



CITY OF HOBART

AGENDA

The Hobart Workshop Committee Meeting
Open Portion
Monday, 17 March 2025
at 4.00pm
Lady Osborne Room



City of **HOBART**

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.

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The Hobart Workshop Committee Meeting (Open Portion) held Monday, 17 March 2025 at 4.00pm in the Lady Osborne Room.

The title Chief Executive Officer is a term of reference for the General Manager as appointed by Council pursuant s.61 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas).

APPOINTED MEMBERS

Councillor M S C Dutta (Chairperson)
Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Dr Z E Sherlock
Councillor J L Kelly
Councillor L M Elliot
Alderman L A Bloomfield
Councillor R J Posselt
Councillor B Lohberger
Councillor G H Kitsos

Apologies:

Leave of Absence: Nil.

NOMINEE MEMBERS

Lord Mayor Councillor A M Reynolds
Alderman M Zucco
Councillor W F Harvey
Councillor W N S Coats

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Open Portion of the Hobart Workshop Committee meeting held on [Monday, 17 February 2025](#), 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 Chief Executive Officer.

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 Council Policy Manual Review File Ref: F24/86843; 16/119

Report of the Acting Director Corporate Services of 5 March 2025 and attachments.

Delegation: Committee

REPORT TITLE: COUNCIL POLICY MANUAL REVIEW**REPORT PROVIDED BY:** Acting Director Corporate Services**1. Report Summary**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is for the Council to review a number of policies contained within the Council's Policy Manual.
- 1.2. The Policy Manual contains a total of 98 policies. This review considered 25 policies contained within the policy categories of:
 - 1.2.1. Community Service and Events;
 - 1.2.2. Environment, Planning and Development Control;
 - 1.2.3. Property Management; and
 - 1.2.4. Roads, Traffic and Walkways.
- 1.3. In addition, this report also presents proposed amendments to the Prevention of Modern Slavery in Supply Chains policy as requested by the Council at its meeting on 24 June 2024, to reflect any electronic, electric vehicle and/or battery related modern slavery practice risks. A series of actions are also proposed to manage the City's modern slavery supply chains risks.
- 1.4. A new Venues Policy developed in response to a Council decision requesting that venue guidelines be developed is also presented for consideration.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1. The Council Policy Manual contains 98 policies, many of which are overdue for review.
- 2.2. A review program consisting of three tranches has been programmed over the coming months to address the overdue issue. This report presents the first tranche of 25 policies. Following this, regular reviews will be undertaken every six months such that all policies are reviewed within a two-year period.
- 2.3. In summary, in the first-round review 12 policies are recommended for amendment, five policies remain unchanged, six policies have been recommended to be rescinded, one policy has been deferred to a workshop and one new policy has been developed – refer **Attachment A** for the summary report.
- 2.4. The Prevention of Modern Slavery in Supply Chains policy, as requested by the Council at its meeting on 24 June 2024, is also presented for amendment (marked as **Attachment C**).

- 2.5. The Christmas Pageant CBD Parking Charges policy requires a deeper review and will go back to a workshop before being presented to a Council meeting for endorsement.
- (i) In the summary report marked as **Attachment A**, the notation says this policy is recommended to be deferred and not considered as part of this review, thus a marked-up version of the policy is not included in **Attachment B**.

**2.6. A new Venues Policy is presented for consideration.3.
Recommendations**

That:

- 1. Council Policies marked as appendices 1 to 24, as shown in Attachment B to this report, be adopted.**
- 2. The Christmas Pageant CBD Parking Charges policy be considered at a future workshop prior to Council approval.**
- 3. The Council adopt the revised City of Hobart Prevention of Modern Slavery in Supply Chains Policy, marked as Attachment C to this report.**
 - (i) In order to consider, identify and manage the City's modern slavery supply chain risks, the following actions be undertaken:**
 - (a) conduct a modern slavery risk assessment of the City's supply chains to identify which products and services Council procures are at higher risk of being produced/delivered (fully or in part) by slavery;**
 - (b) engage with the City's suppliers on Council's policy position and expectations in relation to modern slavery;**
 - (c) establish a modern slavery reporting mechanism through the City's existing public interest disclosure procedures;**
 - (d) include modern slavery related clauses in the City's Contracts;**
 - (e) Include prevention of modern slavery in public tendering; and**
 - (f) provide staff with access to modern slavery awareness.**
- 4. The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to make any minor amendments necessary to finalise the policies attached to this report and arrange for them to be made available from the City's website.**

4. Background

- 4.1. The Council Policy Manual contains 98 policies which are endorsed by the Council and should be reviewed at least once every two years, however, the last policy review process was undertaken in 2022, meaning a number of these policies are now overdue for review.**

- 4.2. To address this, three tranches of review have been programmed, and this report is considering the first tranche, containing 25 policies.
- 4.3. In undertaking this review, policies were reviewed for relevance, accuracy, and currency by relevant officers.
- 4.4. 25 policies are presented to the Council, irrespective of whether changes are proposed, as a good governance practice. A summary of recommendations is provided at **Attachment A** with the respective policies shown in marked-up format as **Attachment B**.
 - 4.4.1. 12 policies are recommended for amendment.
 - 4.4.2. 5 policies do not require amendments.
 - 4.4.3. 6 policies have been recommended to rescind.
 - 4.4.4. 1 new policy has been developed.
 - 4.4.5. 1 policy has been recommended to be deferred to a future workshop.
- 4.5. Of the policies recommended for amendment, the majority are minor amendments such as updates to legislative references, improved language or updates to reflect the organisational re-alignment.
- 4.6. One policy, '**Positive Provisioning for Cyclists**' has undergone significant review and been re-written to align with the principles in the recently endorsed Hobart Transport Strategy 2024, as well as to bring it into line with the State Government policy for cycling infrastructure – the *Tasmanian Walk, Wheel, Ride Policy 2024*:
https://www.infrastructure.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0017/53230/4/tasmanian-walk-wheel-ride-policy-2024.pdf
- 4.7. One new policy titled '**Venue Hire Policy**' has been developed. This is in response to a Council decision requesting that venue guidelines be developed.
- 4.8. The objectives of the draft Venue Hire Policy are to:
 - Encourage community use of the City's venues for a diverse range of private, public, cultural, social, recreational and/or community activities;
 - Acknowledge that several of the City's venues are primarily for use by the City for civic, ceremonial and administrative purposes;
 - Clarify and optimise the intended social outcomes of the venues listed below that are managed by the City of Hobart;
 - Establish principles for the setting of fees and charges; and

- Ensure that the City and the public comply with all applicable laws.
- 4.9. In addition, this report also considers the **City of Hobart Prevention of Modern Slavery in Supply Chains** Policy which, at its meeting of 24 June 2024, the Council resolved inter alia that:
- “a further report that explores any potential amendments to the policy to reflect any electronic, electric vehicle and / or battery related modern slavery practice risks.”*
- 4.10. A revised City of Hobart Prevention of Modern Slavery in Supply Chains Policy is provided as **Attachment C**.
- 4.11. The City’s new Modern Slavery in Supply Chains Policy has been modified to clarify it applies to all goods, services and works that the City purchase and procures including its electronics, electric vehicles and batteries. The Policy clarifies that where Council doesn’t have direct control of the purchasing process it will engage with stakeholders on modern slavery risks.
- 4.12. The City purchases vehicles under the State Government TGVC Vehicles Contract, this includes several electric and hybrid vehicle options. While modern slavery in supply chains does not specifically form part of the State Government’s contract conditions, a number of the manufacturers under the Contract have internal policies in place with respect to modern slavery prevention.
- 4.13. Furthermore, and importantly, vehicle manufacturers on the State Government Panel, being based or operating in Australia, are required to report annually to the Australian Government under the *Modern Slavery Act 2018 Cwlth* (see s5.1 below for more information) on the risk of modern slavery in their operations and supply chains due to their financial capacity. This includes undertaking a supplier risk assessment for each supplier in their supply chains.
- 4.14. It is noted that the City has several other smaller electric vehicles (CBD and parks based Toros for example) that the City purchases through its public tendering processes, which will be managed through the Council’s new Policy.
- 4.15. It is also noted that the City has a Local Preference Procurement Policy and the new Policy will complement the City’s local preference procurement policy position to enhance the capabilities of local business and industry when entering into Contracts for the supply of goods, services or works and achieving economic and social benefits from local sourcing on the basis of value for money.
- 4.16. The implementation steps proposed to be undertaken to support the City’s policy position on the prevention of modern slavery will consider, identify and manage modern slavery supply chain risks for the City

across all of its category classes including electronics, electric vehicles and batteries.

