

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CLARENCE CITY COUNCIL HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, Blich Street, Rosny Park, on Monday 2 March 2026

HOUR CALLED: 6.00pm

PRESENT: The meeting commenced at 6.01pm with the Mayor (Cr B A Blomeley) in the Chair and with Councillors:

H Chong
J Darko
E Goyne
D Hulme
B Hunter
R James
W Kennedy
T Mulder
A Ritchie
J Walker
B Warren; present.

1. APOLOGIES Nil

ORDER OF BUSINESS Items 1 – 11

IN ATTENDANCE Acting Chief Executive Officer
(Ms C Shea)

Head of Infrastructure and Natural Assets
(Mr R Graham)

Head of Community and Culture
(Ms T Cockburn)

Head of Strategic Development Communications and Engagement
(Ms G Wicks)

Head of City Planning
(Mr D Marr)

Head of Regulatory Services
(Mr R Brennan)

Manager Financial Services
(Mr R Purves)

Executive Officer to the Chief Executive Officer
(Ms J Ellis)

The Meeting closed at 8.36pm.

COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 2 MARCH 2026

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1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor:

- made the following statement:

“Before proceeding, I pay my respects to the Mumirimina people as the traditional and original custodians of the lands on which we meet, and I acknowledge the continuing connection of the Tasmanian Aboriginal people to the skies, land and waterways.

I pay respect to Elders past and present.”

- invited those present to pause for a moment of quiet reflection and respect before commencing the council meeting.
- advised the Meeting and members of the public that Council Meetings, not including Closed Meeting, are livestreamed, audio-visually recorded and published to Council’s website. The meeting is not protected by privilege. A link to the Agenda is available via Council’s website.

2. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

Refer to cover page.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS OF COUNCILLORS OR CLOSE ASSOCIATE

In accordance with Regulation 10 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 and Council’s adopted Code of Conduct, the Mayor requests Councillors to indicate whether they have, or are likely to have a pecuniary interest (any pecuniary benefits or pecuniary detriment) or conflict of interest in any item on the Agenda.

INTEREST DECLARED: NIL

4. OMNIBUS ITEMS

4.1 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10 February 2026, as circulated, be taken as read and confirmed.

Decision: **MOVED** Cr Chong **SECONDED** Cr Hunter

“That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10 February 2026, as circulated, be taken as read and confirmed”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.2 MAYOR’S COMMUNICATION

The Mayor reported on the following meetings and attendances since the last Council Meeting:

- 11 February: TasWater Half Yearly Briefing;
- 12 February: Jazz Festival Media Launch;
- 14 February: Clifton Beach Life Saving Club Junior Statewide Carnival;
- 15 February: South Arm RSL Sub Branch – Unveiling of Nurses Memorial;
- 16 February: Meeting with Meg Brown MP;
Meeting with Mrs Margaret Russell – Rosny Bus Mall;
- 17 February: Triple M Breakfast Interview – “Mayor On the Air”;
Celebration of the 66th Birthday of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan;
- 18 February: Celebration of India and Australia Men’s International Hockey Teams;
- 19 February: Clarence Jazz Festival – Opening Party;
ABC Radio Interview – Jazz Festival Opening;
- 20 February: Clarence Jazz Festival – Scholé Tasting;
- 21 February: Sounding of the Bell – Welcome to the Year of the Horse;
Clarence Jazz Festival – Big Day at the Farm Event;
- 22 February: Opening Ceremony of the Lunar New Year Festival 2026;
Clarence Jazz Festival;
- 24 February: Greater Hobart Strategic Partnership Mayors’ Forum;
- 26 February: Ten Lives Matter Media Launch – Richmond Survey; and
Antarctic Science Reception at Parliament House.

Deputy Mayor Allison Ritchie (on behalf of Mayor)

- 28 February: 3rd Dajuvai Football Club 2026 Event.

/ contd on Page 5...

MAYOR’S COMMUNICATION /contd...**Councillor Richard James (on behalf of Mayor)**

18 February: Naval Military and Air Force Club of Tasmania Luncheon.

Councillor Bree Hunter (on behalf of Mayor)

21 February: 2025 Tasmanian Leaders Program Celebration.

The Mayor:

- Reported on the Clarence Jazz Festival held across four days from 19 to 22 February, this year celebrating its 30th Anniversary. On behalf of Council, the Mayor thanked Council’s Head of Community and Culture and her team for the outstanding success of this year’s event.
- Read out a letter he had received from Mr William Green of Lindisfarne thanking Council for a grant to attend the recent Australian Men’s and Mixed Netball Championships.

4.3 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

In addition to the Councillor’s Meeting Briefing (workshop) conducted on Friday immediately preceding the Council Meeting the following workshops were conducted by Council since its last ordinary Council Meeting:

PURPOSE	DATE
Market Research	
Waverley Reserve Management Plan	
Natone Street Ferry Terminal DA and Consultation Process	
Council Appointments	
Confidential Briefing	23 February

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the workshops conducted.

