The action plan contains 29 actions under four initiatives, covering work across the City of Hobart organisation.
- 2.5. This first version mainly serves to aggregate projects underway or set to commence in the short-term.
 - 2.5.1. Further internal and external engagement is planned to generate new ideas to inform the second version, planned for mid-2021.
 - 2.5.2. Data sources to inform the update will also be identified and drawn upon.
 - 2.5.3. The process will include identifying recovery initiatives undertaken by other stakeholders, so that the City can identify and address gaps, advocate for Hobart's particular needs as well as fulfilling its role as Tasmania's capital city.

3. Recommendation

That:

- 1. The Council endorse the City of Hobart Covid-19 Economic Response and Recovery Framework and Action Plan 2020-22, provided at Attachment A.***
- 2. The action plan be updated in mid-2021.***

4. Background

4.1. On 10 August 2020, the Council decided *inter alia* that:

1. *The Council endorse the following guiding principles for economic recovery which will inform future Council activities in this area:*
 - i) *Economic recovery is focused on need and adding value.*
 - ii) *Economic recovery supports resilience.*
 - iii) *Economic recovery builds economic confidence and participation.*
 - iv) *Economic recovery is evidence-based.*
 - v) *Economic recovery is flexible and adaptable.*
2. *The Council endorse the creation of a flexible Covid-19 economic recovery framework and action plan, including associated community engagement.*
3. *The Council endorse the creation of a Covid-19 economic recovery business consultative group, as a temporary means of seeking feedback on recovery efforts.*
 - i) *The General Manager is delegated responsibility for finalising the group's membership and terms of reference.*

4.2. The report to the Economic Development and Communications Committee of 30 July 2020 outlined key aspects of economic conditions in Hobart and the City's work to date. Topics included:

- The Hobart economy pre- Covid-19
- The economic impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and suppression measures
- Social impacts related to economic activity
- The City of Hobart's economic response to the impacts of Covid-19
- Examples of other local government responses, including reference to the 20 July 2020 report of the Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Council.

4.3. In the nearly four months since that report, borders have somewhat re-opened and many aspects of life in Hobart have started to return to 'normal', although with ongoing Covid-safe restrictions and requirements, as well as ongoing social and economic impacts.

4.4. profile.id has released updated economic estimates for September Quarter 2020 (see <https://economy.id.com.au/tasmania/covid19-quarter-impacts?WebID=240>).

4.4.1. It is important to note that June estimates were compared to the four-quarter average for 2019, whereas September estimates are compared to September Quarter 2019.

4.4.2. According to profile.id:

- GRP is forecast to be 0.8 per cent lower in the September quarter 2020 than the same quarter in 2019. This fall is less than that experienced by the state as a whole.
- Local Jobs are forecast to fall only slightly in the September Quarter 2020, with a project loss of 15 local jobs.
- In the absence of JobKeeper payments, the employment fall is estimated at -0.9 per cent (575 jobs)
- The impact on employed residents (-1.2 per cent) was higher than the local job impact.

4.4.3. The estimated top three impacted sectors for Hobart City for September Quarter 2020 in terms of local jobs lost are:

- Accommodation and food services (-1,810 jobs, with 110 jobs supported by JobKeeper)
- Arts and recreation services (-588 jobs, with 30 jobs supported by JobKeeper)
- Retail trade (-181 jobs, with 45 jobs supported by JobKeeper)

4.4.4. Estimates for local job losses are important for Hobart as a capital city, as many people travel to Hobart from elsewhere to work.

4.4.5. profile.id also publishes estimates for employed residents, i.e. people who live in Hobart but may work elsewhere. The top three most-affected sectors are the same:

- Accommodation and food services (-956 jobs, with 58 jobs supported by JobKeeper)
- Arts and recreation services (-356 jobs, with 21 jobs supported by JobKeeper)
- Retail trade (-128 jobs, with 20 jobs supported by JobKeeper)

4.4.6. As a general basis for comparison, Hobart LGA was home to 61,907 employed people (regardless of where they worked) in 2018-19.

4.4.7. In terms of output (i.e. total sales), the top three sectors negatively affected sectors are:

Sector	Sept 2020 estimated impact (compared to Sept 2019)	2018-19 total output
Accommodation and food services	-\$63 million	\$531.8 million
Arts and recreation services	-\$35 million	\$308.5 million
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	-\$17 million	\$1.05 billion

4.4.8. In terms of value added (i.e. wages and salaries paid to local workers, gross operating surplus and taxes), the top three sectors negatively-affected sectors are:

Sector	Sept 2020 estimated impact (compared to Sept 2019)	2018-19 total output
Accommodation and food services	-\$31 million	\$255.5 million
Arts and recreation services	-\$13 million	\$118.7 million
Information media and telecommunications	-\$8 million	\$601.5 billion

4.4.9. The top three positively-affected sectors for both output and value added are:

Sector	Sept 2020 estimated impact to output (compared to Sept 2019)	2018-19 total output	Sept 2020 estimated impact to value added (compared to Sept 2019)	2018-19 total value added
Health care and social assistance	+\$65 million	\$2.03 billion	+\$36 million	\$1.31 billion
Public administration and safety	+\$37 million	\$1.44 billion	+\$19 million	\$902.8 million
Education and training	+\$23 million	\$903.7 million	+\$13 million	\$598.7 million

- 4.5. Updates to ABS Weekly Payroll and Jobs data show negative impacts for Tasmania overall (see <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/latest-release#state-and-territory>).
- 4.5.1. At the time of the report to EDCC on 30 July 2020, ABS data showed an increase of 0.6 per cent in payroll jobs between 20 and 27 June 2020.
- 4.5.2. ABS data showed a decrease of 0.1 per cent in payroll jobs between 17 and 31 October 2020.
- 4.5.3. Between 14 March and 31 October 2020, Tasmania has seen a decrease in payroll jobs of 4.6 per cent, second only to Victoria (6.0 per cent).
- 4.5.4. As at the week ending 3 October 2020, Hobart Inner Statistical Area Level 3 (as a location of job holder's residence) had recorded a decrease of 4.5 per cent in payroll jobs, the same as Tasmania overall and slightly higher than Australia overall (4.1 per cent).
- 4.5.5. Losses peaked the week ending 18 April 2020, at 9.8 per cent.
- 4.5.6. At time of writing, recovery in payroll jobs peaked the week ending 19 September 2020, at 3.3 per cent.
- 4.6. These data demonstrate the fluctuating nature of economic recovery and the continuing climate of uncertainty.
- 4.6.1. In their August 2020 economic and fiscal update report, the Tasmanian Government Department of Treasury explains (see <https://www.treasury.tas.gov.au/Documents/Economic-and-Fiscal-Update-Report-August-2020.pdf>):
- ‘The path to recovery remains highly uncertain and is conditional on a range of interdependent health and economic factors. The short-term outlook for Tasmania’s economy is dependent on Tasmania’s continued successful containment of the virus. In the medium to long-term, the nature and speed of the economic recovery will be dependent on how businesses and consumers respond to, and are affected by, protracted high-levels of uncertainty’.
- 4.7. To date, UTAS’s Tasmania Project has released 40 reports on various aspects of Tasmanians’ experience of the pandemic.
- 4.7.1. A single document containing 39 of the reports can be found on the project website:
https://www.utas.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/1394204/The-Tasmania-Project-Reports-1-39.pdf

- 4.7.2. A wide range of findings are relevant to City of Hobart recovery efforts, including about financial wellbeing and perceptions of tourism.
- 4.8. These data continue to reinforce the approach to recovery planning that the City has taken so far. The principles endorsed by Council on 10 August 2020, as well as the flexible and adaptable action planning, remain relevant.
- 4.9. The framework and action plan provided at Attachment A demonstrate the City's response to these issues to date, as well as upcoming projects in the short-term.
- 4.10. They work toward the following six goals:
1. Confident households, businesses and investors
 2. Thriving city centre and retail precincts
 3. Local economy transitioned to the 'new normal'
 4. Opportunities of the crisis embraced
 5. Coordinated recovery efforts
 6. Financially sustainable local government
- 4.10.1. The action plan includes 29 actions as part of four broader initiatives:

<p>Initiative 1: Learning what people need</p> <p>1.1 Social inclusion dashboards 1.2 Business consultative group 1.3 Safe public spaces 1.4 Creative sector engagement 1.5 Business and community research and engagement</p>	<p>Initiative 2: Building business resilience</p> <p>2.1 Business concierge 2.2 Business grants 2.3 Hello Hobart 2.4 Block parties 2.5 Salamanca Market online and Tasmania's Own Market 2.6 TTIC and Elizabeth Mall Info Hub 2.7 Outdoor dining regulations 2.8 Outdoor dining platforms 2.9 Local preference procurement policy</p>
<p>Initiative 3: Building community economic resilience</p> <p>3.1 Rates relief package 3.2 Rental, fees and charges relief package 3.3 Resilient Hobart grants 3.4 International student support partnerships 3.5 Festive season charitable quick response grants 3.6 Central Hobart precinct planning economic analysis 3.7 Mobility for city vibrancy</p>	<p>Initiative 4: Responsive local government</p> <p>4.1 24/7 Council 4.2 Responsive planning and mobility services 4.3 Capital works program 4.4 Funding for City projects 4.5 Resilient Hobart 4.6 Economic development strategy 4.7 Investor prospectus 4.8 Community vision stewardship</p>

- 4.10.2. These projects represent economic response and recovery work already happening across the City of Hobart organisation.
- 4.10.3. Project 1.2 Business consultative group specifically addresses Item 3 of the 10 August Council decision. Planning for the group is already underway.
- 4.11. A one-page summary of the framework and action plan is available at Attachment B, printable in A3 (for more accessible viewing) or A4.
- 4.12. Subsequent iterations of the action plan will provide the opportunity to add further actions or amend existing actions as required.

5. Proposal and Implementation

- 5.1. It is proposed that the Council endorse the City of Hobart Covid-19 Economic Response and Recovery Framework and Action Plan 2020-22, provided at Attachment A.
 - 5.1.1. Attachment A represents the first version of the framework and action plan. It is intended that the framework generally remain static, acknowledging future input will likely be provided by community and stakeholders.
 - 5.1.2. This first version of the action plan is intended to capture City projects currently underway or planned to commence in the short-term.
 - 5.1.3. To date, these actions have been published and publicised in different places and in different ways, and so the action plan serves to bring them together into one document.
 - 5.1.4. It is recognised that there are other projects and initiatives underway within the City of Hobart that will have positive impacts on the Hobart economy.
 - 5.1.5. In addition, much has changed since the original stage of engagement (April-June 2020), and the context continues to shift day-to-day, for example, the status of state borders.
- 5.2. It is therefore proposed that the action plan be updated in mid-2021.
 - 5.2.1. The update will provide for broader and deeper internal and external engagement, as well as more considered learning from data.
 - 5.2.2. The update will provide the chance for more stakeholders to be involved and more projects to be included, as well as for existing projects to be updated or removed as required.

