



Sorell Social Strategy

GHD on behalf of Sorell Council





July 2024

→ **The Power of Commitment**



This document has been prepared by GHD, on behalf of Sorell Council. Any enquiries regarding the content, findings, or implications of this report should be directed to Sorell Council. Contact details for Sorell Council are provided below.

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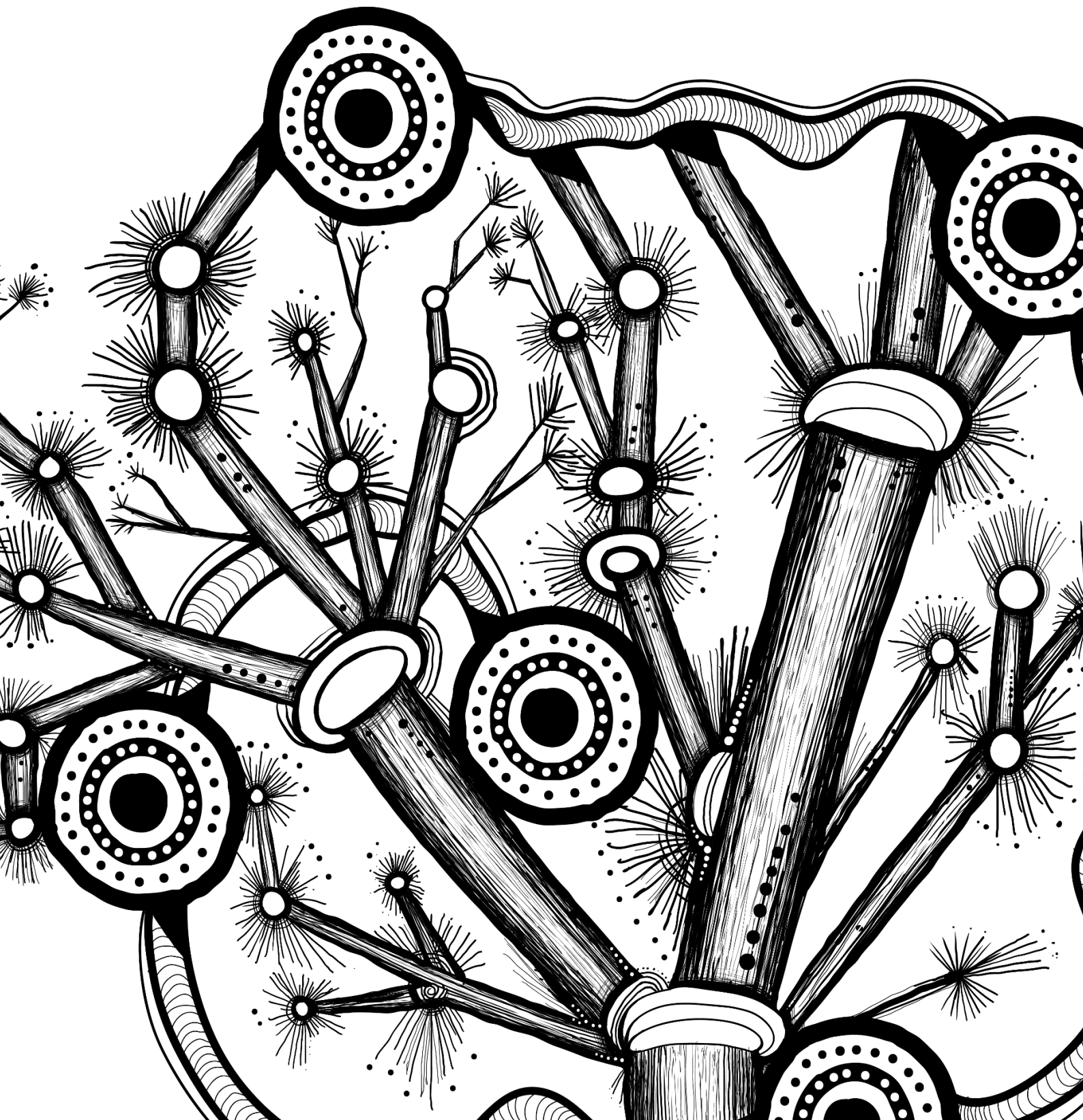
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Acknowledgement of Country

GHD acknowledges Mumirimina peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the land, water and sky of the Sorell region in lutruwita/Tasmania. We recognise their strength, diversity, resilience and deep connections to Country. We pay our respects to Elders of the past, present and future, as they hold the memories, knowledges and spirit of Australia. GHD is committed to learning from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the work we do.



Executive Summary

The Sorell Social Strategy (hereafter referred to as ‘the Strategy’) seeks to empower Council to implement key actions necessary for delivering priority initiatives, valued by residents and those who visit our community. The Strategy aims to provide a foundation for Council’s advocacy activities, focused on securing additional essential services, infrastructure, and funding channels. Its strategic focus is aligned to fostering strong partnerships and gaining access to the expertise necessary to successfully implement a range of local services and programs which will benefit not only our community, but the south east region more broadly.

Sorell Council’s commitment and vision

Sorell Council is committed to ensuring the Sorell Municipality grows sustainably and continues to be a thriving, safe and liveable community, now and into the future.

Council’s vision outlined in the Strategic Plan 2019-2029 is to create a proud, thriving and inclusive South East Community.

Community characteristics and key trends

The population of the Sorell Local Government Area (LGA) is expected to reach 22,191 people by 2042, an increase of 32.6% on current population levels (ABS, 2022). The latest projections also indicate a rise in the population aged over 65 years. As the population changes and changes it is likely to increase the overall demand for essential services such as health care, social assistance and aged care.

While the population is expected to age currently there is a large cohort of young people with approximately 1 in 5 residents in the Sorell LGA are aged under the age of 18 years. Demand in services such as childcare, education and youth focused facilities that caters to young people is likely to remain as the population grows.

The largest industries of employment in the region were healthcare and social assistance and construction making up almost 30% of the total labour force. In 2021, the Sorell LGA had lower rates of unemployment compared to the state at 4.7% and 5.9% respectively. Opportunities for local business growth and employment in key industries will be crucial for economic growth and job creation in the region.

There is a high proportion of car ownership as well as a high reliance of private vehicle journeys to access employment, education and key services and facilities. A lack of affordable and reliable public transport has contributed to people’s inability to access key services and facilities, particularly for young people or people without access to a private vehicle.

Overall, across the region there is a moderate level of socio-economic advantage compared to the rest of Australia.

Current facilities and services

A preliminary audit of all social infrastructure facilities and services, both Council owned and privately owned was undertaken. There were a total of 125 community and recreation facilities and services located within the region.



Summary of findings



Ageing population

Projections suggest growth in the elderly populations in the Sorell LGA. Spaces that are accessible to all ages and abilities were noted as a gap in some facilities across the region. Furthermore, key services such as health care and aged care that support the needs of an ageing population, were seen to be a likely challenge in the coming years.



Health and aged care

Access to health care services in the Sorell LGA, including medical imaging, pathology, allied health, emergency care, and aged care, is limited, posing potential challenges for the growing population and changes in the overall demographic.



Car dependency, public transport and connectivity

High reliance on private vehicle use for commuting, shopping, and leisure activities, compounded by the lack of reliable and affordable public transport options, particularly affects individuals unable to drive or lacking access to private vehicles.



Schools, education and training

Limited school capacity, particularly in secondary education, poses a challenge in the Sorell LGA. Recent government funding allocated for expanding existing facilities at Sorell School and Dodges Ferry Primary School will assist in providing additional facilities for school, however, as the population grows, demands for additional education facilities and investment, are likely to increase.



Young people

The region is increasingly appealing to young families, however, currently faces challenges such as a shortage of spaces and services tailored for older children and youth. This is particularly so along the southern beaches, which has contributed to feelings of loneliness, boredom, and social isolation among young people in this area.



Facilities, service provision and the public realm

Currently facilities are concentrated in main townships of Sorell, Midway Point and Dodges Ferry. However, there are gaps in infrastructure provision which exist, particularly in art and cultural facilities. Improvements in the accessibility and quality of infrastructure as well as increasing opportunities for more cafes, restaurants, nightlife and entertainment facilities was noted as a key aspiration of the community.







Sport, recreation and open space

The Sorell LGA boasts a diverse range of sport, recreation and open space, with Sorell township as the central hub. The natural environment is highly valued among the community and a key attraction for visitors to the area. However, gaps in the provision of some infrastructure including skate parks, swimming facilities, dedicated dog parks, playgrounds, outdoor exercise equipment, and supporting infrastructure such as amenities blocks, shade coverage, and seating in areas outside of Sorell township was observed. Furthermore, decreased feelings of safety were mentioned as a key barrier for some residents who wish to access and use community facilities.

Key priorities, objectives and measures

Four priority areas have been identified to guide Council’s planning, design, management and delivery of social infrastructure facilities and programs over the next 10 years. These priorities form the basis of the overarching objectives which are outlined under each priority below. Each objective has a range of actions each with an assigned priority rating, delivery timeframe, and responsibility. There are a total of 27 recommended actions which are outlined in more detail in Section 6. The measures for the Strategy were identified based on a review of best practice standards and key performance indicators, aligning with each priority area and objective. A triangulation methodology was used to assess how the priorities, objectives and action are progressing as well as to measure the overall success of priorities and actions. Full details of the measures are outlined in Section 7.

 <p>Priority 1: Fostering connected and inclusive communities</p>	 <p>Priority 2: Promoting safe, healthy and active communities</p>	 <p>Priority 3: A focus on children and young people</p>	 <p>Priority 4: Opportunities for increased service provision and delivery</p>
<p>Enhance social connections</p>	<p>Promote active and public transportation to support healthy lifestyles to all communities throughout the Sorell LGA</p>	<p>Promote and provide a platform that encourages youth participation in local leadership, engagement, self-determination, and decision making</p>	<p>Understand the health needs and concerns of the community and investigate opportunities for new health care facilities and services to meet future demand</p>
<p>Improve and activate civic spaces</p>	<p>Provide and upgrade amenities and spaces that better cater to the diverse needs of the community</p>	<p>Co-ordinate education planning and delivery with State Government departments and the private sector</p>	<p>Enhance community infrastructure delivery and utilisation</p>
	<p>Seek funding and resourcing for improvements to open space and recreation to support community satisfaction and increased participation in recreation</p>		
	<p>Improve safety for users of facilities and the community through design</p>		

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Glossary and abbreviations

Term	Definition
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
Blue infrastructure	Beaches and waterways, such as harbours and rivers and facilities that support them, including foreshores, surf lifesaving and water recreation clubs, jetties and wharves (Infrastructure Australia, 2019)
CSP	Community Strategic Plan
IRSAD	Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage
km	Kilometre
LGA	Local Government Area – LGAs are an approximation of gazetted local government boundaries as defined by each State and Territory. LGAs cover incorporated area of Australia
OSHC	Out of School Hours Care
Rental stress	Household whose income level is in the bottom 40 per cent of Australia's income distribution and is paying more than 30 per cent of their income in on rent (PHIDU, 2023)
Social cohesion	Social or community cohesion can be understood as “the bonds and relationships people have with their family, friends and the wider community. Day to day interactions between people in a community build trust and reciprocity and contribute to cohesion” (ABS, 2010).
Social housing	Social housing is rental housing provided by not-for-profit and government organisations, and includes both community housing and public housing (Shelter Tas, 2022).
Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA)	The ABS produces four socio-economic indices for areas (SEIFA) based on Census data, which identify areas of relative advantage and disadvantage. Socio-economic advantage and disadvantage are defined broadly by the IRSAD in terms of people's access to material and social resources and their ability to participate in society. To capture this broad definition, the IRSAD includes a range of data points, including income, education, employment, occupation, and housing. IRSAD scores are presented in declines and state rankings, with 1 being the lowest socioeconomic decile and the most disadvantaged and 10 being least disadvantaged.
Sorell Council	Refers to the local government body of Sorell Council
Sorell LGA	Refers to the whole region of the Sorell Local Government Area
Sorell Township	Referring to only the township of Sorell within the Sorell LGA
Stakeholder	Person or group affected by or concerned with an issue.
UCL	Urban Centre and Locality
Vulnerable group	The inability of people to withstand or adapt to change due to characteristics of the group they are a part of. This report considers the following groups: socio-economically disadvantaged persons as identified by the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Advantage and Disadvantage, the elderly and very young, low-income households, single parent households, culturally and linguistically diverse people, people who need assistance with core activities such as self-care, movement and communication due to a severe or profound disability.

1. Introduction

Social infrastructure is critical for building socially sustainable and resilient communities as it supports and enhances the physical, social, cultural, intellectual development and welfare of communities.

1.1 Purpose

The Sorell Social Strategy aligns with Council's strategic goal: to ensure a liveable and inclusive community. The Strategy provides a direction for Sorell Council in the planning, management and provision of social facilities, programs and initiatives for the Sorell LGA. This direction is provided through a set of key priorities and actions.

A key focus in the development of this Strategy has been to identify how social facilities, programs and initiatives in the Sorell LGA can meet the growing and changing needs and aspirations of the community. Development of the Strategy involved a detailed assessment of the current social facilities, community characteristics and identifying the current and emerging social issues and trends.

1.2 Objectives

The objectives of the Social Strategy are to:

- **Identify current and emerging social issues:** understand the challenges and concerns faced by residents in areas such as social services, health, education, recreation, community participation, and social isolation.
- **Understand existing social infrastructure:** audit existing social infrastructure and open space to understand what is currently here and how it is used by the community.
- **Determine community priorities:** pinpoint the top priorities and aspirations of community members.
- **Identify priority investments:** identify priority investments suitable for grant funding, partnerships or inclusion in Council's Long-Term Financial Plan.
- **Strengthen existing social initiatives:** identify opportunities for strengthening and optimising existing social initiatives, ensuring that they align with the community's identified priorities.
- **Advocate for the community and inform future decision making:** gather insights from the community about their needs and aspirations to support future advocacy efforts and decision making.
- **Consider infrastructure that aligns with current and future community needs:** explore and provide recommendations related to future development of social infrastructure including identifying areas where additional infrastructure may be needed to address community priorities.
- **Guide future actions:** develop a clear and actionable roadmap for future social development efforts.

1.3 Defining social, green and blue infrastructure



Social infrastructure

Social infrastructure incorporates the facilities, services, and spaces that are used for the physical, social, cultural or intellectual development, or welfare of the community. It can include a range of physical infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, emergency services, justice facilities, libraries, community centres, cultural facilities, childcare, aged care, sport and recreation facilities and social housing.

Social infrastructure can also include the delivery of social services, programs, initiatives and activities such as neighbourhood programs, youth services, education services, business and training programs, non-government organisations, community care programs, men's sheds and library services and programs.



Green infrastructure and open space

Green infrastructure and open space refers to the range of natural and built landscape assets which incorporate natural vegetation for passive recreation and natural or landscape amenity (ERA Planning and Environment, 2020) and (Infrastructure Australia, 2019). It includes areas of public and private land such as parks, nature reserves, national parks, fields, playgrounds, walking and cycling tracks, and tree canopy.



Blue infrastructure

Blue infrastructure refers to beaches and waterways, such as harbours, rivers, creeks and canals, and the facilities that support them, including foreshores, boat ramps, surf lifesaving and water recreation clubs, jetties and wharves (Infrastructure Australia, 2019).