Decision: **MOVED** Cr Chong **SECONDED** Cr Hunter

“That the Recommendation be adopted”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.4. TABLING OF PETITIONS

(Note: Petitions received by Councillors are to be forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer within seven days after receiving the petition).

Petitions are not to be tabled if they do not comply with Section 57(2) of the Local Government Act, or are defamatory, or the proposed actions are unlawful.

- Cr James presented a petition from 51 signatories requesting Council undertake urgent work on hazardous sections of footpath in Gordons Hill Road

4.5 REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

This agenda item is listed to facilitate the receipt of both informal and formal reporting from various outside bodies upon which Council has a representative involvement.

REPORTS FROM SINGLE AND JOINT AUTHORITIES

Provision is made for reports from Single and Joint Authorities if required.

Council is a participant in the following Single and Joint Authorities. These Authorities are required to provide quarterly reports to participating Councils, and these will be listed under this segment as and when received.

- **COPPING REFUSE DISPOSAL SITE JOINT AUTHORITY**
Representative: Cr James Walker

Quarterly Reports

September and December Quarterly Reports pending.

Representative Reporting

- **TASWASTE SOUTH**
Representative: Cr Hunter (Proxy)
- **TASWATER CORPORATION**
- **GREATER HOBART COMMITTEE**

REPORTS FROM COUNCIL AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVE BODIES

BELLERIVE COMMUNITY ARTS CENTRE

- Cr Kennedy tabled the minutes of a meeting of the Bellerive Community Arts Centre held on 11 February 2026.

RICHMOND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Cr Chong tabled the minutes of a meeting of the Richmond Advisory Committee held on 21 January 2026.

PEACE AND SOCIAL COHESION CHALLENGE IN TASMANIA

- Cr Chong tabled a Certificate of Appreciation from the Rotary Club of Howrah for the “Peace and Social Cohesion Challenge in Tasmania” community event which was sponsored by Council.

DAJUVAI FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- The Deputy Mayor tabled a “Token of Love” plaque and Certificate of Appreciation presented to her when representing the Mayor and Council at the Dajuvai Football Championships on 28 February.

4.6 WEEKLY BRIEFING REPORTS

The Weekly Briefing Reports of 9, 16 and 23 February 2026 have been circulated to Councillors.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the information contained in the Weekly Briefing Reports of 9, 16 and 23 February 2026 be noted.

Decision: **MOVED** Cr Chong **SECONDED** Cr Hunter

“That the Recommendation be adopted”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Public question time at ordinary Council meetings will not exceed 15 minutes. An individual may ask questions at the meeting. Questions may be submitted to Council in writing on the Friday 10 days before the meeting or may be raised from the Public Gallery during this segment of the meeting.

The Chairman may request a Councillor or Council officer to answer a question. No debate is permitted on any questions or answers. Questions and answers are to be kept as brief as possible.

5.1 PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

(Seven days before an ordinary Meeting, a member of the public may give written notice to the Chief Executive Officer of a question to be asked at the meeting). A maximum of two questions may be submitted in writing before the meeting.

Questions on notice and their answers will be included in the minutes.

Mrs Joanne Marsh of Bellerive gave notice of the following questions:

“MASTERING OUR MASTER PLANS”

1. As each new vision for how an area could look in the future is created (master plan) and is added to those already existing, each of which needs many steps to be worked through before the project can be delivered with the biggest hurdles being money and staff resourcing.

How are Council regulating the number of master plans “sitting there” waiting for funding and resourcing for what, to the community, can seem to be a long time?

2. We are informed that the construction of Bellerive Beach Regional Park cost around \$5M. The delivery of the park’s master plan began over a decade ago. The toilet facilities are inadequate and do not meet standards required by the thousands of people who visit the park each month.

Would Council please advise the community about what hurdle exists that is preventing this facility upgrade.

Mr Bradley Walker of Howrah gave notice of the following question:

SIGNAGE FOR LINDISFARNE TOILETS

Council own and maintain a toilet facility in the carpark at 25 Wellington Road. This carpark has two entrances off Lincolns Street, two entrances off Esplanade and one off Wellington Road, yet not one sign directing the public to these toilet facilities relatively unseen from these entrances. Can Council install some signs for the public to know where this toilet is?

5.2 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

The Acting Chief Executive Officer provided the following response to Mrs Marsh’s questions at Item 5.1.

“MASTERING OUR MASTER PLANS”

1. Master plans are a long-term vision for an area, having been developed from valuable feedback from the community. The master plans include an implementation plan indicating a preferred order of priority. As infrastructure in the master plan area become due for renewal or grant funds are received to support new work, proposed projects are brought forward for Council to consider through the annual budget process. This for example, has successfully helped deliver Lindisfarne streetscape, Simmons Park and South Arm oval.
2. The toilet facility is coming due for renewal and a funding proposal for design of a new toilet facility will be presented to Council in the coming 26/27 capital budget process.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer provided the following response to Mr Walker’s question at Item 5.1.

