

Sheffield Community Information Evening

Thursday 30 April 2026 7:00pm

Sheffield Town Hall

1 Welcome and Introduction

The Mayor extended a warm welcome to all attendees, introducing elected members, Council staff and thanked everyone for their attendance.

1.1 Invitees

Councillors	
Mayor Kate Haberle	Deputy Mayor Penny Lane
Cr Terry Hughes	
Council Staff	
Paul West (Acting General Manager)	Michael Mouat (Director Operations)
Samantha Richardson (Minute Taker)	Joy Tekinay (Senior Administration)
Guests	
Veronica Schillings (Dulverton)	
Community Members	
There were 12 community members in attendance	

1.2 Apologies

Councillors	
Cr Don Thwaites	

2 Regional Highlights

Presentation – Dulverton

Veronica Schillings presented an update on Dulverton Waste Services.

What is happening at Dulverton?

Kentish Community Presentation, May 2026



OUR PLAN

VISION

Yesterday's waste, tomorrow's resource.

MISSION

Our mission is to partner with the community to deliver innovative and sustainable solutions for waste management.

1

What are we all about? Strategic Plan 2025-2035



Our Objectives

LEADER: We will be a recognised leader for waste and resource management in Tasmania.

PROTECT: We will protect the environment, our systems, data and other assets

EVOLVE: We will evolve to meet market demands and strengthen our community by implementing innovative resource recovery solutions.

TEAM: We will foster a welcoming , supportive and safe workplace where employees are inspired and motivated to contribute to a positive future.

2

Dulverton has been around for the past 30 years, with the focus moving from just waste and heading into resources. They are now the third largest landfill in Tasmania, servicing much of the North-West and partially West Coast. This is considering they are only a staff of 10.



Achievements last year

Received:

- 127,135 tonnes landfill waste
- 31,806 tonnes organic material composted



Recovered/Produced:

- 6,591 tonnes of compost produced
- 55,923 tonnes of material reused rather than landfilled



3

Improving the environment



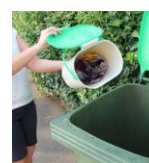
Community:

- 11 events, 9 Site tours and 77 presentations to school and community groups made
- \$1,260 donations to local groups



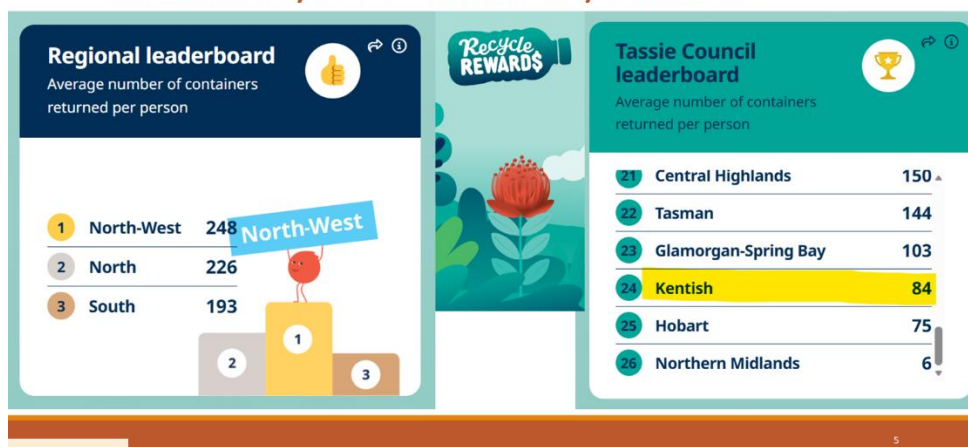
Environment:

- 24,512 CO2e tonnes of carbon removed from atmosphere which equals taking 9,844 passenger vehicles off the road for the year or planting 408,540 trees
- 5,500Kl of leachate captured and treated by Taswater at the Latrobe Sewage Treatment Plant
- Significantly reduced offsite odour impacts by processing organic material through Dulverton Organic Treatment facility
- Installed 7 new Water Monitoring bores with real time reporting
- Received the contents of 438,537 FOGO bins and diverted 8,352 tonnes of FOGO from landfill



4

What has your community achieved?



