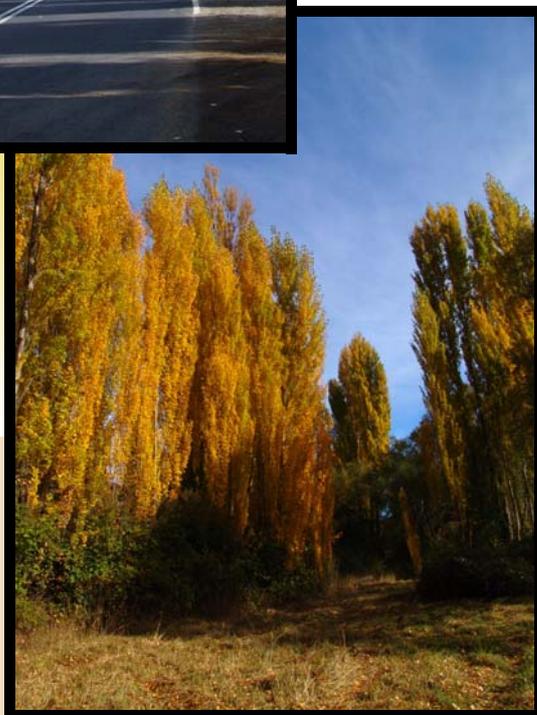
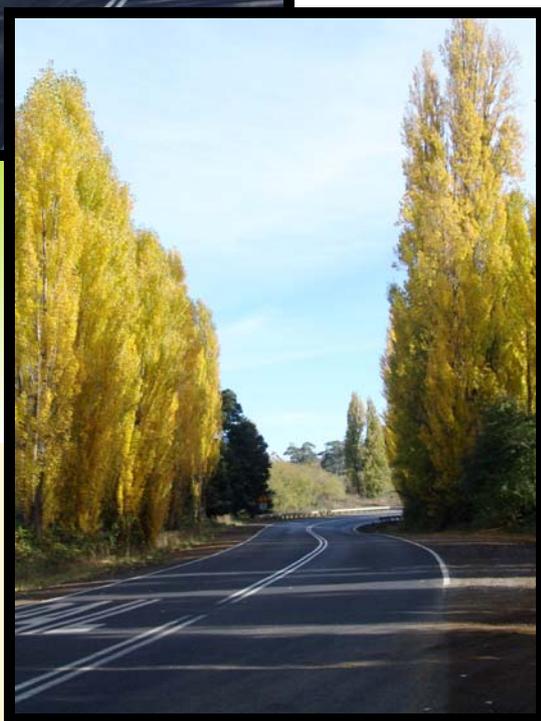
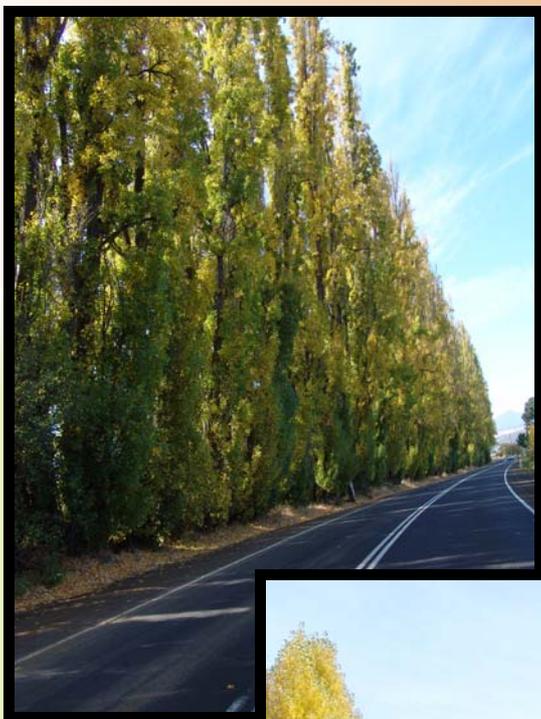


Derwent Valley Council

*Annual
Report
2004/2005*



DERWENT VALLEY COUNCIL

Annual Report 2004/2005

“Our Mission is to lead our community on a path that will provide an environment of health, safety and economic wellbeing in partnership with our residents and stakeholders”

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A Message from the Mayor

This year's Annual Report continues on the same theme as my report of 12 months ago.

Although real estate sales have slowed from the dizzy peaks achieved in previous years there is still plenty of activity indicating that the Derwent Valley remains an area of prime interest to investors and new families, particularly from mainland states.

With improvements to the Granton end of the Lyell Highway and additional work on the "Bumpy Bits" due to commence in March 2006, access to the Derwent Valley has improved slightly. We sincerely hope that funding will become available next year to continue upgrading the Lyell Highway in accordance with priorities already identified.

The development of Willow Court continues and Council wishes to acknowledge the tremendous support from the Australian and State Governments who have both contributed \$750,000 towards restoration of the historic Barracks area. These grants together with Council funds from the sale of buildings on the site will enable this area to undergo a massive face-lift over coming years. Conservation Management plans are currently with the Heritage Council for final assessment.

The Maydena Hauler project

is gathering momentum and Forestry Tasmania and the consultative committee have met regularly to discuss all aspects of the project and ensure that when work on the ground commences all potential problems have been checked. Importantly, the Maydena community has become very involved, thanks to another generous State Government grant of \$250,000. This is to assist with streetscape development and the whole town is very excited about their future.

The Derwent Valley Council has continued to explore any opportunities to improve the efficiency of our operations. To this end we have entered into an agreement with Hobart Water regarding operation and maintenance of our water and wastewater. The current arrangement will be comprehensively reviewed at the end of this financial year to assess and consider a long-term contract.

The Autumn Festival has now firmly established itself as our major event. Although the weather was threatening, thousands of people witnessed a variety of entertainment and enjoyed browsing around a huge range of stalls. International act "A Crowd of Bold Sharemen" proved to be great entertainers and thrilled the crowd with their two performances.

The next 12 months will see

the beginning of a major subdivision of around 600 blocks, which according to the developer is already attracting much interest. The International College on the old Royal Derwent site is also ready to commence early next year. Both these projects will certainly keep the momentum moving forward.

I cannot finish my report without once again thanking all our community groups and volunteers who work tirelessly to keep things running. We are indeed lucky that our community is always willing to lend a hand and our open and friendly nature contributes to making the Derwent Valley such an inviting place.

I thank all Council Staff and fellow Councillors, for their help and contributions during the year.



Nick Cracknell
MAYOR

General Manager's Report

In this past year the Derwent Valley Council was reviewed by the Local Government Board. This review is conducted on all Local Government Authorities at least once every eight years.

It was pleasing to see that throughout the review Council has progressed satisfactorily in most areas. Some that the Board felt were examples of good or leading practice in our operations are as follows:

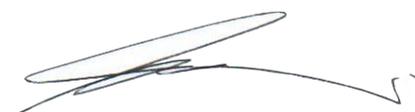
- a) involvement of the community in the process of developing the Rating Estimates as part of the annual budget discussion;
- b) The activities of Valley Vision in relation to such issues as Willow Court, Tourism and the Community House because of the level of Community involvement, the establishment of a strategic direction and the successful outcomes that have been achieved;
- c) Recent but very significant progress in Asset Management and in particular the creation of a reliable and up-to-date asset management database for about 90% (by value) of infrastructure assets;

- d) The holding of Council meetings in different locations in the municipal area;
- e) The development and use of quality assurance systems in the Physical Services and Childcare areas;
- f) Work with young people through the Derwent Valley Youth Future Action Team and through a partnership with the Beacon Foundation;
- g) The positive view that the Community has of Council, as evidenced by the Community Survey, in regard to areas of service and especially the response to the consultative approach to the introduction of wheelie bins;
- h) Improvements in processing times of Building and Planning and Development Applications in the context of increased activity; and
- i) The preparation of financial reports to Council.

