

Draft

Annual Plan and Budget Estimates 2026-27

Investing in our community

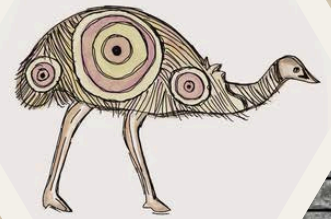


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If you need an interpreter, please call TIS National on **131 450** and ask them to call Burnie City Council on **03 6430 5700**.

FOREWORD

Mayor Teeny Brumby and General Manager Shane Crawford

As we present Burnie City Council's 2026–27 Annual Plan and Budget Estimates, we do so with confidence in our city's future and a clear commitment to delivering on the aspirations of our community.

The actions outlined in this Annual Plan represent the next stage in delivering the community's vision for Making a Better Burnie 2044. They focus on practical improvements that enhance liveability, support economic development, protect our environment, celebrate our unique culture and heritage, and strengthen community connection. Through these actions, Council will continue to invest in the people, places and services that contribute to Burnie's long-term success.

In 2026–27, Council's focus remains firmly on balancing ambition with responsible financial management. Like all local governments, we continue to face increasing costs and growing community expectations. Despite these challenges, this budget maintains essential services, invests in critical infrastructure and delivers strategic initiatives that will contribute to Burnie's prosperity.

Key priorities for the coming year include continuing the revitalisation of our city centre and waterfront, improving community facilities and open spaces, strengthening environmental sustainability initiatives, fostering a culturally rich and vibrant community, and supporting opportunities that encourage investment, tourism and local economic development. We will also continue to modernise our services and work collaboratively with our community, business, and government partners to achieve better outcomes for Burnie.

Council recognises that every dollar invested must deliver value for our community. This budget reflects careful planning, disciplined decision-making and a commitment to ensuring future generations inherit a city that is vibrant, resilient and financially sustainable.

The progress we make as a city is only possible through the commitment and contribution of our community, businesses and partner organisations. Together, we continue to build a city that is welcoming, connected and full of opportunity.

We remain committed to Making a Better Burnie and look forward to another year of progress for our city and community.



Your Council ELECTED MEMBERS



Cr. Teeny Brumby
Mayor



Cr. Giovanna Simpson
Deputy Mayor



Trent Aitken
Councillor



Alwyn Boyd
Councillor



Ken Dorsey
Councillor



Justin Grave
Councillor



Amina Keygan
Councillor



Chris Lynch
Councillor



David Pease
Councillor

Strategic PLANNING

Burnie City Council adopted its 20 year vision for our city through its Strategic Plan - Making a Better Burnie 2044. This important document, developed with the input of our community, sets the long-term focus and effort of the Council as we work toward the shared goals for our future.

Financial Management Plans and Asset Management Plans are then developed with a 10 year outlook, to project council's financial requirements over the long term, and to forecast the level of investment needed for asset renewal and replacement over this period.

In the medium term, Council develops Financial Management and Asset Management Strategies that focus on the next four years. These documents are driven by the above strategic plans to guide our priorities over the medium term. The Council Plan is then developed which sets out Council's goals and key actions over four years, generally aligning to the term of a council.

Council's Strategic Risk Register is reviewed annually and informs the budget preparation process by identifying the highest risks and challenges that council must manage at a strategic level.

Each year, Council then sets its Annual Plan and Budget by drawing from the above strategies to determine its key actions for the year, and guide the allocation of resources it has available. All this is done while carefully balancing what is considered affordable for the community as part of setting rates.

In terms of accountability, Council then provides an Annual Report at the end of each year, to detail its performance in terms of the Annual Plan actions it set out to do, key highlights from the year, and comprehensive financial performance.

The Framework ensures that our Annual Plan and Budget is always based on medium and long term priorities and needs.

