



Fingal Township Plan

2022 - 2025



Version 1 – October 2022

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Introduction

Township Plans are developed with community and provide Council with an understanding of the needs of each community, as well as how community and Council can work together to achieve them.

The idea to develop township plans came from conversations Council staff had with communities when we consulted on the development of the Strategic Plan in 2017.

The first Township Plan was developed in August, 2018.

This second edition of the Fingal Township Plan will guide activities over the next three years, from 2022 – 2025.

To develop this plan we consulted the Final community through a “drop in session” and an online survey process. Further detail on the information from the community engagement process forms Appendix 1 to this Plan.

This Township Plan will replace the 2018-2021 Fingal Township Plan, you can find a copy of this plan and a report of how we went achieving these activities on our website under My Community /Township Plans.

The themes from the previous plan compared to this plan have not changed a great deal with the community still focusing on community infrastructure and tourism

Some notable achievements from the previous plan include:

- Renovation works on the Old Tasmania Hotel – Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House building
- Completion of streetscape works in front of Fingal Park
- Trails at Mathinna Falls and Evercreech were repaired

Fingal – Our Town

An important part in developing the Township Plan is to understanding what residents love about their community and how they would like their community to look in 10 years’ time.

Based on residents answers to these survey questions we developed the below statements.

Community Vision: *The Fingal Community most values its strong sense of community and history as well as the peaceful country living their town offers.*

Community Legacy: *The community of Fingal would like to see the township become a popular place for tourists to stop with an increase of commercial businesses and tourism infrastructure. They would also like to see more opportunity for community facilities and general infrastructure like roads.*

You can find a full report of all community consultation including how these statements were developed, on our website under **My Community / Community Consultation**.

Community Engagement and Plan Focus

A common theme of the Fingal community engagement activities was the need for maintenance works to be done on street infrastructure.

Themes include:

- Tourism ;
- Small infrastructure projects; and
- Connecting to health and wellbeing services.

Some other matters raised were considered by Council as ‘business as usual’ and will be dealt with through existing Council activities.

To ensure all feedback was recorded and not lost we have included a copy of this in Appendix 2 along with items considered outside the scope of the Township Plan.

The 2022-2025 Fingal Township Plan will focus on:

- **Protecting and enhancing the environmental values of Fingal;**
- **Working with health providers to provide a service in the Valley;**
- **Ensuring there are enough community facilities to service Fingal’s future needs; and**
- **Supporting tourism.**

Action List

Action	Who
1. Community Projects 1.1. Work with the community to develop a planting program for the Fingal Recreation Group to which community can undertake plantings	Council/Community
2. Community infrastructure 2.1. Work with community to identify areas that could be upgraded to host recreational infrastructure including a tennis court and trails 2.2. Review township signage	Council/ Community Council
3. Supporting Tourism 3.1. Work with the community to rebrand Fingal as a tourism destination and encourage members of the committee to participate in the Valley Tourism Group sessions 3.2. Work with the community and Fingal Valley Tourism Group to re-design township signs to reflect their community 3.3. Work with community to identify event opportunities to promote their township	Council/Community Council/Community Council/Community
4. Health Services 4.1. Work with local and visiting service providers to service the Fingal Valley by using the Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House as a venue	Council/ Service providers

Reporting back to the Community:

We will report back to you on how we are progressing with these actions twice a year. An updated action list will be posted on Council's website and forwarded to those that are on Council's Fingal Township Email Database. (If you would like to join this database, please email, admin@bodc.tas.gov.au.)

Any feedback on these plans can be sent to admin@bodc.tas.gov.au

The Fingal Township Plan has a term of three (3) years – after this period, the action list will be reviewed.

Adopted by Council on XX

Appendix 1

Community Engagement

On Wednesday 6 April, 2022, Council held a “drop in session” at Fingal where Council officers met with community members seeking their feedback on the following issues:

- Infrastructure;
- Environment; and
- Other issues

Fifteen community members registered their attendance at this session.

During the Drop-in session period (11 March – 2 June 2022) a survey was available for community members unable to attend the Drop-in session. The survey received 244 responses from the Break O’Day Municipality – 16 of these were from Fingal.

Council heard from a total of 31 Fingal residents.

According to the 2021 Census, Fingal has a population of 431 people.

While developing township plans we also asked residents to share with us what they loved about their community and how they would like their community to look in 10 years’ time.

The answers to these questions were used to develop a vision and legacy statement for each township and we would appreciate your feedback on these as well as the plan itself.

These statements will help Council to make decisions about your township based on whether they fit with the vision and legacy of each community.

The Community Vision and Legacy Statements for Fingal are:

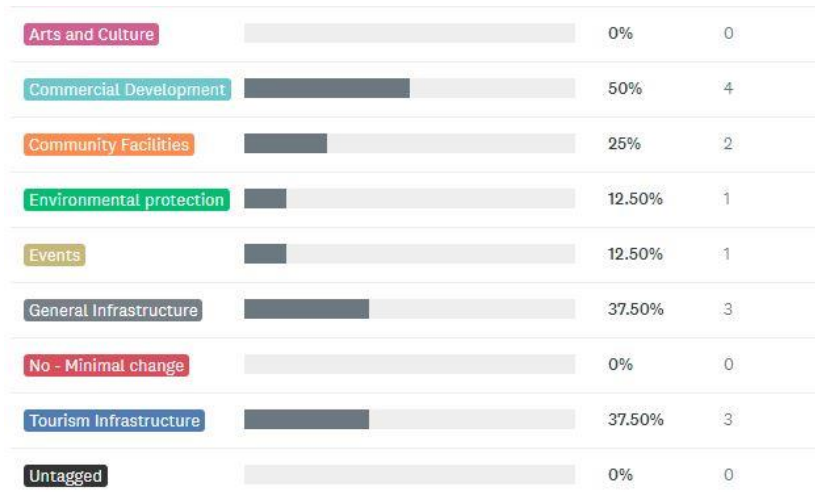
Community Vision: *The Fingal Community most values its strong sense of community and history as well as the peaceful country living their town offers.*