1.4 Benefits of social, green and blue infrastructure

Social, green and blue infrastructure, both public and privately owned, enables communities to connect and thrive. It strengthens identity to place and contributes to the overall well-being of people. Some of the benefits of social, green and blue infrastructure include:

- **Improved health and wellbeing** through the creation of spaces and places that enable residents to make healthy choices.
- **Supportive social infrastructure** through the provision of an integrated approach to social infrastructure throughout the Sorell LGA.
- **Sense of belonging and local identity** by creating spaces that are socially inclusive, promote respect and feelings of belonging.
- **Promote active lifestyles** by increasing and promoting active transport use throughout the Sorell LGA through the inclusion of safe, accessible, and connected cycle lanes and share paths.
- **Diversity of local economy** by enabling access to a range of jobs and learning/skills development opportunities that will support the local area and that are able to adapt to economic and social changes.
- **Quality urban design and placemaking** through the delivery of high-quality urban design and placemaking outcomes that supports community health and wellbeing and enhances community assets and local character.
- **Connected communities and social inclusion** by increasing and promoting active and public transport that support movements between places and improves social connections and inclusion throughout the community.
- **Collaboration with local communities** by promoting community participation, empowerment, and ownership in creating socially sustainable places.
- **Improve feelings of safety** through improvements to the amenity, safety and security of spaces and places to ensure people feel comfortable, respected, and safe in their communities.
- **Environmental quality** through the creation of a network of quality blue, green, open spaces, and urban tree canopy.
- **Support cultural expression and diversity** by providing social infrastructure and programs that supports and enhances cultural identity, diversity, and expression.
- **Provide a network of community facilities** by creating a network of community facilities that supports the needs of the community and contributes to social cohesion.

1.5 Council's role

The role of Council is to enhance its understanding of the diverse social services and infrastructure required for our community's health and well-being. We're committed to ensuring the Sorell Municipality grows sustainably and continues to be a thriving, safe and liveable community, now and into the future.

This Social Strategy empowers Council to implement key actions necessary for delivering priority initiatives, valued by residents and those who visit our community. The Strategy also provides a foundation for Council's advocacy activities, focused on securing additional essential services, infrastructure, and funding channels. Its strategic focus is aligned to fostering strong partnerships and gaining access to the expertise necessary to successfully implement a range of local services and programs which will benefit not only our community, but the south east region more broadly.

1.6 How this strategy was developed

Sorell Council engaged GHD in January 2024 to undertake research, engage with the community and stakeholders and prepare a Social Strategy. The key steps undertaken are outlined below.

1.6.1 Desktop review of strategic documents and policies

A review of relevant state, regional and local strategic policies and plans, as well as relevant background studies has been undertaken to understand the social policy context, key directions, challenges and opportunities, and best practice standards and benchmarks for social infrastructure in the Sorell LGA. A summary is included in Section 2.

1.6.2 Background research

An analysis of the current demographic make-up of the Sorell LGA including specific localities was undertaken in comparison to Tasmania. A number of key social indicators including but not limited to, population, cultural diversity, education, unemployment, income, housing, mobility and volunteering have been analysed. Data to inform the demographic analysis has been gathered from various sources including the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2021 Census, Social Health Atlases and Sorell Council website and publications.

Analysis of the potential future population was also undertaken to understand how the Sorell LGA may change over time and what that will mean in terms of needs and levels of demand for social infrastructure. This was informed by the Tasmanian Government's Medium Series Population Projections. These projections also informed the development of resident profiles including service age group breakdowns for the entire LGA. The purpose of these indicative projections is not to provide detailed demographic projections but to gauge broader implications for social infrastructure provision and social trends.

This background research helped to inform the current and future community trends in the Sorell LGA outlined in Section 3.3.

1.6.3 Assessing existing social infrastructure

An audit of all existing social infrastructure facilities, both Council-owned and privately-owned, was undertaken. This included education facilities, health services, emergency services and justice facilities, community and cultural facilities, childcare, aged care, sport and recreation, youth programs, parks and open space, blue infrastructure and social housing. The size, functionality, and amenity were also assessed where applicable.

The assessment of existing social infrastructure within the Sorell LGA, assisted in the development of a robust understanding of the current facilities and services available. Additionally, it helped to identify any current or potential gaps in the provision of social infrastructure. This helped to inform the priorities, objectives and actions outlined in Section 6.

A preliminary review of social programs and initiatives was also undertaken.

1.6.4 Community and stakeholder engagement

A comprehensive engagement process was undertaken to gain insights and feedback from the community and stakeholders on the current social infrastructure in the Sorell LGA and ideas for the future. Participation in community and stakeholder engagement activities were voluntary and confidential.

Online survey

A survey was developed by GHD to provide an opportunity for community members across the Sorell LGA to provide input and express their thoughts on social infrastructure across the Sorell LGA. The survey was hosted on Council's 'Have Your Say' webpage via MS Forms over a 4-week period from 14 February to 8 March 2024. The survey was also promoted through Council's various social media platforms during that time.

The survey sought feedback on what people love most about where they live, what facilities and services they would like to see more of, what types of facilities people use and how frequently, and any challenges or barriers people face using these facilities.

A total of 202 survey responses were received. Section 4.1 presents a summary of the key findings from the survey with a copy of the survey provided in Appendix B.

In-person workshops

A total of three in-person workshops were developed. These community workshops were undertaken over two days on the 25 and 26 March 2024 with various community members, groups and stakeholders.

These workshops focused on the:

- Current trends, characteristics and attributes of the community.
- Community values and aspirations.
- Where the community sees / feels there are existing gaps, challenges and opportunities for social infrastructure facilities and services and open space provision.
- Community's priorities – what is important to the community?

These workshops were semi-structured and involved conversations with community participants as well as activities which included:

- Understanding the values and aspirations of the community and area through identifying what people love about living in the area and what they would love to see in the area.
- Understanding the gaps, challenges and opportunities for social infrastructure and services in the Sorell LGA.

Stakeholder meetings

Stakeholder meetings were undertaken to facilitate a detailed understanding of current community trends, challenges, gaps in service provisions and potential future needs and aspirations of the community. These meetings were undertaken via teleconference between 10 April and 7 May 2024.

A total of five stakeholders, who were contacted via email, were provided the opportunity to participate in an online meeting. A total of three online interviews were conducted during the consultation period. These included representatives from the following:

- The Youth Network of Tasmania (YNOT)
- Business and Employment Southeast Tasmania (BEST)
- Southeast Tasmania Salvos

The discussions were semi-structured in nature. All meetings focused on the following broad discussion topics such as:

- Overview of stakeholder's organisation and their role
- Current trends and characteristics of the community
- Gaps, challenges and opportunities
- Future needs and aspirations

An overview of relevant issues and key findings from the interviews is provided in Section 4.3.

1.6.5 Developing a direction for future priorities, objectives, actions and measures

A set of priorities were identified, informed by the findings of the previous tasks. Objectives and actions were developed for each priority to provide guidance to Council in the future planning and provision of social infrastructure facilities, services and programs over the next 10 years. These priorities, objectives and actions provide direction to potential implementation and delivery and each action is assigned a priority rating, delivery timeframe, and responsibility.

Measures and monitoring were identified based on a review of best practice standards and key performance indicators that aligned with each priority and objective. A triangulation methodology was used to measure the success of priorities and actions.

2. Strategic context

This section provides a strategic context for the assessment, through a summary of state, regional and local strategic planning documents, policies, and plans, as well as a planning framework and studies developed for the Sorell LGA.

Sorell Planning Framework

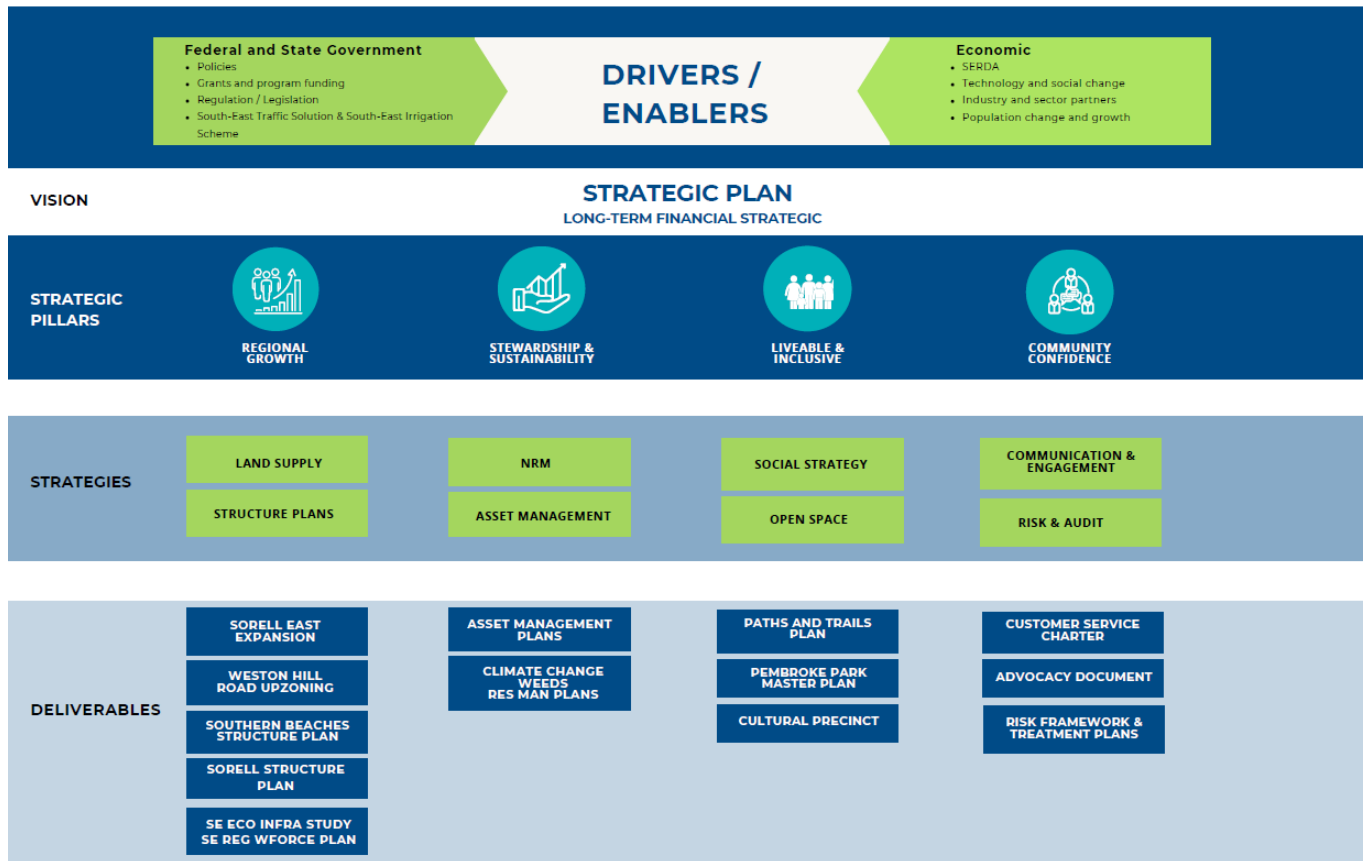


Figure 2.1 Sorell Council Planning Framework

2.1 Key findings

Several considerations for this assessment were identified from the literature review, including:

- At the regional and local levels of planning, the Sorell LGA is recognised as area for potential growth within the Southern Tasmanian Region, with Sorell Township specifically identified as a Greenfield Development Precinct for residential growth.
- The Sorell LGA is located within commuting distance of metropolitan Hobart which is a large factor in the forecast residential growth of the region, particularly in the affordable housing market. With the forecast growth over the next 25 years to be 3.6 times the State average, Council, State, Federal and private services are in high demand. New facilities, infrastructure and recreational areas are required to support this growth.
- The reliance on private vehicles and challenges with the existing road network within the Sorell LGA prompts an opportunity to improve public transport accessibility, frequency, and the road network which it relies on.
 - Given the high proportion of trips generated from the development of the proposed growth area and forecast population growth, capacity changes will impact daily traffic movements.

- The Annual Report 2023/2024 summarises key objectives, initiatives and strategies undertaken by Council for the financial year. Those of note include upgrades to the Sorell Southern Bypass and Midway Point Junction, resulting in an improvement to traffic flow.
- Local plans have highlighted the importance of new and improved recreational infrastructure and spaces for cultural activities, community sport and places for social gatherings, which can contribute to a sense of community and place for the Sorell LGA. The proposed plans for the Community Cultural Precinct aim to achieve this as outlined in Table 2.2 below.
- Trees, canopy cover and well-planned streets can support health and wellbeing by encouraging the community outdoors, leading to physical activity and community cohesion. This can also contribute to a sense of place for residents and visitors alike.
 - Sorell Streetscape Plan outlines improvements to walkability, structure and vibrancy of the town centre to encourage people out of their cars.
 - The Sorell Township Urban Master Plan identifies the role of the Sorell Town Centre, impacts of regional roads, access within and through town, and the environmental values the community holds.
- The value of natural areas and coastal bushland in the Sorell LGA is made clear through various local and regional plans. The growing community has changing open space and recreational needs, which expect the provision of built infrastructure to support its growth.
 - The distribution, access and maintenance of existing public open space in the area is localised in certain areas. This is a key challenge in balancing the appreciation of natural and coastal character and understanding the needs of the growing population.
- With continued growth in the area, additional school facilities are anticipated to be required. Current redevelopments to Sorell School are underway, as identified in the Annual Report, as well as a non-government school proposed for the new growth area precinct in the Sorell Township. Potential upgrades to Dodges Ferry Primary School were also proposed during federal and state elections in 2024 (Tasmanian Liberals, 2024).

2.2 Local Government, State Government and regional strategies and plans

Table 2.1 State and regional government policies and strategies

Plan, policy or strategy	Summary
State government	
Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy (STRLUS) 2010-2035 (Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority, 2023)	<p>The <i>Regional Land Use Strategy</i> is a broad policy document that facilitates and manages change, growth and development within Southern Tasmania over the next 25 years. It provides land use policies and strategies for the region based on regional planning policies addressing the underlying social, economic and environmental issues in Southern Tasmania. As a joint initiative between State and Local Government, it is intended to be a permanent feature of the planning system and guide land use, development, and infrastructure investment decision across the region by State and Local Government, and infrastructure providers.</p> <p>The plan identifies specific regions for potential growth within Southern Tasmania, including the Sorell LGA and Sorell Township East as a Greenfield Development Precinct for residential growth.</p>
Southern Integrated Transport Plan 2010 (Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources, 2010)	<p>The <i>Southern Integrated Transport Plan</i> provides a strategic framework for planning and investing in Southern Tasmania's regional transport system over the next 20 years. The Plan is a joint initiative of the Tasmanian Government, Southern Tasmanian Councils Authority and 12 Southern Councils, including Sorell Council.</p> <p>Sorell Township is identified in the plan as a sub-regional service centre experiencing strong residential growth, particularly in the affordable housing market, and within commuting distance of metropolitan Hobart. The plan also identifies Primrose Sands as an area of concern based on ABS SEIFA data.</p>

**Sorell to Hobart
Corridor Plan**
(Department of State
Growth, 2023)

The *Sorell to Hobart Corridor Planning Study* was commissioned by the Tasmanian Government to investigate ways to reduce congestion and improve travel time reliability on the Tasman Highway between Sorell Township and Hobart through road infrastructure, public transport and active transport initiatives. The Study identified four broad challenges:

- Congestion – increasing delays and trip times
- Transport options – limited alternative transport options
- Land use planning – to support residential growth
- Road safety – risk taking leading to more crashes

Additionally, public and active transport challenges were detailed, particularly regarding a reliance on private vehicles in the Sorell LGA, as public transport was supplied at a low frequency.

Local government

**Community Strategic
Plan 2019-2029
(CSP)**

(Sorell Council, 2019)

The CSP is a 10-year plan that provides strategic planning guidance to inform actions and initiatives of the Council, as well as the community, Government stakeholders and other non-Government stakeholders within the Sorell LGA. The plan is based on four objectives:

- To facilitate regional growth
- Responsible stewardship and a sustainable organisation
- To ensure a liveable and inclusive community
- Increased community confidence in council.