Strategic GOALS

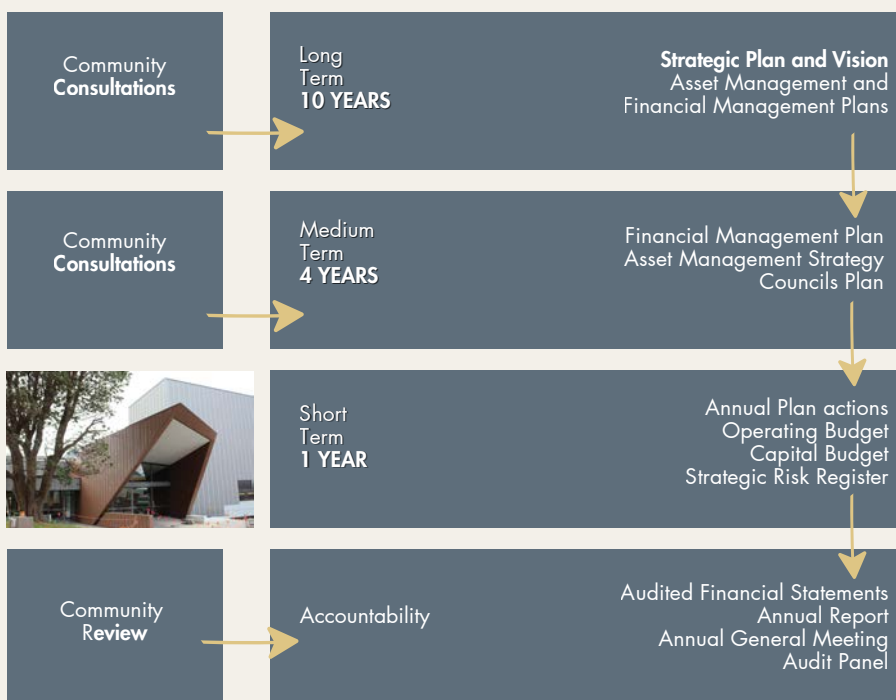
1. MAKING AN ACTIVE TOWN CENTRE

2. MAKING LIVEABLE LOCAL COMMUNITIES

3. MAKING SUSTAINABLY BUILT AND NATURAL

4. MAKING CULTURALLY RICH AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

5. MAKING DEMOCRATIC AND ENGAGED COMMUNITIES



Annual Plan ACTIONS

Making an active town centre

- Progress the Waterfront redevelopment incorporating extension of shared pathway and accessibility improvements
- Install improved bicycle parking facilities in the CBD and secure bicycle parking in the Marine Terrace Car Park for commuters
- Progress CBD enhancements in line with the adopted Urban Plan Style Guide
- Complete the Waterfront playground redevelopment as part of the Urban Plan

Making liveable local communities

- Work with Cradle Coast Authority to finalise Coastal Pathway feasibility and design
- Collaborate on creating a sub-regional tourism destination marketing plan
- Undertake a traffic study and implement solutions for Van Diemen's Crescent – Mooreville Road
- Review and update the Road Network Strategy

Making sustainably built and natural environments

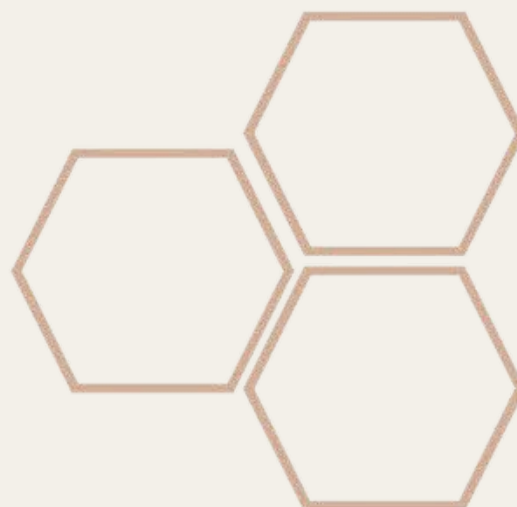
- Progress year 2 works under the Urban Rivers Project aimed at improving Romaine and Shorewell Creek catchments
- Undertake a Shorewell Creek Flood Study
- Commence the gas heating conversion at the Burnie Aquatic Centre
- Prepare mapping of unserviced stormwater gaps and develop a priority program for roll-out
- Undertake an industrial land supply and demand analysis (to complement the Statewide Industrial Land Study) for Greater Burnie over the next 20 years

