

Next Council Meetings:
17 August 2026 and 21 September 2026 at 10am in the Council Chambers

From the General Manager - John Brown

There are few issues that generate as much community concern and emotion as those involving dogs. Council spends considerable time and resources responding to dog-related matters, including roaming dogs, attacks, nuisance complaints, registration, kennel licensing and animal welfare concerns. Most dog owners are responsible and understand the importance of keeping their dogs under effective control. Unfortunately, incidents occur and Council officers are required to investigate and take appropriate action.

These matters can be complex. Council must operate within legislative powers and ensure investigations, enforcement actions and decisions are lawful, procedurally fair and supported by evidence. In some circumstances, Council works closely with Tasmania Police, the RSPCA and other authorities, each with different responsibilities and legal powers.

The current dog-breeding matter in St Marys is an example of the challenges Council faces. Council understands the significant community concern and shares the desire to ensure animal welfare and public safety are addressed. Council has taken action within its authority and continues to work through legal processes. However, Council cannot lawfully take actions outside its statutory powers or that could prejudice an investigation, appeal or other proceeding. We acknowledge legal and regulatory processes can appear slow and frustrating. However, decisions must be based on verified information, evidence and the law rather than public pressure or social media commentary.

Council will continue to respond to concerns, work with relevant agencies and take every lawful action available. We encourage the community to report matters through the appropriate channels so that information can be properly assessed and acted upon.

Local Government Elections 2026 Could You Represent Break O'Day?



This October, Tasmanians will vote to elect councillors, mayors and deputy mayors across all 29 councils. If you've ever thought about making a difference in your community, now is the perfect time to learn more about becoming a councillor.

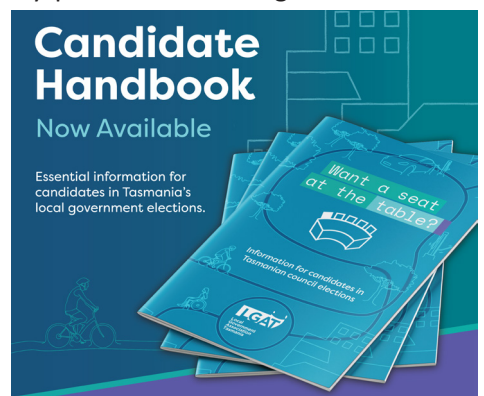
Local government plays a vital role in shaping our communities through decisions about infrastructure, planning, services and community wellbeing. Councillors help set Council's strategic direction, represent the interests of the community and play an important role in shaping the future of Break O'Day.

People from all backgrounds are encouraged to consider standing for election. A diverse Council, with a range of skills, experiences and perspectives, helps ensure decisions reflect the needs of the whole community.

To help prospective candidates learn more about the role, Break O'Day Council will host a Candidate Information Session on **Wednesday, 2 September 2026, from 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm at the Panorama Hotel, St Helens**. The session will feature special guest speaker Dion Lester, CEO of Local Government Association Tasmania, who will provide valuable insights

into the role of local government and what to expect as a Councillor. Tea and coffee will be provided, and everyone interested in standing for election is encouraged to attend.

Candidate nominations open on 7 September 2026 and close on 21 September 2026. Voting will take place by postal ballot during October and is



If you're interested in nominating, the LGAT Candidate Handbook is a great place to start. It provides information on eligibility, the nomination process, campaigning and the role of elected members.

The Candidate Handbook is available from the Break O'Day Council offices or can be downloaded from the LGAT website - lgat.tas.gov.au

Irapuna Community Weekend 2026

The Irapuna Community Weekend 2026 will be held in August, inviting volunteers to help care for the beautiful Irapuna / Bay of Fires coastline while enjoying one of Tasmania's most iconic coastal environments.

Five guided beach walks will take place across 15, 21, 22 and 23 August, providing an opportunity to connect with the community, learn more about this special place and contribute to its ongoing care and protection.

Whether you're a local resident or a regular visitor, everyone is welcome to get involved.

Bookings and volunteer registration are essential. To register or find out more, search "Irapuna Community Weekend 2026" on Humanitix or scan the QR codes for certain dates.



What helps you live well?

Council has started preliminary work to develop a Liveability Framework for our community.

Liveability is simply about understanding what people need to live well — including the things that make our community a healthy, connected and enjoyable place to live.

This exciting project will help guide

Council's future planning, project and strategic work, ensuring it reflects the needs and aspirations of our community.

We are almost ready to begin the community conversation. Keep an eye on Council's Facebook page and website for opportunities to get involved and share what helps you live well.

Important: Changes to Tyre Disposal at WTS

To help us manage tyre recycling more efficiently, Break O'Day Council will no longer accept tyres with rims attached at our Waste Transfer Stations.

If you are disposing of tyres, please remove the rim before bringing them to the Waste Transfer Station:

- Tyres without rims will continue to be accepted.
- Rims can be disposed of separately – free of charge.
- Tyres with rims attached will not be accepted.