- 4.17. It is proposed that the Council approves the amended Policy and the following steps to consider, identify and manage the City's modern slavery supply chain risks, noting the full coverage that it applies to all goods, services or works the City procures:
 - 4.17.1. **Risk assessment:** conduct a modern slavery risk assessment of the City's supply chains to identify which products and services Council procures are at higher risk of being produced/delivered (fully or in part) by slavery. Thereafter, work with suppliers, particularly those that supply products and services with high modern slavery risk, to understand their business practices and how they identify and manage modern slavery risks in their operations and supply chains.
 - 4.17.2. **Supplier engagement:** communicate with the City's suppliers Council's policy position and expectations in relation to modern slavery.
 - 4.17.3. **Staff awareness:** increase awareness of modern slavery across all of Council by providing staff with access to modern slavery awareness. This would define modern slavery, how it relates to Council and its supply chains, and how the City will be addressing modern slavery in its supply chains.
 - 4.17.4. **Reporting:** establish a reporting mechanism through the City's existing public interest disclosure procedures, reinforcing confidential mechanisms, and direct to the Australian Federal Police. It is noted that reporting is available for both the community and suppliers.
 - 4.17.5. **Tendering:** include a modern slavery tender criterion that would be a mandatory condition requiring our suppliers to meet the condition in relevant tenders. Include a schedule in the City's Tender Forms to provide assurance and information on how suppliers are addressing modern slavery in their operations and supply chains, which would provide the information to assess the mandatory condition. Also, include and ensure assessing staff understand how to interpret responses.
 - 4.17.6. **Contracting:** include modern slavery related clauses in the City's Contracts. These would require suppliers to take reasonable steps (appropriate to their size and circumstance) to identify, assess and address modern slavery risks within their operations and supply chains, to notify Council in writing of any modern slavery occurrence detected and enabling Council to terminate Contracts if the supplier fails to notify and take action to rectify any modern slavery occurrence.

- 4.18. The modern slavery related ethical statements setting out the expectations and behaviours for doing business with the City for its suppliers, as approved by Council at its June 2024 meeting, have been included in the City of Hobart Code for Tenders and Contracts.

5. Legal, Risk and Legislative Considerations

- 5.1. In 2018 new legislation, being the Modern Slavery Act 2018 Cwlth, came into effect requiring entities based or operating in Australia, which have an annual consolidated revenue of more than \$100 million, to report annually to the Australian Government on the risks of modern slavery in their operations and supply chains, and actions undertaken to address those risks. This report is known as the Modern Slavery Statement. Entities that fall below the threshold can report voluntarily.
- 5.2. Local government is not required to publish a Modern Slavery Statement under the Commonwealth Act but larger councils with revenues above the \$100M threshold may choose to do so voluntarily.
- 5.3. This is not yet a requirement for Tasmanian councils. However, some other jurisdictions have introduced modern slavery State legislation affecting councils. As an example, commencing on 1 January 2022 a NSW Modern Slavery Amendment Act 2021 came into effect and amendments made to the NSW Local Government Act 1993, which from 1 July 2022 required all councils to take reasonable steps to ensure that goods and services are procured by and for the council are not the product of modern slavery and imposing modern slavery disclosures in the council's annual report.

6. Capital City Strategic Plan

- 6.1. The review of the City's Policy Manual is aligned with Pillar 8 of City's *Capital City Strategic Plan 2023*, specifically objective 8.1;

8.1 *Hobart is a city that is well governed that recognises the community as an active partner that informs decisions.*

8.1.1 *Build community trust through the implementation of effective civic leadership, ethical conduct and responsible governance processes that ensure accountability, transparency, and compliance with all legislated and statutory requirements.*

7. Financial Viability

- 7.1. Funding Source and Impact on Current Year Operating Result
- 7.1.1. There are no impacts resulting from this policy review process on the City's current year operating result.

7.1.2. The steps proposed to consider, identify and manage the City's modern slavery supply chain risks will be conducted in-house using the City's existing resources.

7.2. Impact on Future Years' Financial Result

7.2.1. There is no impact on the City's future years' financial result.

7.3. Asset Related Implications

7.3.1. Not applicable.

8. Innovation and Continuous Improvement


8.1. An additional two tranches of policy review are planned over the next six months. Following this, a review will be undertaken every 6 months such that all policies are reviewed within a 2-year period.


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.




Michelle Wickham
**ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE
SERVICES**

Date: 5 March 2025
File Reference: F24/86843; 16/119

Attachment A: Summary of Recommendations for Appendices 1 to 24 - March 2025 Policy Manual Review (Supporting information) 

Attachment B: Policies Marked Appendix 1 to 24 (Supporting information) 

Attachment C: Revised Council Modern Slavery in Supply Chains Prevention Policy (Supporting information) 

**6.2 Service Easements- TasNetworks - Rugby Park, New Town &
Friends Park, West Hobart**
File Ref: F24/110464

Report of the Property Officer, Manager Legal and Corporate
Governance and Acting Director Corporate Services of 6 March 2025
and attachments.

Delegation: Committee

REPORT TITLE: SERVICE EASEMENTS- TASNETWORKS - RUGBY PARK, NEW TOWN & FRIENDS PARK, WEST HOBART

REPORT PROVIDED BY: Property Officer
Manager Legal and Corporate Governance
Acting Director Corporate Services

1. Report Summary

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to notify Council of two requests for easements from TasNetworks and seek Council's approval to grant the easements.
- 1.2. The first easement is to support the placement of underground electric cabling at Rugby Park to service TasWater's development at 10 Selfs Point Road as shown at **Attachment A**.
- 1.3. The second easement is to support the relocation of the substation located in Friends Park at 17 – 19 Mellifont Street, West Hobart as shown at **Attachment B**.
- 1.4. Council officers recommend that both easements be granted.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1. The granting of easements is a grey area under the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas). Approval by the Council is not strictly required under the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) ("**the Act**"). However, the framework contained in Part 12, Division 1 of the Act is clearly designed as a check on dealings with Council owned land including any Public Land.

3. Recommendation

That:

1. ***The Council agree to grant TasNetworks an easement as shown in the Easement Deed at Attachment A to this report.***
2. ***The Council agree to grant TasNetworks an easement as shown in the Easement Deed at Attachment B to this report.***
3. ***The CEO be delegated authority to negotiate and finalise the terms and conditions of the easement and sign all necessary documents to grant the easements s shown in the Easement Deeds at Attachment A and B to this report.***

4. ***The CEO be delegated authority to negotiate and agree the terms and conditions of any service easement requested by a public utility company including TasNetworks and TasWater, and to sign all necessary documents to grant such easements.***

4. Background

Rugby Park Easement

- 4.1. In December 2024, Council officers attended a site visit at Rugby Park in New Town with representatives of TasWater, TasNetworks and Tasmanian Rugby Union Inc to discuss the placement of underground electrical cabling to service TasWater's redevelopment at 10 Selfs Point Road, New Town.
- 4.2. Locations at the site were limited due to the location of the proposed basketball stadium, Selfs Point Road and current Rugby Park infrastructure. Following feedback from the City's Sports and Recreation Team it was agreed in principle that the cabling would go in front of the Rugby Park clubhouse as shown in red on the image below.



- 4.3. Tasmanian Rugby Union Inc, the current tenant of Rugby Park, have confirmed they are happy with the placement of the cabling as shown above.

Friends Park Easement

- 4.4. In September 2024, Council officers from the City of Hobart's Open Space Team attended a site visit at Friends Park on Mellifont Street, West Hobart with TasNetworks to discuss the proposed upgrade and relocation of the substation currently located in the park.
- 4.5. At the meeting a suitable position for the relocation of the substation was agreed in principle with input from Open Space Team.

5. Legal, Risk and Legislative ConsiderationsLocal Government Act 1993 (Tas)

- 5.1. Under Part 12, Division 1 of the Act Council approval is required in respect of any proposal to "*sell, lease, donate, exchange or otherwise dispose of public land*".
- 5.2. We have received advice confirming these provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* are ambiguous and that there is an argument that by creating that easement Council is not selling, donating, exchanging, or otherwise disposing of land currently held, they are creating a new property right. That being said, the overall intention of that part of the Act addresses dealings with public land held by Council and arguably provide checks and balances for any actions that would impact on public land held by Council.
- 5.3. However, Council needs to be able to respond effectively to public infrastructure proposals. Accordingly, it is proposed that Council take risks-based approach to the granting of easements with the CEO delegated authority to grant low risk service easements to public authorities while still requiring higher risk easements such as private rights of way being referred to Council.

Electricity Supply Industry Act 1995 (Tas)

- 5.4. Section 52 of the *Electricity Supply Industry Act 1995 (Tas)* grants TasNetworks powers to undertake certain works on public land with the agreement of the relevant authority for the public land. Such works include the laying and installation of electricity infrastructure as well as the maintenance and repair of that infrastructure.
- 5.5. However, s52 (5) of the *Electricity Supply Industry Act 1995 (Tas)* provides that the relevant authorities agreement is presumed if the work is classified by the regulations as being of minor environmental impact.

5.6. Regulation 8 of *Electricity Supply Industry Regulations 2018* (Tas) provides that, amongst other things:

5.6.1. 'the laying, removal, repair, maintenance or modification of any underground cable for the distribution or transmission of electricity', and

5.6.2. 'the installation and erection of any substation or transformer associated with the distribution or supply of electricity'

are classified as work of minor environmental impact. Accordingly, Council's agreement to undertake the works proposed by TasNetworks can be presumed.

5.7. Accordingly, TasNetworks has legislative powers to undertake the proposed works regardless of whether the easement is granted or not. On that basis the easements should be regarded as low risk and approved by Council.

