



**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**Wednesday 12 April 2017**

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Waratah-Wynyard Mayor Robby Walsh has invited the community to have its say on the Draft Annual Plan and Budget 2017-2018.

This year's budget includes an investment in infrastructure of just over \$6.9 million, which is once again one of the largest Capital Works programs delivered by this Council.

Some of the projects and initiatives included in the annual plan include:

- Major budget allocations for:
  - o \$897,000 for the Wynyard Goldie Street North Carpark;
  - o \$450,000 for improvements of the Wynyard Wharf Carpark;
  - o \$825,000 for a new boardwalk between the Wynyard Wharf and Wynyard Yacht Club precinct, subject to receiving State Government funding for the renewal of the Wynyard seawall;
  - o \$615,000 for the remediation of Camp Creek
  - o \$690,000 for the completion of the Somerset Village Development Plan
  - o \$180,000 for the renewal and/or upgrade of the Inglis River Trail
  - o \$183,000 for the completion of the Council administration building upgrade.

- \$864,00 for the renewal of rural roads including (sealed/resealing) Mt Hicks Road, Preolenna Road, Sisters Beach Road, (unsealed/resheeting) Strawberry Lane, Nunns Road, Robin Hill Road, Scotts Road, Takone Road, Lockett's Road.

The Annual Plan is projected to achieve an overall surplus of \$1.139 million and an operating surplus of \$356,488.

"This would be the first time the organisation has been able to deliver an operational budget surplus since 2007 and that's an excellent result," Mayor Walsh said.

This will be the third year that Council has released its annual plan prior to adoption to provide the opportunity for community feedback and input.

"Waratah-Wynyard Council is one of the few Council's in Tasmania to provide the community with the opportunity to give their views and feedback on the proposed budget and proposed rates increase," Mayor Walsh said.

"Each year more people have taken the opportunity to have their say, realising their views can have an impact on what we do in the future. We encourage everyone to read the draft Annual Plan and provide their constructive feedback"

"Having the community's involvement in this process ensures that we are not only on the right track, but also that they have a better understanding of the budget process."

Mayor Walsh said Council had worked hard to balance the costs of rates with the need for the development of new assets and the need for reconstruction and renewal and had kept the rate increase to 1.5%, which was consistent with the Local Government Association of Tasmania's 2016 Council Cost Index.

The Mayor noted that for the first time in three years it has been necessary to increase the waste management charge by \$10 in order to maintain that service at a break-even level.

“Council is always working on ways to keep cost increases to a minimum not only by continuing to enhance our resource sharing arrangement with the Circular Head Council, but also to look at other avenues of funding,” he said.

Copies of the draft Annual Plan and Budget are available online or at Council offices. Feedback can be made in person at Waratah-Wynyard Council offices, 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard, or Smith Street, Waratah, in writing to the General Manager PO Box 168, Wynyard Tasmania, 7325 or email [council@warwyn.tas.gov.au](mailto:council@warwyn.tas.gov.au), via [www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/yoursay](http://www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/yoursay), or posted onto Council’s Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/WaratahWynyard](http://www.facebook.com/WaratahWynyard). Comments close at 5pm on Wednesday 17 May 2017.

*Further enquiries may be directed to:-*

*Communications Officer Patrick Fahy on 0427 207 573.*

**Authorised for general media distribution by Michael Stretton, General Manager,  
Waratah-Wynyard Council on Wednesday 12 April 2017**

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| Office:         | 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard TAS 7325                                     |
| Postal Address: | PO Box 168, Wynyard TAS 7325   |
| Telephone:      | (03) 6443 8333   |
| Facsimile:      | (03) 6443 8383   |
| Email:          | <a href="mailto:council@warwyn.tas.gov.au">council@warwyn.tas.gov.au</a> |