CIRCULAR HEAD COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT



ADOPTED BY COUNCIL 10 DECEMBER 2026

2025/26

Acknowledgement of Country

The Circular Head Council acknowledges the North West Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of the country on which we stand, meet and play. We recognise their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Contact Council

In Person:	33 Goldie Street, Smithton TAS 7330
Postal Address:	PO Box 348, Smithton TAS 7330
Office Hours:	Phone between 8.15am – 5.00pm Open to public 9.00am – 4.00pm Monday to Friday
Phone:	(03) 6452 4800
Email:	council@circularhead.tas.gov.au
Web:	www.circularhead.tas.gov.au
Social media	www.facebook.com/CircularHeadCouncil
Emergency After Hours	Please call (03) 6452 4800 and follow the prompts.

COUNCIL'S MISSION FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Engage

with our community to lead, plan and advocate.

Develop

community resilience through relationships and partnerships.

Deliver

cost effective services where needed.



COUNCIL'S VISION

Circular Head is a resilient, inclusive and compassionate community, known for its balance of urban and rural living. Its unique identity is shaped by its rich natural resources, scenic amenities, cultural heritage and natural landmarks. The community values hard work, innovation and success, including opportunities for young people to grow, thrive and prosper.

OUR VALUES

We embrace EQUITY



We foster an inclusive culture that values diversity to create a sense of belonging for all

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We acknowledge the diverse needs and perspectives of others to ensure that everyone is treated with respect and kindness

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We seek opportunities to enhance our understanding of equity issues and continually improve practices

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We actively seek feedback, assess our initiatives, and adapt our strategies to better meet the evolving needs of our community.

We foster CONNECTION



We foster positive relationships, among team members and with our community, to create a sense of togetherness and shared purpose

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We strengthen the bonds with our community and recognise that unity is our greatest asset

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We encourage open and transparent communication to build trust and strengthen connections

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We embrace the power of collaboration and encourage diverse perspectives and ideas.

We deliver EXCELLENCE



We take pride in the standard of our work, to consistently deliver quality results to the community

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We understand that to deliver excellence we need to balance our work commitments with self-care and our family needs

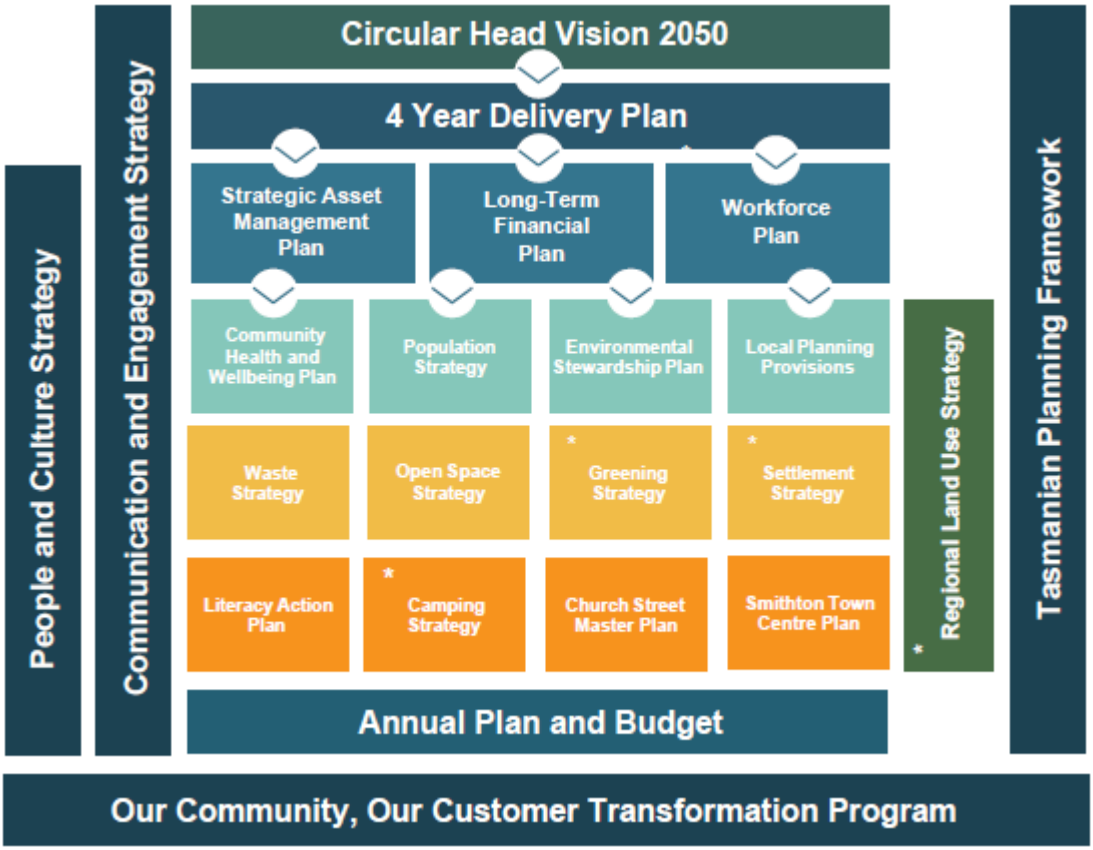
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We actively participate in continuous learning opportunities and willingly share knowledge and ideas

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We adapt to change and contribute by offering innovative ideas and view obstacles as opportunities.

Council's Planning and Reporting Framework



* Indicates the document hasn't been formally adopted by Council and is in draft/under development stage

Safeguarding Children and Young People

Council is committed to creating and maintaining a Child Safe Organisation.

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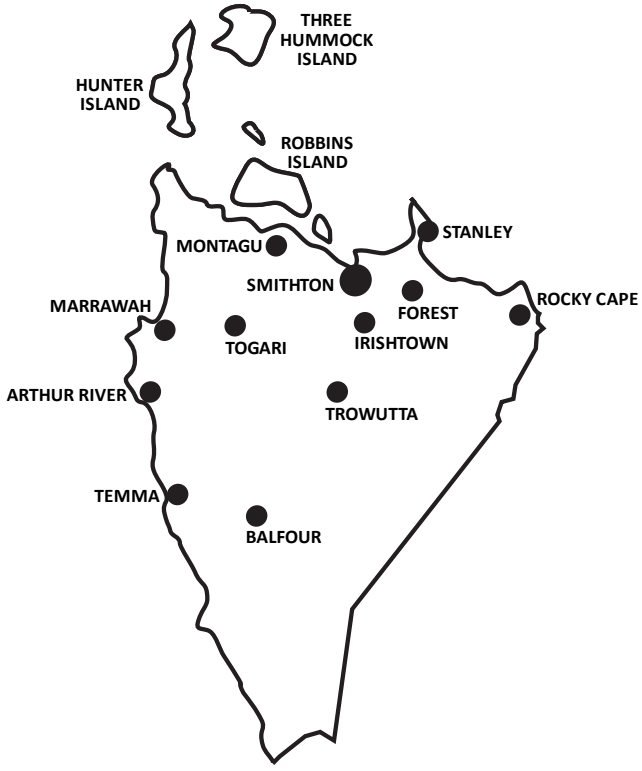
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SNAPSHOT OF CIRCULAR HEAD

Circular Head Council, incorporated in 1908, is located in far north-west Tasmania. Circular Head covers an area of 4,917 km^2. The municipality gained its name from the unusual land formation commonly known as 'The Nut', at Stanley, the solidified lava lake of a long-extinct volcano. The formation was sighted by Bass and Flinders on their historic circumnavigation of Tasmania in 1798.

Circular Head's beautiful coastline is one of the longest of any Council in the state and its fertile soils, coupled with a gently undulating landscape, support more than thirty per cent of Tasmania's dairy farms. Circular Head has regular rainfall, especially during the winter months, along with some of the world's cleanest air.





Circular Head offers a wide variety of work and lifestyle options. Whether you are looking for a sea-change or a tree-change, you will find the best of both worlds in Circular Head.

The agricultural land is renowned for its fertility. With less than two percent of Tasmania's population, Circular Head is an economic powerhouse accounting for more than twelve percent of the state's annual agricultural production, contributing almost $100 million a year to the economy.

Key economic sectors include dairy and livestock production, commercial fishing, aquaculture, forestry and timber production, agriculture, manufacturing, iron ore pelletisation and tourism.

INVITATION FOR SUBMISSIONS

Members of the community are invited to make submissions on the Annual Report for discussion at the Annual General Meeting, which will be held at 5.15 pm on Thursday 10 December 2026 at the Circular Head Council Chambers. Any person wishing to make a submission should deliver it to the General Manager by 4pm Thursday 3 December 2026, for inclusion on the agenda for the meeting.

MAYOR'S AND GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE

It is our privilege to present Circular Head Council's Annual Report and to reflect on another year of progress, partnership, and service to our community.

Circular Head is a region with a strong identity, outstanding natural assets and communities that care deeply about their future. Council's responsibility extends beyond responding to the needs of today. We must also look ahead, anticipate future opportunities and challenges, and make considered decisions that support the long-term wellbeing and prosperity of our municipality.

Throughout the year, considerable effort has been made to understand the aspirations of our communities and translating them into meaningful priorities for the short, medium, and long term. Through community drop-ins, newsletters, face-to-face conversations, and other engagement opportunities, we have sought to listen carefully, be more visible, communicate openly and ensure our community has a genuine voice in shaping our future.

This approach is reflected in the development of Council's Vision 2050 work, which is focused on creating a thriving, connected and sustainable Circular Head for generations to come. Our future will continue to evolve, and Council must be prepared to listen, learn, adapt and work collaboratively to respond to changing circumstances and emerging opportunities.

A particular focus this year has been on new and innovative ways to deliver value for our community. Rather than relying solely on external funding opportunities, we have sought to strengthen partnerships and identify ways to achieve more through collaboration. Circular Head has always possessed a strong sense of independence, resilience and pride, and these qualities remain important as we consider how best to shape our future together.

We recognise that the resources entrusted to Council belong to our community. Responsible financial stewardship must therefore remain at the heart of our decision-making. Council continues to focus on improving its underlying financial position through disciplined long-term planning, careful prioritisation, strong leadership, effective partnerships, and sound governance. Whilst many cost pressures come from outside of Council's direct control, these practices are essential to ensuring Council remains financially sustainable while continuing to provide the services and infrastructure our communities need.

Social licence is particularly important for us because as a Council, we are expected to exercise authority, spend community funds wisely, and make decisions that directly affect people's everyday lives. We recognise that social licence is not formally granted. It is the ongoing level of trust, acceptance, and confidence a community has in its council and the way it operates.

It does not mean that everyone will agree with every decision. Rather, it means people have confidence that decisions have been reached through fair, open, and credible processes. This will always be something we can be better at, and every day, we will strive to take that next step.

While major projects and community initiatives are often the most visible aspects of Council's work, much of our responsibility lies in consistently delivering the essential services and infrastructure our community relies upon every day.

Our extensive road network represents one of Council's most significant assets and areas of investment. Circular Head has the largest unsealed roading network in the State. Whilst this poses challenges, our teams continue to maintain and improve our roads, bridges, drainage and other essential infrastructure, while also caring for parks, recreational areas, buildings and community facilities across our geographically diverse municipality.

Council also has an important role in advocating strongly for the interests of Circular Head.

Throughout the year, Councillors and the Executive have continued to engage with the Tasmanian and Australian Governments, government agencies and other stakeholders on matters with significant implications for our municipality.

This has included seeking greater certainty regarding the future of Robbins Island, securing commitments to reprioritise funding for improvements to sections of the Bass Highway, supporting the incredible efforts of partners such as the Circular Head Tourism Association, forming a new local Chamber of Commerce, finalising federal funding for our new Health Hub, contributing to discussions about the future of local government, and exploring opportunities for the future use of the Dismal Swamp facility as part of broader economic and tourism development opportunities.

Our responsibility is to ensure Circular Head has a strong and respected voice in these discussions and that decisions affecting our region properly consider the needs, aspirations, and opportunities of our communities.

Behind Council's visible services, facilities and projects is an organisation committed to responsible management, sound governance and continuous improvement.

Our staff perform a diverse range of roles, managing Council's finances and assets, delivering regulatory and customer services, maintaining infrastructure and facilities, and supporting the day-to-day operations of the organisation. Strong audit and oversight arrangements provide assurance that our governance, financial management, business systems and decision-making processes remain robust and accountable.

We also recognise that effective local government cannot stand still. Increasing costs, changing community expectations, workforce pressures and growing demands on councils mean we must continually consider how we operate. We remain committed to identifying better ways of working, addressing inefficiencies, and ensuring Council is responsive, capable and sustainable.

Adaptability will be increasingly important. We cannot predict every challenge or opportunity that will emerge over the coming decades, but we can ensure Council is equipped to respond. This means continuing to listen to our community, learning from experience and being prepared to adjust our approach while keeping the long-term interests of Circular Head at the centre of our decisions.

We also recognise that Circular Head cannot achieve its ambitions alone.

Our relationships with Waratah-Wynyard Council, other councils across the Northwest Coast, the Cradle Coast Authority, the Local Government Association of Tasmania, government agencies, businesses and community organisations allow us to share knowledge, advocate collectively and pursue opportunities that may not otherwise be achievable.

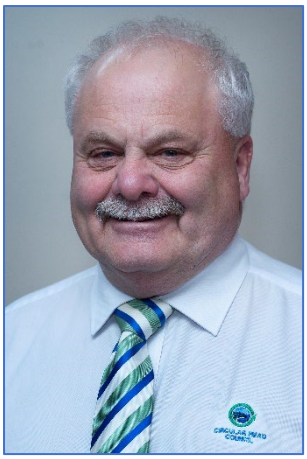
These partnerships will become increasingly important as local government responds to more complex economic, social, and environmental challenges. By working together while maintaining Circular Head's strong local identity and independence, we can achieve better outcomes for our community.

There is much to be proud of in Circular Head, but our focus must remain firmly on the future. The decisions we make today will influence the community we leave for future generations. Our challenge is to balance the immediate needs of our community with responsible long-term planning, protecting the qualities that make Circular Head special while creating the conditions for investment, employment, sustainable population growth and new opportunities.

We acknowledge and thank our government partners, businesses, volunteers, community organisations and, most importantly, the people of Circular Head. Your ideas, involvement and passion for our region continue to influence our priorities and strengthen the work we do.

The years ahead will undoubtedly bring challenges, but they will also bring significant opportunities. By listening to our communities, strengthening our partnerships, managing our resources responsibly and having the courage to adapt, we can continue to build a Circular Head that is resilient, welcoming and prosperous.

We look forward to continuing that journey together.



Gerard Blizzard
MAYOR



Paul Gardner
GENERAL MANAGER

MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS



MAYOR GERARD BLIZZARD

Phone 0417 532 392

Term expires October 2026



DEPUTY MAYOR ANNETTE DAWES

Phone 0448 442 744

Term expires October 2026



CR SALLY COLLINS

Phone 0419 539 707

Term expires October 2026



CR MARK DABNER

Phone 0459 159 270

Term expires October 2026



CR RODNEY FLOWERS

Phone 0418 131 580

Term expires October 2026



CR TONY HINE

Phone 0428 563 228

Term expires October 2026



CR JOHN OLDAKER

Phone 0419 311 053

Term expires October 2026



CR STEVE PILKINGTON

Phone 0427 571 258

Term expires October 2026



CR ASHLEY POPOWSKI

Phone 0429 407 636

Term expires October 2026

COUNCIL

Circular Head Council has nine Councillors, each elected by the community for a term of four years. Council provides a wide range of services for the community from waste management to public art. It advocates for community needs, builds and maintains community infrastructure and assets such as roads, stormwater drainage and bridges, makes policy, sets a Budget, and Strategic and Annual Plans and determines approval guidelines. Councillors also monitor organisational management systems and engage the community on proposed programs and initiatives.

Councillor Attendance at Meetings 2025/26

	Meetings	Special Meetings	Workshops
Mayor Gerard Blizzard	13	0	23
Deputy Mayor Annette Dawes	13	0	24
Cr Sally Collins	13	0	22
Cr Mark Dabner	12	0	22
Cr Rodney Flowers	11	0	15
Cr Tony Hine	13	0	23
Cr John Oldaker	11	0	22
Cr Steve Pilkington	12	0	20
Cr Ashley Popowski	12	0	23

Meetings, including Annual General Meeting, total held for year = 13.
Special Meetings*, total held for year = 0.
Workshops - total held for year = 24
**Special Meetings are meetings requested and required to consider specific items.*

Councillor Learning and Development Activities 2025/26

Council is required to report councillor completion of online learning modules contained with the LGAT Learning Management System (LMS).

Historically, councillors have not been re-enrolled in the modules each financial year and therefore annual re-completion has not been an expectation. When LGAT implemented the new LMS in October 2025, module completion records were transferred into the new system to ensure continuity of learning records. Councillors have therefore retained credit for modules completed prior to the commencement of the 2025/26 financial year.

Mayor Gerard Blizzard

Learning Package	**Module Name**	**Module completion** (date provided for 2025/26 completion)
Learning Package One	Being a councillor and encouraging nomination	Yes*
	Getting elected as a councillor	Yes*
Learning Package Two	Roles and responsibilities of councillors	30.10.2025
	Essential knowledge and skills for councillors	30.10.2025
	Foundations of good governance	30.10.2025
Learning Package Three	Understanding your role	31.10.2025
	Building positive relationships	31.10.2025
	Cyber safety essentials	Yes*
	Good decision making	Yes*
	Land-use planning	22.11.2025
	Strategic planning, reporting and performance management	22.11.2025
	Ethical standards	22.11.2025
	Understanding local government finances for councillors	22.11.2025
	Risk management	22.11.2025
	Continuous improvement	23.11.2025
Online Learning Module (Not Mandatory)	Climate Ready Councils	23.11.2025

*Module completed prior to 2025-2026 Financial Year.

Deputy Mayor Annette Dawes

Learning Package	**Module Name**	**Module completion** (date provided for 2025/26 completion)
Learning Package One	Being a councillor and encouraging nomination	Yes*
	Getting elected as a councillor	Yes*
Learning Package Two	Roles and responsibilities of councillors	Yes*
	Essential knowledge and skills for councillors	Yes*
	Foundations of good governance	Yes*
Learning Package Three	Understanding your role	18.05.2026
	Building positive relationships	18.05.2026
	Cyber safety essentials	Yes*
	Good decision making	Yes*
	Land-use planning	18.05.2026
	Strategic planning, reporting and performance management	Yes*
	Ethical standards	18.05.2026

	Understanding local government finances for councillors	18.05.2026
	Risk management	18.05.2026
	Continuous improvement	18.05.2026
Online Learning Module (Not Mandatory)	Climate Ready Councils	18.05.2026

*Module completed prior to 2025-2026 Financial Year.

Councillor Sally Collins

Learning Package	**Module Name**	**Module completion** (date provided for 2025/26 completion)
Learning Package One	Being a councillor and encouraging nomination	Yes*
	Getting elected as a councillor	Yes*
Learning Package Two	Roles and responsibilities of councillors	Yes*
	Essential knowledge and skills for councillors	No
	Foundations of good governance	No
Learning Package Three	Understanding your role	No
	Building positive relationships	No
	Cyber safety essentials	No
	Good decision making	No
	Land-use planning	No
	Strategic planning, reporting and performance management	No
	Ethical standards	No
	Understanding local government finances for councillors	No
	Risk management	No
	Continuous improvement	No
Online Learning Module (Not Mandatory)	Climate Ready Councils	No

*Module completed prior to 2025-2026 Financial Year.

Councillor Mark Dabner

Learning Package	**Module Name**	**Module completion** (date provided for 2025/26 completion)
Learning Package One	Being a councillor and encouraging nomination	Yes*
	Getting elected as a councillor	Yes*
Learning Package Two	Roles and responsibilities of councillors	Yes*
	Essential knowledge and skills for councillors	Yes*
	Foundations of good governance	Yes*

Learning Package Three	Understanding your role	Yes*
	Building positive relationships	Yes*
	Cyber safety essentials	Yes*
	Good decision making	Yes*
	Land-use planning	Yes*
	Strategic planning, reporting and performance management	Yes*
	Ethical standards	Yes*
	Understanding local government finances for councillors	Yes*
	Risk management	Yes*
	Continuous improvement	Yes*
Online Learning Module (Not Mandatory)	Climate Ready Councils	No

*Module completed prior to 2025-2026 Financial Year.

Councillor Rodney Flowers

Learning Package	**Module Name**	**Module completion** (date provided for 2025/26 completion)
Learning Package One	Being a councillor and encouraging nomination	No
	Getting elected as a councillor	No
Learning Package Two	Roles and responsibilities of councillors	No
	Essential knowledge and skills for councillors	No
	Foundations of good governance	No
Learning Package Three	Understanding your role	No
	Building positive relationships	No
	Cyber safety essentials	No
	Good decision making	No
	Land-use planning	No
	Strategic planning, reporting and performance management	No
	Ethical standards	No
	Understanding local government finances for councillors	No
	Risk management	No
	Continuous improvement	No
Online Learning Module (Not Mandatory)	Climate Ready Councils	No

*Module completed prior to 2025-2026 Financial Year.

Councillor Tony Hine

Learning Package	**Module Name**	**Module completion** (date provided for 2025/26 completion)
Learning Package One	Being a councillor and encouraging nomination	No
	Getting elected as a councillor	No
Learning Package Two	Roles and responsibilities of councillors	No
	Essential knowledge and skills for councillors	No
	Foundations of good governance	No
Learning Package Three	Understanding your role	No
	Building positive relationships	No
	Cyber safety essentials	No
	Good decision making	No
	Land-use planning	No
	Strategic planning, reporting and performance management	No
	Ethical standards	No
	Understanding local government finances for councillors	No
	Risk management	No
	Continuous improvement	No
Online Learning Module (Not Mandatory)	Climate Ready Councils	28.05.2026

*Module completed prior to 2025-2026 Financial Year.

Councillor John Oldaker

Learning Package	**Module Name**	**Module completion** (date provided for 2025/26 completion)
Learning Package One	Being a councillor and encouraging nomination	19.05.2026
	Getting elected as a councillor	26.05.2026
Learning Package Two	Roles and responsibilities of councillors	19.05.2026
	Essential knowledge and skills for councillors	19.05.2026
	Foundations of good governance	19.05.2026
Learning Package Three	Understanding your role	19.05.2026
	Building positive relationships	19.05.2026
	Cyber safety essentials	19.05.2026
	Good decision making	19.05.2026
	Land-use planning	19.05.2026
	Strategic planning, reporting and performance management	19.05.2026
	Ethical standards	19.05.2026

	Understanding local government finances for councillors	19.05.2026
	Risk management	19.05.2026
	Continuous improvement	19.05.2026
Online Learning Module (Not Mandatory)	Climate Ready Councils	19.05.2026

*Module completed prior to 2025-2026 Financial Year.

Councillor Steve Pilkington

Learning Package	**Module Name**	**Module completion** (date provided for 2025/26 completion)
Learning Package One	Being a councillor and encouraging nomination	Yes*
	Getting elected as a councillor	11.02.2026
Learning Package Two	Roles and responsibilities of councillors	20.05.2026
	Essential knowledge and skills for councillors	20.05.2026
	Foundations of good governance	20.05.2026
Learning Package Three	Understanding your role	20.05.2026
	Building positive relationships	No
	Cyber safety essentials	No
	Good decision making	No
	Land-use planning	No
	Strategic planning, reporting and performance management	No
	Ethical standards	No
	Understanding local government finances for councillors	No
	Risk management	No
	Continuous improvement	No
Online Learning Module (Not Mandatory)	Climate Ready Councils	20.05.2026

*Module completed prior to 2025-2026 Financial Year.