5.8. Further, granting the easement will provide a public benefit by allowing the infrastructure to be accurately documented on title.

6. Discussion

6.1. The granting of the easements is considered low risk and in the public interest. The Rugby Park easement is in support of public infrastructure by a public utility (i.e. TasWater) of which the City of Hobart is a part owner. The Friends Park easement is relocating public infrastructure within the same park. The easements are not in support of private developments where the use of public land may be increasing the value of private land, nor are they controversial with relevant stakeholders.

6.2. A valuation could be undertaken however, two valuations were obtained for two different easements to public authorities in 2023-24. Both assessments gave nominal value to the easements where the cost of the valuation assessment was more than the value of the easement.

6.3. Accordingly, it is recommended Council approve the granting of the easements.

7. Hobart: A Community Vision For Our Island Capital

7.1. The proposal is consistent with the City of Hobart Vision:

Pillar 7 Outcome 7.3

7.3.3 Our infrastructure and services are planned, managed and maintained so they provide long term benefits to Hobart communities.

8. Capital City Strategic Plan

- 8.1. The proposal is consistent with the City of Hobart Capital City Strategic Plan 2023:

Pillar 7 Outcome 7.3

Strategy 7.3.1 Ensure the City's infrastructure supports health and wellbeing and is affordable and accessible for all.

Strategy 7.3.5 Measure, manage and support the effective use of city facilities, infrastructure and public spaces..

9. Financial Viability

- 9.1. Funding Source and Impact on Current Year Operating Result

9.1.1. Documentation will be prepared and lodged by TasNetworks. The only cost to Council will be staff time in reviewing and signing off documents which is part of their normal duties. Accordingly, there will no impact on the current year operating budget.

- 9.2. Impact on Future Years' Financial Result

9.2.1. There will no impact on the future years' operating budget.

- 9.3. Asset Related Implications

9.3.1. Council land will have registered easements on title. This may limit how Council can use the impacted land. However, it will ensure Council and the public are aware of the location of the electrical infrastructure.

9.3.2. The electrical infrastructure themselves will be owned and maintained by TasNetworks.

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.



Andrew Topfer
PROPERTY OFFICER





Wes Young
**MANAGER LEGAL AND CORPORATE
GOVERNANCE**



Michelle Wickham
**ACTING DIRECTOR CORPORATE
SERVICES**

Date: 6 March 2025
File Reference: F24/110464

Attachment A: Rugby Park Easement (Supporting information) 
Attachment B: Friends Park Easement (Supporting information) 

**6.3 Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) 2025 Federal
Election Campaign**
File Ref: F25/16775; 24/47

Report of the Head of Executive Services of 6 March 2025.

Delegation: Committee

**REPORT TITLE: AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
(ALGA) 2025 FEDERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN****REPORT PROVIDED BY:** Head of Executive Services**1. Report Summary and Key Issue**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to seek Council support for the Australian Local Government Association's (ALGA) 2025 federal election priorities, and their national *Put Our Communities First* advocacy campaign.

2. Discussion and Background

- 2.1. The next Federal Elected must be held by 17 May 2025.
- 2.2. Working in conjunction with its member state and territory associations, the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) has developed a framework and resources for a national advocacy campaign that will run in the lead up to the Federal election.
- 2.3. The advocacy campaign is based around the tagline of "*Put our Communities First*", with the ultimate goal to secure additional federal funding that will support every council to play a bigger role delivering local solutions to national priorities.
- 2.4. All of the 537 Australian councils have been asked to participate in this campaign to ensure a coordinated and consistent approach.
- 2.5. The *Put our Communities First* campaign will advocate for new federal funding to be distributed to all Councils on a formula basis, similar to the Commonwealth's Roads to Recovery Program, or the previous Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.
- 2.6. This will ensure that every council and community benefits, and support local decision making based on local needs.
- 2.7. ALGA has developed a number of campaign resources that can be adapted and utilised by Council, to ensure a consistent and effective approach.
- 2.8. Participating in this national advocacy campaign does not preclude the City of Hobart from advocating on its own endorsed advocacy priorities, the two can go hand in hand, and the City will continue to advocate strongly for funding.
- 2.9. The five national funding priorities have been determined by the ALGA Board-comprised of representatives from each of Australia's state and territory local government associations -and align with key national priorities.
- 2.10. The five funding priorities are:

- 2.10.1 \$1.1 billion per year for enabling infrastructure to unlock housing supply;
- 2.10.2 \$500 million per year for community infrastructure;
- 2.10.3 \$600 million per year for safer local roads;
- 2.10.4 \$900 million per year for increased local government emergency management capability and capacity, and
- 2.10.5 \$400 million per year for climate adaptation.

2.11. Further information on each of these priorities is listed below.

Housing enabling infrastructure

A lack of funding for enabling infrastructure – including roads, and water and sewerage treatment connections and facilities – is a significant barrier to increasing housing supply across the country.

Research from [Equity Economics](#) found that 40 per cent of local governments have cut back on new infrastructure developments because of inadequate enabling infrastructure funding.

This research also shows that achieving the National Housing Accord's housing targets would incur an additional \$5.7 billion funding shortfall on top of infrastructure funding gaps already being felt by councils and their communities.

A five year, \$1.1 billion per annum program would fund the infrastructure that is essential to new housing developments, and Australia reaching its housing targets.

Community Infrastructure

ALGA's [2024 National State of the Assets report](#) indicates that \$8.3 billion worth of local government buildings and \$2.9 billion worth of parks and recreation facilities are in poor condition and need attention.

Introduced in 2020, the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program supported all councils to build, maintain and upgrade local facilities, with \$3.25 billion allocated on a formula basis.

This program had a significant impact, driving an almost \$1 billion improvement in the condition of local government buildings and facilities; and a \$500 million per year replacement fund would support all councils to build, upgrade and revitalise the community infrastructure all Australians rely on.

Safer Roads

Councils manage more than 75% of Australia's roads by length, and tragically more than half of all fatal road crashes in Australia occur on these roads.

In 2023 the Australian Government announced that it would double Roads to Recovery funding over the forward estimates, providing councils with an additional \$500 million per year.

However, recent independent research by the [Grattan Institute](#) highlighted a \$1 billion local government road maintenance funding shortfall, meaning there is still a significant funding gap.

Providing local government with \$600 million per year tied to road safety programs and infrastructure upgrades would support all councils to play a more effective role addressing Australia's unacceptable road toll.

Climate Adaption

Local governments are at the forefront of grappling with climate impacts as both asset managers and land use decision makers.

However, funding and support from other levels of government has failed to keep pace, placing an inequitable burden on councils and communities to fund this work locally.

A \$400 million per year local government climate adaptation fund would enable all councils to implement place-based approaches to adaptation, delivering local solutions to this national challenge.

Emergency Management

Fires, floods and cyclones currently cost Australia [\\$38 billion per year, and this is predicted to rise to \\$73 billion by 2060](#).

Australian councils play a key role preparing for, responding to and recovering from natural disasters, but aren't effectively funded to carry out these duties.

The Government's \$200 million per year Disaster Ready Fund is significantly oversubscribed, especially considering the scale and cost of disaster mitigation projects.

Numerous national reviews – including the [Colvin Review](#) and [Royal Commission into Natural Disaster Arrangements](#) – have identified the need for a significant uplift in local government emergency management capability and capacity.

A \$900 million per year fund would support all councils to better prepare their communities before natural disasters, and more effectively carry out the emergency management responsibilities that have been delegated to them.

3. Legal, Risk and Legislative Considerations

3.1. Nil

4. Strategic Planning and Policy Considerations

4.1. ALGA's advocacy priorities align to the following priority as contained in the Capital City Strategic Plan 2023.

4.1.1. Outcome 8.1.2: Ensure the needs of the community are well represented through effective advocacy and strong collaborative partnerships with key stakeholders and all levels of government.

5. Financial and Economic Considerations

5.1. Nil

6. Climate and Sustainability Considerations

6.1. Nil

7. Community and Business Engagement and Collaboration

7.1. Nil

8. Implementation and Communications Plan

8.1. Should Council express its support of ALGA's national campaign, a media release will be prepared and issued.

8.2. Additionally, ALGA has provided a number of online resources to support the campaign, which the City will utilise through the appropriate channels.

8.3. Should elected members also wish to utilise these materials on their own social media platforms in support of ALGA's campaign, these can be provided.

9. Recommendation

That the Council supports:

- (i) the national federal election funding priorities identified by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA);***
- (ii) participation in the Put our Communities First federal election campaign; and***
- (iii) writing to the local federal member (s) of Parliament, and known election candidates and the President of the Australian Local Government Association expressing support for ALGA's federal election funding priorities.***

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.



Laura Eaton
HEAD OF EXECUTIVE SERVICES

Date: 6 March 2025
File Reference: F25/16775; 24/47

7. ITEMS FOR WORKSHOPPING

The City of Hobart utilises the workshop forum as allowed under the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* as a mechanism to receive information in relations to specific matter.

In accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Committee, any matter that is listed on the agenda for workshoping may not be the subject of a Committee decision, other than a resolution that the item be noted.

