



CITY OF HOBART

AGENDA

The Hobart Workshop Committee Meeting
Open Portion
Monday, 20 October 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,
20 October 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).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lord Mayor Councillor A M Reynolds
Deputy Lord Mayor Councillor Dr Z E Sherlock
Councillor J L Kelly
Councillor L M Elliot
Alderman L A Bloomfield
Councillor B Lohberger
Councillor R J Posselt
Councillor G H Kitsos

Apologies:

Leave of Absence:

Nil.

NOMINEE MEMBERS

Alderman MZucco
Councillor M S C Dutta
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, 13 October 2025](#), are submitted for confirming as an accurate record.

3. CONSIDERATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

Ref: Part 2, Regulation 10(7) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*.

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 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Ref: Part 2, Regulation 10(8) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*.

Members of the Committee are requested to indicate where they may have, or are likely to have, interest in the agenda.

5. TRANSFER OF AGENDA ITEMS

Regulation 17 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*.

A Committee may close a part of a meeting to the public where a matter to be discussed falls within 17(2) of the above regulations.

In the event that the Committee transfers 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 OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

6.1 City Transport Committee **File Ref: F25/73172**

Report of the Director Strategic and Regulatory Services Network of 9 October 2025 and attachments.

Delegation: Committee

**MEMORANDUM: HOBART WORKSHOP COMMITTEE****City Transport Committee**

The purpose of this report is to inform the committee of the outcomes of the City Transport Committee meeting that was held on 5 August 2025.

The following was discussed:

- The City's Senior Transport Planner, Allison Blazosky presented the final report of the Neighbourhood Greenways Study, completed by Bloomberg Harvard City Leadership Initiative Fellow, Oliver Oglesby, which advances the City's priorities of climate action and transport choice by identifying a network of safe, accessible, active routes through Hobart.
- The City is developing an Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Policy in the context of its Climate Action Plan and Transport Strategy. The City's Manager City Transport, Daniel Verdouw and Allison Blazosky informed the Committee about the objectives, structure and content of the EV Charging Policy (draft) and next steps.
- The Committee was informed of progress implementing the Hobart Transport Strategy 2024.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Hobart Workshop Committee receive and note the minutes of the City Transport Committee of 5 August 2025, marked as Attachment A.

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.



Philip Holliday

**ACTING DIRECTOR STRATEGIC AND
REGULATORY SERVICES NETWORK**

Date: 9 October 2025
File Reference: F25/73172

Attachment A: City Transport Committee - Minutes - 5 August 2025
(Supporting information) 

6.2 Climate, Sustainability and Biodiversity Committee
File Ref: F25/73159

Report of the Director Infrastructure and Assets of 9 October 2025 and attachments.

Delegation: Committee



City of **HOBART**

MEMORANDUM: HOBART WORKSHOP COMMITTEE

Climate, Sustainability and Biodiversity Committee

The purpose of this report is to inform the committee of the outcomes of the Climate, Sustainability and Biodiversity Committee meeting that was held on 19 August 2025.

The Committee discussed the following:

- The Lenah Valley Community Association gave a presentation on their vision for the future of the Haldane Reserve, which is part Council land and part reserve.
- Anna Wilson Manager Stormwater and Waterways gave a presentation to the Committee on Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) and the committee provided feedback on the accessibility of WSUD information provided by the Council.
- Christopher Kuchinke, the Manager City Resilience and Fiona McAlpine, Program Manager Waste and Circular Economy gave a presentation to Waste Management – Are Recycling Initiatives working.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Hobart Workshop Committee receive and note the minutes of the Climate, Sustainability and Biodiversity Committee of 19 August 2025, marked as Attachment A.

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.



David Reeve
**DIRECTOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND
ASSETS**

Date: 9 October 2025
File Reference: F25/73159

Attachment A: Climate, Sustainability and Biodiversity Committee - Minutes -
19 August 2025 (Supporting information) 

7. OFFICER REPORTS

7.1 2025-26 Annual Plan Progress Report for the period ending 30 September 2025 File Ref: F25/69172

Report of the Senior Advisor - Strategic Planning, Manager Strategy,
Planning and Performance and Director Corporate Services of 15
October 2025 and attachments.

Delegation: Committee

**REPORT TITLE: 2025-26 ANNUAL PLAN PROGRESS REPORT FOR
THE PERIOD ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2025****REPORT PROVIDED BY:** Senior Advisor - Strategic Planning
Manager Strategy, Planning and Performance
Director Corporate Services**1. Report Summary and Key Issue**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to present the 2025-26 Annual Plan progress report for the period ending 30 September 2025, quarter 1 of the financial year (refer Attachment A).
- 1.2. The Annual Plan is developed as part of the annual budget and sets out the major actions and initiatives for the 2025-26 financial year. Actions in the Annual Plan must be aligned with the City's Strategic Plan.
 - 1.2.1. Reports on the progress of the annual plan are provided each quarter to the Council for noting.
- 1.3. Forty-three major actions and initiatives were included in the 2025-26 Annual Plan. Implementation for the first quarter has seen:

Complete	1
In progress – on track	34
In progress delayed	2
On hold	1
Not started	5

2. Recommendation

That the Committee receive and note the City of Hobart 2025-26 Annual Plan Progress Report for the period ending 30 September 2025, and endorse its release for publication on the City of Hobart website.

3. Discussion and Background

- 3.1. The Annual Plan is developed as part of the annual budget and sets out the major actions and initiatives for the 2025-26 financial year. Actions in the Annual Plan must be aligned with the City's Strategic Plan.
- 3.2. The Annual Plan is required pursuant to Section 71 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. It is adopted by Council with the budget estimates and other budget papers. The Annual Plan sets out the Strategic Directions, major actions and initiatives that will guide the priorities of the organisation over the coming 12 months and must include a summary of the budget estimates.
- 3.2.1. The 2025-26 Annual Plan was developed with a focus on delivering value and benefit to the community while ensuring ongoing financial viability. This balanced approach allows for the implementation of forward-thinking and innovative initiatives while maintaining the fiscal health of our city.
- 3.3. Forty-three major actions and initiatives were included in the 2025-26 Annual Plan. Implementation for the first quarter has seen:

Complete	1
In progress – on track	34
In progress delayed	2
On hold	1
Not started	5

- 3.3.1. The EV Charging Infrastructure Policy was endorsed by Council on 26 August 2025.
- 3.3.2. Of the five actions not started all are scheduled to commence by the end of the calendar year or early 2026.
- 3.3.3. The continued development of the Mt Nelson and Sandy Bay Neighbourhood Plan is on hold pending the outcome of the *University of Tasmania (Protection of Land) Bill 2024*.

4. Legal, Risk and Legislative Considerations

- 4.1. The Annual Plan is prepared in accordance with section 71 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and must be summarised in the Annual Report (section 72(1)(a) of the Act).

5. Strategic Planning and Policy Considerations

- 5.1. The Annual Plan progress report provides a summary of the progress of the major actions and initiatives in the Annual Plan and aligns with various strategies in the Capital City Strategic Plan 2023 including best practice, transparency and accountability to the community.

Pillar 8: Governance and civic involvement

Outcome 8.1: Hobart is a city of best practice, ethical governance and transparent decision-making.

8.1.2 *Practice and communicate good city governance and decision-making.*

8.1.3 *Ensure systematic and useful measurement of community outcomes and the City's performance.*

6. Financial Viability

6.1. Financial Considerations:

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Revenue	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Existing Revenue				
Additional Revenue				
Total Revenue				
Expenditure	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Operating				
Capital				
Total Expenditure				
Net Cost				
FTE Impact				
	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Change in FTE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Detail the change in the level of full-time equivalents within the group should the requested level of additional funding be required.

6.1.1. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

6.1.2. There are no FTE or asset implications arising from this report.

7. Community and Business Engagement and Collaboration

7.1. Not applicable.

8. Innovation and Continuous Improvement

8.1. Quarterly progress reports will continue to be provided on the annual plan and published on the City of Hobart website.

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.



Paula Gudgeon
**SENIOR ADVISOR - STRATEGIC
PLANNING**



Janine Arnold
**MANAGER STRATEGY, PLANNING
AND PERFORMANCE**



Michael Reynolds
DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

Date: 15 October 2025
File Reference: F25/69172

Attachment A: Annual Plan 2025-26 Progress Report for period ending 30
September 2025 (Supporting information) 

8. ITEMS FOR WORKSHOPPING

The City of Hobart utilises the workshop forum as allowed under the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025* 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.

**8.1 Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Bill 2025 -
Exposure Draft Consultation
File Ref: F25/76116**

Report of the Chief Executive Officer of 15 October 2025 and attachments.

REPORT TITLE: LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT (TARGETED REFORM) BILL 2025 - EXPOSURE DRAFT CONSULTATION

REPORT PROVIDED BY: Chief Executive Officer

1. Report Summary and Key Issue

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to workshop with the Council the draft *Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Bill 2025 Exposure Draft*.

2. Workshop Purpose

- 2.1. To workshop the concepts outlined in this report as they relate to the draft *Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Bill 2025 – Exposure Draft*.