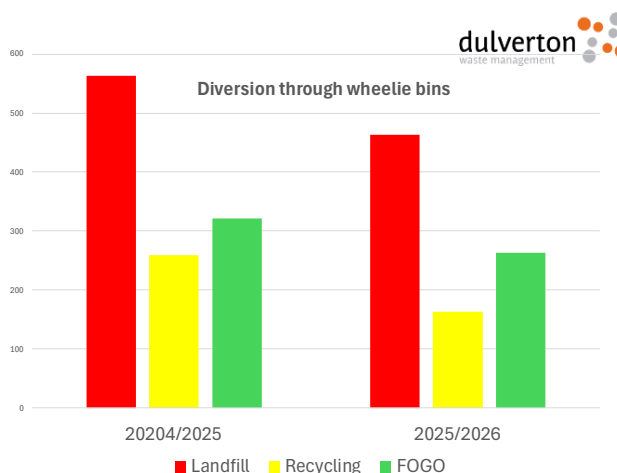
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Approximately half of all containers sold are returned for recycling. The money raised from returning containers can be donated to local charities, like the Kentish Lions Club.

How is FOGO and Recycling tracking for Kentish?

In 24/25 your community diverted 51% from landfill and saved almost \$27,000 in waste levy.

To date the 25/26 diversion is 48% and saving is \$19,119



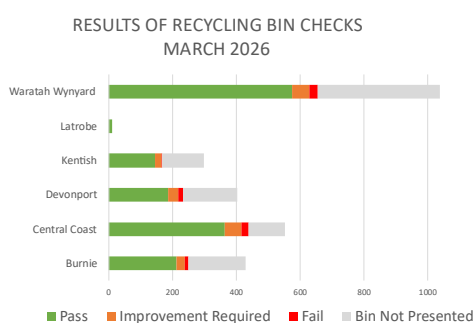
NOTE: 2025/26 result to 31 March 2026

6

Managing contamination December 2025 audit



Bin Check program

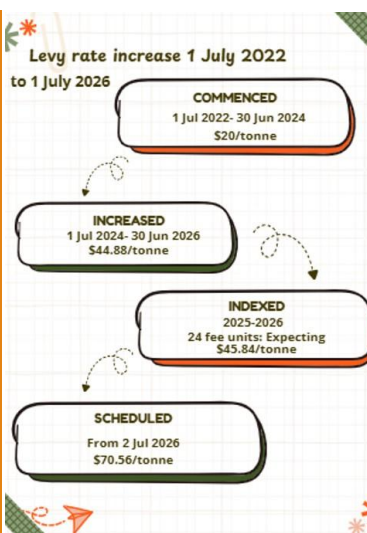


- Veolia drivers check every collection and mark down if you have the wrong material in the bin
- They will tag your bin so you know what needs to be fixed
- 3 tags and you can expect a letter from us
- 4 tags, the bin may be removed
- Also do seasonal checks pre-collection
- March and April results were strong

Dulverton have the best facilities in the country around recycling and composting. General Waste bins will be audited throughout the year to see what could have been recycled / composted rather than sent to landfill. Everything that gets sent to landfill is then included in the waste levy.

Why does it matter?

- Since July 2022 there has been a state waste levy – each tonne we landfill we pay a tax. It has risen from a base of \$20 in July 2022 to \$70.53 from July 2026



Priority projects for the region 2026/27

- Seeking exemption from ACCC for range of regional/statewide procurement programs
- Establish household soft plastics collection and reprocessing
- Look to roll out a Public event trailer to reduce disposable plastic use at events
- Expanding public place collection hubs from 5 Councils to all
- Engaging secondary school students using the Plastic Shredder



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Dulverton are also looking at avenues to bring back soft plastics recycling.

