



CITY OF HOBART

# MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

THE HOBART WORKSHOP COMMITTEE MEETING

OPEN PORTION OF THE MEETING

MONDAY, 14 APRIL 2025

AT 4.00PM

VENUE: LADY OSBORNE ROOM

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14 April 2025

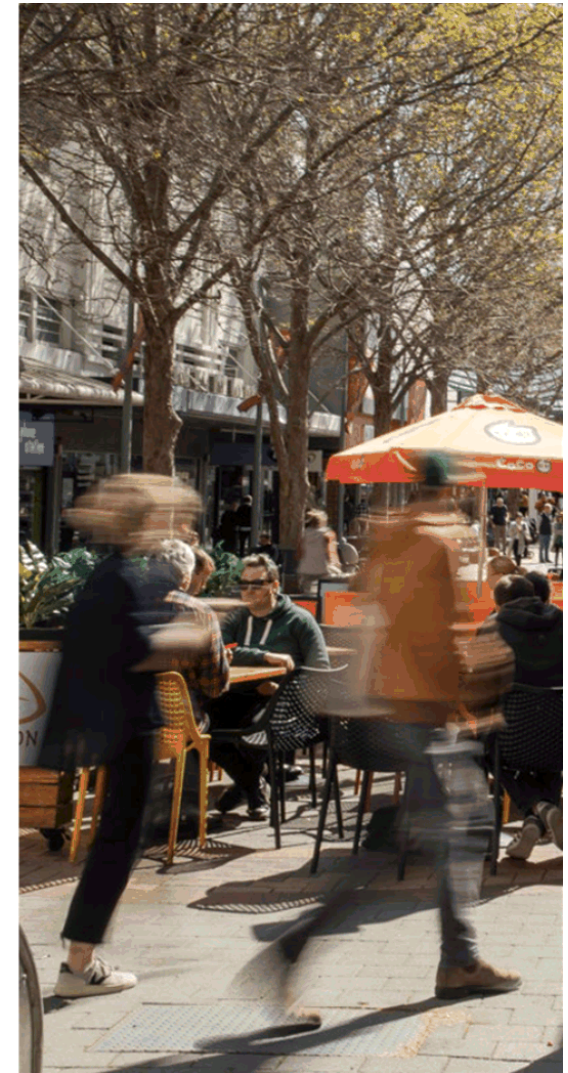
City of Hobart

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# Outdoor Dining Policy & Guidelines



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# **01 Purpose**

## **Why do we need an outdoor dining policy & guidelines?**

## Purpose:

- To improve accessibility for all.
- To build better streets for pedestrians.
- To provide more outdoor dining opportunities
- To provide more certainty for businesses.

## Council Strategy and Policy alignment:

### **Theme 1:** Respect the Space - improve accessibility for all

- Hobart Respects All
- Respect the Space
- Hobart Transport Strategy 2024

### **Theme 2:** Better streets for pedestrians

- Central Hobart Plan 2023
- Hobart Transport Strategy 2024

### **Theme 3:** Support outdoor dining opportunities

- City Economy Strategy 2023-2028 - City of Hobart
- Kerbside Management Plan 2024

## **02 Issues and challenges**

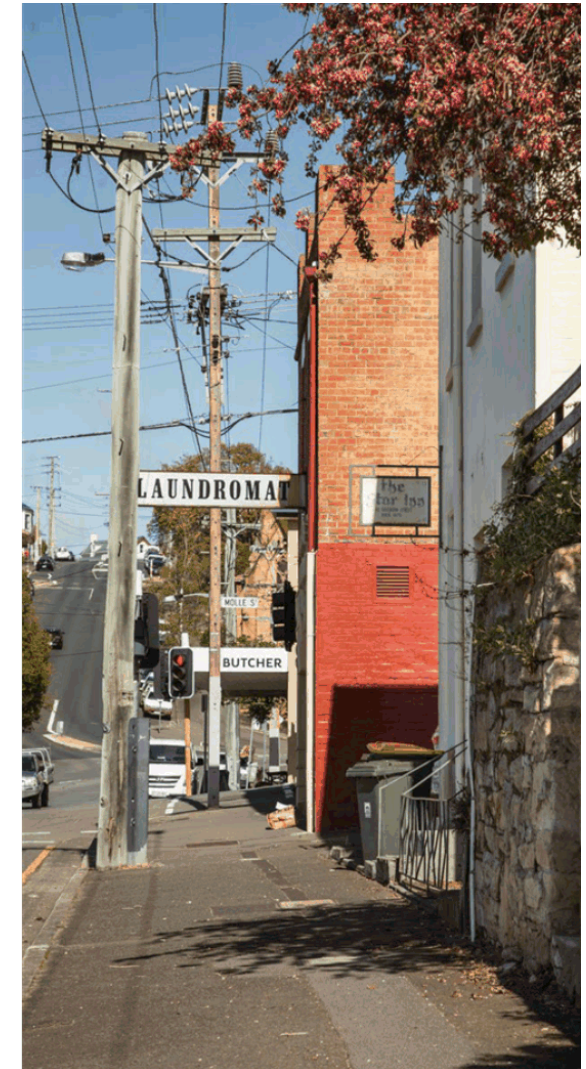
### **What are the issues and challenges?**



# Challenges / Issues

## Footpaths

- Hobart generally has narrow roads, which results in narrow footpaths compared to other cities.
- Narrow footpaths limit outdoor dining opportunities, and it is still challenging to meet the national best practice on accessibility.
- There is a (reasonable) expectation amongst businesses that they can trade as they have been for many years against the building line.