Councillor Ashley Popowski

Learning Package	**Module Name**	**Module completion** (date provided for 2025/26 completion)
Learning Package One	Being a councillor and encouraging nomination	No
	Getting elected as a councillor	No
Learning Package Two	Roles and responsibilities of councillors	No
	Essential knowledge and skills for councillors	No
	Foundations of good governance	No

Learning Package Three	Understanding your role	No
	Building positive relationships	No
	Cyber safety essentials	No
	Good decision making	No
	Land-use planning	No
	Strategic planning, reporting and performance management	No
	Ethical standards	No
	Understanding local government finances for councillors	No
	Risk management	No
	Continuous improvement	No
Online Learning Module (Not Mandatory)	Climate Ready Councils	No

*Module completed prior to 2025-2026 Financial Year.

Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor Allowances and Expenses

In accordance with Section 72(1)(cb) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the total allowances and expenses paid to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors are documented in Note 9.1 of the Notes to Financial Statements.

Councillor Representation on Committees

Council Committees	
General Manager's Review Special Committee	Mayor Blizzard, Deputy Mayor Dawes
Special Committees	
Central Outdoor Area Management Committee	Cr Oldaker, Cr Flowers as proxy
Circular Head Heritage Centre	Cr Pilkington, Cr Dabner as proxy
Northern Area Management Committee (Stanley Recreation Ground)	Cr Collins, Cr Oldaker as proxy
Stanley Town Hall Committee	Cr Collins, Cr Oldaker as proxy
Western Area Management Committee (Marrawah/Redpa)	Cr Oldaker, Cr Popowski as proxy
Community Committees	
Circular Head Health and Wellbeing Collective	Cr Dabner, Cr Dawes as proxy
Circular Head Community and Recreation Centre Management Committee	Cr Oldaker, Cr Popowski as proxy
Circular Head Education and Training Consultative Committee	Cr Dawes, Cr Hine as proxy

Circular Head Community Road Safety Partnership Committee	Cr Popowski, Cr Dabner as proxy
Public Art Committee	Cr Hine, Cr Collins as proxy
Circular Head Youth Leaders (CHYL)	Cr Dawes, Cr Dabner as proxy
Circular Head Show Society	Cr Flowers, Cr Oldaker as proxy
Duck River Pavilions Management Committee	Cr Popowski, Cr Pilkington as proxy
Stanley Chamber of Commerce	Cr Collins, Cr Hine as proxy
Rural Health	Cr Dabner, Cr Pilkington as proxy
Smithton High School	Cr Dawes, Mayor Blizzard as proxy
Working Parties	
Australia Day Awards Working Party	Cr Blizzard, Cr Dawes, Cr Hine, Cr Popowski
Representatives	
Circular Head Tourism Association	Cr Dabner, Mayor Blizzard as proxy
Cradle Coast Authority Representatives	Mayor Blizzard, Cr Dawes as proxy
Western Emergency Management Committee	Mayor Blizzard, General Manager
TasWater	Mayor Blizzard, (Cr Dawes alternate), General Manager
Local Government Association of Tasmania	Mayor Blizzard, (Cr Dawes alternate), GM
Arthur-Pieman Conservation Area Management Committee (Ministerially appointed committee members only)	Mayor Blizzard
Tarkine Coast Progress Group	Mayor Blizzard
Flood Recovery Group (group closed December 2023)	Mayor Blizzard, GM

FAST FACTS – CIRCULAR HEAD

		2025/26	2024/25	2023/24
Population	Municipal area	**8,117 (2021 Census)**	8,117 (2021 Census)	8,117 (2021 Census)
Area (km^2)	Municipal area	**4,917**	4,917	4,917
	Smithton	**11.18**	11.18	11.18
	Stanley	**1.87**	1.87	1.87
Road length (km)	Municipal area	**762**	762	768
	Sealed	**306**	306.4	307.4
	Unsealed	**456**	455.6	458.8
Bridges maintained	Municipal area	**86***	96	111
	Timber	**4**	7	28
	Other	**82**	89	83
Footpath length (km)	Municipal area	**47**	45.1	45.1
Stormwater maintained (km)	Municipal area	**46**	44.73	44.73
Kerb and channelling (km)	Municipal area	**55**	53.8	53.8
Total properties	Municipal area	**5,417**	5,397	5,300
Rateable properties	Municipal area	**5,116**	5,107	5,023
Valuation	Assessed annual value	**185,629,080**	176,281,864	144,009,432
	Capital value	**4,341,824,500**	4,357,195,300	3,408,556,400

* Bridge numbers have reduced due to a review by Asset Services with TasSpan.

KEY ACTIVITIES STATISTICS

	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22
Tonnes of waste deposited at Port Latta Landfill site	**7,447**	10,442	13,769	13,732	12,158
Tonnes of waste collected – urban	**852**	1,261	1,257	1,266	1,309
Tonnes of waste collected – rural	**965**	1,071	936	983	950
Recycling urban bins collection	**54,413***	26,427	25,824	25,883	25,756
FOGO urban bins collection	**36,133****	0	0	0	0
Building permits issued	**17**	11	16	23	24
Planning permits issued	**63**	85	107	95	119
Plumbing permits issued	**31**	25	46	34	28
Dogs registered	**1,551**	1,118	1,159	1,206	1,321
Dogs impounded	**13**	13	11	10	25
Burials at Council cemeteries	**37**	49	35	51	31
Food premises inspections carried out	**16**	27	40	14	25
Section 337 certificates issued	**229**	234	232	216	355
Section 132 certificates issued	**468**	354	365	167	578
Documents registered in ECM	**10,192**	12,102	12,915	13,802	15,010
Customer Service System (CSS) events lodged	**567**	573	535	656	669

* From 2025/26, recycling bin collections are reported using a corrected calculation method, prior year figures have not been restated

** FOGO commenced Sept 2025

ORGANISATION AND MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

The executive team as of 30 June 2026.



Paul Gardner

General Manager

Rachel Radford

Director Corporate and Communities



Estrella Dixon

Director Infrastructure and Development Services



EVENTS CALENDAR

JULY

- NAIDOC WEEK

AUGUST

- Circular Head Science Gig

SEPTEMBER

- CHArts month
- Art competitions
- Exhibitions
- Moo'd
- Sounds Around Town
- That's Classic concert
- Adult Learners Week
- Out of the Shadows Walk

OCTOBER

- Mental Health Week
- Seniors Week events

NOVEMBER

- Remembrance Day



DECEMBER

- Circular Head Show
- Christmas Carols at Highfield
- Smithton Christmas Parade
- Stanley Christmas Parade

JANUARY

- Tunnerminnerwait Day
- Australia Day Awards
- School holiday activities
- Mayor's Education Fund Celebration of Education
- Day on the Duck

FEBRUARY

- Devil Country Muster
- Feel Good February Wellbeing Program

MARCH

- International Women's Day
- Gone Nuts Adventure Race
- Relay for Life event
- Harmony in the Park event

APRIL

- ANZAC Day
- Good Sports Forum
- Youthfest

MAY

- National Volunteers Week
- Volunteers event at Stanley
- Forage Festival

JUNE

- National Reconciliation Day
- Men's Health Night

LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Circular Head Council will ensure efficient, effective and cohesive leadership through a business excellence framework in which strategy and direction drive evidence-based decision making.

	Governance 24/25	Governance 25/26
Expenses	($2,965,080)	$624,493
Income	$5,020,679	$9,642,559
Net result	$7,985,759	$9,018,066

GOVERNANCE

Communications and public engagement	Legislative compliance
Contract management	Membership of regional and State Local Government bodies
Council meetings	Information management
Support for elected Councillors	Risk management

'Our Communities, Our Customers' Organisational Transformation

The Transformation Implementation Group (TIG) plays an important role in strengthening Council's organisational performance by embedding our 'Our Communities, Our Customers' transformation program. It identifies opportunities for improvement, addresses inefficiencies, and supports a culture of ongoing learning and improvement across the organisation.

The Group brings together employees from across Council, including staff, managers, and members of the Executive. This cross-organisational representation is important, bringing diverse perspectives, operational experience, and organisational knowledge to the identification of issues and development of practical solutions.

A key focus of the Group is reviewing Council's processes and systems to identify opportunities for improvement. This includes considering learnings and recommendations arising from audits, reviewing existing workflows, identifying bottlenecks and inefficiencies, and examining areas where the customer experience, service delivery or quality could be improved.

The Organisational Transformation Program is structured around five interconnected pillars: Organisational Design, People and Culture, Digital Transformation, Continuous Improvement and Shared Services, supported by clearly defined Service Level Agreements. Together, these areas provide a coordinated framework for strengthening Council's capability, efficiency, and service delivery.

Council's ongoing focus on continuous improvement is helping turn identified opportunities into sustainable and enduring improvements. Rather than focusing on short-term solutions, the aim is to implement changes that are practical, measurable, and scalable, while aligning with Council's broader strategic objectives. Improvements are supported by appropriate systems, training, procedures, and documentation to ensure they become embedded within everyday operations.

Progress is monitored using performance measures that help assess the effectiveness of changes. This evidence-based approach enables Council to understand what is working, refine initiatives where necessary and establish feedback loops that support ongoing improvement.

Cultural transformation is an equally important part of this work. Sustainable improvement requires more than changes to processes and systems; it requires an organisational culture that values innovation, accountability, collaboration, and learning. Leaders and employees are encouraged to challenge established practices, identify better ways of working and take shared responsibility for improving the services Council provides.

By empowering employees, developing leadership capability, and embedding continuous improvement into the way Council operates, the organisation is better positioned to respond to changing community expectations, financial pressures, and emerging opportunities.

A strong Continuous Improvement function is therefore more than an operational initiative—it is a strategic capability that supports Council to become more efficient, adaptable, and sustainable while continuing to deliver value and quality services to the Circular Head community.

Leadership Development

The Executive Leadership Team and wider management group continued to build relationships of trust and mutual support. Council continues to support colleagues in earlier phases of their career to achieve professional qualifications.

Service Level Agreements

The newly reset Service Level Agreements between Circular Head and Waratah-Wynyard Councils have been invaluable over the past year in helping both organisations to meet increasing community expectations in an ever more constrained labour and supply chain environment.

COMPLIANCE (STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS)

Animal Control

Council has statutory and legislative requirements under the *Dog Control Act 2000* to ensure that all dogs are registered and managed in a responsible manner. 1,551 dogs were registered during 2025/26. Council conducts regular patrols and works with dog owners to promote responsible dog ownership. This ongoing education and compliance activity has contributed to a reduction in the number of dogs impounded over time. Officers will continue to engage with and educate the community to encourage responsible dog ownership.

95% of dog-related matters were resolved through education or voluntary compliance without the need for formal enforcement action.

Council has been proactive in the enforcement of kennel licences with 33 current licences registered in Circular Head. Each year, dog registrations are reviewed and any property with three or more dogs are required to register for a kennel licence.

North West Animal and Pest Control support Council by providing out of hours on call services on a fortnightly rotation, as well as coverage of essential Animal Control services during the Christmas/New Year holiday period.

Fire Abatement

Fire abatement inspections and follow-ups were carried out between October and December and will continue at this time each year.

Non-compliant Activities

Council continues to action non-compliant activities with ongoing efforts to resolve these matters. There were 77 new enforcement files opened in 2025/26. These include works without the necessary building, plumbing and/or planning permits, unsightly articles and environmental harm or nuisances. Most landowners have been working with Council to obtain the required permits.

Audit Panel Report 2025/26

The Circular Head Council Audit Panel provides independent advice and assurance to Council in relation to financial reporting, internal control, risk management, legislative compliance, long-term planning and other governance matters. During 2025/26 the Panel continued to work through its annual work plan and maintained regular engagement with Council management, the Tasmanian Audit Office and Council's internal auditors.

A continuing area of focus during the year was financial management and reporting. The Panel reviewed Council's regular financial reports, annual financial statements, budget development process and accounting judgements and estimates. While improvements were made during the year, the Panel continued to emphasise the importance of meaningful variance analysis and clear explanatory commentary within financial reports so that Councillors can properly understand the reasons for movements against budget. The Panel also considered Council's longer-term financial sustainability and the development of the 2026/2027 budget.

The Panel maintained close oversight of external and internal audit activities. It met with representatives of the Tasmanian Audit Office to consider the external audit strategy and progress in resolving previous audit findings. Internal audit work included continuing reviews of Payroll and Development Services together with new reviews of Procurement, Council's electronic records management arrangements and workplace health and safety. The Procurement review identified weaknesses in quotation documentation, purchase order controls, ongoing supplier arrangements and the currency of Council's Procurement Framework. Management has accepted the findings and commenced remedial action.

Risk management and internal control also remained an important focus. The Panel reviewed the General Manager's Risk and Assurance Certificates, Council's risk management framework, business continuity arrangements, insurance, delegations, information technology and cyber security. The Panel noted that while Council has the foundations of an appropriate risk management framework, further work is required to ensure risk management becomes fully embedded in operational and strategic decision-making. Council's Business Continuity Plan was also identified as requiring formal review, notwithstanding that it had operated effectively during recent service disruptions.

Progress was also made in long-term planning and governance. The Strategic Asset Management Plan was adopted by Council during the year, while work continued on asset valuations, long-term financial sustainability and improvements to Council's policy framework. The Panel welcomed the renewed focus on reviewing outdated policies and strengthening legislative compliance processes.

Overall, the Panel considers that Council made progress during 2025/26 in a number of important governance and control areas. However, continued attention is required in financial reporting, implementation of outstanding audit recommendations, procurement controls, risk management, information systems and legislative compliance. The Panel will continue to monitor progress in these areas during 2026/27.

Stephen Allen FCPA
August 2026

Building Control

Council continued to deliver building and plumbing regulatory services across the municipal area, supporting property owners, builders, designers and tradespeople to understand and meet their obligations under the *Building Act 2016* and associated legislation.

During 2025/26, Council processed a range of building applications and notifications, representing an estimated construction value of $15.5 million. This included 17 building permits and 54 notifiable building work notifications, together with other associated approvals and post-construction documentation.

Plumbing activity also remained steady, with 31 plumbing permits and 62 notifiable plumbing work notifications processed during the year, in addition to post-construction documentation received. Council officers undertook inspections as required to support safe and compliant development.

With dedicated plumbing compliance capability now established within Council, the focus during the year has been on providing a consistent and responsive service, strengthening relationships with local plumbers and other industry professionals, and improving the management of building and plumbing matters from application through to completion.

Council has also continued to review its internal processes and records to improve consistency, regulatory compliance and customer service. This work supports clearer pathways for applicants and helps Council identify and resolve outstanding building and plumbing matters.
Council encourages anyone considering building, plumbing or demolition work to contact the team early. Early advice can help applicants understand the approvals required and avoid unnecessary delays later in the process.

Code of Conduct Complaints

Council is required to report under Section 72 (1) (ba) of the *Local Government Act 1993* any Code of Conduct complaints. Council received one Code of Conduct complaint in the 2025/26 financial year.

Environment and Sustainability

Council's environment and sustainability function is focused primarily on waste management and weed management, reflecting Council's current priorities and available resources. Council also responds to environmental and biosecurity matters where required under relevant legislation and in partnership with other agencies. Council's regulatory functions are guided principally by the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* and the *Biosecurity Act 2019*.

Council's first Environmental Stewardship Plan, adopted in 2024/25, continues to provide a strategic framework for future environmental initiatives and priorities. Progress against the Plan was limited during 2025/26 due to reduced staffing capacity across the environmental and natural resource management functions.

A key step forward was the appointment of a dedicated Waste and Environment Officer in April 2026, strengthening Council's internal capability in this area. The role supports a more coordinated approach to waste management and delivery of Council's environmental priorities.

Council also continued to undertake core environmental and biosecurity responsibilities during the year, including weed management and natural resource protection, within available resources.

Environmental Health and Regulatory

Environmental Health forms part of Council's Planning and Regulatory Services team, and plays an important role in protecting public health through food safety, environmental health regulation, recreational water monitoring and community health programs.

During 2025/26, Council continued to build its internal environmental health capability, with Council's Environmental Health Officer Cadet supported by external environmental health expertise. This arrangement enabled Council to continue meeting its statutory responsibilities while providing practical experience and professional development for the cadet across food safety, inspections, investigations and other regulatory functions.

Council maintained its routine food safety inspection program and worked closely with local food businesses to support compliance with required standards. During the year, 8 new food businesses were registered, bringing the total number of registered food businesses in Circular Head to 118.

Environmental health matters relating to issues such as noise, smoke, odour and wastewater were also investigated during the year, with 40 complaints received and responded to under relevant legislation. Officers continued to work with individuals and businesses to resolve issues wherever possible through advice, education and practical compliance measures.

Recreational water quality monitoring was undertaken during the summer swimming season, with regular sampling at identified locations to monitor water quality and support safe recreational use.

Contracts for the Supply or Provision of Goods or Services

Pursuant to Section 30 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025*, Council is required to report with the Annual Report contracts for the supply or provision of goods and services exceeding $100,000.

Successful Contractor	Description of Contract	Period of Contract	$ Value of Tender/Contract (excluding GST)
Mr. Kerry J. Blake 74 King Street SMITHTON TAS 7330	Provision of Waste Transfer Station Services (White Hills) **Concluded part way through contract	01.07.2025 – 30.06.2028	$134,056.00 **Concluded part way through contract
Hardings Group (Tas) Pty Ltd 30 Industrial Drive ULVERSTONE TAS 7315	Provision of Bitumen Surfacing Services and Asphalt Repair Works 2025/26	08.08.2025 – 28.02.2027	$1,251,284
Stabilised Pavements of Australia Pty Ltd Unit 3/27 Crooked Billet Drive BRIDGEWATER TAS 7030	Pavement works - Irishtown Road (Purdy's Road to Fahey's Lane) & Trowutta Road (part only)	19.08.2025 – 28.02.2027	$419,723
Hardings Group (Tas) Pty Ltd 30 Industrial Drive ULVERSTONE TAS 7315	Footpath, Kerb and Channel Works - Smithton and Stanley	24.10.2025 – 01.04.2027	$220,081
Global Recycling Solutions Pty Ltd 5 Dedham Street WIVENHOE TAS 7320	Provision of Waste Transfer Station Services - White Hills - Global Recycling Solutions Pty Ltd	04.02.2026 – 30.06.2028	$199,635
Hardings Group (Tas) Pty Ltd 30 Industrial Drive ULVERSTONE TAS 7315	Church Street/Wharf Road intersection upgrade - Stanley	09.02.2026 – 30.06.2026	$205,595
Hardings Group (Tas) Pty Ltd 30 Industrial Drive ULVERSTONE TAS 7315	Provision of Bitumen Surfacing Services and Asphalt Repair Works 2026/27	01.07.2026 – 28.02.2027	$1,175,146
Access Facilities Management trading as Northwest Cleaning Office 9/39 Wragg Street SOMERSET TAS 7322	Provision of Cleaning Services (4 Buildings)	19.06.2026 – 30.06.2029	$134,492
BridgePro Engineering PO Box 3253 ULVERSTONE TAS 7315	Bridge Replacement - Montumana Road over Wilsons Creek	26.06.2026 – 31.03.2027	$400,010
TasSpan Civil Contracting 27-28 Faulkner Drive LATROBE TAS 7307	Bridge Replacement - Woolnorth Road over Welcome River	26.06.2026 – 31.03.2027	$764,486

Avec Global Pty Limited 525 Collins Street MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Hybrid Data Centre Improving business continuity and infrastructure modernisation	08.04.2026 – 08.04.2031	$350,000

Non-Application of the Public Tender Process

Pursuant to Regulation 30 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025*, Council is required to report with the Annual Report contracts for the supply or provision of goods and services where non application of the public tender process has been applied

Successful Contractor	Description of Contract	Period of Contract	$ Value of Tender/Contract (excluding GST)	Reason for not inviting public tenders
Avec Global Pty Limited 525 Collins Street MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Hybrid Data Centre Improving business continuity and infrastructure modernisation	08.04.2026 – 08.04.2031	$350,000	The need for continuity of an existing supplier. Limited availability of suitable providers. Urgency in reducing business risk following a major outage.

Circular Head Council entered into a deed to support the development of a health hub in Smithton. The funds are to be facilitated by Council to build the new facility. The developer will be required to undertake an independent procurement process for the tendering of the construction works. After construction Smithton Medical Pty Ltd will be responsible for the facility management for health care tenants.

Grants and Benefits

In accordance with Section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the following grants and benefits have been made by Council during the year.

All grants were made available by Council to community organisations to help fund their operations and special projects during the year. Council determines its allocations during its budget deliberations and calls for applications in March and October each year. Allocations made to individual groups in previous years have been detailed in the appropriate year's Annual Report.

Total Allocation	**2025/26 $54,446**	2024/25 $74,874	2023/24 $47,642	2022/23 $55,165	2021/22 $48,004

Community Grants Round One	$	Community Grants Round One	$
Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation	2,120	Circular Head Gymnastics Club	2,808
Circular Head Indoor Bias Bowls Club	2,312	Circular Head Landcare	3,000
Circular Head Little Athletics	2,768	Irishtown Football Club	1,645
Redpa Primary School	3,000	Riverbend Youth Centre	3,000
Rotary Club of Smithton	2,800	Smithton Country Club	2,560
Smithton Scouts	3,000	National Representation – J Watkins	500

Community Grants Round Two	$	Community Grants Round Two	$
Circular Head Boat Club	3,000	Irishtown Community Centre	3,000
Smithton Bowls Club	2,000	Circular Head Netball Association	1,755

Benefits	$	Benefits	$
Wyndarra Christmas Hampers	1,000	NAIDOC Week (schools' activities)	450
Christmas Community Lunch	432	Circular Head Agricultural Society (CH Show)	1,495
Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation (Christmas Volunteers event)	290	West Coast Classic	1000
Gospel Festival	549		

Council provided in-kind support to community organisations, projects and events through the provision of equipment, use of Council facilities, printing and administrative support.

In-kind support was provided to the following community organisations:

Circular Head Arts	Rural Health Tasmania
Soroptimist International of Circular Head	Smithton Lions Club
Circular Head Agricultural Society	Seven-Up Youth Centre
Smithton Library	Wyndarra Centre Inc.
Stanley Town Hall	State Emergency Service
Circular Head Heritage Centre Inc.	Circular Head Health and Wellbeing Collective
Circular Head Football Association	Crystal Theatre Inc
Service Providers Access Network	Circular Head Child Care Centre
Circular Head Education and Training Consultative Committee	Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation
Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation	Circular Head Youth Leaders (CHYL)
Stronger Together in Circular Head Group (STICH)	Circular Head Community Road Safety Committee
Circular Head Little Athletics Association	Arthur Pieman Conservation Area Management Committee
Stanley Harvest Market	Smithton Sustainable Living Hub
	Circular Head Mens Shed

Land Donation

In accordance with Section 72 (1)(da) of the *Local Government Act 1993* Council did not donate any land under Section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

In July 2024 Council resolved to transfer the Senior Citizens Centre to Emmerton Park Inc. The Centre was surplus to Council's requirements and was underutilised.

Ombudsman's Investigations

There was one formal investigation commenced in 2025/26 financial year.

Integrity Commission Investigations

No formal investigations were commenced in 2025/26 financial year.

Public Interest Disclosure Statement

Under Section 86 of the *Public Interest Disclosures Act 2002*

Information as to how persons may obtain, or access copies of the current procedures established by the public body under Part 7	Contact Council's Public Interest Disclosure Officer Email: disclosure@circularhead.tas.gov.au Phone: 6452 4823
The number and types of disclosures made to the public body during the year and the number of those disclosures that the public body determines to be public interest disclosures	Nil
The number of disclosures determined by the public body to be public interest disclosures that it investigated during the year	Nil
The number and types of disclosed matters referred to the public body during the year by the Ombudsman	Nil
The number and types of disclosed matters referred during the year by the public body to the Ombudsman to investigate	Nil
The number and types of disclosed matters that the public body has decided not to investigate during the year	Nil
The number and types of disclosed matters that were substantiated on investigation and the action taken on completion of the investigation	Nil
Any recommendations of the Ombudsman under this Act that relate to the public body	Nil

Joint Authorities

Under Section 30 (1) *Local Government Act 1993* Circular Head Council participates in a joint authority with the Cradle Coast Authority. The following report provides a summary of activities, budget and performance of Cradle Coast Authority during the 2025/26 financial year.