Making culturally rich and vibrant communities

- Coordinate a program of activities to mark the Bicentenary of Burnie
- Improve Council's volunteer management framework to strengthen recruitment, volunteer wellbeing and retention
- Implement and launch public online access to the Burnie Arts Collections
- Develop and launch an Education and Public Programs Strategy for Burnie Arts

Making democratic and engaged communities

- Support the 2026 local government elections through candidate sessions, revised induction process, and a new learning and development program for all councillors
- Continue to progress the asset disposal program
- Undertake negotiations to complete a new Enterprise Agreement
- Undertake a review of lease, fee and service level structures for sporting clubs and community groups that use Council owned facilities



Budget SUMMARY

The 2026-27 budget continues on the basis of the previous financial year, gradually increasing service delivery, delivering on renewal projects and achieving a modest rate rise.

Financial Principles

The 2026-27 Budget has been developed in accordance with Council's Long-Term Financial Management Strategy, which promotes responsible financial management, intergenerational equity, financial resilience and investment in activities that provide the greatest benefit to the Burnie community.

Operational Budget

Council's income for 2026-27 is estimated to be approximately \$47.5m with recurrent expenses of \$46.9m. Following capital adjustments it is expected Council will achieve an operational surplus of \$330,000.

Council rating supports the delivery of our services, key strategies and goals. Council general rate will increase by 3.95% for 2026-27. Vacant land will increase in alignment with valuation, resulting in increases higher than municipal average. Council continues to work hard to improve the CBD and is once again offering rating relief to CBD properties with no increase, with exception to any changes as a result of the fresh valuation. This is second year in succession a 0% increase has been applied to the CBD aiming to reduce empty shopfronts and promote investment in premises and service offerings. In line with the revaluations, this revenue will be recovered from residential properties. Overall, the changes outlined result in addition rating income to Council of 4.86%.

Council's Financial Management Plan remains clear that Council aims to improve its rating position for the community by:

- Promoting development and increasing the number of ratepayers and value of properties, sharing the cost of existing infrastructure across more ratepayers;
- Reviewing and rationalising its assets to reduce ongoing operational and future capital costs; and
- Continuing to find internal operating efficiencies

In the 2025-26 budget Council reintroduced community development, tourism and events functions and will continue to enhance work in this area, with a revised events strategy and a significant bicentennial program of events. Since completion of renovations, Burnie Arts has seen strong utilisation and further investment will be made to increase patronage and diversity of attractions, with a particular emphasis on public programs and education offerings.

Waste Management was the most significant area of change for Council last financial year. Waste management charges are split into three components being the kerbside collection charge, the municipal waste charge and the landfill levy.

- The kerbside collection charge covers the cost of kerbside collection (waste, recycling and FOGO) and is applicable to all properties in the Inzone of Council's kerbside collection as defined by the Waste Collection Service Area Map. Waste and Recycling charges will be maintained at the same level as last year and it is proposed that Council maintain the same charge as last year for FOGO however it is noted most properties only paid for the service for three quarters of the year. This will mean in dollar terms properties will pay \$70 rather than \$53 for the FOGO component of the kerbside collection charge.
- The municipal waste charge is established to cover the costs of all other municipal waste services including maintaining public bins, dog deposit bags, CBD cleaning, public event waste, illegal dumping, street sweeping and costs associated with the Waste Management Centre including landfill rehabilitation. The municipal waste charge is paid by all ratepayers within the municipal area and has increased by \$3.
- The State government impose a fee on every tonne of waste sent to landfill. Next financial year this will increase from \$45.84 to \$70.56. Council apply a charge to each property to offset landfill disposal costs relating to street and park bins collections and street sweeping. Council's charge will increase from \$25 per property to \$35 per property.