SIGNAGE FOR LINDISFARNE TOILETS

A review of signage to the public toilet within the carpark at 25 Wellington Road, Lindisfarne will be undertaken and additional wayfinding signage installed if required.

5.3 ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

The Acting Chief Executive Officer provided the following answers to Questions taken on Notice from members of the public at previous Council Meetings.

At Council’s Meeting of 10 February Mr Michael Figg of Lauderdale asked the following question.

LIGHT DETECTION AND RANGING (LIDAR)

I understand that Local Government and in this case Clarence has the LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) for Lauderdale post 2019. Can the CEO please confirm that and advise when it will be available to the constituents – us?

ANSWER

Council officers have previously advised that the LiDAR data is managed by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania and is publicly available via <https://elevation.fsdf.org.au>

It is understood the “capture date” for the Lauderdale data is 2019.

As the data is co-ordinated by a State Government department it is recommended that enquiries be made through this Department. Beyond providing the above access link, Council is not able to provide further information on data held by the State Government.

ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE /contd...

At Council's Meeting of 10 February Ms Beth Rees of Rosny asked the following question.

HOTEL DEVELOPMENT ROSNY HILL RECREATION AREA

My question is in relation to the approval for development of a hotel on Rosny Hill Recreation Area, which is Parks and Wildlife land managed by Clarence City Council. What are the restrictions and/or requirements in relation to:

- 1 Clarence City Council subleasing Parks and Wildlife land in general and for this development in particular; and
- 2 On-selling the approval to another developer

and could you please explain how these issues have been resolved?

ANSWER

In accordance with the *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002 (Tas.)* and the head lease between the Crown and Council, Council is permitted to sub-lease all or part of the Rosny Hill Nature Recreation Area. The Head Lease makes express reference to an acknowledgement on the part of the Minister that the Crown and Council contemplate third party development for commercial purposes. In relation to this particular development, Council granted Hunter Development Pty Ltd preferred developer status in 2015 following an expression of interest process.

The parties have not yet settled a sub-lease. The sub-lease will detail restrictions and requirements in the event that Hunter wish to sell or transfer the development approval to another entity.

At Council's Meeting of 10 February Mrs Joanne Marsh of Bellerive asked the following question.

DOGS OFF LEAD - ROSNY PARKLANDS

It is very distressing to see terrified brown bandicoots being chased by off lead dogs in Rosny Parklands. How is Council monitoring the welfare of these beautiful and interesting little creatures and communicating this information to park users?

ANSWER

Rosny Parklands is designated as a dog on-lead area, meaning dogs are required to remain on a lead at all times, with signage at major park entrances to advise park users of this requirement. Council recognises that the park supports native fauna, including bandicoots; however, Council does not undertake active fauna monitoring at present, with management efforts focused primarily on vegetation management, weed control and maintaining habitat values within the reserve.

Council relies on responsible dog ownership and community awareness to minimise disturbance to wildlife and encourages anyone who observes dogs off lead to report the matter so it can be followed up appropriately by Council Rangers. The park is monitored by the ranger team with periodic patrols and responses to complaints

5.4 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

The Chairperson may invite members of the public present to ask questions without notice.

Mr Michael Figg of Lauderdale asked the following question.

STATUS OF RALPHS BAY CANAL

Could the General Manager please provide an update on Council's current understanding of the status of Ralphs Bay Canal including any arrangements or responsibilities Council believes apply to that land? I am asking simply so that the community has clarity about how the Canal is proceeding and regard to Council's operations and planning processes.

ANSWER

The Acting Chief Executive Officer took the question on notice.

Mr Victor Marsh of Bellerive asked the following question.

AIR QUALITY NYRSTAR RISDON

Is the council going to make a statement about the air quality coming from Nyrstar Risdon considering Geilston Bay and Bellerive were mentioned in dispatches?

ANSWER

The Mayor took the question on notice.

Council's Public Question Time Policy can be found on Council's website at [Public Question Time - City of Clarence : City of Clarence \(ccc.tas.gov.au\)](https://www.ccc.tas.gov.au/public-question-time)

6. DEPUTATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

(In accordance with Regulation 46 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 and in accordance with Council Policy, deputation requests are invited to address the Meeting and make statements or deliver reports to Council)

PETITION – GORDONS HILL ROAD REPAIR WORKS

(REFER ITEM 4.4)

Mr Graeme Miller addressed the meeting regarding the above application.

APPLICATION PDPSAMEND-2025/054641 – 113, 115, 117 AND 119 EAST DERWENT HIGHWAY, LINDISFARNE

(REFER ITEM 7.1)

Mr Andrew Mackay addressed the meeting regarding the above application.