CEO Cradle Coast Authority (CCA) Report 2025/26

During 2025/26, the Cradle Coast Authority (CCA) continued to provide regional leadership, advocacy and project delivery on behalf of its nine member councils, ensuring that the priorities of North West and West Tasmania were represented in discussions with State and Federal Governments. CCA's advocacy focused on key regional challenges and opportunities, including housing supply, workforce development, transport connectivity, telecommunications, renewable energy investment and long-term economic growth.

A significant focus during the year was progressing the Cradle Coast Regional Land Use Strategy, providing a long-term framework to guide housing, industry, agriculture, infrastructure and environmental planning across the region. The strategy will help ensure councils are well-positioned to manage future growth while protecting the characteristics that make the region unique.

CCA also continued to advance regionally significant infrastructure projects. This included the completion of the Smithton Truck Wash and Effluent Disposal Facility, delivered by TasWater. This represented an important milestone, delivering improvements in biosecurity, animal welfare, road safety and environmental outcomes for Tasmania's agricultural sector. Official opening events were held for both the Smithton and Stanley facilities, providing an opportunity for stakeholders to share in the successful delivery of the Braddon Truck Wash program.

Recognising the scale of renewable energy and industrial investment planned for the region, CCA led discussions on housing, workforce accommodation and community benefit-sharing arrangements. Through initiatives such as the Local Power, Local Prosperity report and regional housing and workforce roundtables, CCA brought together government, industry and community stakeholders to identify practical solutions that maximise local benefits while managing potential impacts on communities.

CCA's Natural Resource Management program continued its support of key environmental projects in the Circular Head area. We continued to progress the justification to list the Circular Head Coastal Wetlands as internationally significant. This work will continue into the new year and will rely on strong community and government support. We also continued to work with the Circular Head Landcare Group, supporting them in eradicating rice grass from Duck Bay – a monumental achievement.

By working collaboratively across council boundaries, member councils continue to leverage CCA as a vehicle for regional advocacy, strategic planning and project delivery. Through a shared regional voice, CCA remains focused on securing investment, influencing policy and delivering initiatives that benefit communities across North West and West Tasmania.

We look forward to working on these important opportunities in 2026/27.

Progress on Major Projects in Leadership and Governance

	Status
Continuous Improvement	In Progress
Stanley Caravan Park review	In Progress
2050 Circular Head Community Vision	Ongoing
Review of Long-Term Financial Plan	In Progress
Review of Financial Management Strategy	Completed
Adoption of People and Culture Strategy	Completed

ORGANISATIONAL SUPPORT

Circular Head Council will support a positive and innovative culture, enabling best practice delivery that is customer focused. Its strong leadership will enable the development and empowerment of its people.

	Organisational Support 24/25	Organisational Support 25/26
Expenses	$3,733,084	$4,974,963
Income	$5,148,048	$3,130,357
Net result	$1,414,964	($1,844,605)

Council provides the following internal services:

Administrative support	Information Technology
Asset management	Management of Council buildings and properties
Customer service	Financial management
Human Resources and Workplace Health and Safety	Project management

FINANCE

The Comprehensive Income Statement recorded an underlying deficit of $1,445,678 compared to a deficit of $1,557,489 in the previous year (see summary on page 46 of the financial statements).

Council's original budget was adopted by the Council on 19 June 2025. A subsequent budget amendment was made in February 2026. Budget projections on which the budget was based have been affected by a number of factors. These include State and Federal Government decisions including new grant programs, changing economic activity, the weather, and decisions made by the Council. Material variations of more than 10% are explained below:

The two main factors that affected the variance to budget were a reduction in the estimated Heavy Vehicle Motor Tax received of $495,000 and a $410,000 finance cost relating to the unwinding of the discount on the provision for Port Latta landfill.

Income

Statutory fees and fines - the major increase in statutory fees and fines was by Development Application fees, an increase of $86,000 on budget. Budgets are set based on an estimate of applications however, this can change significantly during the year depending on the level of development occurring in the community.

User fees - were under budget by $480,000 due to three main factors. The heavy vehicle motor tax was not distributed based on the same figures as the previous financial year, therefore Council received $450,000 less than expected. Secondly, Council recorded a reduction in Port Latta tonnages across the gate, which largely consists of a reduced commercial utilisation of the site equating to $200,000. The third variance relates to an increase in sales at the Smithton Visitor Centre. This increased by approximately $190,000 compared to budget.

Grants - Council received 80% of the 2026/27 Financial Assistance Grant in advance for 2025/26. This totalled $1.4 million.

Other income - was over budget due to a Workers Compensation refund of premiums of $50,000.

Expenses

Other expenses - other expenses were under budget by $600,000 due to consultancies, general expenses and legal fees being down. Some 2025/26 projects have been carried forward to the 2026/27 financial year, so expenses will be recognised then. Legal fees were relating to the development application process and any potential challenges that may arise during the year. This did not eventuate, however it may in the 2026/27 year.

Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant, and equipment - Most of this amount $890,000 relates to the write off of land and buildings for the transfer of the Senior Citizens Centre to Emmerton Park during the year.

Cash moved from $21.1 million in 2024/25 to $29.5 million in 2025/26 ($8.0mil in a 6-month term deposit classes as an investment). Council received an initial payment of $5.0 million for the Smithton Health Hub project during June 2026 which remained unspent, as well as approximately $10.0 million in carry forward projects at the end of the financial year.

Council's share in the **Water Corporation** is 1.42%. Council recorded a net increase on its investment in TasWater of $885,640 for the year. Council's current investment equates to approximately $28.2 million in the regional body.

Council's financial statements at the end of this annual report provide a detailed account of events for the year. There are several financial ratios and targets as well, which provide an insight into Council's operating and financial sustainability.

PEOPLE SERVICES

Human Resources (HR) manages workforce data and information, as well as providing professional HR support for management and staff. Human Resources offer services and advice to maximise the value of Council's investment in a skilled workforce to the ultimate benefit of the Council and its stakeholders.

Full Time Equivalent (FTE) by Department				
Department	**Number of Staff**	**FTE**	**Male**	**Female**
Engineering and Projects	7	7	5	2
Planning and Regulatory	8	7.18	3	5
Connected Communities	4	4	1	3
Corporate Services	10	7.16	4	6
Executive Leadership and Continuous Improvement	5	5	3	2
Governance and Business Services	8	7.30	2	6
Tourism and Corporate Communications – only VIC	6	3.18	1	5
Works and Services	24	24	23	1
Total	72	**64.82**	**39**	**33**

Resource Shared Positions				
Staff (employing Council)	**Circular Head**	**Waratah Wynyard**	**Male**	**Female**
Senior Information Technology Officer	0.50	0.50	1	-
Total	**0.50**	**0.50**	**1**	**0**

Staff Turnover	
2025/26	17.24%
2024/25	17.00%
2023/24	13.07%
2022/23	20.28%
2021/22	24.96%
2020/21	11.91%
2019/20	8.27%
2018/19	11.50%
2017/18	7.22%
2016/17	11.52%
2015/16	30.80% *
2014/15	17.49%
2013/14	17.52%
2012/13	17.96%
2011/12	17.44%
2010/11	16.00%
2009/10	15.49%
2008/09	11.48%

* Includes closure of Swimming Pool

INFORMATION SERVICES

Information Systems

In 2025/26, Council continued to strengthen the reliability, security and performance of its ICT environment while preparing for future technology improvements. The year focused on maintaining a stable and secure technology environment, replacing ageing infrastructure, and progressing the groundwork required for future digital transformation.

Early in the financial year, Council experienced a significant ICT outage which temporarily disrupted access to key systems. Following the incident, Council undertook several reviews and infrastructure improvements to strengthen system resilience and reduce future risk. This included a server health check, UPS battery replacement and further consideration of Council's future data and infrastructure requirements through the ICT Hybrid Data Refresh proposal.

Several other key ICT infrastructure projects were completed during the year, including computer replacements within the Council Chambers and meeting rooms, and upgrades to Council's point-to-point antenna and dish infrastructure. These works have improved the reliability and resilience of Council's technology and communications network.

Cybersecurity remained a key priority. Council continued to implement and maintain recognised cybersecurity best practices, supported by staff awareness activities through KnowBe4. Phishing simulations were undertaken during the year to help build staff awareness, strengthen cyber resilience and reinforce the important role employees play in protecting Council information and systems.

End-user computing upgrades continued, with desktops and laptops progressively replaced as part of Council's ongoing device lifecycle program. Regular patching and system maintenance also continued to ensure devices and systems remained secure, supported and fit for purpose.

Council's ICT Helpdesk continued to perform well, with staff increasingly using the Helpdesk ticketing system as the primary way to report ICT issues and request support. This has improved the consistency of requests, visibility of outstanding work and the ability to track and respond to ICT support needs.

During the reporting period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026, the ICT Helpdesk managed 1,517 tickets. Helpdesk performance for the year included:

- 1,517 total tickets created
- 9 hours 6 minutes average first response time
- 11 hours 11 minutes average response time
- 32.74 hours average resolution time
- 79.57% first contact resolution
- 93.62% of first response Service Level Agreement (SLA) targets achieved
- 84.10% of resolution SLA targets achieved

These results demonstrate a strong level of responsiveness, with more than nine in ten tickets meeting the first response SLA and approximately four in five enquiries resolved at first contact. The statistics also provide Council with a measurable baseline to continue monitoring service performance and identifying opportunities for improvement.

An ICT Service Level Agreement was also implemented during the year, providing clearer expectations around service delivery, response times and accountability. This supports improved monitoring of ICT performance and helps ensure Council continues to receive value from its technology services.

Work also commenced on the initial phase of Council's Collaboration Hubs and Intranet projects. This phase focuses on the foundational work required to support Council's longer-term transition towards improved use of Microsoft Teams, SharePoint and other collaboration tools. Council's existing electronic document and records management arrangements continued largely as business as usual during the year, while this preparatory work began to lay the foundations for improved information sharing, collaboration and digital ways of working in the future.

Overall, 2025/26 was a year of strengthening Council's existing ICT environment while laying the foundations for future transformation. Continued investment in infrastructure, cybersecurity, end-user devices, service management and collaboration tools will support a more secure, resilient and efficient technology environment for Council staff and the community.

Progress on Major Projects in Organisational Support

	Status
Works and Services Depot - design for plant storage shed	Completed
Works and Services Depot - repair to existing shed	Completed
Council's private power poles	Completed
Dog Pound upgrade	Completed
Proof of concept - M365 bookings app	Not required
Smart uninterruptable power supply 300 battery replacement	In Progress
New uninterruptible power supply systems	In Progress
Handset replacements	In Progress
Lighting system upgrade	In Progress
Emerging technology allocation	In Progress
Standard operating environment build - end user computers and servers	In Progress
Proof of concept - interactive dashboards	Not required
End user computing device rollouts - phase 2	Completed
IT infrastructure upgrades	In Progress
New collaboration hubs - phase 1	In Progress
New Intranet - phase 1	In Progress
Vehicle replacement	Completed
Vehicle replacement	Deferred
Tray mountable crane	Not Started
Replace Mazda BT 50	Completed
Replace Mazda BT 50 with tip tray	Completed
Replace Mazda BT50	Completed
Vehicle replacement	Completed
Replacement tandem trailer	Completed
Replacement single axle trailer	Completed
Grant writing assistance	Not Started
ICT specialist support tender	Completed
Navision finance system needs analysis	Not required

Fleet replacement	In Progress
Asset Management - mobility	In Progress
Circular Head Council Chambers - repairs to building	In Progress
Chambers/Meeting room computer replacements	Completed
Upgrade SQL DB (IT infrastructure upgrades)	Deferred
Conquest asset system upgrade	In Progress
Health check - server and storage	Completed
Maintain and implemented cyber security best practice	Ongoing
Customer service system implementation/improvement	In Progress

CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

The Circular Head community will be inclusive and resilient with a strong sense of belonging. People will be connected to one another and the world around them. The Circular Head community will be connected to its past and engaged in its present, creating a vibrant shared future.

	Connected Communities 24/25	Connected Communities 25/26
Expenses	$1,322,817	$1,281,845
Income	$124,488	$154,540
Net result	($1,198,329)	($1,127,305)

Activities included:

Service Providers Access Network	International Women's Day
Youth Advisory Group (Circular Head Youth Leaders)	Seniors Week
Youth Leadership Programs	Australia Day Celebrations
Community Road Safety Partnerships Program	Circular Head Health and Wellbeing Collective
Social Recovery	Culture, Heritage and Arts (CHArts) month
Municipal Emergency Management	Circular Head Show
Christmas Parades Smithton and Stanley	Education and Training
Community Christmas Carols	26 TEN Communities Project
Access to Health Project	Feel Good February

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Feel Good February



Feel Good February provided a month of enjoyable activities that enabled community members to connect and get active.
Highlights included:

- Sconeversations, where people enjoyed freshly baked scones, a cuppa and a chat.
- The Cultural Walk – Sisters Beach to Rocky Cape in conjunction with CHAC. Twenty participants enjoyed a great day out.



- Pickleball Come and Try sessions – over 20 people had fun learning how to play the game. The Wynyard Pickleball group volunteered to attend to assist with the game rules.
- Steps to Connect Heart Foundation Walking group added another day and time to their weekly walk which attracted more participants.

International Women's Day



A breakfast was held on Friday 6 March at Tall Timbers Tasmania to celebrate International Women's Day. Over 100 people attended, and guest speakers were Dr Natasha Vavrek, Director of 'The Bubble Tasmania – Women's Health Clinic' & Kristen Wylie, Director of Tasmania Legal Aid.

Harmony Day

Harmony in the Park was held on Friday 13 March at West Esplanade. It was a fantastic afternoon with vibrant cultural dancing, activities such as face painting and henna and a delicious feast for everyone to share and enjoy. It was great to see so many members of the community celebrating our diversity and different cultures.







EDUCATION

Science Gig



The 2025 Circular Head Science Gig was held on Monday 11 August 4.30pm – 8pm at the Circular Head Community & Recreation Centre. Over 420 people attended the event, with 14 exhibitors with exciting and entertaining STEM activities to do. A large number of entries in our Science Gig competitions provided some awesome displays!





Mayor's Education Fund Scholarship



The 2026 Mayor's Education Fund Scholarship was awarded to Gabrielle Radford-Bryan. Gabbi has chosen to undertake studies in Bachelor of Education (Primary) and Graduate Certificate in Early Childhood Education at the UTAS Cradle Coast Campus. It has always been Gabbi's dream to be a primary school teacher to give others a safe and welcoming environment, and help shape their future. This was heavily influenced by a team of teachers that inspired her. By becoming a teacher, Gabbi hopes to create this environment for every child and show them why education matters and where it can lead you. An education means that you have an unlimited number of possibilities on what you can do and who you can be. Gabbi is the first person in her family to complete secondary schooling and commence university studies.

On Thursday 29 January 2026 a 'Celebration of Education', was hosted by the Circular Head Education and Training Consultative Committee (CHETCC) to recognise the successful recipients of the Mayor's Education Fund, the Soroptimist International of Circular Head's scholarship and the Rotary Club of Smithton's bursary. Guest speaker Danielle Kidd, Manager from West North West Working, shared the work that is being undertaken through the program.



The Soroptimist International of Circular Head 2026 recipient was Abigail Croft, and Nevaeh Tuxworth was presented with the Rotary Club of Smithton bursary.

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Art and Culture Month

CHArts officially opened on Sunday 31 August with the announcement of our CHArts competition prize winners. Over five weeks there were 51 events delivered which provided a variety of creativity, learnings and enjoyment across the municipal area.

McCain Foods youth awards
Grade 9-12
Art (any medium)
Youth Art Prize: Amber Cook - Windows
Highly Commended: Nevaeh Tuxworth - Freddie
Highly Commended: Reuben Cook - Moonwillow Mysteries Poster



Photography
Youth Photography Prize: Adysyn Nicholson - Stanley Night Beauty
Highly Commended: Maya Wigg - My friendly chickens

Youth (Grade 5-8)
Art (any medium)
Youth Art Prize: Sophie Hardy, Rosie Gilby, Edwina Hardy - All communities are magical
Highly Commended: Hali Robinson - Arthur River Community
Highly Commended: Ruby Hall – Community



Photography
Youth Photography Prize: Amarli House - Representing Montagu
Highly Commended: Zanda Murison - Farming Community

OPEN
Sculpture
Circular Head Council Sculpture Prize: Jen Grubba - Miss Ives
Smithton Bookkeeping Sculpture Prize: Cynthia Hawkins - They stole my heart
Britton Timbers Sculpture Prize: Yvette Haller - Togetherness
Anita Dow Sculpture Prize: Mike O'Brien - Inevitable Imperfection



Photography
Community Bank, Smithton & Districts Acquisition Prize: Sally Collins - Aurora over Stanley
Circular Head Tourism Association Prize: Phillip Wise - Lade's Road Gums
Jeremy Rockliff Prize: Leisa Jagiello - Monet Marsh
Hurseys Seafoods Prize: Anne Bishop - Smoke, mist and light

Art
Art (any medium)
Circular Head Council Art Prize: Megan Rose Doel - Dancing Divas
Smithton IGA Prize: Kerrie Fraser - Working Man
Roger Jaensch Prize: Detlef Jumpertz - Zinc Works
Saputo Art Prize: Sean Chen - Irishtown Wonderland
Stanley Hotel Prize: Marian McGlasson - Not Happy Jan
Geoff Stanton Memorial Landscape Prize: Hela Donela - Letting Go

CHArtchibald
Ruth Forrest Prize: Frances Joyce - Rubee & Celeste Korpershoek
Circular Head Council CHArtchibald Prize: Paris Gregory – Jodie

Australia Day Awards



The presentation of the Australia Day Awards was held on Monday 26 January 2026, at the Stanley Town Hall.
Council launched our First Nations Acknowledgement to Country short film that has been developed in conjunction with the Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation. This film shows Council's commitment to connection to the history of Circular Head.
This film was made with assistance by the Australian Government through the National Australia Day Council. We would like to thank CHAC, particularly Rochelle, Camilla, Skye and Stephen for sharing their knowledge and stories with us, we would like to also thank Mason Doherty, for his beautiful images and bringing our vision to life.
Mayor Gerard Blizzard conducted a Citizenship Ceremony where 3 new citizens were welcomed.

The Australia Day Ambassador Dr Christina Henri provided an inspiring talk about the art project that she first launched in 2004. The installation invoiced using heritage bonnets as a symbol of the 25,566 convict women and their children transported to Australia from 1788 – 1853. Christina was the Tasmanian Senior Australian of the Year in 2014. She was also recognised on the Tasmanian Honour Roll of Women in 2013. She continues her work with at the Cascades Female Factory in Hobart.



A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Bhavit Gyan and Hannah Bruce for their outstanding contribution to the Circular Head Community.

The 2026 Australia Day Awards recipients were:
Community Event of the Year – CHFA Mental Health Round (Redpa and Scotchtown Football Clubs).
Senior Citizen of the Year – Noelene O'Halloran
Citizen of the Year – Lee-Anne Walters (Sgt)

Later in the evening a large crowd gathered at West and East Esplanade to witness the very popular fireworks display, which concluded the celebrations on Australia Day.

Day on the Duck



A large crowd attended the Day on the Duck event on Saturday 24 January despite the windy conditions. Great local and coastal bands entertained the crowd throughout the day. The children's section was extremely popular with face painting, henna, games and activities on offer for free. The food vendors had a very successful day with patrons enjoying the varied selection of foods on offer.



The highlight of the day was the annual duck race where the wind blew the ducks across the river which made for a very exciting finish.
Winners were:
Yellow Ducks –Jo Haddow $500; Melinda Innes $200
Pink Ducks – Natasha Nichols $700; Jaimee Taylor $300

Community Road Safety Partnerships (CRSP)

The CRSP committee organised a free safe towing information session on Saturday 11 October. The session was facilitated by Weigh Forward, a business that weighs vehicles, caravans, trailers etc. The informative session provided participants with practical knowledge on addressing weights, towing and balance requirements and regulations.



Gospel Festival

The Gospel festival event was held on Saturday 15 November at the Circular Head Community and Recreation Centre. This event was a multicultural celebration, with 200 people sharing a meal and enjoying a wonderful evening of songs with a wide variety of performances. The evening culminated with a final item of all the performers joining together to sing 'Amazing Grace'. The Rotary Club of Smithton catered for the evening.







YOUTH

Youth/School Holiday Programs

Youth activities were held throughout the year providing opportunities for young people to be involved in numerous events:

- Movie days
- Lazer tag
- Go-Karting
- Skate Park BBQs
- Ulverstone waterslide
- Come and Try sessions

The activities were a partnership between Council and the Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation.

Circular Head Youth Leaders (CHYL)

CHYL has been involved in supporting many community events during 2025/26.

- Harmony in the Park
- ANZAC Day
- Out of the Shadows Walk
- CHArts
- Christmas Parade and Christmas Carols
- International Women's Day
- NAIDOC Week



Youth Week

Youth Week was celebrated during April with events and activities happening around Circular Head. Events included Youth Fest, a school holiday trip to Burnie, a youth paint and sip at CHAC and a Tie Dye session at the Smithton Library. Youth Fest was a fun event with over 120 young people coming together to enjoy a free night of activities and fun at Smithton Wellbeing Indoor Recreation and Leisure (SWIRL).

Seven Up Youth Centre

Council partnered with Rural Health Tasmania and Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation to facilitate the Seven Up Youth Centre three days per week. The centre has a new home at the recently renovated Rural Health Tasmania King Street building which provides a great space for connection.

Progress on Major Projects in Connected Communities

	Status
Social Recovery Plan update	In Progress
Municipal Emergency Management Plan review	In Progress
Snow Nielson memorial funds	In Progress
Stanley Discovery Museum - public toilet - painting external walls	Deferred
Stanley Town Hall - visitor centre door and window	Completed
Health and Wellbeing Plan year 1 actions	Completed
Literacy Action Plan - year 1 actions	Completed
Access to Health Plan - year 1 actions	Completed
Circular Head Heritage Centre underwriting	Completed
Aboriginal community initiatives	Completed
Tas regional drought resilience	In Progress
Anglican Church public toilets Stanley - exterior works	Deferred
Stanley Town Hall - external works	In Progress
Isolated Communities grant	Completed
Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR)	In Progress
Access to Health Program year 1 and year 2	Completed
26Ten Communities Program year 1 and year 2	Completed
Lift Local grant	Completed
Science Gig grant	Completed

COMMUNITY RECREATION AND WELLBEING

Circular Head will be a place where services, facilities and open spaces provide opportunities for individuals and groups of all ages and abilities to participate in recreational activities that encourage health and wellbeing.

	Community Recreation 24/25	Community Recreation 25/26
Expenses	$3,906,399	$3,736,293
Income	$204,942	$205,391
Net result	($3,701,457)	($3,530,902)

SPORT FITNESS AND RECREATION

The provision of services and activities to the community that provide opportunities for individuals and groups to undertake physical activity focused on health and wellbeing:

ANZAC Park	Circular Head Community and Recreation Centre
King Park	Playgrounds
East Esplanade	Exercise Equipment
West Esplanade	Tennis/Netball Courts
Dip Falls	Smithton Recreation Ground
Brickmakers Beach Reserve	Stanley Recreation Ground
Green Point Beach Reserve	Redpa Recreation Ground
Walking Tracks	Stanley Town Hall
Skate Park	Marrawah Hall
Dog Exercise Areas	SWIRL Indoor Sports Centre
Circular Head Little Athletics	Smithton Hockey Centre
Boat Ramps	

Smithton Recreation Ground

A section of bench seating in front of the main building was replaced due to safety concerns, and a new super grass cricket pitch cover has been installed on the main oval. This will ensure safety for players during the football season and protection of the cricket pitch.