Council is required to collect fire service contributions on behalf of the State Government through the State Fire Commission under the Fire Services Act 1979. The Council has no control or influence over the amount of the rate levied annually. The state government has indicated that the fire levy will increase by 3.83%.

The total employee costs for 2026-27 are estimated to be \$12,663,000. Council's enterprise agreement includes a wage increase for all staff at 3.5% from first full pay period July 2026. This is the last year of the current agreement.

The Operational Budget includes a number of "one-off" projects or expenditure including funds for the 2026 local government elections, digital transformation projects and an industrial supply and demand analysis.

Capital Budget

Council has three clear objectives in preparation of the draft Capital Budget for 2026-27. Firstly, that all adopted Council strategies have funding allocated to progress projects. Secondly, to reduce the renewal backlog, and finally, ensuring a movement to more external capital works, allowing internal works teams to focus on operational service levels.

The Capital Budget for 2026-27 is an ambitious \$29.4m, which includes \$17.7m of Council funds and \$11.7m of grant funding. The program is focussed once again on asset renewal projects, rather than new asset builds, aiming to reduce the renewal backlog identified in Council's Strategic Asset Management Plan.

Council's main strategic focus remains on improving the CBD through its Burnie City Centre Urban Plan, driven by a working group of community representatives. Our goal essentially is to make the CBD, and by virtue the whole LGA, more vibrant, attractive, inviting and liveable and \$5.2m is allocated to progress initiatives throughout the CBD and waterfront areas.

Other areas of significant spend include –

- \$1.8m at the Aquatic Centre to undertake a number of renewal projects, but also commence the conversion from gas to electricity at the site in line with Federal Government funding
- \$320,000 to further Disability Discrimination Act infrastructure compliance across multiple areas
- \$4m to undertake work to reconfigure Upper Natone Road at Horseshoe Bend
- Funding for new heavy plant and equipment (roadside slashing)
- \$3m resealing and resheeting program
- \$2.3m on sports ground lighting improvements
- \$600k to commence work on the West Park Precinct Master Plan
- \$1.2m on stormwater projects

Fees and Charges

In general, a CPI based increase has been applied across most fees, adjusted to round figures. A number of points of interest relating to the fees and charges for 2026-27, include:

- The introduction of lifetime dog registrations
- A reduction in cemetery reservation fees
- A slight increase in on-street parking fees
- Confirmation of no fee for street dining
- Re-introduction of early bird parking to the Multi Storey Car Park

Council's pension discount trial has now concluded and Council will revert back to the standard Pensioner Rate Remission Scheme.

Revaluation

Section 11 of the Valuation of Land Act 2001 (the Act) requires the Valuer-General to make valuations of the Land Values (LV), Capital Values (CV) and Assessed Annual Values (AAV) for all lands within each Municipal Area, including any Crown lands that are liable to be rated in accordance with Part 9 of the Local Government Act 1993. This process occurs every six years, with Burnie's last revaluation being completed in 2019.

The revaluation indicates significant movements in property values and shifts the rating burden from commercial and primary production land towards residential and industrial land. These figures will impact individual property rating movements, even within rates zones, with fluctuations both upwards and downwards. The valuation data indicates one third of residential properties will receive a decrease in their general rate with one third of owners to receive an increase of between \$0 and \$90.