7 PLANNING AUTHORITY MATTERS

In accordance with Regulation 29 (1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025, the Mayor advises that the Council intends to act as a Planning Authority under the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993, to deal with the following items:

7.1 APPLICATION PDPSAMEND-2025/054641 – 113, 115, 117 AND 119 EAST DERWENT HIGHWAY, LINDISFARNE**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY****PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to review Council’s decision of 20 October 2025 in response to the representations received during the public exhibition period.

The representations relate to a request to amend the Clarence Local Provision Schedule (LPS) for the rezoning of 113, 115, 117 and 119 East Derwent Highway (the site) from General Residential Zone to Local Business Zone.

The Planning Authority’s assessment of the representations and impact to the proposal must be provided to the Tasmanian Planning Commission (the Commission) under section 40K of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 (Tas.)* (LUPAA).

RELATION TO PLANNING PROVISIONS

The site is located at 113, 115, 117 and 119 East Derwent Highway and has a combined area of 2,948m² and is currently zoned General Residential; and subject to the Parking and Sustainable Transport Code, Road and Railway Assets Code, Flood-Prone Areas Hazard Code and the Safeguarding of Airports Code.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

The application for rezoning was submitted to the Planning Authority for a decision in accordance with section 37 of LUPAA. The certified amendment was advertised in accordance with the statutory requirements of section 40G of LUPAA. Council is now required to consider the merits of any representation received.

This report provides details of the representations received, and justification for the recommendations. Any alternative decision by Council will require a full statement of reasons in order to maintain the integrity of the Planning approval process and to comply with the requirements of the *Judicial Review Act 2000 (Tas.)* and the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025.

CONSULTATION

The proposal was advertised in accordance with statutory requirements, and 19 representations were received, including one signed by 197 signatories. The points raised can be summarised as follows:

- Support in principle
- Concern over strategic basis
- Impact on Lindisfarne Village
- Potential impact of traffic, parking and safety
- Potential impact on residential amenity
- Front setbacks and streetscape
- Lack of consultation; and
- Specific concerns over conceptual design.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. The planning authority resolves, with regard to draft amendment PDPSAMEND-2025/054641 at 113, 115, 117 and 119 East Derwent Highway, Lindisfarne, that:
1. In accordance with section 40K(2) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, consideration of the merits of each representation received with regard to the requested amendment of the Clarence Local Provisions Schedule PDPSAMEND-2025/054641 is contained in the Associated Report and the Planning Authority considers that no modification to the draft amendment is warranted.
 2. In accordance with section 40K(2) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, the Planning Authority is satisfied that the draft amendment meets the LPS criteria and no other recommendations to the draft amendment are warranted.
 3. In accordance with section 40K(1) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, the Planning Authority provides the Associated Report and relevant attachments, including a copy of each representation, to the Tasmanian Planning Commission
- B. That the details and conclusions included in the Associated Report be recorded as the reasons for Council’s decision in respect of this matter.

Decision:**MOVED** Cr James **SECONDED** Cr Mulder

- “A The planning authority resolves, with regard to draft amendment, PDPSAMEND-2025/054641 at 113, 115, 117 and 119 East Derwent Highway, Lindisfarne, that:
1. Pursuant with section 40K(2) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993, the merits of each representation received with regard to the requested amendment of the Clarence Local Provisions Schedule PDPSAMEND-2025/054641 is contained in the Associated Report and this motion and the Planning Authority now considers that the draft amendment should no longer be supported.
 2. Pursuant to Section 40K(2) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993, the Planning Authority is not satisfied that the draft amendment can be suitably modified and therefore does not meet the LPS criteria.

/ Decision contd on Page 18...

APPLICATION PDPSAMEND-2025/054641 – 113, 115, 117 AND 119 EAST DERWENT HIGHWAY, LINDISFARNE /Decision contd...

3. In accordance with section 40K(1) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993, the Planning Authority provides the Associated Report and relevant attachments, including a copy of each representation, to the Tasmanian Planning Commission
- B. That the reasons for Council’s decision are contained in the attached report except in respect of the following:
1. That rezoning of the site from General Residential to local Business Zone has the potential for an increase in commercial traffic to and from the site and in the surrounding streets.
 2. The rezoning of the site has the potential to generate more traffic within the surrounding streets and likely to impact on pedestrians and their safety and the safety of school children using Ballawinnie Road and crossing at the traffic lights on the East Derwent Highway.
 3. Representations were received within the period of advertising prior to Christmas 2025; however, no opportunity was available for representors to consider the Midson Traffic Pty Ltd TIA dated January 2026.
 4. That rezoning has the potential to attract new commercial/residential development and likely to generate an increase in commercial traffic demand to the site”.

CARRIED**FOR**

Cr Chong
 Cr Darko
 Cr Goyne
 Cr Hunter
 Cr James
 Cr Kennedy
 Cr Mulder
 Cr Ritchie
 Cr Walker
 Cr Warren

AGAINST

Cr Blomeley
 Cr Hulme

Council now concludes its deliberations as a Planning Authority under the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act, 1993.

8. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

8.1 DETERMINATION ON PETITIONS TABLED AT PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS

Nil Items.

8.2 ASSET MANAGEMENT

Nil Items.

8.3 FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Nil Items.

8.4 GOVERNANCE**8.4.1 QUARTERLY REPORT TO 31 DECEMBER 2025****EXECUTIVE SUMMARY****Purpose**

To consider the Chief Executive Officer's Quarterly Report covering the period 1 October to 31 December 2025.

Relation to Existing Policy/Plans

The Report uses as its base the Annual Plan adopted by Council and is consistent with Council's adopted Strategic Plan 2021-2031.

Legislative Requirements

There is no specific legislative requirement associated with regular internal reporting.

Consultation

Not applicable.

Financial Implications

The Quarterly Report provides details of Council's financial performance for the period.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Quarterly Report to 31 December 2025 be received.

Decision: **MOVED** Cr Kennedy **SECONDED** Cr Chong

"That the Recommendation be adopted".

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.4.2 DOG MANAGEMENT POLICY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY****PURPOSE**

To seek Council approval to undertake community engagement on the review of the Dog Management Policy in accordance with the *Dog Control Act 2000*.

RELATION TO EXISTING POLICY/PLANS

The current Dog Management Policy (adopted October 2021) and Council's Stakeholder and Community Engagement Framework are relevant.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Section 7(4) of the *Dog Control Act 2000* requires Council to review its Dog Management Policy at least every five years.

CONSULTATION

This will be the first phase of formal community engagement on the review of the Dog Management Policy. Preliminary internal planning and briefings have been undertaken.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Costs associated with conducting the proposed community engagement process will be accommodated within the existing project budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to initiate community engagement on the review of the Dog Management Policy.

/ Refer to Page 24 for Decision on this Item...

DOG MANAGEMENT POLICY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT /contd...

Decision:	MOVED Cr Kennedy SECONDED Cr Hunter
	“That the Recommendation be adopted”.
	AMENDMENT
	MOVED Cr James
	“That in Phase 5, which is ‘Finalisation and Reporting October 2026 to early 2027’ that the words ‘early 2027’ be deleted and under ‘Activity’ add ‘present the final recommended policy to elected members at the Council Meeting in October 2026’”.
	The AMENDMENT Lapsed for want of a Seconder
	The MOTION was put and CARRIED
FOR	AGAINST
Cr Blomeley	Cr James (abstained)
Cr Chong	Cr Walker (abstained)
Cr Darko	
Cr Goyne	
Cr Hulme	
Cr Hunter	
Cr Kennedy	
Cr Mulder	
Cr Ritchie	
Cr Warren	

8.4.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL LEGISLATION SUBMISSION**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY****PURPOSE**

To provide a submission to the Office of Local Government on two draft Bills - Local Government Electoral Bill 2025 and the Local Government Amendment (Electoral Reforms) Bill 2025, which are set out in the Local Government Electoral Reform Discussion Paper - Exposure Draft Legislation and Prior Consultation Report.

RELATION TO EXISTING POLICY/PLANS

Nil.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Nil.

CONSULTATION

Council was advised of the draft legislation and invited to provide feedback prior to the closing date of Saturday 28 February 2026. Council has sought an extension to 3 March 2026.

The matter was discussed at a workshop on 16 February 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no immediate financial implications arising from the submission to the draft legislation. Financial implications may arise from any reform options recommended but these are not quantifiable or known at this stage.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- A. Notes the Local Government Electoral Reform Discussion Paper - Exposure Draft Legislation and Prior Consultation Report.
- B. Endorses Council's submission (Attachment 1 to the Associated Report) on the Local Government Electoral Reform Discussion Paper - Exposure Draft Legislation and Prior Consultation Report.

/ Refer to Page 26 for Decision on this Item...

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORAL LEGISLATION SUBMISSION /contd...

Decision:	MOVED Cr Walker SECONDED Cr Mulder	
	<p>“A. That point 2.8 in the agenda is amended by just the following three priority matters to be included in the covering letter sent in with the submission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors to have access to the electoral roll during their term • Transparency of gifts and donations; and • A solution so nominees are not required to publicly provide a specific address as a nominated candidate. <p>B. That Council notes the Local Government Electoral Reform Discussion Paper – Exposure Draft Legislation and Prior Consultation Report.</p> <p>C. That Council’s submission (Attachment 1 to the Associated Report) on the Local Government Electoral Reform Discussion Paper – Exposure Draft Legislation and Prior Consultation Report”.</p>	
	CARRIED	
	FOR	AGAINST
	Cr Blomeley	Cr James
	Cr Chong	Cr Mulder
	Cr Darko	
	Cr Goyne	
	Cr Hulme	
	Cr Hunter	
	Cr Kennedy	
	Cr Ritchie	
	Cr Walker	
	Cr Warren	

8.4.4 SPECIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY****PURPOSE**

To consider elected member appointments to fill vacancies on various bodies following the resignation of Cr Warren from her representative appointments.

