



# Lower Barrington, Acacia Hills & South Spreyton Community Information Evening

Meeting to be held Tuesday 30 April 2024 at 7:00pm

Lower Barrington Hall

## Agenda

### 1 Welcome and Introduction

The Mayor will provide a welcome.

Please ensure that you have signed in at the entrance.

#### 1.1 Invitees

<b>Councillors</b>	
Mayor Kate Haberle	Deputy Mayor Penny Lane
Cr Rodney Blenkhorn	Cr Linda Cassidy
Cr Phil Dickinson	Cr Simone Haigh
Cr Terry Hughes	Cr Phillip Richards
Cr Don Thwaites	
<b>Council</b>	
Gerald Monson (General Manager)	Michael Mouat (Operations Manager_
David Midson (Corporate and Business Services Manager)	Nyree Webb (Administration Officer)
<b>Special Guest</b>	
Ms. Veronica Schilling – CEO, Dulverton Waste Management will present on Food Organics, Garden Organics Collection (FOGO)	
<b>Community Members</b>	

#### 1.2 Apologies

<b>Councillors</b>	
<b>Staff</b>	
<b>Community Members</b>	

### 2 Update from Previous Meeting

Updates regarding the community requests from the previous Acacia Hills, South Spreyton and Lower Barrington Community Information Session held 31 October 2023 are available at the back of this Agenda.

### **3 Food Organics, Garden Organics (FOGO)**

Tasmania's waste management is undergoing a significant transformation with the construction of the state's largest composting facility by Dulverton Waste Management. This facility will allow for more efficient and cost-effective disposal of organic waste, including food and garden waste from residential areas, and will assist with extending the landfill lifespan. The composted product will serve as a valuable resource for gardens and agriculture.

Additionally, to encourage better waste management practices throughout Tasmania, the State Government implemented a landfill waste levy in 2022- 23 but will waive the fee for any waste diverted from landfill.

These factors have encouraged Kentish Council to reconsider the benefits of a Food Organics, Garden Organics (FOGO) collection.

The Cradle Coast Waste Management Group, with Kentish Council as a member, has facilitated the tender process for a FOGO service. The FOGO service is set to be nominally implemented on 1 July 2024 for all tenements currently receiving a kerbside waste service (garbage and recycling) throughout the municipality.

While reduced compared to previous costings, there will be a fee for this service. Kentish Council will collaborate with other North-West Councils and the Cradle Coast Waste Management Group to maximise education opportunities and streamline the implementation process.

Overall, Tasmania's push towards the FOGO service represents a significant step forward in sustainable waste management practices. By diverting organic waste from landfills and promoting composting, we aim to reduce environmental impact and create a greener future for all residents.

#### **Update**

A new food and garden recycling service is coming to our Council. To participate, households which already have a recycling bin will receive an additional bin between mid-May 2024 and mid-June 2024. The new 240 litre FOGO bin will be delivered to the front of your property, together with an information kit on how to use it.

From July 2024, residents will be able to recycle food scraps along with grass, leaves and branches through the FOGO bin. This includes fruit and vegetable scraps, meat, dairy, grains and cooked leftovers.

#### **Why are we making this improvement?**

We understand that introducing a new bin might be challenging at first, but the benefits for our waste system, our finances, our environment and our community will be significant and continue to grow over time. The immediate benefits are:

- Food waste that currently rots in landfill produces potent methane and contaminated water that must be managed.

- Diverting food and garden waste from landfill is the single biggest thing we can do as a community to help combat climate change.
- It is estimated that each year, there is around 47,400 tonnes of food and organic waste in the kerbside bins that could be composted in Tasmania. The FOGO service will increase the number of councils reducing landfilling of food from 9 to 13 when the four North-West Councils kick off this service in July 2024.

### **Bin collections**

From July 2024, the FOGO bins will be collected fortnightly. The new service will recycle FOGO into compost, to be used as a fertiliser for farmers. It's a small change that will make a big difference.

### **What will you need to do?**

Be a FOGO Hero and separate your food scraps and put them into your green-lid FOGO recycling bin, with any plant material from around the yard for collection fortnightly. Your general waste bin will also be collected fortnightly, as your yellow bin is now, so using the 3 bins correctly will make sure you get the best use of your bin space.

### **We are here to help.**

For more information or to discuss any assistance you need to undertake this change, please visit [kentish.tas.gov.au](http://kentish.tas.gov.au) or call Dulverton Waste Management on (03) 6424 7344.

Thank you for being a part of our community's contribution to protecting our environment for future generations.

## **4 Local Government Reform**

### **Background**

The Tasmanian Government has commissioned the Local Government Board (the Board) to undertake a broad review into the future of local government in Tasmania.

The Board has identified seven (7) key areas for the Review based on the services that local government currently delivers:

- Community wellbeing.
- Economic development and local promotion.
- Environment.
- Finance and administration.
- Governance, accountability, and representation.
- Infrastructure provision and management.
- Land use planning and other regulatory services.

## Update

The Local Government Board's final report into the future of Local Government throughout Tasmania is now very much in the hands of councils and their communities as the Tasmanian Government has invited public comment and submissions until 29 February 2024.