7.1 Tactical Bike Lane Infrastructure Trial Collins Street Project and NOM update File Ref: F25/16346

Report of the Director Strategic and Regulatory Services of 5 March 2025.

Delegation: Not applicable



City of **HOBART**

MEMORANDUM: HOBART WORKSHOP COMMITTEE

Tactical Bike Lane Infrastructure Trial Collins Street Project and NOM update

WORKSHOP PURPOSE

That the Council consider the information outlined in this workshop paper, including the indicative proposed design for the Victoria to Murray section of the Tactical Bike Lane Infrastructure.

- At its 11 November 2024 meeting Council resolved that a report be prepared exploring options to retain loading zone and parking opportunities on Collins Street between Victoria Street and Murray Street.
- This workshop paper and presentation captures the engagement and consultation activities associated with the consideration of the presented options.
- The engagement process has (again) highlighted the differing views and beliefs of various groups around the allocation of public road space, road user safety, provision for alternative travel modes (i.e. bicycle) and the role pedestrian amenity and places for people plays in supporting businesses and city vitality.
- In accordance with the Council resolution, City of Hobart officers have documented several concept options to assist with conversations which would achieve the intent of the resolution and have undertaken an engagement process with key stakeholders.
- The engagement included separate workshops with:
 - Business and property owners in the identified section;
 - Bus operators and Department of State Growth;
 - Groups representing bicycle users; and

- A Representative of Accessibility users.



Stakeholder discussions at the Business and property owner workshop.

- In requesting an additional officer report for the section of Collins Street between Victoria Street and Murray Street to consider options “*to retain loading zone and parking opportunities*” Council is already demonstrating its commitment to the “tactical trial approach”.
 - It is perhaps noteworthy that this particular block of Collins Street (Victoria to Murray) is markedly different to the other blocks (Molle to Victoria) in respect of the retail and commercial offerings present.
 - It is also noted that block is the closest block to the off Street “Centrepunkt” carpark
- The engagement undertaken by officers and the CoH Engagement Unit to gather feedback from stakeholders on options for Council’s consideration to implement as part of “Transforming Collins Street” project can be summarised as follows:
 - Some businesses and property owners (but not all) believe loading zones and parking spaces adjacent to businesses are essential for their operation. Support for retention of parking and loading zones, support for lower speed limit (30km/h) to support the safety of vulnerable road users.
 - Bus operators would appreciate additional bus zone length to accommodate 2 buses, especially given some passengers require additional time when boarding and alighting. Bus operators supported lower speed limits (30km/h) to support the safety of vulnerable road users. Bus operators held concerns about detailed bus stop design for “bus boarder” arrangements and potential conflict between passengers and bicycle / scooter riders.

- Bicycle groups would appreciate separated bicycle facilities to support safer riding conditions especially for younger, older and less confident riders. Bicycle riders would appreciate additional bicycle parking. Bicycle riders supported lower speed limits (30km/h) to support the safety of vulnerable road users. There were “two” schools of thought in respect of the options considered. Separated cycle lanes in the original design are the best option for less confident bicycle riders and for attracting new riders. Option 4 – In bound kerb side bicycle lane with outbound sharrows and adjacent parking (without a peak hour clearway - which was considered inappropriate) was considered as balancing parking and bicycle rider safety – when the operation of the Murray Street pedestrian only phase was considered. Option 2 was seen by most representatives as not a significant change to the existing situation although some representatives noted that this option could be acceptable if improved with other streetscape interventions such as dining decks, seating and greenery to help with calming the traffic in the street
- Accessibility users would appreciate additional accessible parking spaces across the City, including in this block of Collins Street. Space for Maxi Taxi pick up and set down of mobility device users is also seen as important
- Council will receive a formal report on this matter at its 31 March 2025 meeting. Council will also be receiving in the near future a further report on potential future access and opening hours arrangements for the Centre Point carpark.
- The formal report to Council on this matter will recommend that at this stage, as part of the Transforming Collins Street Tactical Trial for the section of Collins Street between Victoria Street and Murray Street, and as part of a future approach to improving safety and amenity for all vulnerable road users in the CBD core, trialling a shared low speed zone with, some bicycle safety and amenity improvements with retention of vehicle parking, loading zones with an option to further promote on street dining opportunities later during the trial and following further consultation.

Proposed Option

Presented below is an option (1 of 4) that has been workshopping with stakeholders. Given the various needs being balanced and the pathway being proposed in the formal report to Council it is anticipated the officer recommendation will be to trial an arrangement similar to this (Option 2).

Note that this concept design is indicative and may be slightly different to the version to the final version presented to Council for their consideration and approval.

2 - 30km/h with sharrows

This option includes minor changes to the existing conditions on Collins Street today. Shared bike/traffic lanes are provided in both directions (30km/h). Kerbside parking is retained as per existing.

Beneficial features

- Safer and calmer vehicle traffic conditions
- Safety and comfort improved for all road users, especially people walking
- Existing on-street parking retained
- Physical separation provided at Murray Street intersection to increase comfort for riders.

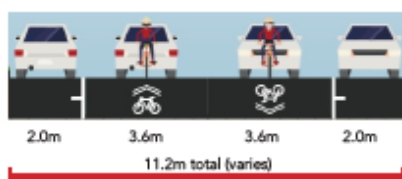
Trade-offs

- Most potential riders prefer physical separation as it feels safer. As a result, this option may attract less new riders.
- Potential for some traffic delay in peak periods, due to reduction in vehicle storage approaching Murray Street.
- Potential conflict between buses and riders

Parking changes

	Existing	Under option	Change
Parking bays	14	14	-
Accessible bays	1	1	-
Loading zones	1 (12m)	1 (12m)	-

Key	
Parking	
Accessible bay	
Bus zone	
Loading zone	
Bicycle lane	
Bicycle separator	
No stopping zone	
No parking zone	

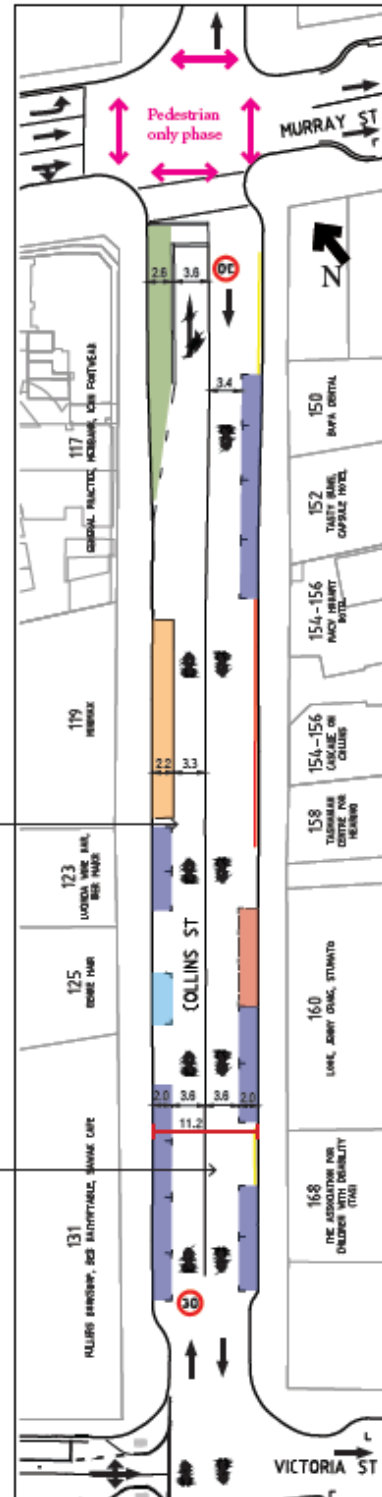


Northbound movements

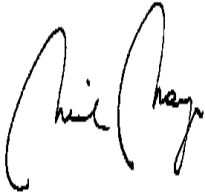
- Min 3.5m traffic lane, shared ahead and turn lane at Murray Street intersection
- Shared with motor vehicles
- 30km/h speed zone
- Kerbside bus stop (existing)

Southbound movements

- Min 3.5m traffic lane
- Shared with vehicles
- 30km/h speed zone



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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Noye', written in a cursive style.

Neil Noye
**DIRECTOR STRATEGIC AND
REGULATORY SERVICES**

Date: 5 March 2025
File Reference: F25/16346

7.2 Local Government Electoral Bill
File Ref: F25/17748

Report of the Chief Executive Officer of 12 March 2025 and attachments.

Delegation: Not applicable

REPORT TITLE: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL BILL**REPORT PROVIDED BY:** Chief Executive Officer**1. Report Summary and Key Issue**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to consider the discussion paper relating to the Local Government Electoral Bill.

2. Workshop Purpose

- 2.1. For the Council to consider this report and provide guidance on whether it provide a submission to the Office of Local Government on the Local Government Electoral Bill, in accordance with the officer comments outlined in this report.