RELATION TO EXISTING POLICY/PLANS

Representative appointments of councillors are made following each ordinary local government election and are for the full four year term. While it has been past practice to review appointments mid-term to provide an opportunity for elected members to make changes to their appointments, Councillors may request changes to their appointments at any time.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

- Special Committees are established under Section 24 of the *Local Government Act, 1993* (the Act).
- Section 85 of the Local Government Act requires Councils to establish Audit Panels. Council's Audit Panel has five members, 3 of whom are independent members and 2 are councillors.
- Section 27 of the Act has as a function of the Mayor to represent the Council on regional organisations and at intergovernmental forums at regional, state and federal levels. The Mayor may delegate such an appointment to his nominee as is the case with TasWaste South.
- The Copping Refuse Disposal Site Joint Authority is established under Section 30 of the Act.

CONSULTATION

Consultation has been undertaken with councillors at a recent workshop.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None identified.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

- A. Notes Cr Warren's resignation from the following appointments:
 - Cultural Creative Advisory Committee;
 - Audit Panel;
 - TasWaste South (Mayor's Nominee); and
 - Copping Refuse Disposal Site Joint Authority (Proxy Representative).
- B. Notes Cr Ritchie's appointment as Mayor's Nominee to TasWaste South for the balance of the current Council term.
- C. Appoints a Councillor as Member of the Audit Panel for the balance of the current Council term.

- D. Appoints a Councillor as Proxy Representative to the Copping Refuse Disposal Site Joint Authority for the balance of the current Council term.
- E. Resolves that a replacement appointment to the Cultural Creative Advisory Committee be held over until the review of the current committee structure has been completed.

Decision:	It was RESOLVED
	A. That Council notes Cr Warren's resignation from the following appointments: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cultural Creative Advisory Committee;• Audit Panel;• TasWaste South (Mayor's Nominee); and• Copping Refuse Disposal Site Joint Authority (Proxy Representative).
	B. That Council notes Cr Ritchie's appointment as Mayor's Nominee to TasWaste South for the balance of the current Council term.
	C. That Council appoints Cr Hunter as Member of the Audit Panel for the balance of the current Council term.
	D. That Council appoints Cr Goyne as Proxy Representative to the Copping Refuse Disposal Site Joint Authority for the balance of the current Council term.
	E. That a replacement appointment to the Cultural Creative Advisory Committee be held over until the review of the current committee structure has been completed.

On behalf of Council, the Mayor thanked Cr Warren for her service to her representative appointments.

9. MOTIONS ON NOTICE

9.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – COUNCILLOR GOYNE PUBLIC OPEN SPACE CLOSURES FOR TOTAL FIRE BAN

In accordance with Notice given, it was:

Decision: **MOVED** Cr Goyne **SECONDED** Cr Walker

“That the CEO hold a Councillor Workshop presentation within the next six months to discuss Council’s decision making processes for public open space closures”.

The **MOTION** was **put** and **LOST**

FOR

Cr Goyne
Cr Hulme
Cr Jame
Cr Ritchie
Cr Walker

AGAINST

Cr Blomeley
Cr Chong
Cr Darko
Cr Hunter
Cr Kennedy
Cr Mulder
Cr Warren

10. COUNCILLORS' QUESTION TIME

A Councillor may ask a question with or without notice at Council Meetings. No debate is permitted on any questions or answers.

10.1 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

(Seven days before an ordinary Meeting, a Councillor may give written notice to the Chief Executive Officer of a question in respect of which the Councillor seeks an answer at the meeting).

Nil

10.2 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

10.3 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE – PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

Cr Mulder

My question relates to an incident. I was travelling along Kangaroo Bay Drive just before Christmas and witnessed a very large snow gum in a gust of wind fall over and land over the top of a play park with a water feature and as I stopped to look at this I was approached by a man who had been in that spot ninety seconds before the tree fell in that playground right outside the Kangaroo Bay toilets, the jewel in the crown of the play park areas in the city. When I reported the issue to the CEO, I was advised that an examination had shown that the work that had created the play park had interfered with the roots of the tree and that was the cause of the tree falling over. My question is, if that can happen and nearly kill a man and his child who are playing in a council play area what are we doing about finding all these places where these large gum trees are in nature strips and roadwork areas where they are digging up footpaths where we have conducted works which may have the same effect?

Answer

Taken on Notice.

(Further information) Council's investigations indicate that this was a highly unusual failure. Our arborists noted that the small eucalypt tree failed at the root ball, which is atypical given that there were no external indicators—such as visible decay, fungal growth, or leaning—that would typically point to structural concerns during routine inspections.