There are several ways you can have your say. You can make a submission by mail to Local Government Reform, GPO Box 123, Hobart, 7001, by email to [lq.consultation@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:lq.consultation@dpac.tas.gov.au) or online.

The Board has proposed an integrated package of 37 reform options as well as practical pathways and timelines for the implementation of those reforms. At the heart of all the proposed changes is the overriding objective of working with communities to ensure councils are in the best possible position to support the future well-being, sustainability, and prosperity of the communities they serve.

One administration and operational structure supporting two discreet Local Government Areas is unique but despite all that has been achieved, despite the efforts of management and staff, and despite the foresight and support of successive elected memberships, more needs to be done to meet the future needs of our communities.

The proposal to merge our two councils has been supported by the Board (Recommendation 4) and we will need to work with our respective communities to provide information that affords you the opportunity to make informed decisions and to determine your support or otherwise for the merging of our two councils.

The Local Government Board's Final Report can be accessed at <https://engage.futurelocal.tas.gov.au/>

The submission of the Board's Final Report to the Minister ends the substantive Review process under the Act.

The Report and the Board's recommendations are now matters for the Minister to consider. Should the Government agree to the Board's recommendations, it is anticipated successful implementation of both the Phase 1 voluntary amalgamation process, shared services, and all supporting specific reforms would need to occur over approximately a two-year period.

## 5 Tasmanian Planning Scheme

### Background

Councils are required under the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (the Act), to publicly exhibit their draft LPS for 60 days. The Act provides that any person can make a representation (submission) on the draft LPS within that 60-day time period.

Council must then consider the representations received and provide a report to the Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) on those representations.

The TPC will undertake a statutory assessment of the draft LPS, the representations on the draft LPS together with other matters it is required to consider by the Act.

Council received direction from the Tasmanian Planning Commission to advertise and seek submissions in relation to the Kentish Local Provisions Schedule (LPS). The period for lodging submissions closed on 7 July 2023. A total of 64 submissions were received. The submissions have been lodged with the Planning Commission. Council's strategic planner has reviewed the submissions and prepared a summary of the issues raised. They are currently being workshopped with Councillors and a report will be prepared for November Council meeting. Council will then lodge with the Planning Commission, its report on the submissions received.

A series of hearings for those property owners who have made representation will then be scheduled and they will have the opportunity to speak to the Commission regarding the content of their representation.

## **Update**

At its meeting on 19 December 2023, Council as a Planning Authority endorsed its Section 35F report. The Section 35F report contained a copy of each representation received, a statement of Council Planning Authority opinion as to the merit of each representation as to;

- Whether the draft LPS should be modified; and
- If recommended to be modified, the effect on the draft LPS as a whole;
- A statement as to whether the planning authority is satisfied that the draft LPS meets the LPS criteria; and
- The recommendation of the planning authority in relation to the draft LPS.

The report was forwarded to the Tasmanian Planning Commission and on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024 the Commission advised that the report meets the requirements of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1994*.

The Commission held a series of hearing in Sheffield on 16-19 April. Property owners who submitted a representation were afforded the opportunity to address the Commission in relation to their representation. The Commission will now consider all relevant matters and determine whether any modifications are required prior to finally approving the draft Local Provisions Schedule.

## **6 Works Update**

### **Operations Update:**

Roadside mowing has been completed for the season. The roadside crew have now started roadside edge maintenance.

Gravel road maintenance is currently progressing through the Wilmot area. The Drainage Maintenance Crew are also in Wilmot.

## **Upcoming Capital works:**

Main Street High Street Roundabout – currently out for tender.

Sheffield Stormwater Improvement Works - between Nook Road and Dodder Rivulet and at Albert Street, Sheffield.

## **7 Operational Changes at Sheffield Transfer Station**

The State Government introduced the Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022 for the purpose of encouraging the diversion of waste from landfill, increasing the recovery of resources from waste and to impose a levy on waste received at a landfill facility. It further provides for standards and guidelines to be made for landfill and resource recovery facilities across the State. There are significant fines if Council does not comply with the Act.

From 1 July 2024 it is mandatory for Council to keep daily records of the volume and type of material being deposited at the Sheffield Transfer station. To facilitate compliance with the data recording requirements the Cradle Coast Waste Management Group and Council successfully secured grant funding to install specialized waste management software.

This also means a change to the current way the transfer station operates. You will no longer be able to simply “drive through” and deposit your waste and recycling. All vehicles must stop to enable the load to be inspected so that the transfer station operator can record the approx. volume and type of material being deposited.

Coupled with the above changes is an increase in the landfill levy. Council currently pays \$20 per tonne for waste to landfill and from 1 July 2024 this will increase to \$42.72 per tonne and a further increase by the same amount in two years' time.

Council is currently working on a communications plan, reviewing operating procedures at the transfer station and the charging methodology to incentivize a reduction in material going to landfill.