Community Legacy: *The community of Fingal would like to see the township become a popular place for tourists to stop with an increase of commercial businesses and tourism infrastructure. They would also like to see more opportunity for community facilities and general infrastructure like roads.*

The above statements were developed from Community feedback as shown over:

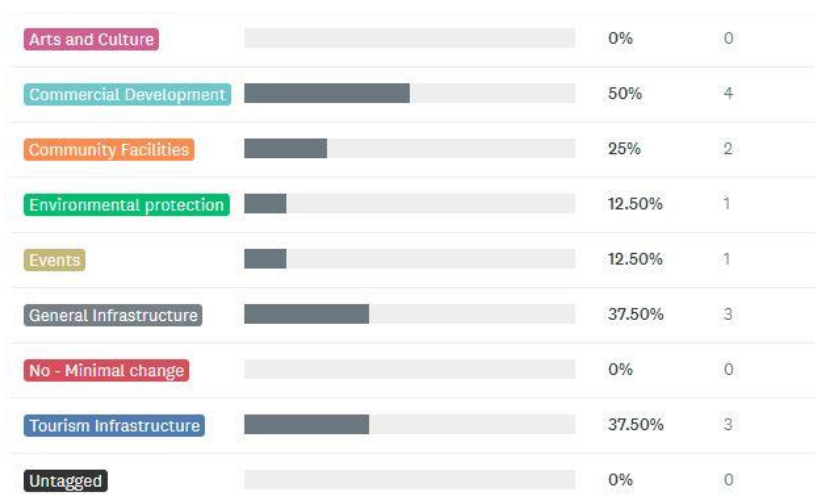
Grouped answers to Question 5.

What do you most love about your community?



Grouped answers from Question 7.

How would you like your community to look in 10 years' time?



“Maximising the obvious heritage of Fingal with thriving hotel, cafes and shops. A place where people can live and work and enjoy a beautiful part of Tasmania’s East Coast while being an hour from Launceston airport and 30 minutes from the beach, all within the beauty of a historic county town.” Comment direct from community member.

You can find a full report of all community consultation on our website under **My Community / Community Consultation**.

Appendix 2

Business as Usual Activities

Comment	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seal Albert Street – based on use – dust factor 	Council to review the request
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower end of Victoria Street – Crown Reserve – vegetation and weeds 	Forward this information to Crown Land Services for action by Crown Land
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve waste management – recycling services for glass and plastic, green waste 	Review
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council to cut grass and make the town look presentable again 	This is undertaken by Council staff
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove the gorse and Hawthorne Weed infestation – river – old cells 	Community to work with Council staff to develop a program

Activities Outside Township Plan Scope

Comment	Action
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climbing gym in St Marys – feeding into tourism in Fingal 	The significant cost implication, space requirement and inflexible nature of a climbing installation does not align with the program of the building and won't be part of the project.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Table and seat relocated closer to river – so that people can sit and relax 	The current seat has been placed above the typical flood level
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kerb and guttering – near old church – main road 	Noted that the infrastructure is old but still functional and it will be upgrade/replacement to be undertaken in accordance with the asset replacement schedule
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Weather station 	Now installed in Fingal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swimming pool 	Council is undertaking a feasibility study addressing the pool issue
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Brown Street – light currently shines in house – investigate shielding or moving – train/railway crossing 	Light has a role in illuminating the train crossing/road.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Marys/Fingal MTB – NE Corner MTB Rail Trail – Fingal to St Marys 	These projects were identified through the Recreational Trails Strategy – Council to look at this as a project in line with recommendations from community input
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DA Tower Hill Road – Antenna DA 299-21 – Notice docs not state location – states only Tower Hill Road 	The development site is a parcel of Crown land of 6543 hectares managed by DPIPWE and classified as an Informal Reserve, Future Potential Production Forest. The land currently

	<p>accommodates a Fire Lookout Tower, Equipment Shelter, Solar Panel Frame and several antennas mounted on poles providing emergency services radio links to the region. Access is via Cabin Road, off Tower Hill Road on a Crown easement which traverses PID6417501. The development location is described within title systems as Tower Hill Road, Mangana.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skyrail to top of Bare Rock • Steam Train • Small scale live stream/compressed air railway and old goods yard in St Marys 	<p>These projects would require external funding and business cases to support these idea and would also require members of the community to be part of the committee to follow through with the projects</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to FVNH from St Marys – eg transport 	<p>The FVNH have vehicles to provide community transport</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lighten up regulations for Tiny Houses • (Hip Camp) – let people do it experience for visitors 	<p>The planning scheme and planning legislation does not differentiate between the size of dwellings when applying planning instruments.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EV Charge stop 	<p>Planning in progress</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More information provided to the community members about native plantings specific to this area 	<p>Tree planting to be consistent with Council's tree planting and articles to be run through the monthly newsletter advising community of the policy and what can be planted in their community</p>