3. Discussion and Background

- 3.1. The Minister for Local Government, the Hon. Kerry Vincent MP has written to all councils inviting comment on the *Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Bill 2025 – Exposure Draft*.
- 3.2. This is the second phase of consultation for the Tasmanian Government's Local Government Priority Reform Program.
- 3.3. The first stage of consultation was undertaken earlier this year with the release of the Targeted Amendments of the *Local Government Act 1993* discussion paper.
- 3.4. The discussion paper proposed a range of reforms underpinning the Government's Priority Reform Program, including addressing concerns around councillor conduct and improving aspects of council governance.
 - 3.4.1. The City provided a submission to the discussion paper in February 2025.
- 3.5. The submissions which were received on the discussion paper were considered and incorporated, where possible, into the draft Bill.
- 3.6. The Exposure Draft is aimed at enhancing the efficiency, transparency, and responsiveness of councils to better serve their communities.
- 3.7. Other proposed reforms being introduced via the draft Bill include amendments to deliver legislative reforms that have previously been introduced by the discussion paper, namely:
 - Introducing serious councillor misconduct provisions.
 - Broadening performance improvement direction provisions.
 - Introducing temporary advisors for councils.
 - Mandating council learning and development obligations.
 - Introducing a contemporary role statements and charter for local government.
 - Improving the strategic planning and reporting framework.
 - Improving consistency in data collection and reporting methodologies.
 - Enhanced transparency of information in council rates notices.
 - Mandating internal audit for councils.
- 3.8. Several miscellaneous amendments to support the more efficient, effective and transparent operation of the Code of Conduct complaints handling framework, and to ensure confidentiality of closed council meetings where a councillor attends such a meeting remotely, in anticipation that amendments to the Meeting Regulations will soon proceed, to allow for remote meetings in certain circumstances are also included in the draft Bill.

Provision	Comment
Local Government Charter	The Hobart City Council supported the proposal to develop a Local Government Charter through the Future of Local Government Review and its inclusion in this process is supported. Councils are focussing more than ever on the services that they provide to the community and, specifically on service levels. A well-constructed charter would assist councils and their communities to understand and agree the services that are provided by their respective councils.
New serious councillor misconduct provisions;	It's clear to most in the sector that the current Code of Conduct process has been relatively ineffective in addressing inappropriate behaviour by Elected Members. The process is wieldy, time consuming and the sanctions available do not provide a sufficient deterrent for breaches of the Code, when they occur. The provision of an additional 'layer' of sanctions for serious misconduct would be welcome as it would provide added incentive for Elected Members not to engage in any such behaviour and would also provide for suitable response in the unfortunate event that an Elected Member is found to have engaged in serious misconduct. Whilst severe misconduct is to be defined as a "serious or significant contravention of the code", with criteria yet to be developed (by order), it is expected that serious misconduct would relate to examples like: dishonesty (including fraud, theft), physical violence, gross negligence, wilful and/or repeated misconduct, bullying, sexual harassment, disclosure of confidential information, failure to disclose a conflict of interest..(etc).
More flexible and effective early intervention tools to address emerging governance challenges in	The proposal to provide an ability for the Minister to issue a performance improvement direction (PID) to a council or councillor in response to a broad range of performance and governance concerns, would provide an agile and timely approach for addressing performance at an individual Elected Member or council level without the need for a Code of Conduct process, or a Board of Inquiry process.

councils	A PID would provide an opportunity to quickly address issues that have been identified within a council and would therefore be a welcome reform.
Mandating Internal Audit for Councils	The City of Hobart is supportive of the proposed addition of section 84B regarding internal audit. The City already has a well-established governance framework in place, including a Risk and Audit Panel and a 3-year strategic internal audit program outsourced to an external provider. Each year, the Executive Leadership Team and the Risk and Audit Panel review and approve an annual Internal Audit Plan to ensure alignment with strategic priorities and risk management objectives. While we welcome the intent of the amendment, we seek clarification on several points: the scope of “specify requirements,” whether these will relate to audit topics, processes, or standards; whether requirements will be uniform across all councils or tailored to individual circumstances; and how consultation will incorporate sector feedback. We recommend that any requirements be principles-based, allowing councils to maintain risk-based, proportionate internal audit programs that reflect their unique context while meeting minimum standards for independence, frequency, and reporting.
Legislating core councillor learning and development requirements	In recent years the Office of Local Government and LGAT has developed a Local Government Learning and Development Framework which provides a useful resource for Elected Members. In addition to the Framework, councils should be routinely providing learning and development opportunities for their Elected Members, through workshops, conferences, formal and informal training (and the like). The requirement to develop an Elected Member learning and development policy for the council at the start of each term would ensure that the organisation is focused on ensuring that Elected Members do receive an adequate level of learning and development across the sector.
Supporting more consistent data and transparency	In respect to Council performance reporting, this section is specific to the financial statements in that the Minister may specify performance reporting

(including around council rates);	requirements through an order. The Minister, through an existing order specifies financial management and asset management indicators so this would just be an extension of additional reporting in the future. It's difficult to know the impact as there are no specifics, however, the Council would support increasing transparency. The City of Hobart supports the principle of enhancing transparency in rates notices. Providing clear, easy-to-understand information about how rates are calculated and the drivers for change will help ratepayers better understand how Council invests in services for the community. The City does not object to the proposed wording of section 122A. However, clarification is sought on whether the Minister's order will apply uniformly across all councils or allow for council-specific requirements. Consistency is desirable for ratepayers who own property in multiple municipal areas. The City strongly supports meaningful consultation and recommends that any additional requirements be practical, achievable, and informed by sector best practice. The City also provided the following feedback to the earlier discussion paper and includes it here for completeness: • Currently, the City provides explanatory material with annual rates notices, including a flyer outlining how rates are spent and budget context. This information is presented at a municipal area level rather than at the individual property level. While the proposal to provide property-specific information is considered beneficial, it does present practical and resourcing challenges. These include system changes to extract and integrate property-level data, adjustments to outsourced printing and distribution processes, and potential changes to the size and layout of the rates notice to maintain readability and potential cost increases if the rate notice is larger for mailing as a result. • The proposed requirement appears to focus on historical data for the preceding five years. The City recommends that councils also be required to advise ratepayers of future changes that may affect rates liability, such as
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	property revaluations, rating policy changes, or indexation factors. Timely communication of these changes is important for ratepayers, particularly those who lease properties and need to plan for changes in rates liability. Consistency with the rating categories in the model financial statements is essential to ensure clarity and comparability. Consideration should also extend to service rates and charges, including transparency around Fire Service Rate contributions. Additionally, any historical data provided should include context, such as valuation changes, policy shifts, and economic conditions, rather than presenting raw totals.
Establishing the architecture for improving - over time - council strategic direction-setting and planning, underpinned by a stronger focus on community engagement and wellbeing	The proposal for council strategic plans to identify community wellbeing priority and specifying strategies for achieving is an update to the current Strategic Plan section. It is not an additional plan. It highlights identifying community wellbeing priorities as new wording, but this would align to the current pillars and actions. Interesting that wellbeing is only mentioned one other time in the amendment where it has updated the Role of council from Functions and Powers (Section 20 of the current Act). The City already has a Community Engagement Framework (due for review in 2027) and a Community Engagement Policy. At the same time, we are also developing a dedicated Communications & Engagement Guide.
Introducing temporary advisors for councils	There is no doubt that there are times when, for various reasons, a council may lose its way in terms of its focus on the necessary role that it plays for its community. It could be because of poor strategic decision making, relationship breakdowns between key leaders, employee and or Elected Member misconduct (and the like). The ability to appoint a temporary advisor to a council to provide advice and recommend governance improvements to that council would provide a 'light touch' means of addressing the identified problems, rather than resorting to an expensive and time-consuming Board of Inquiry process. Certainly, an inquiry will still have its place for the

	most serious of circumstances, but the advisor would be a useful tool to work with existing councils to identify and address problems, before more serious interventions are required.
Enhancing the efficiency and transparency of the Code of Conduct complaints handling framework.	To be discussed as part of the workshop presentation.
Supporting provisions for remote attendance at closed council meetings, aligning with anticipated updates to the Meeting Regulations.	To be discussed as part of the workshop presentation.
Requirement for a Council to develop and maintain a Workplace development strategy	In respect to the requirement for councils to develop a Workforce Development Plan, the City of Hobart operates the One Hobart Program, which aims at building a constructive organisational culture which is consistent with the proposed reform.

4. Legal, Risk and Legislative Considerations

- 4.1. The draft Bill provides heads of power for the making of Ministerial Orders in relation to several matters, and the details of those Orders will need to be developed in close consultation with the sector over the coming months.
- 4.2. This approach is consistent with a broader move towards a more principles-based and less prescriptive Local Government Act.
- 4.3. As an important check on unilateral Ministerial power, all Orders-making provisions proposed under the Bill are subject to mandatory consultation with councils. Where appropriate, provisions will also be subject to Parliamentary oversight and potential intervention as disallowable instruments.
- 4.4. To assist in understanding the full parameters of the legislative changes, the Office of Local Government expects to work with councils in the preparation of key components of the proposed Orders prior to the Targeted Bill being debated in Parliament.

5. Strategic Planning and Policy Considerations

- 5.1. Pillar 8 of the Capital City Strategic Plan states that:

We are a city of ethics and integrity. We govern with transparency and accountability, encouraging and welcoming active civic involvement. We collaborate for the collective good, working together to create a successful Hobart.

6. Financial Viability

- 6.1. Financial Considerations:

Detail the change in the level of full-time equivalents within the group should the requested level of additional funding be required.

- 6.1.1. None arise from the writing of this report.