6. Strategic Planning and Policy Considerations

- 6.1. The City's Covid-19 economic response and recovery work aims to work across the whole of the community vision and strategic plan, in the sense of encouraging initiatives that support a range of areas of city life, for example the creative sector and learning from data.
- 6.1.1. This work aligns the following focus areas in *Hobart: A community vision for our island capital* and specifically links to Pillar 4: City economies
- 4.1 *Our businesses and industries reflect and support our Hobart identities.*
 - 4.2 *We believe in meaningful work.*
 - 4.3 *We support diverse journeys through working life.*
 - 4.4 *We build on our connections.*
 - 4.5 *Hobart is our workshop, supporting entrepreneurs and small businesses.*
 - 4.6 *Our economies are diversified.*
- 6.1.2. It aligns with the following outcomes in the *Capital City Strategic Plan 2019-29*:
- 4.1 *Hobart's economy reflects its unique environment, culture and identity.*
 - 4.2 *People have a range of opportunities to participate in the economic life of the city.*
 - 4.3 *Diverse connections help Hobart's economy, businesses and workers thrive.*
 - 4.4 *Hobart is a place where entrepreneurs and businesses can grow and flourish.*
 - 4.5 *Hobart's economy is strong, diverse and resilient.*
- 6.2. The City's Covid-19 economic response and recovery work specifically advances the following strategies in the *Capital City Strategic Plan 2019-29*:
- 2.4.6 *Deliver and support initiatives, activities and programs that build community resilience, wellbeing and safety.*
 - 4.5.1 *Understand and respond to the strategic context of the Hobart economy at regional, state, national and international levels.*
 - 8.2.4 *Position the city regionally, nationally and internationally to achieve positive outcomes.*
- 6.3. As outlined in the previous report to the Economic Development and Communications Committee (30 July 2020), economic recovery planning will be a major policy initiative for the City.

- 6.3.1. It is a chance to help communities recover from this once-in-a-century event in a way that makes Hobart better than it was before – and closer to the vision set out by the community.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. Funding Source and Impact on Current Year Operating Result
 - 7.1.1. The framework and action plan document itself does not have financial implications.
 - 7.1.2. Individual projects have financial implications in their respective areas, some coming out of existing budgets for the 2020-21 financial year.
- 7.2. Impact on Future Years' Financial Result
 - 7.2.1. The next iteration of the action plan would be expected to include projects that will affect the 2021-22 budget.
 - 7.2.2. These projects would be defined through internal and external engagement and be planned for through the budgeting process.
- 7.3. Asset Related Implications
 - 7.3.1. None arise from this report.

8. Legal, Risk and Legislative Considerations

- 8.1. Adopting the recommendations will improve the City's capacity to manage risk.
 - 8.1.1. The framework offers clarification on terminology, the City's role in economic recovery, the guiding principles endorsed by the Council, and other information of relevance to communities' understanding of the City's work in this space.
 - 8.1.2. The timeframe of the action plan and the process for updating it allow adaptation to the changing economic situation, reducing the risk of the City dedicated resources to actions that might later become less relevant.
 - 8.1.3. Creating this framework and action plan helps position the city to take strategic advantage of the opportunities provided by economic recovery work, providing a first step towards more targeted economic development work post-pandemic.
 - 8.1.4. Aligning the approach with the community vision and strategic plan help mitigate the risk that the City's recovery initiatives detract from the kind of city Hobart people and stakeholders want for the future.

8.2. Some projects directly relate to the City's role in applying regulations.

8.2.1. The framework and action plan consider how regulation can be used to create an enabling environment for economic recovery.

8.2.2. Outdoor dining, local preference procurement and planning and mobility services are three examples of how that can be done.

9. Environmental Considerations

9.1. The aim is for the recovery plan to have a net-positive impact on environmental outcomes, by taking advantage of opportunities for actions to provide both economic and environmental benefits.

9.1.1. Subsequent versions of the action plan will seek to include more actions with environmental benefits.

9.1.2. The plan includes an action on community vision and strategic plan stewardship via recovery initiatives. Both documents call for integrating environmental sustainability throughout the City's work.

9.2. This first version of the plan includes actions with environmental benefits:

9.2.1. Local preference procurement policy encourages goods and services to be sourced locally, with flow-on effects to emissions reduction.

9.2.2. Transport and mobility initiatives aim to improve pedestrian and active transport infrastructure and experiences, with benefits to public health and the environment.

10. Social and Customer Considerations

10.1. The Economic Development and Strategy teams will continue to coordinate with the City's Social Recovery team in identifying actions and initiatives.

10.1.1. This first version of the plan includes an initiative and associated projects on community economic recovery, acknowledging the importance of economic outcomes on individual and community wellbeing.

10.1.2. Future actions would aim to identify critical areas of social need and outline economic recovery initiatives to support.

10.2. This first version also includes actions to improve customer experience, in particular the City Innovation Division's work to provide more 24/7 customer service offerings.

10.3. This work also acknowledges the City's recently adopted Social Inclusion Policy, in particular the guiding principles of:

- Respect for diversity
- Social justice
- Capacity building
- Equal access
- Community safety
- Holistic approach
- Care and resilience
- Partnership and collaboration
- Proactive, responsive engagement

10.3.2. By working across the organisation and establishing actions for further engagement and research, this plan seeks to identify areas of need and provide targeted support.

11. Marketing and Media

11.1. The framework and action plan create significant marketing and media opportunities.

11.1.1. Outlining initiatives already underway provides a chance to highlight the work the City is already doing to support businesses and the local economy.

11.1.2. There are likewise opportunities to communicate about new projects that will not only stimulate the economy but improve community safety and quality of life in Hobart.

11.1.3. Future engagement that will be undertaken can also be publicised to help people take part in future recovery planning.

11.2. The Resilient Hobart section of the City's website will be updated to reflect economic recovery work.

12. Community and Stakeholder Engagement

12.1. The first version of the framework and action plan are based on the business survey and community surveys undertaken in April to June 2020, as well as findings from the UTAS Tasmania Project.

12.1.1. It is recognised that those engagement findings reflect a moment in time, i.e. during the earlier impacts of lockdown.

12.1.2. Further engagement is planned as part of Initiative 1 in the action plan, including businesses and community members.

12.2. Project 1.1: Business consultative group is a key action for engaging with the business community.

12.2.1. The consultative group is already in development, and conversations with the group will inform future actions.

12.3. Engagement has been undertaken with a group of City employees working directly on economic recovery-related initiatives.

12.3.1. Deeper and broader engagement will be undertaken with elected members and City employees to inform the second version of the action plan.

13. Delegation

13.1. This matter is one for Council.

As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.



Marisa McArthur
**SENIOR ADVISOR RESEARCH AND
POLICY**




Luke Doyle
**MANAGER ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT ENGAGEMENT AND
STRATEGY**

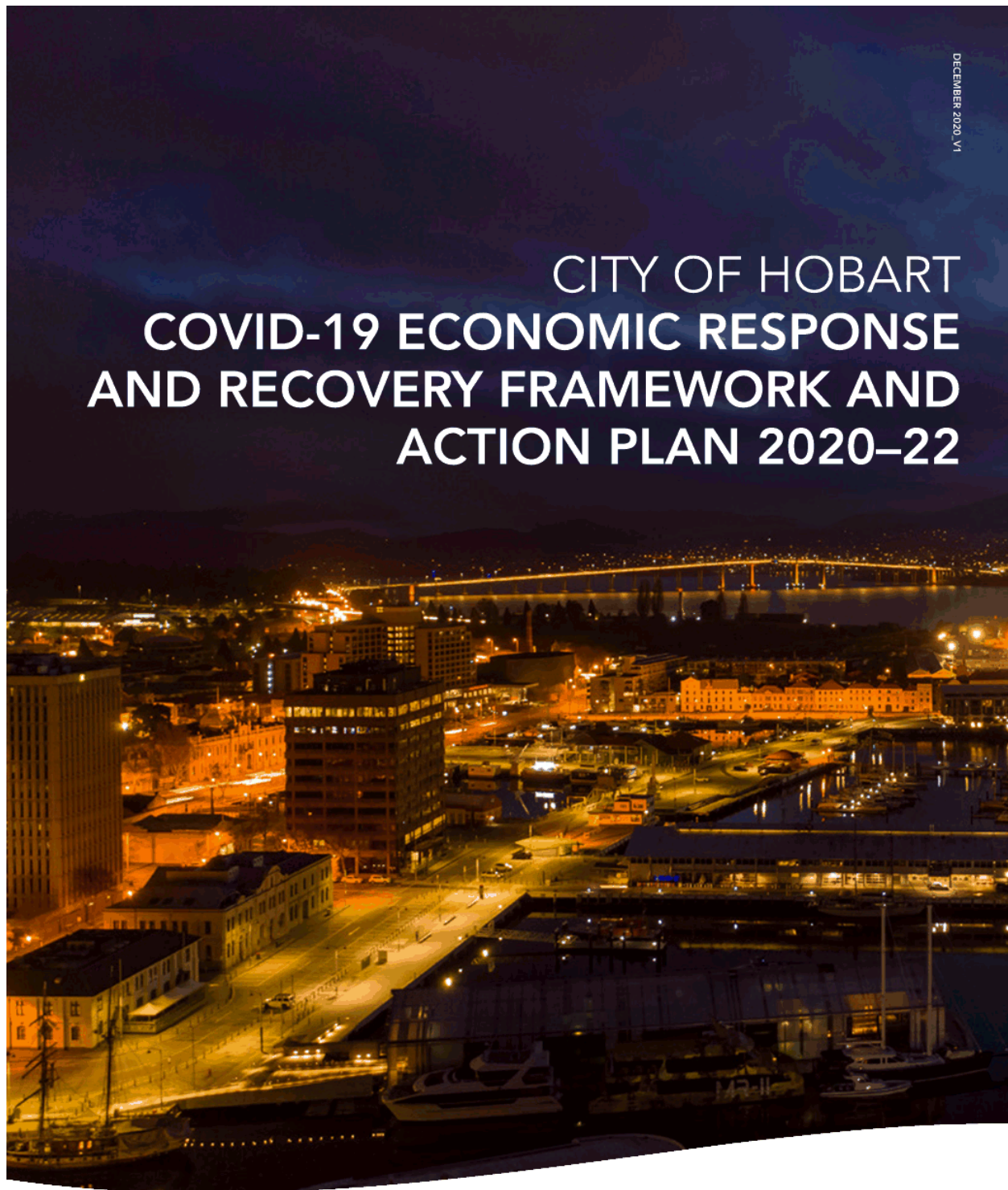


Tim Short
DEPUTY GENERAL MANAGER

Date: 19 November 2020
File Reference: F20/119793; F20/119793

Attachment A: City of Hobart Covid-19 Economic Response and Recovery Framework and Action Plan 2020-22 ↓ 

Attachment B: City of Hobart Covid-19 Economic Response and Recovery Framework and Action Plan 2020-22 - 1-page summary ↓ 



DECEMBER 2020_V1

CITY OF HOBART COVID-19 ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY FRAMEWORK AND ACTION PLAN 2020–22



City of **HOBART**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this place, the City of Hobart acknowledges Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the Traditional Custodians of the land upon which nipaluna (Hobart) was built. We acknowledge the determination and resilience of the Palawa people who have survived invasion and dispossession and continue to maintain their identity, culture and rights. We recognise that we have much to learn from Aboriginal people today, who represent the world's oldest continuing culture. We recognise the value of continuing Aboriginal knowledge and cultural practice. We pay our sincere respects to Elders past and present and to all Aboriginal people.



