



CITY OF HOBART

MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

COUNCIL MEETING

OPEN PORTION OF THE MEETING

TUESDAY, 28 JANUARY 2025

AT 4.00 PM

VENUE: COUNCIL CHAMBER, TOWN HALL

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I am pleased to present my Annual Report for 2024.

All of the activity detailed in this Report is central to undertaking the specific duties of a mayor as set by the *Local Government Act 1993*. These duties are:

- to act as a **leader of the community** of the municipal area
- to carry out the **civic and ceremonial functions** of the mayoral office
- to promote **good governance** by, and within, the Council
- to act as **chairperson of the Council** and to chair meetings of the Council in a manner that supports decision-making processes
- to act as the **spokesperson for the Council**
- to **represent the Council** on regional organisations and at intergovernmental forums at regional, state and federal levels
- to **lead** and participate in the appointment, and the monitoring of the performance, of **the general manager**
- to **liaise with the general manager** on: the activities of the Council and the performance and exercise of its functions and powers; and the activities of the general manager and the performance and exercise of powers in supporting the Council.



This Annual Report gives some specific details on how these duties have been carried out over the past twelve months.



I would like to express my gratitude to the small, dedicated team that supports the Lord Mayor in carrying out this legislated role and functions.

I look forward to continuing my work as Lord Mayor in making Hobart an inclusive and vibrant city where everyone can thrive.

Cr Anna Reynolds
LORD MAYOR

Leader of the community

“to act as a leader of the community of the municipal area...”



The Lord Mayor with representatives of Buckingham Bowls Club and OHA Netball Club discussing plans for upgrades to the New Town sporting precinct, March 2024

Constituent correspondence and meetings

Over the period this Report covers, the Office of the Lord Mayor directly received and responded to 782 pieces of correspondence – via email and letter – on a variety of issues of concern to the citizens of Hobart. Some of these queries and issues were able to be handled by research, discussions with City staff experts, or referrals to more appropriate agencies.

Occasionally the correspondence raised more complex issues. To this end, Lord Mayor Reynolds met with 34 constituents, both at the Town Hall and at on-site visits.

Mayor in the Chair

Lord Mayor Reynolds regularly meets with City of Hobart residents via her “Mayor in the Chair” sessions. These drop-in sessions are an opportunity for community members to ask questions or raise issues directly with the Lord Mayor in person without needing to make an appointment. The sessions usually take place in the Henry Hunter Room at the Hobart Town Hall and also in suburban cafes around Hobart. Over the period of this Report, seven Mayor in the Chair sessions were held.

Civic and ceremonial functions

“to carry out the civic and ceremonial functions of the mayoral office...”



The Lord Mayor with new Australian citizens at one of the ceremonies held during 2024

Citizenship ceremonies

The City of Hobart holds citizenship ceremonies on behalf of the Australian Government and Lord Mayor Reynolds presides over the ceremonies. Over the last year, the City of Hobart conducted four ceremonies where 360 people became Australian citizens.

School tours

Lord Mayor Reynolds hosts Town Hall tours for school groups to assist students in understanding the history of the city and how local government operates. The tour includes time in the Council Chamber where students participate in a ‘mock’ Council meeting. This gives them first-hand experience of how decisions that impact residents of Hobart are made, as well as the opportunity to learn about the role of local government in Australian democracy.

During the year, we were pleased to host 13 groups from Fahan School, Sacred Heart College, Lenah Valley Primary School, South Hobart Primary School, Waimea Heights Primary School and Goulburn Street Primary School.



The Lord Mayor with the Children's Mayor winners and finalists at the Town Hall, October 2024

Children's Mayor Program

In 2024, we 'elected' the City's fourth Children's Lord Mayor and Children's Deputy Lord Mayor. The program, as part of National Children's Week, encourages Hobart primary school students to engage in and articulate their perspectives on local issues, as well as giving them a taste of what it's like to work at the Town Hall.