Key performance measures included as part of the Annual Plan and budget set out how the Strategic Plan will be operationalised by the organisation. This provides the community with an opportunity to see how Council is delivering its strategic objectives.

The CSP outlined several key deliverables regarding the provision of necessary infrastructure and management of assets. **Objective 3 specifically refers to the development and implementation of a social infrastructure and inclusiveness strategy.**

**Annual Report
2023/2024**

(Sorell Council, 2023)

The *Annual Report* outlines and summarises the key objectives, strategies and initiatives undertaken by Sorell Council for the 2022-2023 financial year. Projects and improvements of note include:

- Completion of the South East Stadium in the Sorell Township– a highly utilised facility with opportunities for sports, recreation and community use for the south east region
- South East Emergency Services Hub completion – an increased focus on Police, Fire and SES services for the region located in the Sorell Township.
- Key sections of the South East Transport Solution completed – the Sorell Southern Bypass and the Midway Point Junction upgrade resulting in a positive impact on traffic flow
- Beach access improvements
- Sorell School redevelopment in progress

The projects aim to facilitate a vibrant, sustainable and liveable South East Region through a range of social infrastructure projects to meet the needs of the growing population

**Sorell Open Space
Strategy**

(ERA Planning and
Environment, 2020)

This strategy was prepared by ERA Planning for Sorell Council to provide a comprehensive strategy for the provision of open space and recreation areas for the Sorell LGA, and to help promote health and wellbeing and improved liveability for its residents. The Sorell LGA has undergone considerable change in the past 15 years and is projected to experience the second fastest growth rate in the state.

The key challenge identified in the plan was the distribution, access and maintenance of existing public open space areas in the municipality, localised to certain areas. There was a broad appreciation of the natural values and coastal bushland character of the region, and an understanding of the needs of the growing population, particularly in the townships of Midway Point and Sorell.

Certain benchmarks of the provision of open space should be met, including the variety of open space types and the distances between residential areas and open spaces. These have been informed by the Heart Foundation's *Healthy by Design, A guide to planning and designing environments for active living in Tasmania*. The distances are as follows:

- 300m to open space for recreation (suburban pocket parks);
 - 400m to open space for social/family recreation;
 - 800m to district-wide access ways and trails; and
 - 1000m to sporting facilities.
-

The plan identifies the Sorell LGA as a growing community with changing open space and recreational needs. An audit of existing open space made clear the value of natural areas and coastal bushland in the area, however it expects the provision of built infrastructure to support its growing population.

Sorell Township Urban Master Plan 2015 Update
(Aurecon, 2015)

In 2015 Sorell Council reviewed the 2009 Sorell Township Master Plan in partnership with Aurecon. The Master Plan will continue to guide the strategic development of the township and wider municipality and also provide a framework for urban planning, design, infrastructure, funding, development and investment in Sorell Township over the next 20 years.

Key issues originally identified in 2009 remain valid in 2015 and include:

- Impacts of regional roads through Sorell Township and the wider council area
- Role of the Sorell Town Centre
- Access within and through town – pedestrian, bicycle & vehicle
- Environmental & Natural Values
- Employment and Industrial Development

Land Improvement Asset Management Plan 2019/20
(Sorell Council, 2020)

The *Land Improvement Asset Management Plan* aims to improve Sorell Council’s long-term strategic management of its land improvement assets in order to cater for the community’s required levels of service in the future. The plan notes the forecast growth of the Sorell LGA over the next 25 years is more than 3.6 times the state average. As a result of this growth, Council’s services are in high demand along with requests for new facilities, infrastructure and recreational spaces.

2.3 Sorell Planning Framework and background studies

Table 2.2 Planning framework and background studies

Plan, policy or strategy	Summary
<p>Sorell Cultural Precinct Master Plan Land Assessment Report (Inspiring Place, 2017)</p> <p>Sorell Community Cultural Centre: Business Case (Hirst Projects, 2018)</p>	<p>Sorell Council own land adjoining the Council offices in Sorell Township. The property has been identified by several community groups and Council for the potential development of a community cultural and social precinct for the southeast region. The Sorell Cultural Precinct Master Plan investigates the potential of the site, background research and community consultation to deliver a revised concept and plan.</p> <p>The proposed precinct would highlight the existing state heritage listed Sorell Railway Carriage Shed, but cause relocation of the Men’s Shed and Lions Club.</p>
<p>South East Region Development Association (SERDA) Economic Infrastructure Update (KPMG, 2020)</p>	<p>KPMG worked with the SERDA group of Councils (Sorell, Tasman, Glamorgan-Spring Bay and Clarence) to update the 2015 Economic Infrastructure Study. Since the original plan, key industry sectors have advanced and infrastructure enabler gains have been made in many areas, notably in roads and transport, supply of residential and commercial land and in community infrastructure.</p> <p>It was noted that the Sorell LGA’s population grew at more than double the rate of other SERDA councils and an additional 800 approved lots will continue to drive population growth. Challenges include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Congestion around Midway Point and the Tasman Bridge – Access and affordability of public transport in more remote areas. – Inadequate smaller water/sewerage schemes not included in initial transfer orders to – The need to educate and employ more residents in the region to improve job containment and reduce traffic movements to schools and businesses outside of the region <p>Additionally, the study noted that the <i>Southern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy</i> presents a particular challenge for Sorell Township, with no light industrial land available for industry and local jobs and limited residential land supply in the medium term.</p> <p>The study identified new or expanded social services in planning or advancement in south east since 2015, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Sorell High School extension to Years 11-12 and overall school redevelopment – Emergency Services Hub in Sorell Township – Child care and early learning in Sorell Township

- Sorell Trade Training Centre operating at almost maximum capacity

This reflects a shift from 2015, which had a heavier emphasis on roads and transport and is reflective of a region that is potentially maturing and needing to respond to increasing families and retirees.

Pembroke Park Master Plan and Pembroke Park Updated Concept Master Plan
(Leisure Planners, 2016) and (Inspiring Place, 2021)

Pembroke Park is the premier sub-regional municipal sport and recreation venue on the western edge of Sorell Township. The park is currently used by multiple sports clubs including football, cricket, soccer, netball, basketball, futsal, little athletics, BMX, pickleball and horse riding clubs. The venue also includes a dog park and skate park. Council received funding in 2014 for improvements to the park including amenities buildings, lighting, landscaping and parking. It is noted that further funding has since been received for the completion of the South East Stadium, additional netball courts and new BMX track (Inspiring Place, 2021). Further developments to Pembroke Park facilities will encourage sport use from the existing and future growing population and meet a wider range of residents needs.

The assessment of potential participation trends, demographic influences and the current focus and location of existing facilities indicates growth is expected to continue amongst the young population profile in the Sorell LGA. Sport and open space offerings need to also target an older demographic, as the existing population ages in place.

While there are well-supported junior development programs, the ageing population trend and changing community expectations for access to public open space will see growing interest in providing a well-connected path/trail network encompassing Sorell Township and the Orielton Lagoon Trail, as well as connections to major community facilities.

Sorell Council - Municipal Residents Travel Survey 2020
(EMRS, 2020)

In 2020, Sorell Council commissioned EMRS, the independent research services provider, to gain feedback from the municipality's residents on the reasons that require them to leave the local area and travel elsewhere, particularly into Hobart and other key destinations. There were 895 responses gathered through telephone interviews and an online survey. Findings from the survey confirmed prior evidence of the high level of travel outside the Sorell Council municipality.

All respondents reported that they travelled outside the area, with 80% stating that they travelled outside the area 'often'. The most common reasons for travel included socialising, recreational activities, shopping, work, medical services, financial services and education. Suggestions provided for specific services or facilities that should be available in the Council area included "shops, medical services, swimming / recreation centre and restaurants".

Findings from the report align with some of the responses to the survey undertaken for this Social Strategy, in particular, medical services, recreational activities and education.

South East Youth Engagement Project Consultation Report
(Youth Network of Tasmania, 2024)

Sorell Council engaged the Youth Network of Tasmania (YNOT) to undertake consultation with young people aged 12-19 years living across the South East Region. Feedback from the consultation would be used to provide recommendation to inform future programs, services and activities designed to address youth engagement and improve participation of young people in their local communities.

Early feedback identified several key barriers to youth participation, including limited transport, consultation fatigue, participation anxiety and a lack of formal youth networks in the region to support and encourage participation. A total of eight key findings were identified throughout the project and nine recommendations were proposed. These recommendations included:

1. Co-design initiatives with young people
2. Provide affordable, reliable and appropriate transport that meets their needs
3. Collective impact – a strategic and collaborative approach to youth participation and engagement
4. Invest in safe spaces and places for young people
5. Invest in youth development officers and youth workers
6. Develop targeted youth-focused programs for young people
7. Invest in holistic, therapeutic, strengths-based responses for young people who are vulnerable, disengaged or at risk of becoming disengaged
8. Develop a targeted communication and information sharing platform for young people and other stakeholders
9. Establish formal mechanisms for young people to engage with local government and decision-makers

3. About Sorell

Covering an area of 583 square kilometres (km²) and located approximately 25 kilometres (km) from Hobart city centre in the south-east of Tasmania, the Sorell LGA is one of Tasmania's fastest growing regions. The Sorell LGA serves as the gateway to the Tasman Peninsula and provides a mix of suburban, beachside, semi-rural and rural living.

The Sorell Township is the main urban centre providing a number of facilities and services to the region including Government services, supermarkets, a post office, banks, medical facilities, chemists, cafes and other food outlets and other speciality stores.

Other population centres and localities include Boomer Bay, Bream Creek, Carlton River, Carlton, Connelly's Beach, Copping, Dunalley, Forcett, Kellevie, Dodges Ferry – Lewisham, Marion Bay, Nugent, Orielson, Pawleena, Penna, and Primrose Sands.


The Sorell LGA is intersected by the Tasman Highway and Arthur Highway which connects the region to the rest of south eastern Tasmania. The region is serviced by two public bus services (Redline and Tassielink) with bus routes connecting Dodges Ferry, Lewisham, Midway Point and Sorell to the Tasman Peninsula and Hobart City. There is also a Community Transport Service (Area Connect) which is funded by the Tasmanian Government and provides additional bus services to communities where existing public transport options may be limited or unavailable (Area Connect, 2024).

3.1 Current community profile

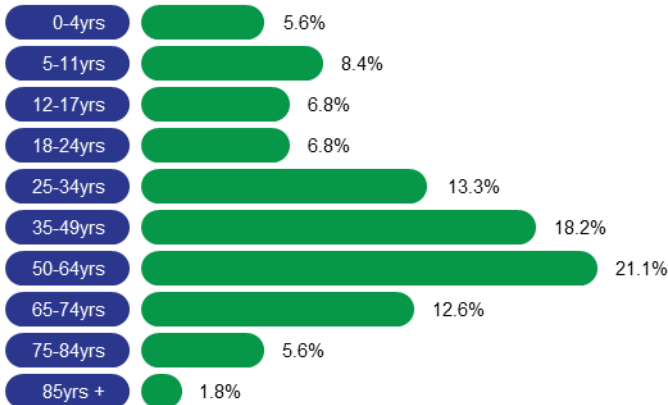
Population characteristics

Sorell population 2021 **16,734** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Population **799**

Population by 2042 **22,191** Estimated annual population growth rate of 1.4%



Age distribution



Median age

Sorell 42 years
Tasmania 42 years




Born overseas

Sorell 10.1%
Tasmania 15.4%

Speaks a language other than English

Sorell 3.8%
Tasmania 8.7%

With the top 3 most spoken language other than English including in Sorell:

-  Mandarin – 0.3%
-  Nepali – 0.3%
-  German – 0.3%

Require assistance with core activities

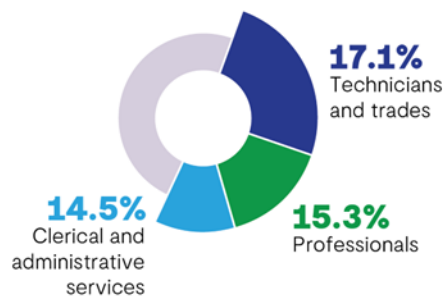
Sorell 3.2%
Tasmania 3.3%

Work and economy

Top industries of employment



Top occupations



Unemployment

Sorell 4.7%
Tasmania 5.9%

Labour force participation

Sorell 59.6%
Tasmania 58.2%

Journey to work by car

Sorell 73.4%
Tasmania 69.8%





Median individual income





Sorell \$726
Tasmania \$701

Median household income

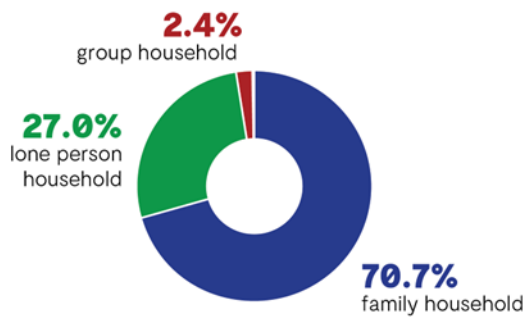
Sorell \$1,400
Tasmania \$1,358

Family and dwelling characteristics

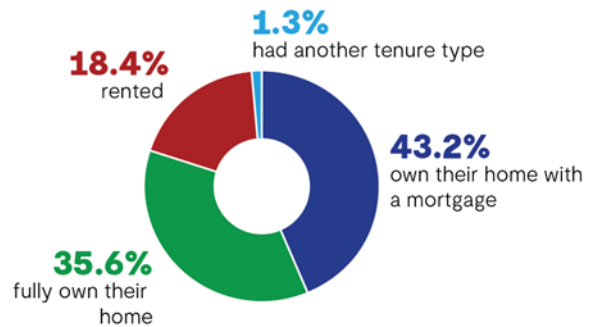
	18 suburbs
	Average household size 2.4 people
	97.8% of residential dwelling are separate houses
	2.5% of households had no motor vehicle

	84.1% of residential dwellings are occupied
	80.9% of people have lived at the same address as one year ago
	Experience rental stress 34.4%
	1.3% rent social housing

Household type



Tenure type



Education and qualifications

Have completed Year 12 or equivalent

Sorell	42.5%
Tasmania	47.1%

Have completed a Bachelor's degree

Sorell	20.1%
Tasmania	26.5%

Have completed a Certificate level (total)

Sorell	53.0%
Tasmania	41.8%

Community and wellbeing

50.2%

reported having no long-term health condition. Of those who reported health conditions, the most common were:

Arthritis



Mental health condition



Asthma



Score of 8 within Tasmania and 5 within Australia

in terms of their relative socio-economic advantage and disadvantage (IRSAD). This indicates a moderate to high level of advantage in Tasmania and moderate level of disadvantage when compared to the rest of Australia.