Comment

There are pharmacies in Devonport that collect blister packaging from medications.

Answer

There is a lot of plastic waste around medication. Some of the waste levy costs are looking into reinstating this collection in the Council Office.

Question

How clean do bottles need to be when they are put in recycling?

Answer

If they can be rinsed, that would be useful although bottles don't need to be clean enough to eat off. Also, labels can stay on cans. When they are broken down and processed, the labels are broken down as part of the process.

Question

Do items taken to the waste transfer station end up in Dulverton?

Answer

Yes, with the landfill costs going to council. The less that can go into landfill, the cheaper for council and therefore ratepayers. Since 2022 \$37 million has been collected in waste levies by the State Government. \$30 million has since been returned to the community.

The more that conversations can occur and items can be recycled, the better for the environment and the lower the amount of waste levy that is paid.

Sheffield Town Hall Upgrades

The Sheffield Town Hall has been getting some much-needed attention over the last few months with roof replacement, regional clinic roof replacement and now the kitchen replacement. Being a heritage building the task wasn't straight forward, as structural issues were found in the roof. Also to meet heritage requirements, all flashings and penetrations must be installed in the traditional way. The signature roof vents were refurbished and powder coated to retain as much of the original as possible.

The Town Hall Kitchen is receiving a complete makeover. A new full stainless-steel kitchen will be installed to future proof the facility and make it more user friendly for caterers and emergency evacuation situations.

Question

What is happening with the repairs to the stage?

Answer

The area has now be re-roofed and the works are progressing.

Sheffield Museum

The Kentish Museum officially reopened in mid-January 2026 following a period of review and transition to a new governance and support structure under Kentish Council.

The museum is currently open to the public on a regular weekly schedule (being Wednesday, Friday and Saturday 10.00am – 3.00pm).

A refreshed operational model is now in place, providing clearer governance, volunteer support, and stronger alignment with Council policies and community expectations.

Volunteer engagement has been a key focus, with renewed recruitment, clearer role descriptions, and improved support through Council's Volunteer Support framework. The response from both existing and new volunteers has been very positive. There are currently 12 regular volunteers with new recruitment still occurring.

We are seeing steady visitation numbers and strong local interest since reopening, demonstrating the community's ongoing value of our shared history and heritage.

With the Wilmot Museum joining with Kentish Council, this creates opportunities for collaboration, shared volunteer support, coordinated promotion, and a more cohesive approach to preserving and celebrating the history of the Kentish region.

The late Alan Dyer has also generously donated his extensive collection to the Kentish Museum, which will go on display later this year.

Question

If I wished to volunteer at the museum, where would I go?

Answer

Discuss this with the museum in the first instance.

Australian Rowing Championships

The Australian Rowing Championships (#ARC26) headed back to Tasmania in 2026, with the spectacular Lake Barrington International Rowing Course resuming hosting duties from March 23 – 29.

The decision followed the record-breaking success of #ARC25, which saw unprecedented participation levels, overwhelmingly positive athlete feedback and a surge in spectator attendance.

Rowing Tasmania supported the successful delivery of #ARC26, working in close collaboration with Rowing Australia, the Tasmanian Government and Kentish Council.

Rowing Australia CEO Sarah Cooke OLY said the organisation was inspired by the return to one of Australia's most picturesque and iconic rowing venues after a superb regatta in 2025.

"Lake Barrington offers a truly world-class setting for athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators, and we're incredibly grateful to the Tasmanian Government, Rowing Tasmania, and the Kentish Council for their strong and ongoing support." Cook said.

With the event falling just ahead of the Easter long weekend and the school holidays, #ARC26 presented a perfect opportunity to combine world-class sport with a well-earned holiday in one of Australia's most stunning regions, exploring all that Tasmania has to offer.

Rowing Australia have now confirmed that they will be returning in 2028, showing just how world class our rowing course is!

Mayor Haberle added that Rowing Tasmania have put in a bid to obtain funding from both the State and Federal Governments to upgrade the infrastructure around the lake.