Students from schools across the city were invited to write their own manifestos as to what they would do if given the role of Lord Mayor of Hobart. Lord Mayor Reynolds hosted a morning tea/formal reception for these future leaders at the Hobart Town Hall, where the winning manifestos were read. Twelve-year-old **Lola Mennitz from The Friends School** was declared the 2024 Children's Lord Mayor for her submission "*One side to the other, a matter of time before you decide*", a proposed ferry service to encourage greater connectivity in Hobart's public transport services, one that would complement Metro Bus Services by connecting both sides of the river as well as the northern and southern suburbs.

Joining Lola as the Children's Deputy Lord Mayor was **Alice Plimpton**, also 12 years old, from **Lansdowne Crescent Primary School**. Alice's submission "*Let's paint our city with endangered flora and fauna to brighten and educate*" advocated for the creation of artistic murals around Hobart centred around local endangered species to raise awareness of our city's unique natural wonders as well as brighten up public spaces.

Sixteen manifestos were received from students attending a range of public and private schools within the Hobart local government area.

Lord Mayoral Receptions

Upon request, Lord Mayor Reynolds hosts receptions for clubs and organisations to celebrate significant occasions or national or cultural days. These receptions are held in the Lord Mayor's Court Room at the Hobart Town Hall.

Over the last year, the Lord Mayor's Office hosted the following groups:

- That's What I Call Science
- UNESCO City of Literature Celebration
- The Royal Hobart Regatta Association
- Peace Reception
- Family Law Pathways Network 20th Anniversary
- Amy Sherwin Fund Inc.
- Soroptimist International Hobart 75th Anniversary
- Pakistan Independence Day
- St David's Cathedral Sesquicentenary (150th Anniversary)
- Climate Futures
- Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania
- Women Chiefs of Enterprises International
- Voices of the Southern Ocean.

Official Calls

As the City's civic leader, the Lord Mayor receives official calls from Defence Force personnel, Ambassadors, High Commissioners, and delegates from foreign countries.

During the year, the Lord Mayor received:

- High Commissioner of India, His Excellency Mr Manpreet Vohra
- Commanding Officers, Navy Headquarters Tasmania, Commander Mark Tandy and Commander Tony Everingham
- Ambassador of Timor-Leste, Her Excellency Ms Inês Maria de Almeida
- Wing Commander Nicholas Fairweather
- Ambassador of France and Honorary Consul of France, His Excellency Mr Pierre-André Imbert
- Ambassador of Japan, His Excellency Mr Kazuhiro Suzuki
- Ambassador of Germany, Her Excellency Ms Beate Grzeski
- Australian Ambassador-Designate to Nepal, Ms Leann Johnston
- High Commissioner of Singapore, His Excellency Mr Anil Kumar Nayar
- Consul General for the United States of America, Mr Conrad Tribble
- Consul General for France, Ms Paule Ignatio.



The Lord Mayor with fellow speakers at the Better Futures Forum Australia, September 2024

Events

Over the last year, Lord Mayor Reynolds accepted 91 invitations to community events, official openings or launches. She delegated a further 48 invitations to other elected members to attend in her stead.

Speeches delivered

Throughout the year, Lord Mayor Reynolds made 48 speeches at various community events, official openings and launches including:

- Innovative Electrical King of the Derwent Yacht Race 2024
- Tamil Heritage 'Thai-Pongal' Festival 2024
- Climate talk hosted by the German Embassy
- Royal Hobart Regatta civic reception
- Festa Italia
- Think Big Hobart Run the Bridge
- Creative Hobart Grants Showcase
- 200 Years of Cascade Brewery
- Refugee Week Art Exhibition
- 2024 Tasmanian Architecture Awards
- Antarctic Season Opening.

Promoting good governance

“to promote good governance by, and within, the Council...”

Lord Mayor Reynolds worked with the Chief Executive Officer, Michael Stretton, on a number of governance initiatives over 2024 including:

- Council recommitting to its Elected Member Commitments and making the document public
- Arranging for sessions with an executive coach for elected members to discuss workplace issues
- Developing a workplace health and safety risk assessment and action plan for elected members.