Volunteered

Sorell	15.5%
Tasmania	18.0%

Total crime rate last 12-months (per 1,000 people)

Sorell	41
Tasmania	78

Sorell



- 3,180 persons
- 151 persons or 4.7% identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander



- 10.9% born overseas
- 6.4% speak another language



- 24.7% of people are aged over 65 years
- 4.2% of people require assistance with core activities
- Top industry of employment was **health care and social assistance**
- Unemployment rate of 5.0% in 2021
- Median household income of \$1,284 p/w
- 68.7% owned their own home (fully or with a mortgage) while 28.7% rented
- 12.9% of people volunteered
- IRSAD score of 6 within the state and 3 within Australia

Midway Point



- 3,384 persons
- 136 persons or 4.0% identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander



- 12.8% born overseas
- 5.3% speak another language



- 18.6% of people are aged over 65 years
- 3.4% of people require assistance with core activities
- Top industry of employment was **health care and social assistance**
- Unemployment rate of 4.3% in 2021
- Median household income of \$1,508 p/w
- 74.0% owned their own home (fully or with a mortgage) while 24.1% rented
- 13.5% of people volunteered
- IRSAD score of 7 within the state and 4 within Australia

Primrose Sands



- 1,209 persons
- 41 persons or 3.4% identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander



- 11.3% born overseas
- 2.8% speak another language



- 25.6% of people are aged over 65 years
- 3.7% of people require assistance with core activities
- Top industry of employment was **health care and social assistance**
- Unemployment rate of 10.1% in 2021
- Median household income of \$922 p/w
- 77.0% owned their own home (fully or with a mortgage) while 17.1% rented
- 14.3% of people volunteered
- IRSAD score of 2 within the state and 1 within Australia

Dodges Ferry - Lewisham



- 5,219 persons
- 274 persons or 5.3% identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander



- 8.4% born overseas
- 2.6% speak another language



- 17.1% of people are aged over 65 years
- 2.6% of people require assistance with core activities
- Top industry of employment was **construction**
- Unemployment rate of 4.1% in 2021
- Median household income of \$1,449 p/w
- 82.5% owned their own home (fully or with a mortgage) while 15.3% rented
- 15.6% of people volunteered
- IRSAD score of 7 within the state and 5 within Australia

Dunalley



- 304 persons
- 32 persons or 10.5% identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander



- 8.2% born overseas
- 5.3% speak another language



- 25.7% of people are aged over 65 years
- 4.3% of people require assistance with core activities
- Top industry of employment was **agriculture, forestry and fishing**
- Unemployment rate of 8.9% in 2021
- Median household income of \$1,271 p/w
- 80.2% owned their own home (fully or with a mortgage) while 12.1% rented
- 18.6% of people volunteered
- IRSAD score of 4 within the state and 2 within Australia

3.2 Potential future community profile

3.2.1 Population growth

The population of the Sorell LGA is expected to grow by 32.6% (5,458 people) over the next 20 years, reaching an estimated population of 22,191 by 2042.

The Sorell LGA has been earmarked for potential growth within Southern Tasmania, with Sorell Township specifically identified as a Greenfield Development Precinct for residential growth (see Section 2). Between 2022 and 2027, the Sorell LGA is expected to grow by 7.5%, which is higher than that of Tasmania which is expected to increase by 2.7% during the same period. This trend remains consistent to 2042 with the population growth rate of the Sorell LGA consistently sitting higher than that of Tasmania, indicating above average population growth.

The projected population of the Sorell LGA between 2022 and 2042 is shown in Figure 3.1 below.

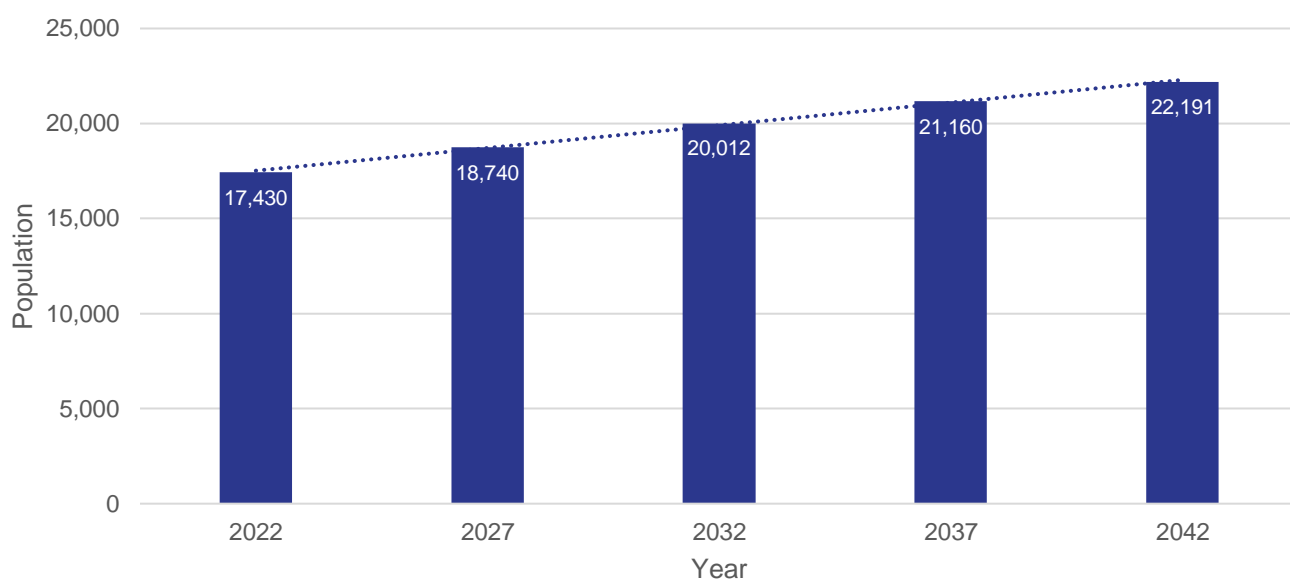


Figure 3.1 Population projections, Sorell LGA, 2027 – 2042

Source: (Tasmanian Government, 2023)

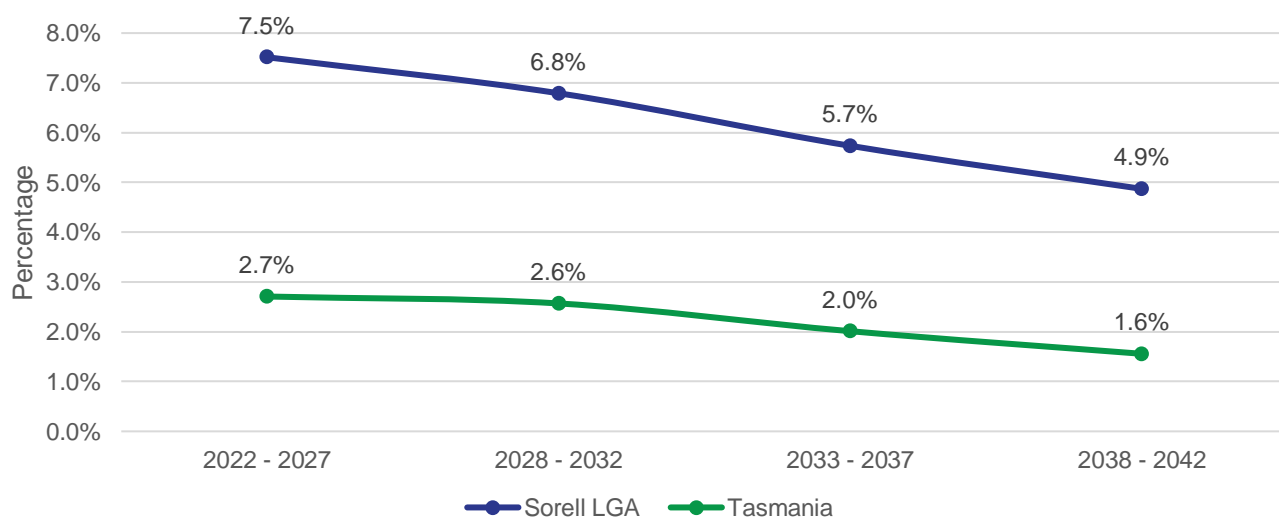


Figure 3.2 Population growth rate, Sorell LGA and Tasmania 2022 – 2042

Source: (Tasmanian Government, 2023)

3.2.2 Age profile

It is important to understand the age profile of the Sorell LGA to predict demand trends for different types of social infrastructure and programs which cater to particular groups of the population (i.e., childcare facilities vs aged care facilities). This will help inform recommendations for specific facility and service types of social infrastructure provision.

The age profile of the Sorell LGA is expected to remain relatively consistent over the next 20 years. However, during that time, it is expected that there will be an increase in the proportion of senior (75-84 years) and elderly (85+ years) age cohorts as illustrated in Figure 3.3. This is consistent with the broader trends anticipated for Tasmania.

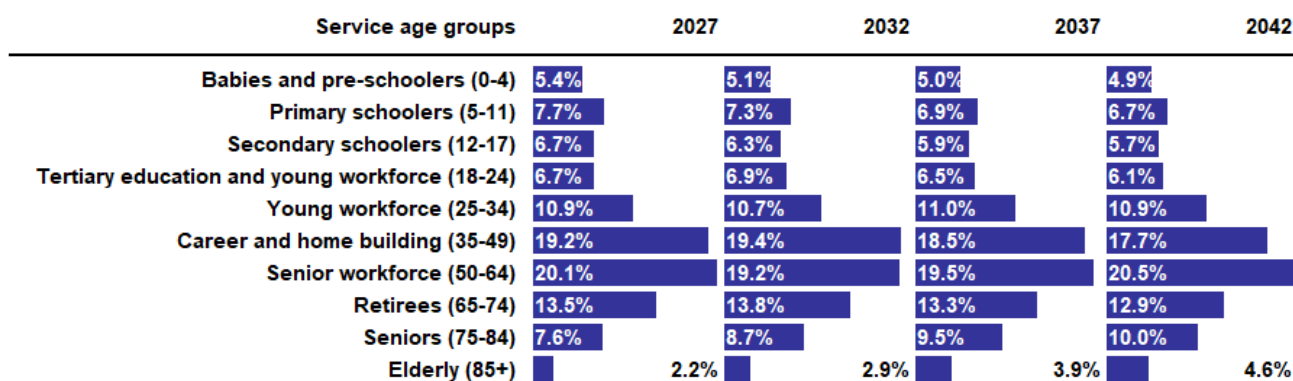


Figure 3.3 Sorell service age group projections 2027 – 2042

Source: (Tasmanian Government, 2023)

3.3 Current and future community trends

3.3.1 Population growth

Between 2016 and 2021, the population in the Sorell LGA had grown 16.1% from 14,414 people to 16,734 people. Population growth in the Sorell LGA is expected to continue to increase reaching a projected population of 22,191 by 2042 – an increase of 32.6% on current population levels.

This growth in population will likely see an increase in demand for community facilities and social programs and initiatives in the future. Population growth also indicates the need for more flexible and multipurpose facilities that can cater to a broad range of interests, ages and abilities as well as changing community needs.

3.3.2 An ageing population

The latest population projections indicated that the population in the Sorell LGA aged over 65 years will increase by over 82% between 2021 and 2042. An ageing population poses potential challenges in providing essential services like healthcare, social assistance, and aged care due to the expected higher demand required.

Prioritising the needs of ageing populations can involve implementing tailored programs and services such as lifelong learning initiatives, social and special interest groups and inclusive exercise activities to support older populations. Ensuring adequate and accessible health care and social assistance will be key in enabling older populations to age in place, maintain existing social connections, and improve overall quality of life.

3.3.3 Housing diversity and density

An increase in semi-detached and unit housing types between 2016 and 2021 in the Sorell LGA indicates a likely higher demand for more diverse housing types due to the growing population.

This growth in medium density living will likely create additional demand for meeting spaces for people to connect, play and relax. Consideration of these types of facilities in areas as they develop will be key.

3.3.4 Families

Family households account for over 70% of all households in the Sorell LGA. Families require different services and facilities at different stages of the family lifecycle. A diversity of community facilities and open spaces located in proximity to peoples place of residence or work are integral in providing spaces which meet the community's needs.

Spaces that cater to more lifestyle-based activities such as music, art, dance, exercise classes, vacation care and private functions will be important to community cohesion, maintaining social connections, and promoting active lifestyle choices.

3.3.5 Youth

With approximately 1 in 5 residents in the Sorell LGA aged under the age of 18 years, it is important to provide youth-friendly spaces. Increases in anti-social behaviour, disengagement, and participation from young people has been a growing concern for communities across the south east. Feelings of social isolation, boredom, mental health concerns, lack of opportunities, and access to affordable and reliable transport have been identified as key barriers and challenges facing young people (Youth Network of Tasmania, 2024).

By investing and actively engaging in creating youth-friendly spaces, young people can develop a sense of belonging and ownership within their community. Spaces that are specifically designed for young people across different age cohorts such as young children to teens are important in order to maintain social connections, reduce potential incidences of anti-social behaviour and promote healthy lifestyles.

3.3.6 Community participation

According to the latest ABS Census 2021, there are varying levels of community participation across the Sorell LGA with Dunalley having the highest rates of volunteering. Overall, volunteering rates across the Sorell LGA were lower than Tasmania.

Across the Sorell LGA, there are a number of community groups providing services, programs and opportunities for the community and its members. Retaining this will be key to maintaining social cohesion and enhancing community networks.

3.3.7 Car dependency

Across the Sorell LGA, there is a high proportion car ownership with 96.1% of households having at least one motor vehicle. Moreover, the majority of residents rely on cars for their daily commute to work with 73.4% of people either driving to work in their own vehicle or as a passenger.

A lack of reliable public transport options and active transport routes often can contribute to this heavy reliance on cars. Therefore, reducing car dependency will be key in promoting public health, alleviating traffic congestion, and enhancing equity and social inclusion in communities.

3.3.8 Disadvantage

The ABS produces four Socio-Economic Indices for Areas (SEIFA) based on Census data. One of these, the Index of Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage (IRSAD), summarises information about the economic and social conditions of people and households within an area and ranks these areas across the state and Australia in terms of their relative socio-economic advantage/ disadvantage (ABS, 2023). In order to capture this broad definition, the IRSAD includes a range of data points and variables, including income, education, employment, occupation, and housing.

The IRSAD divides a population into ten equal groups, called a decile. The lowest scoring 10 per cent of these groups are given a decile number of 1, which indicates greater disadvantage, and the highest scoring 10 per cent of areas are given a decile of 10, which indicates greater advantage.

Overall, the Sorell LGA is placed in decile 8 within the state, indicating a relatively high level of advantage. However, localities including Primrose Sands and Dunalley placed in decile 2 and 4 respectively, indicating a

higher level of relative disadvantage in these areas. It is important for future planning of community facilities and services to consider prioritising access to vulnerable community groups located in these townships.

3.4 Current facilities, services and programs

3.4.1 Overview

The following section provides an overview of the existing social infrastructure within and surrounding the Sorell LGA including, education, health, emergency services, community facilities, youth programs, childcare, aged care, sport and recreation, parks and open space, blue infrastructure and social housing.

The Sorell LGA has an active and growing community sector representing diverse interests and needs. A preliminary audit of all social infrastructure facilities, both Council owned and privately owned was undertaken in February 2024. There are a total of 125 community and recreation facilities and services located within the region.

Facilities were analysed with leading best practice and design principles (in relation to distribution, location, size, quality, amenities, and functionality). Facility ownership and level of utilisation were also assessed where applicable.



3.4.2 Education and training facilities

Tasmanian Government schools, provided by the Tasmanian Department for Education, Children and Young People, have defined local enrolment or catchment areas based on place of residence. Education facilities can be provided by both government and the private sector. There are three government education facilities and one independent education facility located in the Sorell LGA.

Sorell School is a government combined primary and secondary school with a catchment area comprising of the majority of the western portion of the LGA area including the townships of Midway Point, Sorell, Forcett, Orierton, Wattle Hill, Nugent and Pawleena. It is the only high school in the region. In 2023, there were 821 students

enrolled (ACARA, 2024). Sorell School is also a member of the Teganna Collective through Rosny College, a collection of eight schools on the Eastern Shore of Hobart working together to provide opportunities for students to successfully complete Senior Secondary Education requirements. They offer a unique learning experience and cater for a variety of needs and interests through Vocational Education and Training (VET) qualifications and TASC courses for Year 11 and 12 students (Rosny College, 2024). In 2023, the Tasmanian Government invested \$8.5 million toward the \$22 million upgrade of Sorell School, including the delivery of new buildings, refurbishment of existing facilities, and a new Child and Family Learning Centre (CFLC), further discussed in Section 3.4.7.