# Challenges / Issues

## Accessibility

- On 12 October 2015, the Council resolved “to modify the management of commercial furniture and infrastructure on public footpaths towards a best practice model approach, where such furniture and signage is only permitted if it does not interfere with the safe and equitable movement of pedestrians...”
- At the time, the City’s Access Advisory Committee strongly advocated that the Council provide a clear and unobstructed 1.8 metres wide path of travel extending from the building line.



City of HOBART



## Accessibility (cont.)

- The Disability Discrimination Act does not specify the exact width or positioning for a 'continuous accessible path of travel,' but the Australian Human Rights Commission recommends a minimum clear width of 1.8 metres and a minimum height of 2 metres, ensuring no encroachments to accommodate people with varying disabilities.
- Vision Australia, the largest provider of services for those who are blind or have low vision, recommends maintaining a clear line of travel at least 1.8m from the building.
- The Road Safety Audit Tool for Pedestrians with Vision Impairment emphasizes the need for a clear footpath at least 1.8m wide beside buildings to help those with vision impairment. This space allows for orientation, locating shop entrances, and avoiding obstacles.

# Challenges / Issues

## Outdoor dining

- Hobart has many businesses that have outdoor dining along the building line, which was approved in the past. This is a legacy issue.
- This legacy issue means that businesses may be resistant to the change.
- We currently have no detailed guidelines for those businesses wanting to establish outdoor dining.
- The lack of detailed guidance makes it difficult for businesses to implement best practices for outdoor dining.





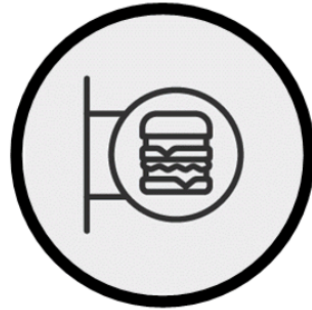


## Local Government Policy Review

- After reviewing outdoor dining policies in various local governments, including the City of Glen Eira and the City of Port Phillip, it's clear that most have moved dining spaces away from building lines.
- This includes the City of Launceston, Glenorchy City Council, City of Melbourne, City of Yarra, and many others across Australia.
- The City of Sydney is the only municipality allowing outdoor dining along the building line. While Sydney considers its approach compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act, it does not specifically align with the standards endorsed by organisations supporting people who are blind or have a visual impairment, such as Vision Australia and Guide Dogs NSW.