Chairperson of Council

“to act as Chairperson of the Council and to chair meetings of the Council in a manner that supports decision-making processes...”

Lord Mayor Reynolds chaired 12 out of 14 Council Meetings she attended between November 2023 and October 2024.

Spokesperson of Council

“to act as a spokesperson for the Council...”

Lord Mayor Reynolds made 75 media appearances and interviews during the period this report covers. This includes regular interviews on Triple M radio for their “Mayor on the Air” segment and ABC Breakfast, usually following Council meetings.

While most media was local, she also appeared on Channel 7’s *Sunrise* program and the BBC.

Represent the Council

“to represent the Council on regional organisations and at intergovernmental forums at regional, state and federal levels...”

Intergovernmental Committees

Lord Mayor Reynolds is on the following bodies and intergovernmental committees:

	Meetings attended
Council of Capital City Lord Mayors (CCCLM)	2
Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT)	6
Premier’s Local Government Council (PLGC)	None held
Greater Hobart Strategic Partnership	7
Greater Hobart Homelessness Alliance	1
ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability	2
Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy	7
Greater Hobart Committee and Advisory Group Workshop	2

Local Government Association of Tasmania

Lord Mayor Reynolds is a member of the Local Government Association of Tasmania’s General Management Committee that comprises the President of LGAT, the Lord Mayor (by virtue of Hobart’s capital city status) and seven representatives from the North, West/North-West and South.

She attended six meetings of the General Management Committee this year.

Meetings held with State and Federal Representatives

	Meetings held
The Hon Jeremy Rockliff MP	2
The Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP	2
The Hon Felix Ellis MP	1
The Hon Dean Winter MP	2
Simon Behrakis MP	2
Janie Finlay MP	2
Nic Street MP	2
Ella Haddad MP	1
Josh Willie MP	1
Senator The Hon Carol Brown	2
Senator The Hon Jonathon Duniam	2
Senator The Hon Tanya Plibersek	1
The Hon Catherine King MP	1
The Hon Kristy McBain MP	1
The Hon Josh Wilson MP	1
The Hon Paul Fletcher MP	1
Elizabeth Watson-Brown MP	1
Andrew Wilkie MP	4



The Lord Mayor with Andrew Wilkie MP, Federal Member for Clark and Senator The Hon Tanya Plibersek at Parliament House, Canberra, July 2024

Liaise with the General Manager

“to lead and participate in the appointment, and the monitoring of the performance, of the general manager and to liaise with the general manager on:

- **the activities of the Council and the performance and exercise of its functions and powers;**
- **the activities of the general manager and the performance and exercise of powers in supporting the Council.”**

The Lord Mayor led the recruitment process to appoint Michael Stretton, former Launceston City Council General Manager, to the role of City of Hobart CEO in October 2023. Mr Stretton commenced with the City of Hobart in February 2024.

Throughout 2024, the Lord Mayor has liaised with Mr Stretton on the Council's activities and monitored the performance and exercise of powers of the CEO in supporting the City of Hobart's elected officials.



Risk and Audit Panel

DRAFT 2025 Work Plan and Meeting Schedule

Functions (section 3 of the Panel Terms of Reference)

The Panel will contribute to the good governance of the City.

The following are matters that the Panel will consider in its review of the Council's performance incorporating all requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government Act 1993 (Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014)*:

- (a) Council's financial system, financial governance arrangements and financial management;
- (b) The management of risk associated with the Council and its activities and services, including the identification, assessment, management and review of those risks.
- (c) All Plans under Part 7 of the Act (the strategic plan, long-term financial management plan, financial management strategies, long-term asset management plans, asset management policies and strategies, annual plan, annual report), whether and how these are integrated, and the processes and assumptions undertaken to prepare the plans;
- (d) Policies, systems and controls (including accounting, internal control, anti-fraud, anti-corruption, risk management including controls over strategic risk and compliance), that the Council has in relation to safeguarding its long term financial position;
- (e) The Council's procurement and purchasing framework and controls, as set out in the *Local Government Act 1993* and *Local Government (General) Regulations 2015*, including probity, tendering, quoting for goods, services and works and contract management.
- (f) Whether the annual financial statements of the Council accurately represent the state of affairs of the Council;
- (g) Whether the Council is complying with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* and all other relevant legislation;
- (h) Whether the Council has taken any action in relation to previous recommendations provided by the Panel to the Council and, if it has taken action, what that action was and its effectiveness; and
- (i) Any other activities within the Panel's remit which are requested by the Council or as determined by the Panel.

