



# DORSET

# PRIORITY

# PROJECTS

**2023 - 2025**

Version 1.5  
Reviewed June 2025  
Noted by Council  
23 June 2025  
Minute 107/2025

*JUNE 2025 UPDATE*

# PRIORITY PROJECTS PLAN

## OVERVIEW

The Dorset Council Priority Projects plan has been developed with a coordinated approach to align with local, regional, state and federal plans including Council's Road Asset Management Plan 2020-2030, Building Asset Management Plan 2021-2031 and the Bridge Asset Management Plan 2023-2033. The plan covers a two year period and takes a Council-wide view of needs and opportunities while aligning closely with the four identified 2023-2032 Strategic Plan focus areas (pillars). The Plan will be reviewed bi-annually.

There are six Major Project Areas listed under the Priority Plan for 2023-2025 with relevant projects outlined beneath. Each of these projects represents the key investment into the North East of Tasmania that are expected to have a transformational impact across one or more of the four strategic pillars and lead the way forward for the communities of Dorset. The projects are linked via the common themes of Regional Liveability (including Health and Wellbeing), Economic Diversification and the Visitor Economy, Transportation and Freight Infrastructure, and Environmental Management.

The Priority Projects Plan will be used to apply for funding, leverage support and provide a starting point for regional collaborations.

## STRATEGIC PLAN FOCUS AREAS



### PILLAR #1: LIVEABLE COMMUNITY

*To continually improve the liveability of the community and to respond to community challenges and changing demographics*



### PILLAR #2: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

*To stimulate economic growth through sustainable and visionary projects with a view to increasing prosperity, population and investment.*



### PILLAR #3: LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

*To create value and improve service delivery for the community through*



### PILLAR #4: ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT

*To proactively engage in strategies to reduce Council's environmental foot-*

# PRIORITY PROJECTS PLAN: *Status Update*














PROJECT	PROJECT OWNER		DESCRIPTION	PROGRESS	
ADVOCACY					
1. The Sideling: Stage 2	Department of State Growth		South of the Sideling Lookout to just south of St Patricks Bridge	Ongoing	
2. Community Health and Wellbeing					
a) Child and Family Learning Centre	Department for Education, Children and Young People		Design and construction of a CFLC	Funded	
b) Community Health Hub	Better Health 4 Dorset		Funding the continuation of the Scottsdale Community Health Hub	Seeking Funding	
3. Bridport-Scottsdale Water Surety	TasWater		Options for more secure water supply for Bridport and Scottsdale	Ongoing	
4. Bridport Wastewater	TasWater		Address ongoing concerns relating to wastewater plant odour.	Ongoing	
	COST	REQUIRED			
ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE					
5. Golconda Road			Holistic road upgrade. Current focus areas:		
a) Pavement rehabilitation	\$6.4M	\$6.4M	Ch2360—Ch 10360—8km	0%	<div></div>
b) Pavement rehabilitation, widening and safety upgrade	\$13.12M	\$13.12M	Ch 13760—Ch219608.2km	0%	<div></div>
c) Brid River Bridge	\$850k	\$850k	Replacement of the Brid River Bridge	0%	<div></div>
6. Derby Back Road	\$7.6M	\$7.6M	Tasman Highway to Tasman Highway Road Study and liaison	0%	<div></div>
RECREATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE					
7. Gladstone Community Park	\$100,000+	\$90,000+	Design and Construction	5%	<div></div>
8. North East Tasmania Rail Trail - Trail Construction	\$5.14M	\$5.14M	40km of trail development from Scottsdale to Lilydale Falls	5%	<div></div>
a) Additional components	\$1.4M	\$1.4M	Additional value add components	0%	<div></div>
9. Scottsdale Recreation Ground Master planning	\$130k	\$130k	Master planning and feasibility study	0%	<div></div>
10. Bridport Play Centre	\$500k	\$500k	Redevelopment of the Bridport Play Centre	0%	<div></div>
WASTE MANAGEMENT					
11. Waste Management Strategy	N/A	N/A	Holistic waste management strategy for Dorset	0%	<div></div>