LORD MAYOR'S MESSAGE



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Hobart's *Covid-19 Economic Response and Recovery Framework and Action Plan 2020–22* aims to work with Hobart communities, businesses and stakeholders to deliver economic recovery for Hobart on limited resources.

The framework establishes the structure and guiding ideas behind the City's response and recovery efforts.

IT HAS SIX GOALS:

1. Confident households, businesses and investors
2. Thriving city centre and retail precincts
3. Local economy transitioned to the 'new normal'
4. Opportunities of the crisis embraced
5. Coordinated recovery efforts
6. Responsive and financially sustainable local government

The action plan is designed to work in service to these goals and to be updated frequently to meet the changing Covid-19 situation. It has four initiatives with 29 total projects.

INITIATIVE 1: LEARNING WHAT PEOPLE NEED	INITIATIVE 2: BUILDING BUSINESS RESILIENCE	INITIATIVE 3: BUILDING COMMUNITY ECONOMIC RESILIENCE	INITIATIVE 4: RESPONSIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
1.1 Social inclusion dashboards	2.1 Business concierge	3.1 Rates relief package	4.1 24/7 Council
1.2 Business consultative group	2.2 Business grants	3.2 Rental, fees and charges relief package	4.2 Responsive planning and mobility services
1.3 Safe public spaces	2.3 Hello Hobart	3.3 Resilient Hobart grants	4.3 Capital works program
1.4 Creative sector engagement	2.4 Block parties	3.4 International student support partnerships	4.4 Funding for City projects
1.5 Business and community research and engagement	2.5 Salamanca Market online and Tasmania's Own Market	3.5 Festive season charitable quick response grants	4.5 Resilient Hobart
	2.6 TTIC and Elizabeth Mall Info Hub	3.6 Central Hobart precinct planning economic analysis	4.6 Economic development strategy
	2.7 Outdoor dining regulations	3.7 Mobility for city vibrancy	4.7 Investor prospectus
	2.8 Outdoor dining platforms		4.8 Community vision stewardship
	2.9 Local preference procurement policy		

The framework and action plan respond to both the long-term guidance of the community vision and the uncertainty posed by the pandemic.

The two-year timeframe of the plan reflects Reserve Bank of Australia projections for economic recovery, with Australia's GDP not expected to return to pre-pandemic levels until late 2021 at the earliest.¹ The City intends to release an updated action plan in mid-2021.

¹ As at November 2020. See www.rba.gov.au/publications/smp/2020/nov/economic-outlook.html for details.



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COVID-19 ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY FRAMEWORK

BACKGROUND

The Covid-19 pandemic is unlike any global event in recent memory.

Past disease outbreaks – such as Spanish influenza in the early 20th century, or the more localised SARS, MERS and Ebola epidemics – had severe impacts. But the world as it is today, with a globalised economy, has never faced a pandemic of this scale. Globalised supply chains and travel networks meant the SARS-CoV-2 virus spread quickly and widely. Despite lockdown measures, which have helped slow the spread in some places, there have been over 56 million global cases and over 1.34 million global deaths.²

Australia has fared well compared to other countries, and Tasmania has had some of the lowest case numbers in Australia. Early travel restrictions and physical distancing measures supported this success. As an island state, Tasmania's geographic isolation has made it easier to enact preventative measures. But even with low case numbers, Tasmania will still experience profound social and economic impacts. With much recent economic success centred on cultural, tourism and hospitality industries, the state has been especially hard-hit by the sudden drop in interstate and international traveller numbers.

As a prime tourism hub and gateway city, Hobart has been heavily affected. Reductions in employee numbers and hours, revenue losses, supply chain disruptions and the need to quickly adapt to online consumer environments have affected businesses in all industries.

The situation for local governments, in Hobart and around the world, is also challenging. Councils have needed to respond quickly to stop the spread of the virus and support financially-struggling people and businesses. Doing both at once has had major impacts on local government finances, reducing revenue (such as from rates and parking) and increasing expenditure (such as adapting to COVID-safe regulations).

The City of Hobart has worked hard to maintain community services and keep people employed through the pandemic. Restrictions and revenue losses meant pausing or scaling down operations of city businesses (such as the Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre, Salamanca Market and the Taste of Tasmania), standing down some staff, putting a freeze on new hires and implementing other cost-saving measures. Still, the City has undertaken large-scale risk and resilience work to prepare for pandemic and other disaster scenarios and make sure we continue to be there for the community.

The short-term impacts have already been challenging for communities, businesses and government in Tasmania and Australia. The medium- to long-term effects will also be hard, with a projected global economic downturn unlike any in recent memory. There is no precedent for the current economic situation: the impacts of an effective pause of nearly the entire global economy.

Despite these challenges, the Covid-19 pandemic has provided an opportunity to rethink the Hobart economy and find ways to make the best of this disruption to business as usual. It has highlighted strengths to build on and weaknesses to improve.

The City of Hobart has a critical role in economic response and recovery in Hobart.

The *Covid-19 Economic Response and Recovery Framework and Action Plan 2020–22* outlines how the City will support communities, businesses and other stakeholders in responding to the challenges and opportunities presented by the Covid-19 pandemic.

² As at 18 November 2020. See coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html

RESPONSE AND RECOVERY FOR HOBART

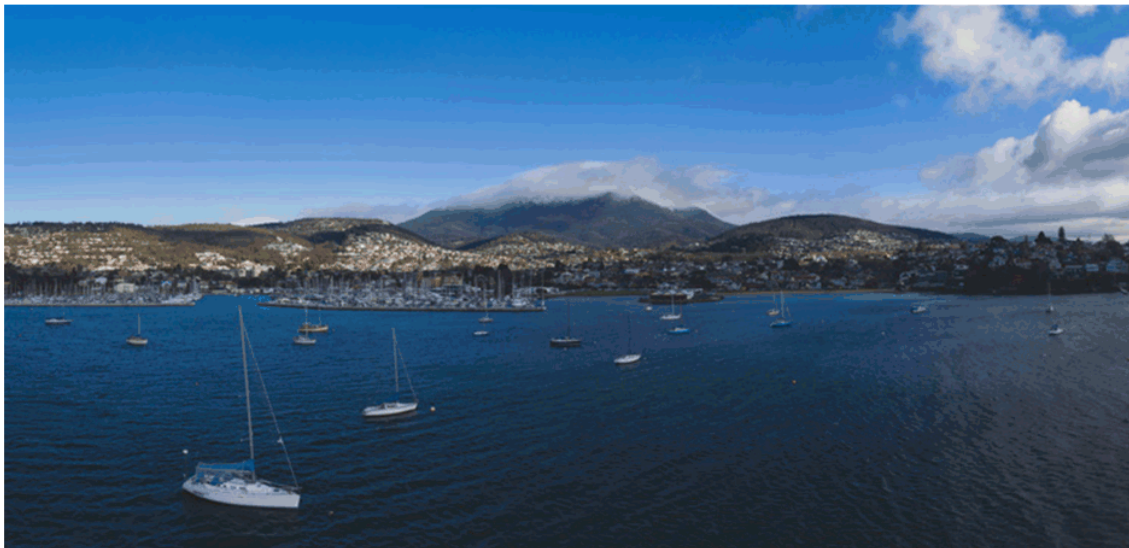
Cities and countries across the world declared states of emergency in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, but it is not a typical disaster. Bushfires and floods, for example, usually have a clear start and finish, which help people to prepare in advance and recover afterwards, knowing the worst is over. With the current pandemic, a first round of lockdowns helped reduce the spread, but new clusters have surfaced and the pandemic continues. Without a vaccine, it is difficult to say when the 'response' ends and 'recovery' begins, because there is still the risk of Covid-19 spreading.

This is how the City defines these terms in its work on the economic impacts of the pandemic.

Response refers to initiatives that deal with the 'survival' stage, helping people and businesses work through the immediate impacts of Covid-19 and associated restrictions.

Recovery means initiatives for the longer-term Hobart economy, helping people and businesses adjust to the 'new normal' of living with the virus, such that the economy can support community wellbeing and livelihoods. It does not mean working to make things exactly as they were before, acknowledging that the pandemic has changed how economies will function for the long-term.

The City sees a once-in-a-lifetime chance to use economic recovery initiatives to work on other issues of importance for Hobart. There is a chance for the Hobart economy to emerge better than before, taking advantage of the opportunities presented by recovery, including lessons learned from the peak of the pandemic.

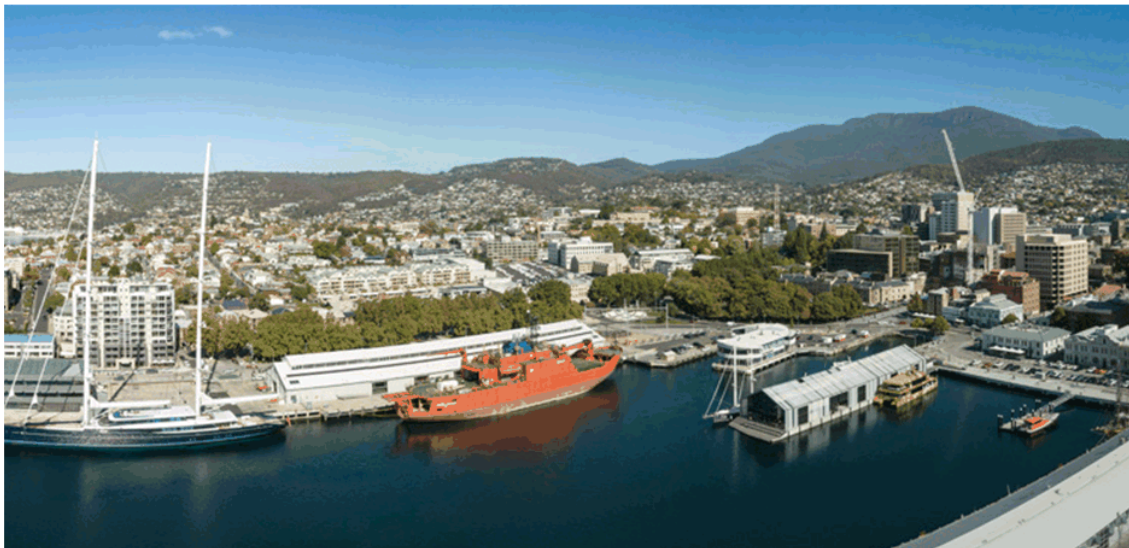


THE SCOPE OF THE CITY'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY WORK

The framework and action plan are for Hobart Local Government area, which is the City of Hobart's jurisdiction and the place where we can have the biggest influence. But we have Hobart's role as Tasmania's capital city strongly in mind.