Tyre Disposal Fees

- Motorcycle and car tyres – \$11.00 each
- Light truck / 4WD tyres – \$20.00 each

- Truck and larger tyres – \$44.00 each
- Tractor tyres – \$217.00 each

Tyres can be disposed of at the following Waste Transfer Stations: St Helens, St Marys, Scamander and Ansons Bay

Council currently has a backlog of tyres with rims that have accumulated over the past 12 months. Separating tyres from rims is a specialised process that requires significant time and resources, making it unsustainable for Council to continue accepting them.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation. Council may review this arrangement in the future as circumstances change.

IN BRIEF

BREAK O'DAY TO JOIN THE ELECTORATE OF BASS

The Australian Electoral Commission has confirmed that Break O'Day will move from the federal electorate of Lyons to Bass following Tasmania's electoral boundary review.

Mayor Mick Tucker welcomed the decision, saying it reflects the municipality's strong connections with northeast Tasmania and Launceston for health, education, employment and business. Council thanks the Commission for considering community feedback and looks forward to working with Bass representatives to advocate for local priorities.

TASWATER – ST MARYS WATER SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION

TasWater has announced that the design for the St Marys Water System Transformation Project is now complete. The project will see a new water pipeline and pump station constructed to connect St Marys and Cornwall to the existing Fingal water supply system, providing a more reliable and resilient water supply for the community into the future.

TasWater is now planning construction phase and will share more information, including timing and what residents can expect, once details are confirmed. While some temporary disruption may occur during construction, every effort will be made to minimise impacts.

To keep up to date with the project, visit www.yoursay.taswater.com.au/st-marys-water-system-transformation-project and register to receive project updates.

TEMPORARY TOILET CLOSURE – PORTLAND HALL

Please be advised that the public toilets at Portland Hall will be closed on Tuesday, 18 August 2026 while the venue is being used for Vietnam Veterans' Day commemorations.

During this time, the nearest public amenities will be available at:

- St Helens Visitor Information Centre
- St Helens Foreshore public toilets

We thank the community for their understanding as we come together to honour and remember the service and sacrifice of Australia's Vietnam veterans.

THE OFF MAY-AUG
SEASON 2026

Escape the winter

at the St Helens History Room

Free for all of August

St Helens History Room
61 Cecilia Street, St Helens
www.sthelenshistoryroom.com

Proposed Removal of Ageing Community Assets

Ageing structures to be considered by Council Break O'Day Council is considering the removal of two ageing structures that have reached the end of their useful life — the former public toilet facility at the Fingal Swimming Hole and the gazebo at Wombat Walk in St Marys. The former Fingal Swimming Hole toilets have been closed to the public for many years and were partially demolished more than a decade ago. The remaining structure has continued to deteriorate and would require significant investment to meet current building, accessibility and public health standards. The gazebo at Wombat Walk has also been assessed as having reached

the end of its useful life. Recent inspections identified significant structural deterioration, including failing roof trusses and framing that presents a potential safety risk. Due to the extent of the deterioration, repair or refurbishment is no longer considered economically viable. Should Council approve the removal of the structures the works will proceed in the coming weeks.

Council will consider any community suggestions in relation to proposed works or other improvements in these locations. Please forward any suggestions to admin@bodc.tas.gov.au

Get in2Gear: Creating Opportunities on the Road

For many people, getting a driver licence can be the difference between accessing employment, an important opportunities.

While many learner drivers are eager to gain their licence, completing the required driving hours can be challenging. Busy family schedules, work commitments and limited access to a supervising driver can make it difficult to get the experience needed behind the wheel.

That's where Get in2Gear can help.

The program connects learner drivers with volunteer mentors who supervise driving experience, help learners build confidence, develop their skills and work towards achieving their licence.

A licence can open the door to:

- Employment opportunities
- Independence
- Confidence
- Better access to education, training and community activities

Get in2Gear is looking for volunteer mentors across Break O'Day.

You don't need to be a driving instructor — just a fully licensed driver who is willing to share a small amount of their time to support a learner driver.

Just one hour a week could make a real difference to someone's future.

To learn more about becoming a volunteer mentor or if you are a learner driver wanting to sign up to the program, visit the Break O'Day Council website.

WHAT'S ON

Dyslexia Community Information Session -

Tuesday 11 August

Parents, carers, educators and community members are invited to this session to explore dyslexia, reading challenges and related learning differences. St Helens Library, 1.30-2.30pm for parents, carers and community, 4-5pm for educators. More information at www.squarepegstas.org

Artists' Dinner -

Saturday 29 August

Break O'Day Artists Inc. presents "Artists' Dinner" at Panorama Hotel from 6.30pm.

Two course dinner, entertainment, raffle and more. Book now at Eventbrite.