There are two government primary schools including Dodges Ferry Primary School which services the townships of Lewisham, Dodges Ferry and Primrose Sands and Dunalley Primary School which services the eastern portion of the LGA, including the townships of Dunalley and Copping. In 2023, Dodges Ferry Primary School had a total of 551 students enrolled (ACARA, 2024). It is currently listed as an at-capacity school, meaning it cannot accept applications for out of area enrolments to ensure the school can accommodate all local students (Department for Education, 2024). In 2023, Dunalley Primary School had a total of 110 enrolments (ACARA, 2024).

During consultation, respondents to the online survey noted the demand for upgrades to Dodges Ferry Primary School to service the growing population of the area. The school has seen a 15% increase in enrolments over the past three years, leading to significant space constraints (ACARA, 2024). In 2023, the Tasmanian Government announced their continued investment in the \$10 million contemporary classrooms program. Dodges Ferry Primary School received \$750k worth of funding as part of the program. Construction included two new covered outdoor areas, as well as improvements to the kindergarten and three existing learning areas (DECYP, 2024). In addition, ahead of the Tasmanian state elections in March 2024, various candidate parties announced their support for the Dodges Ferry Primary School Masterplan and Rebuild. The re-elected majority Liberal Government announced their \$25 million investment over the next four years to deliver a major upgrade to Dodges Ferry Primary School, part of the 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future (Tasmanian Liberals, 2024). As of April 2024, stage one of the masterplan for expansion is yet to be released.

Additionally, there is one independent education facility, Indie School, which provides an alternative high school option for students aged 15 to 18 years in Sorell Township and surrounding areas. In total it had an estimated 40 students in 2023.

During consultation, the need for alternative education options were noted, indicating an opportunity for varying school types including private, religious or independent.

There are no tertiary education facilities located in the LGA, however, the Sorell School's specialist learning space, The South East Trade Training Centre, offers some certificate courses through external providers to senior secondary students during school hours. Use by adult learners is limited to out of school hours (DECYP, 2024). The facility is not designed to accommodate additional classrooms, resulting in a lack of vocational education opportunities among young people. The University of Tasmania has a campus located in Hobart. In the EMRS *Municipal Residents Travel Survey*, 21% of respondents noted education or training purposes as a key reason for travel outside of the Sorell area (EMRS, 2020).

Business and Employment Southeast Tasmania (BEST), located in the Sorell Township, provides free employment services, training opportunities, youth support, unemployment support, job seeker support, as well as recruitment services for local employers. In April 2024, the Tasmanian Liberal Government made an announcement that secured funding for the Jobs Hub in Sorell Township, as part of the 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future (Tasmanian Government, 2024a). Funding would support the construction of a Regional Training and Jobs Hub facility in Sorell to host training for adult / post-school aged learners and businesses across the regions. The expected year of completion is 2025 or 12 months from commencement.

3.4.3 Health services and facilities

Primary Health Networks (PHN) are independent organisations that are government funded to co-ordinate primary health care in the region. In Tasmania, there is one PHN covering the whole state (Department of Health and Aged Care, 2024). There are no major or district hospitals located in the Sorell LGA. Residents would be required to travel to Hobart to access one of four major hospitals in the state. The Royal Hobart Hospital includes specialised services and an emergency department.

There is one community medical centre and family practice located in the Sorell LGA, offering a range of services including social work, child health, speech pathology, physiotherapy, podiatry, occupational therapy, incontinence management, community nutrition, oral health, children's dental, home care support and mental health.

Additionally, there are two private family medical practices in the Sorell Township and one private doctors' surgery in Dodges Ferry. There are 12 health specialist facilities that service the LGA, including two dentists, two optometrists, two podiatrists, psychiatrist, chiropractor and pathologist. All specialist health facilities are located in the Sorell Township. Findings from the *Municipal Residents Travel Survey* noted 63% of respondents travelled outside of the area to access medical services (EMRS, 2020).

There are two ambulance stations in the LGA which are located in the townships of Sorell and Dodges Ferry. Sorell Ambulance station is a full-time station with paramedic crews rostered on 24-hours per day. Dodges Ferry Ambulance Station is a double branch station with a paramedic rostered on 24-hours per day as well as volunteer support staff (Department of Health, 2024).

3.4.4 Emergency services and justice facilities

The Sorell LGA is well serviced by volunteer fire and rescue services, with seven stations located across the LGA in the townships of Sorell, Midway Point, Dodges Ferry, Primrose Sands, Dunalley, Wattle Hill and Orierton (Tasmania Fire Service, 2024).

There are two police stations in the Sorell LGA located in the townships of Sorell and Dunalley. The stations are within the Southern District and service the South East division of Tasmania (Department of Police, Fire & Emergency Management, 2024). During consultation it was noted that currently both police stations are not operational (fully staffed) 24-hours a day, leading to a perception of the community being less safe.

The newly developed Sorell Emergency Services Hub includes the Sorell SES facility, which is a Southern Regional Unit for road crash rescue, as well as relocated police station and new fire rescue station. Volunteers at the SES facility also train in general rescue and storm and flood damage (TAS SES, 2024).

There is one marine rescue service affiliated with Surf Life Saving Tasmania located in Dodges Ferry. Sea Rescue Tasmania (Dodges Ferry) provides support to Police to maritime search and rescue responses for persons and vessels in distress at sea within state-controlled waters (SLST, 2024)

There are no justice services located within the LGA, residents are likely to access local and district courts nearby in the capital city of Hobart.

3.4.5 Community and cultural facilities

Local governments provide a range of services to their local communities, including the provision and management of community halls, community arts facilities, and services for young people and seniors (LGAT, 2024). State government is responsible for services including public libraries, community health services, senior citizen centres, community centres and community houses. However, the private sector also plays a role. Culture and arts facilities including performing arts centres, museums, theatres and galleries are provided and managed by both local government and the private sector.

Community facilities play a key role in supporting disadvantaged or vulnerable priority groups in our community which traditionally experience barriers to accessing mainstream services and facilities.

There are currently five community centres in the Sorell LGA. The peak body for community houses and neighbourhood centres around Tasmania is Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania (NHT). Dunalley Neighbourhood House, Midway Point Neighbourhood House and Okines Community House (Dodges Ferry) are members of the NHT and offer various activities including play groups, senior and youth programs, cooking classes, arts and crafts, and school holiday programs. Findings from the online survey noted the role of Okines Community House and contribution to the sense of community, in particular the community garden, food co-op, range of exercise classes, art classes, and monthly screenings of Dodges Ferry Film Society.

Additionally, there are two community centres that are not associated with the NHT. These include the Primrose Sands Community Centre and Copping Community Care Centre. Other community centres and programs in the LGA include Sorell Men's Shed and Heritage Museum, as well as community groups Sorell Butterfly Girl Guides and Hobart Vintage Machinery Society located in Penna.

In addition to these facilities, there are eight community halls for hire located within the LGA, listed in Appendix A. Sorell Memorial Hall, Dunalley Hall and Midway Point Hall are highly utilised by community groups including South East Tas Salvos, Sorell on Stage, Dunalley History Group, Causeway Singers and DECYP Youth Justice. Additional uses include yoga, karate, dance classes, quiz nights, and various casual users.

There are two galleries and museums in the area including Beatties Museum in Dodges Ferry, showcasing a historic collection of photographs and Three Peaks Gallery in Sorell Township, featuring artwork from local Tasmanian artists. In 2017, plans for the development of a new cultural precinct at the existing Sorell Men's Shed and Heritage Museum were proposed. The concept aims to utilise the existing Sorell carriage shed as a community cultural space, however, progress in the development of the precinct has been limited due to lack of funding. Respondents of the online survey noted the lack of arts and culture facilities in the region.

Libraries

Libraries play a vital role in connecting and educating the community. Libraries are categorised into two different categories, state and public. Public libraries offer a range of book collections and key services such as children's activities, adult education classes, meeting and study rooms and digital services. It is important to note that there is a trend for library services to expand to include other services e.g., spaces for leisure, training, cultural activities and collaborative learning, including meeting, training, exhibition and digital technology and making space.

Sorell Library is the only public library in the LGA. It provides a variety of services including borrowing through local or home library services, online research resources, computers and internet, individual or group study rooms, a meeting room, digital learning spaces, tutoring services, community noticeboard and activities for children of all ages and adults. Events include storytime, Lego club, school holiday programs, digital skills sessions and language sessions.

3.4.6 Youth activities and programs

There are a number of youth activities and youth programs across the region. The Salvation Army (South East Tasmania) runs a free Youth Matters program each week for children aged 11-19 across the Sorell LGA. Events include games nights, cooking classes, sports activities, craft activities and movie nights throughout the year and during school holidays. The last Thursday of every month is dedicated to events for high school aged children.

The Anglican Parish of South East Tasmania offers free after school programs for children in kindergarten to grade 6. This program runs once a week in Dodges Ferry. The Parish also offers mentoring programs, Sunday School, youth discussions and has several events and excursions for children to be a part of (South East Anglican, 2024).

In addition, the Sorell Rural Youth Club provides opportunities for 15- to 30-year-olds to engage in social, educational, cultural and agricultural activities (Rural Youth, 2024).

The South East Youth Network of Tasmania (YNOT) is the peak body for the non-government youth sector in Tasmania. It is funded by the Department of Communities Tasmania to improve the Tasmanian community's response to youth issues. To inform this strategy, consultation with the group was undertaken in April 2024. Key findings are summarised in Section 4.3.

Additional youth programs include Copping Christian Fellowship Group, Dunalley Youth Activities and Copping Youth Group associated with Copping Community Centre.

3.4.7 Childcare facilities

Early childhood education is regulated at a federal level, however, childcare facilities including long day care centres and pre-schools are generally provided by both local government and private sectors.

Outside School Hours Care (OSHC) services are run by education and care professionals who are employed by approved providers nearby or on school premises (Department for Education, Children and Young People, 2024). The Tasmanian Department for Education, Children and Young People does not provide funding to public schools to provide OSHC services. Services partner with the school community and are assessed for quality and monitored by the Department (Department for Education, Children and Young People, 2024). Using approved education and care services allows parents to access the Australian Government Child Care Subsidy (CCS), to

assist with fees if they meet eligibility criteria. OSHC services provide before-school care, after-school care or care during non-school days.

There are currently four long day care facilities with 309 total approved places and three outside school hours care facilities with 145 approved places located in the Sorell LGA. All three outside hours care facilities are located in the grounds of Sorell School, Dodges Ferry Primary School and Dunalley Primary School and utilise their facilities.

The redevelopment of the Sorell School includes the provision of a new Child and Family Learning Centre (CFLC), one of 11 in the state and the first in the region. The Nest CFLC is a free government-owned child and family learning centre for expectant parents, families and caregivers that offers childcare programs, drop-in programs and support services for children from birth to age five in the Sorell and Tasman LGAs. The centre opened in early May 2024.

3.4.8 Aged care and disability facilities

The aged care system in Australia comprises a spectrum of services ranging from basic supports to enable people to remain independent at home, through to full-time care in a residential aged care facility.

There is currently one residential aged care facility in the LGA located in Sorell Township with approximately 72 places available. It offers a range of services including low, medium/high care, independent living, dementia care, respite care, and palliative care. There is also one home care service located in the LGA that provides community aged care packages for the South Eastern region. There are also 15 short-term care facilities and 25 at home care providers located outside of the LGA that service the region.

3.4.9 Sport and recreation facilities

Local governments have a particularly important role in facilitating opportunities for their local communities to participate in sport and recreational activities to contribute to community cohesion, social health and well-being, and economic growth. Sport and recreation facilities including multi-purpose sports centres, aquatic centres, leisure centres, sporting clubs, showgrounds, sports courts and playing fields are provided and managed by both local governments and the private sector. Creating welcoming and attractive spaces that are conducive to a range of recreational activities will assist in promoting physical activity and other health-affirming behaviours, improving the overall health and wellbeing.

The Sorell LGA is currently well serviced by a variety of sports and recreation facilities, with 17 facilities located within the region. During consultation, the distribution and access of these facilities was discussed as a key issue for community members. Findings from the *Municipal Residents Travel Survey* in 2020 noted 70% of respondents travel outside of the area to access recreational or leisure activities. The type of facility, amenities, current use, location and additional information is provided in the following section:

Sorell

The Sorell Township is the main hub for sporting activity in the region as well as visitors from greater Hobart. There are currently six sport and recreation facilities located in the Sorell LGA, including a sports complex, sports field, tennis courts, skate park, equestrian park and bowling green. The South East Sporting Precinct consists of two ovals and sporting fields, soccer pitch, four outdoor netball/basketball courts, BMX track, cricket nets and change rooms and is also the location of the South East Stadium with all new stadium and facilities.

The stadium, funded by the Tasmanian Government, Federal Government and Sorell Council, includes two basketball/netball courts, a showcase court, gymnasium, offices, changing facilities, function room, meeting room and canteen. The South East Sporting Complex are multi-sport facilities utilised by a wide range of community groups including youth groups, dance classes, junior and senior netball, basketball, football, cricket, athletics, soccer, pickleball and futsal clubs.

Midway Point

Midway Point has two sport and recreation facilities. These include one golf course and sports courts facility. The outdoor sports court facility includes two multi-purpose courts utilised for recreational sport located next to Midway Point Neighbourhood House. Pittwater Golf Course is a nine-hole course with over 400 members located in the northeast corner of the suburb.

The Sorell causeway links Midway Point to Sorell Township via a two-kilometre shared walking and cycling path alongside the Tasman Highway. Parts of the causeway are also used for recreational fishing.

Dodges Ferry and Lewisham

There are three sports and recreation facilities located in Dodges Ferry and Lewisham. These include a skatepark and sports field in Dodges Ferry and swim centre in Lewisham. The skatepark is recently upgraded and is adjacent to the sports field, Dodges Ferry Oval.

Dodges Ferry Oval and gymnasium is located adjacent to Dodges Ferry Primary School and consists of a multi-purpose court, meeting room, football and cricket grounds, and cricket nets. These facilities are currently utilised by badminton, basketball, karate, volleyball, football and cricket clubs, as well as regularly used by the school and out of school hours care services. Flippers Swim Centre is a privately owned facility that offers swim school, aqua aerobics classes, and private bookings to toddlers, children and adults. It is currently the only swimming facility in the region.

In addition, the proposed Southern Beaches Swim Centre is a privately funded multipurpose aquatic facility located adjacent to Dodges Ferry Primary School and Oval. The facility aims to implement a range of services to cater to the diverse community needs including a café, learn to swim programs, lap swimming, disabled services, hydrotherapy, First Aid and Bronze medallion training, physiotherapy and rehabilitation (Southern Beaches Swim Centre, 2023). In 2024, the re-elected Tasmanian Liberal government announced an additional \$1.5 million investment to enable the completion of the Southern Beaches Swim Centre (Tasmanian Liberals, 2024a).

Dunalley

Currently there are three utilised sports and recreation facilities in Dunalley, including one golf course, sports oval and skatepark.

The Dunalley Murraville Golf Course is a privately-owned nine-hole golf course with integrated public tennis courts. Dunalley's two public tennis courts were destroyed in the 2013 Tasmanian bushfires. Replacement tennis courts were constructed at the golf club site as a community initiative and were funded by Red Cross donations and insurance money (Sorell Council, 2021).

The oval and cricket nets in Dunalley is located on Council-owned land, however this facility is not currently utilised.

Primrose Sands

There is one sports and recreation facility in Primrose Sands, within the grounds of the Primrose Sands Community Hall. Features include a quarter basketball court, skate ramp and BMX track..

Surrounding areas

Blue Hills Sporting Shooters Club is located in Copping, approximately 19km east of Sorell Township on the Arthur Highway. The club maintains five separate rifle ranges from 25 metres to 500 metres with a clubhouse, kitchen and lounge facilities and disabled access to the entire range. Further north, the Kellevie Mountain Bike Park located in Kellevie is a privately owned facility that hosts mountain bike events including the annual Hellfire Cup and Lumberjack

3.4.10 Parks and open space

Parks and open space refers to land that has been reserved for the purpose of sport and recreation, preservation of natural environments, provision of green space and /or urban stormwater management (ERA Planning and Environment, 2020). Generally local government is responsible for the provision and management of local, district and sub-regional parks and open space as well as sporting facilities.