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: 15 October 2025
File Reference: F25/76116

Attachment A: Draft Bill 2025 - Exposure Draft (Supporting information) 

8.2 Safer Hobart Officer - Program Proposal
File Ref: F25/71974

Report of the Manager Community Programs and Director Community
and Economic Development of 13 October 2025.

REPORT TITLE: SAFER HOBART OFFICER - PROGRAM PROPOSAL

REPORT PROVIDED BY: Manager Community Programs
Director Community and Economic Development

1. Report Summary and Key Issue

- 1.1. This report is seeks to workshop with the Council's a proposal to establish a Safer Hobart Officer program.
- 1.2. This program would include Safer Hobart Officers having a visible presence in the city to enhance public safety and wellbeing. They would maintain a highly visible and approachable presence, fostering positive engagement with local businesses and the community, providing reassurance, and encouraging adherence to local laws.
- 1.3. The implementation of this program would align with the recommendation from the WLF Safety Audit undertaken in 2022 and would also be strongly aligned to outcomes sought from the Safer Hobart Alliance.
 - 1.3.1. This proposal was presented to the Safer Hobart Alliance on 24 September. The Alliance unanimously endorsed progressing with this proposal.

2. Workshop Purpose

- 2.1 For the Council to review and provide feedback on the proposal to implement a Safer Hobart Officer Program.

3. Discussion and Background

Current Situation

- 3.1. For many years there have been discussions relating to how the City could best respond to the community safety issues that have had a negative impact on retailers, community and perceptions of safety particularly in the CBD area.
- 3.2. Community safety expectations on local governments across Australia are increasing. As police change their model of policing from proactive to targeted policing, responsibility to proactively prevent anti-social and low-level crime in public places is falling to local governments.
- 3.3. Many local governments across the country are responding through engagement of council staff to provide a pro-active response. Roles have a variety of names across the different councils including, as examples, rangers, public liaison officers, compliance officers, and outreach workers.
- 3.4. The City of Melbourne is the most recent council to implement a Community Safety Officer program, using City of Melbourne staff, after a trial program utilising external security was not considered successful.
- 3.5. Community and businesses are placing increasing demands on the City of Hobart to respond to their calls to improve safety in public places and to undertake enforcement of local laws.
- 3.6. In Tasmania, Section 20 of the *Local Government Act 1993* advises that the role of local government is:

In addition to any functions of a council in this or any other Act, a council has the following functions:

(a) to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the community

(b) to represent and promote the interests of the community

(c) to provide for the peace, order and good government of the municipal area.

- 3.7. Whilst in Australia responding to crime has primarily been the responsibility of State and Federal Governments, local governments play a vital and evolving role in helping create safer communities. Local councils are uniquely positioned to address safety at the grassroots level.
- 3.8. Local governments have long used crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) principals when planning and designing public places, and have also invested in establishing significant CCTV infrastructure to improve safety outcomes for people living, working or visiting their municipalities.

- 3.9. Increasingly local governments have been encouraged to invest in human resources that play an active role on the streets, to assist in preventing anti-social and low-level crime, rather than just the passive role that CPTED and CCTV play.
- 3.10. This has partially been driven by the increasing demands placed on state-based policing, which has seen them reduce their visible proactive policing practices of the past, and increasingly using techniques that target recidivist offenders and high risk community locations to drive down crime.
- 3.11. Over many years, there has been the expectation that the City of Hobart should take on a stronger role in creating a safe and welcoming city in the way that many mainland cities have done.
- 3.12. The City is being called on to respond to issues of anti-social behaviour in public places. Disturbingly these issues seem to be escalating with evidence to suggest there is an increased carriage of weapons by some offenders, youth crime, and more overt drug dealing in public locations managed by the City of Hobart.
 - 3.12.1. It was pleasing to note that at the recent meeting of the Safer Hobart Alliance, Tasmania Police provided statistics for the first three months of this financial year, compared with the equivalent time in 2024, that showed a strong decrease in crimes, including public safety and public order crimes and retail theft.
 - 3.12.2. This reduction in number could be attributed to the increasing delivery of targeted programs by Tasmania Police, the underreporting of crimes by retailers or other factors.
- 3.13. It is noted that retailers and community continue to express concern with the ongoing issues relating to youth behaviour, visible rough sleepers across many public places, begging and public drinking.
- 3.14. In recent weeks there have also been increasing calls from multicultural retailers and businesses for support from the City in relation to racially targeted attacks.
- 3.15. There is also an expectation from impacted businesses that the council needs to provide a visible and meaningful response. This has resulted over the past few years in the City needing to provide an increased range of security responses, including those in the Wellington Court and Franklin Square area.
- 3.16. Over the past five to ten years similar issues have been raised with Council about behaviours, and of groups of (mainly young) people gathering in Collins Court, Elizabeth Street Mall, Wellington Court, Mathers Place, City car-parks and St. David's Park.

- 3.17. It is also noted that safety issues are still being reported in the Waterfront area on weekend late nights. The City engages security guards each weekend evening (at the Salamanca Plaza area and at the toilets in Salamanca Square) that work alongside St Johns Ambulance (Saturday nights only) and Street Teams that usually operate both evenings.
- 3.18. The common denominator for the concerns centre on ongoing anti-social behaviours. Due to the nature of the underlying anti-social behaviour being mostly low level, it generally does not attract the attention of police, who are often responding to more serious types of offences.
- 3.19. It is acknowledged that there has been, and continues to be, a great deal of frustration amongst retailers. These concerns were made evident at the previously held Hobart Retailers Safety and Security Meetings and more recently at the Safer Hobart Alliance (first meeting in June).
- 3.20. Retailers speak of increased anxiety amongst their staff, who are fearful of some of the people involved in the anti-social behaviours outside their stores, and sometimes within. They have advised that this has led to low morale amongst their staff and poor retention rates.
- 3.21. Retailers also state that the behaviours are impacting their customers, with some retailers advising customers are also fearful of the types of people congregating in public places within the CBD, most notably within Wellington Court and to some extent the Elizabeth Mall.
- 3.22. It is acknowledged that this is primarily a perception of serious crime as the statistics recently shared by Tasmania Police do not indicate that there is an actual increase in crimes being committed.

Security Services

- 3.23. The City currently uses contracted security patrols in public places. The current security services include:
 - 3.23.1. Salamanca Square public toilets and Castray Esplanade Taxi Rank (including Salamanca Lawns). This service is part of the City of Hobart initiative with Tasmania Police and the Salvation Army that brings a harm minimisation approach to the precinct on a Friday and Saturday night between the hours of 10 pm and 3 am.
 - 3.23.2. Council buildings including CCTV and Access Card Systems maintenance. This contract also encompasses the provision of a concierge service to the Town Hall
 - 3.23.3. Contracts encompassing security services for Cash Collection Argyle Street Car Park and Bushland, Parks and Recreation. The Security Services Bushland, Parks and Recreation had an

addendum to the contract in 2023 which enabled the City to have a roving CBD patrol seven (7) days per week between the hours of 12.30 pm to 5 pm covering Franklin Square, Bus Mall, Elizabeth Mall and Wellington Court. This service has been further extended to include security services to Centrepont Car Park because of the recent extension of the closing hours to 7.15 pm.

- 3.24. There is currently \$768,200 included in the 2025/26 budget allocation for security related services.
- 3.25. The use of these security guards does serve a purpose. The physical presence improves perceptions of safety in the areas they patrol. They can respond to incidents or potential incidents to reduce their impact on other people in the area. They also provide an additional set of eyes and ears on the ground for Tasmania Police, to gather intelligence on people committing crimes such as assaults, thefts and drug dealing.
- 3.26. The feedback that the City receives from Tasmania Police, retailers and community is that the provision of security guards at specific locations, or patrolling is not achieving required outcomes.
- 3.27. The security service that is provided can be very ad-hoc and dependent upon the guards that are provided. They are not seen to be providing a pro-active approach. In general terms, they do not attempt to engage with young people or people sleeping rough and only act when there is an actual incident, when they call Tasmania Police.
- 3.28. It is noted however, that some of the anti-social behaviour does improve when security guards are present.
- 3.29. It is highly likely that the City of Hobart will continue to be called on by the community and retailers to fill the void left by police. This means the City takes on responsibility to work proactively to reduce anti-social / low level crime, calling in police as required.
- 3.30. Accepting this, the question is whether security guards are the best option, or the Safer Hobart Officer (SHO) model is a better one that possibly offers improved outcomes for the community and the City.
- 3.31. It is noted that regardless of the outcome of this proposal, a full review of the Security Services contracts will be undertaken to determine how this service should be managed going forward. This will be done to guide the future development of these contracts.

Community Safety Programs in Other Cities

- 3.32. Many local governments across the country are responding through engagement of council staff to provide a pro-active response. Roles have a variety of names across the different councils including, as examples, rangers, public liaison officers, compliance officers, and outreach workers.

- 3.33. In order to develop this proposal, council officers have undertaken research and/or spoken to staff delivering community safety type roles at: City of Melbourne; City of Auckland; City of Perth; City of Adelaide; City of Darwin; City of Freemantle; City of Ipswich; and City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder. The Auckland model has been researched for inclusion in the Hobart proposed model.
- 3.34. The City of Melbourne is the most recent council to implement a Community Safety Officer program, using City of Melbourne staff, after a trial program utilising external security was not considered successful. They have very recently engaged 10 new Community Safety Officers, and three supervisors, who are currently undertaking an extensive training program.
- 3.35. Noting that many other cities already have teams undertaking the same type of role, position descriptions from several other cities have been considered and utilised in the development of this position description.
- 3.36. Many cities have a range of roles from staff focused purely on compliance with City by-laws, to staff working in public space supporting people sleeping rough; outreach social workers; through to teams operating in a pro-active manner to support compliance of by-laws, community members and retailers.