In regard to item a) above this Council was the first in Tasmania to introduce this process in the development of our annual budget.

Council is also the first to investigate and implement the transition of the operation and maintenance of our water and wastewater operations to an outside entity namely Hobart Water.

The achievements in the past twelve months could not have been undertaken without the dedicated and enthusiastic support of the Mayor, Councillors and staff and for this I commend them for their collective efforts.



Stephen Mackey
GENERAL MANAGER

Elected Members

Top left Councillor Craig Farrell,
Councillor Hilary Crow, Councillor
Barry Lathey, Councillor Leon
Kemp, Councillor Judy Bromfield

Bottom left Councillor Ray
Williams, Mayor Nick Cracknell,
Deputy Mayor Tony Nicholson,
Councillor Richard Parker



Election Terms of Councillors

Councillor	Term Elected	Councillor	Term Elected
Judy Bromfield	Oct 2002 – Oct 2007	Ray Williams	Oct 2002 – Oct 2007
Hilary Crow	Nov 2000 – Oct 2005	Nick Cracknell	Oct 2002 – Oct 2007
Barry Lathey	Nov 2000 – Oct 2005	Craig Farrell	Oct 2002 – Oct 2007
Tony Nicholson	Nov 2000 – Oct 2005	Leon Kemp	Oct 2002 – Oct 2007
Richard Parker	Nov 2000 – Oct 2005		

Council Meeting Attendance 2004/2005

Councillor	Total Meetings Held	Ordinary Meetings Attended	Special Meetings Attended	Annual General Meeting	Total Meetings Attended
Judy Bromfield	15	12	2	1	15
Hilary Crow	15	12	1	1	14
Barry Lathey	15	12	2	1	15
Tony Nicholson	15	12	2	1	15
Richard Parker	15	11	1	1	13
Ray Williams	15	11	1	1	13
Nick Cracknell	15	9	2	1	12
Craig Farrell	15	12	2	1	15
Leon Kemp	15	8	1	1	10

Contracts, Remuneration and Domestic Water

Contracts for the supply or provision of goods and services in excess of \$50,000 (excluding GST) entered into during the year ended 30 June 2005.

Contractor Name	Description	Value
ALS Painting Service	Painting service	\$ 55,000.00
Andrew Walter Construction	Road stabilisation	\$ 98,572.87
CJD Equipment Pty Ltd	Vehicle replacement	\$ 184,433.75
Collex Waste Management	Waste Management collection service	\$ 134,264.81
DEVON Contractors	Gravel Crushing	\$ 107,312.50
FLOCON Engineering Pty Ltd	Vehicle replacement	\$ 87,120.00
Mader International Pty Ltd	Vehicle replacement	\$ 51,645.00
PACCAR Trucks - Melbourne	Vehicle replacement	\$ 204,705.60
Roadways	Road asphalting	\$ 313,235.54
Unimin Australia Limited	Road maintenance	\$ 65,784.85

Senior Position Remuneration

Annual remuneration, as defined by section 72 (5) of the Local Government Act 1993, paid by council to senior positions within council.

Remuneration package range	Number of positions
\$80,000 – \$100,000	1
\$60,000 – \$80,000	1

Allowances

The following allowances, in total, were paid to councillors in 2004/2005.

Allowances	\$86,566
Expenses	\$5,920
Mayor	\$26,167
Deputy Mayor	\$14,200
Councillor	\$6,600

Partnership Agreement

Council continues to work with the various State Government agencies to progress the actionable matters incorporated with Council's three year Partnership Agreement with the State Government, executed in September 2002.

As at 30 June 2005, a significant proportion of items had been completed, with a number having been placed on hold and others recommended for discontinuation.

Highlights of progress achieved to date of some of the key items contained in the Partnership Agreement are detailed below:

Economic Development

- Valley Vision, on behalf of Council, are Project Managing the adaptive reuse of the balance of the Willow Court site which is not privately owned (Parts B and C). A Conservation Management Plan for Part B of the site was completed during the financial year and endorsed by the Tasmanian Heritage Council. Work to develop a Conservation Management Plan for Part C of the site is underway, intended to be completed in early 2006.
- The Department of Economic Development

assisted Valley Vision and the Derwent Valley Business Enterprise Centre to access funding to address constraints to sourcing seasonal labour.

Transport

- Council has undertaken several meetings with DIER to review and exchange information in relation to the Granton to New Norfolk Transport Planning Study. Council has also met with DIER throughout the year to clarify the extent of State road maintenance requirements in relation to Council assets.

Social and Community Development

- Following requests from the State Government and Council, the Commonwealth Government agreed to reclassify the Derwent Valley from 'metropolitan' to 'rural' under the Rural, Remote and Metropolitan Area incentive program. It is anticipated that this move will provide greater incentive for doctors to continue practicing in New Norfolk and will make it easier to attract more doctors to the area.
- Council has developed a detailed Emergency Management Plan for the municipal area and it has been signed off by the Director of Emergency

Services.

- Council has continued to conduct regular meetings with the Sergeant of the New Norfolk Police Division to discuss and progress crime and community safety issues. A committee has been formed with representatives of Council, Police and the Crime & Community Safety Council looking at ways to inform the public on community safety issues and initiatives.

Education Initiatives

- While a number of actions in the Partnership Agreement are now obsolete, Council has continued to work throughout the year to meet the Agreement's education initiatives.
- During the financial year, Council's youth committee, Derwent Valley Youth Future Action Team (D'FAT) continued to meet fortnightly to discuss and advise Council on youth issues and concerns, and develop activities and projects for young people. With a membership of approximately twenty young people and two Councillors, D'FAT has facilitated during the year a range of community projects which enable young people to develop

a sense of pride and feeling of belonging in the local community. Council continues to allocate a budget to Youth Services to fund these projects. As well as an important forum of advice to Council, D’FAT also serves to facilitate a culture of community participation and fosters an understanding of civics and citizenship amongst the young participants.

- In partnership with the Drug Education Network, Holyoake and the Department of Health & Human Services, Council’s D’FAT Committee facilitated a workshop program delivered in New Norfolk High School aimed at educating young people about drugs and alcohol.
- During the year, Council

participated in The Beacon Foundation’s ‘No Dole’ Program at New Norfolk High School. Established in 2004, this project has been successful in motivating young people to either continue with further education or obtain employment.

- Council continues its practice of providing work experience placements to Year 10 students, and providing traineeship opportunities to local young people.

Enhanced Information and Communications Technology Opportunities

- While Council continues to gain the benefits of Tasinet services (including mobile phone services) and the Networking Tasmania Contract for internet and

email services, work has yet to commence on the development of an Information and Communications Technology Strategic Plan.

Effective Financial Arrangements

- Throughout the financial year, Council has worked on an ongoing basis to meet the financial objectives detailed in the Partnership Agreement. This has included compliance with the National Competition Policy in the provision of Water and Waste Water Services. Council continues to comply with the requirements of the Goods and Services legislation.

Willow Court Precinct

The past twelve months have witnessed significant activity at the Willow Court precinct as the Council moves further forward to realise opportunities available at one of Australia's most valuable heritage Sites.

Sale, lease or use of buildings

The contract for the sale of ten buildings, known as Part A, to Willow Court Village has been completed.

Redevelopment work on Alcheringa to create affordable accommodation and a restaurant (The Nosh Pit) is completed and officially opened.

Other work on Lachlan for Independent Living is nearing completion and Olga for a second restaurant and Community Art centre is very well advanced. The former Male Nurses Home is being refurbished. Work has also started on the Ladies cottage for food services and accommodation.

New Norfolk Lions Club, Masonic Club and Heritage Joinery are continuing to operate in the site.