Discussion and Background

- 2.2. On 12 February 2025, the Tasmanian Government released its Local Government Electoral Bill Discussion Paper outlining a series of reforms to how local government elections are conducted in Tasmania.
- 2.3. This new framework is proposed to be implemented through a new standalone Local Government Electoral Bill and supporting regulations, which will be put in place ahead of the next council elections due in October 2026.
- 2.4. The discussion paper (Attachment A) is organised around five key outcomes:
 - 2.4.1. a more flexible and accessible format for local government elections;
 - 2.4.2. a better voting franchise for electors and changes to eligibility to run for office;
 - 2.4.3. better quality of public information at elections;
 - 2.4.4. strengthened donations disclosure and electoral advertising requirements;
 - 2.4.5. other changes to support the integrity of elections.
- 2.5. The discussion paper explains the proposed legislative reforms the Government is seeking to progress through the Local Government Electoral Bill.
- 2.6. Council officers have considered the discussion paper and have provided some commentary around each of the reforms in the following table:

Reform Summary	Comments
The future format of local government elections in Tasmania	
<p>Scenario A: change to voting in person as the primary means of participation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to universal attendance elections with a weeklong polling period, or a polling day, including an extended pre-poll period and postal voting for persons on the supplementary electoral roll. • Telephone voting would be made available for electors with barriers to participation or who are interstate or overseas. 	<p>The Council has long supported a move to compulsory voting by attendance at the ballot box. It is recommended that the proposal to move to a polling day, including an extended pre-poll period and postal voting for persons on the supplementary electoral roll would be preferred.</p>
<p>Scenario B: flexible additions to the status quo (a 'hybrid' model)</p> <p>Provide for a 'hybrid' postal model where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All electors are mailed a ballot and candidate information pamphlet. • There is a minimum four week polling period, enabling the earlier return of postal votes. • There are more issuing places in each municipality, to enable the hand return of ballots by electors until the close of polls. • Ballots may be returned to issuing places until the close of polls. <p>Telephone voting would be made available for electors with barriers to participation or who are interstate or overseas.</p>	
Potential new directions: who should vote in local government elections, and how should we elect the deputy mayor?	
<p>Reforming the franchise: should non-citizens enjoy a continuing entitlement to vote at local government elections?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If this entitlement were to continue, it is proposed a person's ordinary place of residence must have been in Tasmania for the 12 months prior to making an application for enrolment (or otherwise must own property in Tasmania in a personal capacity). 	<p>It is recommended that non-citizens should continue to receive an entitlement to vote at local government elections. In most instances, this cohort of people are international students and business owners who are important to a city and as such the case for change is not really that clear.</p> <p>Equally, the requirement for this</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This would be, in effect, a 'non-citizens' electoral category. 	<p>cohort of people to have been residing in Tasmania for the 12 months prior to making an application for enrolment lacks merit. New non-resident business owners/residents/international students should have a right to participate in local government elections which should not be curtailed by a short tenure.</p>
<p>Reforming the entitlement to nominate as councillor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If an entitlement for non-citizens to vote is preserved, require that a person must appear on the House of Assembly electoral roll to be eligible to hold the office of councillor, in addition to appearing on that roll or the supplementary electoral roll at an address in the municipal area. 	<p>Support. This change would ensure that persons seeking nomination for office will be required to be on Tasmania's House of Assembly electoral roll, and as a result, be Australian citizens or British subjects eligible to vote in parliamentary elections.</p>
<p>Remove the direct election of the deputy mayor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instead, the councillors are to elect the deputy mayor at the first ordinary meeting of the term of the council. Otherwise, the role of deputy mayor could be removed entirely or made optional in favour of provision for acting mayors, including supplementary allowances. 	<p>The current system which requires the election of both a mayor and deputy mayor, requires elected members to choose whether they wish to run for one position or the other. Accordingly, this prevents an elected member from running for the position of mayor, even though they may be a suitable candidate. A change to elect the deputy mayor at the first ordinary meeting of the term of the council would create a level playing for the election of mayor and then it enables a council to elect the best person for the deputy mayor position, to best complement the newly elected mayor and elected members.</p> <p>It is not considered likely that there would be widescale support in the Tasmanian local government sector for the abolition of the position of deputy mayor or for it to be optional and therefore it is suggested that this reform not be pursued.</p>
A more flexible and accessible format for local government elections	
<p>Reform 1: reduce prescription in the statutory framework to enable the</p>	<p>Support. This reform would remove current barriers to using available</p>

Tasmanian Electoral Commission to approve the electoral process.	assistive practices and technologies for electors with print disabilities and electors who are interstate or overseas.
Reform 2: enable the Tasmanian Electoral Commission to approve procedures for voting, including by telephone and electronic means, for interstate and overseas electors and electors with impediments to ordinary participation, or for other classes of person prescribed by regulation.	Support. This reform would enable the Electoral Commission to provide assistance to electors with impediments to participation or who are outside Tasmania during the polling period.
Reform 3: legislate that the Tasmanian Electoral Commission is required to approve procedures in accordance with universal franchise principles, namely all electors, including electors with additional barriers to participation, are to be afforded an opportunity to vote in an independent, secret and verifiable manner.	Support. This reform would enable methods of voting to include assistive technologies. For instance, voting by telephone with a human operator, or voting using internet-based systems.
Reform 4: require the Electoral Commissioner to publish after each election a statement on the implementation of the accessibility principles, after information, including relevant statistics and initiatives undertaken to promote universal participation in the election.	Support. This proposal is considered to balance appropriately the independence of the Commission, while providing a transparent accounting of participation at the election for electors with additional barriers to participation.

A better franchise for electors and changes to eligibility to run for office	
Reform 5: increase the number of elector signatures required to support a notice of nomination to the lesser of 30 or one per cent of the number of electors in the municipal area.	Support. This change provides an initial test of credible public support for a candidacy, while not imposing a financial barrier on candidates.
Reform 6: move administration of the 'general managers' roll' from councils to the Tasmanian Electoral Commission, including administration of the process through which land occupier and corporate nominee (supplementary electoral roll) electors are to enrol.	Support. The City has previously strongly supported and welcomed consistent proposals through various reviews to move the administration of the GM Roll from councils to the TEC. The Council considers it important that there is an appropriate division between the Chief Executive Officer's role and the local government election process. Moving administration of the GM Roll from councils to the TEC would improve the integrity of the democratic process by removing Chief Executive Officers / General Managers and council staff from the electoral process. It would also reduce the administrative burden on Chief Executive Officers / General Managers to maintain the accuracy and integrity of the Roll and achieve greater consistency across Tasmania.
Reform 7: provide a definition for the purposes of 'occupier' of land that establishes an occupier holds a leasehold interest or licence over land, and/or the person's ordinary place of residence is in the municipal area.	Support. This change would address ambiguity around the extent of association with land required to generate an entitlement to vote in local government elections in some specific instances (for instance, persons making regular use of a secondary property owned by a family member or associate).
Reform 8: provide that a person seeking enrolment on the supplementary roll must complete a land occupier declaration and provide documentation of the leasehold or licence over land, or evidence of their period of residence in Tasmania to the satisfaction of the Commissioner.	Support. This change would enhance the existing provisions for the electoral enrolment form for the supplementary roll, establishing clear evidentiary requirements for enrolment.
Reform 9: implement the 'one person, one vote' principle and require a nominee of a corporate landowner or occupier of land may nominate one natural person who is an officeholder of the company to be its	Support. This change would ensure that a person may only have, in any circumstances, one vote in an election for a municipal area.

nominee.	
Reform 10: provide that all intending candidates (other than incumbent councillors) must complete a prescribed program of pre-nomination training prior to their submission of a notice of nomination.	Support. This change would ensure that all people contesting local government elections will have a common threshold understanding of the particular role and functions of councillors and the day-to-day functioning of councils
Better quality public information at elections	
Reform 11: require that the TEC provides all people submitting a notice of nomination the opportunity to provide a candidate information statement (in an approved format, providing prescribed information) and the Tasmanian Electoral Commission is to publish candidate information through appropriate means.	Support. This change would see the candidate information become part of the statutory elections framework and candidates be afforded a right to submit an information statement as part of the notice of nomination.
Reform 12: provide that the Director of Local Government may provide a statement to be published by the Tasmanian Electoral Commission alongside the candidate information.	Do not support. It is up to electors to inform themselves and make their own decision in respect to a local government election and this change would enable the Director of Local Government to influence people in disproportionate ways which could influence their vote.
Reform 13: Establish that nomination by a registered party is to be included in the information published by the Tasmanian Electoral Commission, and printed on the ballot paper, with the candidate's name to be printed alongside the name of the registered party.	This is a political matter which needs to be discussed by the Council.
Reform 14: provide for candidates whose nomination form is not lodged by a registered party to request to be identified with a group name.	This is a political matter which needs to be discussed by the Council.
Strengthened donations disclosure and electoral advertising requirements	
Reform 15: corresponding to the Electoral Act Review Final Report and the amended section 197 of the <i>Electoral Act 2004</i> , introduce new prohibitions on the dissemination of misleading and deceptive statements.	Do not support. It is not considered feasible or desirable for the Electoral Commissioner or similar to adjudicate on the truthfulness of candidates' comments during elections to the extent that defamatory material is published during elections, it is noted candidates have the same recourse to civil litigation as do all members of the community.
Reform 16: remove the general restriction upon a person, without the consent of the candidate or intending candidate, printing,	Support. The Bill will contain substantial and enhanced protections, including authorisation