Safer Hobart Officer Program

- 3.37. Having designated staff present in public spaces is a model recognised for many years as a positive and pro-active community safety program. These staff members would undertake many tasks that security guards cannot.
- 3.38. In 2023, Wise, Lord and Ferguson completed an audit of the City's safety and security arrangements. There were many suggestions resulting from the audit, including the implementation of a Safer Hobart Officer type program.
- 3.39. The first meeting of the Safer Hobart Alliance was held in June and discussions around a Safer Hobart Officer type model for Hobart received good support with one meeting participant speaking to the success of a similar model in Auckland.
- 3.40. Managers from Community Programs, Economic Development, City Compliance and Environmental Health Groups have been working together with the Safer Communities Coordinator and Parking Services Manager to progress this potential program and develop a position description. This collaboration has ensured that the new roles provide the appropriate service across these groups. The roles would be required to engage across the organisation and add value to the work that is already taking place.

Safer Hobart Officer Role

- 3.41. Safer Hobart Officers (SHO) would undertake the following tasks: monitoring and educating on by-law compliance; referring vulnerable community members to services; enforcing the smoke free areas within the CBD; reporting issues to relevant council officers; engaging with businesses and undertaking a pro-active approach in monitoring and reporting issues to Tasmania Police.
- 3.42. The SHOs would be the eyes and ears of the City, they would have a strong customer service role and have a focus on pro active engagement.
- 3.43. The SHO positions are intended to provide a complementary role to the existing City Inspector.
 - 3.43.1. The City Inspector would remain responsible for formal regulatory and enforcement of by-laws. The SHOs would provide separation between the visible on-street presence and education role with the reactive nature of the City Inspector in response to non-compliant activity and breaches of the by-laws.
- 3.44. It would be intended that initially the focus of the SHOs would be in the CBD area, however there may be the potential to expand to other designated areas as the program evolves.
- 3.45. The SHOs would also provide assistance to the City Inspector when undertaking site visits to people sleeping rough in public spaces and open spaces across the City.
- 3.46. There would be engagement with the service providers and Tasmania Police operating on a Friday and Saturday night – especially when undertaking a taskforce activity.
- 3.47. It would be intended that the SHOs would be the key contacts for Tasmania Police, etc., for viewing and providing footage from the City's CCTV network.
 - 3.47.1. SHOs would be trained to ensure they act in compliance with privacy and other relevant legislation.
- 3.48. The SHOs would undertake a comprehensive training package noting they would be required to engage with vulnerable community members as well as respond to potentially violent or heightened situations.
 - 3.48.1. Training packages from the City of Melbourne and City of Perth would be utilised to develop the training packages.
- 3.49. SHOs would need to develop strong, collaborative relationships with all service providers operating within the CBD.

- 3.50. SHOs would also be required to develop a strong understanding of council operations, including GIS mapping systems to be able to record and respond to matters such as graffiti, overflowing rubbish bins and any safety issues they observe.
- 3.51. There are operational savings that could be utilised to provide resources to implement the program.
- 3.52. A small operational budget allocation would need to be provided to cover operational costs such as uniforms, camera vests, mobile phones, training etc.
 - 3.52.1. This budget allocation could be provided through existing budgets across the Community and Economic Development Network.
- 3.53. Detailed project outcomes and a robust evaluation framework would be developed to track the impact of the program so that it could be adjusted as required to respond to changing business and community needs.

4. Legal, Risk and Legislative Considerations

- 4.1. It is considered that a SHO program would reduce the risk profile for the City as identified in the WLF Audit in 2022. The program would improve perceptions of safety, provide additional eyes and ears in public spaces as well as additional reporting mechanisms.
- 4.2. The SHOs would require approval as a Nominated Officer pursuant to s13A of the *Public Health Act 1997* in order to undertake smoking enforcement in smoke-free areas.
- 4.3. Although the SHOs would not be issuing infringements against the City's By-laws, they would need to have a strong understanding of the by-laws as one of their key roles would be to educate and encourage businesses and community members to comply with the by-laws.
 - 4.3.1. If the encouragement was not successful, the City Inspector would still be required to issue any infringements.
- 4.4. It is noted that as the SHOs would be engaging directly in potentially challenging and even dangerous situations in public spaces and risk assessments would need to be undertaken in respect of their work.
 - 4.4.1. An extensive training package would need to be developed and delivered to the SHOs.

5. Strategic Planning and Policy Considerations

- 5.1. This proposal has very strong strategic alignment with Hobart: A community Vision for our island capital in particular:

- 3.4 *Our city feels friendly and safe - but we know not everyone experiences our city this way, and we could do better.*
- 1.3.6 *People want to spend time in our city because it is comfortable, safe and wonderful. Our visitors feel a sense of friendliness and magic that they miss when they leave.*
- 2.6.3 *We are a safe city, where everyone feels safe and is safe, including in public spaces. We look after each other.*
- 4.5.6 *We listen to the needs of our business communities.*
- 5.6.3 *We develop appropriate long-term and sustainable solutions by investing in skills, systems and processes in conjunction with the community and a variety of partners.*
- 5.2. It also strongly aligns with the Capital City Strategic Plan 2023:
 - 2.2.4 *Build and leverage our evidence base, experience and community knowledge to understand those who are most disadvantaged, excluded and vulnerable and develop appropriate initiatives.*
 - 2.4.1 *Protect and improve public and environmental health, wellbeing and safety.*
 - 2.4.2 *Ensure that Hobart is a safe and liveable city by enhancing community wellbeing and public safety and security.*
 - 4.2.2 *Actively support and engage with local businesses, business groups and networks, industry associations, key institutions and other stakeholders in the Hobart economy.*
 - 7.1.6 *Support members of the community who are experiencing homelessness.*
 - 7.3.3 *Ensure City-owned assets and public spaces are accessible, of high quality and provide a high level of amenity to meet community and visitor requirements.*
 - 7.3.5 *Measure, manage and support the effective use of city facilities, infrastructure and public spaces.*
- 5.3. This proposal is also strongly aligned with the *City Economy Strategy 2023-2028* and the *City for All: Community Inclusion and Equity Framework*. There is a specific action in the *City for All Implementation Plan (Draft)* in the Community Safety and Crime Prevention priority area to: *Continue to advocate for the establishment and recognition of Community Safety and Enforcement positions within the Council to ensure the effective management and stewardship of public spaces.*

6. Financial Viability

6.1. Financial Considerations:

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Revenue				
Existing Revenue	0			
Additional Revenue	0			
Total Revenue	0			
Expenditure				
Operating	0	0	0	0
Capital				
Total Expenditure	0	0	0	0
Net Cost	0			

FTE Impact

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Change in FTE	0			

Detail the change in the level of full-time equivalents within the group should the requested level of additional funding be required.

- 6.1.1. It is proposed to re-purpose vacant positions into this new program so there would not be overall changes to FTE.
- 6.1.2. Funding for this program would be through s re-allocated from existing budget allocations within the network.

6.2. City Economy Strategy:

- 6.2.1. This proposal aligns to the following strategic priorities listed in the City of Hobart City Economy Strategy 2023 – 2028:

Partner with key stakeholders to deliver initiatives that support the needs of our wider community and strengthen our local economy as a small island state capital city.

1.5 Partner and deliver programs that are inclusive, foster well-being and enhance quality aspects of city life, including short-term tactical interventions to improve public amenity

Hobart is viewed as a desirable commercial, cultural, residential and visitor destination.

3.6 Partner with State Government and business to develop initiatives to improve safety and security.

6.3. Economic Impact:

- 6.3.1. This proposal has the potential to have a positive impact on the economic outcomes for retailers and businesses in the City.
- 6.3.2. It is acknowledged that there are persistent and ongoing negative narratives around the perception of crime in the City.
 - 6.3.2.1. There continues to be the public discourse that the City is not safe to visit and that community members are avoiding the CBD for that reason.
 - 6.3.2.2. Through engagement with businesses, there has also been feedback that retailers and businesses are losing staff (and unable to attract staff) due to them not feeling safe in the City.
- 6.3.3. The proposal also has the potential to have a positive impact through having a visible presence that could deter shoplifting and vandalism of businesses.

6.4. Consultants

- 6.4.1. Consultants have not been involved in the development of this proposal.

7. **Climate and Sustainability Considerations**

- 7.1. The SHOs would have a role in monitoring the city's assets and public infrastructure and reporting matters to the relevant areas of the organisation.
 - 7.1.1. This reporting would include the heavy utilisation of particular rubbish bins (overflowing resulting in rubbish blowing around the area), broken pipes or trip hazards.
 - 7.1.2. They may also become aware of businesses using single-use plastic takeaway packaging etc. which would be reported to waste team.

8. **Community and Business Engagement and Collaboration**

- 8.1. This proposal has been developed through extensive engagement across several areas of the organisation.
- 8.2. There have also been discussions with Tasmania Police to ensure the program is strongly aligned with and supportive of their work.
 - 8.2.1. Tasmania Police has indicated strong support for this proposal and will be actively engaged in the engagement and training program for the SHOs.
- 8.3. Although the City has been considering the implementation of a community safety program for many years, the strong support for this

type of program was raised at the inaugural meeting of the Safer Hobart Alliance.