The Derwent Valley Community House is well established as an independent incorporated entity in the former clinical resources building. There

has been significant expenditure of Capital Funding from the State Department of Health and Human Services to refurbish the facility and provide a new certified kitchen for community use. The House hosted the State Conference for Community Houses, attended by 100 people in September 2004 and much of the catering was provided by the New Norfolk High School. The Council provides substantial support and staff of the outside work force who continue to contribute to the operation of the new House.

The Expression of Interest process for the adaptive reuse of the Oval Precinct has commenced.

Conservation Management Plan

The Conservation Management Plan for Part A was completed and approved by the Tasmanian Heritage Council. A Public Information session was conducted to discuss the Conservation Plan outcomes. CD copies of the plan are available for \$10.00 from the Valley Vision office.

The Tasmanian Heritage Council approved a Works Application to subdivide Willow Court to create Part A and B. The THC approval was conditional upon funding from the disposal of

land and buildings being directed to the development of the balance of the Willow Court site.

The Conservation Plan for Part B, known as the Oval Precinct has also been completed and approved by the Tasmanian Heritage Council. CD copies of the plan are available for \$10 from the Valley Vision office.

The Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for the balance of the site is well advanced. It was decided to further split the balance of the site for CMP purposes to facilitate the adaptive reuse of the Barracks and Bronte buildings for Visitor services.

It is expected the CMP for the Barracks and Bronte buildings will be completed and forwarded to the Tasmanian Heritage Council in October 2005.

The CMP for the remaining buildings and land will commence on Friday 29 September and take approximately 10 weeks to complete.

The Avenue project

This project aims, in partnership with the Private Sector, to provide a new underground power supply to all buildings that front onto the Avenue (eventually the current sub-station will be redundant). To enable this

to occur, it is necessary to prepare a series of plans to achieve approval from the Tasmanian Heritage Council ie Asbestos management, tree management, heritage management and engineering.

All plans excluding engineering are complete. It is planned to issue engineering briefs before December 2005.

Visitor Experience

The plan is to develop a world-class thematic experience for visitors utilising the Barracks and Bronte buildings. \$1.5m funding has been received from the State and Federal Governments to develop the interpretation and adaptively reuse the buildings in partnership with the Derwent Valley Council.

Work on the site is able to commence after the CMP, the appropriate development applications and works applications are approved.

The visitor experience project may take 1-2 years depending on designs and approvals.

Infrastructure

We have continued to learn more about the site infrastructure, especially telecommunications, power, roads, lighting, water and stormwater. The adaptive

reuse of the Barracks and Bronte buildings includes significant work on the hydraulic infrastructure. Master planning of this element will commence as soon as the survey and asbestos registers and removal are complete; estimated to be in October 2005.

Relationships

Funding submissions to the State and Federal Governments for the adaptive reuse of the Barracks and Bronte buildings have been successful. \$1.5m has been provided over three years to stabilise the buildings and develop a visitor experience.

The Council will be establishing ongoing relationships with stakeholders as these projects develop.

The University Pilot Project is nearing completion. The Council, State Government and the University of Tasmania will decide in the next two months whether to proceed to another ARC Linkage grant application. The purpose of the funding is to test a theoretical approach to cultural heritage assessment developed for the State of the Environment Report, Tasmania, 2002 (a cooperative project between the University of Tasmania and the State Government). It will employ this

methodology to address the problems posed by the historic precinct of Willow Court, the 18-hectare site of Australia's longest continually operating mental institution.

Employment

The planning, maintenance, asbestos and pest management, landscape management, building refurbishment, and the University Project have created more than 50 jobs so far. It is anticipated the projects for the Barracks and Bronte buildings to deliver the visitor experience will create 82 jobs during the refurbishment stage.



Ian Brown
Valley Vision
**ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

Corporate and Family Services

Corporate Management

“Maintain an equitable system of local By-laws and Policy consistent with Council’s strategy and policy”



Council reviewed / implemented the following:

- Endorsed the 2004/2005 Weed Management Strategy for the Derwent Valley Municipality
- Adopted a Disability Access Social Plan
- Made a policy to include the Access Advisory

Committee in the approval process for footpath occupation licences

- Undertook an audit on the operations and management of Council
- Made a submission to the Local Government Board in relation to a review of Council

- Adopted a Financial Plan for 2005/2010
- Commenced a review of Council's Strategic Plan
- Provided a response to the Tasmanian Speed Zoning Review 2005

Customer Services

“Monitor the Customer Service area of Council to ensure a high delivery of customer service to Council and the community”

Customer service needs have been met through the provision of two service counters, attended by four Customer Service staff and an office trainee.

Council employed another

trainee following the successful completion of Certificate in Business level three by Christine Lonsdale. Christine obtained a full time job at the completion of her traineeship.

Council introduced Centrepay for residents to pay rate instalments from Centrelink payments.

Human Resource Management

“Use a performance appraisal system to provide feedback to staff, assist with productivity improvement and identify specialised staff training to develop a high performance team”

Staff participated in the performance appraisal system resulting in a review of performance during the

preceding year, including training needs, position descriptions and position classifications.

“Employment Initiatives”

Council and the Beacon Foundation have collaborated on an employment scheme designed to create sustainable jobs for young people in the valley. Nine trainees were employed as part of the scheme and the objective is the establishment of an independent business which will employ some of those trainees.



“Negotiate a new Enterprise Bargaining Agreement with Employees”

The previous Enterprise Bargaining Agreement (EBA) was in force until 30th

June 2005. Negotiations on the new EB have commenced. The new EB

will continue many of the initiatives established in previous agreements.

Elected Members Support

“Ensure the provision of appropriate information, advice and support services to elected members to assist them to work collectively in the development of policy”

Councillors received weekly distribution of information which included correspondence pertaining to involvement of Council, industry newsletters and

press releases from all levels of government.

An Information Bulletin is included with Council's monthly agenda.

Council staff have been freely available to receive enquiries and assist elected members in their role.

Elected Members Support

“Foster working relations between the staff and Councillors”

Council has maintained an open door policy which has provided for a good working relationship between Councillors and staff.

Councillors and staff participated together in community development activities. Examples of this are the Christmas Lights

competition, Autumn Festival, Australia Day, and various community committees.

“Fulfil our statutory responsibilities as Councillors and Council”

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993, Council prepared an Operational Plan and Budget, and an Annual Report.

Council held an Annual General Meeting in December to present its Annual Report to the community and to highlight its achievements for the previous year.

Council met monthly on the third Thursday of every month. Council commenced a review of its Strategic Plan.

Public Relations

“Continue to publish Community Newsletters during the year to highlight current developments and issues for our residents and to produce our Annual Report”

Council published articles in The Gazette, and produced the Derwent Valley Digest distributed throughout the Municipality.

Brochures and information packages are provided to applicants to help them complete Planning,

Development and Environmental applications.

Council is continually developing brochures and information sheets to assist residents.

Council's Visitor Information Centre produces information

and fact brochures for visitors.

Council has a website www.derwentvalley.tas.gov.au. This site is continually being enhanced to provide information on Council services.

Home and Community Care (HACC)

“Encourage services which will allow aged people to remain in their own homes for as long as possible”



Glengrey House is the Derwent Valley's only Adult Respite Centre. It is a place where older people, and people with disabilities can meet others, try new things and go on outings. This in turn gives their carers time for rest and relaxation.

Funded through the Home and Community Care program, and sponsored by the Derwent Valley Council, Glengrey House operates four days a week and covers the areas from Maydena to Granton. We encourage people who do not live in New Norfolk to attend Glengrey House. We have a very reliable transport service, so we can travel to any part of the Derwent Valley area.

At present there are 20 clients on our books. Some clients attend Glengrey House up to three times a week, others twice, and some only once a week. People who attend Glengrey House come from

very different backgrounds, and have different levels of ability.