<p>publishing or distributing any electoral advertising that contains the name, photograph or a likeness of a candidate or intending candidate at an election; other than 'how-to-vote' material intended to instruct an elector in the completion of their vote.</p>	<p>requirements that attribute electoral advertising to the candidate for whom benefit is intended, alongside continued limits on election expenditure. This is considered to achieve similar objectives to the repealed provision without so directly impinging on speech and expression.</p>
<p>Reform 17: clarify the definition of electoral advertising.</p>	<p>Support. Electoral advertising will be defined to include (whether paid or unpaid) unsolicited calls (including automated calls) and direct unsolicited electronic messages and direct mail, including letterboxing.</p>
<p>Reform 18: provide that only a candidate, intending candidate, or a person so nominated in the notice of nomination by a candidate, may incur electoral expenditure; and provide that expenditure by other persons to promote or procure the election of a candidate or intending candidate is an offence.</p>	<p>Support. The new Bill will require that only intending candidates, candidates and persons nominated by candidates themselves may incur expenditure which would be more effective and easier to administer and enforce.</p>
<p>Reform 19: institute authorisation requirements for electoral advertising and associated material.</p>	<p>Support. The change would require that electoral advertisements and associated material can be authorised by a candidate or intending candidate or a nominated person, identifying the candidate or intending candidate who has provided their endorsement for the advertising or material.</p>
<p>Reform 20: replace advertising expenditure limits with a general expenditure limit, with reference to the expenditure limit for Legislative Council elections under the <i>Electoral Disclosure and Funding Act 2023</i>.</p>	<p>Support. The proposed change would more flexibly (and appropriately) capture the range of campaigning activities open to candidates at contemporary elections.</p>
<p>Reform 21: require that a candidate is to report expenditure made on their behalf in their electoral expenditure return, in the same manner as personal expenditure. The present requirement to attribute, in full, to each candidate so featured the value of advertising featuring multiple candidates (for instance, multiple party candidates) will be retained.</p>	<p>Support. This change would attribute expenditure made on behalf of candidates (who must have authorised that expenditure) to individual candidates, to enable the effective regulation of electoral advertising and other campaign activities using individual candidate expenditure limits.</p>
<p>Reform 22: prohibit any person from incurring any expenditure for or on behalf of a registered party with a view to promoting or procuring the election of a</p>	<p>Support. This change is meant to complement the above requirement that all electoral expenditure, including advertising, only be made</p>

<p>candidate or intending candidate.</p>	<p>by candidates or intending candidates themselves (or their nominees), which enables regulation and disclosure for individual candidates. It is considered appropriate to apply the same prohibition as stands for Legislative Council elections, given advertising (now to be general) expenditure limits are an existing feature of local government elections.</p>
<p>Reform 23: maintain the \$50 threshold for the disclosure of gifts and benefits and extend this requirement from incumbent councillors to all candidates, who will be required to lodge two candidate donation returns with the Tasmanian Electoral Commission. The new Bill will also require the publication of initial donations disclosures on the Commission's website during the polling period and until the certificate of election.</p>	<p>Support.</p>
<p>Reform 24: provide that it is an offence for a person other than a candidate or intending candidate to accept a gift or benefit for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of a candidate, or for the dominant purpose of influencing the way electors vote in an election; and that it is an offence to make a gift or donation to a person other than a candidate or intending candidate for this purpose.</p>	<p>Support. This change is intended to prohibit donations made to intermediaries which could otherwise obfuscate the origins and purpose of gifts or benefits intended to promote or procure the election of a candidate or influence the outcomes of elections.</p>
<p>Reform 25: provide that it is an offence for a councillor, intending candidate or candidate, at any time, to accept a donation for the purpose of promoting or procuring the election of a candidate or intending candidate at a local government election:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • over \$50, including services or goods valued in kind, without recording the basic details of that donor • over \$50 in cash <p>over \$50 from a foreign donor.</p>	<p>Support. The provision of information collection requirements is intended to support the submission of complete donations disclosure by candidates at the time of nomination and following the certificate of elections.</p>
<p>Other changes to support the integrity of elections</p>	
<p>Reform 26: provide that a local government election or by-election may not be held such that the polling period overlaps the date of a Tasmanian or</p>	<p>Support. As the timing of local government elections is fixed in legislation, with their closing on the last Tuesday in October (absent an</p>

<p>Australian Government parliamentary election.</p>	<p>order of the Governor) these elections coinciding is not likely, other than for a Legislative Council by-election. However, the making of an express provision removes any need for the Minister for Local Government to seek an order to this effect, as the impact on the community and the Tasmanian Electoral Commission of simultaneous elections (the latter in the case of a state election) is foreseeably unmanageable and would discourage participation and engagement at council elections.</p>
<p>Reform 27: provide the Tasmanian Electoral Commission with powers of investigation.</p>	<p>Do not support. There are other existing jurisdictions (i.e. Integrity Commission) established to investigate these types of matters, so it seems like a duplication to provide the Electoral Commission with powers of investigation.</p>
<p>Reform 28: alignment of electoral offences and sanctions with the Electoral Act.</p>	<p>Support. As per the above.</p>
<p>Reform 29: provide a statutory caretaker framework, applying from the notice of election to the date of the issue of the certificate of election for all elections other than by-elections and countbacks.</p>	<p>Support. The Council already enacted caretaker provisions on a voluntary basis at the last election.</p>
<p>Reform 30: provide that during the caretaker period, prohibit a council from making any major policy or financial decisions, namely decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • relating to the appointment, reappointment, remuneration or termination of a general manager, other than a decision in respect of the appointment of an acting general manager under section 61B • committing the council to expenditure greater than one per cent of general and service rating and fees and charges revenue raised in the preceding financial year, or \$100,000, whichever is the larger • directing council resources in a manner intended, or likely to, influence voting at the election • relating to a matter the council considers it could reasonably defer 	<p>Support. As per the above comment.</p>

<p>until after the election period, other than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ decisions relating to a matter the council is required to determine in that period under statute <p>decisions of a routine and operational nature.</p>	
<p>Reform 31: provide that during the caretaker period, it is an offence for a council to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • publish any material in any format which promotes any candidate or group of candidates for election, or otherwise seeks to influence voters in the election • publish material in relation to the election other than information to promote participation in the election and in relation to election process, or other material of a kind published by the Electoral Commissioner • make resources available to the advantage of any candidate, which are not equally available to all candidates for election. 	<p>Support.</p>
<p>Reform 32: provide that major policy or financial decisions of a council during the caretaker period are of no effect and provide that persons who incur loss or damage due to an ineffectual decision of a council, who acted in good faith, are entitled to recover compensation from the council.</p>	<p>Do not Support. This provision is a step too far. Council compliance with the caretaker provisions would be assured by the reform 31 and the creation of a legislated ability for a party to recover compensation from the council under the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>, is manifestly excessive.</p>
<p>Reform 33: increase the proportion of electors signing a petition required to compel a council to hold an elector poll to 20 per cent; while restricting the matters about which an elector poll may be held to matters with a legitimate connection to the exercise of a council's functions or powers or to the incorporation of the council, as determined by the council.</p>	<p>Support. Elector polls are expensive, especially when held out of cycle with local government elections and are a non-binding process. Accordingly, it is considered that the current threshold is currently too small and can trigger elector polls too easily. A higher threshold would ensure that a poll is called for matters which impacts a substantial proportion of ratepayers.</p>

3. Legal, Risk and Legislative Considerations

- 3.1. To support the implementation of the Priority Reform Program, it is proposed that amendments will be made to the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Local Government General Regulations 2015* and *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* will be re-made and a new Local Government Elections Bill will be developed.

4. Strategic Planning and Policy Considerations

- 4.1. The proposed changes, as outlined in the discussion paper, would enable the Council to meet the following strategy in the Capital City Strategic Plan:

Build community trust through the implementation of effective civic leadership, ethical conduct and responsible governance processes that ensure accountability, transparency and compliance with all legislated and statutory requirements.

5. Financial and Economic Considerations

- 5.1. Financial Considerations:

5.1.1. None arise from the writing of this report.

6. Community and Business Engagement and Collaboration

- 6.1. The Local Government Electoral Bill discussion paper is currently the subject of community and stakeholder consultation.

7. Implementation and Communications Plan


- 7.1. The Local Government Electoral Bill discussion paper is currently the subject of community and stakeholder consultation.
- 7.2. This period of consultation concludes on 4 April 2025 following which, the Government will consider consultation feedback in developing draft legislation, which it will release for further consultation and comment in winter 2025. The Government is targeting the spring 2025 session to introduce a Bill into the Parliament.

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.



Michael Stretton
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Date: 12 March 2025
File Reference: F25/17748

Attachment A: Discussion Paper - Local Government Electoral Bill (Supporting information) 

7.3 Remaking of Local Government Regulations
File Ref: F25/17850

Report of the Chief Executive Officer of 12 March 2025 and attachments.