8.3.1. Following the Alliance meeting, staff undertook a detailed investigation into opportunities for implementation, including resourcing options.

8.3.2. Staff also undertook significant research into models operating in other Cities that could be tailored to suit the Hobart environment.

8.4. A briefing paper on the potential model was presented to the Safer Hobart Alliance meeting on 24 September, with the Alliance unanimously voting to support the implementation of the program.

8.5. Following feedback at the Alliance meeting, officers have engaged a group of young people to ascertain their views and suggestions around the implementation of the program.

9. Innovation and Continuous Improvement

9.1. Although there are existing programs operating in mainland cities, this will be an innovative, new approach in Tasmania.

9.2. The proposal is strongly aligned with recommendations arising from a WLF audit report delivered in 2022.

9.3. A detailed evaluation methodology would be developed to ensure that the program is meeting its aims and objectives with the ability to pivot and adjust the program to suit an everchanging environment.

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.



Kimbra Parker
MANAGER COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



Ben Artup
**DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Date: 13 October 2025
File Reference: F25/71974

8.3 City of Hobart Unsolicited Proposals Policy
File Ref: F25/72600

Report of the Manager Rates, Procurement and Risk and Director
Corporate Services of 10 October 2025 and attachments.

**REPORT TITLE: CITY OF HOBART UNSOLICITED PROPOSALS
POLICY****REPORT PROVIDED BY:** Manager Rates, Procurement and Risk
Director Corporate Services**1. Report Summary and Key Issue**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to present and seek feedback from the Committee on the new City of Hobart Unsolicited Proposals Policy (the Policy).
- 1.2. The City is occasionally approached with unsolicited proposals for new infrastructure projects, proposals to develop Council owned land/property, proposals to sell unique goods or services to the City or other innovative solutions that may offer significant community, economic, or environmental benefits.
- 1.3. Without a formal policy, there is a risk of inconsistent consideration of such proposals or barriers to considering new and innovative proposals that could assist the City to achieve its strategic objectives or realise community benefits.
- 1.4. The Policy establishes a clear, transparent, and structured process for the submission, evaluation, and management of unsolicited proposals received by the City. The Policy aims to encourage innovation and investment, ensure transparency and governance, deliver public value, maintain probity and integrity in the assessment of proposals that have not been requested through the City's regular procurement or planning processes, achieve value for money and ensure legislative compliance.
- 1.5. The Policy ensures that only proposals which align with the City's strategic objectives and deliver clear public value are considered. The Policy includes an appendix that outlines the types of proposals not typically considered unique and hence would not fall within the Policy.
- 1.6. The Policy provides a transparent submission process involving three stages, with evaluation criteria, scoring and submission terms and conditions. An application form is included and the Policy includes clear roles and responsibilities for how unsolicited proposals will be considered and approved through the submission process.
- 1.7. Under the Policy unsolicited proposals are assessed on their merits, with a focus on value for money, innovation, uniqueness, feasibility, risk management, and community support.
- 1.8. The Policy is designed to ensure compliance with relevant legislation, including the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)*, and to ensure the

process to consider unsolicited proposals is complementary with existing procurement or statutory requirements.

- 1.9. The draft City of Hobart Unsolicited Proposals Policy is attached – **refer Attachment A**. Following feedback from the Committee the draft policy will be finalised for Council's consideration of approval at its November 2025 meeting.

2. Workshop Purpose

- 2.1. For the Committee to provide feedback on the draft City of Hobart Unsolicited Proposals Policy marked as Attachment A to this report.

3. Discussion and Background

- 3.1. The City of Hobart is sometimes approached by individuals, businesses, and organisations with ideas and business opportunities that have the potential to deliver significant community, economic, or environmental benefits. These unsolicited proposals are not requested through the City's standard procurement or planning processes, which are designed to ensure value for money and transparency. As such, there is a need for a clear, consistent, and transparent framework to manage their assessment and consideration, while fostering innovation and supporting the City's strategic objectives.
- 3.2. The proposed Unsolicited Proposals Policy has been developed to address this gap. The Policy establishes a structured process for the submission, evaluation, and management of unsolicited proposals, ensuring that all such proposals are considered fairly, lawfully, and in alignment with the City's strategic objectives and legislative obligations. It also aims to encourage innovation and investment, maintain public confidence, and maximise public value.
- 3.3. The Unsolicited Proposals Policy provides a comprehensive framework that:
 - 3.3.1. Defines what constitutes an unsolicited proposal, including proposals to build or finance infrastructure, develop Council-owned land, provide goods or services, or undertake major commercial transactions not initiated by Council.
 - 3.3.2. Sets out a three-stage submission process for assessment:
 - 3.3.2.1. Initial Submission and Preliminary Assessment
 - 3.3.2.2. Detailed Proposal
 - 3.3.2.3. Contract Negotiation
 - 3.3.3. Establishes clear weighted evaluation criteria, including public need, value for money, innovation and uniqueness, feasibility, alignment with strategic objectives, risk management, capability, and community support and a scoring matrix.
 - 3.3.4. Clarifies roles and responsibilities, including the appointment of a Proposal Manager, a Proposal Evaluation Committee, and, where appropriate, a Probity Advisor.
 - 3.3.5. Outlines submission terms and conditions, probity, confidentiality, and conflict of interest requirements for both proponents and Council officers, with oversight by a Probity Advisor where appropriate.
 - 3.3.6. Ensures legislative compliance and alignment with existing Council policies and strategies.

- 3.4. The benefits of this new Policy for the City include:
- 3.4.1. Assessment on merit and value for money - all proposals are assessed on their merits, with a focus on delivering value for money and community benefit. It prevents the circumvention of competitive processes except where justified by the unique nature of the proposal.
 - 3.4.2. Encouragement of innovation - the Policy encourages innovative and unique proposals, supporting the City's strategic objectives and fosters economic growth, investment, and community benefit.
 - 3.4.3. Risk assessment – the requirement for thorough risk assessment and mitigation strategies for all proposals, helping to reduce the likelihood of adverse financial, legal, or reputational outcomes for Council.
 - 3.4.4. Legislative compliance - the Policy is designed to operate within the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* and other relevant legislation, ensuring statutory obligations are not bypassed and that Council's existing procurement and governance frameworks are upheld.
- 3.5. It is proposed that the Committee provide feedback on the draft Policy, after which it will be finalised for Council's consideration of approval.
- 3.6. Subject to Council approval of the Policy, the following steps will be undertaken to implement the Unsolicited Proposals Policy:
- 3.6.1. The Policy will be published on the City's website and communicated to stakeholders.
 - 3.6.2. Relevant staff will be briefed and trained on the Policy, process, and their roles and responsibilities.
 - 3.6.3. The Policy will be integrated with existing procurement, governance, and reporting frameworks.
- 3.7. Through these steps, the City will ensure that unsolicited proposals are managed in a manner that is transparent, consistent, and in the best interests of the Hobart community.

4. Legal, Risk and Legislative Considerations

- 4.1. The Policy operates within the requirements of existing legislation. Depending on the nature of the proposal, the could include reference to the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)*, the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025*, the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, *Urban Drainage Act 2015*, and other legislation.

- 4.2. Where a proposal involves land dealings, planning approvals, or other regulated activities, all relevant statutory processes and third-party rights (such as public notification and objection) must be observed. The granting of landowner consent or in-principle support by Council does not guarantee regulatory approval, which remains subject to separate statutory assessment processes.
- 4.3. The Policy embeds risk management throughout the unsolicited proposals process, in alignment with the City of Hobart's Risk Management Framework and Risk Appetite Statements. Key risk considerations include:
 - 4.3.1. All proposals are subject to a thorough risk assessment, including legal, financial, operational, reputational, and strategic risks. Proponents are required to submit a risk management plan as part of their detailed proposal.
 - 4.3.2. The Proposal Evaluation Committee, with support from expert advisors and a Probity Advisor where appropriate, will identify and implement mitigation strategies for identified risks. This includes ensuring compliance with legislative requirements, managing conflicts of interest, and protecting Council's interests in contractual negotiations.
- 4.4. The Unsolicited Proposals Policy is designed to ensure all proposals are managed in a manner that is legally compliant, transparent, and consistent with Council's statutory obligations and risk management principles. The Policy provides a framework for the identification, assessment, and mitigation of risks, thereby protecting the interests of the Council and the Hobart community.

5. Strategic Planning and Policy Considerations

- 5.1. The Policy is consistent with the City of Hobart Capital City Strategic Plan 2023, specifically:
 - 5.1.1. Strategy 4.1.1 – Attract investment that supports businesses and communities to flourish in ways consistent with the community vision.
 - 5.1.2. Strategy 4.1.2 – Identify and support Hobart's industries, which reflect the geography, climate, places and skills found in Tasmania.
 - 5.1.3. Strategy 4.2.1 – Support ways of welcoming people of all backgrounds to participate in Hobart's economy and professional communities.
 - 5.1.4. Strategy 4.2.2 – Actively support and engage with local businesses, business groups and networks, industry associations, key institutions and other stakeholders in the Hobart economy.