Some of our in-house activities include happy hours, Christmas activities, painting, cooking, craft and game days.

In 2004 we celebrated Christmas in July, with a lovely meal, and all the trimmings, at the Junction Restaurant.

We visited the Banksia Day Centre, where we had a lovely meal, and enjoyed some games.

In January 2005 eight clients and four staff travelled to the Brigadoon Holiday Units at Ulverstone for our annual holiday.

Other outings included a trip on the Don River Railway, towel factory, Anvers Chocolate factory, and Relaquaire in Latrobe. We also visited the wildlife park at Mole Creek, and had

lunch at the Christmas Hills raspberry Farm.

On other day trips we have been to Kettering, Margate, Fern Tree, Mures, Bothwell, Sorell, Richmond, movies, lunchtime cruises on the Derwent and supported local organisations with fundraising.

We have four casual staff, a volunteer, a co-ordinator, and one activities officer.

Glengrey House enjoys the friendship and support it receives from Michael Polley, MHA and Councillors Hilary Crow and Barry Lathey.

Glengrey House continues to make a difference to the clients' lives who attend. We would like an increase in the number of people who attend.

**Julie Triffett
CO-ORDINATOR**

“Maintain support for the provision of children's services in the Derwent Valley”



Long Day Care

There has been a large influx of children whose parents have relocated from the mainland to Tasmania. The centre is around 80% to 90% capacity for a majority of the week.

The qualified staff shortage has been alleviated with the appointment of two qualified staff.

The centre successfully completed its Quality Assurance Validation in August 2004.

Meals are now being provided for the children at the centre. The meals are nutritionally balanced under strict guidelines. The centre currently caters for children with food allergies eg. lactose intolerance, diabetic and peanut allergy.

The centre continues to support parents who work casual call-in. Up to ten

parents are accommodated in this way. Parents book a month in advance or call the day before, it is very rare for a request not to be met.

The centre also accommodates a number of children with additional needs such as ADD, Autism or language, speech delays. These children are supported by staff with training or experience in these areas and specialist staff who visit the children while in care eg speech pathologist.

Family Day Care

In March 2005, Family Day Care successfully completed the new licensing requirements under the recently proclaimed Child Care Act. Quality Assurance Self Study will be completed at the end of November 2005.

Currently there are nine registered carers in the

scheme. This year the scheme carers deregulated fees along with most other schemes. This means that the scheme sets a base rate and carers decide if they want to charge above the base rate.

Pre-Kinder Sessions (4 years to 5 years)

These sessions are now running at near capacity. Bookings have already been made for 2006.

Afterschool Care (5 years to 12 years)

As of January 2005 these programs need to meet new licensing standards, this centre has now met all requirements. Quality Assurance will be completed in 2006.

(continued on the next page)

Vacation Care

Vacation care was full every day in September 2004, the program was busy and various activities were offered to the children.

Training Workshops were attended by Staff and Family Day Carers

An Asthma Workshop was attended by carers and centre staff, who are now, under legislation, able to administer Asthma medication in an emergency. Protective Care is compulsory for all Family

Day Carers. Staff attended this session every 18 months.

Network Funding

A new system of funding and reporting commenced in 2005. Funding for the centre has remained the same as the previous year. However Family Day Care anticipates that it will be reduced by a significant amount. There are two factors with this reduction, one being the new funding formula and the other the

resignation of three carers who have not been replaced.

Carol Volant
Valley Children Services
Coordinator

Youth Services

“Provide improved opportunities for youth to develop their potential”



Council continued with the employment of a Youth Participation Officer to develop and facilitate a culture of youth participation throughout the Municipality.

Education

Liaised with the Derwent Valley Cluster Support Team. Liaised with peak students bodies including the New Norfolk High School Prefects and the Glenora District High School Student Representative Council (SRC).

Health

Liaised with the Derwent Valley Community Health Centre, Derwent Valley House and the New Norfolk Salvation Army.

Developed and facilitated the youth health expo, “Healthy and Luvin’ it” to raise the awareness of youth health service providers.

Assisted with the facilitation

of youth suicide and depression forum(s), “All too Hard” during 2004 National Mental Health Week.

Assisted with the facilitation of a drug and alcohol workshop, “D&A” during 2005 National Drug Action Week.

Justice and Police

Liaised with Youth Justice regarding the Amazing Bikes program at the Derwent Valley Community House. Developed and co-facilitated a Youth Justice Basketball Team.

Liaised with Tasmanian Police regarding vandalism created by young people.

Youth Participation

Facilitated the publication of Derwent Valley Council’s youth friendly newsletter, “Valley’s Gossip”. Facilitated the 2005 Southern Unleashed concert to raise funds for the

tsunami appeal.

Facilitated the Derwent Valley Council youth advisory group, Derwent Valley Youth Future Action Team (D’FAT). Facilitated the 2005 Annual D’FAT Camp. Facilitated 2005 National Youth Week activities and projects throughout the Municipality. Assisted with a wide range of youth participation activities throughout the Municipality including discos, Local Area Network (LAN) parties, movie nights and pool parties.

Assisted with a wide range of youth participation projects throughout the Municipality, which included the construction and installation of the playground at Ellis Dean Reserve.

Research

Assisted with an Ellis Dean Reserve Playground evaluation.

Community Development

“Encourage individual Councillors and senior staff to maintain regular contact with members of the community through networks involving various groups, clubs and individuals“



Councillors are represented on Special Committees of Council and numerous Community / Government Committees.

During the year Council formed two special committees pursuant to section 24 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

The Derwent Valley Access Special Committee was established to:

- Advise Council on strategies for ensuring equity in access to

services and facilities and to promote an awareness of disability issues within Council and the community.

The Derwent Valley youth Future Action Team (D'FAT) Special Committee was established to:

- To receive and consider youth issues raised by young people
- To receive and consider youth issues raised by Council

- To advise Council on youth issues
- To provide opportunities for community involvement for young people
- To develop young leaders
- To build relationship with High School Junior councils

Local Icon Program

“Promote the Derwent Valley to local residents, intrastate and international visitors”

As part of the Partnership Agreement with the State Government, Council continued to support the

Derwent Valley Concert Band with a \$1,000 icon grant. Council also assists the band with in-kind support

and is privileged to have the band perform at community events.

“Recognise the Achievements of our Residents”

The following events were held where the achievements of residents were recognised:

Australia Day celebrations

Australia Day recipients for the Derwent Valley were:

Citizen

Mrs Edna (Gillem) Reid

Junior Sports

Mr Daniel Hansen

Community Event

Derwent Valley youth future Action Team and the Derwent Valley Autumn Festival

Seniors' Week Celebrations

Miss Kathleen Kille
Mrs Frances Scully
Mrs Sarah Rolfe
Mr Gerald Plunkett
Mr Col Bailey

Mrs Lex Bailey
Mrs Barbara Morley
Mr Rex McMahon
Mrs Daphne McMahon
Mrs Barbara Turner
Mrs Helen Hynes
Mrs Aileen Youd
Mrs Edna Higgins
Mrs Marie Youd
Mr Tony Blackwell

Visitor Information Centre

The Visitor Information Centre continues to play an important role in providing information services to residents and visitors to New Norfolk. The centre had 8,873 visitors through its doors compared to 6,525 the

previous year. February was the busiest month with 2,176 visitors. 44 volunteers man the centre and council contributed \$2,800 towards its operations. The Centre underwent extensive refurbishment in June.