Comment

There seemed to be more rowers around Sheffield than last year. They must have been more comfortable since they were here last year.

Comment

A lot of residents opened their homes to the rowing groups as well.

Cr Hughes added that after the rowing, 120 army cadets came to Lake Barrington for their annual training, and have signed on for an additional four years which is great for Kentish.

3 Council Highlights

Annual Plan / Budget Update Q3

Council approved the FY2025/26 Annual Plan and Budget in June 2025, which is a snapshot of the work we are progressing with the continued aim of achieving our vision where *'Kentish is known as a distinctive place where people want to live; for its caring community that celebrates the arts, diversity, the awesome natural environment and its vibrant local economy.'*

A key reference to our annual plan work is our 2020 – 2030 Strategic Plan and Councillor Term Plan, both of which outline our objectives and guide our decisions with a view to supporting us in achieving our vision.

We have also considered our highest rating strategic risks to ensure we continue to progress initiatives that support us in responding to these areas that threaten achieving our vision.

Council received a report in April 2026 sharing progress over the first half of the year and included the following highlights:

- Council is progressing with its Waste Reduction and Minimisation Strategy. Community engagement is currently being sought through a survey. The draft will then be released for public consultation.
- The economic development strategy provides a renewed vision for sustainable economic growth across the municipality. A new five-year strategy is currently being developed and will be the subject of broad consultation with business and community stakeholders
- Council continues to progress as a child-safe organisation and has collaborated with students in the development of youth created artworks for Councils child safe instructional and advocacy posters
- Council is finalising the new Enterprise Agreement which is important to attract, retain, and reward staff whilst negotiating a sustainable position for ratepayers.
- Safety for our team and the community remains a priority with initiatives including 10 staff completed traffic management training
- Investment in training and development remains a priority, with 10 staff enrolled in Diploma or Certificate IV qualifications, supporting both professional growth and development of internal capability.
- Procurement of new in-vehicle monitoring system was finalised. The solution includes critical safety features to detect rollovers, duress buttons to support remote or isolated workers, and capabilities for emergency management.
- The 2024/25 Annual General Meeting was held in December in the Sheffield Town Hall
- The net result for Councils Operating Budget for the financial year ending December, is favourable by \$63,000.

Mr West noted that this years budget was tracking as expected, although the current international issues are also impacting council. The Hobart CPI index was higher than anticipated (at 5.1%) which is impacting budget planning for 2026/27. It is planned to endorse the 2026/27 budget at the June Council Meeting, with rates to then be issued in early July.

Kentish Park Toilets

The Kentish Park toilets have recently been reopened, although there has already been a lot of damage and vandalism. Continued vandalism at the site in Lower Barrington has significantly damaged the facilities and has limited Councils willingness for ongoing investment in the facilities.

In recent months, the amenities block has been repeatedly targeted, resulting in repair costs and safety concerns. Incidents have included the theft of equipment and repeated vandalism with repairs approaching \$10,000 in total. Fires have also been deliberately lit inside the toilets

using paper and other materials, and fixtures and fittings have been damaged on multiple occasions.

In one instance, large boulders were removed from the lake's edge and used to smash toilet bowls. Doors that were securing the worksite were unscrewed to gain access to target the facility. Council has received reports of ongoing late night antisocial behaviour in the area, including vehicles and trail bikes accessing and loitering around the facility and general area.

The behaviour presents safety and health risks and places additional strain on its limited ratepayer-funded resources.

Works are scheduled to begin in the off-season to strengthen and reconfigure the facility. Planned upgrades include the installation of stainless-steel toilet suites, heavy duty doors, three unisex cubicles, improved sightlines by lowering part of the external wall, and internal repainting.

As the remote site will only be serviced twice a week plus the repeated fires and blockages, Council will initially adopt a Parks and Wildlife Service approach of "bring your own toilet paper" to reduce misuse and fire risk. Similarly, users of the area will be expected to take their own rubbish with them. Further measures under consideration include potential automatic locking systems to limit after-hours access and the installation of surveillance cameras to the general area.