The focus is on Hobart residents, rate payers and businesses, with people who travel to Hobart to work, study, play and access services and amenities also included.

As a community recovery program, it is not about how the City of Hobart as a local government organisation plans to recover. However, because of the strong connections between local government and local economies, it does consider the City's various economic roles, for example, as a purchaser of goods and services. These roles are described in the next section.



THE CITY OF HOBART'S ROLES IN ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Hobart has a unique role in Tasmania as the capital city and regional hub. Although much of the experience of the pandemic has been shared across the state, some impacts have been especially strong in Hobart, such as job losses in the creative sector.

The City of Hobart shares its responsibility for economic recovery with the Australian Government, the Tasmanian Government and other economic actors and stakeholders, such as:

- Hobart Region local governments
- not-for-profit and social service organisations
- businesses and peak bodies
- educational institutions
- individual people and families.

The City of Hobart has economic influence in areas such as:

- **Advocacy:** Representing Hobart's needs and helping communities have a voice on economic decisions affecting the city.
- **Business relationships and support:** Working with businesses, helping them access the City's services and connecting them with people and organisations.
- **Community activation and celebration:** Encouraging COVID-safe events and festivities that support businesses.
- **Education and awareness-raising:** Communicating information about economic issues and opportunities.
- **Employment:** Providing meaningful jobs for people who can then serve Hobart communities.
- **Engagement:** Seeking input and collaborating with community members, businesses and stakeholders to learn about their needs, values and ideas.

- **Facility, parks and bushland management:** Providing and maintaining spaces that support business and quality of life initiatives.
- **Grants:** Providing funding for established and emerging businesses, community programs and other initiatives.
- **Infrastructure:** Improving city services and amenity and creating jobs.
- **Place making:** Making Hobart's public realm accessible, safe and vibrant.
- **Procurement:** Leveraging the City's role as a purchaser to support business activity in the Hobart and the broader Tasmanian economy.
- **Regulation:** Creating a regulatory environment that encourages both business growth and community safety.

The majority of the City's functions have some type of economic impact and the City will continue to consider how economic recovery work can have mutually beneficial relationships with other critical priorities, for example:

- **Climate change:** Ensuring recovery efforts contribute toward mitigation and adaptation goals and environmental sustainability programs.
- **Economic development:** Ensuring response and recovery initiatives position Hobart for a flourishing economic future.
- **Social inclusion and participation:** Directing support toward those most affected by the economic impacts of the pandemic.
- **Smart cities:** Seeking opportunities to embrace the best of the technological developments happening before and during the pandemic.
- **Creative programs:** Supporting artists and other creatives to recover from the impacts of lockdown measures.

OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

The pandemic has raised many opportunities and challenges for people, businesses and governments. These are some of those influencing the City's planning.

OPPORTUNITIES

- **Collaboration:** The City of Hobart is just one of many stakeholders influencing the economy, and ongoing communication and partnerships will be key to response and recovery. People and organisations have already come together in interesting, surprising and inspiring ways, and there are many possibilities for working together towards an economy that makes the people of Hobart proud.
- **Creativity:** Resourcing pressures mean a challenging road ahead, but they also provide the chance to think creatively about how to do more with less.
- **Win-wins:** The pandemic hasn't made other important issues, such as housing affordability and environmental pressures, disappear. Recovery funding and programs can be directed to help the City make progress on topics critical to Hobart's future.
- **Advocating for Hobart:** The City is fortunate to have a recently developed community vision and strategic plan that outline what Hobart's people and stakeholders want and how the City of Hobart will respond. This guidance provided by community helps the City advocate for capital city needs and values, helping fill a Hobart-specific niche in recovery.
- **Contributing to broader recovery:** People in Tasmania, Australia and globally are working hard to develop economic initiatives to help communities recover from the impacts of the pandemic. Initiatives undertaken in Hobart can provide useful lessons, and there is much to learn from other cities and projects.

CHALLENGES

- **Uncertainty:** Although the future is never certain, it seems especially unpredictable now. The pandemic is ongoing, and projections suggest a deeper economic recession is on its way. But exactly what, when and how is unknown, and the situation changes quickly and often, especially while the pandemic is ongoing. As this pandemic is without precedent during our lifetimes, there are limits to knowledge and expertise as to how best to respond.
- **Budget pressures:** Local government budgets have been hit hard by the pandemic response, and the City of Hobart is no exception. Recovery initiatives need to be highly effective in their use of financial, staffing and other resources.
- **Time:** Hobart communities and businesses have immediate financial needs, making immediate support important. But the situation is rapidly evolving, making it difficult to choose the 'best' projects to help longer-term recovery.
- **One part of the whole:** Local government is only one player in the economy. Much of the responsibility for economic recovery sits with state and federal government, and with other economic actors like businesses and households. Although there are many ways to influence, much is outside the City's direct control. The City is also constrained by legislation that governs its responsibilities.
- **Covid fatigue:** Nearly a year into the pandemic, restrictions and uncertainty are wearing on many people and businesses.



STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The *Covid-19 Economic Response and Recovery Framework and Action Plan 2020–22* is part of the City's overall response to community recovery. They are guided by *Hobart: A community vision for our island capital* and the *Capital City Strategic Plan 2019–29*.

It forms one of three parts of the overall Covid-19 recovery program. The other two parts cover social recovery in the community and organisational recovery for the City of Hobart local government. A Covid-19 crisis plan has also been created, to outline how the City would respond to potential subsequent waves of Covid-19 transmission.

Economic response and recovery work also links to the Municipal Emergency Management Plan and the Community Recovery Plan, which go into effect during any emergency.



The *Covid-19 Economic Response and Recovery Framework and Action Plan 2020–22* is informed by other City of Hobart frameworks, strategies, plans and policies that influence economic participation and outcomes in Hobart, for example:

- Social Inclusion Framework and Social Inclusion Policy
- Community Engagement Framework
- Creative Hobart
- Connected Hobart Smart City Framework and Action Plan
- Transport Strategy Draft
- Sustainable Hobart
- Procurement Strategy 2018–22
- Rates and Charges Policy
- Financial Hardship Assistance Policy

GUIDANCE FROM THE COMMUNITY VISION AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN

Hobart: A community vision for our island capital was the result of over 1100 contributions from Hobart community members and business people. The vision outlines what Hobart people want for the future of their city. The vision demonstrates community desires for Hobart's economy to find opportunity in Hobart's special qualities, including its geography and close connections.

The *Capital City Strategic Plan 2019–29* is the City of Hobart's response to the community vision, outlining the ways the City will help the community vision be achieved.

Economic response and recovery planning especially seeks to support the vision focus areas and strategic plan outcomes of Pillar 4: City economies.

We are a city whose economies connect people, businesses, education and government to create a high-quality lifestyle in a thriving and diverse community. Our city is our workshop. We collaborate, embracing ideas, inventiveness and initiative.

Hobart: A community vision for our island capital
Pillar 4: City Economies community panel vision statement

COMMUNITY VISION FOCUS AREAS	STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOMES
Pillar 4.1: Our businesses and industries reflect and support our Hobart identities.	Outcome 4.1: Hobart's economy reflects its unique environment, culture and identity.
Pillar 4.2: We believe in meaningful work.	Outcome 4.2: People have a range of opportunities to participate in the economic life of the city.
Pillar 4.3: We support diverse journeys through working life.	Outcome 4.3: Diverse connections help Hobart's economy, businesses and workers thrive.
Pillar 4.4: We build on our connections.	Outcome 4.4: Hobart is a place where entrepreneurs and businesses can grow and flourish.
Pillar 4.5: Hobart is our workshop, supporting entrepreneurs and small businesses.	Outcome 4.5: Hobart's economy is strong, diverse and resilient.
Pillar 4.6: Our economies are diversified.	

Economic response and recovery planning specifically delivers on the following *Capital City Strategic Plan 2019–29* strategies:

- **Strategy 2.4.6:** Deliver and support initiatives, activities and programs that build community resilience, wellbeing and safety.
- **Strategy 4.5.1:** Understand and respond to the strategic context of the Hobart economy at regional, state, national and international levels.
- **Strategy 8.2.4:** Position the city regionally, nationally and internationally to achieve positive outcomes.

Actions in the action plan help further many additional aspects of the vision and strategic plan.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Council has committed to the following principles to economic response and recovery planning.

That economic recovery ...

- ... is focused on need and adding value.
- ... supports resilience.
- ... builds economic confidence and participation.
- ... is evidence-based.
- ... is flexible and adaptable.

These principles were informed by the first phase of community and business engagement, undertaken in April to June 2020, which underlined the importance of learning and adapting to changing needs as the local, national and global economic situation develops.





PLAN STRUCTURE AND PROCESS

The *Covid-19 Economic Response and Recovery Framework and Action Plan* responds to both the long-term guidance of the community vision and the uncertainty posed by the pandemic.

FRAMEWORK

The guiding ideas behind response and recovery planning. The framework is more firmly established and includes elements like the City of Hobart's roles, opportunities and challenges, strategic alignment and principles for planning. It is based on several existing strategies and many conversations with community members, businesses and stakeholders over recent months and years.

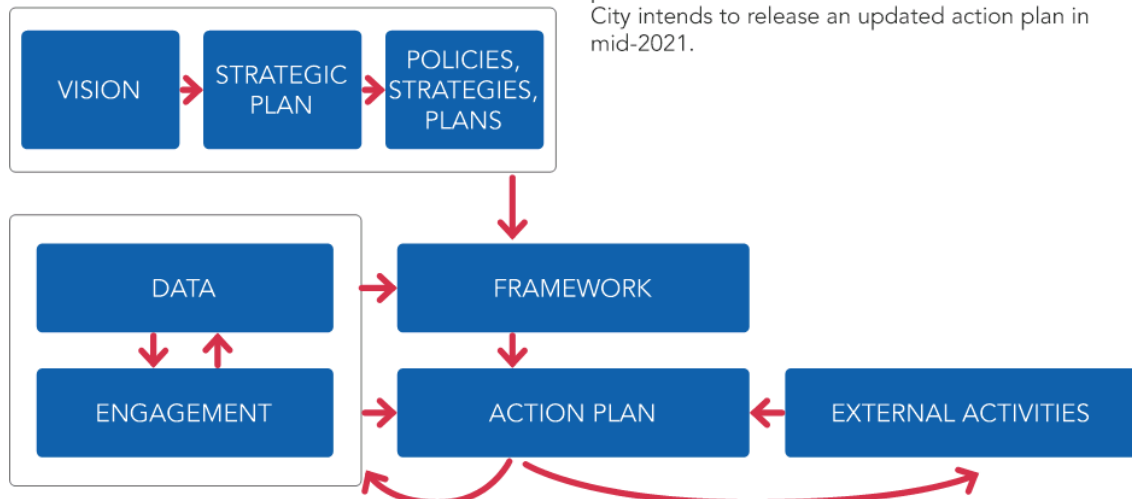
ACTION PLAN

Initiatives and projects more responsive to the changing situation. The projects outlined in the action plan represent smaller-scale decisions based on the City's best understanding of the current situation, leaving space for new projects or adjustments to existing ones. The City aims to make the best possible decisions on when and how to use the limited available resources. The City also needs to respond to a variety of external initiatives designed to support and stimulate local and national economies, filling gaps rather than duplicating efforts.