Redpa Recreation Facility

Kitchen upgrades were undertaken at the centre with the installation of an industrial dishwasher. The improvements were a partnership between Council, the Western Area Management Committee and the Redpa Football Club.



Other Upgrades



Works & Services staff recently installed the boundary fence at the SWIRL facility. The fence acts as a safety barrier for pedestrians exiting the SWIRL area, plus is an interesting feature which enhances the facility.

SWIRL – Smithton Wellbeing Indoor Recreation and Leisure

As of 30 June 2026, SWIRL memberships totalled 409 memberships, an increase from 291 memberships at the same time in 2024/25. This included 316 full access memberships, 89 aquatic memberships and 4 paid-in-full memberships. This represents continued growth in membership and engagement with the facility throughout the 2025/26 financial year.

Total member and casual attendances for the 2025/26 financial year were 39,757, compared with 38,672 in 2024/25, reflecting an increase in overall use of the facility. June 2026 alone recorded 3,169 member and casual attendances, with group fitness continuing to be a strong contributor to participation.

SWIRL Swim School memberships increased from 210 in 2024/25 to 225 memberships as of 30 June 2026. GOswim and Adult Swim classes continued to be promoted throughout the year, with the Swim School also introducing a Water Safety Program, incorporating a different water safety activity into lessons each week to build important skills in an engaging way.

A range of new programs and activities were introduced throughout the year to broaden the services available to the community. These included the launch of yoga classes, which generated strong interest, as well as the continuation and successful completion of the ETP (Exercise Treatment Program), FPP (Fall Prevention Program) and GAP (Get Active Program) programs. SWIRL also established a partnership with the HIPPY program through Rural Health Tasmania, providing family swim passes and commencing planning for future community programs.

The SWIRL team continued to build strong relationships with key community stakeholders and organisations, working collaboratively to develop new programs and service opportunities. Community engagement remained a strong focus, with events such as the Biggest Morning Tea receiving a positive response and contributing to the welcoming and inclusive atmosphere at the facility.

A significant focus for SWIRL during 2025/26 has been the revitalisation of the gym and health club space. Council committed a $162,500 grant towards new gym equipment, and the relocation and expansion of

the gym into a larger space within the facility. The project provided an improved and more contemporary health and fitness environment, creating additional opportunities for members and the wider community to participate in health and wellbeing activities.

The project represents a significant investment in the future of SWIRL, and is expected to enhance the range, quality and accessibility of health and fitness services available to the community.

The continued growth in memberships, attendances and program participation demonstrates the important role SWIRL plays in supporting health, wellbeing, recreation and community connection across Circular Head. Customer feedback also remained positive, with the facility recording a 70% year-to-date Net Promoter Score against a target of 45%.

WELLBEING ACTIVITIES

26Ten Project - Learn for Life

During 2025/26, the 26Ten Learn for Life project continued to bring the Circular Head Literacy Action Plan 2025–2028 to life, with activities and initiatives contributing to each of the Plan's four aims:

- **We have what's needed to keep learning programs going over many years** – Established lasting resources and supports, including 11 Street Libraries, a dedicated Education, Training and Lifelong Learning webpage, and practical resources to support literacy and learning across the community.
- **We work together and with others to help all learners thrive** – Strengthened partnerships with health, community, literacy and learning services to develop resources, promote support and create new opportunities for learners.
- **We are a community of life-long learners** – Made learning visible and celebrated through initiatives including the Walking Words Literacy Trail, *Always Learning Legends*, Tasmania Reads Week, 26Ten Week, and a range of informal community learning activities.
- **We make it easier to take part in learning programs** – Improved access to information and support, promoted adult literacy services and created welcoming, informal opportunities for people to try new learning experiences and build their confidence.

Together, these initiatives are helping to create a community where anyone who wants to learn, can.



Community paint day – A-Z caterpillar on the Walking Words Literacy Trail



Members of the Circular Head Men's Shed celebrating after a community paint day to decorate 11 Street Libraries they had constructed



Participants of a community workshop to create personal 'feel good guides'



Smithton Rotary Club hosted a massive Literacy Awareness session

Access to Health Services Project

The Access to Health Services (A2HS) Project in Circular Head has been delivering actions from the Health Services Access Improvement Plan which include:

ACCESS 2 Health Services

- Live Well Live Long sessions
- Feel Good February activities
- Delivery of the Right Place Program
- Get Active Program x 2
- Health Literacy workshops
- Heart Week event
- Supporting community events



Live Well Live Long session



Sconversations – Feel Good

- Collaboration with 26TEN program
- Updating the community communication board and the health and wellbeing section of Council's website
- Facilitating the purchase of a gynaecology bed in partnership with Soroptimist International of Circular Head and Ochre Health

Progress on Major Projects in Community Recreation and Wellbeing

	Status
Regional playground – construction West Esplanade	In Progress
Smithton Recreation Ground - perimeter fencing stage 3 renewal (Nelson Street)	Deferred
Smithton Recreation Ground - perimeter fencing stage 2 renewal (Bugg Street)	Completed
Smithton Recreation Ground - pitch cover for bottom oval	Completed
SWIRL - Arena - circulation fans basketball stadium	Deferred
SWIRL - Pool - for spare parts	Completed
SWIRL - Arena - basketball stadium paint storage shelves at back	Not required
Stanley Recreation Ground - kitchen roof	In Progress
Stanley Town Hall - kitchen - replace roof and gutter	Completed
Redpa Recreation Ground - clubrooms stage 2	Completed
Stanley Recreation Ground - clubrooms - install cleaners sink and storage	Completed
Stanley Recreation Ground - changeroom showers	Completed
SWIRL - Arena - basketball stadium padding basketball stadium	Completed
SWIRL - Arena - paint walls basketball stadium	Completed
Gym equipment at SWIRL	Completed
Green Point Beach Reserve improvements - develop a concept plan for revitalising Reserve	Deferred
Camping Strategy	Deferred
Open space signage suite	In Progress
Redpa Recreation Ground - storage shed	In Progress
Demolish Smithton jetty no 1 - Duck River	Completed
Demolish Smithton jetty no 2 - Duck River	Completed
West Esplanade dump point relocation design	Completed

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Circular Head will benefit from a vibrant and diverse economy built on competitive advantage, resource advantage and evidence-based leadership.

	Economic Prosperity 24/25	Economic Prosperity 25/26
Expenses	$1,213,487	$1,106,019
Income	$738,013	$573,310
Net result	($475,474)	($532,709)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Council's activities of note for the 2025/26 year included:

- Preparation of an Economic Development Strategy for Circular Head. Most of the community consultation and initial research was conducted in 2025/26. The report will be considered by the new Council in late 2026.
- Commissioning the development of a jointly owned and community led regional Dark Skies Strategy through the Dark Skies Special Committee of Council, and overseeing the alignment of Council's Dark Skies Strategy with Northwest Tasmania's aspirations for community prosperity, economic development and wellbeing plans. Develop a pathway towards the Circular Head region obtaining International Dark Skies accreditation, all whilst exploring untapped commercial opportunities that can be leveraged for the greater benefit of the Circular Head community at large.

Progress on Major Projects in Economic Prosperity

	Status
Trethewie's lookout - new viewing structure design	Not required
Settlement Strategy implementation	Deferred
Part time Economic Development Officer	In Progress
Smithton CBD Master Plan	Completed
Consultancy for Smithton CBD	Completed
Population Strategy	Completed

TRANSPORT AND ACCESS

Circular Head will be a place where a safe, fit-for-purpose and sustainable transport and access network is provided and maintained for present and future community needs.

	Transport and Access 24/25 #	Transport and Access 25/26
Expenses	$7,016,558	$7,184,496
Income	$2,822,299	$5,643,637
Net result	($4,194,259)	($1,540,589)

Includes $1.5 mil in Financial Assistance Grants paid in advance

Circular Head's transport network is a critical part of the municipality's infrastructure, supporting residents, businesses, industry and visitors across a large and dispersed area. Council manages approximately 762 km of roads, comprising around 306 km of sealed roads and 455 km of unsealed gravel roads.

The broader network also includes bridges, culverts, approximately 47 km of footpaths, more than 46 km of stormwater infrastructure and over 54 km of kerb and channel, together with signs, guardrails, guideposts, traffic islands and other supporting assets.

The municipality's strong agricultural, forestry and other primary production sectors place particular demands on the road network. Heavy vehicles account for an estimated 17% of traffic, increasing wear on road surfaces and reinforcing the importance of targeted maintenance, renewal and asset planning.

During 2025/26, Council continued to prioritise the safety, accessibility and reliability of the transport network through its road maintenance, grading, resealing, drainage and capital works programs. These activities are essential to maintaining connections between communities and supporting the movement of goods and services across Circular Head.

During 2025/26, Council continued to deliver a significant program of road and bridge works across the municipal area. This included 9.87 kms of road resealing, 204 inspections of bridges, jetties and major culverts, and the replacement of two major culverts. Council also invested approximately $4.25 million in capital road and bridge works, alongside its ongoing operational maintenance program.

TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

Church Street/Wharf Road Junction Upgrade

The Church Street/Wharf Road Junction upgrade commenced in May 2026, marking an important first step in delivering the Church Street Master Plan for Stanley.



Church Street/Victoria Street intersection

The project included closure of the existing Church Street/Wharf Road junction, construction of new pedestrian footpaths and conversion of Church Street to one-way traffic between Alexander Terrace and Victoria Street. These changes are designed to improve pedestrian safety, simplify traffic movements, and create a clearer and more accessible streetscape.

Further improvements were also undertaken at the Church Street/Victoria Street intersection, preventing southbound traffic from entering Church Street between Victoria Street and Wharf Road. Together, the works improve intersection safety and provide a more legible traffic arrangement for both pedestrians and motorists.

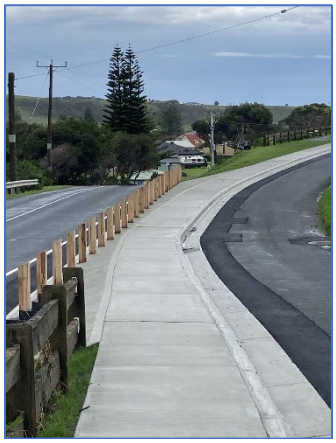
In July 2026, Council was advised that its application to the Australian Government Black Spot Program had been successful, securing $75,000 towards the cost of the intersection works. This funding supports Council's ongoing investment in safer and more functional transport infrastructure in Stanley.



Church St/Wharf Rd Junction



Church Street/Wharf Road junction – looking



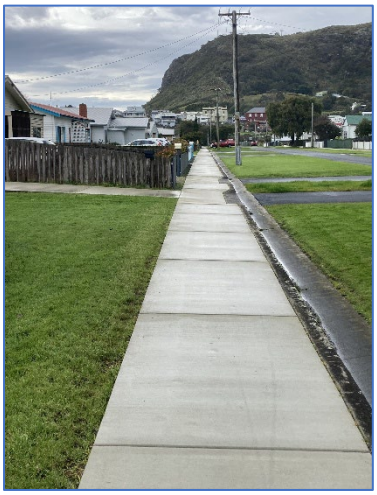
Church St/Wharf Road junction-looking north

Footpath renewals, kerb and channel

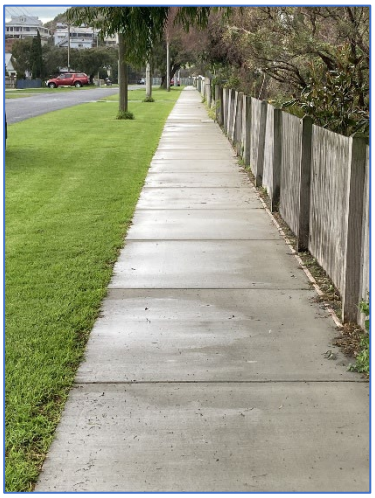
Council's Works and Services team delivered a program of footpath, kerb and channel improvements across Smithton and Stanley during 2025/26. These works improved pedestrian access and safety, renewed ageing infrastructure and supported better stormwater management in key locations.

Hale Street, Stanley

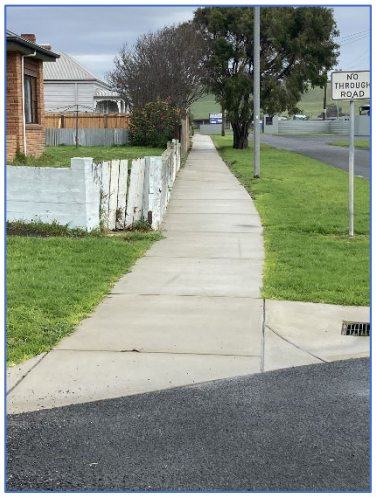
From October 2025, Council's Works and Services renewed the footpath along Hale Street between Cripps Street and the entrance to the Stanley Recreation Ground. The existing bitumen footpath was replaced with concrete, with driveway entrances also resurfaced to provide a safer and more durable pedestrian connection.



Hale Street – looking east



Hale Street – looking east



Hale Street – looking west

Emmett Street, Smithton

New footpath and kerb and channel works were completed in March 2026 between Emmett Street and Upper Havelock Street. The project improves pedestrian access in the area, including connections for residents of the new Emmerton Park Elderly Person Units development, while the new kerb and channel also improves stormwater management.

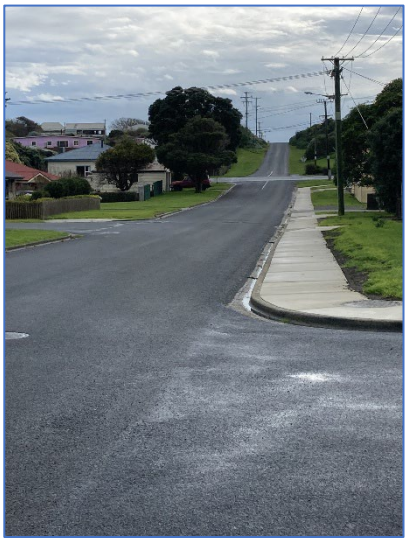
Havelock Street, Smithton

The Works and Services team replaced sections of concrete footpath and kerb and channel on Havelock Street, together with associated asphalt driveway entrances. The renewal has improved the condition and safety of this section of the pedestrian network.

Main Road and Cripps Street, Stanley

A new footpath was constructed. The project provides an improved pedestrian connection through Stanley and supports safer access for both residents and visitors.

These projects demonstrate the practical contribution made by Council's Works and Services team in maintaining and improving everyday infrastructure across the municipality.



Cripps Street – looking north

Nelson Street – resurfacing, median lane and new speed limit

Major works to improve Nelson Street between Smith Street and junction of the Bass Highway commenced in January 2026. Asphalt resurfacing and new line marking was installed between 141 Nelson Street and the Bass Highway roundabout junction, to renew the ageing road surface, reduce ongoing maintenance needs thus extending the life of the road, and improve ride quality for users.

The provision of a middle median lane, a parking lane on the western side of Nelson Street, and the removal of parking on the eastern side of Nelson Street between Gibson Street and Rocklyn Road junction address concerns relating to turning and crossing safety risks, issues with visual sightlines, and to improve traffic flow along Nelson Street.



Nelson Street – looking south



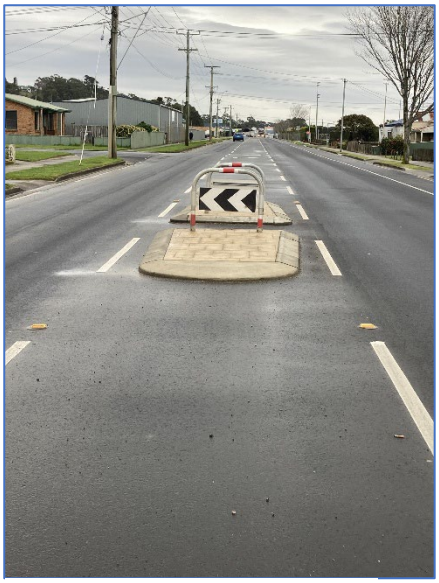
Nelson Street – looking north

Installation of pedestrian refuge crossings at strategic intervals near intersections were implemented to increase pedestrian safety and improve access to schools and recreational facilities located on Nelson Street.

A review of the 60km/h speed limit was conducted, and with an assessment undertaken by the Transport Commissioner, resulted in the reduction to 50km/h to better align with surrounding urban land uses and to reduce crash risk severity.



Nelson Street – looking north



Nelson Street – looking south

OTHER PROJECTS

Irishtown Road pavement stabilisation
Pavement stabilisation works to an in-situ section of Irishtown Road between the intersections of Purdy's Road and Fahey's Lane were conducted during 2025/26.

Trowutta Road rehabilitation
A 350m section of Trowutta Road south of Edith Creek was upgraded as part of pavement works, including a gravel overlay and compaction on the existing road and resealing of the section once completed, were undertaken during 2025/26 financial year.

Back Line Road guard rail
Circular Head Council was successful in gaining Black Spot funding to enable installation of guard rail on a 600m winding section of Back Line Road 2.6km west of Forest, where an unprotected agricultural water body hazard exists close to the roadway. The unprotected steep drop-off near the water body has been the scene of several prior motor accidents, including one fatality.





Green Hills Road guard rail

A Black Spot Program grant application was successful in obtaining funding for installation of guard rail on a steep section of Green Hills Road north of Stanley. The application resulted from concerns raised by local residents relating to safety concerns for vehicles approaching from north of the area. Funding covered the cost of supply and installation of approximately 190m of guard rail and associated infrastructure, reducing risks for road users.



Green Hills Road guard rail installation

Progress on Major Projects in Transport and Access

	Status
Church Street precinct Master Plan – design	Deferred
Temma Road bridge approaches	Completed
Linnanes Road over Welcome River bridge	Completed
Stanley junction of Church Street and Main Road - construction	In Progress
Hill Street surface - bituminous seal	Deferred
Rural Road safety audit	Completed
Cripps Street and Victoria Street footpath	Completed
Nelson Street resurfacing	In Progress
Annual Resheet program	Completed
Trowutta Road rehabilitation	Completed
Back Line Road shoulder widening	Completed
Hale Street footpath	Completed
Hale Street footpath	Completed
Hale Street footpath	Completed
Havelock Street footpath and kerb and channel	Completed
Irishtown Road pavement	Completed
Stanley Town Hall - seal car park	Completed
Montagu Road pavement investigation	Completed
Johns Hill Road guardrail design	Completed
Upper Scotchtown Road upgrade to sealed shoulder standard	Completed
Gibson Street footpath	Completed
Gibson Street footpath	Completed
King Street kerb and channel design	Completed
Emmett Street footpath	Completed
Airey Drive surface - bituminous seal	Completed
Montagu Road surface - bituminous seal	Completed
Rennison Road surface - bituminous seal	Completed
South Road surface - bituminous seal	Completed
Temma Road surface - bituminous seal	Completed
Woolnorth Road surface - bituminous seal	Completed

King Park east car park surface - bituminous seal	Completed
Manuka Drive surface - bituminous seal	Completed
Manuka Drive surface - bituminous seal	Completed
Emmett Street - King Street roundabout surface - bituminous seal	Completed
Upper Grant Street - pedestrian shelter	Completed
Replace CAT tipper truck	In Progress
Replace CAT tipper truck	In Progress
Replace dog trailer	In Progress
Replace dog trailer	In Progress
Annual Reseal Program - inspections and scope preparation	Completed
Church Street Precinct Master Plan - grant funding proposal	Deferred
Woolnorth Road over Welcome River bridge replacement	In Progress
Nelson Street section - part surface, bituminous seal	In Progress
Davis Street - reconstruction	In Progress
Nelson Street resurfacing - design and planning	Completed
Smithton Recreation Ground - reseal existing car park including Hall of Fame	Completed
Irishtown Road - footpath design	Completed
Back Line Road Forest - east of Boys Road – installation of safety barrier	Completed
Green Hills Road - new guardrail	Completed
Poilinna Road - Birthday Creek - new bridge guardrail	Completed
Back Line Road - new guardrail	Completed

ENVIRONMENT

The world class environment of Circular Head will be respected and enhanced. Planning for and promoting its sustainable management and use will ensure a safe, healthy and unique lifestyle.

	Environment 24/25*	Environment 25/26
Expenses	$8,167,107	$4,043,554
Income	$3,824,512	$5,127,751
Net result	($4,342,595)	$1,084,198

* Includes $4.6 mil in write off of Port Latta rehabilitation assets 24/25

Town Planning

Council is responsible for undertaking a wide range of planning related regulatory functions including strategic land use planning, development control and legislative enforcement. The *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* and the *Local Government Act 1993* outline the main roles of Council in relation to its town planning responsibilities whilst the Tasmanian Planning Scheme provides the direction for Council and the community for development within the municipal area.

Council received a total of 108 development applications, a 13% decrease from the previous year. These are broken down into 54 Discretionary applications, 14 Subdivisions & Boundary Adjustments, 13 Permitted applications, 16 applications determined to be No Permit Required and 11 applications determined to be Exempt. The number of No Permit Required and Exempt determinations is a demonstration of Council's planning staff working with applicants to find the simplest pathway through the planning process.

Subdivision applications have consisted of small 2 to 4 lot subdivisions, boundary adjustments or title consolidations, other than one application for a 14 lot subdivision. In addition, Council has been working with developers of higher yield subdivisions approved in recent years by approving engineering design. Construction works have commenced and, in some cases, completed allowing title documents to be issued for newly created land parcels.

This year, Council continued to be involved in processing the Robbins Island wind farm application. Federal approval of the project, given under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999,* was granted in August 2025. Council will continue to assess the Transmission Line application with the assistance of ERA Advisory.

Council staff continued to be involved in the review and drafting of the Cradle Coast Regional Land Use Strategy. The draft strategy was submitted to the State Planning Office for consideration in July 2026. It is expected that the strategy will be finalised during 2027.