## **8 Lower Barrington Footpath**

### **Background:**

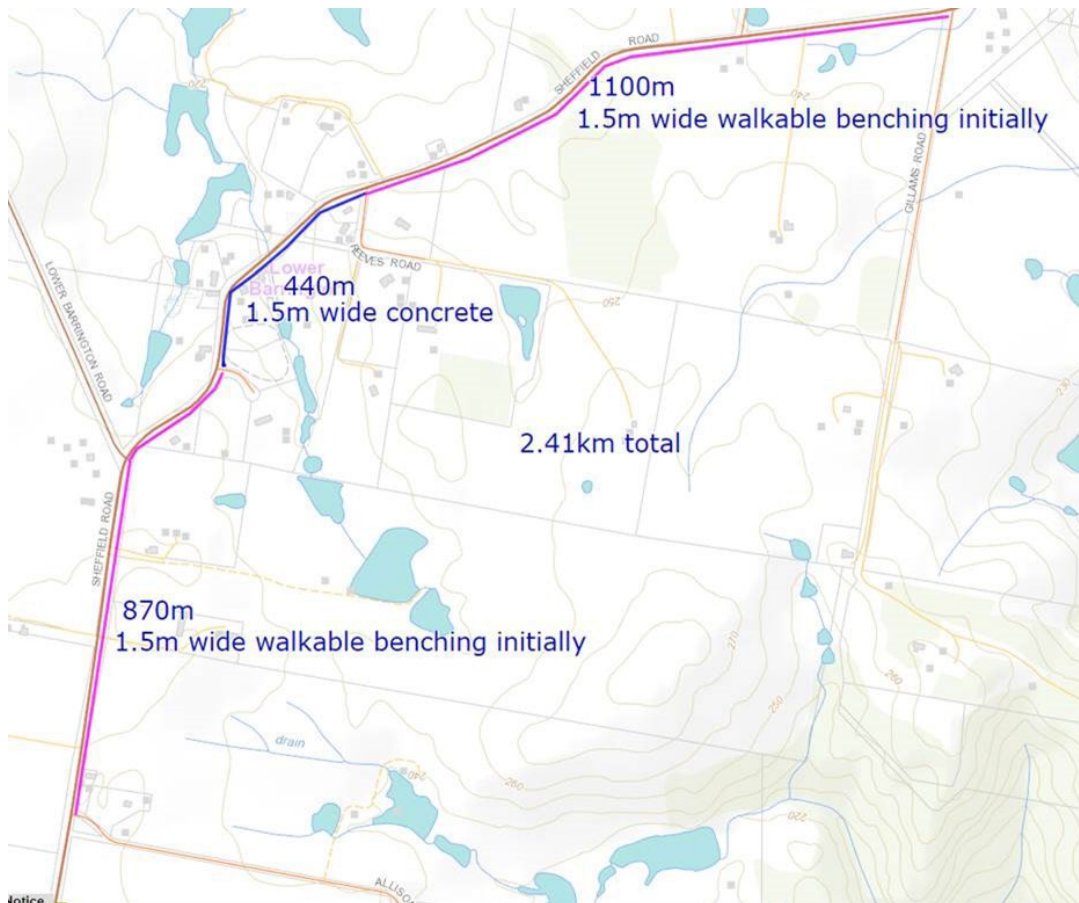
Council received a submission from residents in Lower Barrington about potentially constructing a footpath through the township and within the Department of State Growth (DSG) Sheffield Main Road corridor. Council's Manager Infrastructure and Assets has been liaising with State Growth to determine if it is possible to include a 1.5m wide corridor required for a future footpath in conjunction with proposed road upgrade works.

The Department have advised that they are happy to design their works to accommodate a future footpath corridor, however their project does not go through Lower Barrington proper, where there is most interest in a path. It commences 100m north of Reeves Road and ends 100m short of Cooper Place.

Council's Manager Assets and Infrastructure believes it is hard to justify a 440m concrete footpath and has suggested that a gravel track may be an alternative option.

### Update

The Sheffield Road widening project is not currently progressing and the associated levelling for a pathway within the road reservation is similarly stalled. It is understood that the Federal Government funding sought by the Department of State Growth and intended for the works has not been secured. The potential project is therefore currently on hold.



## **9 Other Issues Raised by the Community**

Bronwyn Watson – Lower Barrington Pathway Project.

Meeting close



## Action Items – Acacia Hills, South Spreyton and Lower Barrington Community Information Evening 31 October 2023

### Lower Barrington Footpath – Jonathan Magor

**Question:** Could there be a bicycle track/lane that links rural areas to towns?

**Action Taken:** Refer to Item 8 on Agenda

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### Other Issues Raised by the Community – Michael Mouat

**Question:** James Road footpath across the bridge area re-discussed. Is there a possibility for the road speed limit be reduced, to slow traffic, reducing the roadkill, reducing the impact to the road, making it safer for people – including school children – who walk the road area etc.?

**Question:** Could a road counter be placed to monitor speed data?

**Comment:** The road verges are in a poor condition. Community Question: Could the road be a lower speed?

**Response:** Mr Mouat responded that a request for a road speed reduction is a complex journey.

The General Manager advised that if a community gathered to make a supportive submission it may help with the case. Mr Mouat made a note to assess a possible road counter.

**Action Taken:** This is still being looked into and an update will be provided at the next meeting.

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