Complete	
In Progress/Funded	
Not Started/Unfunded	

# PRIORITY PROJECTS PLAN: *Status Update*



PROJECT	APPROX. COST	FUNDING REQUIRED	DESCRIPTION	PROGRESS
<b>COMMUNITY MASTER PLANNING</b>				
<b>12. Dorset - Future Ready</b>				
<i>a) Scottsdale Master Planning</i>	TBC	TBC	<i>Holistic strategic planning for Dorset. Current focus towns:</i>	0% 
<i>b) Bridport Master Planning</i>	TBC	TBC		0% 
<i>c) Derby Master Planning</i>	TBC	TBC		0% 
<b>13. Town Facilities - Public Toilet</b>	TBC	TBC	<i>Planning and investigation—location TBA</i>	0% 
<b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b>				
<b>14. Municipal Marketing Strategy and Plans</b>	\$VNT 50%	N/A	<i>Resident Attraction Plan and Tourism Marketing Plan refresh</i>	10% 
<b>15. Bridport New River Entrance and Marina</b>			<i>Feasibility study and business case/Foreshore Master Plan</i>	0% 
<i>a) Bridport New River Entrance</i>	Project Funded		<i>Feasibility study and business case</i>	0% 
<i>b) Marina</i>	\$TBC	\$TBC	<i>Advocacy and support</i>	0% 
<b>16. Signage and Branding</b>	\$TBC	\$TBC	<i>New branding rollout completion</i>	0% 
<b>17. Municipal Prospectus</b>	\$TBC	\$TBC	<i>Attracting new business and industry</i>	0% 
<b>18. Tourism Infrastructure Plan</b>	\$TBC	\$TBC	<i>Plan—toilets, dump points, EV charging etc</i>	0% 



Complete	
In Progress/Funded	
Not Started/Unfunded	

## BACKGROUND

A number of key projects within Dorset are externally driven. Council's role in regards to these key drivers of community and economic development is to advocate in regards to all or key elements of the projects to ensure the best interests of the community are met.


## PROJECT

Upgrades of key transport corridors, health facilities and public infrastructure are in the best interests of the community.

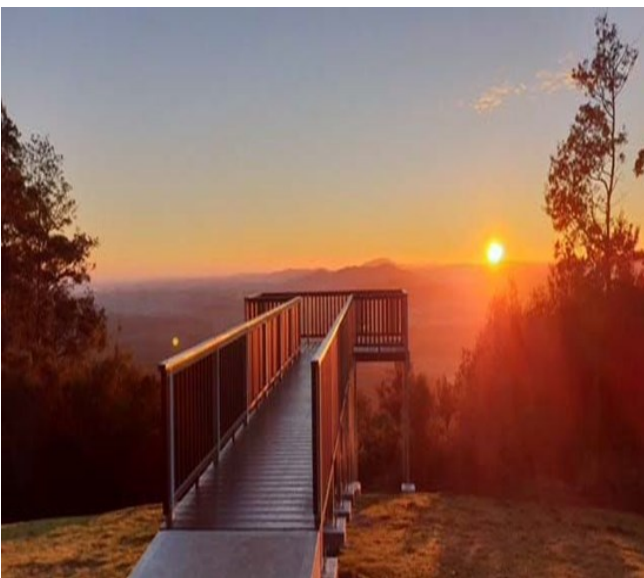
### 1. THE SIDELING: STAGE 2

The Sideling upgrade involves approximately 24km of State owned asset, the Tasman Highway, from south of St Patricks River to Minstone Road Scottsdale. The project is being completed in two stages with stage 1 separated into two sections. Stage 1 Section 1 construction is underway currently with Stage 2 Section 2 in the design phase.

Stage Two (just south of the Sideling lookout to just south of St Patricks Bridge) has entered the design phase.



*Department of State Growth Project—Continued advocacy in relation to the project to ensure community needs continue to be met.*




### 2. COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING


Major community projects that are key to improvements in broader community health and well-being as well as positive health outcomes for current and future residents.

A) Child and Family Learning Centre (CFLC) - development of a centre that targets support services focused at the 0-5 age groups.

B) Community Health Hub - Continuation of funding for the Scottsdale Community Health Hub.




*CFLC - Community Project—Determination of appropriate location, advocacy and support for the development of a CFLC*



*Community Health Hub - Community Project—Advocacy for continuation of funding for the Scottsdale Community Health Hub.*

### 3. BRIDPORT - SCOTTSDALE WATER SURETY PROJECT


Continued advocacy and support for TasWater's project which is looking at options to provide a more secure water supply for Bridport and Scottsdale.



*TasWater Project—Continued advocacy and support in relation to the project*

### 4. BRIDPORT WASTEWATER

Advocacy and support to TasWater to address ongoing concerns relating to wastewater plant odour.