Progress on Major Projects in Environment

	Status
Main Road, Stanley - kerb and channel	Completed
Dovecote Road rezoning	In Progress
New loader 12t (White Hills Transfer Station)	Deferred
Smithton Landscape Development Strategy - Duck River bridge	Deferred
Urban drainage bill investigations and Stormwater Management Plans for urban areas	Completed
Port Latta closure - White Hills upgrade	In Progress
Port Latta Leachate Management Plan review and update	In Progress
Port Latta final capping of decommissioned cells	In Progress
Greening Strategy	Deferred
Stanley stormwater system modelling and options analysis	In Progress
West Esplanade dump point	Completed
Port Latta - site closure and rehabilitation plan	In Progress
Port Latta - final cap design - decommissioned cells	In Progress
Waste Strategy review	In Progress
Policies derived from Environmental Stewardship Plan	In Progress
Regional Land Use Strategy review	In Progress

THE YEAR AHEAD

- 7.75% General Rate revenue increase
- Construction of recreation facilities at West Esplanade Smithton and King Park Stanley
- Replacement of Wilson's Creek bridge at Montumana
- Netball/tennis centre court resurfacing
- Destination Management Plan
- Goldie Street, Brittons Road safety assessment
- Funding for an Economic Development Officer
- Website redevelopment
- Development of a lighting strategy to assist with International Dark Skies accreditation
- Public Private Partnership supporting the development of the Smithton Medical Hub
- Support for the development of the Child and Family Learning Centre
- Redesign and upgrade of the White Hills Transfer Station
- Leadership of the Circular Head Waste Strategy and community engagement
- Overseeing the 2026 Local Government Elections
- Fully embedding Council's Continuous Improvement Strategy (ways of working) and Organisational Transformation Program
- Advocacy for regional priorities that affect the municipality i.e., waste management, transport and housing

Audit Tasmania

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Councillors of Circular Head Council

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Circular Head Council (Council), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026 and statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement of certification signed by the General Manager.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report:

(a) presents fairly, in all material respects, Council's financial position as at 30 June 2026 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended

(b) is in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report. I am independent of Council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

The *Audit Act 2008* further promotes the independence of the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General is the auditor of all Tasmanian public sector entities and can only be removed by Parliament. The Auditor-General may conduct an audit in any way considered appropriate and is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which audit powers are to be exercised. The Auditor-General has for the purposes of conducting an audit, access to all documents and property and can report to Parliament matters which in the Auditor-General's opinion are significant.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of the General Manager for the Financial Report

The General Manager is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Local Government Act*

1993 and for such internal control as determined necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the General Manager is responsible for assessing Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless Council is to be dissolved by an Act of Parliament or the Councillors intend to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the General Manager.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the General Manager's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the General Manager regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Stephen Morrison
Chief Financial and Sustainability Auditor
Delegate of the Auditor-General

30 September 2026
Hobart

Statement of Comprehensive Income
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	Note	Amended Budget 2026 $	Actual 2026 $	Actual 2025 $
Income from continuing operations				
Recurrent income				
Rates and charges	2.1	12,904,589	12,845,888	12,083,251
Statutory fees and fines	2.2	474,505	548,254	395,472
User fees	2.3	2,354,928	1,864,373	1,776,969
Grants	2.4	4,795,940	6,181,352	3,464,518
Interest	2.5	800,000	804,850	871,484
Other income	2.6	327,835	405,500	496,783
Investment revenue from Water Corporation	2.8, 5.1	410,800	410,800	379,200
		22,068,597	**23,061,017**	**19,467,677**
Capital income				
Capital grants received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2.4	3,185,191	1,385,813	3,280,694
Recognition/(Derecognition) - non-monetary assets	2.9	-	1,285,359	-
Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	2.7	83,860	(1,254,643)	(4,865,390)
		3,269,051	**1,416,529**	**(1,584,696)**
Total income from continuing operations		**25,337,648**	**24,477,546**	**17,882,981**
Expenses from continuing operations				
Employee benefits	3.1	(7,286,636)	(7,505,660)	(6,893,297)
Materials and contracts	3.2	(4,584,724)	(4,392,640)	(4,261,275)
Depreciation and amortisation	3.3	(6,664,430)	(7,105,750)	(7,444,655)
Finance costs	3.4	(1,226)	(413,224)	(2,585)
Other expenses	3.5	(4,151,679)	(3,534,389)	(3,792,560)
Total expenses from continuing operations		**(22,688,695)**	**(22,951,663)**	**(22,394,372)**
Result from continuing operations		**2,648,953**	**1,525,883**	**(4,511,391)**
Net result for the year		**2,648,953**	**1,525,883**	**(4,511,391)**
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to net result				
Fair value adjustments on equity investment assets	5.1,8.1	-	885,640	524,118
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	8.1	-	13,349,383	37,525,971
Total Other Comprehensive Income		**-**	**14,235,023**	**38,050,089**
Total Comprehensive result		**2,648,953**	**15,760,906**	**33,538,698**

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2026

	Note	2026	2025
		$	$
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4.1	21,467,055	21,085,173
Trade and other receivables	4.2	896,882	505,404
Inventories	4.3	-	70,478
Investments	4.5	8,000,000	-
Other assets	4.4	313,500	197,889
Total current assets		**30,677,437**	**21,858,944**
Non-current assets			
Investment in water corporation	5.1	28,268,159	27,382,519
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.1	287,727,555	276,131,725
Intangible assets	6.3	42,698	64,047
Right-of-use assets	6.2	51,961	55,958
Total non-current assets		**316,090,373**	**303,634,249**
Total assets		**346,767,810**	**325,493,193**
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	7.1	2,244,180	1,803,311
Provisions	7.2	5,417,455	1,170,186
Lease liabilities	7.3	2,709	2,734
Contract liabilities	7.4	5,452,846	385,469
Total current liabilities		**13,117,190**	**3,361,700**
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	7.2	6,909,106	11,149,093
Lease liabilities	7.3	73,009	74,801
Total non-current liabilities		**6,982,115**	**11,223,894**
Total liabilities		**20,099,305**	**14,585,594**
Net Assets		**326,668,505**	**310,907,599**
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		143,078,866	141,552,983
Reserves	8.1	183,589,639	169,354,616
Total Equity		**326,668,505**	**310,907,599**

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	Note	2026 Inflows/ (Outflows) $	2025 Inflows/ (Outflows) $
Cash flows from operating activities			
Rates		12,847,831	12,085,162
Statutory fees and fines		548,254	395,472
User charges and other fines		2,028,195	2,265,276
Grants		11,575,041	3,464,518
Interest received		804,850	871,484
Investment revenue from water corporation	2.8	410,800	379,200
Net GST refund/(payment)		1,032,338	303,882
Payments to suppliers		(5,532,123)	(4,264,742)
Payments to employees		(7,345,028)	(6,886,642)
Finance costs paid		(413,224)	(2,585)
Other payments		(3,538,134)	(3,803,929)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	8.2	**12,418,800**	**4,807,096**
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(5,922,756)	(7,220,741)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		497,829	42,255
Capital grants		1,385,813	3,280,694
Payments for investments		(8,000,000)	-
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		**(12,039,114)**	**(3,897,792)**
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of lease liabilities		2,196	2,635
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		**2,196**	**2,635**
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		**381,882**	**911,939**
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		21,085,173	20,173,234
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	8.3	**21,467,055**	**21,085,173**

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2026	Note	Accumulated Surplus 2026 $	Asset Revaluation Reserve 2026 $	Fair Value Reserve 2026 $	Other Reserves 2026 $	Total Equity 2026
Balance at beginning of the financial year		**141,552,983**	**163,920,387**	**5,294,894**	**139,335**	**310,907,599**
Net result for the year		1,525,883	-	-	-	1,525,883
Other Comprehensive Income:						
Fair Value adjustment on equity investment assets	5.1,8.1	-	-	885,640	-	885,640
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	8.1	-	13,349,383	-	-	13,349,383
Total comprehensive income		**143,078,866**	**177,269,770**	**6,180,534**	**139,335**	**326,668,505**
Balance at end of the financial year		**143,078,866**	**177,269,770**	**6,180,534**	**139,335**	**326,668,505**

2025	Accumulated Surplus 2025 $	Asset Revaluation Reserve 2025 $	Fair Value Reserve 2025 $	Other Reserves 2025 $	Total Equity 2025 $
Balance at beginning of the financial year	**146,064,374**	**126,394,416**	**4,770,776**	**139,335**	**277,368,901**
Net result for the year	(4,511,391)	-	-	-	(4,511,391)
Other Comprehensive Income:					
Fair Value adjustment on equity investment assets	-	-	524,118	-	524,118
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	-	37,525,971	-	-	37,525,971
Total comprehensive income	**141,552,983**	**163,920,387**	**5,294,894**	**139,335**	**310,907,599**
Balance at end of the financial year	**141,552,983**	**163,920,387**	**5,294,894**	**139,335**	**310,907,599**

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Circular Head Council
Financial Report
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Note 1 Overview

1.1 Reporting entity

(a) The Circular Head Council was established on 27 August 1907 and is a body corporate with perpetual succession and a common seal. Council's main office is located at 33 Goldie Street Smithton.

(b) The purpose of the Council is to:
- provide for health, safety and welfare of the community;
- represent and promote the interests of the community;
- provide for the peace, order and good government in the municipality.

1.2 Basis of accounting

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, and notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with Australian Accounting Standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, and the *Local Government Act 1993 (LGA1993) (as amended)*. Council has determined that it does not have profit generation as a prime objective. Consequently, where appropriate, Council has elected to apply options and exemptions within accounting standards that are applicable to not-for-profit entities.

This financial report has been prepared on the accrual and going concern basis.

All amounts are presented in Australian dollars and unless stated, have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

This financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, except where specifically stated in the notes.

Unless otherwise stated, all material accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation, and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

1.3 Use of judgements and estimates

Judgements and Assumptions

In the application of Australian Accounting Standards, Council is required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Council has made no assumptions concerning the future that may cause a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next reporting period. Judgements made by Council that have significant effects on the financial report are disclosed in the relevant notes as follows:

Employee entitlements

Assumptions are utilised in the determination of Council's employee entitlement provisions. These assumptions are discussed in note 7.2.

Fair value of property, infrastructure, plant & equipment

Assumptions and judgements are utilised in determining the fair value of Council's property, infrastructure, plant and equipment including useful lives and depreciation rates. These assumptions are discussed in note 6.1.

Investment in water corporation

Assumptions utilised in the determination of Council's valuation of its investment in TasWater are discussed in note 5.1.

Landfill / Tip Rehabilitation

Assumptions and judgements are utilised in determining its provision for rehabilitation for the Port Latta landfill site are discussed in note 7.2.

1.4 Material Budget Variations

Council's original budget was adopted by the Council on 19 June 2025. A subsequent budget amendment was made in February 2026. Budget projections on which the budget was based have been affected by a number of factors. These include State and Federal Government decisions including new grant programs, changing economic activity, the weather, and by decisions made by the Council. Material variations of more than 10% are explained below:

Income

1 Statutory fees and fines

The major increase in statutory fees and fines is Development Application fees, an increase of $86,000 on budget. Budgets are set based on an estimate of applications, however, this can change significantly during the year depending on the level of development occurring in the community.

2 User fees

User fees are under budget by $480,000 due to three main factors. The heavy vehicle motor tax was not distributed based on the same figures as the previous financial year, therefore Council received $450,000 less than expected. Secondly, Council recorded a reduction in Port Latta tonnages across the gate, which largely consists of a reduced commercial utilisation of the site equating to $200,000. The third variance relates to an increase in sales at the Smithton Visitor Centre. This increased by approximately $190,000 compared to budget.

3 Grants

Council received 80% of the 2026/27 Financial Assistance Grant in advance for 2025/26. This totalled $1.4 mil.

4 Other income

Other income is over budget due to a Workers Compensation refund of premiums of $50,000.

Expenses

8 Other expenses

Other expenses were under budget by $600,000 due to consultancies, general expenses and legal fees being down. Some 2025/26 projects have been carried forward to the 2026/27 financial year, so expenses will be recognised then. Legal fees were relating to the development application process and any potential challenges that may arise during the year. This did not eventuate, however, it may in the 2026/27 year.

9 Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Council transferred the Senior Citizens property to Emmerton Park Inc. during the year, which resulted in a write off of $900,000 in land and building assets. At the time of setting the budget, a decision had not been made, therefore no budget was allocated.

1.5 Functions/Activities of the Council

(a) *Revenue, expenditure and assets attributable to each function as categorised in (c) below:*

	Grants	Other	Total Revenue	Total Expenditure	Surplus/ (Deficit)	Assets
	$	$	$	$	$	$
Civic Governance						
2025 - 2026	-	133	133	804,814	(804,681)	-
2024 - 2025	-	1,457	1,457	811,488	(810,031)	-
Transport infrastructure						
2025 - 2026	5,135,781	507,856	5,643,637	6,419,704	(776,067)	215,966,732
2024 - 2025	2,658,620	298,632	2,957,252	6,979,549	(4,022,297)	204,970,412
Stormwater and drainage						
2025 - 2026	-	1,745,550	1,745,550	345,087	1,400,463	11,687,994
2024 - 2025	-	532,388	532,388	477,515	54,873	10,818,781
Solid waste management						
2025 - 2026	-	2,555,030	2,555,030	1,886,269	668,761	2,279,938
2024 - 2025	-	3,245,364	3,245,364	7,570,671	(4,325,307)	2,302,463
Advocacy						
2025 - 2026	-	-	-	139,202	(139,202)	-
2024 - 2025	-	-	-	185,056	(185,056)	-
Social and community						
2025 - 2026	-	460,134	460,134	1,101,101	(640,967)	1,063,000
2024 - 2025	-	362,893	362,893	1,689,898	(1,327,005)	1,059,750
Community development						
2025 - 2026	45,871	14,499	60,370	670,332	(609,962)	2,353,225
2024 - 2025	21,478	13,271	34,749	866,895	(832,146)	2,664,539
Parks and reserves						
2025 - 2026	-	237,322	237,322	3,156,356	(2,919,034)	33,717,857
2024 - 2025	35,000	220,269	255,269	3,994,993	(3,739,724)	31,214,555
Other - not attributable						
2025 - 2026	2,385,513	11,389,857	13,775,370	8,428,798	5,346,572	79,699,064
2024 - 2025	4,030,114	6,463,495	10,493,609	(181,693)	10,675,302	72,462,693
Total						
2025 - 2026	7,567,165	16,910,381	24,477,546	22,951,663	1,525,883	346,767,810
2024 - 2025	6,745,212	11,137,769	17,882,981	22,394,372	(4,511,391)	325,493,193

1.5 Functions/Activities of the Council (Continued)

(b) *Reconciliation of Assets above with the Statement of Financial Position at 30 June:*

	2026	2025
	$	$
Current assets	30,677,437	21,858,944
Non-current assets	316,090,373	303,634,249
	346,767,810	**325,493,193**

(c) *Civic governance*

The provision of elected representation and the executive support allowing for positive and clear leadership for the Circular Head Community.

Transport infrastructure

Construction, maintenance and cleaning of roads, footpaths, drainage works, street lighting, bridges, parking facilities and traffic signs.

Stormwater and drainage

The provision of stormwater/drainage services to the residents of Smithton and Stanley.

Solid waste management

The provision of services associated with the collection and disposal of garbage to the residents of the Municipal Area.

Advocacy

To allow Council the opportunity to continually raise the profile of the Circular Head Council and the district at State and National levels, including representation in local government regional, state and federal bodies.

Social and community

The delivery of development services to the community including the provision of health, building, planning, immunisations and animal control.

Community development

To encourage participation in the events and activities of the Circular Head area, the Council acts as a facilitator to help local community organisations gain access to other funding opportunities.

Parks and reserves

The provision of recreational facilities including sports grounds, parks and reserves throughout the community.

Other - not attributable

General Services and activities not identifiable with the foregoing functions.

	2026	2025
	$	$

Note 2 Revenue

Note 2.1 Rates and charges

Council recognises revenue from rates and annual charges for the amount it is expected to be entitled to at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate, or when the charge has been applied. Rates and charges in advance are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period to which they relate.

Council uses the Valuer General's assessed annual value as the basis of valuation of all properties within the municipality. The assessed annual value of a property is its estimated rental for the year.
The valuation base used to calculate general rates for 2025/26 was $176,281,864 (2024/25 $169,374,371). The 2025/26 rate in the dollar was 5.795261 cents (2024/25, 5.530637 cents).

General rate	10,021,145	9,469,814
Stormwater rates	537,241	532,388
Fire Levy	489,090	464,173
Waste collection rates	1,772,898	1,592,912
Rate penalties	25,514	23,964
Total rates and charges	**12,845,888**	**12,083,251**

The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipality was in 2018/19, and the valuation was first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2019. Council is due for fresh revaluations on 1 July 2026.

Accounting policy
Council recognises revenue from rates and annual charges for the amount it is expected to be entitled to at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate, or when the charge has been applied. Rates and charges in advance are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period to which they relate.

Note 2.2 Statutory fees and fines

Infringements and costs	-	1,273
Development Application fees	196,652	116,261
Land information certificates	91,986	76,451
Other fees and fines	259,616	201,487
Total statutory fees and fines	**548,254**	**395,472**

Accounting policy
Fees and fines are recognised when or as the performance obligation is completed, or when the taxable event has been applied and Council has an unconditional right to receive payment.

Note 2.3 User fees

Solid waste charges - Port Latta	795,604	985,280
Heavy vehicle tax	507,856	298,632
Sales - private works	-	14,440
Sales - other	313,881	202,470
Dog registration fees	35,998	43,079
Other fees and charges	211,034	233,068
Total user fees	**1,864,373**	**1,776,969**

User fees by timing of revenue recognition

User fees recognised over time	-	-
User fees recognised at a point in time	1,864,373	1,776,969
Total user fees	**1,864,373**	**1,776,969**

Accounting policy
Council recognises revenue from user fees and charges at a point in time or over time as the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided.

Where an upfront fee is charged such as membership fees for the leisure centre, the fee is recognised on a straight-line basis over the expected life of the membership. Council's only memberships are for the SWIRL aquatic centre. Payment options available include weekly, fortnightly and monthly direct debits.

		2026	2025
		$	$
Note 2.4	**Grants**		
	Grants were received in respect of the following:		
	Summary of grants		
	Federally funded grants	7,124,729	5,916,622
	State funded grants	427,436	823,590
	Others	15,000	5,000
	Total	**7,567,165**	**6,745,212**
	Grants - Recurrent		
	Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance Grants - General Purpose (Untied)	1,973,948	1,071,996
	Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance Grants - Roads (Untied)	3,926,663	1,903,932
	New pump track design - Department of Premier and Cabinet	-	35,000
	Australia Day - Department of Premier and Cabinet	295	271
	Events Tasmania Marketing Grant Program. Art and Culture	5,000	-
	Youth Arts - Department of State Growth	-	10,807
	International Women's Day - Department of Premier and Cabinet	1,070	1,200
	Rural and remote worker grant - Youth Network of Tasmania	-	400
	Tasmanian National Science Week Grant	5,000	-
	26TEN community program - Department of Education, Children and Young People	106,147	119,634
	Department of Infrastructure,Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts - National Road Safety Week Grant	-	1,066
	National Australia Day Council Limited - Australia Day	15,000	10,000
	Get active small grants program	2,253	-
	Quick wins grant, drought resilience	16,795	-
	Isolated Communities Resilience Grant Stream 2	13,783	-
	Neighbours everyday - Department of Health	-	1,500
	Department of Health - Access to Health Services Project	83,373	70,737
	Smithton CBD revitalisation planning - Department of Premier and Cabinet	17,025	232,975
	Good Place Program - Foundation for Regional and Rural Renewal	15,000	5,000
	Department of State Growth - Ready for Business Grant - Church St Stanley Temporary Activation	-	-
	Total recurrent grants	**6,181,352**	**3,464,518**
	Capital grants received specifically for new or upgraded assets		
	Roads to Recovery	1,209,118	754,688
	Safer Rural Roads Program	139,000	-
	Department of State Growth - East Esplanade Dump Point	37,695	-
	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications		
	(Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Round 1)	-	238,906
	(Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Round 2)	-	373,919
	(Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Round 3)	-	803,241
	(Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program Round 4)	-	759,940
	Smithton Recreation Ground road infrastructure upgrades - Department of Premier and Cabinet	-	350,000
	Total capital grants	**1,385,813**	**3,280,694**
	Timing of revenue recognition		
	Grants recognised over time	-	-
	Grants recognised at a point in time	7,567,165	6,745,212
	Total Grants	**7,567,165**	**6,745,212**

	2026	2025
	$	$

Note 2.4 Grants (Continued)

Unspent grants and contributions

Grants and contributions which were obtained on the condition that they be spent for specified purposes or in a future period, but which are not yet spent in accordance with those conditions, are as follows:

Operating		
Balance of unspent funds at 1 July	**285,469**	**180,032**
Add: Funds recognised as revenue in the reporting year but not yet spent in accordance with the conditions	6,181,352	285,469
Less: Funds received in prior year but revenue recognised and funds spent in current year	(1,161,975)	(180,032)
Balance of unspent funds at 30 June	**5,304,846**	**285,469**
Capital		
Balance of unspent funds at 1 July	**100,000**	**-**
Add: Funds recognised as revenue in the reporting year but not yet spent in accordance with the conditions	48,000	100,000
Less: Funds received in prior year but revenue recognised and funds spent in current year	-	-
Balance of unspent funds at 30 June	**148,000**	**100,000**
Total unspent funds recognised as a liability	**5,452,846**	**385,469**

Accounting policy

Council recognises untied grant revenue and those without performance obligations when received. In cases where there is an enforceable agreement which contains sufficiently specific performance obligations, revenue is recognised as or when control of each performance obligations is satisfied (i.e. when it transfers control of a product or provides a service). A contract liability is recognised for unspent funds received in advance and then recognised as income as obligations are fulfilled.

Each performance obligation is considered to ensure that the revenue recognition reflects the transfer of control. Within grant agreements there may be some performance obligations where control transfers at a point in time and others which have a continuous transfer of control over the life of the contract. Where control is transferred over time, generally the input methods being either costs or time incurred are deemed to be the most appropriate methods to reflect the transfer of benefit.

If the transaction is a transfer of a financial asset to enable Council to acquire or construct a recognisable non-financial asset to be controlled by Council (i.e. an in-substance acquisition of a non-financial asset), a contract liability is recognised for the excess of the fair value of the transfer over any related amounts recognised and revenue as the unspent funds are expended at the point in time at which required performance obligations are completed.

For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred, since this is deemed to be the most appropriate measure of the completeness of the construction project as there is no profit margin. For the acquisitions of assets, revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the Council.

In both years the Commonwealth has made early payment of quarterly instalments of untied Financial Assistance Grants for the following year. In 2024/25, 50% of grants were received in advance. In 2025/26, 80% was received in advance. The early receipt of instalments resulted in Commonwealth Government Financial Assistance Grants being below that originally allocated in 2025/26 by $1,410,033 (2023/24, $1,499,875). This has impacted the Statement of Comprehensive Income resulting in the Surplus/(deficit) being higher by the same amount.

Note 2.5 Interest

Interest on cash and cash equivalents	804,850	871,484
Total Interest	**804,850**	**871,484**

Accounting policy

Interest income

Interest is recognised progressively as it is earned.

Note 2.6 Other income

Road maintenance contribution	36,341	54,370
Workers compensation reimbursement	61,690	88,856
Other Revenue	249,472	243,794
Resource Sharing	57,997	109,763
Total other income	**405,500**	**496,783**

Other income

Other income recognised at a point in time	405,500	496,783
Total other income	**405,500**	**496,783**

		2026	2025
		$	$
Note 2.7	**Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment.**		
	Proceeds of sale	497,829	42,255
	Write down value of assets disposed	(1,752,472)	(4,907,645)
	Total	**(1,254,643)**	**(4,865,390)**

Accounting policy

Gains and losses on asset disposals

The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer.

Note 2.8	**Investment revenue from water corporation**		
	Dividend revenue received	410,800	379,200
	Total investment revenue from water corporation	**410,800**	**379,200**

Accounting policy

Investment revenue

Dividend revenue is recognised when Council's right to receive payment is established and it can be reliably measured.

Note 2.9	**Recognition/(derecognition) of non-monetary assets**		
	Land under roads	77,051	-
	Transport Infrastructure	468,268	-
	Stormwater	740,040	-
	Total contributions - non-monetary assets	**1,285,359**	**-**

Accounting policy

Contributions - non-monetary assets

Council recognises contributions without performance obligations when received. In cases where the contributions is for a specific purpose to acquire or construct a recognisable non-financial asset, a liability is recognised for funds received in advance and income recognised as obligations are fulfilled.

Note 3.1	**Employee benefits**		
	Wages and salaries	5,054,945	4,432,645
	Leave expenses	1,127,178	1,110,304
	Superannuation	730,015	667,341
	Payroll tax	279,748	293,894
	Resource sharing	502,066	475,670
	Other employee expenses	306,955	366,873
		8,000,907	7,346,727
	Less amounts capitalised	(495,247)	(453,430)
	Total employee benefits	**7,505,660**	**6,893,297**

Accounting policy

Employee benefits

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in asset or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

Employee benefits include, where applicable, entitlements to wages and salaries, annual leave, sick leave, long service leave, superannuation and any other post-employment benefits.

		2026	2025
		$	$
Note 3.2	**Materials and contracts**		
	Contractors	2,997,334	2,823,815
	Fuel	275,710	233,511
	Maintenance	275,708	355,238
	Materials	436,759	474,402
	Software and licences	208,531	344,865
	Operational costs of capital works	113,554	24,299
	Other materials and contracts	85,044	5,145
	Total materials and contracts	**4,392,640**	**4,261,275**

Accounting policy

Materials and services expense

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in asset or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

Routine maintenance, repair costs, and minor renewal costs are expensed as incurred. Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold the cost is capitalised and depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is expensed.