Area Promotion

“Continue to support local events such as the Garden Competition, Australia Day celebrations and the Autumn Festival”

Council supported the following community events:

- Australia Day
- Targa Tasmania
- Garden Competition
- Christmas Promotion
- Carols by Candlelight
- Autumn Festival
- Log a Load for Kids
- Seniors Week
- The Great Tasmanian Bike Ride

“Continue to provide funding to maintain involvement in regional tourism initiatives”

Council is a member of the Southern Tasmania Council's Tourism Association and contributed \$5,405 to membership of the association. Council also provided

funding to the following:

- \$4,500 towards the Rivers Run Touring Route
- \$3,709 towards a promotional video
- \$500 towards the Great Tasmanian Bike Ride 2005
- \$8,000 towards the upkeep and improvements to information bays.

Working Relationships

“Provide funding for local Community Advisory Groups and for the support of clubs and organisations through the Community Grants Program”

Council made the following grants under its 2004/2005 Community Grants Program:

Organisation	Amount	Organisation	Amount
Maydena Online Access Centre	\$1,200	Salvation Army	\$700
New Norfolk District Cricket Club	\$1,200	Bushy Park Show Society	\$500
Derwent Valley Croquet Club	\$576	Glenora High Parents and Friends	\$200
Lachlan Community Hall	\$500	Granton Memorial Hall	\$1,000
Cracked Productions	\$1,188	Magra CWA	\$1,000
Upper Derwent United Hall	\$500	Westerway Primary School	\$1,000
Soroptimist Club	\$475	DV Chamber of Commerce	\$480
Anglican Parish of New Norfolk	\$375	Ouse District High School	\$300
Red Hill Cemetery Restoration Committee	\$500	Glenora Girl Guide Group	\$300

Community Donations

“Recognise the achievements of residents and organisations with the provision of donations”

Council made the following donations to groups and individuals:

Organisation	Amount	Organisation	Amount
Relay for Life	\$500	Glenora District High School – Student Visit to Japan	\$700
Derwent Valley Garden Centre – Schools Tree Planting Day	\$272	New Norfolk Fire Brigade – Santa Lolly Drive	\$50
Laura Berry – Cross Country Running	\$50	Hobart International Speedway – Race Sponsorship contribution	\$200
Andrew Goss – National Robotics Title	\$50	New Norfolk Under 14 Basketball – Lighting	\$200
Adrian Hankins – National Robotics Title	\$50	Australian Breastfeeding Assoc – Educating Breastfeeding	\$100
Adam Kelly – National Robotics Title	\$50	P & J Graham – National Little Athletics	\$100
Damien Triffett – National Robotics Title	\$50	New Norfolk Licenced Anglers Assoc – Trophies for Trophy night	\$100
Victims of Belslan Russia Appeal	\$250	Salvation Army – Red Shield Appeal	\$100
Fairview Primary School – BIG Playgroup	\$50	Mikhala Neads – Basketball Championship Trip	\$50
New Norfolk High School – Scholastic excellence	\$100	Casey Bell – Basketball Championship Trip	\$50
Glenora High School – Student of the Year Award	\$100	Lachlan Community Hall – Cleanup	\$50
Maydena Primary School – Outstanding Achievement Award	\$100	True Value – Tree Planting Day	\$227
Maydena Primary School – Student excursion to Melbourne	\$500	Glenora District High School – Student Trip to Daian, Japan	\$800
South Australian Bushfire Appeal	\$5,000	Tsunami Appeal	\$5,000

Technical Services

“Prepare asset management and five year capital works to maintain the quality and standard of Council's assets and to ensure that they are capable of delivering acceptable service standards to users”

Infrastructure Management



The five year capital works program was reviewed as part of Council's budget process.

A capital allocation was made for the following:

LOCATION	COST	PERFORMANCE
Town Centre Revitalisation		
High St – garbage bins	\$ 7,500	In progress
High St - street furnishings	\$ 7,500	In progress
Bridges		
Glen Dhu Rivulet (off Glen Dhu) - renew	\$ 16,000	In progress
Tyenna River (Weir Rd) - renew	\$ 20,000	In progress
Tyenna River (Fenton Forest Rd) - renew	\$150,000	In progress
Footpaths		
CBD Revitalisation Program	\$ 20,000	Completed
Footpath Replacement Program	\$ 30,000	Ongoing
Footpath Program and Services	\$ 30,000	Ongoing
Gravel Road re-sheeting – replacement	\$170,000	Completed
Road Resealing – replacement	\$ 30,000	Ongoing

LOCATION	COST	PERFORMANCE
Collector Roads		
Black Hills / Braslins Rd Interserction – seal	\$ 10,000	Ongoing
Dean St – drainage, stabilisation and seal	\$ 60,000	Completed
George St, (Tank St / Burnett St) – drainage, stabilisation and seal	\$ 80,000	Completed
Glenora Rd (1km per annum) - stabilisation and seal	\$ 72,000	Completed
Humphrey St – kerb and channel	\$ 60,000	Completed
Lachlan Rd – stabilisation and seal	\$ 80,000	Completed
Lawitta Rd – stabilisation	\$ 58,000	Completed
Westerway Reservoirs – access	\$ 12,000	Ongoing
Local Roads		
Back River Rd – stabilisation	\$ 38,000	Completed
Derwent Tce cul-de-sac – kerb and channel, stabilisation and seal	\$ 20,000	Ongoing
Fifth Ave (North Cres to Derwent Ave) - stabilisation and seal	\$ 88,000	Completed
Ironstone Gully Rd – stabilisation, seal and armco rail	\$ 35,000	Ongoing
Molesworth Rd – armco rail	\$ 7,000	Ongoing
Molesworth Rd – stabilisation and seal	\$ 35,000	Ongoing
Murdoch Ave – subsoil and stabilisation	\$ 40,000	Ongoing
Plenty Valley Rd – upgrade	\$150,000	Completed
Poulters Rd – widen, drainage	\$100,000	Ongoing
Salmon Ponds – upgrade and seal	\$ 16,000	Completed
Trevor Tce (Quarry to Dean St) - upgrade	\$110,000	Completed
Roads to Recovery		
Glebe Rd – reconstruction and seal	\$105,023	Ongoing

LOCATION	COST	PERFORMANCE
Water		
Back River Rd – mains replacement	\$ 30,000	Completed
Chlorination Upgrades	\$ 10,000	Completed
Chlorine Gas Detection Units	\$ 12,000	Completed
Granton – mains replace	\$ 30,000	Ongoing
Magra High Level Mains Upgrade – extension	\$ 38,000	Ongoing
Maydena – mains replace	\$ 18,000	Ongoing
Montagu St – mains replacement	\$ 12,000	Ongoing
New Norfolk – mains replacement	\$ 62,000	Ongoing
New Norfolk Swimming Pool – sandblasting and sealing	\$ 53,000	Completed
Water Meter Program – selective meter	\$ 5,000	Completed
Sewerage		
Refuse Area leachate removal – piping	\$ 50,000	Ongoing
Sewer Mains (Maydena) - valve replacement	\$ 10,000	Completed
Sewer Mains (New Norfolk) - replacement	\$ 40,500	Completed
Westerway Public Toilets – investigation	\$ 10,000	Completed
Stormwater		
Blair St / Montagu St – culvert	\$ 30,000	Completed
Enterprise Centre / Blair St – reconstruction	\$ 30,000	Completed
Hobart Rd No 23 – investigation	\$ 5,000	Completed
Maydena Mains – upgrade	\$ 10,000	Completed
Royal Derwent Hospital Humphrey St / The Avenue – upgrade	\$ 25,000	Ongoing
Third Ave – pit	\$ 10,000	Ongoing
Hobart Rd / Valleyfield – outfall	\$ 5,000	Completed