*TasWater Project—Continued advocacy and support in relation to the project*



# PROJECT AREA: Road Infrastructure

## BACKGROUND

The Dorset municipality has 246km of sealed and 439km of unsealed roads. There are 114 bridges (62 concrete, 33 timber) and 13 major culverts.

Identifying and upgrading our key transport infrastructure as well as advocating for upgrades to key State managed infrastructure is critically important to ensuring our transport corridors are of a high standard and our residents, businesses and industry can travel safely and efficiently.

## PROJECTS

Upgrades of key transportation corridors to standards required by industry and in accordance with Australian Road Design Standards.

### 5. GOLCONDA ROAD

Golconda Road is a key strategic transport link for freight and the agriculture and forestry industries. It provides a vital connection for logistics, workforce mobility, and supply chains between Scottsdale and Launceston and Bell Bay.

Current focus areas:

1. Pavement Rehabilitation—Ch2360 to Ch10360—8km
2. Pavement Rehabilitation, widening and safety upgrade—Ch 13760 to Ch21960—8.2km
3. Replacement of Brid River Bridge

*Golconda Road has highest traffic volume of all Council rural roads. Main access for tourists visiting Bridestowe Lavender Farm (55,000 visitors/year) plus increased use from heavy vehicles.*

→ **Golconda Road—Pavement rehabilitation 8km**  
**\$6.4M**

*Funding Required*

→ **Golconda Road—Pavement rehabilitation, widening and safety upgrade 8.2km**  
**\$13.12M**

*Funding Required*

→ **Golconda Road—Brid River Bridge**

**\$850k**

*Funding Required*



### 6. DERBY BACK ROAD

Tasman Highway to Tasman Highway:

*Widening and safety improvements of 7.6km*

*Bypass for heavy vehicles. Liaison with Department of State Growth to undertake full road study and garner funding with a view to a possible road swap between state and Council at a later stage.*

→ **Derby Back Road—\$7.8M approx**

*Funding Required*

## BENEFITS

- Reduced travel times with improved transport efficiencies and safety for residents, business and industry
- Well formed, compliant transportation network providing safe access for all road users
- Reduced road maintenance costs
- Increased safety through Derby Main Street for pedestrians and cyclists

### #1: Liveable Communities

### #2: Economic Development

# PROJECT AREA: *Recreational Infrastructure*

## BACKGROUND

Recreational infrastructure plays a major role in determining the liveability of a community and the health and wellbeing of its residents. Inadequate physical activity is fueling Australia's obesity epidemic with Tasmania having some of the worst population health outcomes in the country. Providing adequate opportunities to engage in recreational pursuits is a key way for Dorset Council to tackle this growing issue and ensure our communities are healthy and resilient.

## PROJECTS

Ensuring high quality sporting and recreational infrastructure is in place across Dorset to meet the needs of current and future generations.

### **7. GLADSTONE COMMUNITY PARK**

Design and construction of an open space facility in Gladstone.

*Design*

*Construction*

Gladstone Community Park: \$TBC

Dorset Council - \$10,000

Funding Required



### **8. NORTH EAST TASMANIA RAIL TRAIL**

This project will redevelop 40km of disused rail corridor from Lilydale Falls through to Scottsdale and connect with the already established 26km of trail from Scottsdale to Tulendeena (Billycock Hill).

The trail will link regional communities and encourage engagement in activities that improve physical and mental health and wellbeing as well as providing economic stimulus, employment and business opportunities to the North-East.

The Northern Tasmania Development Corporation have listed this as a project of regional significance and Dorset Council is actively working with City of Launceston to progress the project.

Various elements will add value to the project including interpretative signage, art installations and shelters. These 'value adds' will be considered as budget and resources allow.

There is also potential to link the existing trail in with other towns across Dorset.



Scottsdale to Lilydale Trail Construction: \$5.14M\*

Funding Required

\*Dec 2024 costings + 20% contingency

North East Tasmania Rail Trail - Additional Components: \$1.4M

Funding Required

## PROJECTS Continued

### **9. SCOTTSDALE RECREATION GROUND MASTERPLANNING**

This project forms part of the Dorset: Future Ready suite and is focussed on master planning the Scottsdale Recreation Ground with a separate focus on a feasibility study to assess full life cycle costings and options associated with providing year round access to part of the Scottsdale Aquatic Centre.

Scottsdale Recreation Ground: \$90k  
*Funding Required*

Scottsdale Aquatic Centre: \$40k  
*Funding Required*



### **10. BRIDPORT PLAY CENTRE**

The Bridport Play Centre is one of the only facilities in Dorset dedicated to children, young people and their families. The building was originally an old railway house from Derby that was transported to site in 1974, the timber/fibro split level building is home to the Bridport Girl Guides and the Bridport Playgroup as well as a local tutoring service.