As Cr Mulder noted, and as our internal review suggests, it is highly probable that the structural integrity of the root system was compromised during the original construction of the play park. Because these impacts occurred underground, they remained hidden from standard visual assessments until the extreme gust of wind occurred.

In response to Cr Mulder's concerns regarding other large gum trees in roadwork and nature strip areas, Council is taking the following proactive steps:

- Prioritising inspections of trees in high-traffic zones concurrent with civil works (footpaths, road upgrades, or drainage) being conducted in the last five years.
- Ensuring that all current and future works are strictly bound by Australian Standard AS4970-2009 (*Protection of trees on development sites*), ensuring that excavation and trenching near root zones are monitored by qualified professionals to prevent "hidden" damage.
- Annually inspecting all trees in and around high use areas such as playspaces, picnic shelters and car parks.

Cr Hulme

1. Mr Mayor, during the item earlier at Reports from Outside Bodies you made reference to the Economic Regulator's draft decision on sewerage and water prices. When the Regulator makes his final decision do the Owners' Representatives have any input into the determination of the dividends and will this matter be workshopped before Clarence puts its decision?

Answer

(Mayor) As owners we do have a degree of influence but clearly there is a Board of Directors. I sit on an advisory group that is associated with TasWater. Clearly there is a lot of work to be done yet so the answer is that TasWater will have to engage, and they will engage with all key stakeholders and key amongst those are the owners so of course the shareholders. That definitely will happen. Also when TasWater went in for this ask the very experienced Chairperson Kevin Young made the comment that he has never in all his years seen the utility get exactly what they asked for from the Economic Regulator so there is an ask here backed up by our annual plan but now we have an opportunity to feed into this, we need this for these reasons but clearly we need to cut our cloth according to what is available but that will be a negotiated outcome between those key parties, the Board and the Owners and let's not forget the State Government is a ten percent owner as well so they are looking for revery GBE to start performing and delivering a dividend to them as well. We will definitely workshop it when we know what is going on.

2. In regard to the concerns that we have just resolved at this meeting to submit about the draft STRLUS, if these concerns are not addressed in the final strategy what can councils, including Clarence, do to ensure that the implementation of STRLUS is consistent and coordinated across the region?

Answer

(Head of City Planning) We are still engaged in a number of working groups with strategic planners etc across the region, so we are constantly in touch with our colleagues looking to co-ordinate as much as possible. However, there are no hearings for the adoption of STRLUS. Whether they choose to do a second round of consultation, I have no idea I imagine it depends on the feedback if it is adopted and declared. In whatever format, Council is bound to consider it in a number of its decision making aspects particularly around when we are looking at supporting or not supporting rezonings in that we must be consistent with the regional land use strategies. So, in that case, even if we disagree with STRLUS we are bound to recognise it. However, it is not so prescriptive that the work that you alluded to that we have to do at a local level, I think our strategies can take cues from it. Some of those issues are beyond our ability to manage such as counting particular land types or land development types in regions other than ours. That is certainly where we will be working with our colleagues in other councils.

Cr James

1. Could I have an update in relation to the works on the corner of Beach and Malunna Road, Lindisfarne? Those funds have been approved by council, and I would just like to know when works will commence.

Answer

(Head of Infrastructure and Natural Assets) I will provide an update to Council, but my understanding is that the last thing done was a brief going out to consultants for the design of the work, so we are not near construction at this stage.

(Further information) Council has received quotations from external consultants to undertake survey and detailed design of the upgrade of the Beach Road and Malunna Road intersection. Upon award of the work to the successful consultant, Council will be provided with an update on the timing of the design phase of the project, to then be ready for Tender preparation.

2. Mr Mayor, I refer to a letter from Jim Garlick who sought Council's advice regarding the lack of lighting from the Bowen Bridge along the East Derwent Highway to the Grasree Hill Road roundabout. I think in your response to Mr Garlick you told him to contact DSG as the appropriate authority. In the past we have actually initiated a letter to an agency so my request is, could we write to DSG regarding some community input and concerns about the lack of lighting on that stretch of road from the Bowen Bridge to Grasree Hill roundabout?

Answer

(Mayor) We would be very happy to write to the Department of State Growth.

Cr Walker

1. Could I ask for the expenditure so far on external consultants in relation to the progression of the Wellbeing Plan, including the consolidation of the other existing plans?

Answer

Taken on notice.

(Further information) Council engaged consultants, The Social Planners through a Request for Quotation process to assist in the review of our suite of social plans and develop a Community Wellbeing Plan. Payments to date to The Social Planners are:

Phase 1 2024-2025: \$35,145

Phase 2 2025 -2026: \$31,787.25

Total to date= \$66,932.25

2. On Friday 9 January, I fielded a media enquiry. It was post the cancellation of the Bellerive beach party. They were wanting someone to speak to them and provide details and fill in some questions to which, as a humble councillor, I forwarded your details, unbeknownst that would not have been a convenient or appropriate time. My question is, with hindsight, do you believe that your carriage of that matter was ideal, and would you be handling it differently should you be away for another three weeks?