General Rate Increase

Rates Indexation Estimate	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
	3.95%	3.50%	3.50%	3%
0% CBD				

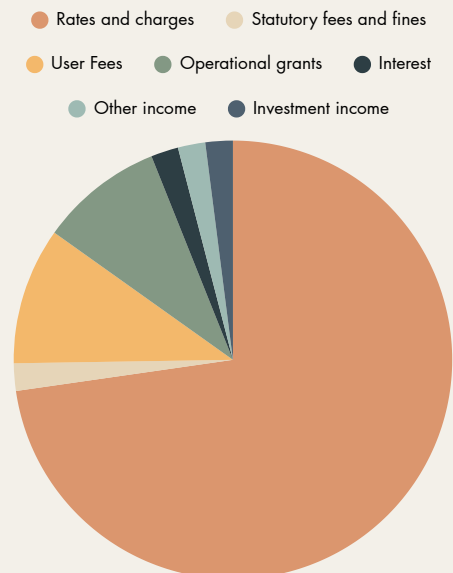


Financial PERFORMANCE

Following capital adjustments it is expected Council will achieve an operational surplus of \$330,000 for the 2026-27 financial year.

Council revenue by source:

Source	Revenue \$'000	% of Total
Rates and charges	\$ 34,347	72%
Statutory fees and fines	\$ 921	2%
User fees	\$ 4,860	10%
Operational grants	\$ 4,465	9%
Interest	\$ 1,038	2%
Other income	\$ 876	2%
Investment income	\$ 828	2%
Reimbursements	\$ 139	0.5%
Share of profit of joint venture	\$ 150	0.5%
	\$ 47,651	100%



Council expenditure by purpose per \$100 spent



Capital PROJECTS

2026-27	2026-27 BUDGET	RENEWAL OF ASSETS	NEW / UPGRADE ASSETS	GRANT FUNDING	COUNCIL FUNDING
Total Program Value	\$29,379,521.00	\$18,626,650.00	\$10,752,871.00	\$11,686,644.00	\$17,692,877.00
Buildings	\$4,159,720	\$3,613,434	\$546,286	\$1,402,123	\$2,757,597
Aquatic Centre convert to electric from gas (over 3 F/Y) Bund around Sodium Bisulphate Tank Aquatic Centre replace sodium hypochlorite tank Aquatic Centre Pool hall lighting 50 Metre Pool Options Assessment & Report Aquatic Centre corrosion rectification etc Aquatic Centre shade sail and umbrellas Aquatic Centre Pool cover replacement (1 of 5) MSCP replace 3 sails - corroded element replacement MSCP corrosion and spalling program DDA Facilities and access program Netball clubrooms floor coverings Council Building Mechanical Services Switchboard replacement Acton Softball association clubrooms kitchen upgrade Buildings Security Upgrade City Office Switchboard Upgrade Surf Club HWS Upper Burnie Hall renew flooring West Park the Point - Repair Treat and Paint rusty steelwork West Park - Grandstand - repairs (gutter, roof, lighting, electrical, fire electrical) Ridgley Football club roof gutter fascia window frames Wivenhoe South Toilet relocate - replace Wivenhoe cemetery toilets Depot - internal office additions West Park Grandstand HWC renewal Demolition - Montello Old Club Rooms Burnie Arts Roof access system - access to bar roof Wayfinding Signage Digital Visitor counter system Dishwasher - art gallery kitchen Dishwasher - staff kitchen Production of voiced interpretation for hearing loop equipment Restoration of Kpas piano - part paid Plaza Seating and Bins Wheelchair lift from Atrium to Arts Theatre Dressing room Level Lift to Stages Goods Lift - Art Gallery Preparation Room Glazing to Industry Wall and Town Hall Clock Buildings Asset Failure Contingency					
Parks and Reserves	\$4,380,345	\$3,422,290	\$958,055	\$108,133	\$4,272,212
West Park Scoreboard Replacement West Park Precinct Plan - Penguin Observation Center seating West Park - fire control system cabling replacement Sports Grounds Lighting West Park Montello replace lighting Sports Grounds Lighting McKenna Park Bridge and Boardwalk Program McKenna Park fence replacement Wivenhoe Cricket nets replacement Car Park Renewal Program Fencing Renewal Program Court 14 Tennis Centre re surfacing Furniture and Equipment Program Path Renewal Program WMC epoxy concrete repairs at skimming rails Lawn Cemetery Stage 5 Irrigation Waste - Methane Gas Flare South Burnie Jetty Repairs Council Facility Signage					