Delegation: Not applicable

**REPORT TITLE: REMAKING OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT
REGULATIONS****REPORT PROVIDED BY:** Chief Executive Officer**1. Report Summary and Key Issue**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to consider the discussion paper relating to remaking local government regulations.

2. Workshop Purpose

- 2.1. For the Council to consider this report and provide guidance on whether it provide a submission to the Office of Local Government on the remaking of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2015* and the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

3. Discussion and Background

- 3.1. The Tasmanian Government has commenced a public consultation process to gather feedback on the proposed legislative changes to the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2015* and the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.
- 3.2. The current Local Government Meeting Procedures and General Regulations are due to expire in June 2025 and so need to be remade.
- 3.3. The process of remaking the Regulations provides an opportunity for the Government to review them and seek feedback from councils, the community and other stakeholders to ensure the Regulations remain up to date and relevant.
- 3.4. A discussion paper: remaking local government regulations has been released by the Government (Attachment A), which outlines the proposed reforms and poses a series of questions aimed at improving transparency, accountability, inclusivity and fairness in councils. These include:
- 3.4.1. enhancing **transparency**, such as requiring ordinary council meetings be recorded and by updating requirements for disclosure of councillor interests.
- 3.4.2. promoting **accountability**, such as through updated reporting requirements.
- 3.4.3. encouraging **inclusivity**, such as by allowing councillors to attend meetings virtually or remotely where appropriate and improving community access to recorded meetings.

3.4.4. ensuring **fairness**, such as updating council categories that determine councillor allowances and ensuring consistency of approach to councillor leave arrangements.

3.5. Council officers have considered the discussion paper and have provided some commentary around each of the reforms and questions in the following table:

Reform Summary	Comment
Improve public access to council meetings	
<p><i>Regulation 43 – Audio recording of meetings</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently the use of audio recordings for council meetings is optional. A change to this regulation proposes council meetings must be electronically recorded using either audio or audio-visual devices. <p>To support this change there will be other new regulations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the chairperson will tell attendees at the start of the meeting that it is being recorded • recordings will be publicly available for 12 months • enabling recordings to be edited before they are published. This will enable councils to remove defamatory or offensive material • protections for a council if it has technical difficulties and cannot record • a transition period for councils to enable them to record 	<p>Support. The Council currently live streams and records its Council and Planning Authority meetings and therefore, would already comply with this provision.</p> <p>It is important that the legislation makes allowances for technical problems, which will occur infrequently from time to time to prevent a council from recording a meeting.</p>

<p>Question How can any possible operational or logistical matters be managed in relation to the recording of council meetings</p>	<p>There is a technological continuum from live streaming/recording of meetings down to simply recording and publishing a recording of a council meeting.</p> <p>If the minimum requirement is for a council to record and then publish the recording of a council meeting, then all councils will be able to provide the necessary technology to comply. It would be more difficult if the minimum level was live streaming/recording as this does require a more sophisticated (and more expensive) suite of technology.</p>
<p>Question How long do you think councils should keep recordings of meetings and how long should they be published on council website?</p>	<p>It is suggested that recordings should simply be maintained on the website for as long as the minutes themselves are published. Why does there need to be a limit?</p>
<p>Changes to what is included in meeting minutes <i>Regulation 39 - Minutes</i> In addition to current requirements, meeting minutes will need to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the name of councillors attending meetings remotely • any questions asked without notice by a councillor and a summary of any answer given • declarations of interest are to record the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ name of the councillor ○ nature of the interest ○ the period in which the councillor left and returned to the meeting. <p>A change to the regulations will also allow councils to withhold questions from the agendas and minutes if they are defamatory, offensive or unlawful</p>	<p>Support. The proposed changes make sense and the ability to allow councils to withhold questions from the agendas and minutes if they are defamatory, offensive or unlawful provides an added layer of protection for councils.</p>

<p>Question Do you have any concerns about the proposed changes to minutes?</p>	No.
<p>Allow councillors to attend meetings remotely</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Meeting Regulations will be amended to enable councils to meet remotely in limited circumstances, such as a natural disaster or public health emergency. • It is also proposed the chairperson of council can authorise individual councillors to attend meetings remotely due to limited circumstances including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ill health or incapacity ○ caregiving responsibilities ○ localised natural disasters or emergencies <p>It is proposed councillors cannot utilise remote meeting provisions to attend more than one-third of meetings each year. This amendment will help to maintain current expectations around engagement with the council while still allowing some flexibility</p>	<p>In respect to the proposal to allow Elected Members to attend meetings remotely the following comments are offered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The change to enable elected members to participate in council and committee meetings remotely should be included in the current reform process. • It is suggested that this ability should not be extended to closed council or committee meetings to effectively mitigate any confidentiality concerns. • The range of circumstances are reasonable, however, work commitments should also be added. For instance, if an Elected Member is at a conference (for instance) they should not be excluded from participating at a meeting should they chose to do so. • The one-third limit is reasonable.
<p>Question Do you agree with the limited circumstances in which a councillor can attend a meeting remotely?</p>	Refer above.
<p>Question Do you believe the circumstances in which remote attendance may be refused are sufficient?</p>	Refer above.
<p>Question Do you think there needs to be a restriction or cap on the number of meetings a councillor can attend remotely each year, and if so, what should this be?</p>	Refer above.
<p>Parental leave for councillors <i>Regulation 51 – Parental leave</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An additional provision to the regulations would allow councillors a <i>right</i> to take extended parental leave for up to six months. This includes for birth or adoption of a child as well as adopting or becoming a guardian. This leave would not require approval by the council 	<p>Support. The proposed parental leave additions for Elected Members are consistent with contemporary best practice for organisations.</p>

<p>Question Do you agree with the circumstances in which a councillor can have parental leave? Is there anything that should be removed or added?</p>	<p>Refer above.</p>
<p>Consistent rules and procedures for questions, motions and minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions from both councillors and the public should be straightforward, concise and directly relevant to council activities. • Questions should focus on asking for information, not making statements, and should include minimal background details. • When and why questions and motions can be refused. For example, they should not be defamatory, unlawful or offensive and must relate to the activities or functions of the council. • Who makes the decision to refuse a question or motion and when. For example, the general manager, in consultation with the mayor, can decide if a question on notice is to be refused before a meeting. The chairperson will decide if a question or motion is to be refused at a meeting. • What needs to be recorded in the agenda and minutes if a question is refused because it is offensive, unlawful, defamatory, excessively personal or does not relate to council activities. In such cases, it is proposed the person's name, the date the question was received and the reason for refusal is recorded rather than printing the original question. 	<p>Support. The proposed changes will provide greater clarity and consistency for dealing with questions, motions and minutes.</p> <p>The changes strengthen the existing provisions relating to offensive, unlawful and/or defamatory matters, however, they provide additional controls relating to questions and/or motions being either excessively personal or not related to council activities, would add further protections for councils.</p>
<p>Question Do you think the suggested changes will provide clarity for people attending council meetings and asking questions?</p>	<p>Not really. People generally are not well versed in meeting procedures when they attend council meetings and as such, they rely upon guidance from the Chair.</p>
<p>Question Do you think the changes will help the chairperson manage questions and Motions in meetings</p>	<p>Yes, this change would provide the Chair to manage questions during a meeting.</p>

Mandate the reporting of councillor training	
Councils must include in their annual reports details of core learning activities undertaken by each councillor. This will be documented in councils' annual reports.	Support. The amendment would provide for greater transparency.
Question Are there other learning and development activities that should also be recorded publicly?	It is considered that the focus should be on the core learning activities as determined by the Director of Local Government.
Updated councillor allowances	
Australia's superannuation guarantee is currently sitting at 11.5% and will increase to 12% in July 2025. Therefore, councillor allowances as proposed in the draft General Regulations have been adjusted to incorporate the equivalent of a 12% superannuation compensation component. To ensure councillor allowances are fair and equitable in all respects however, the Government has also committed to a comprehensive review of councillor allowances and councillor numbers at a future date.	Support. The allowances paid to Tasmanian elected members are not sufficient to reflect the level of work and commitment that must be committed to the role. Accordingly, the increase to reflect the superannuation guarantee is reasonable. The proposed comprehensive review of councillor allowances should be fast-tracked.
Question Do you have any comments about the updated councillor allowance?	Refer above.
337 Certificate questions	
New questions are proposed for a 337 Certificate relating to weed management and land that is subject to the major projects provisions of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993	Support. 337 Certificates need to be updated to reflect legislative changes which warrant being brought to the attention of land purchasers.
Questions Are questions 56 and 57 on weed management necessary or appropriate? Why?	Yes. It's important that landowners are aware if a property is impacted by a declared weed(s).
Is the set of questions (no. 21) on land subject to Major Projects necessary or appropriate? Why?	Yes. Major Projects is a relatively new legislative provision and it's important that any prospective purchaser is aware of a Major Project being proposed on any subject land.
There are now a number of 337 questions, which in turn create a burden for councils. Could questions be simplified or would this lead to information not being provided?	Yes. The 337 Certificate should be subjected to a regular review by suitably qualified professionals to ensure that it is as efficient and effective as it can be.