LEARNING AND ADAPTING

One aspect of this planning is identifying robust and useful data sources to support continual updates of the action plan and to adjust the framework as required. Ongoing engagement with communities and businesses will form part of this learning.

The two-year timeframe of the plan reflects Reserve Bank of Australia projections for economic recovery, with Australia's GDP not expected to return to pre-pandemic levels until late 2021 at the earliest.³ The City intends to release an updated action plan in mid-2021.



³ As at November 2020. See www.rba.gov.au/publications/smp/2020/nov/economic-outlook.html for details.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND RESEARCH

Preliminary research and engagement has been undertaken to inform the first iteration of this framework and action plan:

- **Desktop research:** Topics included global, national, state and local economic impacts and projections, as well as early examples of recovery plans and actions.
- **Community survey:** Through the Hobart Together campaign, City's engagement team conducted on the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown on community members, with 377 responses.
- **Business survey:** The City's economic development, strategy and engagement teams conducted in-depth phone interviews with 200 Hobart businesses, about the impacts of the pandemic on business operations and future plans.
- **Links with the University of Tasmania's Tasmania Project:** The City's strategy team connected with the Institute for the Study of Social Change at UTAS, who is undertaking research into community impacts during and post-lockdown. Hobart-specific findings will inform recovery planning.

These engagements were undertaken in April to June 2020 and focused on the impacts of the lockdown phase, and much has happened since then. Additional engagement is included in the action plan (see Section 14). Findings from the lockdown phase remain relevant for potential future lockdowns, as well as for planning for the ongoing impacts of the lockdown phase.

WHAT WE HEARD

Businesses

- Local businesses have been hit hard, with one in three businesses unable to operate at the time of the survey, shortly after lockdown.
- A similar proportion had to let go of casual staff, and many relied on government support, such as JobKeeper, to keep operating.
- Hobart business owners are extraordinarily resilient. Many were adapting their business models, using the crisis as an opportunity to reset and connect with their customers on a new level.
- Feedback reinforced the City of Hobart's role in providing support and information for businesses. The need for transparency and ongoing open dialogue with businesses is crucial.

Community

- The biggest impact was an increase in social isolation (72 per cent of respondents), with 64 per cent saying they missed social contact the most.
- Impacts on mental health were reported by 36 per cent of respondents.
- Keeping parks and reserves open and providing timely information about COVID-19 were two key ways the City could support people.

THE CITY'S GOALS FOR ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY

AIM

To work with Hobart communities, businesses and stakeholders to deliver economic recovery for Hobart on limited resources.

GOALS

1. Confident households, businesses and investors

- Support people, households, businesses and communities to have stable incomes and meet their essential needs.
- Support participation in the economy and job market.

2. Thriving city centre and retail precincts

- Attract people into the city centre and retail precincts in a COVID-safe manner.
- Regain economic and social vibrancy in Hobart.
- Support local and other businesses to have operations based in Hobart.

3. Local economy transitioned to the 'new normal'

- Identify the changes in economic conditions and help people and businesses adjust.
- Respond to the ongoing impacts of lockdown and physical distancing measures.
- Respond to the impacts of global economic conditions on Hobart's economy.

4. Opportunities of the crisis embraced

- Capture lessons learned from the pandemic and lockdown measures.
- Keep and evolve the best of the responses to pandemic impacts.
- Use recovery efforts to make progress on other issues important to Hobart communities.
- Position Hobart's economy for the future, responding to emerging trends and boosting competitiveness.

5. Coordinated recovery efforts

- Support other levels of government and agencies to deliver their support.
- Support social recovery, acknowledging the role of economic recovery in personal and community wellbeing.
- Advocate for Hobart-specific needs as Tasmania's capital city.
- Support regional and state-wide recovery through Hobart's capital city role.

6. Financially sustainable local government

- Enact recovery efforts such that they make the best possible use of limited resources.
- Ensure the financial stability and viability of the capital city local government.
- Provide infrastructure, programs and services to meet the community's needs.



COVID-19 ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY ACTION PLAN

The action plan has four initiatives made up of 29 projects. The actions are guided by the principles and are in service to the six goals and the overall aim of delivering recovery for Hobart communities.

Actions **underway** are already being implemented.
Short-term actions will commence within the next few months.



INITIATIVE 1: LEARNING WHAT PEOPLE NEED	INITIATIVE 2: BUILDING BUSINESS RESILIENCE
PROJECT 1.1: SOCIAL INCLUSION DASHBOARDS	PROJECT 2.1: BUSINESS CONCIERGE
PROJECT 1.2: BUSINESS CONSULTATIVE GROUP	PROJECT 2.2: BUSINESS GRANTS
PROJECT 1.3: SAFE PUBLIC SPACES	PROJECT 2.3: HELLO HOBART
PROJECT 1.4: CREATIVE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT	PROJECT 2.4: BLOCK PARTIES
PROJECT 1.5: BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT	PROJECT 2.5: SALAMANCA MARKET ONLINE AND TASMANIA'S OWN MARKET
	PROJECT 2.6: TTIC AND ELIZABETH MALL INFO HUB
	PROJECT 2.7: OUTDOOR DINING REGULATIONS
	PROJECT 2.8: OUTDOOR DINING PLATFORMS
	PROJECT 2.9: LOCAL PREFERENCE PROCUREMENT POLICY

INITIATIVE 3: BUILDING COMMUNITY ECONOMIC RESILIENCE	INITIATIVE 4: RESPONSIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
PROJECT 3.1: RATES RELIEF PACKAGE	PROJECT 4.1: 24/7 COUNCIL
PROJECT 3.2: RENTAL, FEES AND CHARGES RELIEF PACKAGE	PROJECT 4.2: RESPONSIVE PLANNING AND MOBILITY SERVICES
PROJECT 3.3: RESILIENT HOBART GRANTS	PROJECT 4.3: CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM
PROJECT 3.4: INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT PARTNERSHIPS	PROJECT 4.4: FUNDING FOR CITY PROJECTS
PROJECT 3.5: FESTIVE SEASON CHARITABLE QUICK RESPONSE GRANTS	PROJECT 4.5: RESILIENT HOBART
PROJECT 3.6: CENTRAL HOBART PRECINCT PLANNING ECONOMIC ANALYSIS	PROJECT 4.6: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
PROJECT 3.7: MOBILITY FOR CITY VIBRANCY	PROJECT 4.7: INVESTOR PROSPECTUS
	PROJECT 4.8: COMMUNITY VISION STEWARDSHIP

INITIATIVE 1: LEARNING WHAT PEOPLE NEED

Projects that use engagement and data to help the City of Hobart learn what Hobart residents, businesses, commuters, students, visitors and other stakeholders need to help them respond and recover to the impacts of Covid-19 and lockdown measures.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	LEAD DIVISION	GOALS	DELIVERABLES	COMMUNITY BENEFITS
1.1 Social inclusion dashboards	The City has developed a set of over 30 online dashboards that display socio-economic data about Hobart communities. The City will maintain and use the data from the dashboards to inform economic response, recovery and development work.	Underway	City Innovation	To create a centralised location for key data about social and economic outcomes in Hobart.	A set of dashboards containing socio-economic indicators.	Access to data on a range of indicators. Evidence-based local government decision making.
1.2 Business consultative group	Business people are coming together with the City to voice business needs and provide input and feedback towards recovery initiatives. This group has been assembled specifically to deal with the impacts of Covid-19 on Hobart businesses.	Underway	Community Life	To undertake fast, efficient, and meaningful engagement with Hobart business stakeholders. To create an in-depth complement to wider business and community engagement.	A group of Hobart businesspeople dedicated to providing input and feedback on Covid-19 recovery. Meetings and other engagement as required.	Direct input of the business community into City recovery initiatives, increasing their relevance.
1.3 Safe public spaces	Hobart's nightlife has been heavily affected by physical distancing requirements. A key priority is ensuring community and patron safety while people wait to enter licenced venues. The City has been convening meetings with venues and key stakeholders to ensure safe public spaces.	Underway	Community Life	To ensure community safety in public spaces as the night-time economy transitions to the 'new normal' of physical distancing requirements, in particular as summer approaches.	Stakeholder meetings as required.	A vibrant nightlife in Hobart. Enhanced safety in the public spaces near night-time venues.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	LEAD DIVISION	GOALS	DELIVERABLES	COMMUNITY BENEFITS
1.4 Creative sector engagement	The creative sector has experienced some of the most significant job losses due to restrictions on events and travel. Arts and events had been thriving in the years leading up to the pandemic and are a central part of Hobart life. The City has been engaging with the creative sector and businesses that service that sector to identify gaps in support and develop ways of working together.	Underway	Community Life	To support creative artists and businesses to recover from the initial shock of the first lockdown, such that the creative sector can survive and flourish.	Stakeholder meetings as required. Creative Hobart grants program.	A thriving creative sector where people can participate as professionals, hobbyists and audiences. An arts and culture scene that attracts visitors and patronage as it did prior to the pandemic.
1.5 Business and community research and engagement	The pandemic is ongoing, and the situation changes daily. Yet, the City simultaneously needs to respond to longer-term impacts as they unfold. An ongoing program of business and community research and engagement, including gathering, analysing, and responding to quantitative and qualitative data, will help the City identify community and business needs and target the response. This project also includes analysing gaps and opportunities in state and federal-level responses, to support their work and advocate for Hobart's needs.	Underway	Community Life	To drive evidence-based decision making at the City of Hobart. To ensure response and recovery efforts and budgets are directed where they will make the greatest positive impact.	To date, phone interviews with 200+ businesses. A community survey with 377 responses. Engagement with the University of Tasmania's Tasmania Project. Ongoing face-to-face engagement (where possible) with vulnerable groups and community leaders to identify community needs.	Community support where it's needed most.