Sustainable Living Expo -

Saturday 29 August

Fabulous workshops, stall holders and guest speaker plus the ReFashion/Trashion show with St Marys Repurposing & Upcycling. & workshop with With One Voice Break O'Day Choir. Come along to the Fingal Valley Sustainability Expo at St Marys Town Hall 10-3pm. Contact Tanya for more information tanya.greenwood@fvnh.org.au

Back to St Marys Weekend -

31 October 2026

Reunite, reflect, reminisce, supported by Break O'Day Regional Arts, St Marys District School Association and Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House. Email backtostmarys2026@gmail.com for more information.

Annual Beach Clean Up -

October 2026

CJR Foundation and Tangaroa Blue, with the support of the Council, will be hosting a community beach clean up at Binalong Bay in October. This will be an annual event so keep a look out for date and time on Council's Facebook to come along and be inspired.

REVIEW OF TASMANIAN CORONIAL SYSTEM

The Tasmania Law Reform Institute is examining the Coroners Act 1995 (Tas) and the operation of the coronial system.

Feedback from people who have interacted with the coronial system will help to inform what amendments might be made. If you would like to find out more about how you can share your views visit www.utas.edu.au

LOCAL MARKETS

St Helens - Every Saturday

Location alternates between the Portland Hall and the Visitor Information Centre Carpark.

St Marys - First Saturday of the month

Held at the St Marys Hall.

GET IN2GEAR

LEARNER DRIVER MENTOR PROGRAM

WE NEED LEARNER DRIVER MENTORS.

Help someone gain confidence on the road.

ONE VOLUNTEER COULD CHANGE A FUTURE.

Find out more at www.bodc.tas.gov.au

DNT
driver mentoring tasmania inc.

ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COUNCIL
TOWARDS ZERO

Break O'Day COUNCIL

Council Works Reports

- Resheeting in progress of Davis Gully Road and Banticks Road.
- Maintenance grading of Policemans Point and Ansons Bay Road underway, to be followed by Lottah Road and gravelling of Blue Tier.
- Mowing continues across all towns as required.
- St Helens CBD flower beds being prepared for spring planting.

MEMORIAL PARK TOILET UPGRADE UNDERWAY

Work has started on the redevelopment of the Memorial Park public toilets in St Helens.

The existing toilet block will be closed while construction is underway, with works expected to be completed by mid-November.

During this time, temporary public toilets are available inside Portland Hall via the front entrance between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm. Public toilets are also available at the St Helens Visitor Information Centre and the St Helens Wharf.

The upgrade will deliver improved, modern public amenities for residents and visitors, helping to enhance one of St Helens' most popular community spaces.

Thank you for your patience and understanding while these important improvements are completed.

WEED MANAGEMENT

- **Scamander:** pampas, Spanish heath.
- **Ansons Bay:** Spanish heath.
- **St Marys:** Spanish heath.

DOG STATISTICS

JUNE 2026

Urban Patrols = 25

Beach Patrols = 16

Infringements = 1

Unregistered Dog = 0

Impounded Dogs = 0

Weed of the Month - Agapanthus

Agapanthus put on a spectacular show this year with its beautiful white and mauve blooms. You may have noticed some growing beyond garden fences, popping up along roadsides and in unexpected places. Gardeners know agapanthus as a hardy, easy-care plant that forms dense mats of roots that are difficult to remove. Even small root fragments can regrow, and the seeds are easily spread by the wind.

Now that flowering has finished, remove the seed heads before they dry and release their seeds. Dispose of seed heads and roots responsibly to prevent

them spreading.

Many common garden plants are escaping into the environment, impacting natural habitats and farmland, and some have become Declared Weeds. Please help protect our local environment by keeping your garden plants where they belong—at home.

Visit www.NRE.tas.gov.au/invasive-species/weeds



Pick It Up. Bag It. Bin It.

Our parks, walking tracks and reserves are enjoyed by residents and visitors every day. Keeping these spaces clean is a shared responsibility.

Unfortunately, while some dog owners bag their dog's waste, the bag is then left beside the bin instead of being placed inside it. Bagged dog waste left on the ground is still littering. It creates unnecessary mess, poses a health risk and leaves someone else to clean it up. Please remember to:

- Carry enough dog waste bags.
- Place bagged waste inside the rubbish bin.
- If a bin is full, take the bag with you until you find another bin.

Under Tasmania's litter laws, leaving

a bag of dog waste on the ground is considered littering and may result in an on-the-spot fine or other enforcement action.

Responsible pet ownership helps keep Break O'Day's parks, reserves and walking tracks clean, safe and welcoming for everyone.



FESTIVAL OF WELLBEING

Wednesday 7 October

Seeking Expressions of Interest

Festival of Wellbeing is back in 2026 and we're inviting expressions of interest from organisations, businesses and community groups who'd like to be involved.

- Community organisations
- Health & wellbeing providers
- Market vendors
- Food vendors
- Performers & entertainers
- Activity providers



Please contact:

renee.dunn@bodc.tas.gov.au
by Friday 21st August