2026-27	2026-27 BUDGET	RENEWAL OF ASSETS	NEW / UPGRADE ASSETS	GRANT FUNDING	COUNCIL FUNDING
Urban Design Framework Projects	\$5,644,520.59	\$1,357,063.86	\$4,287,456.74	\$5,644,520.59	-
Foreshore improvements (inc rail removal) Urban Design Framework Projects - City Revitalisation Priority Projects Bus interchange relocation Street bin replacement					
Transport	\$11,851,511.18	\$7,513,989.06	\$4,337,522.12	\$5,006,510.27	\$6,845,000.91
Urban Pavement Renewal and Reseal Rural Pavement Renewal and Reseal Resheeting Program Footpath Replacement Program Street Light Replacement Accessibility program - kerb ramps and parking Active Transport Strategy Footpath network gap program Footpath Kerb and Channel program Guard rail Program Rural culvert program Traffic Island and Safety Program Retaining Wall Program Studholme St Street Upgrade West Mooreville Road Natone Rd Horseshoe Bend - flood damage rebuild Replacement Bund for CBD street sweeper Alexander St New Car Park - Concept A Mount St Rock retention fence Bus Stop Upgrades					
Bridges and Culverts	\$486,596.60	\$486,596.60	-	\$216,265.16	\$270,331.45
South Burnie Jetty (subject to grant funding) Brooklyn Road Culvert					
Stormwater	\$1,297,590.94	\$773,147.94	\$524,443.01	\$248,704.93	\$1,048,886.01
Pollution Capture Program (year 2) Flood Risk Reduction Program (flood study actions) Gully Pit Replacement Program Headwall Replacement Program Kerb Outfall Replacement Program Manholes & Mains Replacement Program Property Connection Program Stormwater Upgrade to Cooee Creek Shorewell Creek - flood study / Burnie Park floodway design					
ICT	\$472,214.97	\$322,235.08	\$149,979.89	-	\$472,214.97
Meeting Room Upgrade Computer Equipment Mobile Devices CCTV General BAFC Technical Equipment Town Hall Fixed LED screen installation Audio Infrastructure Upgrade Theatre and Town Hall Braddon Hall Fixed PA System Installation Venue Communications Upgrade - wireless intercom Portable PA					
Plant and Equipment	\$1,054,582.44	\$1,054,582.44	-	-	\$1,054,582.44
Vehicles Minor Plant Major Plant					
Furniture and Fittings	\$32,439.77	\$21,626.52	\$10,813.26	\$10,813.26	\$21,626.52
Emergency Management - Evacuation/Recovery Centre Equipment Christmas decorations					

