DEVONPORT CITY COUNCIL

ANNUAL PLAN 2026/27

BUDGET SUMMARY

This Annual Plan outlines the initiatives Devonport City Council will deliver during the 2026/27 financial year to support the City's vision of being "a thriving regional City that lives lightly by river and sea." As the final year of the current Council term, the Plan focuses primarily on completing the priorities and commitments outlined in the Council's Term Plan 2022-26.

The most significant being the signature project of this current Council, the new Devonport Oval Stadium. During their term this Council has set the vision for a premier multi use facility, secured funding, completed design and are currently well advanced and on program with construction.

The Plan recognises the next 12 months as a transitional year, with a caretaker period, election of a new Council, followed by an induction process and the planning of priorities for the next four-year council term.

Importantly it continues to provide a clear framework for maintaining high-quality community services, progressing numerous strategic projects, and investing in the infrastructure needed to support a growing and connected community. Budget estimates for FY 2026/27 have been prepared to ensure the resources are in place to deliver these outcomes, complete key initiatives, and leave a strong foundation for the incoming Council.

FINANCIAL POSITION

The financial position of Council remains strong, allowing a controlled approach to increasing cost pressures whilst continuing to invest significantly in long term future growth and prosperity. Council is in the enviable position of being able to develop the new $60m Devonport Oval Stadium without any new loan borrowings.

This year the General Rate increase will be just under the Hobart inflation figure (CPI March qtr) at 4.75%. Changes in property valuations will see this increase impact differently across property classes with a greater burden on residential properties and less on commercial, industrial and primary production classes, due to residential properties having increased at a higher relative value, than others. In dollar terms, for the average residential property, the 4.75% represents an annual increase in the General Rate of $114. Along with a $25 increase to the Waste Management Service Charge and increases to the State Government Fire and Waste Levies, the total increase equates to $3.23 per week for the average residential property.

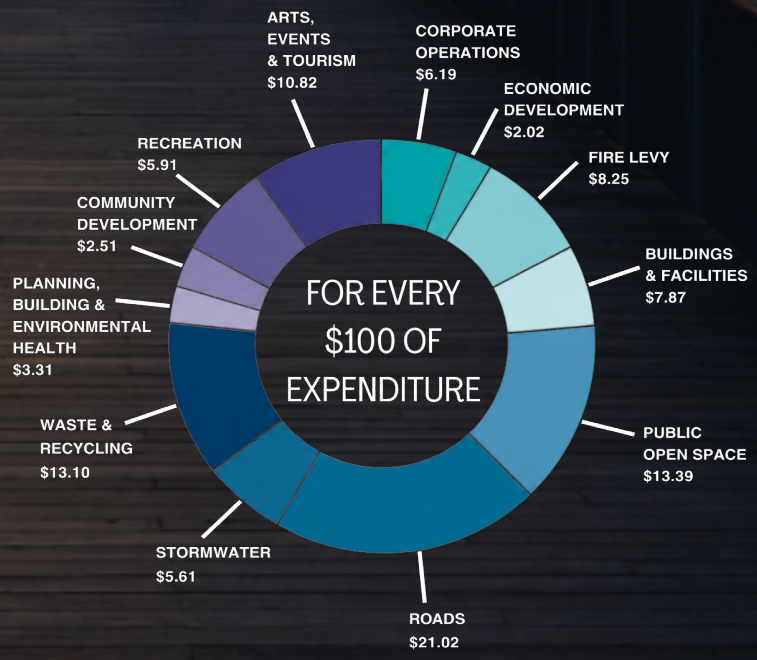
The Operational Budget includes $58.01m of expenditure to ensure Council continues to provide all the services expected in a vibrant regional City. The provision of 533km of roads, footpaths and a growing network of shared pathways is Council's biggest expense with 21% of total rate income required to fund the network. This is followed by expenditure on Public Open Space which includes the maintenance and upkeep of the City's 63 Parks and Reserves and 14 sports grounds. The cost of waste management, with an emphasis on recycling and resource recovery for the betterment of future generations, continues to increase and requires 13% of rates and service charges in addition to the user fees.

In addition to core Council services, the budget invests significantly in arts, culture and events, allocating 11% of total rate revenue to these activities.

With income estimated at $59.34m, the budget anticipates a net operating surplus of $1.33m. After the removal of the non-cash share of profit due to Council's ownership in the Dulverton Regional Waste Management Authority, the estimated surplus reduces to $0.308m.

WHAT WE DO: OUR ROLE

WHAT DO MY RATES PAY FOR?