Public amenities are provided for the benefit of residents and visitors, and that continued vandalism is likely to affect service levels in the future. Community members are encouraged to report anti-social or illegal behaviour to the appropriate authorities.

Comment

Modern security cameras are quite inexpensive. Then the footage could be shown to police.

Answer

As there is no phone reception in that area, monitoring cameras is difficult. They also would not be able to store the footage off-site and have the potential to be stolen. Council will be working through this issue to make the area secure and useable.

Wilmot / Sheffield Waste Transfer Stations – Video Monitoring Grant

The Council is pleased to announce that Kentish Council has secured a \$49,800 grant funding from the Cradle Coast Waste Management Group to be utilised at both the Wilmot Transfer Station and the Sheffield Transfer Station, for the following items:

- Bin lifter hardstand at Sheffield Transfer Station (\$15,000)
- A plumbed in eye-wash station at Sheffield Transfer Station (\$7,800)
- CCTV surveillance at Wilmot Transfer Station (\$27,000)

The grant funding for Wilmot Transfer Station will go towards installing a power supply and video monitoring system to site. A welcome addition that will enhance security and safety to all users.

Maintenance Works Update

Recreation and Sports Grounds

- Sports grounds are now in football configuration, ready for what looks like a very big season for Kentish teams.

- Feedback from user groups during the summer has been very positive towards the grounds and has been assisted by the addition of the in-ground watering system and the dedication of Daniel, our lead Sheffield Groundsman.
- The watering system has reduced the team's hours required, shifting or supervising the traveller irrigator, allowing additional time to assist the Parks and Open Space team with other work around town.

Parks and Open Space team have been flat out with the autumn's last-minute grass and tree growth before it settles for winter.

Civil Grading crew is currently grading around the Sheffield area.

Roadside verge maintenance crew have transitioned the tractors from mowing to shoulder maintenance for the next four months.

Stormwater team has been concentrating on culvert and drain clearing through Moina and back down Cradle Mountain Road towards Wilmot

Capital Program Update

A project in this year's Capital program was to purchase and install a vehicle monitoring system for all our fleet vehicles. This is a great system that comes with a lot of benefits to Council. Some of the main features are:

- Live map-based data that shows all vehicle locations and activity. Essential for emergency management to ensure the safety of staff, allowing efficient allocation of the nearest assets in case of emergency response.
- Job scheduling
- Automatic duress activation in the event that a vehicle is involved in an accident, with location details and type of activation i.e. collision, rollover. The system will notify supervisors, who can then initiate a response.
- Unsafe driver alerts
- Live km data for maintenance scheduling
- Live monitoring vehicles for any abnormalities or faults
- Many reports, like fuel usage, utilisation, and due for service.

The systems are all installed and are currently being configured and customised, ready for an expected go-live date by the end of April – May.

Mr Mouat added that road resealing is occurring around Sheffield, with some line marking to be carried out. If there are any areas that require attention, please notify council.

4 Upcoming Events / Promotions

Weindorfer Day and Film Festival 2026

Weindorfer Day is set to be held on Sunday 3 May 2026, beginning at 10am, marking an important celebration of Gustav and Kate Weindorfer and their fellow nature enthusiasts who pioneered conservation and the protection of Tasmania's natural heritage particularly the Cradle Mountain – Lake St Clair National Park.

The event commences at 10am with a welcoming ceremony that includes an introduction to Gustav's life and his pivotal role in the preservation of Tasmania's wilderness. Participants will

gather at the heart of Wilmot, a town with historic connections to the Weindorfers, where his spirit of conservation is deeply revered.

Throughout the day, a series of activities are planned, including guided nature walks led by local experts. These walks will offer insights into the unique flora and fauna of the region, reflecting Weindorfer's passion for the natural world.

Additionally, there will be educational workshops focusing on environmental conservation and the history of national parks in Tasmania.