According to the *Sorell Open Space Strategy* (ERA Planning and Environment, 2020), residents should be able to access some form of public open space within 300m from their home.

Across the Sorell LGA there is approximately 583 square kilometres of active and passive open space. This includes 15 local parks, eight public nature reserves and two dog parks.

There are currently two dedicated dog exercise areas in the Sorell LGA, including Sorell Dog Park located adjacent to Pembroke Park in Sorell and a dog exercise area within the Dodges Ferry Nature Reserve off Rantons Road in Dodges Ferry. There is a new proposed dog park, located south of Maddison Lyden Park, in Sorell.

In addition, dogs are permitted on beaches within the Sorell LGA throughout the year. Some restrictions apply to Primrose Beach and Connellys Marsh Beach during the hours of 10am-6pm between December and March. Blue Lagoon Beach and the north and south ends of Carlton Beach are prohibited for dogs between December and March. Dunalley Beach is prohibited for dogs throughout the year.

3.4.11 Blue infrastructure

Blue infrastructure refers to beaches and waterways, such as harbours and rivers, and the facilities that support them, including foreshores, surf lifesaving and water recreation clubs, jetties and wharves (Infrastructure Australia, 2019). Well-managed blue infrastructure can support overall sustainability of the natural environment and can improve air quality, natural cooling. Furthermore, regular use or seeing of blue infrastructure can contribute to positive mental health outcomes.

As shown in Figure 3.4, there are a number of communities which are located along the water and beaches that make up the region. Blue infrastructure facilities that make up these communities include multiple public boat ramps located at Boomer Bay, Dodges Ferry and Primrose Sands as well as public wharfs and jetties located at Dunalley and Lewisham. These areas provide spaces for launching vessels as well as water-based recreation activities such as fishing, kayaking, sailing, and swimming.

There are a number of beaches across the region including Carlton Beach, Connelly's Marsh Beach, Blue Lagoon Beach, Okines Beach, Park Beach, Red Ochre Beach, Tiger Head Beach, Dunalley Beach, Lewisham Beach, Marion Bay Beach, Penna Beach, Midway Point Beach, and Primrose Sands Beach. Carlton Beach is the only beach in the Sorell LGA which is patrolled. It is patrolled by the local Carlton Park Surf Lifesaving Club during the summer months (December to March) as well as public holidays. The club also provides surf lifesaving services to surrounding areas throughout the Greater Frederick Henry Bay area as well as supports the volunteer sea rescue service located in nearby Dodges Ferry.

Midway Point is also home to Midway Point Yacht Club which have their own private boat ramp and jetty. Midway Point Yacht Club also offers sailing classes for all age groups and skill levels between October and April. The facility includes an upgraded observation deck, canteen, change rooms, and toilet facilities. State and national titles are often held at the club, as well as the annual Pittwater Regatta, drawing contestants from around the state for a two-day short course event.

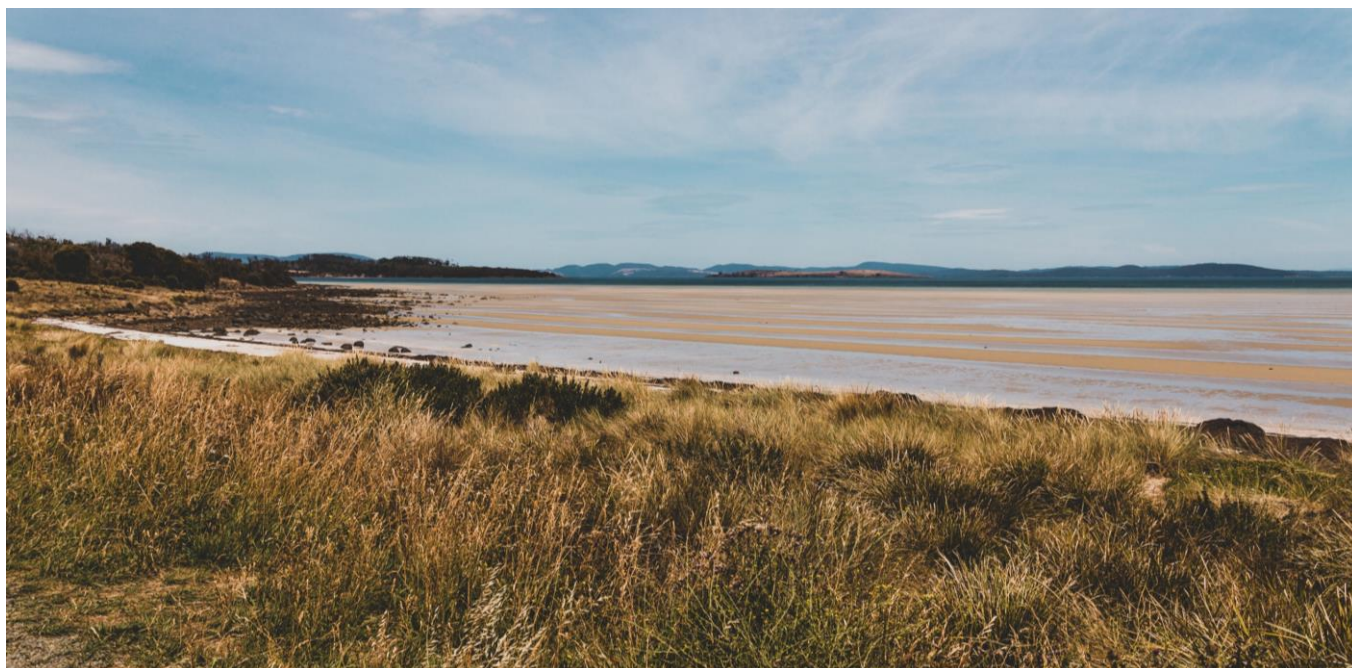
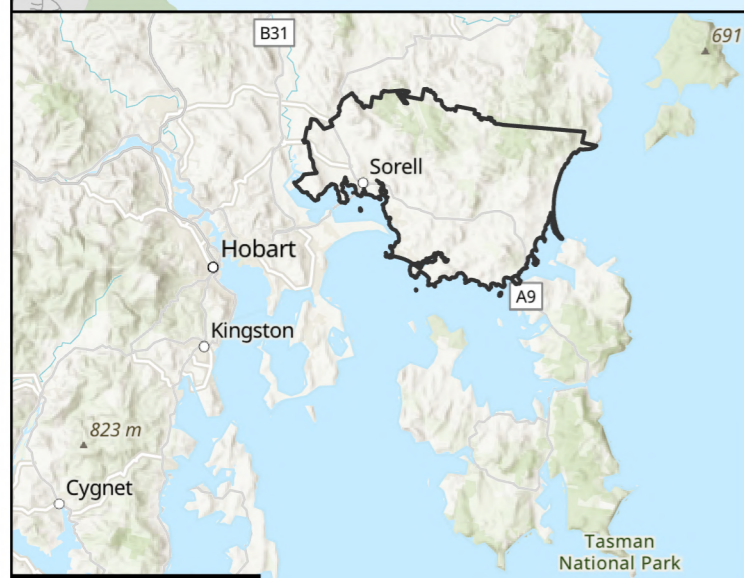
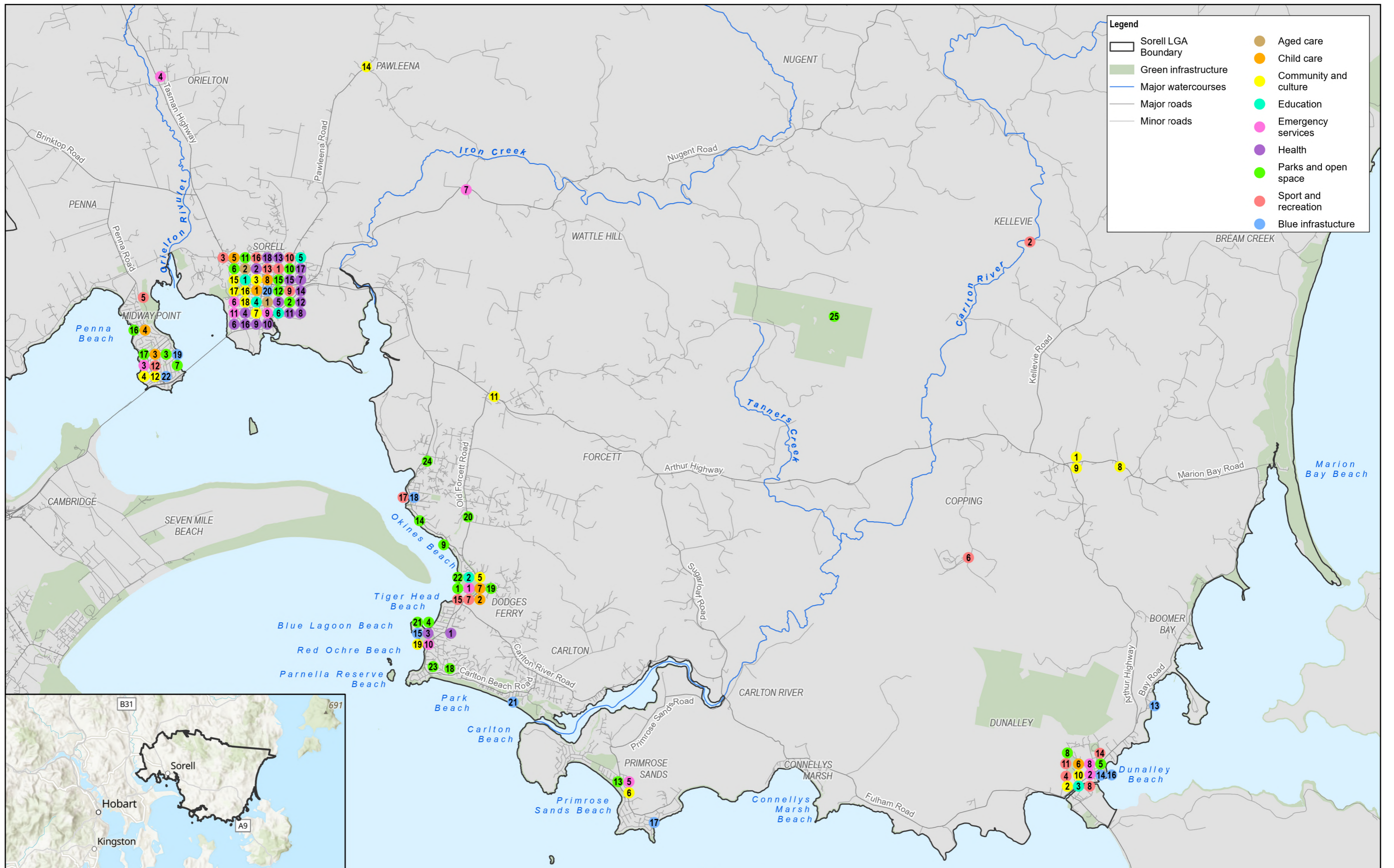


Image: Dunalley Beach

3.4.12 Social housing

Within the Sorell LGA, there are approximately 86 social housing dwellings which are managed by community housing providers including Centacare Evolve Housing and Mission Australia Housing.

The majority of social housing dwellings are located in the townships of Sorell and Midway Point. These houses provide affordable rental accommodation for people on low and very low incomes who would otherwise face housing unaffordability.



Regional location

<p>Paper Size ISO A3</p> <p>Kilometres</p> <p>Map Projection: Transverse Mercator Horizontal Datum: GDA2020 Grid: GDA2020 MGA Zone 55</p>			<p>Sorell Council Sorell Social Strategy Development</p>	<p>Project No. 12628240 Revision No. A Date 5/07/2024</p>
<p>Social infrastructure</p>			<p>FIGURE 3.4</p>	

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Print date: 05 Jul 2024 - 10:01
Data source: World Hillsshade: Esri, CGIAR
World Topographic Map: DPIPWE, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, Foursquare, FAO, METI/NASA, USGS General topography - The List, Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania, 2024, Social facilities - Sorell Council, 2024
Created by: pfermandes

4. What the community told us

Stakeholder consultation was undertaken to support the development of this strategy, including the community workshops and online survey provided community members with an opportunity to share what they love about the area, potential challenges or barriers they may face, and suggest how facilities could be improved to better meet their needs, or the needs of their families or friends. These findings set the foundation for understanding the community, their values, and their aspirations.

Findings from consultation told us how much community members value the natural environment, sense of community, rural lifestyle and the proximity to services and facilities. Community members who participated in workshops and the online survey noted how much they enjoyed the quiet and peaceful nature and laidback lifestyle of the Sorell LGA, while still being able to access essential services and facilities in Hobart. The value of the coastal environment and local beaches was also highlighted, with the majority of workshop participants and survey respondents utilising natural spaces for daily activities. The sense of community was important to participants in consultation, particularly the use of community houses and open spaces for people to gather.

Gaps, challenges and opportunities relating to social infrastructure, green infrastructure and blue infrastructure were identified by community workshop participants and survey respondents. These outcomes included opportunities in improving inter-region and inter-community connectivity through safe pedestrian infrastructure, better senior and youth services, and revitalisation of existing spaces and facilities across the region.

The following sections outlines what we heard from the community during the online survey (Section 4.1) and community workshops (Section 4.2).

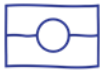
4.1 Online survey

A total of 202 survey responses were received. The following outlines the demographic make-up of respondents and what the community told us. It should be noted that the demographic makeup of survey respondents does not reflect the demographic profile of the community.