TERMS OF REFERENCE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	SCHEDULED 2025 MEETING DATES					
	26 FEBRUARY 2025	16 APRIL 2025	4 JUNE 2025	13 AUGUST 2025	15 OCTOBER 2025	3 DECEMBER 2025
1. Risk Management oversight						
Oversight the Strategic Risk and Resilience system.		Overview of current risk register and KRIs			Briefing on risk system	Overview of current risk register and KRIs Risk appetite statement review
Briefings on individual risks on the Strategic Risk and Resilience Register on a rotating basis: risk status, movement, KRI's, tolerance, treatment and progress	As per schedule	As per schedule	As per schedule	As per schedule		As per schedule
New and emerging risks	As required	As required	As required	As required	As required	As required
2. Integrated Planning Process						
Long Term Financial Sustainability	Long Term Financial Management Plan (LTFMP)	Long Term Financial Management Plan (LTFMP) Update	Advice Council in the preparation of the annual budget and its adherence with the LTFMP		Long Term Strategic Asset Management Plan (LTSAMP)	
Council's integrated planning process						Processes for Strategic Plan; LTFMP; LTSAMP; Annual Plan; and Annual Report
3. Accounting, internal control, anti-fraud, anti-corruption and risk management						
System of financial internal controls		Financial controls briefing				
System of non-financial internal controls – rolling schedule of reports on internal control systems			As per schedule	As per schedule	As per schedule	As per schedule
Fraud and anti-corruption controls	Fraud and Corruption Control briefing					
4. Procurement and Purchasing Framework						
Procurement, purchasing and contract management controls					Procurement, contract management and purchasing briefing	

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	26 FEBRUARY 2025	16 APRIL 2025	4 JUNE 2025	13 AUGUST 2025	15 OCTOBER 2025	3 DECEMBER 2025
5. Internal Governance Audit (Oversee the coordination of the Council's governance audit program)						
Review the internal audit work plan and long term strategy.		Internal Audit Program review		Internal Audit Plan 2025-26		
Internal audit reports and special reports	Table on completion	Table on completion	Table on completion	Table on completion	Table on completion	Table on completion
Annually review the performance of the contracted internal audit			Internal Audit service review of KPIs and contract			
Monitor implementation of audit recommendations		Internal audit recommendations progress report			Internal audit recommendations progress report	
6. External Audit (oversee the external audit programs)						
External Audit (Auditor General)	Follow up on progress of action items					
External Audit – Annual Financial Statements		Tasmanian Audit Office Financial Audit Strategy In camera discussion		Review draft financial statements	Review audited financial statements and audit report	
7. Compliance						
Reports on compliance with Local Government Act 1993 and other relevant legislation	Compliance breaches		System of compliance monitoring	Compliance breaches		
8. Financial Management						
Review the Management Representation letter				Review draft financial statements	Review management representation letter and advise Council on audited financial statements Adherence to LTFMP	Review TAO report to Parliament
9. Panel management						
Review Panel operations				Review the Panel's operations and activities	Review the work plan for 2026	RAP Annual Report to Council Panel work plan to Council
Membership					Appointments and reappointments	Recommendations to Council

TERMS OF REFERENCE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	SCHEDULED 2025 MEETING DATES					
	26 FEBRUARY 2025	16 APRIL 2025	4 JUNE 2025	13 AUGUST 2025	15 OCTOBER 2025	3 DECEMBER 2025
Remuneration						Report to Council outcome of the review and any resulting recommendations for change

Key: Items reporting through to Council