INITIATIVE 2: BUILDING BUSINESS RESILIENCE

Projects that support Hobart businesses to survive, recover and thrive, and to navigate the 'new normal'.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	LEAD DIVISION	GOALS	DELIVERABLES	COMMUNITY BENEFITS
2.1 Business concierge	The City is piloting a business 'concierge' service to help businesses navigate City of Hobart processes. Businesses often deal with two or more areas of council, for example, for fees, permits and licencing. The concierge will help streamline those conversations.	Underway	Community Life	To simplify doing business with the City. To make it easier for businesses to navigate local government administrative and regulatory processes.	A single point of contact for business enquiries.	More time for businesses to spend on developing their offering and serving customers rather than local government processes.
2.2 Business grants	The City has a strong grants program serving a variety of sectors. Grants were one of the first opportunities the City had to support businesses during and after lockdown. Professional assistance, ecommerce support and business adaptation grants have complemented Tasmanian Government support, and further rounds of grants will be targeted at specific needs identified by the business community.	Underway	Community Life	To provide businesses with targeted funding for recovery, complementing offerings by state and federal governments and other organisations.	A suite of grant offerings over the 2020-21 financial year, targeted at specific business needs.	Help paying for some of the essentials, so businesses can focus on moving forward through the pandemic. Encouraging businesses to engage local suppliers where possible.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	LEAD DIVISION	GOALS	DELIVERABLES	COMMUNITY BENEFITS
2.3 Hello Hobart	Hello Hobart is a marketing campaign supporting Hobart businesses, first in the city centre and now citywide. Hello Hobart has helped promote businesses through the pandemic including by creating online directories to encourage online shopping and takeaways. The next Hello Hobart marketing campaign will use a voucher scheme to incentivise patrons to frequent local food and beverage venues. Hello Hobart also runs a number of annual campaigns including for Christmas. In 2020, this will include an online gift directory encouraging the community to purchase locally for the festive season.	Underway	Community Life	To connect customers with Hobart businesses, increasing opportunities to buy local and work together toward economic recovery. Additional marketing campaigns as needed.	A marketing campaign to encourage patronage at participating Hobart food and beverage venues.	Financial incentives for supporting local businesses and driving recovery in our own community.
2.4 Block parties	Restrictions on large gatherings have led to big changes for the 2020 holiday season. In lieu of the annual Christmas Pageant, the City is supporting retail precinct block parties, where groups of businesses are collaborating with each other and Hobart communities to celebrate the festive season.	Underway	Community Life	To celebrate the festive season in line with physical distancing requirements.	Funding and administrative support for organising and implementing precinct-based gatherings.	Opportunities to celebrate in local communities. Enhanced community safety.
PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	LEAD DIVISION	GOALS	DELIVERABLES	COMMUNITY BENEFITS

INITIATIVE 2: BUILDING BUSINESS RESILIENCE (CONT.)

2.5 Salamanca Market online and Tasmania's Own Market	Salamanca Market is Tasmania's most-visited tourism destination and the incubator for dozens of small businesses. When physical distancing requirements led to a pause on the physical market, the City worked with stallholders to create Salamanca Market online, so people in Tasmania and elsewhere can find market products. The City will continue to maintain the site for the foreseeable future. Tasmania's Own Market is an interim market, providing a physical distancing-compliant way for stallholders to trade in person.	Underway	Community Life	To provide Salamanca Market stallholders with online and in-person platforms for trading. To provide people in Hobart and beyond with ways to access the unique product offering ordinarily found only at Salamanca Market. To continue to engage and attract local audiences through promotions and activations. To support local small business.	An online store for Salamanca Market, creating opportunities for stallholders to connect with interstate audiences and increase their revenue. A weekly interim market each Saturday, from 8.30 am to 3 pm. Ongoing implementation of best practice Covid-19 safety procedures to ensure a safe trading environment for patrons, staff and stallholders.	The continued operation of one of Tasmania's best loved markets, as a support and incubator for small business, and a place to access unique goods and services. An inspiring example of COVID-safe best practices for other markets and events to refer to.
2.6 TTIC and Elizabeth Mall Info Hub	While the Tasmanian Travel Information Centre on Davey St remains closed, the Elizabeth Mall Information Hub has re-opened and is providing critical support to Tasmania's tourism operators. The info hub has responded to the Tasmanian Government's Make Yourself at Home campaign, helping people find and book travel experiences around the state. It is currently the only visitor information centre operating in Southern Tasmania, informing travellers about tourism businesses they can support.	Underway	Community Life	To provide booking and information-sharing support to the Hobart and Tasmanian tourism industry. To provide intrastate and interstate travellers with information and booking services.	In the short-term, continued operation of the Elizabeth Mall Information Hub, in consideration of a likely rapid increase in enquiries as borders reopen.	Links to travel experiences around Tasmania. Links to opportunities to support local businesses. Economic opportunities for small businesses through referrals and bookings.
PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	LEAD DIVISION	GOALS	DELIVERABLES	COMMUNITY BENEFITS

2.7 Outdoor dining regulations	In response to ongoing physical distancing requirements, the City has adjusted its own regulations to increase outdoor dining opportunities for the hospitality industry.	Underway	City Planning	To make it easier for hospitality businesses to comply with physical distancing requirements.	Enabling regulation for outdoor dining.	Supportive regulatory environment for using outdoor seating as a means of complying with physical distancing requirements.
2.8 Outdoor dining platforms	The City is implementing funding from the Department of State Growth to create outdoor dining platforms, with Midtown as the pilot precinct.	Underway	City Planning	To help ensure people continue to have opportunities to visit food and beverage establishments in Hobart.	Administration of State Growth funding for outdoor dining platforms. Implementation of platforms in Midtown pilot locations.	Improved outdoor dining infrastructure and experiences for participating establishments and their patrons.
2.9 Local preference procurement policy	A local preference procurement policy will support local businesses and industry and encourage local economic business activity for the benefit of local communities. It encourages national suppliers to have a presence in Tasmania, through sub-contractors, local supply chains and employing and/or basing operations in Tasmania. Quotes and tenders still have to meet value-for-money, capacity and capability requirements. The policy is carefully balanced, acknowledging that it is not possible for all goods to be sourced in Tasmania.	Short-term	Office of the Deputy General Manager	To create a framework that ensures the City considers the benefits to the local economy of sourcing goods, services and works locally where possible whilst ensuring value for money. To maximise the use of local businesses to supply goods, services and works to the City thereby encouraging local employment opportunities and generating economic activity.	Quotations with a Contract value less than \$100 000 are to be sought from local businesses where local capability and capacity exists. A 10 per cent weighted evaluation criterion for quotations and tenders with a Contract value over \$100 000.	Direct support for local businesses through City of Hobart purchasing. Increased employment opportunities for Hobart and Tasmania.

INITIATIVE 3: BUILDING COMMUNITY ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

Projects that support Hobart people, households and communities as participants in the Hobart economy, providing relief, building confidence, and creating people-centric urban spaces.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	LEAD DIVISION	GOALS	DELIVERABLES	COMMUNITY BENEFITS
3.1 Rates relief package	A \$4.6 million rates relief support package for 2020–21 including waiving penalties and interest, negotiated payment plans, formal postponements and remissions on application and determined on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the City's Financial Hardship Assistance Policy. A zero per cent increase to the 2020–21 rates.	Underway	Office of Deputy General Manager	To provide assistance to community members who are suffering financial hardship by providing an appropriate level of relief from Local Government rates.	A suite of rates relief including: waiving penalty and interest, negotiated payment plans, formal postponements and remissions in accordance with Financial Hardship Assistance Policy, freeze on rates for 2020–21 financial year.	Financial support for those in need, particularly those suffering financial hardship due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
3.2 Rental, fees and charges relief package	A relief support package providing assistance to community members and businesses. Organisers of cancelled events, including sporting clubs using City facilities for training and competition, can have fees and charges waived or refunded. Tenants of City-owned premises who are experiencing hardship can apply for rent relief. Fees, such as for outdoor dining, food licences and expanding outdoor dining, can be waived. A zero per cent increase to the 2020–21 fees and charges.	Underway	All divisions	To provide assistance to community members who are suffering financial hardship by providing an appropriate level of relief from local government rental, fees and charges.	A suite of financial relief measures including rental relief and refunding and waiving of fees and charges.	Financial support for those in need, particularly those suffering financial hardship due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	LEAD DIVISION	GOALS	DELIVERABLES	COMMUNITY BENEFITS
3.3 Resilient Hobart grants	The pandemic and lockdown have created challenges and opportunities across many aspects of community life. Through the Resilient Hobart campaign (see Project 4.5), the City has provided funding to support the delivery of community and creative projects and programs that support the community to respond to and recover from the impacts of Covid-19.	Underway	Community Life	To support community response and recovery through financial assistance.	To date, one round of grants funding for amounts of \$1000 to \$5000, as well as a quick response grants round for amounts up to \$1000.	Funding for a range of projects supporting community and economic wellbeing, including artistic, multicultural, educational and sports projects. See the City of Hobart website for a full list of recipients so far.
3.4 International student support partnerships	International students make a major contribution to Hobart life, socially, culturally and economically. Supporting them at this challenging time is important for their wellbeing as well as the community's. The City is working with stakeholders to identify gaps and respond to community issues as they arise, providing support in the form of grant funding, expert advice and by facilitating connections.	Short-term	Community Life	To support international students in need through partnerships with key stakeholders.	A partnership with Study Tasmania to provide international student support grants.	Improved personal and financial wellbeing for international students, with flow-on effects to Hobart's communities and economy more broadly.

INITIATIVE 3: BUILDING COMMUNITY ECONOMIC RESILIENCE (CONT.)

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	LEAD DIVISION	GOALS	DELIVERABLES	COMMUNITY BENEFITS
3.5 Festive season charitable quick response grants	The pandemic has posed a challenge for many traditional festive season activities. In response, the City has used the funds usually allocated to the Community Christmas Activation Quick Response Grant for an alternative quick response grant focused on charitable initiatives. Not-for-profit organisations, registered charities and unincorporated groups or organisations can apply for funding to support those most in need during the festive season.	Underway	Community Life	To provide direct benefit for people in vulnerable or disadvantaged situations, through programs and initiatives provided by the community and charitable sector, with a focus on compassion, generosity and connectedness.	A funding pool of \$10 000, with a maximum grant amount of \$1000. Organisations can apply from 13 November 2020, for projects that are delivered in the period from 1 to 31 December 2020. The grant round would close once the funding pool has been fully allocated or 11 December, whichever comes first.	Support for organisations providing critical community support. Funding directed to those most in need during the festive season.
3.6 Central Hobart precinct planning economic analysis	Precinct planning for Central Hobart has been underway as part of the Hobart City Deal. Economic analysis outlining opportunities for the precinct was undertaken before the pandemic. This analysis will be updated to reflect the new economic context.	Short-term	City Planning	To identify opportunities to position Hobart City for the new economic future.	Updated economic analysis report.	Guidance for local government and other stakeholders leading toward better economic outcomes for the city centre and Hobart as a whole.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	LEAD DIVISION	GOALS	DELIVERABLES	COMMUNITY BENEFITS
3.7 Mobility for city vibrancy	The City has moved forward a range of planned transport and mobility initiatives to help stimulate the Hobart economy. Projects include lowering central city speed limits (including evaluation of impacts on businesses), supporting the Tasmanian Government initiative to increase in green time for pedestrians, trial cycle lanes and refining taxi, rideshare and food delivery policy.	Underway	City Planning	To increase walkability and improve customer experience in Hobart retail precincts. To encourage active transport and improve active transport experience, including as a means to support physical distancing for commuters.	Central city speed limits of 40 kph. Business impact evaluation.	Improved cyclist and pedestrian infrastructure, services and experiences.