- 5.1.5. Strategy 4.2.3 - Engage with new and emerging entrepreneurs and provide businesses with guidance on the City's regulatory and administrative requirements.
- 5.1.6. Strategy 4.3.3 – Support opportunities for businesses to test new ideas and explore how creative regulation can support innovation.
- 5.1.7. Strategy 7.3.5 – Measure, manage and support the effective use of city facilities, infrastructure and public spaces.
- 5.1.8. Strategy 8.5.4 Delivery of best value for money through strategic procurement decision-making.
- 5.2. The Policy ensures new ideas and opportunities are assessed in a manner consistent with the City's vision, values, and long-term objectives.
- 5.3. This Policy is an action in the City of Hobart Procurement Strategy 2023-27 as its relates to unsolicited proposals for goods, services or works.
- 5.4. The Policy also relates to other key City documents, including the Code for Tenders and Contracts, the Council Policy – Leases to Non-profit Organisations, Council Policy – Probity Guidelines for the Consideration of Commercial Property Transactions, the Council Procurement Policy, the City Economy Strategy 2023-2028.

6. Financial Viability

6.1. Financial Considerations:

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Revenue				
Existing Revenue				
Additional Revenue				
Total Revenue	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Expenditure				
Operating				
Capital				
Total Expenditure	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Net Cost	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
FTE Impact				
	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Change in FTE	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Detail the change in the level of full-time equivalents within the group should the requested level of additional funding be required.

- 6.1.1. While there are no direct funding implications arising from the existence of the proposed Policy, any unsolicited proposals considered under the Policy will be subject to financial assessment.
 - 6.1.2. Each proposal would be evaluated in the context of the City's current budget, Long-term Financial Management Plan, Strategic Asset Management Plan, and the potential financial implications over the life of the proposal.
 - 6.1.3. This includes consideration of both direct and indirect costs, potential revenue streams, and any impact on the City's operating and capital budgets. Proponents will be required to provide detailed financial information as part of their submission, and proposals will only proceed where they are demonstrated to be financially viable and sustainable for the City of Hobart.
- 6.2. City Economy Strategy:
- 6.2.1. This proposal aligns to the following strategic priorities listed in the City of Hobart City Economy Strategy 2023 – 2028:
 - 6.2.1.1. Priority 1: Plan for our collective social, economic and environmental prosperity – By encouraging the submission and fair assessment of unique and innovative proposals, the Policy stimulates private sector investment and supports the development of new ideas that can deliver economic, social, and environmental benefits to the community.
 - 6.2.1.2. Priority 2: Attract responsible investment to unlock and inventive and inclusive economy – The Policy enables the City to consider a broader range of opportunities, including those that may not arise through traditional procurement processes, thereby contributing to economic diversification and resilience. The Policy supports the development of strategic partnerships that can advance the City's economic and community goals.
 - 6.2.2. The Policy will help position Hobart as a city that welcomes innovation, supports sustainable economic growth, and delivers lasting benefits for its residents and stakeholders.
- 6.3. Economic Impact:
- 6.3.1. The adoption of the Unsolicited Proposals Policy is expected to have a positive impact on the local economy by creating a more

accessible process for individuals, businesses, and organisations to present innovative ideas and investment opportunities to the City.

- 6.3.2. By providing a transparent and structured process for considering unsolicited proposals, the Policy encourages business growth, supports the attraction of new investment, and has the potential to generate local employment opportunities.

6.4. Consultants

- 6.4.1. No external consultants are required.

7. Community and Business Engagement and Collaboration

- 7.1. The development of the Unsolicited Proposals Policy has involved engagement with internal stakeholders. In addition, research was undertaken to ensure the Policy aligns with sector best practice and reflects contemporary approaches adopted by other councils both locally and nationally.

8. Innovation and Continuous Improvement

- 8.1. The Policy will be reviewed every two years, or more frequently as required, to ensure it remains effective and aligned with best practice and legislative requirements.

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.



Lara MacDonell
**MANAGER RATES, PROCUREMENT
AND RISK**



Michael Reynolds
DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

Date: 10 October 2025
File Reference: F25/72600

Attachment A: Draft Unsolicited Proposals Policy and Guidelines (Supporting information) 

8.4 City of Hobart Advocacy Report 2025
File Ref: F25/43427

Report of the Head of Executive Services of 15 October 2025 and attachments.

REPORT TITLE: CITY OF HOBART ADVOCACY REPORT 2025

REPORT PROVIDED BY: Head of Executive Services

1. Report Summary and Key Issue

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to workshop the City of Hobart Advocacy Report for 2025, which is a high-level overview of the key activities, and learnings for 2024-2025, following both state and federal elections this year, and to endorse the next steps in setting the advocacy priorities for 2025-2026.
- 1.2. A high-level presentation will be delivered at this workshop, covering the following key elements to refresh Elected Members on the City's approach:
 - 1.2.1. Brief overview of the overarching *City of Hobart Intergovernmental Relations Advocacy Framework 2023-2027*
 - 1.2.2. Reasons for our advocacy efforts
 - 1.2.3. Methods of advocacy
 - 1.2.4. Key activities to date (including funding commitments received)
 - 1.2.5. Key refinements from our approach
 - 1.2.6. Key insights from Elected Members
 - 1.2.7. Challenges and opportunities
 - 1.2.8. Roles and responsibilities (who does what)
 - 1.2.9. Where to from here
- 1.3. Furthermore, the presentation will provide an overview of the various advocacy activities carried out throughout 2024-2025, such as:
 - 1.3.1. The number of submissions the City has made to government inquiries;
 - 1.3.2. The number of advocacy meetings with local members, Ministers, Shadow Ministers and relevant Senators on key issues;
 - 1.3.3. The number of advocacy letters sent, highlighting the local relevance of requests for the City of Hobart and seeking funding commitments.

- 1.4. It is recommended that an annual advocacy report, outlining the City's advocacy approach and activities, be presented to elected members each year.

2. Workshop Purpose

- 2.1 For the Hobart Workshop Committee to review and provide feedback on the following recommendations to be provided to a following meeting.

2.1.1 The Hobart Workshop Committee to receive and note the City of Hobart Advocacy Report 2025 and endorse the next steps in developing the advocacy priorities for 2025-2026.

2.1.2 The Hobart Workshop Committee agree to receive regular reporting on the City's advocacy approach, through an annual update, in addition to other activities shared through the EM bulletin.

3. Discussion and Background

- 3.1. *The City of Hobart Intergovernmental Relations & Advocacy Framework 2023-2027 (Attachment A)* and *Advocacy Priorities 2023-2024 (Attachment B)* were both endorsed by Council in July 2023.
- 3.2. The purpose of the updated Framework and Strategy is to build upon the original framework from 2020, incorporating its strengths and areas for improvement, while aligning the City's approach to intergovernmental relations and advocacy with current needs.
- 3.3. Following the commencement of a new Council term in 2022 and changes within the political environment, the City determined that a review and adjustment of its intergovernmental relations and advocacy priorities was necessary.
- 3.4. A revised framework is scheduled for development in 2027 to ensure consideration of recent state and federal elections since the initial endorsement.
- 3.5. The previous Framework facilitated collaboration between the City, State and Commonwealth governments during and after the pandemic, addressing related impacts.
- 3.6. Working with partners, the City has achieved several key successes, including:
 - 3.6.1. Secured \$12.5 million as part of the 2025 State election towards new basketball courts at New Town Bay (Rugby Park);
 - 3.6.2. Obtained \$80,000 in funding from the Tasmanian Government to support the design and planning of new the Basketball courts at New Town Bay;
 - 3.6.3. Taking a leading role in the Strategic Review of Kunanyi, particularly through participation in the Project Working Group;
 - 3.6.4. Successfully advocated for the redirection of \$2.65 million in funding—originally earmarked for the Warm Water pool project at DKHAC—towards a range of other high-priority initiatives, including:
 - 3.6.4.1. Significant enhancements to the New Town Sporting Precinct, including the addition of netball courts and improved lawn bowls facilities
 - 3.6.4.2. A suite of upgrades at DKHAC, including improvements to the spa, steam room, and sauna facilities, updates to plant equipment, and enhancements to the roof membrane.

- 3.6.4.3. Upgraded the Domain Athletics Centre with new sports lighting and an enhanced public address system.
- 3.6.4.4. New playground at Saunders Crescent playground;
- 3.6.4.5. Installation of a new slide and associated infrastructure at Parliament Street Park.
- 3.7. Building and maintaining strong relationships with other levels of government is essential for the City's operations. Since local government is not recognised in the Australian Constitution, we depend on state and federal support for effective operations and long-term sustainability.
- 3.8. A primary objective of the Framework and Strategy is to broaden the Council's financial revenue streams by advocating for and securing additional grants, funding and resources to help support the City's strategic objectives.
- 3.9. The framework remains a vital instrument in our continuous advocacy efforts, ensuring that a consistent approach and methodology are applied.
- 3.10. The following advocacy priorities for 2023-2024 were identified and subsequently endorsed by the Council;
 - 3.10.1. **Addressing housing access and affordability in Hobart:** This involves forming practical partnerships to achieve the goals of state and national housing policies at a local level, with a focus on increasing the supply of suitable housing types in the City.
 - 3.10.2. **Boosting Hobart's Antarctic and Science sectors:** This includes enhancing the City's status as the premier gateway to Antarctica and the Southern Ocean through investment in new Antarctic and science infrastructure.
 - 3.10.3. **Accelerating climate action and investment:** This priority seeks state and national level funding for innovative local programs to help the City mitigate climate change and increase the City's resilience to a changing climate.
 - 3.10.4. **Investing in community-based sports facilities:** This aims to maximise the value of the proposed government investments in new sports infrastructure within the City.
 - 3.10.5. **Unlocking Hobart's potential as a visitor destination:** This involves investment in key sites and partnering with local industry to develop a City-to-State Visitor Gateway Strategy.