Answer

(Mayor) On Friday 9th, you might be aware I spoke with ABC Drive and very clearly put information out on socials, as did our media team, and I spoke with The Mercury. I would be very interested, off line, to know who contacted you because all efforts were taken to talk to the media so we could spread the word. Rather than coming in here on nights like this, you probably should have picked up the phone. It has been a number of weeks since that happened, but I was doing interviews about that issue as you know from my last diary entries. I am happy to have a conversation off line if you let me know who the journo is. I would be very keen to understand the sequence of events because from my perspective everything was covered.

Cr Goyne

1. Recently we have seen some closures of our public open spaces on declaration of a total fire ban. Can I ask if the declaration of a Total Fire Ban is the only reason we are closing those, or if there are other triggers to that decision?

Answer

(Chief Executive Officer) As far as I am aware a Total Fire Ban is the only reason we are doing that, but I will confirm.

(Further information) Recently the predominant reason we have closed reserves is for a Total Fire Ban declaration. However, the Public Places By-Law, allows for the closure of public places by the CEO for safety reasons, protection of a public place, repair, maintenance or improvement of a public place or the conduct of an event or activity permitted under the by-law.

The declaration of a Total Fire Ban by the Tasmanian Fire Service (TFS), in the South East region (of which Clarence is a part), is the trigger for council reserve closures.

The Clarence Bushfire Mitigation Strategy 2024-2034 adopted by Council has a recommendation and an action to develop and implement a Total Fire Ban action plan. The action plan currently implemented was developed based on expert external consultant recommendations.

2. From 1 July, Australia's Industrial Chemicals Environmental Management Standards prohibited the import, manufacture, export, intentional use of 3 specific PFAS chemicals. Last week while auditing some of the chemicals council uses with an environmental scientist there are multiple chemicals used which contain PFAS. When was the last time Council audited the chemicals utilised in our public open spaces?

Answer

Taken on notice.

(Further information) Council conducts reconciliation audits of chemical usage against stock levels multiple times each year. These audits verify chemicals are being applied in correct and compliant quantities. The reconciliation process excludes one off chemical purchases-for example, when an oval requires treatment for a specific pest or weed issue and the exact amount of chemical needed for the single application is purchased with no remaining stock.

In addition to reconciliation audits, detailed chemical application records are maintained for every application undertaken. This ensures traceability, compliance with regulatory requirements, and supports continuous monitoring of chemical use across sites.

All new chemicals are reviewed and approved by council's WHS team prior to purchase. This review ensures each product is safe and suitable for operational use and includes assessment of:

- User health and safety requirements
- Schedule classification
- Safety Data Sheet (SDS) content; and
- Relevant application standards and compliance obligations.

Our last external AgVet Audit conducted by DPIPW was in September 2020, as part of a spot audit program they were running.

Cr Chong

I have had a number of questions recently from people that relate to things that would come out in the Open Space strategy. Do we have an update on when we are likely to see that?

Answer

Taken on notice.

(Further information) The Open Space Strategy is currently being drafted, and it is anticipated that a draft will be presented to the Council and the community for feedback later this year.

10.4 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

A Councillor may ask a Question without Notice of the Chairman or another Councillor or the Chief Executive Officer. Note: the Chairman may refuse to accept a Question without Notice if it does not relate to the activities of the Council. A person who is asked a Question without Notice may decline to answer the question.

Questions without notice and their answers will be recorded in the following Agenda.

The Chairman may refuse to accept a question if it does not relate to Council's activities.

The Chairman may require a question without notice to be put in writing. The Chairman, a Councillor or the Chief Executive Officer may decline to answer a question without notice.

11. CLOSED MEETING

Regulation 17 of the Local Government (Meetings Procedures) Regulations 2025 provides that Council may consider certain sensitive matters in Closed Meeting.

The following matters were listed in the Closed Meeting section of the Council Agenda in accordance with Regulation 17 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025.

11.1 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

11.2 PROPERTY MATTERS

In accordance with Regulation 17 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025 the reports in the Closed Meeting section of the Council Agenda were dealt with on the grounds that the detail covered in the reports relates to:

- proposals to acquire land or an interest in land or for the disposal of land; and
- applications by Councillors for a Leave of Absence.

The content of reports and details of the Council decisions in respect to items listed in “Closed Meeting” are to be kept “confidential” and are not to be communicated, reproduced or published unless authorised by the Council.

Decision:

PROCEDURAL MOTION

MOVED Cr Warren **SECONDED** Cr Chong

“That the Meeting be closed to the public to consider Regulation 17 matters, and that members of the public be required to leave the meeting room”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Meeting closed at 8.36pm