LOCATION	COST	PERFORMANCE
Solid Waste		
Landfill Site – rehabilitation	\$ 50,000	Ongoing
Sportsgrounds		
Tynwald Park – road and sealing	\$ 20,000	Completed
Tynwald Park (Playground) - irrigation	\$ 10,000	Completed
Tynwald Park (Football) - irrigation	\$ 7,000	Completed
Reserves		
Lachlan Reserve – improvements	\$ 12,500	Completed
Small Playgrounds – update	\$ 20,000	Ongoing
Tynwald Park – BBQ replacement	\$ 16,000	Completed
Cemeteries		
Malbina Cemetery – road sealing	\$ 17,000	Completed
Malbina Cemetery – wall ashes	\$ 10,000	Completed
Malbina Cemetery – extension	\$ 30,000	Ongoing
North Cres Cemetery – fencing	\$ 10,000	Completed
Stephen St Cemetery – improvements	\$ 20,000	Ongoing
Other		
Bushy Park Swimming pool – roller and cover	\$ 7,000	Completed
Derwent Tce – tree replacement	\$ 8,000	Completed
Esplanade – mooring and facilities	\$ 15,000	Ongoing
Esplanade – Caravan Park – road, signage and sites	\$ 20,000	Completed
New Norfolk Swimming Pool – shade cloth	\$ 5,000	Completed
Buildings		
Boyer Oval Grandstand – seating	\$ 50,000	Ongoing
Council Chambers – painting	\$ 20,000	Completed
Council Chambers – disability access	\$ 20,000	Completed
Council Chambers – heating and furniture	\$ 10,000	Ongoing
Council Depot – upgrade	\$ 7,500	Ongoing
Memorial Hall – roof	\$ 30,000	Completed
Information Technology		
Computer Hardware – upgrade	\$10,000	Completed
Computer Software – upgrade	\$ 10,000	Ongoing

Planning Control

“Proceed with the statutory approval process to develop a new Planning Scheme for the Derwent Valley”

Following the call for public submission into the review of the New Norfolk Planning Scheme 1993, some 20

submissions have been received from members of the public and Government Agencies.

Recommendations on these submissions are currently being prepared for Council.

“Maintain consistent, fair and timely procedures for the administration and enforcement of planning services”

Council continued to provide a consistent, fair and timely statutory planning system for

the control and enforcement of development proposals.

Planning services were

contracted from Irene Inc and 222 planning approvals were issued during the year.

Plumbing Control

“Continue to provide administration and the role of enforcing the Plumbing Regulations”

Council provided 107 plumbing permit approvals in

accordance with the Tasmanian Plumbing

Regulations 1994.

Emergency Management and Operations

“Maintain and equip an appropriate emergency response unit”

In January Council entered into a Partnership Agreement with the Tasmanian State Emergency Service (SES) for ongoing operation of the local unit.

emergency response to persons trapped in motor vehicles

This Unit attends more road accidents than any other unit in Tasmania.

Derwent Valley Council – \$25,000

Lions Club of New Norfolk – \$500

Gunns Veneers – \$5,000

Norske Skog - \$10,000

Aurora – \$1,000

Cracked Productions - \$5,000

New Norfolk community – \$2,500

Styx River Flood Study

Council received \$6,666 under the Federal Government Natural Disaster Mitigation Program to undertake a study on the effects, both socially and economically, of flooding of the Styx River at Bushy Park.

The Derwent Valley SES unit is a volunteer organisation (supported by the Derwent Valley Council) providing emergency rescue and support services to residents and visitors of the Derwent Valley. The Unit's primary responsibility is responding to road accident rescue in the Derwent Valley and neighbouring areas.

Council provides an annual budget for the operations of this Unit

Council received a Commonwealth Government grant of \$20,000 under the Regional Partnership Program to assist with the purchase of a new emergency response unit to replace it's aged vehicle. The unit cost \$115,000 with various other organisations making a contribution.

The Unit attended over 46 motor vehicle accidents in 2003/04 providing a critical

MAIB – \$31,000

Environmental Services

“To ensure a healthy community protected by strong public health standards and to provide a balanced environment”

Environmental Services



Environmental Services Department is responsible for:

- Environmental Health
- Building Control
- Plumbing Control
- Domestic Garbage and Recycling Collection Services
- Municipal Inspection Service – Animal Control, Fire Abatement

Environmental Health

“Council continues to provide a comprehensive school and clinic immunisation program”

Council continued to provide an immunisation program to primary and secondary schools in the municipality, including:

- New Norfolk High School
- Glenora District High
- New Norfolk Primary School
- Fairview Primary School
- St Brigids Primary School
- Westerway Primary School
- Maydena Primary School
- Molesworth Primary School

Immunisations

“Clinic sessions are held on a monthly basis at the Community Health Building”

Clinic sessions are held on the last Tuesday of each month.

These clinics provide vaccines free under the National Immunisation Program.

Immunisations provided:

- Triple Antigen, Sabin (Polio), Measles/Mumps/Rubella,
- Hepatitis B, (Hib) Haemophilus Influenza b,
- Pneumococcal conjugate
- Meningococcal C
- Adult Influenza (Over 65's)
- School Immunisation Program. Providing vaccinations for Prep, Grade 6 and Year 10 students

Food Premises Registration and Operation

Food premises are registered and operators licenced. Premises are regularly inspected, during inspection of premises, advice is given to the operators on food handling practices and relevant changes to food legislation.

Temporary food premises are registered and inspected eg Derwent Valley Autumn Festival, Targa, and community events co-ordinated by organisations such as the Lions Club of New Norfolk.

Places of Assembly (halls, fairs) are registered. Private water suppliers are registered.

- Sampling of recreational waters for bacterial content was carried out weekly during the summer season. The sample point was the Derwent River at the Esplanade New Norfolk. The 2004/05 sampling period (December – March) indicated that the water quality of the Derwent River was satisfactory for primary contact (swimming).
- Council carries out food sampling as part of the Statewide food sampling programme under the direction of the Department of Health and Human Services.

- Council carries out monthly water sampling of drinking water from the towns of New Norfolk, Westerway, National Park, and Maydena.
- Council's Environmental Health Officer carries out investigations as required for the prevention and control of notifiable diseases.
- Council ensures that all places of assembly are inspected and registered.
- Council applies the provisions of Food, Public Health and Environmental Legislation.

Building Control

“Continue to contract building control functions to a private Building Inspector and Building Surveyor”

Building permits issued for the 2004/2005 financial year was 155 at a value of \$7,209,704 representing an

increase in the number of permits issued of 5% over the 2003/2004 financial year.

Plumbing Control

“Council's Plumbing Inspector ensures compliance with the plumbing regulations and the Tasmanian Plumbing Code of all plumbing work carried out in the municipality”

The duties of the Plumbing Inspector include the issuing of timely plumbing permits, inspections of plumbing

work, and the provision of advice regarding plumbing issues.

Domestic Garbage Collection and Recycling Services

“Provide effective and efficient waste collection services and waste transfer station, as well as litter cleaning in public places”

Council's domestic wheelie bin waste collection and recycling service continues to provide an efficient and effective service to the ratepayers. The benefits of this service include an improvement in the amenity of the urban and rural areas through better security of the bins' contents. The

domestic recycling services participation rate continues to average around 50%. This participation rate is disappointing and Council would encourage all residents to separate recyclables and utilise the provided Council recycling bin and weekly service.

Council is an active member of the Southern Waste Strategy Authority. The objectives of the Authority are to co-ordinate the southern based Councils in waste management issues.

Municipal Inspection Service – Animal Control

“Council continues to encourage and enforce responsible animal ownership with a view to minimising and ultimately eliminating the stray animal menace”

Council continues to provide an effective animal control service throughout the Derwent Valley municipality.

Council continues to implement it's Dog Management Policy as adopted on 16th May 2002

and will review this Policy in late 2005.

Municipal Inspection Service – Fire Abatement

“Council continues to encourage residents to be vigilant in maintaining their land in such a state as not to pose a fire hazard”

There are two main ways that Council identifies blocks that are potential fire hazards

- 1 by Council's Municipal Inspectors carrying out a regular check of the Municipality
- 2 by residents who contact Council reporting any

land which, in their opinion, poses a fire hazard.