INITIATIVE 4: RESPONSIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Projects that enhance the City of Hobart's service to customers and communities.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	LEAD DIVISION	GOALS	DELIVERABLES	COMMUNITY BENEFITS
4.1 24/7 Council	The City of Hobart has historically been a daytime operation. A range of projects are contributing towards making council a 24/7 business, including increasing online customer service offerings and making facilities, such as multi-storey carparks, available 24/7.	Underway	City Innovation	To enable Hobart customers to access city services as and when they need them.	Increased range of services available 24/7 and/or online.	Smoother engagement with City services. Increased opportunities to participate in the economic life of the city.
4.2 Responsive planning and mobility services	Through phases of lockdown and re-opening, the City has worked to stand alongside communities and continue providing services for Hobart's economy, including for planning, building and environmental health. The City is also reviewing the process for temporary road closures to test street design changes, such as for bike lanes.	Underway	City Planning	To ensure processes for planning, building, food licencing and other approvals continue to meet community customer service needs.	Outstanding customer service. A review of temporary road closure procedures.	Ability to move through local government processes despite challenges posed by the pandemic. Evidence-based changes to street design.
4.3 Capital works program	Although the City's revenue has been heavily impacted, the organisation is still implementing a \$35 million capital works program for 2020–21. These projects maintain and/or improve amenity across the Hobart local government area.	Underway	City Amenity	To meet Hobart's current and future infrastructure and asset needs.	Various projects through the capital works program.	Maintained and upgraded infrastructure and assets. Employment across a range of sectors.

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	LEAD DIVISION	GOALS	DELIVERABLES	COMMUNITY BENEFITS
4.4 Funding for City projects	The City is advocating for Hobart communities by seeking stimulus funding for key projects. Applications have been submitted for road and stormwater upgrades, parks, bushland and emergency management.	Underway	City Amenities	To obtain external funds for infrastructure and other community projects.	Submissions to funding bodies.	Improved infrastructure and increased employment opportunities through successful projects.
4.5 Resilient Hobart	Resilient Hobart is the City of Hobart's emergency response and recovery program. It is the City's way of helping Hobart communities respond to the Covid-19 pandemic, providing access to support, information and advice to face the challenges of physical isolation and the evolving health crisis. Resilient Hobart provides information and advice on topics ranging from working from home to finding grant funding.	Underway	Community Life	To provide community members and businesspeople with links to a range of resources to assist them with response and recovery.	A section of the City of Hobart website dedicated to providing Covid-19 and physical distancing-related information, advice and links for people and businesses, in particular through the Hobart Together campaign. Other campaign elements as needed.	Clear understanding about how the City is contributing to response and recovery. Access to resources to support communities' own resilience.
4.6 Economic development strategy	Much was changing in the Hobart economy even before the pandemic, and global developments across a range of industries will influence the economic life of the city. An updated economic development strategy will consider economic and demographic shifts on the horizon and how to position Hobart for a prosperous future.	Short-term	Community Life	To set the strategic direction for the City's work on economic development.	An economic development strategy in consultation with community and stakeholders.	A range of actions dedicated to the medium- and longer-term prosperity of Hobart.

INITIATIVE 4: RESPONSIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (CONT.)

PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	TIMEFRAME	LEAD DIVISION	GOALS	DELIVERABLES	COMMUNITY BENEFITS
4.7 Investor prospectus	As Tasmania's capital city, Hobart presents a range of compelling investment opportunities. The City of Hobart has a role in helping investors understand the advantages of and opportunities for investment in Hobart. An investor prospectus will help direct investors to the information they need, supporting them to engage in the Hobart economy.	Short-term	Community Life	To communicate to investors about Hobart's advantages and special qualities and attract investment.	An investor prospectus document.	Increased investment in Hobart, in line with the community vision.
4.8 Community vision stewardship	In 2018, a representative panel of Hobart community members and businesspeople came together to draft the community vision. The vision, and the new City of Hobart strategic plan created in response, outline what Hobart communities want for their future and how the City will help. Much has changed with Covid-19, but the fundamentals of what people value about and want for Hobart are critical to recovery. The City will work to design and advocate for recovery initiatives that advance the future Hobartians want to create.	Underway	All divisions	To implement economic recovery in ways consistent with the community vision, across all pillars of community life.	Reflection of the vision and strategic plan through recovery projects. Continued engagement with vision stakeholders.	Knowledge that the City is targeting recovery initiatives to advance the Hobart people want for the future.





GLOSSARY

ACTION PLAN A detailed plan outlining the specific actions or projects that will be taken to meet a goal or goals.

COMMUNITY BENEFIT The positive or helpful results of an effort, action or project.

COMMUNITY VISION The City's highest-level strategic document, called *Hobart: A community vision for our island capital*. It articulates community values about and aspirations for Hobart now and into the future, based on in-depth engagement. The vision is critical for ensuring that the City's work aligns with what is important to Hobart communities.

COVID-19 A mild to severe respiratory illness caused by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus.

COVID-SAFE Regulations, plans and other initiatives designed to limit the transmission of Covid-19.

DELIVERABLE The tangible result or product of an effort, action or project.

ECONOMIC RESPONSE Initiatives that deal with the 'survival' stage, helping people and businesses work through the immediate impacts of Covid-19 and associated restrictions.

ECONOMIC RECOVERY Initiatives for the longer-term Hobart economy, helping people and businesses adjust to the 'new normal' of living with the virus, such that the economy can support community wellbeing and livelihoods.

GOAL The end towards which an effort, project or action is directed.

FRAMEWORK A structure or system used to guide planning, decision-making and implementation.

INITIATIVE A broad theme representing a group of actions or projects.

LOCKDOWN Temporary restrictions imposed by government authorities, requiring people to stay in their homes and/or to limit or restrict activities undertaken outside the home, in the case of Covid-19, to limit public contact to reduce or eliminate transmission of the illness.

'NEW NORMAL' The term used to refer to the long-term social and economic changes arising from the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown measures.

OUTCOME The result or effect of an action or actions.

PANDEMIC An illness occurring over a wide geographic area and affecting a significant proportion of the population. It covers a wider geographic area than an epidemic. An outbreak is a sudden increase in the incidence of a disease but typically confined to a localised area.

PILLARS The major aspects of community life, used in the community vision and strategic plan: sense of place; community inclusion, participation and belonging; creativity and culture; city economies; movement and connectivity; natural environment; built environment; and governance and civic involvement.

SARS-COV-2 The coronavirus that causes the respiratory illness Covid-19.

STRATEGIC PLAN The City of Hobart's primary planning document, outlining the outcomes the City aims to achieve over a 10-year period, in response to the community vision. It is required under the *Local Government Act 1993* and must be reviewed every four years.



RESOURCES

A wide range of resources are available to help people and businesses toward economic resilience and recovery.

CITY OF HOBART COMMUNITY SUPPORT PACKAGE

A \$3.5 million program to assist ratepayers and businesses experiencing hardship due to Covid-19.

www.hobartcity.com.au/Community/Public-health/COVID19updates/community-support-package

HOBART TOGETHER

The City of Hobart's way of helping Hobart communities respond to Covid-19 pandemic, providing access to support, information and advice to face the challenges of physical isolation and the evolving health crisis.

www.hobartcity.com.au/Community/Community-Programs/Resilient-Hobart/Hobart-Together

BUSINESS TASMANIA

The Tasmanian Government's resource for micro, small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

www.business.tas.gov.au/home

PREMIER'S SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY ADVISORY COUNCIL (PESRAC)

Established by the Tasmanian Government to provide advice to the Premier on strategies and initiatives to support the short to medium, and the longer term recovery from Covid-19.

www.pesrac.tas.gov.au/home

BUSINESS.GOV.AU

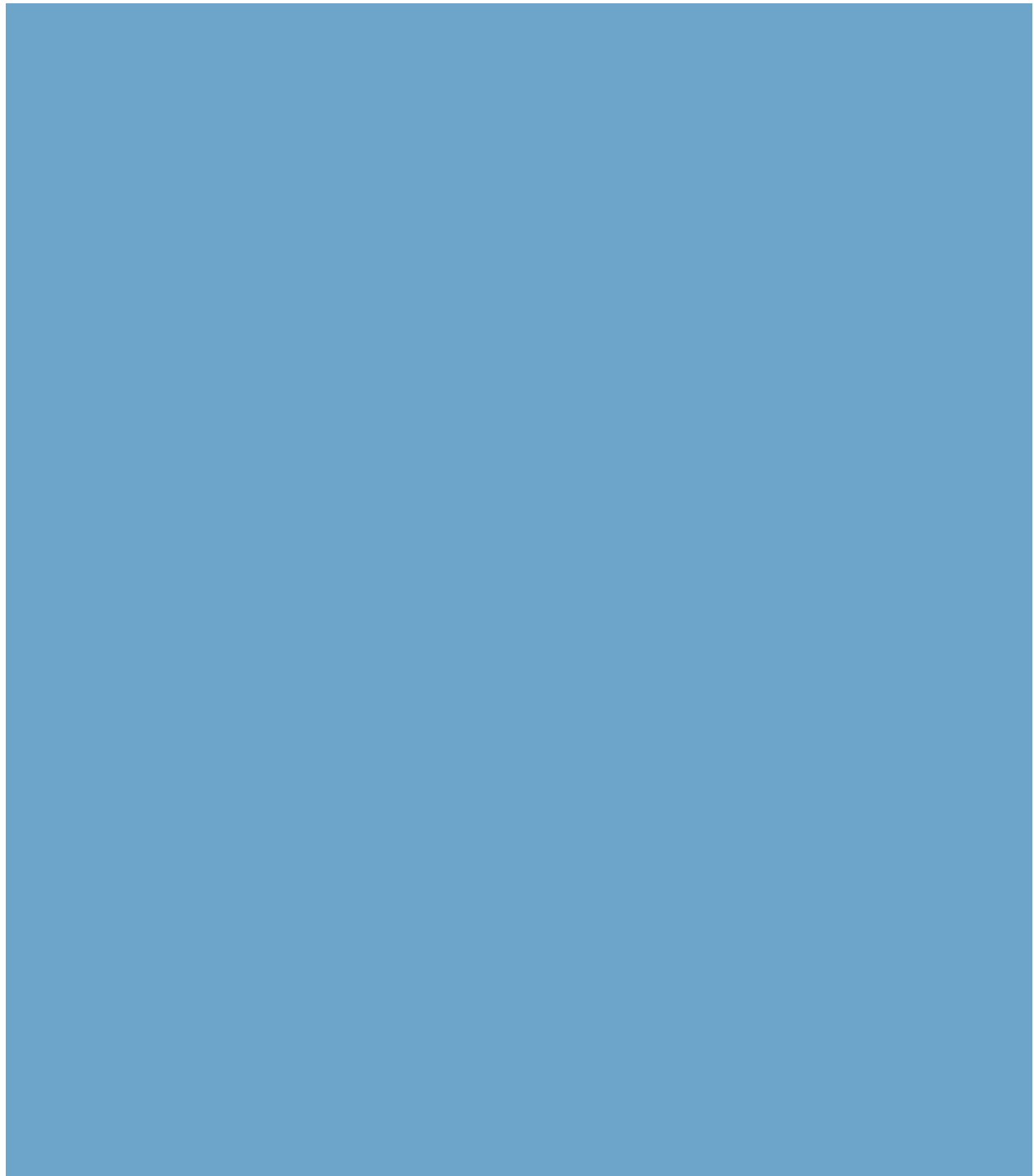
The Australian Government's primary website for the business community.

www.business.gov.au/

THE TASMANIA PROJECT

Surveys and interviews with Tasmanian residents conducted through University of Tasmania's Institute for Social Change, gathering information that is summarised as a resource for those making critical decisions in response to the pandemic.

www.utas.edu.au/tasmania-project



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COVID-19 ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY FRAMEWORK AND ACTION PLAN 2020–22

The City of Hobart's *Covid-19 Economic Response and Recovery Framework and Action Plan 2020–22* aims to work with Hobart communities, businesses and stakeholders to deliver economic recovery for Hobart on limited resources.