## **03 Further audits and analysis**

### **What are the impacts on car parking?**



**577**

**food businesses**

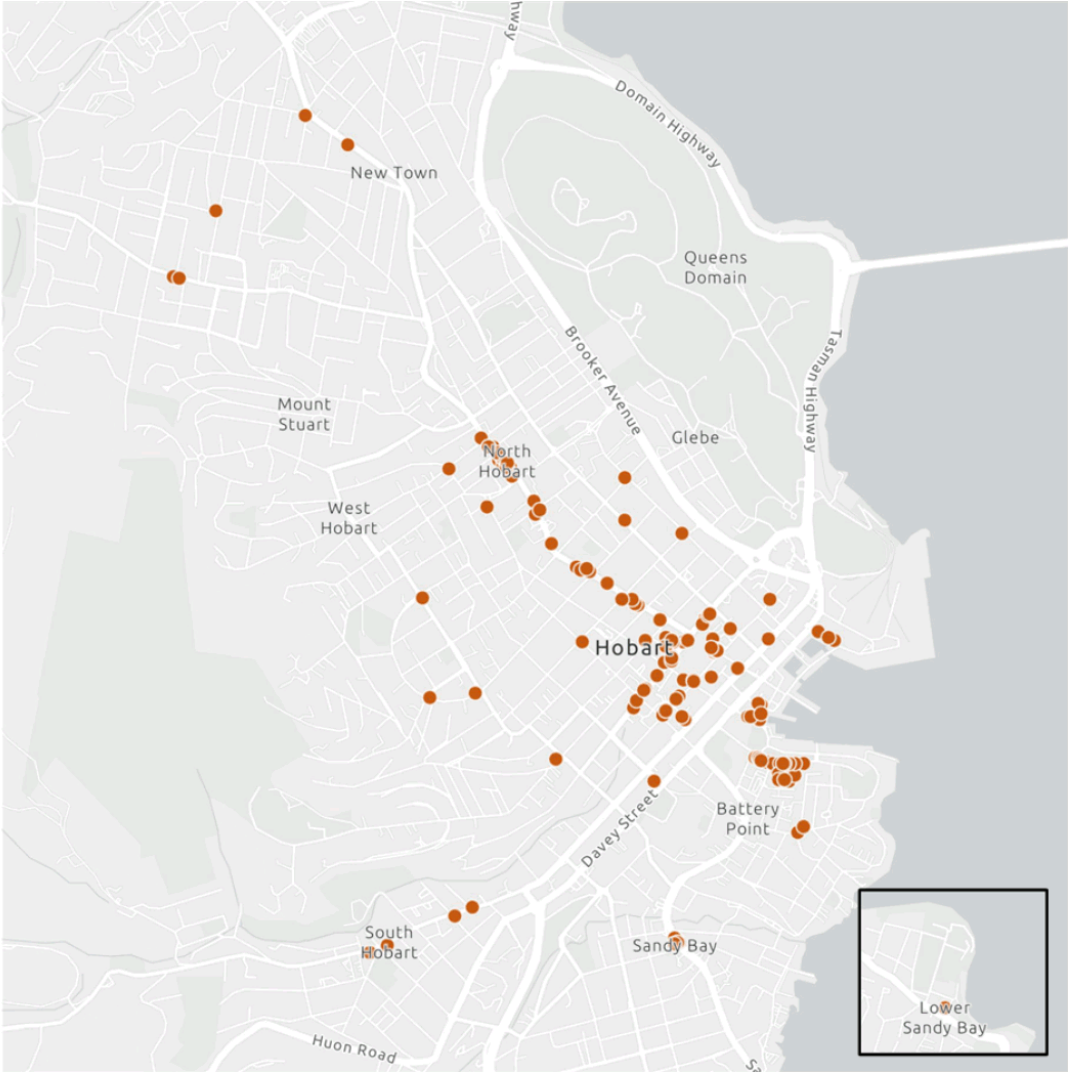
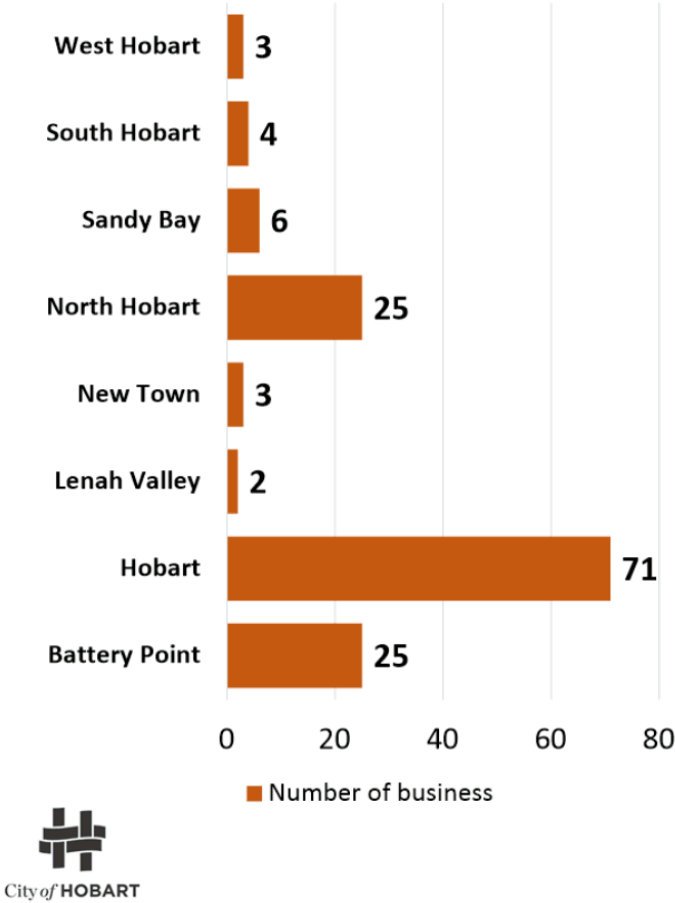
410 cafés and restaurants  
147 takeaway shops  
20 bakeries  
(December 2024)



**139**

**businesses have outdoor  
dining areas**

Approx. 24% of food  
businesses have outdoor  
dining  
(March 2025)