Due to its age, lack of accessibility, and layout, the building is in need of major redevelopment in order to ensure it continues to meet the needs of the community now and into the future.

*Planning and Design*

*Demolition/Construction*

Bridport Play Centre: \$500k  
*Funding Required*

## BENEFITS

- Increased low/no cost recreational options for Dorset to improve physical and mental health and wellbeing outcomes
- Supports and encourages growth in service sector industries such as tourism and hospitality
- Stimulate new economic development to diversify the economy - tourism accommodation and experiences
- Economic benefits to local businesses
- Provides passive recreation options for young people and families
- Accessible recreation provides increased health and wellbeing outcomes

### **#1: Liveable Communities**

### **#2: Economic Development**

## BACKGROUND

The various state and national policies and action plans show that waste management is changing from a linear waste disposal model to a circular resource recovery and reuse model. The aims are to reduce waste and capitalize on the environmental and economic opportunities associated with resource recovery and recycling.

## PROJECTS

This project involves redefining our waste sector into a resource recovery sector and implementing infrastructure and processes that divert maximum waste from landfill while minimizing the economic impacts of the waste levy and maximizing our sustainability and environmental outcomes.

The projects will commence the delivery of the Waste Strategy in relation to recycling and green waste and pave the way for delivery of the third element; organics.



## 11. WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Development of a holistic waste management strategy to support and inform waste management infrastructure and population growth and development across the North East. The strategy will align with Circular North's 5 year strategic plan which aims to support northern Tasmania's transition to a Circular Economy via a focus on waste diversion, and increased resource recovery.



## BENEFITS

- Improved environmental outcomes for the region
- Improved waste diversion from landfill and decreased waste landfill levy rates
- Greater community awareness of the need to reduce waste and value resources
- Decreased littering across the municipality
- Fundraising opportunities for community

## #3: Leadership and Governance

## #4: Environmental Footprint

## BACKGROUND

The localities of Scottsdale, Bridport and Derby are potential growth areas for the Dorset region. Community Master Planning is required to ensure we meet the needs of our current as well as future communities and our products, facilities and infrastructure is in line with needs and demands.

## PROJECTS

Master planning in regards to the community:

### **12. DORSET: FUTURE READY**

A holistic strategic planning project incorporating a key focus on live, work and play elements in the identified growth areas of Scottsdale, Bridport, and Derby. The overarching project will focus on enhancing community livability, driving economic growth, and reinvigorating the North East region and will be delivered through development and implementation of a series of key interconnected plans.

#### **(a) Scottsdale Master Planning:**

LIVE: Housing and Accommodation (Austins Road Subdivision residential development)

WORK: Economic Growth (Light Industrial precinct development, business district needs analysis)

PLAY: Recreational and Open Space Master Planning (Scottsdale Aquatic Centre indoor pool Feasibility Study, Recreation Ground Master Plan, Railway Precinct Development Plan, Northeast Park Master Plan)

#### **(b) Bridport Master Planning:**

LIVE: Housing and Accommodation (residential development incentives)

WORK: Economic Growth (business district needs analysis)

PLAY: Recreational and Open Space Master Planning (Bridport Seaside Caravan Park Master Plan, Bridport Foreshore Master Plan)

#### **(c) Derby Master Planning:**

LIVE: Housing and Accommodation (residential land supply, workers accommodation)

WORK: Economic Growth (business district needs analysis, Economic Impact Study)

PLAY: Recreational and Open Space Master Planning (Community Services and Infrastructure Plan, MTB Precinct Plan—trails and trailhead)

Scottsdale Master Planning—\$TBC

Bridport Master Planning—\$TBC

Derby Master Planning—\$552,000

Council Contribution—\$45,000

Further Funding Required

### **13. TOWN FACILITIES**

Site assessment for a public toilet at the Victoria Street end of Scottsdale.

Amenities—\$TBA

Further Funding Required

## BENEFITS

- Ensure our communities are attractive and vibrant areas to live, work and play
- Improve economic and social viability of our communities
- Ensure best use of council resources and determine a strategy to focus council investment for the future

### **#1: Liveable Communities**

### **#2: Economic Development**



## BACKGROUND

In order to drive economic development we need to ensure that Dorset is equipped with the basic infrastructure to accommodate growth and development. We need to understand our target demographic as well as our assets and market our region accordingly.