Estimated Statement of COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Forecast 2026 (at Mar 2026) \$'000	APBE 2027 \$'000
Recurrent Income		
Rates and charges	32,803	34,374
Statutory fees and fines	910	921
User fees	4,096	4,860
Operational Grants	4,331	4,465
Interest	1,304	1,038
Other income	931	876
Investment income	828	828
Reimbursements	271	139
Total recurrent income	45,473	47,501
Recurrent Expenses		
Employee benefits	11,340	12,663
Materials and services	14,271	16,461
Depreciation and amortisation	12,094	13,003
Impairment losses on receivables	34	17
Finance costs	270	251
Other expenses	4,208	4,459
Total recurrent expenses	42,218	46,855
Operating surplus/(deficit) before capital items	3,255	646
Capital Items		
Capital grants	6,716	8,640
Contributions - non-monetary assets	-	-
Profit/(Loss) on disposal of assets	(404)	(400)
Share of Profit of Joint Venture	292	150
	6,604	8,390
Result from continuing operations Surplus/(Deficit)	9,859	9,036
Other Comprehensive Income		
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	20,183	17,479
Total Other Comprehensive Income	20,183	17,479
Total Comprehensive Result	30,042	26,515
Operating Margin	1.08	1.01
Underlying surplus or deficit		
Recurrent Income		
Total income from continuing operations	52,077	55,890
Less non operating income		
Capital grants	(6,716)	(8,640)
Contributions - non-monetary assets	-	-
Revenue from Constructed Assets	-	-
Adjustments to timing of Financial Assistance Grants	(4)	(66)
Recurrent Income	45,357	47,184
Recurrent Expenditure	42,218	46,855
Less non-operational expenditure		
Capital works completed on assets not owned by Council	-	-
Recurrent Expenditure	42,218	46,855
Adjusted Underlying surplus or (deficit)	3,139	330
Adjusted Operating Margin	1.07	1.01

Estimated Statement of FINANCIAL POSITION

	Forecast 2026 (at Mar 2026) \$'000	APBE 2027 \$'000
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	39,541	24,383
Trade and other receivables	3,896	4,037
Investments	-	-
Prepayments	652	672
Inventories	105	108
Contract Assets	-	-
Total current assets	44,194	29,200
Non-current assets		
Investment in water corporation	71,542	71,542
Investment in joint venture	3,633	3,491
Investment in subsidiaries	-	-
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	596,237	631,109
Right of Use Assets	18	17
Total non-current assets	671,430	706,159
Total assets	715,624	735,359
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	4,631	4,783
Trust funds and deposits	78	78
Lease Liabilities	1	1
Contract liabilities	15,383	9,432
Provisions	2,498	2,577
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	1,067	1,087
Total current liabilities	23,658	17,957
Non-current liabilities		
Provisions - NC	4,424	4,433
Lease Liabilities - NC	16	14
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings - NC	3,321	2,234
Total non-current liabilities	7,760	6,681
Total liabilities	31,418	24,638
Net Assets	684,206	710,721
Equity		
Reserves	346,949	364,428
Surplus / (deficit)	9,859	9,036
Accumulated surplus / (deficit)	327,397	337,256
Total Equity	684,206	710,721
CURRENT RATIO	1.87	1.63

Estimated Statement of CASH FLOW

	Forecast 2026 (at Mar 2026) \$'000	APBE 2027 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities		
Rates	32,841	34,319
Statutory fees and fines	910	921
User fees (inclusive of GST)	4,312	5,284
Operational Grants (inclusive of GST)	4,246	4,465
Reimbursements (inclusive of GST)	298	153
Rents (inclusive of GST)	777	799
Other receipts (inclusive of GST)	248	164
Interest	1,304	1,038
Investment revenue from Water Corporation	828	828
Distributions from Joint Venture	166	292
Payments to employees	(11,043)	(12,567)
Payments to suppliers	(16,101)	(18,026)
Finance Costs paid	(270)	(251)
Other payments	(4,629)	(4,905)
Net GST refund / (payment)	1,546	1,503
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	15,432	14,017
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(15,802)	(30,795)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant, infrastructure and equipment	-	-
Capital grants	10,730	2,689
Receipts from maturity of short term investments	-	-
Funds deposited as short term investments	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(5,073)	(28,107)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Proceeds from trust funds and deposits	(301)	-
Payments for ROU leases	0	(2)
Repayment of interest bearing loans and borrowings	(1,048)	(1,067)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(1,348)	(1,069)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	9,011	(15,158)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	30,530	39,541
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	39,541	24,383





Burnie City Council
80 Wilson Street
Burnie, TAS 7320

Every effort has been made to ensure that
information is correct at the time of printing

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To be approved by Council
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