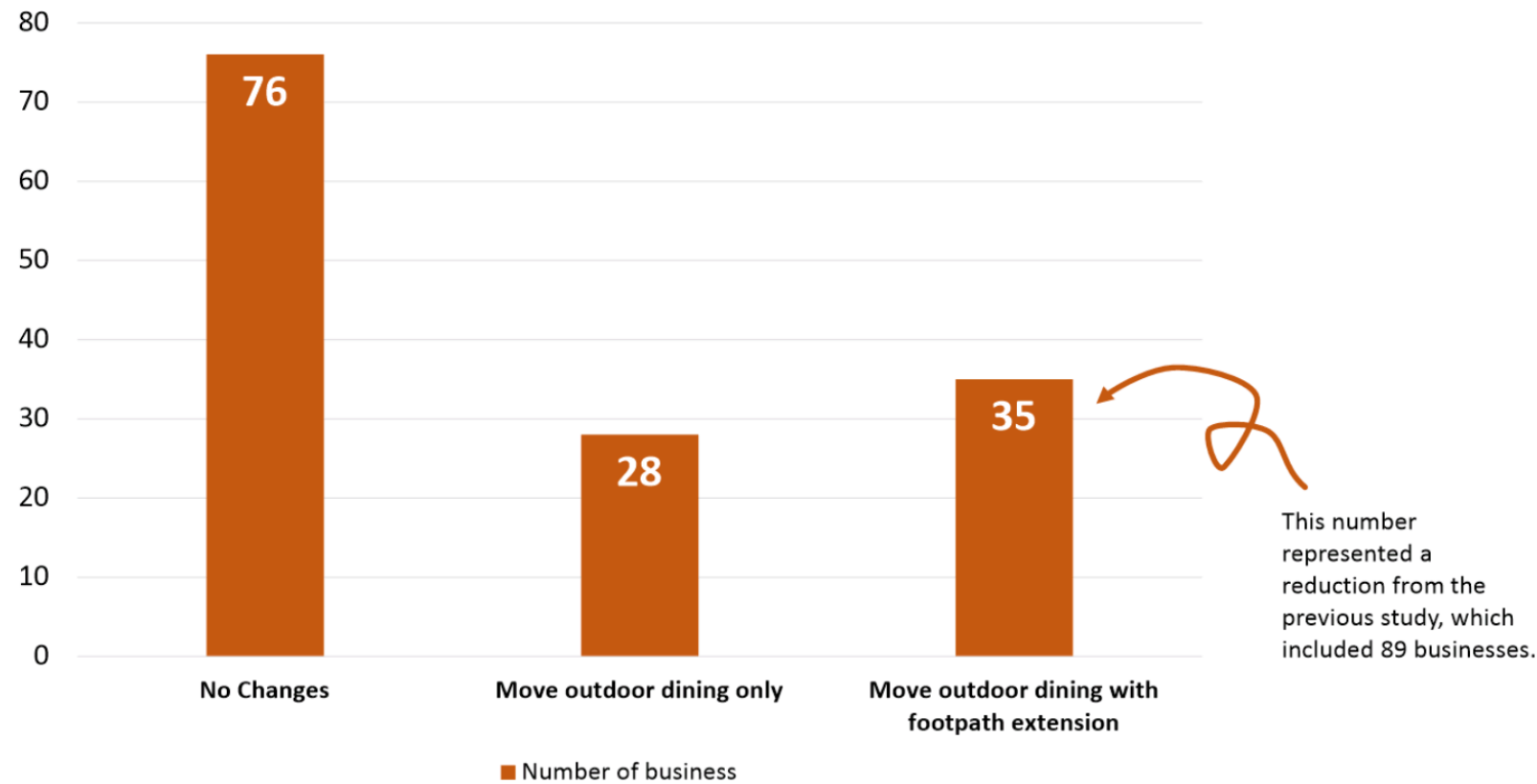


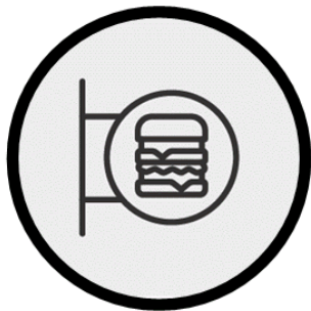
After further detailed audits and analysis, we can categorise the 139 businesses into the following actions:

- No changes to the current outdoor dining arrangement.
- Move outdoor dining away from building line to kerb side on existing footpath.
- Move outdoor dining away from building line to kerb side with footpath extension.