Note 3.3	**Depreciation and amortisation**		
	Property		
	Buildings	733,986	807,270
	Plant and Equipment		
	Plant and equipment	778,119	771,010
	Furniture	4,807	5,395
	Computers	104,323	87,872
	Infrastructure		
	Transport infrastructure	3,948,489	3,907,585
	Bridges	609,610	518,359
	Stormwater and drainage	289,121	279,908
	Parks and reserves	353,468	342,674
	Solid waste	258,481	665,779
	Intangible assets		
	Municipal property valuation	-	33,457
	Digital transformation strategy	21,349	21,349
	Right-of-use of assets		
	Right-of-use of assets	3,997	3,997
	Total depreciation and amortisation	**7,105,750**	**7,444,655**

	2026	2025
	$	$

Accounting policy

Depreciation and amortisation expense

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in asset or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

Land improvements, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment and other assets having limited useful lives are systematically depreciated over their useful lives to Council in a manner which reflects consumption of the service potential embodied in those assets. Right-of-use assets are amortised over the lease term. Estimates of remaining useful lives and residual values are made on a regular basis with major asset classes reassessed annually. Depreciation and amortisation rates and methods are reviewed annually.

Where assets have separate identifiable components that are subject to regular replacement, these components are assigned distinct useful lives and remaining values and a separate depreciation rate is determined for each component.

Land, heritage, artwork and road earthwork assets are not depreciated on the basis that they are assessed as not having a limited useful life.

Straight line depreciation is charged based on the residual useful life as determined each year.

Major depreciation and amortisation periods used are listed below and are consistent with the prior year unless stated:

	Period
Property	
Buildings	30-100 years
Plant and equipment	
Plant and equipment	3-17 years
Furniture	3-25 years
Computers	3-15 years
Infrastructure	
Transport infrastructure	8-250 years
Bridges	80-100 years
Stormwater and drainage	50-100 years
Parks and reserves	10-80 years
Solid waste	5-25 years
Right-of-use of assets	
Right-of-use of assets	2-40 years

Note 3.4 Finance costs

Unwinding of rehabilitation liability	411,000	-
Interest - lease liabilities	2,224	2,585
Total finance costs	**413,224**	**2,585**

Accounting policy

Finance expense

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in asset or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

Finance costs are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred, except where they are capitalised as part of a qualifying asset constructed by Council. Where specific borrowings are obtained for the purpose of specific asset acquisition, the weighted average interest rate applicable to borrowings at balance date, excluding borrowings associated with superannuation, is used to determine the borrowing costs to be capitalised. No borrowing costs were capitalised during the period, ($0).

Finance costs include interest on leases, and the unwinding of Council's rehabilitation liability for the Port Latta landfill site

		2026	2025
		$	$
Note 3.5	**Other expenses**		
	External auditors' remuneration	54,415	53,372
	Councillors' allowances	205,836	193,479
	Advertising	57,281	50,306
	Bank fees	31,403	30,167
	Communication costs	6,038	11,096
	Contribution, donations and grants	54,446	78,067
	Consultancy fees	428,875	669,933
	Electricity	213,005	178,433
	Fire levy	487,017	463,366
	Property rental	25,538	23,835
	Insurance	218,010	287,637
	Land tax	77,004	76,422
	Legal expenses	64,902	63,780
	Licences and permits	41,761	37,026
	Memberships	115,112	113,478
	Postage	16,008	14,428
	Rates discounts	94,741	199,476
	Water and sewerage rates	133,351	121,318
	Sampling	16,257	17,640
	Waste disposal levy - Council waste	202,465	224,995
	Supplementary valuation fees (Includes part cost of municipal revaluation)	152,300	26,350
	Telephone	28,486	29,680
	Other expenses	810,138	828,276
	Total other expenses	**3,534,389**	**3,792,560**

Accounting policy

Other expenses

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to a decrease in an asset, or an increase of a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably. The scheduled fee for auditing services for the Tasmanian Audit Office for 2025/26 is $50,900

Note 4 Current Assets

Note 4.1 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash on hand	1,600	1,600
Cash at bank	896,408	8,120,039
Money market call account	20,569,047	12,963,534
Total cash and cash equivalents	**21,467,055**	**21,085,173**

Council's cash and cash equivalents are made up of at call funds as well as term deposits less than 3 months in maturity.

Council's cash and cash equivalents are subject to a number of internal commitments and external restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary or future use. These include:

Internal committed funds		
i) Council special committees (note 9.2)	166,516	151,265
ii) Unspent grant funds with conditions (note 2.4)	5,452,846	385,469
iii) Landfill restoration (note 7.2)	10,931,216	10,970,000
iv) Employee provisions (note 7.2)	1,395,345	1,349,279
Committed funds	**17,945,923**	**12,856,013**
Total uncommitted cash and cash equivalents	**3,521,132**	**8,229,160**

Accounting policy

Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Restricted funds

i) Includes funds set aside for the operation of Council's special committees.

ii) Represents grant funding received in advance until specific performance obligations required under funding arrangements are completed.

iii) Monies set aside for the rehabilitation of the Port Latta landfill site.

		2026	2025
		$	$
Note 4.2	**Trade and other receivables**		
	Current		
	Rates debtors	262,793	260,932
	Sundry debtors	602,853	210,982
	Other debtors	31,236	33,490
	Total trade and other receivables	**896,882**	**505,404**

Accounting policy

Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables that do not contain a significant financing component are measured at amortised cost, which represents their transaction value. Impairment is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis. When determining whether the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, and when estimating the ECL, Council considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on Council's historical experience, an informed credit assessment and forward-looking information. Council has established a provision matrix to facilitate the impairment assessment.
For rate debtors, Council takes the view that unpaid rates represent a charge against the rateable property that will be recovered when the property is next sold. For non-rate debtors, Council uses the presumptions that assets more than 30 days past due have a significant increase in credit risk and those more than 90 days will likely be in default. Council writes off receivables when there is information indicating that the debtor is in severe financial difficulty and there is no realistic prospect of recovery.

Note 4.3	**Inventories**		
	Gravel	-	70,478
	Total inventories	**-**	**70,478**

Accounting policy

Inventories

Inventories held for distribution are measured at cost adjusted when applicable for any loss of service potential. Other inventories are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Where inventories are acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, the cost shall be the current replacement cost as at the date of acquisition. No independent survey was conducted this year due to no gravel stock being on hand.

Note 4.4	**Other assets**		
	Current		
	Prepayments	205,922	160,336
	Revenue Accrual	107,578	37,553
	Total other assets	**313,500**	**197,889**

Accounting policy

Other assets

Expenses are recorded in the year they relate to. Prepayments generally include insurance, licences and permits. The revenue accrual relates to interest not received up until 30 June on bank accounts and short term deposits.

Note **4.5**	**Investments**		
	Term deposits - more than 3 months	8,000,000	-
	Total	**8,000,000**	**-**

		2026	2025
		$	$
Note 5.1	**Investment in water corporation**		
	Opening balance	27,382,519	26,858,401
	Fair value adjustments on equity investment assets	885,640	524,118
	Total investment in water corporation	**28,268,159**	**27,382,519**

Council has derived returns from the water corporation as disclosed at note 2.8.

Accounting policy

Equity Investment

As Council's investment in TasWater is held for long-term strategic purposes, Council has elected under AASB 9: *Financial Instruments* to irrevocably classify this equity investment as designated at fair value through other comprehensive income. Subsequent changes in fair value on designated investments in equity instruments are recognised in other comprehensive income (for fair value reserve, refer note 8.1) and not reclassified through the profit or loss when derecognised. Dividends associated with the equity investments are recognised in profit and loss when the right of payment has been established and it can be reliably measured.

Fair value was determined by using Council's ownership interest against the water corporation's net asset value at balance date. Council holds 1.42% ownership interest in TasWater which is based on Schedule 2 of the Corporation's Constitution.

Note 6 Non-current assets

Note 6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

	2026	2025
	$	$
Summary		
at cost	41,224,343	42,987,253
Less accumulated depreciation	(26,921,560)	(25,660,748)
	14,302,783	**17,326,505**
at fair value as at 30 June	381,884,594	360,238,107
Less accumulated depreciation	(108,459,822)	(101,432,887)
	273,424,772	**258,805,220**
Total	**287,727,555**	**276,131,725**
Property		
Land		
at fair value as at 30 June	15,853,500	12,175,326
	15,853,500	**12,175,326**
Land under roads		
at fair value as at 30 June	43,821,323	43,744,272
	43,821,323	**43,744,272**
Total Land	**59,674,823**	**55,919,598**
Buildings		
at fair value as at 30 June	48,545,890	49,010,236
Less accumulated depreciation	(18,629,339)	(18,169,535)
	29,916,551	**30,840,701**
Total Buildings	**29,916,551**	**30,840,701**
Total Property	**89,591,374**	**86,760,299**
Plant and Equipment		
Plant and equipment		
at cost	11,443,951	11,475,468
Less accumulated depreciation	(6,345,869)	(5,806,136)
	5,098,082	**5,669,332**
Furniture		
at cost	164,814	164,814
Less accumulated depreciation	(132,091)	(127,284)
	32,723	**37,530**
Computers		
at cost	1,620,170	1,620,170
Less accumulated depreciation	(1,469,936)	(1,365,613)
	150,234	**254,557**
Total Plant and Equipment	**5,281,039**	**5,961,419**
Infrastructure		
Transport infrastructure		
at fair value as at 30 June	205,036,577	194,996,107
Less accumulated depreciation	(57,656,524)	(55,253,294)
	147,380,053	**139,742,813**
Bridges		
at fair value as at 30 June	45,061,002	37,904,198
Less accumulated depreciation	(20,295,651)	(16,420,871)
	24,765,351	**21,483,327**
Stormwater and drainage		
at fair value as at 30 June	23,566,302	22,407,968
Less accumulated depreciation	(11,878,308)	(11,589,187)
	11,687,994	**10,818,781**

	Parks and reserves		
	at cost	9,520,483	9,418,137
	Less accumulated depreciation	(4,644,002)	(4,290,534)
		4,876,481	**5,127,603**

Note 6.1	**Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (Continued)**	**2026**	**2025**
		$	**$**
	Solid Waste		
	at cost	14,954,488	15,018,447
	Less accumulated depreciation	(14,329,662)	(14,071,181)
		624,826	**947,266**
	Total Infrastructure	**189,334,705**	**178,119,790**
	Works in progress		
	Buildings	98,458	174,525
	Transport infrastructure	2,614,811	4,456,884
	Bridges	66,715	17,032
	Plant and equipment	849	-
	Solid waste	284,518	471,390
	Parks and reserves	127,547	66,455
	Computers	188,131	4,770
	Stormwater and drainage	139,408	99,161
	Total Works in progress	**3,520,437**	**5,290,217**
	Total property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	**287,727,555**	**276,131,725**

Note 6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (Continued)

Reconciliation of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

2026	Balance at beginning of financial year	Acquisition of assets	Revaluation increments (decrements) (note 8.1)	Depreciation and amortisation (note 3.3)	Written down value of disposals	Recognition/derecognition of non-monetary assets	Transfers	Balance at end of financial year
	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
Property								
Land	12,175,326	-	4,218,795	-	(540,621)	-	-	15,853,500
Land under roads	43,744,272	-	-	-	-	77,051	-	43,821,323
Total land	55,919,598	-	4,218,795	-	(540,621)	77,051	-	59,674,823
Buildings	30,840,701	-	298,204	(733,986)	(801,587)	-	313,219	29,916,551
Total buildings	30,840,701	-	298,204	(733,986)	(801,587)	-	313,219	29,916,551
Total property	86,760,299	-	4,516,999	(733,986)	(1,342,208)	77,051	313,219	89,591,374
Plant and equipment								
Plant and equipment	5,669,332	-	-	(778,119)	(133,826)	-	340,695	5,098,082
Furniture	37,530	-	-	(4,807)	-	-	-	32,723
Computers	254,557	-	-	(104,323)	-	-	-	150,234
Total plant and equipment	5,961,419	-	-	(887,249)	(133,826)	-	340,695	5,281,039
Infrastructure								
Transport infrastructure	139,742,813	-	4,565,784	(3,948,489)	(102,464)	468,268	6,654,140	147,380,052
Bridges	21,483,327	-	3,880,539	(609,610)	(88,112)	-	99,212	24,765,356
Stormwater and drainage	10,818,781	-	386,061	(289,121)	(3,163)	740,040	35,396	11,687,994
Parks and reserves	5,127,603	-	-	(353,468)	-	-	102,347	4,876,482
Solid waste	947,266	-	-	(258,481)	(82,699)	-	18,740	624,826
Total infrastructure	178,119,790	-	8,832,384	(5,459,169)	(276,438)	1,208,308	6,909,835	189,334,710
Works in progress								
Buildings	174,525	237,152	-	-	-	-	(313,219)	98,458
Transport infrastructure	4,456,884	4,812,067	-	-	-	-	(6,654,140)	2,614,811
Bridges	17,032	148,895	-	-	-	-	(99,212)	66,715
Solid waste	471,390	281,653	-	-	-	-	(468,525)	284,518
Parks and reserves	66,455	163,439	-	-	-	-	(102,347)	127,547
Plant and equipment	-	341,544	-	-	-	-	(340,695)	849
Computers	4,770	183,361	-	-	-	-	-	188,131
Stormwater and drainage	99,161	75,643	-	-	-	-	(35,396)	139,408
Total works in progress	5,290,217	6,243,754	-	-	-	-	(8,013,534)	3,520,437
Total property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	**276,131,725**	**6,243,754**	**13,349,383**	**(7,080,404)**	**(1,752,472)**	**1,285,359**	**(449,785)**	**287,727,560**

** $449,785 for solid waste assets transferred to Port Latta landfill provision (capping costs of old cells)

Note 6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (Continued)

Reconciliation of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (Continued)

2025	Balance at beginning of financial year	Acquisition of assets	Revaluation increments (decrements) (note 8.1)	Depreciation and amortisation (note 3.3)	Written down value of disposals	Recognition/derecognition of non-monetary assets	Transfers	Balance at end of financial year
	$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
Property								
Land	12,175,326	-	-	-	-	-	-	12,175,326
Land under roads	7,909,101	-	35,835,171	-	-	-	-	43,744,272
Total land	20,084,427	-	35,835,171	-	-	-	-	55,919,598
Buildings	30,191,518	0	1,306,307	(807,270)	-	-	150,146	30,840,701
Total buildings	30,191,518	0	1,306,307	(807,270)	-	-	150,146	30,840,701
Total property	50,275,945	0	37,141,478	(807,270)	-	-	150,146	86,760,299
Plant and equipment								
Plant and equipment	6,185,284	255,058	-	(771,010)	-	-	-	5,669,332
Furniture	42,925	-	-	(5,395)	-	-	-	37,530
Computers	205,160	137,269	-	(87,872)	-	-	-	254,557
Total plant and equipment	6,433,369	392,327	-	(864,277)	-	-	-	5,961,419
Infrastructure								-
Transport infrastructure	141,133,280	-	384,498	(3,907,585)	(329,097)	-	2,461,717	139,742,813
Bridges	22,001,686	-	-	(518,359)	-	-	-	21,483,327
Stormwater and drainage	11,136,181	-	-	(279,908)	(5,055)	-	(32,437)	10,818,781
Parks and reserves	5,228,836	-	-	(342,674)	-	-	241,441	5,127,603
Solid waste management	1,372,334	-	-	(665,779)	(4,573,493)	-	4,814,204	947,266
Total infrastructure	180,872,317	-	384,498	(5,714,305)	(4,907,645)	-	7,484,925	178,119,790
Works in progress								
Buildings	141,827	182,844	-	-	-	-	(150,146)	174,525
Transport infrastructure	503,101	6,300,268	-	-	-	-	(2,346,485)	4,456,884
Bridges	99,827	-	-	-	-	-	(82,795)	17,032
Solid waste management	433,617	4,851,977	-	-	-	-	(4,814,204)	471,390
Parks and reserves	61,145	246,751	-	-	-	-	(241,441)	66,455
Computers	4,770	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,770
Land	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stormwater and drainage	27,081	72,080	-	-	-	-	-	99,161
Total works in progress	1,271,368	11,653,920	-	-	-	-	(7,635,071)	5,290,217
Total property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	**238,852,999**	**12,046,247**	**37,525,976**	**(7,385,852)**	**(4,907,645)**	**-**	**-**	**276,131,725**

Note 6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (Continued)

Accounting policy

Recognition and measurement of assets

Acquisitions of assets are initially recorded at cost. Cost is determined as the fair value of the assets given as consideration plus costs incidental to the acquisition.

Property, plant and equipment and infrastructure received in the form of contributions, are recognised as assets and revenues at fair value by Council valuation where that value exceeds the recognition thresholds for the respective asset class. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell the asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Where assets are constructed by Council, cost includes all materials used in construction, direct labour and borrowing costs incurred during construction.

The following classes of assets have been recognised. In accordance with Council's policy, the threshold limits detailed below have applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year:

	Threshold $
Buildings	$5,000
Plant and equipment	$1,000
Furniture	$1,000
Computers	$1,000
Transport infrastructure	$5,000
Bridges	$5,000
Stormwater and drainage	$3,000
Parks and reserves	$1,000
Solid waste	$3,000

Note 6.1 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment (Continued)

Accounting policy (Cont.)

Revaluation

Council has adopted the following valuation bases for its non-current assets:

Land	Fair Value
Land under roads	Fair Value
Plant and equipment	Cost
Furniture	Cost
Stormwater and drainage	Fair Value
Transport infrastructure	Fair Value
Bridges	Fair Value
Buildings	Fair Value
Parks and reserves	Cost
Solid waste	Cost

Subsequent to the initial recognition of assets, non-current physical assets, other than plant and equipment, furniture, solid waste, parks, reserves and recreation facilities all other classes are measured at their fair value in accordance with AASB 116 *Property, Plant & Equipment* and AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* . At balance date, Council reviewed the carrying value of the individual classes of assets measured at fair value to ensure that each asset class materially approximated its fair value. Where the carrying value materially differed from the fair value at balance date the class of asset was revalued.

In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis to ensure valuations represent fair value. The valuation is performed either by experienced Council officers or independent experts.

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use on an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset.

Where the assets are revalued, the revaluation increments are credited directly to the asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that an increment reverses a prior year decrement for that class of asset that had been recognised as an expense in which case the increment is recognised as revenue up to the amount of the expense. Revaluation decrements are recognised as an expense except where prior increments are included in the asset revaluation surplus for that class of asset in which case the decrement is taken to the reserve to the extent of the remaining increments. Within the same class of assets, revaluation increments and decrements within the year are offset.

Impairment of assets

Impairment losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income under other expenses.

Reversals of impairment losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income under other revenue.

Note 6.2 Right of use assets

	Property	Total
2026	**$**	**$**
Opening Balance at 1 July 2025	55,958	55,958
Revaluation of lease liability	-	-
Depreciation expense	(3,997)	(3,997)
Balance at 30 June 2026	**51,961**	**51,961**
2025		
Opening Balance at 1 July 2024	71,257	71,257
Revaluation of lease liability	(11,302)	(11,302)
Depreciation expense	(3,997)	(3,997)
Balance at 30 June 2025	**55,958**	**55,958**

Accounting policy

Leases - Council as Lessee

In contracts where Council is a lessee, Council recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the commencement date of the lease, unless the short-term or low-value exemption is applied. Refer to note 7.3 for details on accounting policy of lease liability.

A right of use asset is initially measured at cost comprising the initial measurement of the lease liability adjusted for any lease payments made before the commencement date (reduced by lease incentives received), plus initial direct costs incurred in obtaining the lease and an estimate of costs to be incurred in dismantling and removing the underlying asset, restoring the site on which it is located or restoring the underlying asset to the condition required by the terms and conditions of the lease.

All right of use assets are measured as described in the accounting policy for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment in note 6.1. Also, Council applies AASB 136 to determine whether a right-of-use asset is impaired and accounts for any identified impairment loss as described in the aforesaid note.

Right of use assets are depreciated over the shorter period of lease term and useful life of the underlying asset. If a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset or the cost of the right of use asset reflects that the group expects to exercise a purchase option, the related right-of-use asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset. The depreciation starts at the commencement date of the lease.

Note 6.3 Intangible assets

	2026	2025
	$	**$**
Digital transformation strategy	42,698	64,047
Total	**42,698**	**64,047**

Accounting policy

Intangible assets

Council developed a Digital transformation strategy during 2022/23. The strategy is amortised over the benefit period which will be 5 years.

Note 7 Current liabilities

Note 7.1 Trade and other payables

Trade payables	1,385,717	1,065,849
Rates and charges in advance	475,099	472,550
Net GST payable	124,893	121,007
Accrued expenses	258,471	143,905
Total trade and other payables	**2,244,180**	**1,803,311**

Accounting policy

Trade and other payables

Liabilities are recognised for amounts to be paid in the future for goods and services provided to Council as at balance date whether or not invoices have been received. General creditors are unsecured, not subject to interest charges and are normally settled within 30 days of invoice receipt.

Rates and charges in advance represents amounts received by Council prior to the commencement of the rating or charging period. Revenue is recognised by Council at the beginning of the rating or charge period to which the advance payment relates.

For ageing analysis of trade and other payables, refer to note 8.7

Note 7.2 Provisions

2026	Land fill Restoration	Annual leave	Long service leave	RDO's and banked hours	Total
	$	**$**	**$**	**$**	**$**
Balance at beginning of the financial year	10,970,000	550,924	718,452	79,903	12,319,279
Net amount used/accrued	(38,784)	84,242	(66,778)	28,602	7,282
Balance at the end of the financial year	**10,931,216**	**635,166**	**651,674**	**108,505**	**12,326,561**
Current	4,156,478	635,166	517,306	108,505	5,417,455
Non-current	6,774,738	-	134,368	-	6,909,106
Total	**10,931,216**	**635,166**	**651,674**	**108,505**	**12,326,561**
Expected to be settled within 12 months	*4,156,478*	*363,910*	*85,793*	*108,505*	4,714,686
Expected to be settled in more than 12 months	*6,774,738*	*271,256*	*565,881*	-	7,611,875
	10,931,216	**635,166**	**651,674**	**108,505**	**12,326,561**

2025	Land fill Restoration	Annual leave	Long service leave	RDO's and banked hours	Total
	$	**$**	**$**	**$**	**$**
Balance at beginning of the financial year	6,155,796	556,753	731,552	72,213	7,516,314
Net amount used/accrued	4,814,204	(5,829)	(13,100)	7,690	4,802,965
Balance at the end of the financial year	**10,970,000**	**550,924**	**718,452**	**79,903**	**12,319,279**
Current	-	550,924	539,359	79,903	1,170,186
Non-current	10,970,000	-	179,093	-	11,149,093
Total	**10,970,000**	**550,924**	**718,452**	**79,903**	**12,319,279**

Note 7.2 Provisions (Continued)

(a) Employee benefits	**2026**	**2025**
	$	**$**
The following assumptions were adopted in measuring the present value of employee benefits:		
Weighted average increase in employee costs	4.00%	4.00%
Weighted average discount rates	4.50%	3.64%
Weighted average settlement period (days)	12	12

Employee Numbers (FTE)	65

Accounting policy

Employee benefits

i) Short term obligations

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulating sick leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the end of the reporting period and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. The liability for annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short-term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

ii) Other long term employee benefit obligations

The liability for long service leave and annual leave which is not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees render the related service is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the end of the reporting period using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

The obligations are presented as current liabilities in the statement of financial position if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

iii) Sick leave

No accrual is made for sick leave as Council experience indicates that, on average, sick leave taken in each reporting period is less than the entitlement accruing in that period, and this experience is expected to recur in future reporting periods. Council does not make payment for untaken sick leave.

iv) Defined benefit plans

A liability or asset in respect of defined benefit superannuation plans would ordinarily be recognised in the statement of financial position, and measured as the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the reporting date plus unrecognised actuarial gains (less unrecognised actuarial losses) less the fair value of the superannuation fund's assets at that date and any unrecognised past service cost. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is based on expected future payments which arise from membership of the fund to the reporting date, calculated annually by independent actuaries using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. However, when this information is not reliably available, Council accounts for its obligations to defined benefit plans on the same basis as its obligations to defined contribution plans i.e as an expense when it becomes payable.