» "I love the proximity to the coast, beaches, waterways, and country amidst a community environment not burdened by medium or high density living" «

» "We love its simplicity, it's character and towns that allow for a very simple and down to earth life" «

202 total respondents



3.0% of respondents identified as Aboriginal and/ or Torres Strait Islander

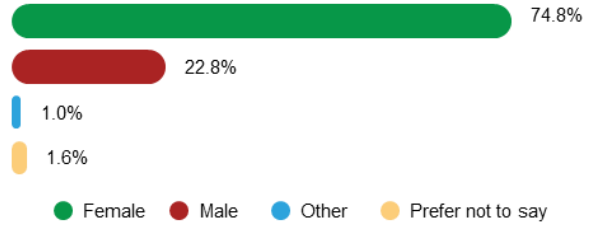


10.9% of respondents were born outside of Australia

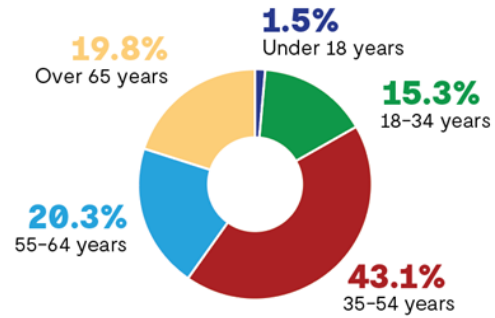


2.0% of respondents speak a language other than English at home

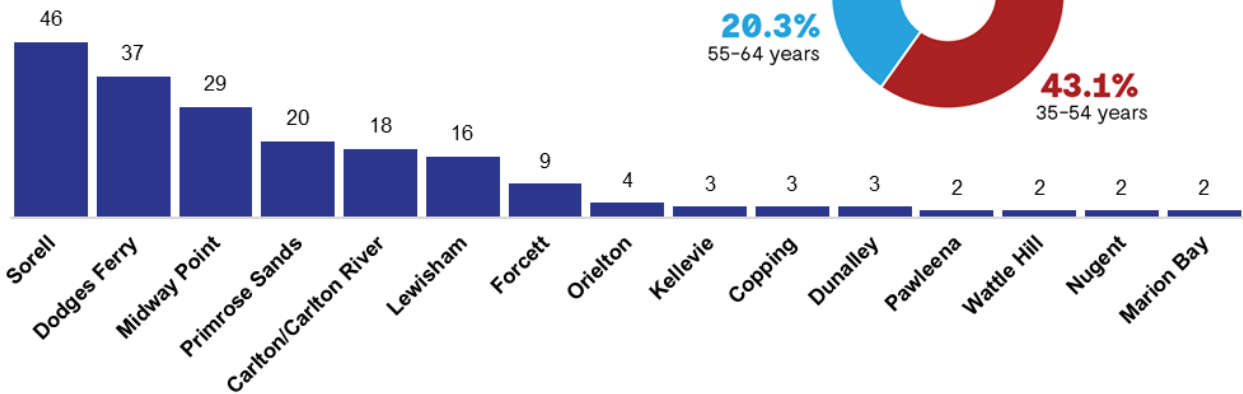
Gender



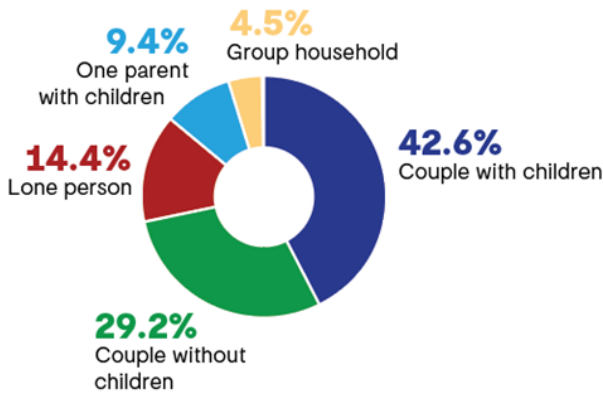
Age cohort of respondents



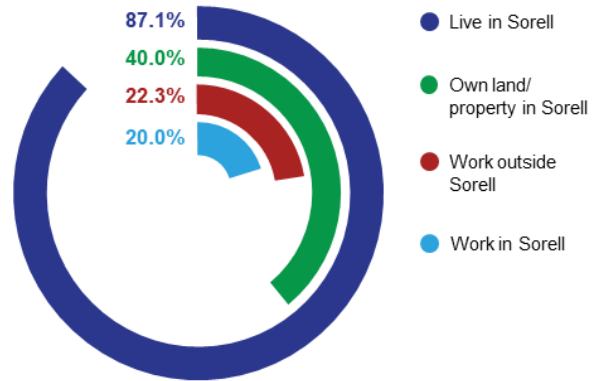
Where respondents live



Household type



Of the people who lived in Sorell



Health

Of those who answered if they have any health-related conditions, the most common were:

Mental health condition

Attention deficit

Other health-related disability

4.1.1 Use of community facilities

In the survey, respondents were asked to identify which community facilities they use in the Sorell LGA and how frequently they use them. Overall, nature reserves, community/ neighbourhood halls and centres, playgrounds and libraries were among the most used facilities by community members as illustrated in Figure 4.1.

This is consistent with the findings of how frequently these facilities are used with most survey respondents indicating they use these facilities on daily, weekly or monthly basis.

Nature and recreation-based facilities and activities were overwhelmingly the most used facilities both overall and in terms of frequency across the Sorell LGA. Facilities including local beaches, nature reserves, playgrounds, sea fishing spots, boat ramps, sports facilities and swimming centres were among the top responses for facilities that people use.

77.5%

of survey respondents mentioned the “beach” or “natural environment” as what they loved most about where they lived

»“I like the friendly community, the layout of the area, the shopping centres, and the great school developments” «

»“Everything is close by” «

Facilities including showgrounds and theatre and performance spaces were mostly used on a yearly basis and least used on a daily or weekly basis as shown in Figure 4.2. This is likely due to the types of events held at these facilities which are more likely to occur on an annual basis.

»“Almost everything you need is here in the municipality; shopping, medical, beaches, parks, schools etc.” «

Specialised or club orientated facilities such as target, gun or rifle ranges, bowling greens, and equestrian centres were also among the least used facilities by survey respondents. However, it was noted by Council that some of these facilities, particularly the Sorell Bowls Club, are used relatively frequently and have a reasonable number of memberships. Their low ranking could be due to non-completion of the survey by club members or facility users.

»“We’re close enough to Hobart for ease of access where required but far enough away to keep us out of the hustle and bustle” «

24.1%

of survey respondents listed the “location”, “proximity to amenities” and “proximity to Hobart” as reasons they loved living in the area.

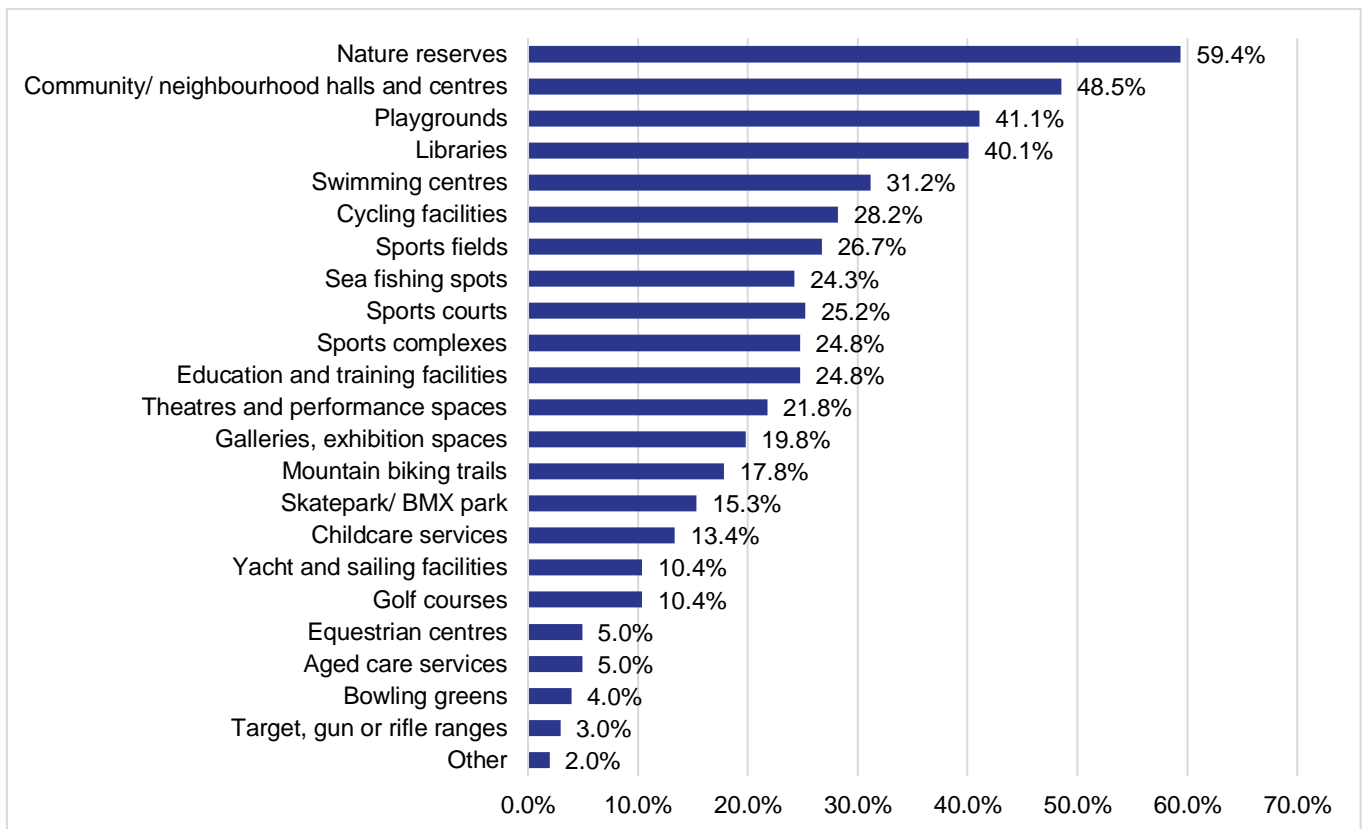


Figure 4.1 Which of the following facilities do you use?

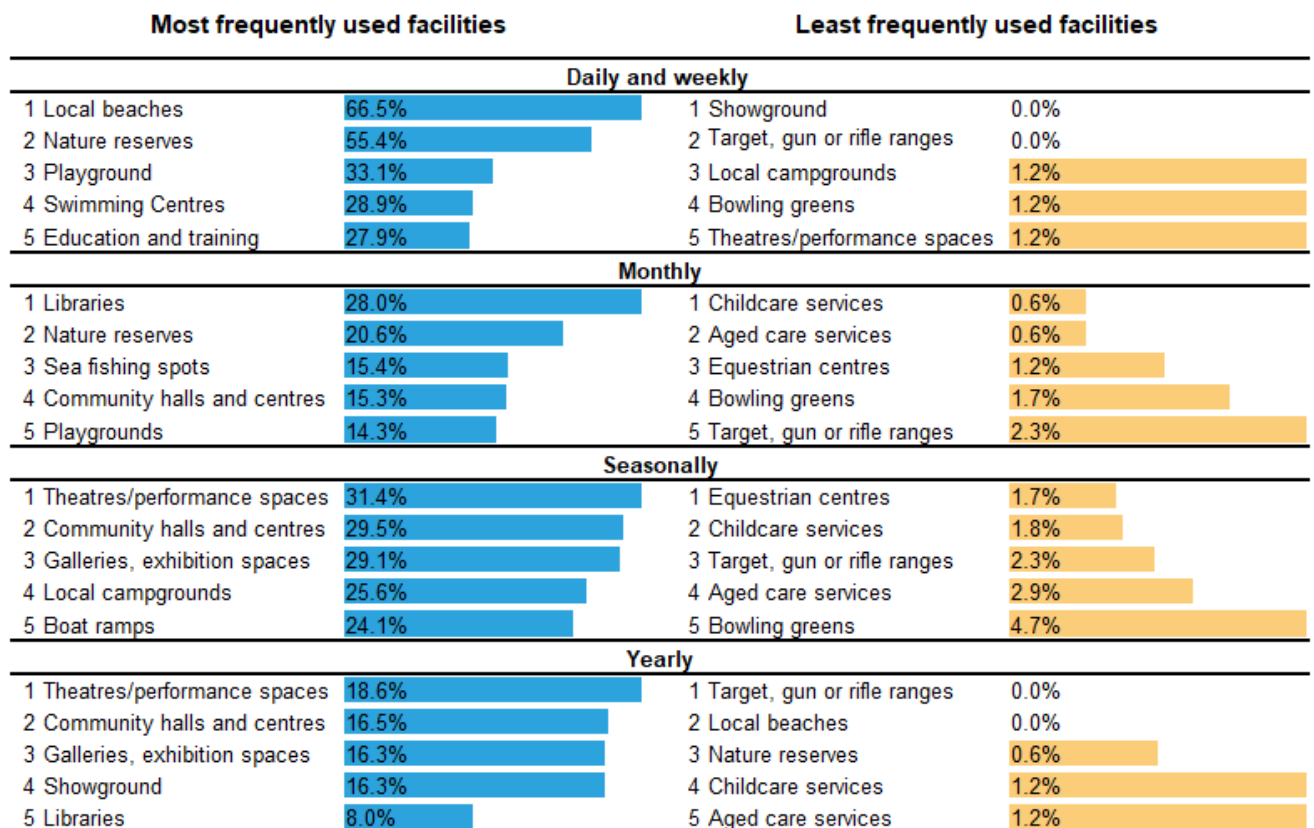


Figure 4.2 Most and least frequently used facilities

4.1.2 Existing challenges and opportunities

The survey also sought to gain further insights into why community members enjoyed using the facilities in the Sorell LGA. The majority of respondents said they most enjoyed facilities that were easily accessible, offered activities, services or programs that interested them and are well located (see Figure 4.3).

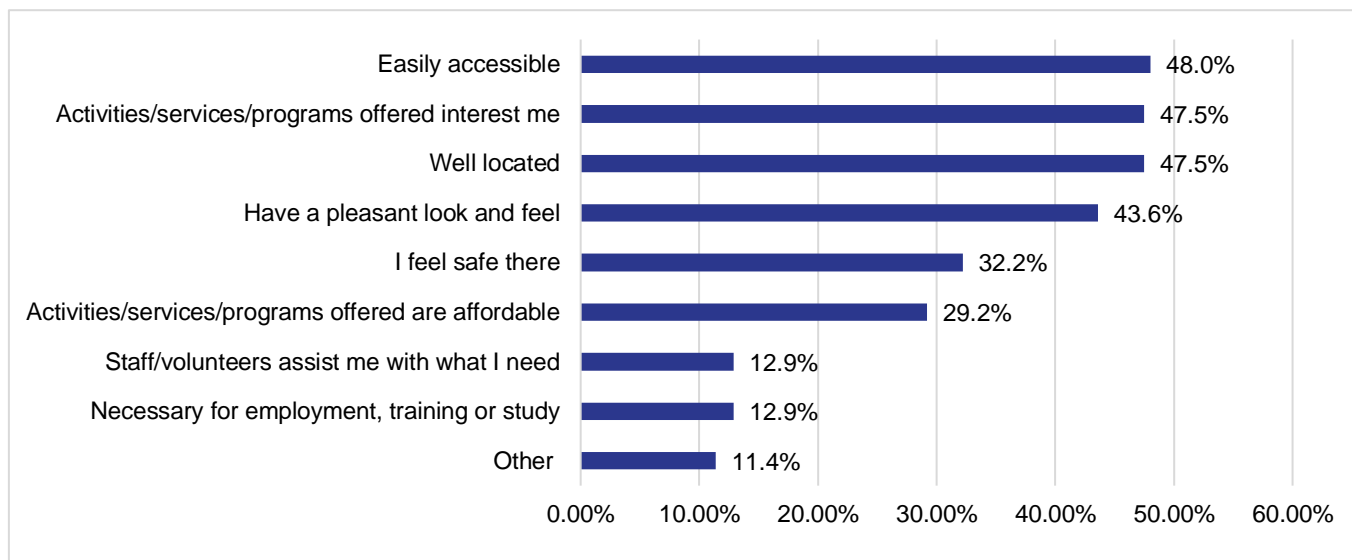


Figure 4.3 Enjoyment of facilities

The survey also asked community members what some of the current challenges or barriers that may impact the use of these facilities are. The majority of respondents indicated that low quality or poorly maintained facilities was the top reason for them not using these facilities. Facilities that are located too far away and facilities that are difficult to access were also among the top responses for why people didn't use these facilities (see Figure 4.4).

Respondents could also provide other reasons for barriers or challenges in using facilities. Common responses to this included the lack of safe footpaths and cycleways, and need for more dedicated dog parks to increase overall feelings of safety.

Interestingly some respondents felt that facilities were well located for them to access and use while others indicated that access to facilities was a barrier or challenge.