**139**

businesses have outdoor  
dining areas

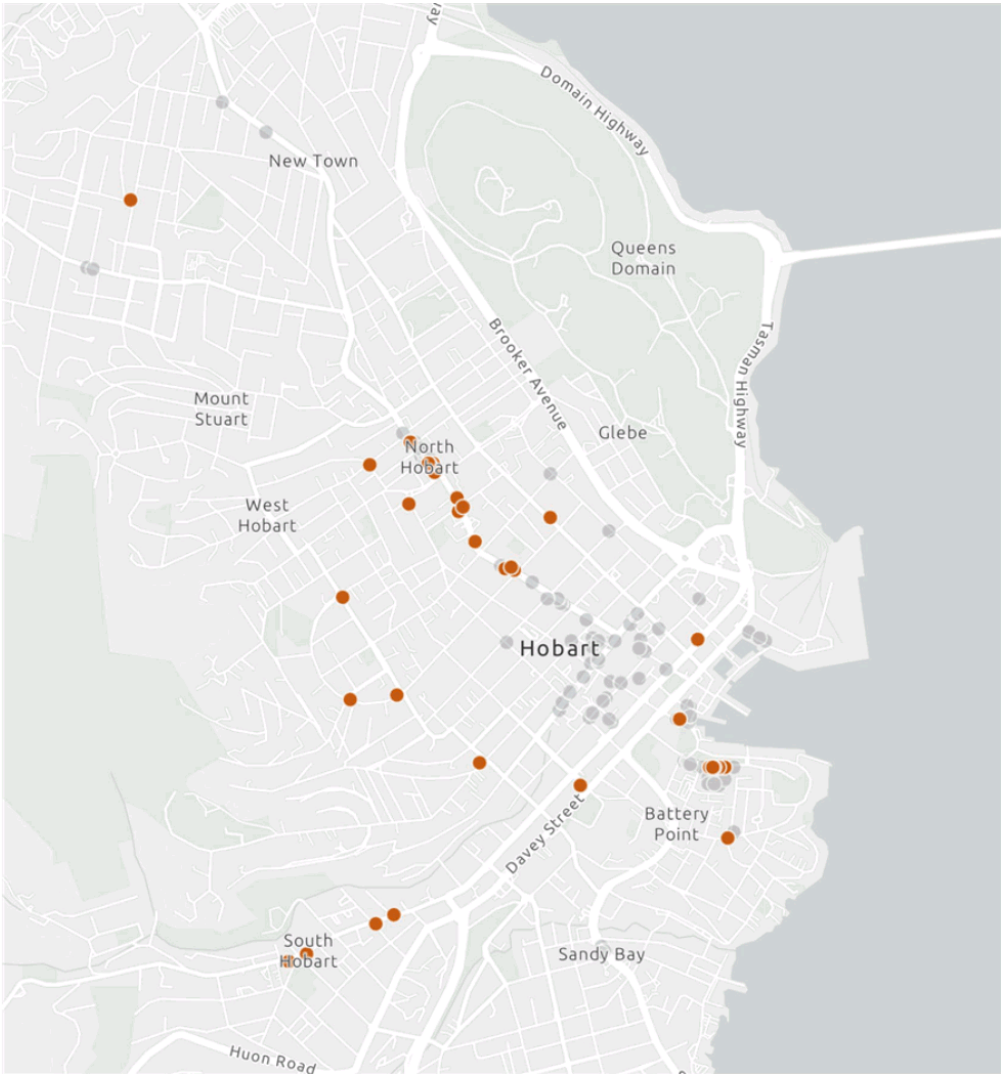


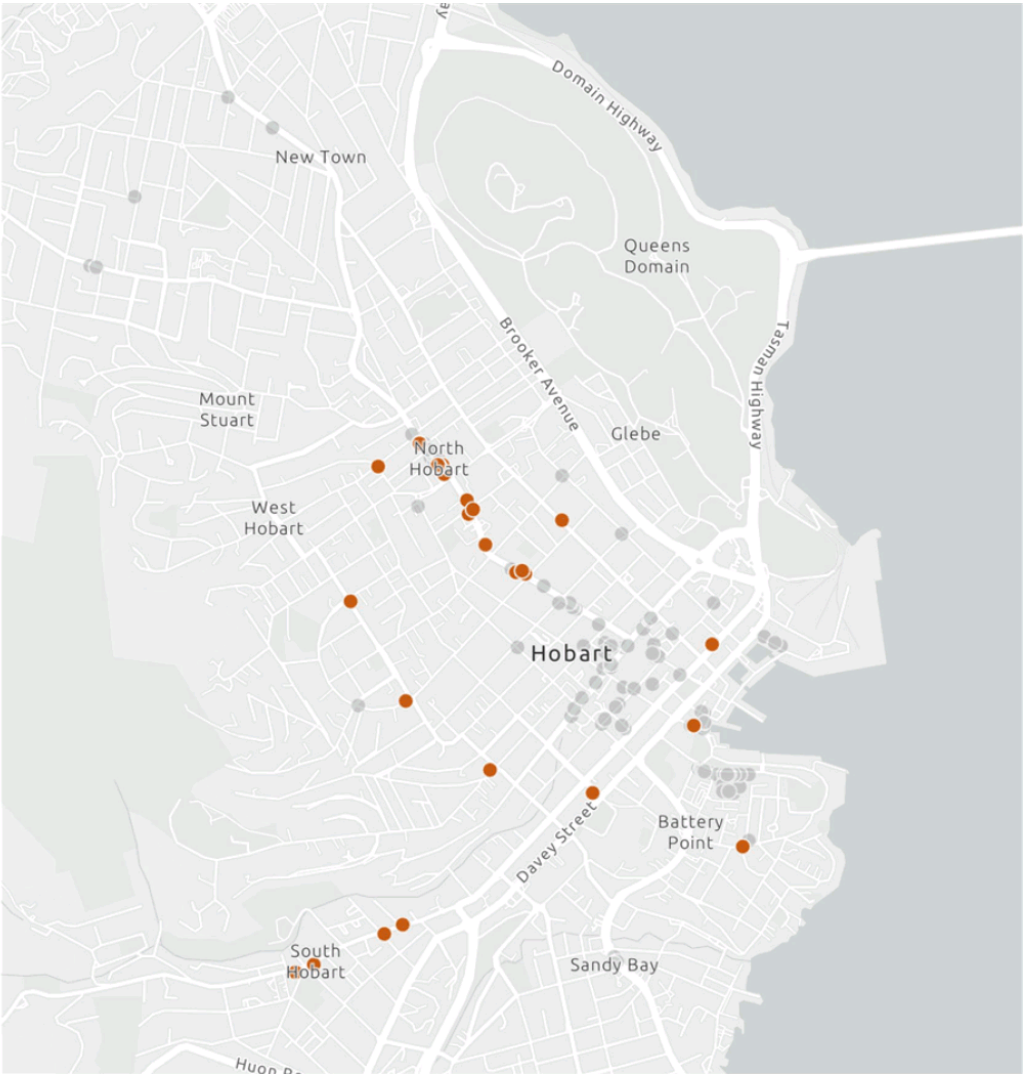
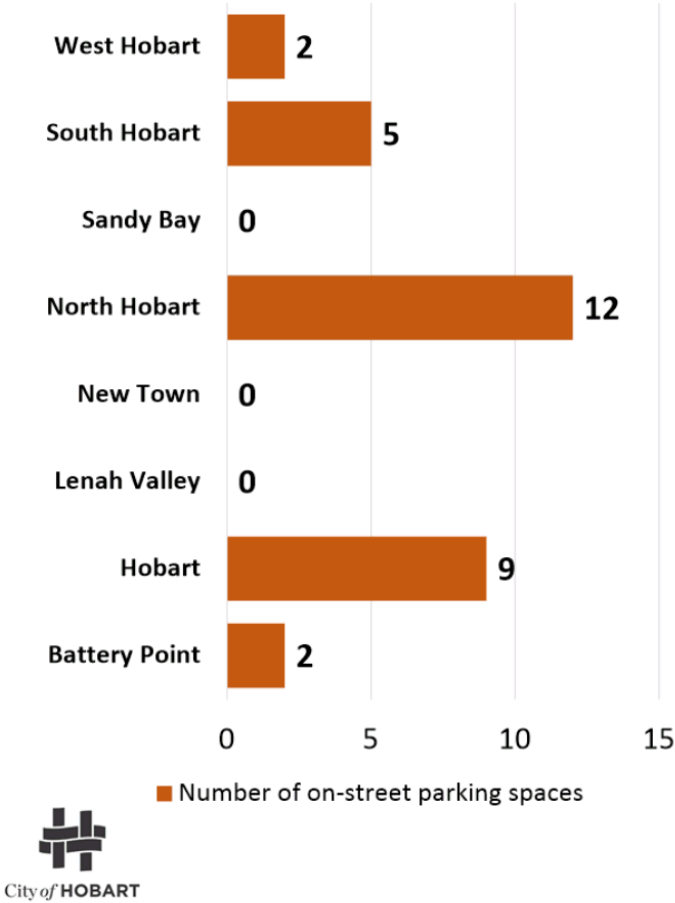