- 3.10.6. **Transport options:** This priority is aimed at diversifying transport options through investment in transport infrastructure aimed at enhancing the City's mobility and improving connectivity.
- 3.11. The advocacy priorities for 2023-2024 were established based on their alignment with both the key needs of the Hobart community and the Council's strategic objectives.
- 3.12. Importantly, these priorities gave other levels of government insights into the Council's collaborative strategy and reinforced to the community that Council is dedicated to advocating for their interests alongside government partners.
- 3.13. The 2023-2024 advocacy priorities were reviewed to confirm their alignment with community expectations and the City's strategic goals.
- 3.14. The Council formally adopted the 2024-2025 Advocacy Priorities (**Attachment C**) in October 2024, following a series of workshops with Elected Members.
- 3.15. The first workshop on Monday 3 June 2024 focused on the City's advocacy strategy after the 2024 State Election, with Elected Members offering feedback to guide future actions.
- 3.16. A follow-up conversation regarding advocacy priorities was held during the Elected Member Strategic Planning Day on Monday, 8 July 2024.
- 3.17. The 2024-2025 advocacy priorities are focused on 5 key priority areas, including;
- 3.17.1. Kunanyi/Mount Wellington
 - 3.17.2. Delivering Transport Choice for Hobart
 - 3.17.3. Housing and Urban Development
 - 3.17.4. New Town Sports Precinct
 - 3.17.5. Dedicated basketball facility at Rugby Park
- 3.18. It is necessary to evaluate the current advocacy priorities to confirm their continued relevant and strategic alignment. This review will involve a collaborative workshop with Elected members at an appropriate future date.
- 3.19. Meanwhile the City continues to pursue advocacy through strong partnerships and collaboration, working closely with state and federal governments to achieve shared objectives, secure successful policy outcomes, and attract funding. Key partnerships supporting these efforts include:

- 3.19.1. **The Greater Hobart Strategic Partnership** – a collaboration between the Clarence, Glenorchy, Hobart and Kingborough Councils to implement the *Greater Hobart Act 2019* Work Plan and to deliver the Hobart City Deal projects, as well as to advocate on joint priorities.
- 3.19.2. **The Council of Capital City Lord Mayors (CCCLM)** -Provides national leadership and a strong voice to advance the value that our cities contribute to the nation. Comprising the Lord Mayors of each of Australia's capital cities, CCCLM is one of the premier advocacy association for cities in the nation.
- 3.19.3. **The Hobart City Deal-** The Hobart City Deal is a shared 10 year vision between the Australian and Tasmanian Governments and the Clarence, Glenorchy, Hobart and Kingborough councils. The City Deal provides the framework to guide and encourage further investment in the city by embracing opportunities for growth and addressing key strategic and infrastructure challenges.
- 3.19.4. **Greater Hobart Committee (Greater Hobart Act 2019)** - The Greater Hobart Act 2019 provides a legislated framework and governance structure to assist the Greater Hobart councils and Tasmanian Government to collaborate and better coordinate infrastructure and strategic planning.
- 3.19.5. **Cities Power Partnership** -Is Australia's largest cities climate network supporting 200 local governments. The Partnership, hosted by the Climate Council, is known for high quality research, city knowledge and solution exchanges and advocacy. This Partnership also gives the City the opportunity to bolster the City's national climate advocacy as a city leading climate action, specifically through our endorsed 2040 *Climate Ready Hobart Strategy 2040*.
- 3.19.6. **Local 2030 Islands Network-** The network is a global peer to peer network of islands leading on climate action and local implementation of the UN 2030 Sustainable Development, Goals.
- 3.19.7. **Collaborative Network of Southern Tasmanian Councils** – this partnership replaces the former Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, and is delivered through Regional Development Australia (Tasmania). The collaborative network aims to foster quarterly collaboration forums and joint policy setting focused on data and insights as well as managing shared service opportunities and regional project collaboration on an as-needs basis.
- 3.20. To maintain effective advocacy, the City must identify and promote priorities that most benefit Hobart and its residents, consistent with our

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

- 3.21. This report provides an overview of the background behind the City's Advocacy Priorities, summarises key activities, and reflections throughout the year, and outlines forthcoming actions—including the development of advocacy priorities for 2025-2026.

4. Legal, Risk and Legislative Considerations

- 4.1. An important aim of the Framework and Strategy is to minimise the risk of the Council being unable to meet its strategic goals or lacking the resources needed to complete projects that align with those goals.
- 4.2. By fostering strong partnerships between the City and other levels of government, the Framework has allowed the City to better anticipate and shape legislative or policy changes that could influence its strategic direction.
- 4.3. The scope and strategic objectives of the Framework and Strategy are in line with the core responsibilities for local government set out in the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)*; in particular, Section 20, Clauses 1 and 3.

5. Strategic Planning and Policy Considerations

- 5.1. *The Intergovernmental Relations & Advocacy Framework 2023-2027*, along with the Advocacy Priorities has been designed to help achieve key pillars, outcomes, and strategies identified in the Capital City Strategic Plan 2023-especially those that require collaboration with or action from other levels of government.

5.1.1. Pillar 8: Governance & Civic Involvement.

- 5.1.2. *Outcome 8.1: Hobart is a city that is well governed that recognises the community as an active partner that informs decisions*
- 5.1.3. *Strategy 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*
- 5.1.4. *Outcome 8.2: Strong partnerships and regional collaboration make Hobart a thriving capital City*
- 5.1.5. *Strategy 8.2.1: Work with neighbouring councils to optimise opportunities*
- 5.1.6. *Strategy 8.2.2: Work with stakeholders and all levels of government to ensure good capital city governance*

5.1.7. *Strategy 8.2.3: Provide leadership on the implementation of the City Deal*

5.1.8. *Strategy 8.2.4: Position the City regionally, nationally and internationally to achieve positive outcomes.*

6. Financial Viability

6.1. Financial Considerations:

6.1.1. Funding for advancing and enacting the City's advocacy priorities will come from the existing operational budget.

6.1.2. Expected expenses may include travel costs—such as flights and accommodation—for a visit to Canberra later this year, or early next year, where the City's Advocacy Priorities will be presented to selected Federal Ministers, Shadow Ministers, and Senators.

6.1.3. Additionally, there may be minor expenses related to the professional external printing and presentation of the advocacy materials.

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Revenue				
Existing Revenue				
Additional Revenue				
Total Revenue				
Expenditure				
Operating				
Capital				
Total Expenditure				
Net Cost				
FTE Impact				
	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
Change in FTE	0	0	0	0

6.2. City Economy Strategy

6.2.1. This proposal aligns to the following strategic priorities listed in the City of Hobart City Economy Strategy 2023 – 2028:

6.2.2. *Strategic Priority 1* – Plan for our collective social, economic and environmental prosperity.

6.2.3. *Strategic Priority 3* – Position Hobart as an enviable place to visit, live and do business.

6.2.4. *Strategic Priority 4* – Promote and leverage Hobart's uniqueness and celebrate the Hobart difference.

6.3. Economic Impact:

6.3.1. Not relevant.

6.4. Consultants

6.4.1. Management of the City's advocacy priorities will be handled internally, making the involvement of external consultants unnecessary.

7. Climate and Sustainability Considerations

7.1. Not relevant.

8. Community and Business Engagement and Collaboration

8.1. The City will maintain ongoing, focused engagement with key State and Commonwealth government decision-makers to discuss its advocacy priorities. Regular meetings and conversations will support these efforts.

8.2. Additionally, a comprehensive communications plan will be crafted to align with the City's advocacy goals, detailing strategic actions to amplify Hobart's voice and effectively represent the community's interests.

8.3. The City's current 2024-2025 Advocacy Priorities are also on the City's website.

9. Innovation and Continuous Improvement

9.1. Advocacy hinges on ongoing collaboration with other levels of government to attract investment for a wide range of City services and infrastructure, supporting the needs of our rapidly growing community.

9.2. Our advocacy priorities are advanced through engagement with multiple stakeholders and organisations, including the Greater Hobart Strategic Partnership, the Greater Hobart Committee, the Collaborative Network of Southern Tasmanian Councils, and other significant alliances, underpinned by consistent stakeholder engagement.

9.3. The Council's advocacy strategy is structured to balance immediate and short-term funding opportunities with the imperative to highlight longer-term priorities that align with the City's Strategic Objectives—such as initiatives from the Annual Plan and the Capital Works Program. While these long-term projects may present greater uncertainty compared to

short- and medium-term undertakings, their inclusion in our advocacy ensures State and Federal governments remain informed about future requirements well in advance of funding needs.