FY27 ANNUAL PLAN ACTIONS

This Annual Plan identifies 33 targeted Actions, which will be a focus of the organisation over the next 12 months. The Actions are largely aimed at completing the priorities identified by this current Council and preparing and planning for the incoming Council and establishing their strategic direction for the next four year term.

STRATEGIC GOAL 1

- Implement and "go live" with the Pivot Systems Waste Transfer Station software.
- Review and update the Kelcey Tier Master Plan.
- Finalise and adopt a Build Nature in Strategy.
- Undertake review of commercial waste routes in Devonport.
- Introduce a more sustainable and efficient fuel source for pool heating at Splash Aquatic Centre.

STRATEGIC GOAL 2

- Undertake the 5-yearly review of the Local Provisions Schedule (LPS).
- Deliver place name and brand identity outcome for the city and region.
- Conduct a review of surplus assets to determine suitability for sale.
- Conduct an audit of insured assets.
- Progress the subdivision, design details and contractual documents for a multi-level commercial office building on Parcel A within the Formby Road Carpark Master Plan.
- Attract a developer and progress planning for a multi-level residential development on Parcel B within the Formby Road Carpark Master Plan.

STRATEGIC GOAL 3

- Commence implementation of the paranaple Convention Centre Business Plan.
- Launch new sound and light show content.
- Prepare for a major travelling exhibition in FY28, including securing additional sponsorship and developing a targeted marketing plan.
- Investigate options for increasing parking capacity in the southern end of CBD.
- Complete the extension of Fenton Way through to Oldaker Street and identify suitable development opportunities for the remaining land parcel within the Fenton Way precinct.
- Review and deliver a revised Tidal Festival Program.

STRATEGIC GOAL 4

- Develop Master Plans for Maidstone Park and Girdlestone Park.
- Complete construction phase of the Devonport Indoor Stadium project.
- Finalise operating model for the Devonport Indoor Stadium in readiness for opening.
- Review and update the Devonport Regional Gallery & Public Art Strategic Plan Renewal.
- Develop a campaign to increase dog registration compliance.
- Facilitate an "ageing well" event.
- Develop a Youth Strategy.
- Facilitate a new youth event.

STRATEGIC GOAL 5

- Develop a new four year Term Plan (2026-2030).
- Facilitate the induction of the new Council.
- Report and promote Council's outcomes and performance relative to the Term Plan 2022-2026.
- Undertake corporate review of Council Strategies to ensure relevance, identify opportunities for consolidation and commence preparations for new Strategic Plan.
- Enhance Customer Service with an AI Video Concierge for Council Services at the new Devonport Indoor Stadium.
- Complete and "go live" with Council's refreshed website.
- Develop a People Strategy in accordance with legislative requirements.
- Implement TechnologyOne CiA Property and Rating.

BUDGET ESTIMATES

The Estimated Statement of Comprehensive Income below reports the budgeted revenues and expenses calculated on an accrual basis. Figures exclude internal charges and classify revenue & expenses as per financial statements.

	FY27 BUDGET	FY26 FORECAST	FY25 ACTUAL
	$000	$000	$000
RECURRENT INCOME			
Rates and Service Charges	40,101	37,890	36,024
Fees and User Charges	10,027	9,251	9,062
Grants - Operating	3,686	3,407	2,528
Contributions - Operating	49	79	180
Investment Revenue	3,028	3,839	3,393
Share of Profits of Associates	1,021	1,021	1,386
Other Revenue	1,427	1,140	1,484
TOTAL RECURRENT INCOME	59,339	56,727	54,057
EXPENSES			
Employee Benefits	18,789	17,611	15,880
Materials and Services	23,921	21,558	20,962
Depreciation	11,846	11,986	11,516
Financial Costs	1,684	1,429	1,391
Other Expenses	1,770	1,512	1,380
TOTAL EXPENSES	58,010	54,096	51,129
SURPLUS /(DEFICIT) BEFORE CAPITAL ITEMS	1,329	2,631	2,928
UNDERLYING RESULT	1,329	1,923	2,552

	FY27 BUDGET	FY26 FORECAST	FY25 ACTUAL
CAPITAL BUDGET			
Asset Renewal	17,243,900	11,433,250	9,949,170
New / Asset Upgrade Projects	16,251,600	10,216,853	6,405,856
Total Capital budget	33,495,500	21,650,103	16,355,026
EXTERNAL FUNDING			
Capital Grants	23,371,000	18,920,362	10,109,355
Sale of Assets	238,575	382,000	227,000
	23,609,575	19,302,362	10,336,355