4. Legal, Risk and Legislative Considerations

- 4.1. To support the implementation of the Priority Reform Program, it is proposed that amendments will be made to the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Local Government General Regulations 2015* and *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

5. Strategic Planning and Policy Considerations

- 5.1. The proposed changes, as outlined in the discussion paper would enable the Council to meet the following strategy in the Capital City Strategic Plan:

Build community trust through the implementation of effective civic leadership, ethical conduct and responsible governance processes that ensure accountability, transparency and compliance with all legislated and statutory requirements.

6. Financial and Economic Considerations

- 6.1. Financial Considerations:

6.1.1. None arise from the writing of this report.

7. Community and Business Engagement and Collaboration

- 7.1. The discussion paper is currently the subject of community and stakeholder consultation.

8. Implementation and Communications Plan


- 8.1. The discussion paper is currently the subject of community and stakeholder consultation.
- 8.2. This period of consultation concludes on 1 April 2025 following which, the Government will consider consultation feedback in developing draft legislation. The remade regulations will then be finalised for approval by the Minister for Local Government, ready to commence in June 2025.

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.



Michael Stretton
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Date: 12 March 2025
File Reference: F25/17850

Attachment A: Discussion Paper: Remaking of Local Government Regulations
(Supporting information) 

7.4 Meeting Start Times
File Ref: F25/17944; 24/47

Report of the Chief Executive Officer of 12 March 2025.

Delegation: Not applicable



City of **HOBART**

MEMORANDUM: HOBART WORKSHOP COMMITTEE

Meeting Start Times

The Council's Governance review was considered and approved by Elected Members last year, which has seen a move to a 4.00pm start time for Council meetings, Planning Authority Committee meetings and the Hobart Workshop Committee meetings.

The Governance Review report included the following rationale for the change:

“ It is acknowledged that late night meeting finishes represent a workplace health and safety risk to elected members and employees which needs to be addressed. The option of an earlier start at 4.00pm, and/or a time limit on Council meetings were both considered as potential controls to manage this risk. Given that the average meeting length is 4.24 hours, it is considered that an earlier meeting starts at 4.00pm would provide an average finish time of 8.24pm, which is considered reasonable.

Accordingly, a time limit for Council meetings is not considered to be necessary at this stage, however, it is recommended that Council meetings commence at 4.00pm.”

The 4.00pm start time was then repeated in the Council resolution in respect to Land Use Planning Committee meetings and the Hobart Workshop Committee meetings.

At least one Elected Member has found it difficult with the change in meeting start times, and I agreed to list it for a brief discussion in a workshop to receive some direction from Elected Members on whether the earlier start time needs to be re-considered.

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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large capital 'M' followed by several loops and a trailing line.

Michael Stretton
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Date: 12 March 2025
File Reference: F25/17944; 24/47

8. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Regulation 29(3) *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.
File Ref: 13-1-10

The Chief Executive Officer reports:-

“In accordance with the procedures approved in respect to Questions Without Notice, the following responses to questions taken on notice are provided to the Committee for information.

The Committee is reminded that in accordance with Regulation 29(3) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, the Chairperson is not to allow discussion or debate on either the question or the response.”

RECOMMENDATION

That the following responses to questions without notice be received and noted.

8.1 SUV Parking

Memorandum of the Director Community and Economic Development of 6 March 2025

8.2 Parking Enforcement

Memorandum of the Director Community and Economic Development of 5 March 2025

8.3 Fallen E-scooters

Memorandum of the Director Community and Economic Development of 6 March 2025

8.4 Statue Vandalism

Memorandum of the Chief Executive Officer of 11 March 2025



City of **HOBART**

MEMORANDUM: LORD MAYOR
DEPUTY LORD MAYOR
ELECTED MEMBERS

SUV PARKING

Meeting: Hobart Workshop Committee

Meeting date: 17 March 2025

Raised by: Councillor Lohberger

Question:

Do Parking and Information Officers issue infringements to vehicles if the width of the vehicle protrudes beyond the designated parking space?

Response:

Parking Rule 211 – Parking in parking bays reads:

- (1) This rule applies to a driver who parks on a length of road, or in an area, that has parking bays (whether or not a *park in bays only sign* applies to the length of road or area).
- (2) The driver must position the driver's vehicle completely within a single parking bay unless the vehicle is too wide or long to fit completely within the bay.
- (3) If the vehicle is too wide or long to fit completely within a single parking bay, the driver must park the driver's vehicle within the minimum number of parking bays needed to park the vehicle.

If a driver has made all effort to park within the minimum number of bays relative to the size of his / her vehicle, then Parking Information Officers will not issue infringements if the vehicle is too wide or too long for the parking space they are occupying in accordance with this rule.

If a vehicle satisfies the requirements of Road Rule 211 they are only required to pay for one space, as they are one vehicle.

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.



Ben Artup
**DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Date: 6 March 2025
File Reference: F25/15789; 13-1-10



City of **HOBART**

MEMORANDUM: LORD MAYOR
DEPUTY LORD MAYOR
ELECTED MEMBERS

PARKING ENFORCEMENT

Meeting: Hobart Workshop Committee

Meeting date: 17 March 2025

Raised by: Councillor Posselt

Question:

Who is responsible for booking illegally parked cars at the Regatta Ground during the Royal Hobart Show? How can we enforce these infringements?

Response:

Provided the Regatta Grounds parking is open to the public, and all relevant traffic signage is in place, the City of Hobart's Parking & Information Officers can enforce. However, the parking provision has varied over the years and last year, due to insufficient signage, PIOs were unable to enforce the parking requirements.

Ahead of this year's event, officers across the City's open space, traffic and parking teams will review documentation provided by the Royal Agricultural Society of Tasmania to ensure that adequate signage is displayed to support enforcement action at the Regatta Grounds during the 2025 Royal Hobart Show.

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.



Ben Artup
**DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Date: 5 March 2025
File Reference: F25/15831; 13-1-10



City of **HOBART**

MEMORANDUM: LORD MAYOR
DEPUTY LORD MAYOR
ELECTED MEMBERS

FALLEN E-SCOOTERS

Meeting: Hobart Workshop Committee

Meeting date: 17 March 2025

Raised by: Councillor Harvey

Question:

What evidence does the City of Hobart have in the pursuit of e-scooters being pushed over?

Response:

Council officers have no evidence of e-scooters being pushed over. The City has received community enquiries and complaints related to this, however unless this is witnessed directly and the incident reported, neither the City nor Beam can respond to it. Beam receive data regarding e-scooters that have tipped over, however they do not receive information that indicates why the scooter has tipped over.

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.

Ben Artup
**DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Date: 6 March 2025
File Reference: F25/15859; 13-1-10



City of **HOBART**

MEMORANDUM: LORD MAYOR
DEPUTY LORD MAYOR
ELECTED MEMBERS

STATUE VANDALISM

Meeting: Hobart Workshop Committee

Meeting date: 17 March 2025

Raised by: Lord Mayor – Councillor Reynolds

Question:

Has Tasmania Police released their findings relating to the vandalism of the Crowther Statue? How often has Council asked for this information?

Response:

At the time of writing, Tasmania Police has advised that no suspects have been identified or any charges laid in relation to the vandalism of the Crowther Statue.

Council Officers have periodically requested updates on this matter, however, as the complainant, the Council would have been updated by Tasmania Police of any developments.

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.

Michael Stretton
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Date: 11 March 2025

File Reference: F25/15917; 13-1-10

9. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

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

1. A councillor at a meeting may ask a question without notice –
 - (a) of the chairperson; or
 - (b) through the chairperson, of –
 - (i) another councillor; or
 - (ii) the chief executive officer.
2. In putting a question without notice at a meeting, a councillor must not –
 - (a) offer an argument or opinion; or
 - (b) draw any inferences or make any imputations – except so far as maybe necessary to explain the question.
3. The chairperson of a meeting must not permit any debate of a question without notice or its answer.
4. The chairperson, councillor or chief executive officer who is asked a question without notice at a meeting may decline to answer the question.
5. The chairperson of a meeting may refuse to accept a question without notice if it does not relate to the activities of the council.
6. Questions without notice, and any answers to those questions, are not required to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
7. The chairperson of a meeting may require a councillor to put a question without notice in writing.

BUSINESS ARISING

10. Questions Arising During Debate

In accordance with the Council's *Meetings: Procedures and Guidelines Policy*, attached is a register of questions taken on notice during debate of previous items considered by the Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

That the register of questions arising during debate be received and noted.

Attachment A: HWC - Questions During Debate - as at 12 March 2025 (Supporting information) 

11. 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:

- Minutes of a Closed Committee meeting
- Commercial information of a confidential nature
- Closed Questions Without Notice

The following items are listed for discussion:-

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| Item No. 1 | Minutes of the last meeting of the Closed Portion of the Committee Meeting |
| Item No. 2 | Consideration of supplementary items to the agenda |
| Item No. 3 | Indications of pecuniary and conflicts of interest |
| Item No. 4 | Reports |
| Item No. 4.1 | 2025-26 Annual Plan and Budget Presentation
LG(MP)R 15(2)(c)(i) |
| Item No. 5 | Questions Without Notice |