A highlight of the event will be a commemorative speech by a notable conservationist, drawing parallels between Weindorfer's work and current environmental challenges.

This will be followed by a community gathering, where attendees can share stories, enjoy local Tasmanian cuisine, and engage in discussions about ongoing conservation efforts.

Weindorfer Day is more than a commemoration; it's a call to action, inspiring continued commitment to the preservation of Tasmania's natural beauty. It's an opportunity for both locals and visitors to connect with the environment and to honour the legacy of a man whose vision has left an indelible mark on Tasmania's natural heritage.

Upcoming Events Calendar

This calendar is also on the back of everyone's agenda tonight.

17 March – 31 May	<i>Looking on the Bright Side</i> An exhibition of paintings and pottery by Gillian Robnik Sheffield Art Gallery, Pioneer Crescent, Sheffield
24 April – 16 May	<i>Lost in Tasmania</i> Exhibition Sheffield Arts Centre, Pioneer Crescent, Sheffield
2 May	Pop-Up Preloved Clothing Sale Sheffield Bible Chapel, High Street, Sheffield 2 – 5pm
3 May	Weindorfer Day Wilmot 10am – 2.30pm Idell Wadley events@weindorfer.org.au 0448 326 246
9 May	Railton Markets Kings Hall, Latrobe Road, Railton
16 May	Artisan Market, Sheffield Art Centre, Pioneer Crescent, Sheffield
23 May	Wilmot Trivia Night Wilmot Memorial Hall, Main Street, Wilmot 6.30pm Bookings Essential – Annette Charleston 0409 338 942
27 May	Mt Echoes Film Presentation Sheffield Uniting Church Hall, Main Street, Sheffield
6 June	Wilmot Markets Wilmot Memorial Hall, Main Street, Wilmot 9.00am – 1.00pm
20 June	Claude Road Markets Claude Road Hall 9.00am – 1.00pm

Steam Train Rides

Sheffield Steam and Heritage Centre

First full weekend of each month 11.00am – 4.00pm

5 Community Matters

Question

Are the Trademutt uniforms standard issue?

Answer

Yes, they were issued to all outdoor staff during their weekly meeting for Mental Health Week, and are a great conversation starter.

Comment

Johnson Street is worse after Council repaired the street. Where the works ended, residents are still parking on what is now considered to be the road.

Answer

This issue was looked at during the municipal bus tour in February. Mr West will investigate this issue further with Mr Magor.

Question

The tree planting down Main Street, and East Victoria Street near the transfer station. Is there a plan to replace trees that have failed?

Answer

Mr Blackwood-Beattie was investigating this issue during the week. The types of trees planted are mixed due to bugs adapting and eating plants that they never have before. The tree in front of the flashing school signs will not be replaced for safety reasons.

Question

Nominations for the upcoming elections open in September. Is Council planning on having an information session for people interested in nominating?

Answer

It is still before parliament to reduce councillor numbers from 9 to 7, although the community will still be electing the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. The Tasmanian Electoral Commission (TEC) is running a strong campaign around standing and the legislation involved regarding training once a person has been elected. Some Councils do run sessions in addition to the ones run by the TEC, and this can be investigated further down the track if there is interest.

Question

The previously proposed amalgamation with Latrobe Council. I don't believe there has been any community consultation. Is this still being actively pursued and will ratepayers have a say?

Answer

This idea is still being investigated, although there is currently no support from the State Government. There will be community consultation prior to any decisions being made.

Comment

I strongly believe that there is merit in combining, although the budget and councillors should remain separate. Kentish wants and needs to retain its own identity as it is just an area, whereas Latrobe is not only the municipality, but also a town and location.

Answer

With the shared services, there is a lot of work for the staff. There is potential for the municipal alliance to be used more strategically to limit the amount of duplication occurring across both councils.

6 Meeting Close

Mayor Haberle closed the meeting at 8.28pm, thanking everyone for their attendance, noting that if there are any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact their local councillor or the Council office directly.