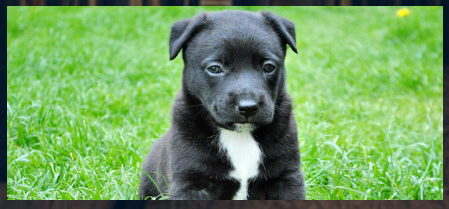
Council has not planned for any new borrowings in the 2026/27 financial year. Full detailed budget reports are available on Council's website.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Council's capital expenditure for the 2026/27 financial year totals $33.5m, with the largest investment of $24m allocated to the Devonport Sports Stadium Project. Other key projects include $1m for replacement of the pool water heating system at Splash Aquatic Centre, $0.2m for the Splash Aquatic Centre car park extension, and $0.125m for replacement of the aquatic centre's HVAC system. $3.18m has been allocated to safety and renewal road projects, including the reconstruction of Lillico Road, improvements at the Elizabeth Street–Formby Road intersection and safety upgrades on Paloona Road. Extensions to the shared path network and general footpath improvements will total $1.07m and include an important section of new shared path between Tarleton Street, Anchor Drive and Reg Hope Park. Community projects also include $0.063m for a fenced off-leash dog exercise area at the East Devonport Foreshore and $0.06m for refurbishment of public toilets at Mersey Vale Cemetery.

Splash Aquatic Centre will receive $1.325m for replacement of the pool water heating system, extension of the car park, and replacement of the centre's HVAC system.

$24m towards construction of the Devonport Sports Stadium.



$0.063m for a fenced off-leash dog exercise area at the East Devonport Foreshore.

$0.2m for upgrades to roads, drainage and signage at the Spreyton Resource Recovery and Reuse Centre.

$0.06m for refurbishment of public toilets at Mersey Vale Memorial Park.

$0.10m for traffic management improvements at the Elizabeth Street–Formby Road intersection.

ESTIMATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

The Estimated Statement of Financial Position reports the projected assets, liabilities and equity of Council, providing information for assessing Council's expected financial position.

	FY27 BUDGET $000	FY26 FORECAST $000	FY25 ACTUAL $000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	25,338	40,182	47,763
Receivables	3,870	3,527	3,624
Other Assets	175	175	695
Available for Sale Assets	-	-	2,434
	29,383	43,884	54,516
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables	162	193	224
Other Assets	-	-	-
Investment in TasWater	94,489	94,489	94,489
Investments in Associates	23,061	22,340	21,619
Property, Plant and Equipment	942,579	904,795	890,435
Right of Use Assets	634	693	768
	1,060,925	1,022,510	1,007,535
TOTAL ASSETS	1,090,308	1,066,394	1,062,051
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	6,629	6,629	6,718
Interest Bearing Liabilities	794	758	28,656
Provisions	2,609	2,609	2,627
Lease Liabilities	58	56	56
Contract Liabilities	3,789	3,790	20,047
	13,879	13,842	58,104
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Interest Bearing Liabilities	35,964	36,758	14,895
Provisions	325	325	514
Lease Liabilities	668	695	754
	36,957	37,778	16,163
TOTAL LIABILITIES	50,836	51,620	74,267
NET ASSETS	1,039,472	1,014,774	987,784
EQUITY			
Asset Revaluation Reserves	697,655	697,655	697,655
Other Reserves	18,094	18,094	18,094
Accumulated Surplus	323,723	299,025	272,035
TOTAL EQUITY	1,039,472	1,014,774	987,784

PUBLIC HEALTH OBJECTIVES

In accordance with Section 71 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the Annual Plan is to include a summary of the principal strategies designed to achieve the Council's public health goals and objectives.

Devonport City Council is required to maintain high standards of public health protection as mandated by the *Local Government Act 1993*, *Public Health Act 1997*, *Food Act 2003*, *Burial and Cremation Act 2019*, *Litter Act 2007* and the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*. The Council aims to:

- **Protect public health by inspecting and licencing all relevant public health & food businesses.**
- **Promote the education of food handlers and requirements for Food Safety Supervisors.**
- **Monitor and provide advice to the community on the quality of water used for recreational purposes.**
- **Provide a Sharps Disposal System to promote the proper disposal of needles and syringes.**
- **Manage complaints about environmental and public health issues, such as noise, smoke, waste and odour to address alleged breaches of legislation.**
- **Ensure compliance and monitoring of domestic on-site wastewater systems.**
- **Safeguard public health by minimising preventable illnesses through the implementation of the School-Based Immunisation Program for all secondary school students within the municipality, in alignment with the National Immunisation Program.**

STRATEGIC PLANNING FRAMEWORK

This Annual Plan is part of Council's Strategic Planning Framework and should be read in conjunction with other documents as outlined below.