- 9.4. Effective advocacy is characterised by several key elements:
 - 9.4.1. Representing the aspirations of our community;
 - 9.4.2. Maintaining clear and consistent communication;
 - 9.4.3. Securing investment for priority projects and initiatives;
 - 9.4.4. Fostering stronger relationships with government.
- 9.5. Our advocacy efforts employs a multi-faceted approach, based primarily founded on strong working relationships, transparent communication, and collaboration with other levels of government, as outlined in the Intergovernmental Relations & Advocacy Framework 2023-2027 (“the Framework”). Notably, our strategic priorities extend beyond the scope of a conventional advocacy document.
- 9.6. Additionally, an important initiative currently underway to enhance our advocacy is a comprehensive analysis of State and Federal Government funding over the past decade. This database systemically tracks financial contributions from the Tasmanian and Federal Government to Council’s specifically as well as community organisations—funding captured includes; grants, funding programs, election commitments and budget provisions -categorised by Local Government Area (LGA) and electorates.
- 9.7. Initiated by the City of Hobart, in partnership with consultants SGS Economics, on behalf of the Greater Hobart Strategic Partnership (GHSP), this initiative will culminate in a final insights report. The report is expected towards the end of October/early November. The report will identify funding disparities between LGAs and electorates and offer key insights to guide ongoing advocacy. Once completed, the findings will be shared with the GHSP, the Executive Leadership Team, and Elected Members, at a later date.
- 9.8. This work is expected to transform data into actionable value, delivering a focused analysis of funding inequity across the State. Such insight will be instrumental in ensuring the Greater Hobart region receives an equitable share of funding from all levels of government.

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: 15 October 2025
File Reference: F25/43427

- Attachment A: City of Hobart Intergovernmental Relations and Advocacy Framework 2023-2027 (Supporting information) 
- Attachment B: City of Hobart Advocacy Priorities 2023-2024 (Supporting information) 
- Attachment C: City of Hobart Advocacy Priorities - 2024-2025 (Supporting information) 

8.5 Communications & Engagement Guide - City of Hobart, 2025-2029
File Ref: F25/74281; 24/47

Report of the Manager Strategic Communications and Marketing and
Head of Executive Services of 10 October 2025.



MEMORANDUM: HOBART WORKSHOP COMMITTEE

Communications & Engagement Guide - City of Hobart, 2025-2029

This report aims to present the Hobart Workshop Committee with a summary of the draft City of Hobart Communications and Engagement Guide, which is currently being prepared.

In addition, feedback and recommendations regarding specific aspects of the City's existing communications and engagement practices will be gathered from Elected Members through the use of a MentiMetre Survey. This input will help shape the final version of the Guide, which is expected to be finished before Christmas.

Background

At present, the City of Hobart lacks a dedicated Communications & Engagement Guide. Anecdotal evidence suggests that having structured communication strategies helps in informing, engaging, and building trust with the community. In the absence of such a guide, communication efforts can become fragmented, reactive, or ineffective.

Creating a dedicated Communications and Engagement Guide at the local government level is not a new idea. It's a common practice by most local councils who create and update these strategic documents to help guide effective communication and engagement with their communities.

This City of Hobart Communications and Engagement is being developed as a practical guide that both compliments and supports our current communication practice as well as our council approved community engagement framework and policy.

It reflects the City's ongoing commitment to fostering open, transparent, and active relationships between the Council and the community. The Guide will support the city in achieving its mission of working together to make Hobart a better place for everyone.

Additionally, the Guide will be a living resource for all staff, providing practical tips and information to help unify all staff, and anyone operating on behalf of the city, in their understanding and approach to communicating. It will be capable of adapting to the dynamic nature of communications and updated as required to ensure it remains

current. It will be regularly updated to reflect changes in communication tools and platforms, as well as any relevant local, state, or national policies and legislative requirements.

Objectives & Goals of a Dedicated Communications & Engagement Guide:

- Enhance Public Trust & Reputation: Good communications builds transparency and credibility through clear, consistent, and authentic communication.
- Improve Community Engagement understanding: Foster meaningful two-way dialogue with residents, businesses, and stakeholders in line with the City of Hobart Community Engagement Framework.
- Internal Education: Provide support to all staff who are producing community facing communications to help guide best communications and consistent approach that upholds the City of Hobart brand.
- Support Organisational Strategic Priorities: Align and craft consistent messaging with strategic goals, plans, and policies.
- Strengthen Brand and Identity: Promote a strong, unified voice that consistently reflects the City's community values and mission.
- Increase the management and effectiveness of spokesperson communications: Maximise message reach by activating owned, operated and moderated official Lord Mayor social media accounts (which include anyone acting in capacity as spokesperson).
- Encourage Community Interaction and Response: Foster active participation and feedback from the community.
- Detail Communication Channels and Tactics: Maximise the reach and effectiveness of communication efforts.
- Manage Issues and Crises Effectively: Implement proactive and responsive communication strategies for reputation and risk management.
- Identify Performance Metrics and Evaluation: Establish metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of communication strategies.

Elected Members will be presented with an overview of the core components and objectives of the draft Guide. Additionally, they will have the opportunity to offer input based on their own experience of the City's existing communications and engagement practices via a MentiMetre Survey and discussion.

These questions are designed to encourage constructive feedback and focus on the positive aspects of our current approach while seeking suggestions for improvement on how we can continue to improve;

- 1.1 How well do you feel the City's communications and engagement activities align with our strategic objectives and the mission of "working together to make Hobart a better place for the community"
- 1.2 What aspects of our communications and engagement practice do you find most effective in reaching our community?
- 1.3 How do you think we can further enhance the positive impact of our communications and engagement efforts?

- 1.4 Are there particular groups or issues where you feel engagement has been especially strong or, conversely, lacking
- 1.5 What additional resources/information or support would you find helpful in representing the community in your role as elected members?
- 1.6 In what ways can we better highlight the successes and positive outcomes achieved through the channels available to the city?
- 1.7 What feedback have you received from constituents regarding our communications and engagement efforts?
- 1.8 Are there specific topics or projects where you feel the City could have communicated more clearly or engaged more deeply with the community
- 1.9 Are there any innovative ideas or best practices from other cities that you think we could incorporate into our guide?

2. Workshop Purpose

2.1 For the Hobart Workshop Committee to:

- 2.1.1 receive a summary of the draft City of Hobart Communications and Engagement Guide; and
- 2.1.2 to provide feedback and recommendations regarding specific aspects of the City's existing communications and engagement practices will be gathered from Elected Members through the use of a MentiMetre Survey.

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.



Abby McKibben
**MANAGER STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING**



Laura Eaton
HEAD OF EXECUTIVE SERVICES

Date: 10 October 2025
File Reference: F25/74281; 24/47

9. RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Regulation 34(3) *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*.
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 34(3) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*, 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.

9.1 Open Harbourside [Waterside Pavilion] Toilets to Public

Memorandum of the Director Community and Economic
Development of 15 September 2025



City of **HOBART**

MEMORANDUM: **LORD MAYOR**
 DEPUTY LORD MAYOR
 ELECTED MEMBERS

OPEN HARBOURSIDE [WATERSIDE PAVILION] TOILETS TO PUBLIC

Meeting: Hobart Workshop Committee

Meeting date: 15 September
2025

Raised by: Councillor Posselt

Question:

Can Elected Members be provided with the number of days with which the Harbourside [Waterside] Pavilion has been used in the last year. Also can officers consider allowing access to a toilets (it has an external door) by the public more often.

Response:

Mawsons Pavillion was booked for 225 days last financial year from 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025 with a total of 11, 966 attendees across 156 individual and multiday bookings.

The Mawsons Pavillion is managed through the City Venues Team, and serviced through the Utilities Team. These services include event set up and pack down, post event bathroom cleaning, with cleaning equipment kept on site in a storage room in the toilet corridor.

Toilet facilities at Mawsons Pavilion include one (1) disabled toilet one (1) basin, one (1) male urinal, one (1) cubicle and two (2) basins, and three (3) female cubicles and two (2) basins.

Mawsons Pavilion is accessed through keyed doors and security alarm code, of which the whole of building is alarmed with back to base alarm monitoring. Any

venue hirers are required to undergo a site induction prior to use and are provided a copy of the alarm code. There are four (4) external venue access points – one (1) located the City end (main entrance), and three (3) doors along the waterside, with one (1) located within the toilet area (as per attached floor plan). Immediately opposite the toilet external door is an internal door leading into the lower display area. Currently only the external access points are lockable.

Given the high use of the Mawsons Pavillion, additional cleaning tasks associated with public access toilets, and risks to the venue security, officers do not recommend providing public access to the toilets. As a high use premium venue within the City Venues' portfolio, it is anticipated that this would disrupt services to the venue, impact the cleanliness and required maintenance of the venue, and require additional staffing resources for cleaning.

Additionally, consideration for venue security would be venue required, as currently the venue would need to be un-alarmed to allow public to use it, with the internal door not currently a security standard required to prevent access to the internal event space.

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: 9 October 2025
File Reference: F25/74374

Attachment A: Mawsons Waterside Pavillion Floor Plan (Supporting information) 

10. QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Regulations 33 and 34 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*.
File Ref: 13-1-10

33(2) A question asked at a meeting is to, as far as is practicable -

- (a) be concise; and*
- (b) be clear; and*
- (c) not be a statement; and*
- (d) have minimal pre-ambles*

34. Questions without notice by a Councillor

(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 asking a question without notice at a meeting, a councillor must not –

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

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

(4) The chairperson, councillor or 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 require a councillor to put a question without notice in writing.

11. CLOSED PORTION OF THE MEETING

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee resolve by majority that the meeting be closed to the public pursuant to regulation 17(1) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025* because the items included on the closed agenda contain the following matters:

- Minutes of a closed committee meeting
- Matters relating to actual or possible litigation taken or to be taken, by or involving the council or an employee of the council
- 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 conflicts of interest |
| Item No. 4 | Reports |
| Item No. 4.1 | Derwent River Ferry Expansion - Update
LG(MP)R 17(2)(k) |
| Item No. 5 | Questions Without Notice |