## PROJECTS

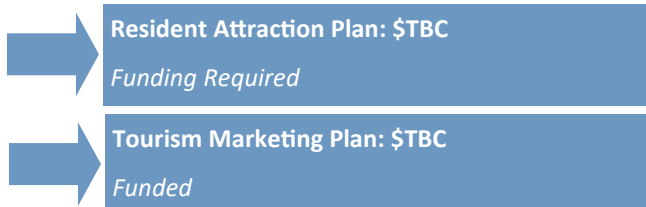
Reviews, plans and strategy development for the following key areas:

### **15. MUNICIPAL MARKETING STRATEGY & PLANS**

Investment into strategies and planning that support the growth of the region and attract and diversify the population.

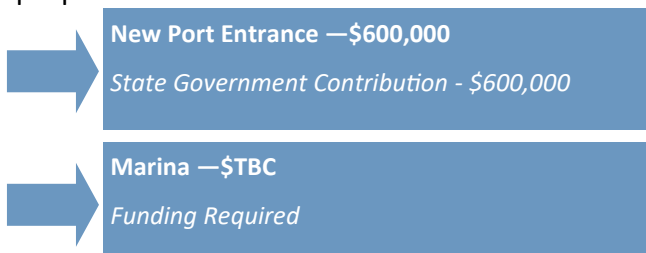
Resident Attraction Plan: Aimed to attract young families and entrepreneurs to move into the community

Tourism Marketing Plan: Aimed at increasing visitors to the region



### **16. BRIDPORT NEW RIVER ENTRANCE & MARINA**

An election commitment of \$600,000 will assist Council in conducting further design and construction work on the proposed new port entrance, including a feasibility study on the proposed marina.



### **17. SIGNAGE AND BRANDING**

Ensure all signage is up to date with new branding across the municipality.



### **18. MUNICIPAL PROSPECTUS**

Aimed at showcasing Dorset and attracting new business ventures and industry to the region to capitalize on regional strengths which include:

Agriculture, Forestry and Tourism



### **19. TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN**

To enhance positive visitor experiences by ensuring tourism related infrastructure is upgraded, renewed and maintained as necessary.



## BENEFITS

- Ensure our communities are attractive and vibrant areas to live, work and play
- Improve economic and social viability of our communities
- Ensure best use of council resources and determine a strategy to focus council investment for the future
- Promote well connected, well services communities that meet the needs of the current and future residents
- Creation of resilient, economically diverse communities

## #1: Liveable Communities

## #2: Economic Development



Old Bridport Pier

## DOCUMENT CONTROL

VERSION	CONTRIBUTORS	NOTES	DATE
1.0	Bridget Waterhouse, John Marik, Rohan Willis	Plan development	October 2023
1.1	Bridget Waterhouse	<p>Updates following community consultation:</p> <p><i>Included: Scottsdale - Bridport Water Surety Project (Advocacy)</i></p> <p><i>Included: Scottsdale Facilities (Community Master Planning)</i></p> <p><i>Included: Bridport Wastewater Project (Advocacy)</i></p> <p><i>Updated: Advocacy (inclusion of project lead information)</i></p> <p><i>Updated: Green Waste Management (included Biochar)</i></p> <p><i>Updated: Derby Back Road (further details on works)</i></p> <p><i>Updated: Bridport New River Entrance and Marina (further information on project)</i></p>	November 2023
1.2	Bridget Waterhouse	<p>Updates:</p> <p><i>Updated: Scottsdale Facilities - changed to Town Facilities and included Bridport Main Street Pedestrian Crossing</i></p> <p><i>Updated: Derby Master Planning - costings revised from \$30,000 to \$555,000 following identification as a project of state significance and reassessed scope..</i></p>	February 2024
1.3	Bridget Waterhouse	<p>Updates:</p> <p><i>Updated: North East Recreation Trail - external funding revised from TBA to \$2.8M following updated business case.</i></p> <p><i>Updated: Derby Master Planning - external funding revised from \$500,000 to \$520,000 following updated costings..</i></p> <p><i>Updated: Town Facilities external funding to \$70,500+ following updated costings</i></p> <p><i>Updated: Gladstone Dirt Jumps to Gladstone Community Park</i></p>	July 2024
1.4	Bridget Waterhouse	<p>Formatting. Addition of completion % to Summary page.</p> <p>Updates to completed/funded projects.</p>	November 2024
1.5	Bridget Waterhouse	Major Update	June 2025