Council makes superannuation contributions for a number of its employees to the Care Super (the Fund). Care Super has been classified as a multi-employer sponsored plan. As the fund's assets and liabilities are pooled and are not allocated by employer, the Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers. As provided under paragraph 34 of AASB 119 *Employee Benefits* , Council does not use defined benefit accounting for these contributions.

v) Defined contribution plans

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in the future payments is available.

Land fill restoration

Estimated rehabilitation costs (cell capping and aftercare costs) were based on a third party report commissioned for this purpose. An inflation rate of 4.50% was used as the index rate and discounted by the 10 year Australian Government bond rate of 5.66% with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

		2026	2025
Note 7.3	**Lease liabilities**	**$**	**$**
	Lease liabilities	75,718	77,535
		75,718	77,535
	Current	2,709	2,734
	Non-Current	73,009	74,801

Lease liabilities are secured by the related underlying assets. Future minimum lease payments were as follows:

	Minimum lease payments due						
As at 30 June 2026	**Within 1 Year**	**1-2 Years**	**2-3 Years**	**3-4 Years**	**4-5 Years**	**After 5 Years**	**Total**
	$	**$**	**$**	**$**	**$**	**$**	**$**
Lease payments	4,933	4,925	4,916	4,906	4,896	48,433	73,009
Finance charges	(2,224)	(2,099)	(1,969)	(1,833)	(1,691)	(7,724)	(17,540)
Net present value	2,709	2,826	2,947	3,073	3,205	40,709	55,469
As at 30 June 2025							
Lease payments	5,319	12,700	12,215	11,958	11,687	45,127	99,006
Finance charges	(2,585)	(2,333)	(2,203)	(2,069)	(1,929)	(10,352)	(21,471)
Net present value	2,734	10,367	10,012	9,889	9,758	34,775	77,535

Accounting policy
Leases - Council as Lessee
The lease liability is measured at the present value of outstanding payments that are not paid at balance date, discounted by using the rate implicit in the lease. Where this cannot be readily determined then Council's incremental borrowing rate for a similar term with similar security is used.

The lease liability is subsequently measured by increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liability (using the effective interest method) and by reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made.

Short-term leases and leases of low-value assets
Council has elected not to recognise right of use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases i.e. leases with a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets i.e., when the value of the leased asset when new is $10,000 or less. Council recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Exposure from variable lease payments
Council has fixed lease payments on all leases.

Note 7.4	**Contract Liabilities**		
	Current		
	Funds received in advance for tied grants	5,452,846	385,469
		5,452,846	**385,469**

Accounting policy
Council recognised the following contractual liabilities:

i) Grant funds received in advance includes the Smithton Health Hub, funding for Libraries Tasmania 26TEN community grant, and a Department of Health Access to Health grant. The funding also consists of a capital grant for the upgrade of the scoreboard at the Smithton Recreation ground and various other small grants.The funds received are under an enforceable contract. The revenue is recognised as Council expends the funds and the contract liability reflects the funding received which cannot yet be recognised as revenue. Revenue is expected to be recognised in the next 12 months.

iii) Upfront payments of funds from contracts with customers are recognised as a contract liability until performance obligations are satisfied. Revenue is recognised as performance obligations are progressively fulfilled.

Revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the period

Funds received prior to performance obligation being satisfied (upfront payments) – AASB 15	5,452,846	385,469
	5,452,846	**385,469**

Note 8 Other financial information

Note 8.1 Reserves

	Balance at beginning of reporting year	Increment	(Decrement)	Balance at end of reporting year
(a) Asset revaluation reserve	**$**	**$**	**$**	**$**
2026 Property				
Land	9,968,413	4,218,795	-	14,187,208
Land under roads	36,727,861	-	-	36,727,861
Buildings	17,468,896	298,204	-	17,767,100
	64,165,170	**4,516,999**	**-**	**68,682,169**
Infrastructure				
Transport infrastructure	78,443,823	4,565,785	-	83,009,608
Bridges	14,267,831	3,880,539	-	18,148,370
Stormwater and drainage	7,043,563	386,060	-	7,429,623
	99,755,217	**8,832,384**	**-**	**108,587,601**
Total asset revaluation reserve	**163,920,387**	**13,349,383**	**-**	**177,269,770**
2025 Property				
Land	9,968,413	-	-	9,968,413
Land under roads	892,690	35,835,171	-	36,727,861
Buildings	16,162,589	1,306,307	-	17,468,896
	27,023,692	**37,141,478**	**-**	**64,165,170**
Infrastructure				
Transport infrastructure	78,059,330	384,493	-	78,443,823
Bridges	14,267,831	-	-	14,267,831
Drainage	7,043,563	-	-	7,043,563
	99,370,724	**384,493**	**-**	**99,755,217**
Total asset revaluation reserve	**126,394,416**	**37,525,971**	**-**	**163,920,387**

The asset revaluation reserve was established to capture the movements in asset valuations upon the periodic revaluation of Council's assets.

(b) Fair value reserve

2026 Equity Investment assets				
Investment in water corporation	5,294,894	885,640	-	6,180,534
Total fair value reserve	**5,294,894**	**885,640**	**-**	**6,180,534**
2025 Equity Investment assets				
Investment in water corporation	4,770,776	524,118		5,294,894
Total fair value reserve	**4,770,776**	**524,118**	**-**	**5,294,894**

Council has to designate its investment in Taswater as an equity investment at fair value through other comprehensive income. Subsequent changes in fair value are reflected in the reserve and will not be reclassified through the profit or loss when derecognised.

(c) Other reserves

2026 Public open space reserve	139,335	-	-	139,335
Total Other reserves	**139,335**	**-**	**-**	**139,335**
2025 Public open space reserve	139,335	-	-	139,335
Total Other reserves	**139,335**	**-**	**-**	**139,335**

The public open space reserve was created to enable Council to receive developer contributions for public open space in the Municipality in lieu of land contributions.

	2026	2025
	$	**$**
Total Reserves	**183,589,639**	**169,354,616**

		2026	2025
Note 8.2	**Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus (deficit)**	**$**	**$**
	Result from continuing operations	1,525,883	(4,511,391)
	Depreciation/amortisation	7,101,753	7,440,658
	Depreciation of right-of-use assets	3,997	3,997
	(Profit)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	1,254,643	4,865,390
	Contributions - non monetary assets	(1,285,359)	-
	Capital grants received specifically for new or upgraded assets	(1,385,813)	(3,280,694)
	Change in assets and liabilities:		
	Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables	(391,478)	103,650
	Decrease/(increase) in other assets	(115,611)	81,656
	Decrease/(increase) in inventories	70,478	7,853
	Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	436,133	(95,715)
	Increase/(decrease) in provisions	5,138,133	202,350
	Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	66,041	(10,658)
	Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	**12,418,800**	**4,807,096**

Note 8.3	**Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents**		
	Cash and cash equivalents (see note 4.1)	21,467,055	21,085,173
	Total reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents	**21,467,055**	**21,085,173**

Note 8.4	**Financing arrangements**		
	Bank overdraft	500,000	500,000
	Unused facilities	**500,000**	**500,000**

Note 8.5 Superannuation

During the year Council made the required superannuation contributions for all eligible employees to an appropriate complying superannuation fund as required by the *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992* .

As required in terms of paragraph 148 of AASB 119 *Employee Benefits* , Council discloses the following details:

- During the reporting period the amount of superannuation contributions paid to accumulation schemes was $897,135 (2024/25, $807,100).
- During the next reporting period the expected amount of superannuation contributions to be paid to accumulation schemes is $933,020.

The 2026/27 figure is an estimate, and is dependent on how many staff access the additional superannuation offer through the Enterprise Agreement.

	2026	2025
Accumulation funds		
Employer contributions	897,135	807,100
	897,135	**807,100**

Note 8.6 Commitments

Contractual commitments at end of financial year but not recognised in the financial report are as follows:

2026	Not later than 1 year	Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	Later than 5 years	Total
Contractual commitments				
Maintenance	657	-	-	657
Recreation and leisure	676,726	1,415,860	-	2,092,586
Information technology	88,750	88,750	-	177,500
Green Point Reserve	-	-	-	-
Waste transfer station management	219,599	219,599	-	439,198
Cleaning contractors (includes SWIRL aquatic facility)	134,492	268,984	-	403,476
Total contractual commitments	**1,120,224**	**1,993,193**	**-**	**3,113,417**

2025	Not later than 1 year	Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	Later than 5 years	Total
Contractual commitments				
Maintenance	389,236	178,157	-	567,393
Recreation and leisure	600,200	1,902,350	-	2,502,550
Green Point Reserve	20,730	-	-	20,730
Waste transfer station management	134,056	268,112	-	402,168
Cleaning contractors (includes SWIRL aquatic facility)	146,459	-	-	146,459
Total contractual commitments	**1,290,681**	**2,348,619**	**-**	**3,639,300**

Note 8.7 Financial instruments

Managing financial risk

Council has exposure to the following risks from its use of financial instruments:

(a) Interest rate risk
(b) Credit risk
(c) Liquidity risk; and
(d) Market risk.

The General Manager has overall responsibility for the establishment and oversight of Council's risk management framework. Risk management policies are established to identify and analyse risks faced by Council, to set appropriate risk limits and controls, and to monitor risks and adherence to limits.

(a) Interest Rate Risk

The exposure to interest rate risk and the effective interest rates of financial assets and non-lease financial liabilities, both recognised and unrecognised, at balance date are as follows. For lease liabilities refer to note 7.3.

Weighted average interest rates for cash and cash equivalents are calculated based on cash on hand, cash at bank, and term deposits less than 30 days.

2026

			Fixed interest maturing in:				
	Weighted average interest rate	Floating interest rate	1 year or less	Over 1 to 5 years	More than 5 years	Non-interest bearing	Total
		$	$	$	$	$	$
Financial assets							
Cash and cash equivalents	4.45%	21,465,455	-	-	-	1,600	21,467,055
Trade and other receivables		-	-	-	-	896,882	896,882
Investments	5.00%	8,000,000	-	-	-	-	8,000,000
Investment in water corporation		-	-	-	-	28,268,159	28,268,159
Total financial assets		29,465,455	-	-	-	29,166,641	58,632,096
Financial liabilities							
Trade and other payables		-	-	-	-	2,244,180	2,244,180
Total financial liabilities		-	-	-	-	2,244,180	2,244,180
Net financial assets (liabilities)		29,465,455	-	-	-	26,922,461	56,387,916

2025

			Fixed interest maturing in:				
	Weighted average interest rate	Floating interest rate	1 year or less	Over 1 to 5 years	More than 5 years	Non-interest bearing	Total
		$	$	$	$	$	$
Financial assets							
Cash and cash equivalents	3.93%	21,083,573	-	-	-	1,600	21,085,173
Trade and other receivables		-	-	-	-	505,404	505,404
Investment in water corporation		-	-	-	-	27,382,519	27,382,519
Total financial assets		21,083,573	-	-	-	27,889,523	48,973,096
Financial liabilities							
Trade and other payables		-	-	-	-	1,803,311	1,803,311
Total financial liabilities		-	-	-	-	1,803,311	1,803,311
Net financial assets (liabilities)		21,083,573	-	-	-	26,086,212	47,169,785

Note 8.7 Financial instruments (Continued)

(b) Fair Value

The aggregate net fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities, both recognised and unrecognised, at balance date are as follows:

Financial instruments		Total carrying amount as per Balance Sheet		Aggregate net fair value	
		2026	2025	2026	2025
	Note	$	$	$	$
Financial assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	**4.1**	21,467,055	21,085,173	21,467,055	21,085,173
Other financial assets	**4.4**	107,578	37,553	107,578	37,553
Trade and other receivables	**4.2**	896,882	505,404	896,882	505,404
Investments	**4.5**	8,000,000	-	8,000,000	-
Investment in water corporation	**5.1**	28,268,159	27,382,519	28,268,159	27,382,519
Total financial assets		58,739,674	49,010,649	58,739,674	49,010,649
Financial liabilities					
Trade and other payables	**7.1**	2,244,180	1,803,311	2,244,180	1,803,311
Total financial liabilities		2,244,180	1,803,311	2,244,180	1,803,311

(c) Credit risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk at balance date in relation to each class of recognised financial asset is represented by the carrying amount of those assets as indicated in the Statement of Financial Position.

(d) Risks and mitigation

The risks associated with our main financial instruments and our policies for minimising these risks are detailed below.

Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of our financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. Council's exposures to market risk are primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk. Components of market risk to which we are exposed are discussed below.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Interest rate risk arises from interest bearing financial assets and liabilities that we use. Non derivative interest bearing assets are predominantly short term liquid assets. Council's interest rate liability risk arises primarily from long term loans and borrowings at fixed rates which exposes Council to fair value interest rate risk.

Council's loan borrowings are sourced from major Australian banks. Finance leases are sourced from major Australian financial institutions. Overdrafts are arranged with major Australian banks.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the *Local Government Act 1993* . Council manages interest rate risk by adopting an investment policy that ensures:

- conformity with State and Federal regulations and standards,
- capital protection,
- appropriate liquidity,
- diversification by credit rating, financial institution and investment product,
- monitoring of return on investment,
- benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

Maturity will be staggered to provide for interest rate variations and to minimise interest rate risk.

Note 8.7 Financial instruments (Continued)
(d) Risks and mitigation (Continued)

Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause Council to make a financial loss. Council has exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in our Statement of Financial Position. To help manage this risk:

- we have a policy for establishing credit limits for the entities we deal with;
- we may require collateral where appropriate; and
- we only invest surplus funds with financial institutions which have a recognised credit rating specified in our Investment policy.

Credit risk arises from Council's financial assets, which comprise cash and cash equivalents, and trade and other receivables. Council's exposure to credit risk arises from potential default of the counterparty, with a maximum exposure equal to the carrying amount of these instruments. Exposure at balance date is addressed in each applicable policy note. Council generally trades with recognised, creditworthy third parties, and as such collateral is generally not requested, nor is it Council's policy to securitise its trade and other receivables.
It is Council's policy that some customers who wish to trade on credit terms are subject to credit verification procedures including an assessment of their credit rating, financial position, past experience and industry reputation.
In addition, receivable balance are monitored on an ongoing basis with the result that Council's exposure to bad debts is not significant.

Rate debtors

Rates and charges are required to be paid in full by 30 September. Ratepayers may apply to the council to pay rates and charges by instalments, subject to approved terms and conditions. Should amounts remain unpaid outside of approved payment options the Council will instigate collection proceedings.

Other debtors (including loans and advances)

Debtors are required to settle within one month from the current month. Should amounts remain unpaid outside of approved payment options the Council will instigate collection proceedings.

Credit quality of contractual financial assets that are neither past due nor impaired

	Financial Institutions (AAA credit rating)	Government agencies (BBBB credit rating)	Other (min BBB credit rating)	Total
2026				
Cash and cash equivalents	21,467,055	-	-	21,467,055
Trade and other receivables	-	-	896,882	896,882
Investments	8,000,000.00	-	-	8,000,000
Investments and other financial assets	28,375,737	-	-	28,375,737
Total contractual financial assets	**57,842,792**	**-**	**896,882**	**58,739,674**
2025				
Cash and cash equivalents	21,085,173	-	-	21,085,173
Trade and other receivables	-	-	505,404	505,404
Investments and other financial assets	27,420,072	-	-	27,420,072
Total contractual financial assets	**48,505,245**	**-**	**505,404**	**49,010,649**

Ageing of trade and other receivables

At balance date other debtors representing financial assets were past due but not impaired. These amounts relate to a number of independent customers for whom there is no recent history of default. The ageing of the Council's Trade and Other Receivables was:

	2026	2025
	$	$
Current (not yet due)	384,882	416,006
Past due by up to 30 days	165,209	9,244
Past due between 31 and 60 days	32,195	19,439
Past due between 61 and 90 days	5,354	23,391
Past due by more than 90 days	309,242	37,324
Total trade and other receivables	**896,882**	**505,404**

Note 8.7 Financial instruments (Continued)
(d) Risks and mitigation (Continued)

Impairment Losses

A provision for impairment loss is recognised when there is objective evidence that an individual receivable is impaired. No allowance for impairment in respect of trade receivables has been recognised as at 30 June 2026.

All rates receivable are in excess of 90 days. No allowance for an impairment loss is recognised against unpaid rates unless it is probable that the unpaid rates cannot be recovered when the property is next sold.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of our operational liquidity requirements:
- Council will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction on the date;
- Council will be forced to sell financial assets at a value which is less than what they are worth; or
- Council may be unable to settle or recover a financial assets at all.

To help reduce these risks we:
- have readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- have a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various bands of liquid instruments;
- monitor budget to actual performance on a regular basis; and
- set limits on borrowings relating to the percentage of loans to rate revenue and percentage of loan principal repayments to rate revenue.

The Council's exposure to liquidity risk is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

The table below lists the contractual maturities for non-lease financial liabilities. For lease liabilities refer to note 7.3.

These amounts represent the discounted cash flow payments (ie principal only).

2026	6 mths or less $	6-12 months $	1-2 years $	2-5 years $'000	>5 years $'000	Contracted Cash Flow $'000	Carrying Amount $'000
Trade and other payables	2,244,180	-	-	-	-	-	2,244,180
Total financial liabilities	2,244,180	-	-	-	-	-	2,244,180

2025	6 mths or less $	6-12 months $	1-2 years $	2-5 years $	>5 years $	Contracted Cash Flow $	Carrying Amount $
Trade and other payables	1,803,311	-	-	-	-	-	1,803,311
Total financial liabilities	1,803,311	-	-	-	-	-	1,803,311

Note 8.7 Financial instruments (Continued)

(e) Sensitivity disclosure analysis

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, the Council believes the following movements are 'reasonably possible' over the next 12 months (Base rates are sourced from Reserve Bank of Australia):

- A parallel shift of + 1% and -1% in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates.

The table below discloses the impact on net operating result and equity for each category of financial instruments held by Council at year-end, if the above movements were to occur.

		Interest rate risk			
		+1 %		-1%	
		100 basis points		100 basis points	
		Profit	Equity	Profit	Equity
2026	$	$	$	$	$
Financial assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	21,467,055	214,671	214,671	(214,671)	(214,671)
Investments	8,000,000	80,000	80,000	(80,000)	(80,000)

		Interest rate risk			
		+1 %		-1%	
		100 basis points		100 basis points	
		Profit	Equity	Profit	Equity
2025	$	$	$	$	$
Financial assets:					
Cash and cash equivalents	21,085,173	210,852	210,852	(210,852)	(210,852)

Note 8.8 Fair value measurements

Council measures and recognises the following assets at fair value on a recurring basis:

- Land
- Land under roads
- Buildings
- Transport infrastructure
- Bridges
- Stormwater and drainage
- Investment in water corporation

Council does not measure any liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis.

(a) Fair value hierarchy

AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* requires all assets and liabilities measured at fair value to be assigned to a level in the fair value hierarchy as

Level 1	Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the entity can access at the measurement
Level 2	Inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
Level 3	Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

The table below shows the assigned level for each asset and liability held at fair value by the Council. The table presents the Council's assets and liabilities measured and recognised at fair value at 30 June 2026.

The fair values of the assets are determined using valuation techniques which maximise the use of observable data, where it is available, and minimise the use of entity specific estimates. If one or more of the significant inputs is not based on observable market data, the asset is included in level 3. This is the case for Council infrastructure assets, which are of a specialist nature for which there is no active market for similar or identical assets. These assets are valued using a combination of observable and unobservable inputs.

As at 30 June 2026

	Note	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Recurring fair value measurements		$	$	$	$
Investment in water corporation	5.1	-	-	28,268,159	28,268,159
Land	6.1	-	15,853,500	-	15,853,500
Land under roads	6.1	-	43,821,323	-	43,821,323
Buildings	6.1	-	-	29,916,551	29,916,551
Transport infrastructure	6.1	-	-	147,380,053	147,380,053
Bridges	6.1	-	-	24,765,357	24,765,357
Stormwater and drainage	6.1	-	-	11,687,994	11,687,994
		-	59,674,823	242,018,114	301,692,937

As at 30 June 2025

	Note	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Recurring fair value measurements		$	$	$	$
Investment in water corporation	5.1	-	-	27,382,519	27,382,519
Land	6.1	-	12,175,326	-	12,175,326
Land under roads	6.1	-	43,744,272	-	43,744,272
Buildings	6.1	-	30,840,701	-	30,840,701
Transport infrastructure	6.1	-	-	139,742,813	139,742,813
Bridges	6.1	-	-	21,483,327	21,483,327
Stormwater and drainage	6.1	-	-	10,818,781	10,818,781
		-	86,760,299	199,427,440	286,187,739

There were no transfers between levels 1 and 2 during the year, nor between levels 2 and 3.

Note 8.8 Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

(b) Highest and best use

All assets valued at fair value are being used for their highest and best use.

(c) Valuation techniques and significant inputs used to derive fair values

Level 2 measurements (recurring and non-recurring) *- land and land under roads are valued using the Tasmanian Valuer General's valuation information provided to Council on a cyclical basis.*

Changes in recurring level 3 fair value measurements

The changes in level 3 assets with recurring fair value measurements are detailed in note 6. The investment in water corporation, which is classified as level 3 is separately disclosed in note 5. There have been no transfers between level 1, 2 or 3 measurements during the year.

Investment in water corporation

Fair value was determined by using Council's ownership interest against the water corporation's net asset value at balance date. Council holds 1.42% ownership interest in TasWater which is based on Schedule 2 of the corporation's constitution.

Land

Council conducted a revaluation in the 2019/20 financial year using land values determined by the Office of the Valuer General. Subsequently an indexation of land values occurred in the 2022/23 financial year utilising adjustment factors provided by the Office of the Valuer General. A revaluation of land will occur in the 2026/27 financial year utilising fresh valuations from the Valuation Department.

Land under roads

Valuation of land under roads was determined by using the land valuations supplied by the Office of the Valuer-General as at 1 July 2024. The most significant input into this valuation approach is price per square metre, derived by Valuer General from analysis of market sales of different classes of property and locality. Council has used the valuations dated 1 July 2024 to value its land under roads assets as at 30 June 2026.

Buildings

Council conducted a revaluation in the 2023/24 financial year. The Council valuation was carried out by the APV valuers and asset management, as at 30 June 2024. The most significant input into this valuation was the cost approach (current replacement cost) method due to the specialised nature of most Council owned buildings. The market (direct comparison) approach was used for the small number of residential/commercial buildings owned by Council.

Transport infrastructure

Council's transport infrastructure class comprises roads, footpaths and bridge assets.

Council categorises its road infrastructure into urban and rural roads and then further sub-categorises rural roads into rural sealed and rural unsealed roads. All roads are managed in segments. All road segments are then componentised into earthworks, pavement, and seal (where applicable). Other road asset sub-classes such as footpaths, kerbing etc are also recorded at segment level. Council assumes that environmental factors such as soil type, climate and topography are consistent across each segment. Council also assumes segments are designed and constructed to the same standard and use a consistent amount of labour and materials.

Current replacement cost (CRC) is based on the asset quantity (eg area, length etc) multiplied by a unit rate; the unit rate being an estimate of labour, plant and material inputs, service costs, and overhead allocations required to replace the modern equivalent asset. Inputs used for calculating CRC are taken from actual costs of recent capital works projects where practicable. Where this is not feasible other inputs including quotes, 1st principles job cost estimates, Rawlinsons Construction Handbook unit rates, and the ABS Producer Price Index *Number; 3101 Road and bridge construction Victoria* are used as outlined in the CHC - 2024 transport revaluation report.