**35**  
businesses required to  
move outdoor dining to  
kerb side with footpath  
extension



**30**  
on-street parking spaces  
are required to  
accommodate footpath  
extension





# **04 Implementation plan**

## **How do we implement the change?**

## Implementation approach

- Elected Members are asked to consider the staged implementation of a minimum 1.8m wide clear path of travel along building line, in line with the attached Policy and Guidelines.
- **Officers recommend that the majority of these changes can be carefully staged in close consultation with traders over six months to five years.**
- Complex areas which bring with them significant potential impact on parking provision, **only** be undertaken **at the same time as** urban/retail precinct upgrades or renewals.





**Stage 1:**

Move the current outdoor dining to kerb side on existing footpath - **28 businesses**.

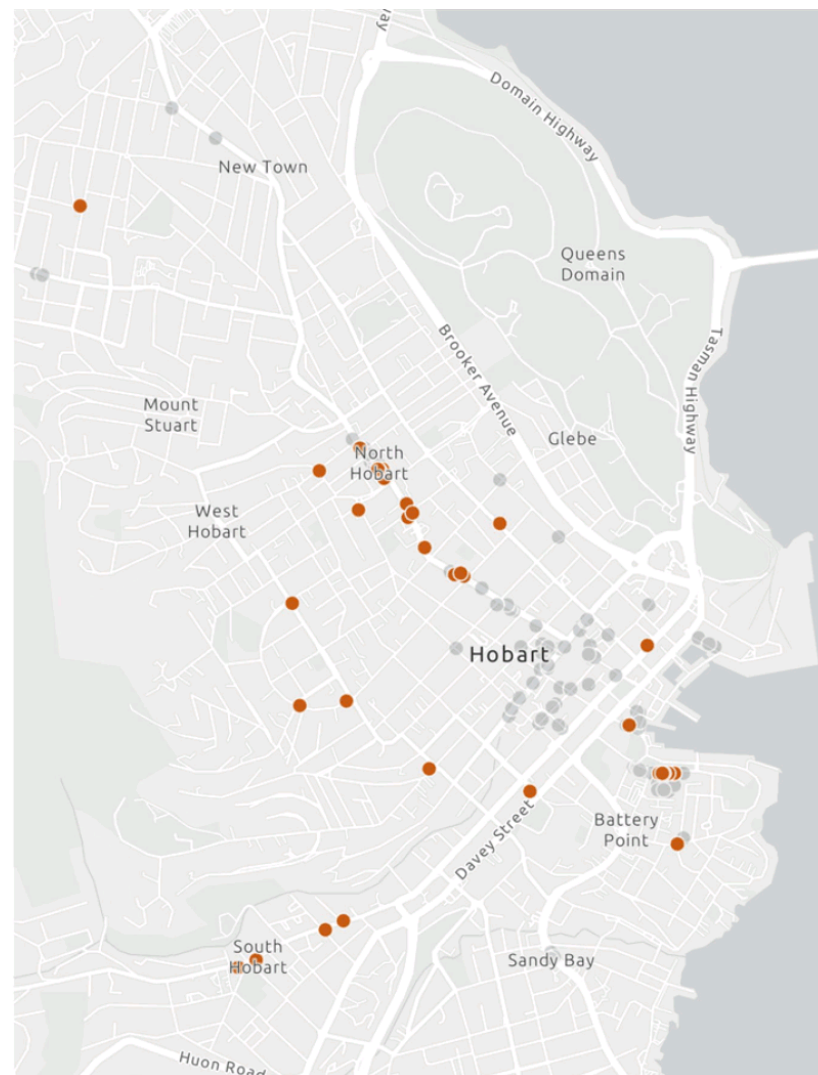
**Would be delivered over three to six months from Council approval.**

**Stage 2:**

Extending footpath width (no car parking impact) -**10 businesses**.

**Would be delivered over three to five years.**

This includes complex sites, such as Salamanca Place between Kennedy Lane and Silo Apartment, and those locations which would **not impact ticketed or timed parking spaces**.