Based on community surveys and interviews with 200 businesses, they respond to both the long-term guidance of the community vision and the uncertainty posed by the pandemic.

The **framework** establishes the structure and guiding ideas behind the City's response and recovery efforts.

It has six **goals**, or things we want to achieve:

1. Confident households, businesses and investors
2. Thriving city centre and retail precincts
3. Local economy transitioned to the 'new normal'
4. Opportunities of the crisis embraced
5. Coordinated recovery efforts
6. Responsive and financially sustainable local government

Our work is guided by five **principles**, which we apply to all response and recovery projects:

That economic recovery ...

... is focused on need and adding value.

... supports resilience.

... builds economic confidence and participation.

... is evidence-based.

... is flexible and adaptable.

The **action plan** includes the projects that will help us reach these goals and are to be updated frequently to meet the changing Covid-19 situation. It has four initiatives made up of 29 total projects.



INITIATIVE 1: LEARNING WHAT PEOPLE NEED	INITIATIVE 2: BUILDING BUSINESS RESILIENCE	INITIATIVE 3: BUILDING COMMUNITY ECONOMIC RESILIENCE	INITIATIVE 4: RESPONSIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT
PROJECT 1.1: SOCIAL INCLUSION DASHBOARDS	PROJECT 2.1: BUSINESS CONCIERGE	PROJECT 3.1: RATES RELIEF PACKAGE	PROJECT 4.1: 24/7 COUNCIL
PROJECT 1.2: BUSINESS CONSULTATIVE GROUP	PROJECT 2.2: BUSINESS GRANTS	PROJECT 3.2: RENTAL, FEES AND CHARGES RELIEF PACKAGE	PROJECT 4.2: RESPONSIVE PLANNING AND MOBILITY SERVICES
PROJECT 1.3: SAFE PUBLIC SPACES	PROJECT 2.3: HELLO HOBART	PROJECT 3.3: RESILIENT HOBART GRANTS	PROJECT 4.3: CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM
PROJECT 1.4: CREATIVE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT	PROJECT 2.4: BLOCK PARTIES	PROJECT 3.4: INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT PARTNERSHIPS	PROJECT 4.4: FUNDING FOR CITY PROJECTS
PROJECT 1.5: BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY RESEARCH AND ENGAGEMENT	PROJECT 2.5: SALAMANCA MARKET ONLINE AND TASMANIA'S OWN MARKET	PROJECT 3.5: FESTIVE SEASON CHARITABLE QUICK RESPONSE GRANTS	PROJECT 4.5: RESILIENT HOBART
	PROJECT 2.6: TTIC AND ELIZABETH MALL INFO HUB	PROJECT 3.6: CENTRAL HOBART PRECINCT PLANNING ECONOMIC ANALYSIS	PROJECT 4.6: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY
	PROJECT 2.7: OUTDOOR DINING REGULATIONS	PROJECT 3.7: MOBILITY FOR CITY VIBRANCY	PROJECT 4.7: INVESTOR PROSPECTUS
	PROJECT 2.8: OUTDOOR DINING PLATFORMS		PROJECT 4.8: COMMUNITY VISION STEWARDSHIP
	PROJECT 2.9: LOCAL PREFERENCE PROCUREMENT POLICY		

The action plan will be updated on an ongoing basis, in response to new data and what we learn from communities, businesses and other support initiatives. The next update is planned for mid-2021.

**6.3 Economic Development & Communications Committee - COVID-19
Format
File Ref: F20/123568**

Memorandum of the General Manager of 19 November 2020.

Delegation: Committee



City of **HOBART**

**MEMORANDUM: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNICATIONS
COMMITTEE**

**Economic Development & Communications Committee -
COVID-19 Format**

At its meeting of 9 November 2020 the Council resolved to resume physical Council meetings in the Council Chamber from the 23 November 2020, subject to conditions and in accordance with Public Health advice.

The General Manager noted that an item would be placed on each Council Committee agenda to enable each committee to determine if they wish to return to physical meetings or remain on the Zoom format.

If physical meetings are to resume then the Lady Osborne Room will be configured to ensure the Public Health recommendations of 1.5m physical distancing and 1 person per 2m² is maintained.

A Covid Safe Plan for the return to physical meetings will be circulated to elected members as soon as practicable.

RECOMMENDATION

That the matter be considered by the Economic Development & Communications Committee.

As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.

N D Heath
GENERAL MANAGER

Date: 19 November 2020
File Reference: F20/123568

7. COMMITTEE ACTION STATUS REPORT

7.1 Committee Actions - Status Report

A report indicating the status of current decisions is attached for the information of Elected Members.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received and noted.

Delegation: Committee

Attachment A: EDCC Status Report - Nov 2020

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE – STATUS REPORT

OPEN PORTION OF THE MEETING

November 2020

Ref	Meeting	Report / Action	Action Officer	Comments
1	<p>TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR USE OF SALAMANCA SQUARE, MATHERS PLACE, COLLINS COURT, WELLINGTON COURT AND ELIZABETH MALL</p> <p>Council, 9/5/2016, Item 15</p>	That terms and conditions of use be created for Mathers Place, Collins Court, Wellington Court and Salamanca Square in the context of the review of the Highways By-Law and the development of a city activation framework, and that the terms and conditions of use for Elizabeth Mall be also reviewed, for presentation to the Council for endorsement.	Director Community Life	<p>The terms and conditions for the identified spaces have been amended based on the updated Public Spaces By-Law.</p> <p>A wider internal review of the terms, conditions and guidelines for the use of Council facilities by the community is underway to ensure they are consistent and accord with the Public Spaces By-Law.</p> <p>The terms and conditions for the use of Mathers Place, Collins Court, Wellington Court and Salamanca Square will also form part of the wider review.</p> <p>Further internal consultation will be undertaken before the terms and conditions for these spaces are presented to the Council for endorsement.</p>

Ref	Meeting	Report / Action	Action Officer	Comments
2	INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS REVIEW Council, 07/09/2019, Item 12	Strategic decisions relating to existing and new international relationships be deferred, to be considered in March 2021. Major operational activities relating to existing and potential new international relationships be paused until March 2021.	Director Community Life	In light of COVID-19 and the Council's budgetary restraints, sister city activities are deferred until early 2021.
	TIMOR-LESTE RELATIONSHIP UPDATE Council, 02/12/2019, Item 19			
	Council, 03/06/2019, Item 14			
	Council, 23/4/2018, Item 18			
	Council, 4/12/2017, Item 18			
	Council, 7/8/2017, Item 15			

Ref	Meeting	Report / Action	Action Officer	Comments
3	<p>INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS REVIEW</p> <p>Council, 07/09/2019, Item 12</p> <p>INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS – POTENTIAL NEW RELATIONSHIPS</p> <p>Council, 02/12/2019, Item 16</p> <p>EXPLORATION OF NEW INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS</p> <p>Council, 01/04/2019, Item 12</p>	<p>Strategic decisions relating to existing and new international relationships be deferred, to be considered in March 2021.</p> <p>(i) Major operational activities relating to existing and potential new international relationships be paused until March 2021.</p>	Director Community Life	In light of COVID-19 and the Council's budgetary restraints, sister city activities are deferred until early 2021.

Ref	Meeting	Report / Action	Action Officer	Comments
4	COVID-19 ECONOMIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY Council, 10/08/2020, Item 15	<p>That</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The Council endorse the creation of a flexible COVID-19 economic recovery framework and action plan, including associated community engagement. 3. The Council endorse the creation of a COVID-19 economic recovery business consultative group, as a temporary means of seeking feedback on recovery efforts. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The General Manager is delegated responsibility for finalising the group's membership and terms of reference. 4. The Lord Mayor, Chair of the Economic Development and Communications Committee and Chair of the Finance and Governance Committee seek to coordinate a meeting with relevant Australian and/or Tasmanian Government representatives to inform economic recovery planning. 	Director Community Life	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. A report on this matter is listed on the agenda. 3. The General Manager has approved a draft membership for the consultative group. Officers are currently drafting the terms of reference prior to invitations being sent to the selected members. 4. The Lord Mayor will raise this request directly with the Premier during their next quarterly meeting in November 2020.

8. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Section 29 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.
File Ref: 13-1-10

An Elected Member may ask a question without notice of the Chairman, another Elected Member, the General Manager or the General Manager's representative, in line with the following procedures:

1. The Chairman will refuse to accept a question without notice if it does not relate to the Terms of Reference of the Council committee at which it is asked.
2. In putting a question without notice, an Elected Member must not:
 - (i) offer an argument or opinion; or
 - (ii) draw any inferences or make any imputations – except so far as may be necessary to explain the question.
3. The Chairman must not permit any debate of a question without notice or its answer.
4. The Chairman, Elected Members, General Manager or General Manager's representative who is asked a question may decline to answer the question, if in the opinion of the respondent it is considered inappropriate due to its being unclear, insulting or improper.
5. The Chairman may require a question to be put in writing.
6. Where a question without notice is asked and answered at a meeting, both the question and the response will be recorded in the minutes of that meeting.
7. Where a response is not able to be provided at the meeting, the question will be taken on notice and
 - (i) the minutes of the meeting at which the question is asked will record the question and the fact that it has been taken on notice.
 - (ii) a written response will be provided to all Elected Members, at the appropriate time.
 - (iii) upon the answer to the question being circulated to Elected Members, both the question and the answer will be listed on the agenda for the next available ordinary meeting of the committee at which it was asked, where it will be listed for noting purposes only.

9. CLOSED PORTION OF THE MEETING

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee resolve by majority that the meeting be closed to the public pursuant to regulation 15(1) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* because the items included on the closed agenda contain the following matters:

- Confirm the minutes of the Closed portion of the meeting
- Question without notice in the Closed portion

The following items are listed for discussion:-

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Item No. 1 | Minutes of the last meeting of the Closed Portion of the Council Meeting |
| Item No. 2 | Consideration of supplementary items to the agenda |
| Item No. 3 | Indications of pecuniary and conflicts of interest |
| Item No. 4 | Questions Without Notice |