Council's bridge assets are inspected and reported upon bi-annually by independent bridge asset management company AusSpan. Each bridge is assessed individually and componentised into sub-assets representing the deck and sub-structure. As part of the resulting report, AusSpan also provides updated current replacement cost estimates for all bridge assets. This valuation information is based on the material types and quantities used for construction of each bridge asset type. This AusSpan data is used by Council staff when a full revaluation of the bridges asset class occurs.

Transport infrastructure including bridges was revalued on 30 June 2024 by Council's engineer. Full detail of the valuation methodology and outcomes are documented in the CHC - 2024 transport revaluation report. Subsequent to this, bridges and transport infrastructure assets have been separated in the financial statements. Bridges Infrastructure was revalued on 30 June 2026 by Council's engineer. Full detail of the valuation methodology and outcomes are documented in the CHC - Bridge Infrastructure Revaluation Report 2025/26.

Note 8.8 Fair Value Measurements (Continued)

Stormwater and drainage

A revaluation of drainage infrastructure was undertaken by Council's engineer as at 30 June 2023.

The valuation methodology used is the cost approach, which has been applied in accordance with the LGAT publication Financial and Asset Management Practice Summaries, Practice Summary 9 - Valuation Practices. Essentially this equates to an estimation of 'fair value' by calculating the depreciated current replacement cost (the cost to construct or acquire a substitute asset of comparable utility and condition).

Some of the stormwater assets the Council maintains are made from outdated materials (such as earthenware) and/or are of non-standard sizes. In these instances, a modern equivalent asset is used as the basis for valuation.

All stormwater infrastructure assets have an assumed residual value of zero and/or cost to dispose is recovered from residual value.

A key part of the revaluation is a review of the unit replacement rates for the assets being revalued. Replacement cost methodologies vary depending on the component. Estimating costs and are generally based on first principles job costing using the following data sources:

Local material quotes, local plant and labour cost estimates (by in-house civil engineer), The 2023 Rawlinsons Australian Construction Handbook and the Australian Bureau of Statistics 6427.0 Producer Price Index.

(d) Unobservable inputs and sensitivities

Asset / liability category*	Carrying amount (at fair value)	Key unobservable inputs *	Expected range of inputs	Description of how changes in inputs will affect the fair value
Investment in water corporation	28,268,159	Refer to note 5.1 for a description of the valuation basis.		

*There were no significant inter-relationships between unobservable inputs that materially affect fair values.

(e) Changes in recurring level 3 fair value measurements

There have been no transfers between level 1, 2 or 3 measurements during the year.

	2026 $	2025 $
Balance at beginning of reporting period	27,382,519	26,858,401
Gain/loss recognised in other comprehensive income- Fair value adjustment on equity investment assets (TasWater)	885,640	524,118
Closing balance	**28,268,159**	**27,382,519**

(f) Valuation processes

Council's current policy for the valuation of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment and investment in water corporation (recurring fair value measurements) is set out in notes 5.1, and 6.1.

Note 8.9 Events occurring after balance date

There were no events occurring after balance date that had a material impact on the Financial Statements.

Notes to the Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Note 9 Other matters

Note 9.1 Related party transactions

(i) Councillor remuneration 2026

Name	Position	Period	Short term benefits		Total Compensation AASB 124	Expenses[2]	Total allowances and expenses section 72
			Allowances	Vehicles[1]			
			$	$	$	$	$
Mr G Blizzard	Mayor	Full Year	55,929	-	55,929	930	56,859
Mrs A Dawes	Deputy Mayor	Full Year	31,274	-	31,274	930	32,204
Mr J Oldaker	Councillor	Full Year	15,979	-	15,979	930	16,909
Mr A Popowski	Councillor	Full Year	15,979	-	15,979	930	16,909
Mr A Hine	Councillor	Full Year	15,979	-	15,979	930	16,909
Mr R Flowers	Councillor	Full Year	15,979	-	15,979	930	16,909
Ms S Collins	Councillor	Full Year	15,979	-	15,979	930	16,909
Mr S Pilkington	Councillor	Full Year	15,979	-	15,979	930	16,909
Mr M Dabner	Councillor	Full Year	15,979	-	15,979	930	16,909
Total			**199,056**	-	**199,056**	**8,370**	**207,426**
Councillor Remuneration 2025							
Mr G Blizzard	Mayor	Full Year	52,465	-	52,465	930	53,395
Mrs A Dawes	Deputy Mayor	Full Year	29,337	-	29,337	930	30,267
Mr J Oldaker	Councillor	Full Year	14,990	-	14,990	930	15,920
Mr A Popowski	Councillor	Full Year	14,990	-	14,990	930	15,920
Mr A Hine	Councillor	Full Year	14,990	-	14,990	930	15,920
Mr R Flowers	Councillor	Full Year	14,990	-	14,990	930	15,920
Ms S Collins	Councillor	Full Year	14,990	-	14,990	930	15,920
Mr S Pilkington	Councillor	Full Year	14,990	-	14,990	930	15,920
Mr M Dabner	Councillor	Full Year	14,990	-	14,990	930	15,920
Total			**186,732**	**-**	**186,732**	**8,370**	**195,102**

[1] Includes total cost of providing and maintaining vehicles provided for private use, including registration, insurance, fuel and other consumables, maintenance cost and parking (including notional value of parking provided at premises that are owned or leased and fringe benefits tax).

[2] Section 72(1)cb of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires the disclosure of expenses paid to Councillors.

(ii) Key management personnel remuneration 2026

Name	Position	Period	Remuneration band	Short term employee benefits				Post employment benefits		Non-monetary benefits[7]	Total
				Salary[1]	Short-term incentive payments[2]	Vehicles[3]	Other allowances and benefits[4]	Super-annuation[5]	Termination benefits[6]		
				$	$	$	$	$	$	$	$
Paul Gardner	General Manager	Commenced on 07/07/2025	$281,000 - $300,000	237,570	-	20,656	-	28,508	-	9,822	296,556
Rachel Radford	Director Corporate & Communities	Full Year	$201,001 - $220,000	161,180	-	16,677	-	25,094	-	18,325	221,276
Leighton Stewart	Manager Projects Works & Services	Full Year	$160,001 - $180,000	125,789	-	18,824	-	14,764	-	16,360	175,737
James Brewer	Director Infrastructure & Development Services	Part year (completed employment on 21/12/2025	$160,001 - $180,000	66,769	-	6,763	-	10,851	58,147	(32,601)	109,929
Michael Dunn	Manager Engineering & Projects	Full Year	$140,001 - $160,000	112,184	-	10,713	-	13,558	-	8,707	145,162
Estrella Dixon	Director Infrastructure & Development Services	Commenced on 27/01/2026	$100,001 - $120,000	71,012	7,500	6,130	-	11,379	-	7,609	103,630
Total				**774,504**	**7,500**	**79,763**	**-**	**104,154**	**58,147**	**28,222**	**1,052,290**

* Acting General Manager Andrew Wardlaw was appointed through a consultancy arrangement, which finished after General Manager Paul Gardner commenced on 7 July 2025.

Key management personnel remuneration 2025											
*Vanessa Adams	General Manager	Part year (completed employment on 7 March	$180,001 - $200,000	141,783	-	9,284	-	16,305	20,475	(37,958)	149,889
James Brewer	Manager Engineering and Projects	Full Year	$180,001 - $200,000	141,131	-	14,437	-	21,134	-	13,489	190,191
Rachel Radford	Director Organisational Performance	Full Year	$160,001 - $180,000	144,995	-	16,677	-	16,631	-	751	179,054
Leighton Stewart	Manager Projects Works and Services	Full Year	$160,001 - $180,000	122,209	-	18,824	-	13,496	-	27,280	181,809
Andrew Wardlaw	Acting General Manager	Part year (18 March 2025 until 30 June 2025)	$60,000 - $80,000	70,557	-	-	-	-	-	-	70,557
Total				**620,675**	**-**	**59,222**	**-**	**67,566**	**20,475**	**3,562**	**771,500**

Note 9.1 Related party transactions (Continued)

(ii) Key Management Personnel Remuneration (Continued)

[1] Gross Salary includes all forms of consideration paid and payable for services rendered, compensated absences during the period and salary sacrifice amounts.

[2] Short term incentive payments are non-recurrent payments which depend on achieving specified performance goals within specified timeframes.

[3] Includes total cost of providing and maintaining vehicles provided for private use, including registration, insurance, fuel and other consumables, maintenance cost and parking (including notional value of parking provided at premises that are owned or leased and fringe benefits tax).

[4] Other allowances and benefits includes all other forms of employment allowances (excludes reimbursements such as travel, accommodation or meals), payments in lieu of leave, and any other compensation paid and payable.

[5] Superannuation means the contribution to the superannuation fund of the individual.

[6] Termination benefits include all forms of benefit paid or accrued as a consequence of termination.

[7] Non-monetary benefits include annual and long service leave yearly accruals and non-monetary benefits (such as housing, subsidised goods or services etc).

(iii) Remuneration Principles

Elected Members

Elected Members payments are made monthly in accordance with Section 340A of the *Local Government Act 1993 (the Act).*

Executives

The employment terms and conditions of senior executives are contained in individual employment contracts and prescribe total remuneration, superannuation, annual and long service leave, vehicle and salary sacrifice provisions. In addition to their salaries, Council also provides non-cash benefits and contributes to post-employment superannuation plans on their behalf.

Short term incentive payments

Council paid no short-term incentive payments during the 2024/25, and a payment of $7,500 as a signing incentive for Estrella Dixon in 2025/26.

Termination benefits

James Brewer received $58,147 in termination benefits upon resignation in 2025/26 for payout of leave entitlements. In 2024/25 Vanessa Adams received $20,475 upon resignation for payout of leave entitlements.

Acting arrangements

When members of key management personnel are unable to fulfill their duties, consideration is given to appointing other members of senior staff to their position during their period of absence.

Individuals are considered members of key management personnel when acting arrangements are for more than a period of one month.
No acting arrangements were in place for longer than one month during the year.

(iv) Transactions with related parties

During the period Council key management personnel entered into transactions with related parties totalling $184,851 inc GST.
Councillor Anthony Hine (KMP) declared transactions with a relative for mechanical services totalling the above amount.

(v) Transactions with related parties that have not been disclosed

Most of the entities and people that are related parties of Council live and operate within the municipality. Therefore, on a regular basis ordinary citizen transactions occur between Council and its related parties. Some examples include:

- Payment of rates on a primary residence
- Dog registration
- Use of Council's swimming pool

Council has not included these types of transaction in its disclosure, where they are made on the same terms and conditions available to the general public.

Note 9.2 Special committees and other activities

Committee	2026			2025		
	Revenue	Expenditure	Funds held by Council	Revenue	Expenditure	Funds held by Council
	$	$	$	$	$	$
Marrawah/Redpa Special Committee	8,357	7,293	20,758	10,015	8,367	19,694
Stanley Town Hall	23,346	9,421	105,822	18,109	7,823	91,897
Smithton Recreation Ground	21,695	28,385	29,133	15,650	1,849	35,823
Stanley Recreation Ground	37,723	30,771	10,803	27,683	29,874	3,851
	91,121	75,870	166,516	71,457	47,913	151,265

Funds held by the special committees during the year were transferred into Council's bank account unless otherwise noted as "Cash held by committee". The "funds held by Council" remain under the control of special committees subject to Council's authorisation.

Note 9.3 Other significant accounting policies and pending accounting standards

(a) Taxation

Council is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax, Payroll Tax and the Goods and Services Tax.

Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(b) Impairment of non-financial assets

At each reporting date, Council reviews the carrying value of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the Statement of Other Comprehensive Income, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation reserve in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset. For non-cash generating assets of Council such as roads, drains, public buildings and the like, value in use is represented by the deprival value of the asset approximated by its written down replacement cost.

(c) Allocation between current and non-current

In the determination of whether an asset or liability is current or non-current, consideration is given to the time when each asset or liability is expected to be settled. The asset or liability is classified as current if it is expected to be settled within the next twelve months, being Council's operational cycle, or if Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

(d) Financial guarantees

Financial guarantee contracts are recognised as a liability at the time the guarantee is issued. The liability is initially measured at fair value, and if there is material increase in the likelihood that the guarantee may have to be exercised, at the higher of the amount determined in accordance with AASB 137 *Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets* and the amount initially recognised less cumulative amortisation, where appropriate. In the determination of fair value, consideration is given to factors including the probability of default by the guaranteed party and the likely loss to Council in the event of default.

(e) Contingent assets, contingent liabilities and commitments

Contingent assets and contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position, but are disclosed by way of a note and, if quantifiable, are measured at nominal value. Contingent assets and liabilities are presented inclusive of GST receivable or payable respectively.

Commitments are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value inclusive of the GST payable.

(f) Budget

The estimated revenue and expense amounts in the Statement of Other Comprehensive Income represent original budget amounts and are not audited.

(g) Adoption of new and amended accounting standards

All other Australian accounting standards and interpretations with future effective dates are either not applicable to Council's activities, or have no material impact.

(i) AASB 2022- 6 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Non-current Liabilities with Covenants*

This Standard amends AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements* to improve the information an entity provides in its financial statements about long-term liabilities with covenants where the entity's right to defer settlement of those liabilities for at least twelve months after the reporting period is subject to the entity complying with conditions specified in the loan arrangement. The amendments are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024. Council will assess any impact of the modifications to AASB 101 ahead of the 2025/26 reporting period.

(ii) AASB 2022-10 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets of Not-for-Profit Public Sector Entities.*

This Standard modifies AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* for application by not-for-profit public sector entities such as Council. It includes authoritative implementation guidance when fair valuing non-financial assets, not held primarily for their ability to generate cash inflows. This includes guidance and clarification regarding the determination of an asset's highest and best use, the development and use of internal assumptions for unobservable inputs and allows for greater use of internal judgements when applying the cost approach in the measurement and determination of fair values. Although Council is yet to fully determine the impact of this standard, the changes will be evaluated in the future assessment of all property and infrastructure assets measured at fair value. The Standard applies prospectively to annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024.

(h) Pending accounting standards

AASB 18 Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements

This standard is expected to primarily affect the presentation and disclosure of Council's financial statements, including the classification and aggregation of income and expenses and the presentation of financial performance. The Standard is not expected to have a material impact on the recognition or measurement of Council's assets, liabilities, income or expenses.

Note 9.4 Significant Business Activities

The operating capital and competitive neutrality costs of the Council's significant business activities:

	Camping and recreational vehicles		Port Latta solid waste	
	2026	2025	2026	2025
	$	$	$	$
Revenue				
User charges	-	-	774,446	975,054
Other	128,549	123,092	778,378	629,319
Total revenue	128,549	123,092	1,552,824	1,604,373
Expenditure				
Direct				
Labour and materials	18,625	37,636	150,105	225,239
Other	45,610	22,561	415,384	4,954,911
Indirect				
Engineering and administration	-	-	71,682	63,091
Total expenses	64,235	60,197	637,171	5,243,241
Notional cost of free services received				
Capital costs				
Depreciation and amortisation	48,859	46,780	290,190	701,450
Opportunity cost of capital	29,697	27,686	228,207	215,788
Total capital costs	78,556	74,466	518,397	917,238
Competitive neutrality adjustments				
Rates and land tax	-	-	868	543
	-	-	868	543
Calculated surplus/(deficit)	(14,242)	(11,571)	396,388	(4,556,649)
Tax equivalent rate	25.00%	25.00%	25.00%	25.00%
Taxation equivalent	-	-	99,097	-
Competitive neutrality costs	142,791	134,663	1,254,665	6,160,479

Accounting policy

Significant business activities
Assumptions:
- Tax equivalent 25% (based on Australian company tax rate)
- Interest rate 4.0% (Based on current interest rates received on term deposits)

Council is required to report the operating, capital and competitive neutrality costs in respect of each significant business activity undertaken by the Council. Council's disclosure is reconciled above. Council has determined, based upon materiality that camping and recreational vehicles, as well as the Port Latta landfill solid waste site as defined above are considered significant business activities. Competitive neutrality costs include notional costs i.e. income tax equivalent, rates and loan guarantees.

Note 9.5 Management indicators	Benchmark	2026 $	2025 $	2024 $	2023 $
(a) Underlying surplus or deficit					
Net result for the year		1,525,883	(4,511,391)	(3,070,786)	4,483,302
Less non-operating income					
Recognition of non-monetary assets		(1,285,359)	-	(417,750)	(1,446,778)
Capital grants		(1,385,813)	(3,280,694)	(3,027,781)	(1,635,865)
Financial assistance grants (from previous year)		2,240,002	3,739,877	3,939,779	2,822,429
Financial assistance grants (in advance)		(3,650,035)	(2,240,002)	(3,739,877)	(4,204,027)
Redundancy payments		71,807	-	-	-
WDV of Port Latta landfill capping and aftercare assets		-	4,573,493	5,532,878	-
Settlement of lease (historic capital improvements)		-	-	100,000	-
Transfer of community buildings to Incorporated bodies		1,037,837	-	-	-
Excess roadside tree removal		-	-	-	114,326
WDV of infrastructure completed early (grant funded)		-	161,228	-	126,722
Underlying surplus/deficit	$0	(1,445,678)	(1,557,489)	(683,537)	260,109

The intent of the underlying result is to show the outcome of a Council's normal or usual day to day operations.
Council has met the benchmark in 1 of the last 4 years. A financial plan is currently being prepared with strategies to return this ratio into a positive.

Recurrent income					
Revenue as per statement of comprehensive income		24,477,546	17,882,981	17,619,987	22,338,977
Recognition of non-monetary assets		(1,285,359)	-	(417,750)	(1,446,778)
Capital grants		(1,385,813)	(3,280,694)	(3,027,781)	(1,635,865)
Financial assistance grants (from previous year)		2,240,002	3,739,877	3,939,779	2,822,429
Financial assistance grants (in advance)		(3,650,035)	(2,240,002)	(3,739,877)	(4,204,027)
Add WDV of Port Latta landfill capping assets		-	4,573,493	5,532,878	126,722
Total recurrent income		20,396,341	20,675,655	19,907,236	18,001,458

(b) Underlying surplus ratio					
Underlying surplus or deficit		(1,445,678)	(1,557,489)	(683,537)	260,109
Recurrent income		20,396,341	20,675,655	19,907,236	18,001,458
Underlying surplus ratio %	0.00%	-7.09%	-7.53%	-3.43%	1.44%

This ratio serves as an overall measure of financial operating effectiveness.
Council has only achieved its target of 0% in 1 of the last 4 years. The Council has a plan to reduce its deficit in the next term of Councillors.

(c) Net financial liabilities					
Liquid assets less		30,363,937	21,590,577	20,782,288	20,261,177
total liabilities		20,099,305	14,585,594	9,672,773	8,142,034
Net financial liabilities	$0	10,264,632	7,004,983	11,109,515	12,119,143

This measure shows whether Council's total liabilities can be met by its liquid assets. An excess of total liabilities over liquid assets means that, if all liabilities fell due at once, additional revenue would be needed to fund the shortfall.
Council has sufficient liquid assets to covers its liabilities.

(d) Net financial liabilities ratio					
Net financial liabilities		10,264,632	7,004,983	11,109,515	12,119,143
Recurrent income		20,396,341	20,675,655	19,907,236	18,001,458
Net financial liabilities ratio %	0% - (50%)	50%	34%	56%	67%

This ratio indicates the net financial obligations of Council compared to its recurrent income.
Council has recorded results between or well above the benchmark in each of the 4 years.

(e) Asset consumption ratio

An asset consumption ratio has been calculated in relation to each asset class required to be included in the long-term strategic asset management plan of Council.

Parks, reserves and recreation facilities					
Fair value (carrying amount)	4,876,481	5,127,603	5,228,836	4,563,341
Current replacement cost (gross)	9,520,483	9,418,137	9,176,696	8,216,320
Asset consumption ratio %	51%	54%	57%	56%
Transport infrastructure				
Fair value (carrying amount)	147,380,053	161,226,140	163,134,966	155,229,217
Current replacement cost (gross)	205,036,577	232,900,305	233,419,118	256,047,906
Asset consumption ratio %	72%	69%	70%	61%
Stormwater and drainage				
Fair value (carrying amount)	11,687,994	10,818,781	11,136,181	10,841,929
Current replacement cost (gross)	23,566,302	22,407,968	22,470,851	21,337,851
Asset consumption ratio %	50%	48%	50%	51%

Management indicators (Continued)

Note 9.5	Benchmark	2026 $	2025 $	2024 $	2023 $
Solid waste management					
Fair value (carrying amount)		624,826	947,266	1,372,334	5,641,114
Current replacement cost (gross)		14,954,488	15,018,447	10,204,243	8,493,744
Asset consumption ratio %	Target >60%	4%	6%	13%	66%

This ratio indicates the level of service potential available in Council's existing asset base.
Council has not met its target in the current financial year. Port Latta landfill assets are nearing their end of life due to the site being earmarked for closure in December 2026.

		2026 $	2025 $	2024 $	2023 $
(f) Asset renewal funding ratio					
Projected capital funding outlays*		6,089,339	5,302,882	4,725,779	4,701,204
Projected capital expenditure funding**		10,430,325	9,647,864	10,565,161	6,127,908
Asset renewal funding ratio %	90-100%	58%	55%	45%	77%

An asset renewal funding ratio has been calculated in relation to each asset class required to be included in the long-term strategic asset management plan of Council.

* Current value of projected capital funding outlays for an asset identified in Council's long-term financial plan.
** Value of projected capital expenditure funding for an asset identified in Council's long-term strategic asset management plan.
This ratio measures Council's capacity to fund future asset replacement requirements.

The Strategic Asset Management Plan contains a number of items that may be determined as operational in nature therefore could be excluded from the above calculations. Also there are several items that are new/upgrade in nature that Councillors are yet to decide upon.

(g) Asset sustainability ratio					
Capex on replacement/renewal of existing assets		5,197,695	5,353,852	5,411,520	4,774,180
Annual depreciation expense		7,080,404	7,385,852	6,151,694	5,401,485
Asset sustainability ratio %	100%	73%	72%	88%	88%

This ratio calculates the extent to which Council is maintaining operating capacity through renewal of its existing asset base.

Council is behind the benchmark for this ratio in each of the 4 years. Asset renewal programs are based upon asset management programs, therefore may be intermittent in nature.

Note 9.5 Management indicators (Continued)

2026	Capital renewal expenditure	Capital new /upgrade expenditure	Total capital expenditure
By asset class	**$**	**$**	**$**
Buildings	132,001	105,151	**237,152**
Transport infrastructure	4,533,931	278,136	**4,812,067**
Bridges	90,615	58,280	**148,895**
Stormwater and drainage	25,361	50,282	**75,643**
Solid waste	-	281,652	**281,652**
Parks and reserves	72,156	91,283	**163,439**
Plant and equipment	341,495	49	**341,544**
Computers	2,136	181,226	**183,362**
Total	5,197,695	1,046,059	**6,243,754**

2025	Capital renewal expenditure	Capital new /upgrade expenditure	Total capital expenditure
By asset class	**$**	**$**	**$**
Buildings	150,146	-	**150,146**
Transport infrastructure	4,780,481	658,821	**5,439,302**
Bridges	40,335	414	**40,749**
Parks and reserves	194,608	46,832	**241,440**
Plant and equipment	110,634	27,189	**137,823**
Computers	77,648	59,620	**137,268**
Total	5,353,852	792,876	**6,146,728**

Certification of the Financial Report

The financial report presents fairly the financial position of the Circular Head Council as at 30 June 2026 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* (as amended), Australian Accounting Standards and other authoritative pronouncements issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board.



Paul Gardner
General Manager

Date : *30/09/2026*