Owners of identified blocks are then notified that their land poses a problem and are provided with a list of approved contractors to aid them in their efforts to reduce the potential hazard. If there is not an

improvement noted, an official abatement notice is issued stipulating the work that is required to be done by a set date. If this is not adhered to, Council will engage contractors to complete the clearing and the owner will be billed. All reports of potential fire hazards are welcome.

Public Health Statement

Public Health



Section 72 (1) (ab) of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires information on Council's public health activities to be included in the annual report.

Council's Public Health Services and Environmental health Monitoring programs are undertaken and managed by the Environmental Services section of Council.

Results to be achieved as stated in the Strategic Plan 2000/2005 Include:

Provide for the health, safety and welfare of our community.

This section comprises: Environmental Health Officer, two Administrative Officers (part time), Medical Officer of Health and Municipal Inspector.

The Public Health Services section operated on a budget of \$144,720 and generated an income of \$6,850. The delivery of public and environmental health activities also partially falls across other Council units.

Environmental Services address a range of functions under the *Public Health Act 1997*, *Food Act 2003* and *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994*.

These functions include:

- Food Safety
- Notifiable disease
- Immunisations
- Places of assembly
- Unhealthy premises
- Water quality
- Public Health nuisances
- Pollution incidents

The following demonstrates the activity of this section for the 2004/2005 financial year.

73 Food premises registered

13 notifiable diseases were investigated

847 Persons immunised

20 places of assembly licenced

15 bathing water samples taken from swimming pools and spas

11 recreation water samples taken

18 complaints regarding pollution and environmental nuisances

The Council implemented and completed the national meningococcal C immunisation program for all schoolchildren aged from 1-19 years. The Australian Government subsidises the cost of the vaccine in aid for the program to continue until June 2006. The program conducted by Council enabled all schoolchildren to access the free vaccine.

The regular sampling and monitoring of all public swimming pools and spas was undertaken throughout the year. Samples were taken on a monthly basis to monitor the compliance of the water quality with acceptable microbiological water quality criteria. All facilities regularly met the acceptable criteria for water quality.

Physical Services

“Maintain all Council's roads and bridges to the highest standard which can be afforded by the community”

Physical Services



This section of Council is responsible for working with the community to facilitate

the cost-effective provision and maintenance of the transport, property

and recreational services within the Derwent Valley Council.

Customer Action Report System (CARS)

“Continue to use Council's public request system as a means of addressing emergency matters and delivering a planned approach to the maintenance of Council's infrastructure”

Council continued to utilise its computerised public request system and urgent

matters were attended to immediately while others were programmed for

attention as time and funds permitted.

Sewerage Services

“Ensure that sewerage treatment plants are maintained and operated in a cost effective and efficient manner”

The Turriff Lodge Sewerage Treatment Plant continues to

maintain its high level of environmental standards

and has encountered no significant problems.

“Maintain Council's existing sewerage reticulation plants to meet environmental guidelines”

Council, through improved systems and equipment, accelerated its program

which has resulted in more maintenance being completed to ensure efficient

operation of the sewerage network.

Water Services Statement

Council is required by the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2005* regulation 36(a), to include in its annual report a statement reporting on:

- (a) The council's plans in relation to water supplied by it for domestic consumption; and
- (b) Sufficient financial information to demonstrate that it is applying the pricing guidelines in relation to water supplied by it for

domestic consumption as specified in the Urban Water Pricing Guidelines (October 1999) issued by the Government Prices Oversight Commission.

The following statement addresses the requirement described in (a) above, while the financial information required to comply with the requirements of statement (b) can be found in note 27 that accompanies the financial part of this annual report on the following pages.

Council's Strategic Plan identifies continued provision of high standards in the provision of a safe domestic water supply to residents within its water districts. Council's Annual Plan provides that in order to achieve this outcome it will monitor water quality on a monthly basis through sampling of water supply from the New Norfolk, Westerway, National Park and Maydena Water Schemes.

Water Supply Services

“Provide a potable water supply in a cost effective manner to all current users”

Council provided a potable water supply to New Norfolk, Maydena, Westerway,

Fentonbury and Granton with a mix of Hobart Water and Illabrook Dam supplies.

Waste Collection and Disposal Services

“Provide effective and efficient waste collection services and waste transfer station, as well as litter cleaning in public places”

Council has maintained an efficient and effective collection service for all waste collection districts

through the operation of the Peppermint Hill refuse disposal site and National Park waste transfer station.

Council performed daily cleaning of town streets and public facilities.

Stormwater Drainage Services

“Ensure the existing urban stormwater drainage systems are in a maintained condition”

Council continued its ongoing program of upgrading the stormwater and drainage system on a

priority basis to bring the system to a standard which will ensure efficient operation.

Open Space and Community Facilities

“Continue improvements and introduction of low maintenance programs for Council's existing recreation facilities”

In partnership with the Cancer Council and Housing Tasmania, Council developed the Fairview playground. Play equipment was installed along with a

sheltered barbecue area and a sheltered picnic table and chairs.

Playground equipment was also installed at the Ellis

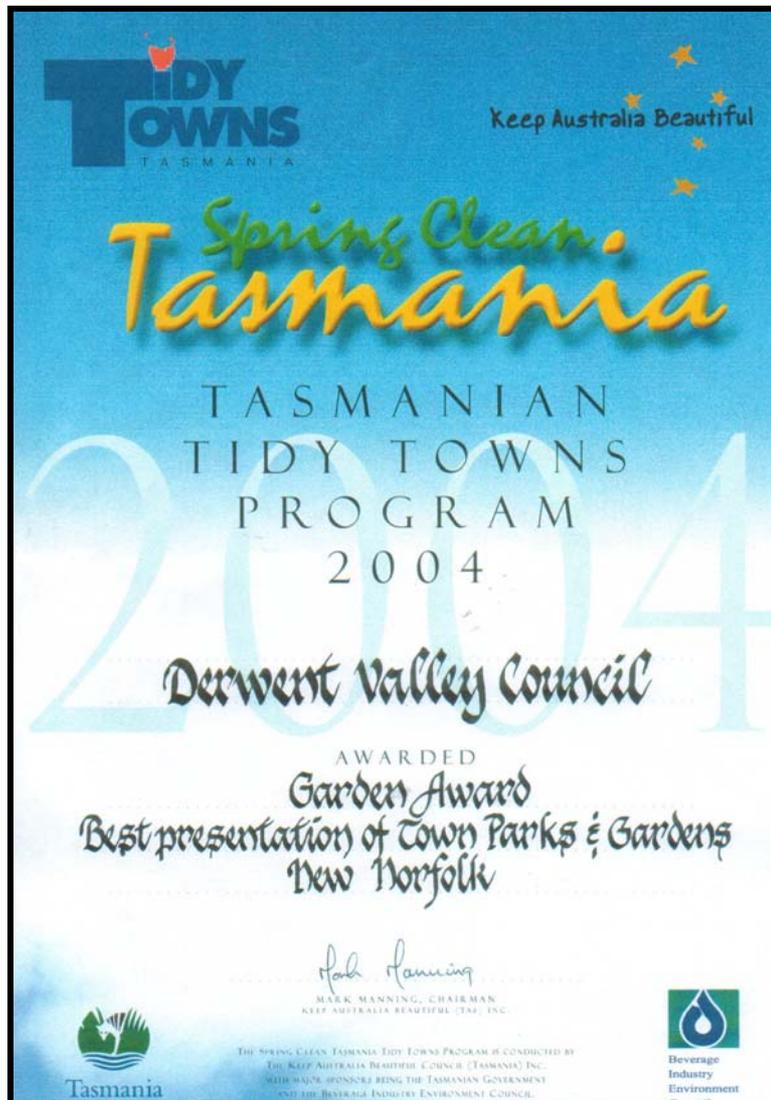
Dean Reserve in partnership with the Derwent Valley Youth Future Action Team D’FAT.