**Stage 3:**

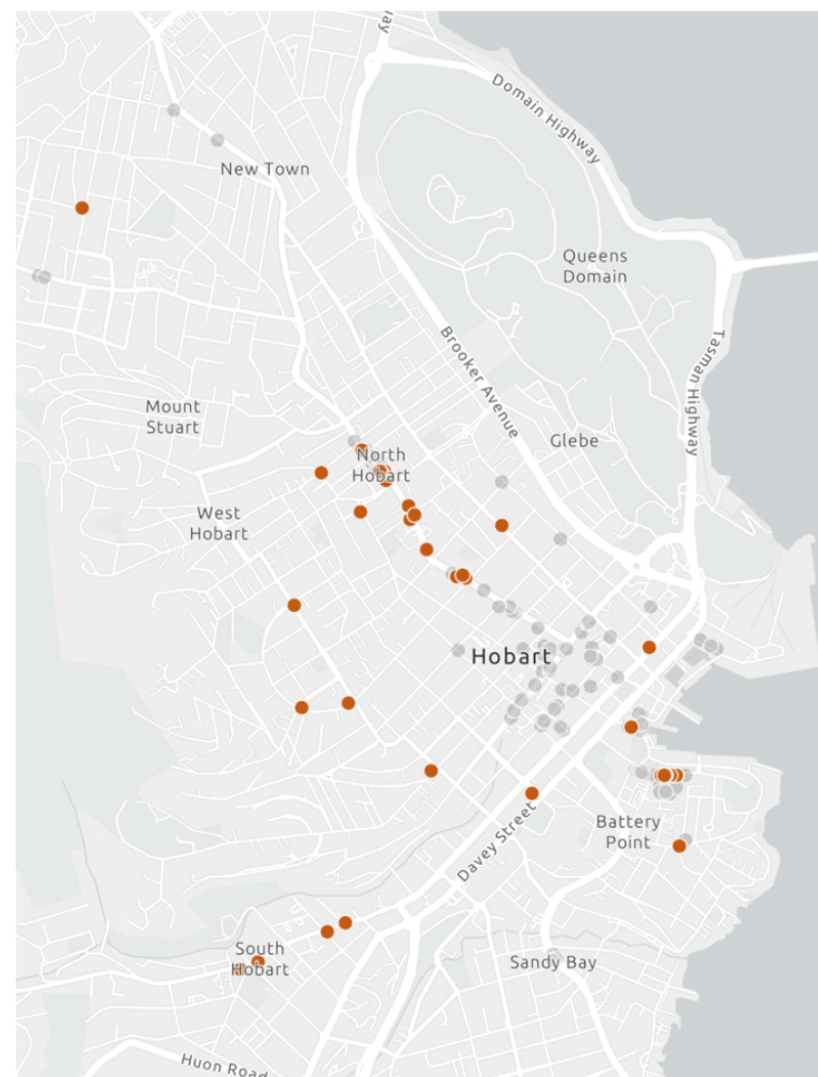
Extending footpath width (car parking impact) - **25 businesses.**

Would address complex locations that impact on paid and ticketed parking spaces.

It would **only be considered** after Stages 1 and 2 are complete.

During this time, officers will explore opportunities to address issues associated with the proposed loss of on-street parking.

These locations **would only change as part of a wider street, urban or retail precinct upgrades**, as has occurred in Sandy Bay, Lenah Valley and New Town.



# **05 Next step**

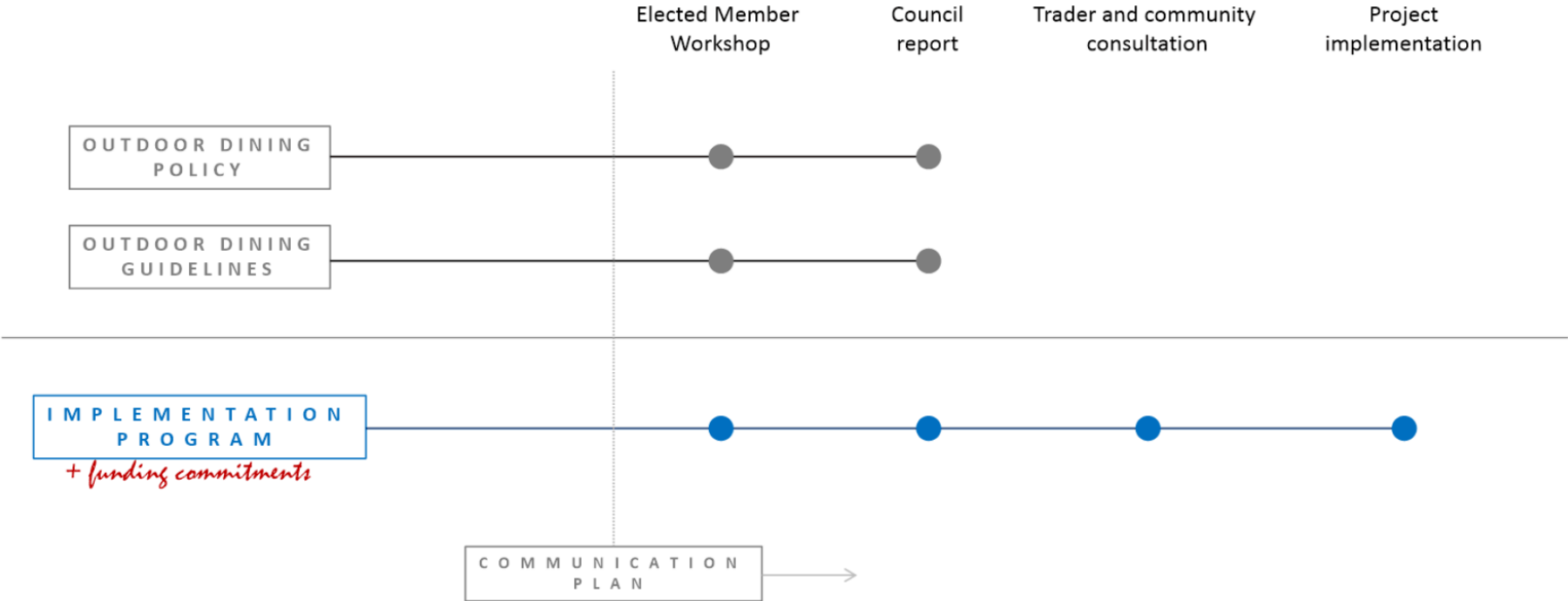
## **Where to from here?**

## Next Steps:

- A. Approval process
- B. Engagement plan



# Approval process



# Engagement Plan

- Engagement with current outdoor dining traders and other business groups, and wider stakeholder engagement, including with the City's Access Advisory Committee.
- Provide engagement opportunities on the Yoursay page about the policy and guidelines.
- Report on engagement feedback.
- Provide recommendations to Council for endorsement.