Parks and Reserves Accreditation

“Undertake assessment for ISO 9001 accreditation”

Council received a Tidy Town Award for “Best

Presentation of Town Parks and Gardens”.



Financial Services

“Provide the community with adequate information about Council's budget, rating structure and services provided”

Financial Management



Council produced an Operational Plan and Rating Estimates, together with an Annual Report which was presented at the Annual General Meeting. Additionally, prior to the setting of the 2004/2005 Rating Estimates, public submissions were invited for consideration in the setting of the estimates.

The Operational Plan and Rating Estimates, together with monthly Financial Statements ensure that Councillors and the community are fully informed on financial matters.

As required by Section 72 (ca) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Derwent Valley Council had

no dispute with the Australian Taxation Office during the 2004/2005 financial year relating to compliance with the Goods and Services Tax law in accordance with the National Taxation Reform (Commonwealth – State Relations) Act 1999.

“Ensure Council's financial decision making, financial management practices and financial service delivery operations accord with the goals, objectives and strategies in the Strategic Plan”

Council monitored on a monthly basis its operating expenditure and income against that forecasted in its

Annual Budget and Operational Plan. Council staff continued to ensure that the latest

computer software upgrades were implemented to ensure continuing compliance with accounting standards.

Risk Management

“Manage Council's risk exposure in a proactive manner”

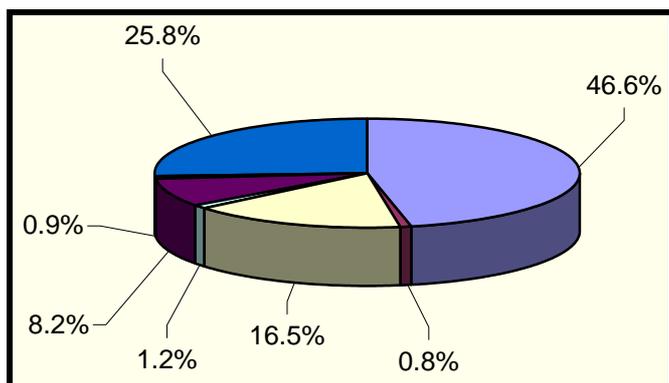
Together with Council's insurers, ongoing risk audits

were conducted. Additionally, a Risk

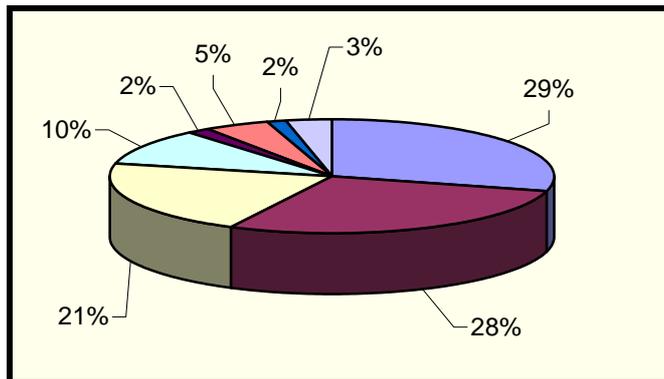
Management Register continues to be maintained.

Revenue and Expenditure

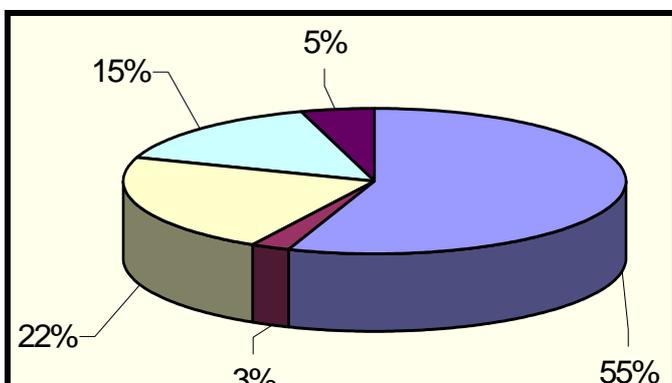
Revenue from Ordinary Activities 2004/05



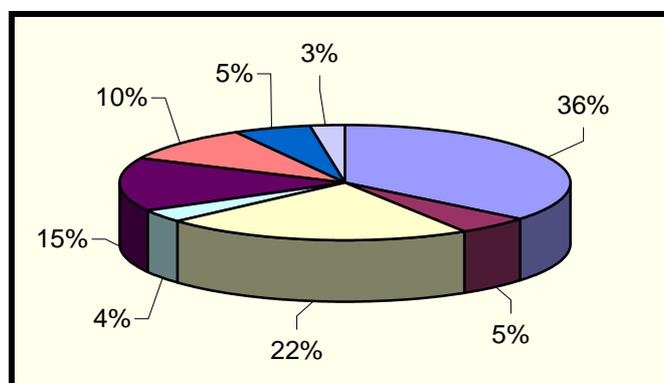
Expenditure from Ordinary Activities 2004/05



Rates Revenue 2004/05



Rates Expenditure 2004/05



The financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2005 is appended to this report. Attached to the Report is the Audit Report provided by the Tasmanian Audit Office.

Rates

The General Rate in the dollar in 2004/2005 was increased by 2.0%. Total rate revenue amounted to \$5,789,549 or 46.6% of total operating revenue.

Grants

Grants amounted to \$2,050,771 or 16.5% of total operating revenue. Specific Purpose Grants for Child and Aged Care increased by \$25,501 2004/2005 to \$641,134.

Operations

During 2004/2005, Council's total Revenue from Ordinary Activities was \$12,431,721 and expenditure was \$10,000,714, which resulted in an Operating Surplus before Depreciation of \$2,431,007.

Depreciation of Council's assets totalled \$2,107,316 or 21.07% of total expenditure from ordinary activities.

Liabilities

Council raised \$400,000 in loan funds during the year. Total loan debt was reduced by \$67,792 and debt servicing costs represented 5% of rate revenue. As at 30 June 2005, Council's borrowings totalled

\$2,317,852.

Assets

Council has recorded assets with a written down value of \$56.2 million (gross value of \$92.1 million) as at 30 June, 2005. The financial statement notes provide a breakdown of asset values recognised by asset class.

Equity

Council has net equity as at 30 June 2005 of approximately \$61.7 million.

Other

During the year, Council made its annual submission to the State Grants Commission and underwent a Risk Management Audit.

Financial Performance Indicators

The following key performance indicators reflect the trend in Council's overall financial management in the past 5 years.

Indicator		2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Current Ratio	<u>Current Assets</u>	84.09%	103.37%	69.04%	68.25%	151.76%
(Assessment of adequacy of working capital to meet current commitments)	Current Liabilities					
Rate Coverage Ratio	<u>Rates Revenue</u>	60.90%	61.00%	60.44%	56.00%	46.57%
(Dependence on Rate Revenue)	Total Revenue					
Grant Coverage Ratio	<u>Grant Revenue</u>	24.29%	23.92%	24.61%	22.80%	16.50%
(Dependence on Grant Revenue)	Total Revenue					
Debt Servicing Ratio	<u>Debt Servicing costs</u>	7.39%	7.26%	6.97%	6.34%	5.00%
(To assess Council's capacity to service debts outstanding)	Total Revenue					
Cost of Debt		7.10%	7.17%	7.29%	7.46%	6.64%
(Interest to Loan Debt plus Overdraft)						
Debt Collection Ratio		7.60%	7.85%	8.99%	7.39%	7.67%
(Rates Receivable to Annual Rates Raised)						