## Q&A

# **Appendix**

## **Summary of Outdoor Dining Policy and Guidelines**



# Outdoor dining policy

## Objectives

- Outline the City's role in regulating public spaces, specifically outdoor dining permits.
- Protect and maintain a clear path of travel for all public space users.
- Encourage a balanced approach to allow diverse use of public spaces.
- Acknowledge that outdoor dining is vital to creating lively and vibrant destinations.





## Policy statement

- Pedestrian safety is the primary purpose of footpaths.
- Maintain a clear and continuous path of travel for all users.
- Recognise that well-managed businesses contribute positive value to the City's urban fabric and economy

## Policy actions

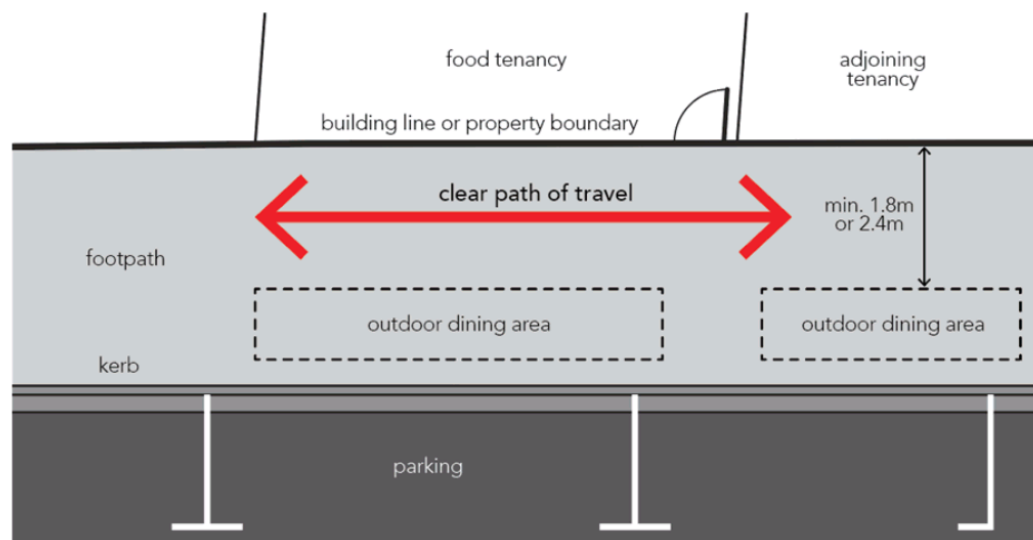
- Review and approve outdoor dining applications.
- Minimise noise and visual impacts to manage neighbourhood amenity.
- Manage specific issues in special precincts, i.e. Elizabeth Street Mall, Salamanca Place and Salamanca Plaza.
- Monitor compliance and enforce regulations.
- Revoke non-compliant permits.
- Charge a fee for the use of public spaces.





# Outdoor dining guidelines

## Footpath access



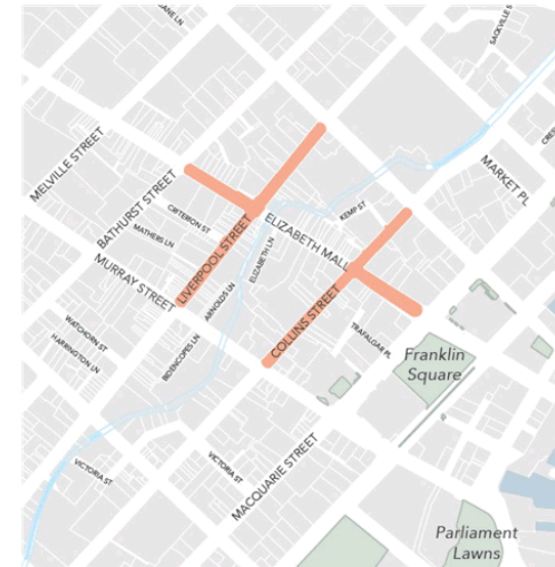
## Clear path of travel

*"An uninterrupted route to and within an area providing access to all features, services and facilities. It should not incorporate any step, stairway, turnstile, revolving door, escalator, hazard or other obstacle or impediment that would prevent it from being safely negotiated by people with disability."*

- Australian Human Rights Commission, Advisory Note on streetscape, public outdoor areas, fixtures, fittings and furniture (8 February 2013)

The City will ensure a minimum clear path of travel is maintained as follows:

- 1.8 metres clear from building line unless mentioned otherwise
- 2.4 metres clear from building line of the following streets:
  - Elizabeth Street between Macquarie and Collins streets
  - Elizabeth Street between Liverpool and Bathurst streets
  - Collins Street between Murray and Argyle streets
  - Liverpool Street between Murray and Argyle streets



# Outdoor dining area