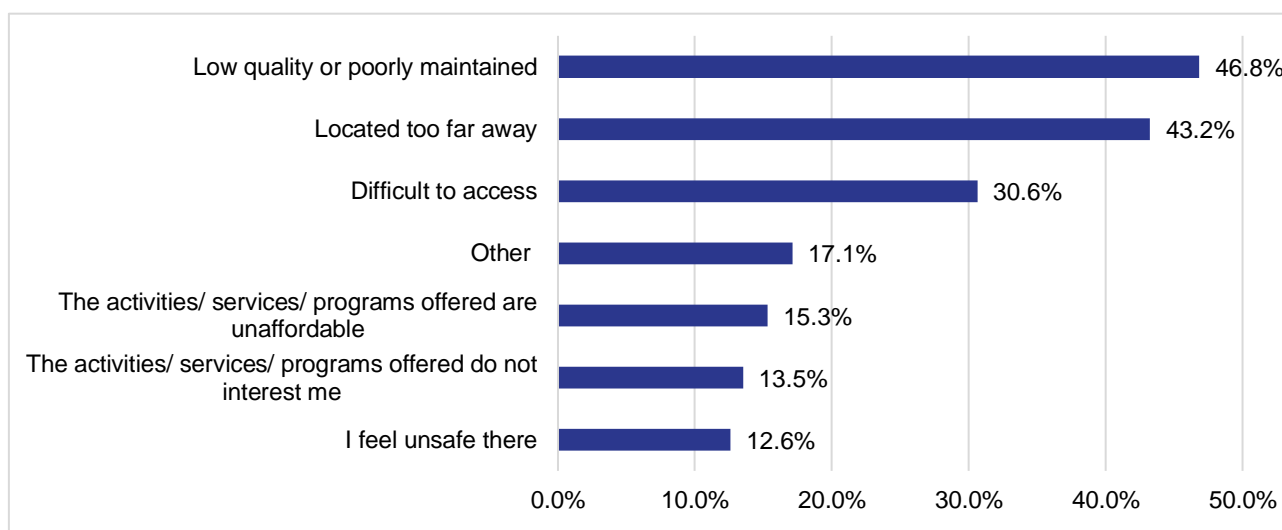


Figure 4.4 Challenges and barriers

4.1.3 What the community want to see

They survey also asked respondents to rank their top priorities for what they would like to see more of in the area they live.

Health care, parks and open space, education and training, and youth services and facilities were among the top four priorities for what people wanted to see more of in the area.

66.8%

of survey respondents would like to see more **health care facilities**

58.8%

of survey respondents would like to see more **parks and open space**

36.0%

of survey respondents would like to see more **education and training facilities**

35.4%

of survey respondents would like to see more **youth services and facilities**

» "The area is limited as far as help for the aged, home help, and only one option for respite or aged care"

» "Better health facilities and health care services. A hospital in the area or after-hours emergency care facility is a must"

Several respondents noted the need for more medical centres, an emergency room or a hospital in the region, that would be able to service the growing and ageing population in the Sorell LGA. Respondents also noted that some parks and open spaces were poorly maintained or not meeting the needs of the population. It was mentioned that the community would like to see more dedicated dog park in the area. Currently there are two dog parks located in the townships of Sorell and Dodges Ferry, with another proposed dog park located in Sorell. However, it is understood that dog owners utilise local beaches more often than dog parks to exercise their pets, which has resulted in perceived feelings of unsafety or stress among families with young children or people who avoid certain places due to dog use.

The need for alternative education options and improvements to current education facilities was noted as some schools and childcare centres were full and in need of upgrading. Others mentioned that there is a lack of spaces specifically for older children (teens) as well as youth specific services and programs in the Sorell LGA.

With a changing demographic in the Sorell LGA, aged care services and programs were also mentioned as a key priority, with currently only one home care provider in the region.

» "Extra help is needed for children struggling in education and options for those who don't fit the mainstream curriculum" «

» "More facilities/programs aiming to service a wider age range of ages that are better distributed and accessible by walking or cycling" «

» "I would love to see more targeted services with place-based solutions including health and social housing services, youth friendly infrastructure, decent dog parks, park upgrades and green spaces" «

» "Our current recreation only serves children up until around 8 years of age through the playgrounds. There is nothing that provides for older children or teenage youth apart from a skate park located on one end of town" «

Public transport was also raised as a key issue in the area, with limited bus services preventing people from accessing facilities they may benefit from. Community members expressed the need for more frequent, express and cheaper bus services connecting the southern beaches with Sorell Township and surrounding larger centres.

64.1% of survey respondents mentioned "cycleways", "footpaths" and "public transport" for what they would like to see more of in their area

»"We need more footpaths and cycleways, and better connections from the southern beaches (Lewisham, Dodges Ferry, Forcett, etc.) to Sorell."«

A question in the survey asked respondents if they were involved in any local organisations or community groups. The most common answers included the Southern Beaches Landcare/Coastcare Inc., Carlton Surf Life Saving Club (CSLSC), South East Suns Netball Association, Okines Community House, Dodges Ferry and Dunalley School Association. In particular, the role of Okines Community House was highlighted in the survey in contributing to the inclusive and close-knit community in Dodges Ferry.

4.2 Community workshops

This section summarises the key findings and outcomes of community workshops undertaken for the development of this Strategy in March 2024.

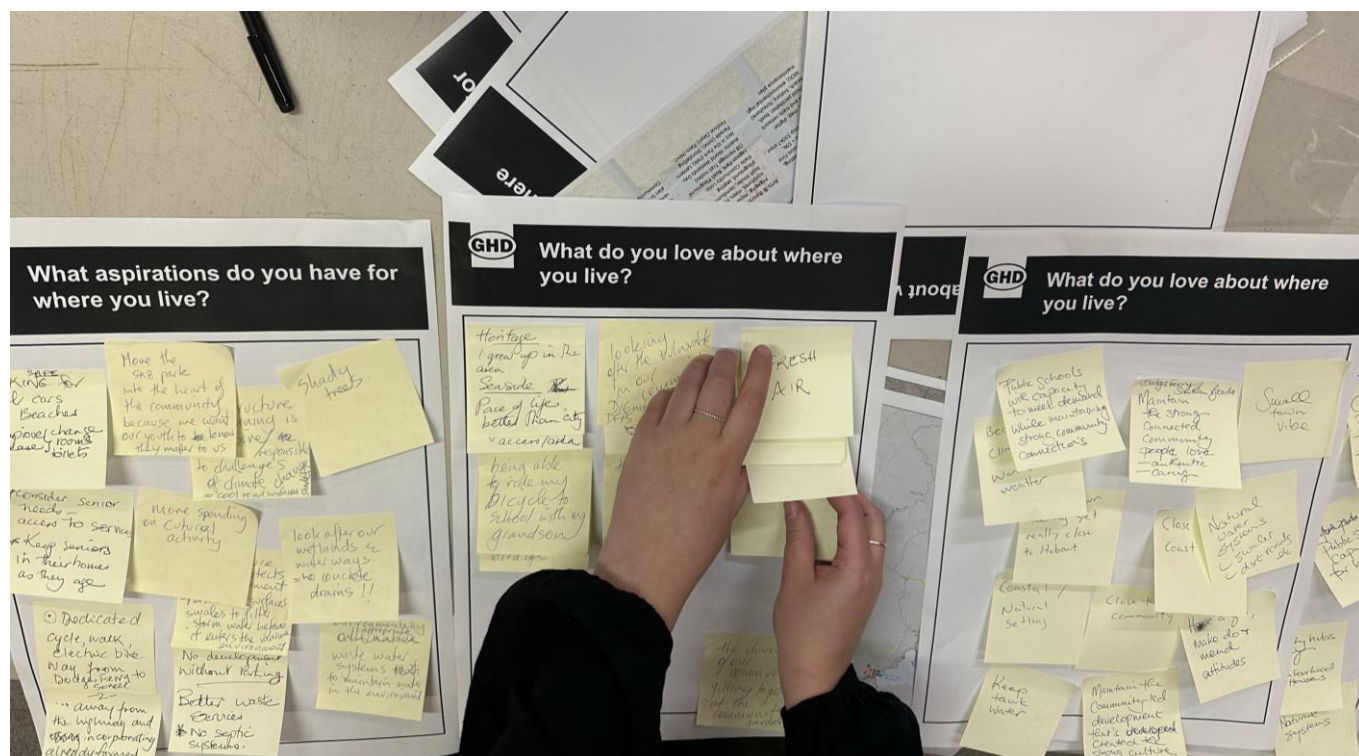


Image: Community workshop activity

4.2.1 What we love

Community workshop participants were asked what they loved about living in the Sorell LGA. The key themes from these discussions are detailed in Figure 4.5 and summarised below.

4.2.1.1 Key findings

Workshop participants advised that the Sorell LGA community highly value the coastal environment, the natural setting of the region and the marine environment. It was noted that the community of the Sorell LGA are passionate about environmental advocacy, and enjoy caring for the environment around them. While being close enough to Hobart to access higher order services and facilities, stakeholders noted that they enjoy the separation from the 'city centre' and the quiet and peaceful nature of the Sorell LGA. The waterfront is a quintessential aspect of life in the Sorell LGA, with workshop participants noting a number of activities that centre around access to the foreshore, beaches and water. Overall, residents love and value being surrounded by beaches.

Workshop participants noted the mostly flat topography of Sorell Township, which is conducive to new growth and development, and is different to other surrounding municipalities. The weather, fresh air, space, wildlife and 'country' atmosphere are highly valued by residents, and their sense of place across the region.

Workshop participants highlighted that the Sorell LGA community appreciate the small, tight-knit, authentic and caring nature of the community in the Sorell LGA. The character and local historical heritage is vital to the community's sense of place and is important that this is retained during continued growth. It was noted by workshop participants that the Sorell LGA community value the community spaces and places across the region, particularly the community houses and other areas where people can gather.

The community values the family-oriented lifestyle in the Sorell LGA, noting an ongoing trend of young families moving into the area over recent years. It was emphasised that healthy activities like surfing, fishing, and safe boating access is conducive to facilitating a family friendly, and cohesive community environment. Workshop participants noted that residents in the Sorell LGA community look for opportunities to prioritise looking after the

vulnerable members of the community and fostering strong community connections through support programs. A number of initiatives, programs and organisations throughout the region are community developed and led, which is highly valued by residents. Workshop participants noted that this community-led development helps in preserving small-town values and supports important initiatives such as community halls, markets, and classes.

Workshop participants noted that they value the playgrounds, sports facilities, open space and surf life saving, albeit there is room for improvement in infrastructure provision (discussed further in Section 4.2.2). Workshop participants noted that sports and recreation facilities have improved over the years and are valued by residents, particularly young families with children. Workshop participants acknowledged that while transportation can be challenging, they note that bus services are improving.

4.2.1.2 Summary

Economic

- Affordability of the region
- Affordable land for young families

Community health, wellbeing and cohesion

- Small, tight knit and caring nature of the community
- Rich local heritage and character
- Strong community values and friendliness
- Family-oriented nature of the region
- Small town feeling whilst being in close proximity to Hobart
- People looking out for each other and for vulnerable people in the community
- Healthy lifestyle
- Community-led development which has created a strong culture
- Community activities such as markets

Social infrastructure

- Access to Hobart and the airport
- Access to playgrounds and sports facilities
- Safe boating access
- Surf lifesaving
- Water access and jetties
- Schools and education opportunities

Environment

- Coastal and marine environment
- Access to beaches and the water
- Warm weather
- Fresh air
- Open space
- Wildlife
- 'Country' atmosphere
- Flat topography of the region

Figure 4.5 'What we love' about the Sorell LGA

4.2.2 What are our aspirations?

Community workshop participants were asked their aspirations for the Sorell LGA. These are summarised in Figure 4.6 and below.

4.2.2.1 Key findings

Workshop participants identified that there is opportunity to improve the availability and quality of social gathering spaces which are usable for all ages. Shade and seating areas were identified by workshop participants as key opportunities for improvement of existing spaces across the Sorell LGA. Workshop participants noted that the revitalisation of existing assets across the region such as halls could assist in facilitating opportunity for more community organisations / programs. Supporting opportunities senior services, activities and infrastructure which is accessible was identified by workshop participants as being important for the Sorell LGA, particularly due to the ageing population.

Workshop participants noted that improved local job creation across the Sorell LGA would allow the region to be more self-sustaining. This could also be achieved through improved services and businesses, and an increase in cafes, restaurants, nightlife, and entertainment opportunities. Improving the way residents get around in the Sorell LGA was identified as a key aspiration for resident by workshop participants. Particularly, inter-region and inter-community connectivity, improved safety for pedestrians and dedicated cycleways.

Residents in the Sorell LGA highly value the natural environment, with workshop participants noting that it is an aspiration for new infrastructure, development and growth to be conducive to environmental values.

4.2.2.2 Summary

Economic

- Local job creation
- Improved services and businesses
- More cafes, restaurants, entertainment and nightlife

Community health, wellbeing and cohesion

- More social gathering spaces, that are usable for all age groups
- Improved access to activities for people of all abilities
- Improved youth engagement
- Improved community reputation
- Digital services and programs to assist in the community accessing information

Social infrastructure

- Revitalisation of existing assets such as halls
- Improve affordability of hiring facilities
- Improved access to medical and allied health services
- Investment into cultural and arts spaces / activities
- More seating and shade in public spaces
- More senior services and accessibility
- Improved youth activities / places for young people
- More neighbourhood houses, including one in the Township of Sorell

Transport

- Transport equity
- Inter-community transport connections
- Improved connectivity and transport
- Dedicated cycle and walk way, separated from the highway
- Safe car parking at the beach
- Improved safety for pedestrians

Environment

- Sustainability initiatives
- Climate resilient infrastructure
- Green urban environments
- Environmentally sustainable infrastructure
- Leafy urban environments
- Infrastructure that protects the marine environment

Figure 4.6 Aspirations for the Sorell LGA

4.2.3 What are the existing gaps, challenges and opportunities?

Community workshop participants were asked what the current gaps, challenges and opportunities were regarding social, green and blue infrastructure across the Sorell LGA. These are summarised in Figure 4.7 below.

Gaps

- Lack of essential infrastructure including childcare, youth centres, health infrastructure (including allied health), social housing and aged care
- Inadequate green space and shaded areas
- Disparities in service provision between Sorell town and the southern beaches
- Businesses such as coffee shops, street culture and nightlife
- Lack of cultural and arts facilities, and non-sports based recreation activities
- Lack of access to the foreshore in some areas
- Limited health infrastructure, including GP's X-Ray, pathology and allied health services
- Lack of a local bus service
- Parks and open space in frequently used areas

Challenges

- Cost, availability and accessibility of public transportation
- Cost of facility hire
- Getting information to the community as to what activities / programs are available, noting that not all residents are computer literate or have access to the internet
- Community is quite dispersed
- Balance between services in Sorell town and southern beaches
- Some social infrastructure and services such as the local schools and childcare are nearing capacity
- Access for people with mobility challenges
- Pedestrian access and connectivity to some services and facilities
- Road safety

Opportunities

- Signage and information boards around the region
- Promote the benefits and use of existing social infrastructure and services / co-use of spaces for other activities
- Encourage use of outdoor and open space through provision of seating and shade
- Building upon existing playgrounds to encourage inclusivity for inter-generational activities
- Opportunity for inter-region public transport which connects the townships
- Facilitate activities for seniors
- Investment into cultural and arts activities / facilities
- Promotion of local heritage and history

Figure 4.7 Gaps, challenges and opportunities of social, green and blue infrastructure in the Sorell LGA

4.3 Stakeholder meetings

This section summarises the key findings and outcomes of stakeholder interviews undertaken for the development of this Strategy in April and May 2024.

Table 4.1 Stakeholder meeting key findings

Key theme	Summary of findings
Employment and training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A lack of confidence was noted as a key challenge particularly for women and young people from entering the workforce. – The importance of networking and understanding transferrable skills as well as what opportunities are available where people live. – It is common for students to leave the region to access education in areas such as Hobart for both schooling and higher education. – A lack of VET or higher education and training opportunities was noted as a key barrier for retaining young people and skills in the region. – Opportunities to provide education and training for in-demand jobs and skills such as childcare, health care, aged care and disability services. – Recent growth in industries such as transport and logistics and machinery operators.
Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A lack of social recreation opportunities for young people outside of Sorell Township was reported to contribute to strong feelings of loneliness and social isolation with many young people hanging out at the local takeaway shops or grocery stores. – Having safe and welcoming spaces that cater to young people was seen as a desire. After school drop-in spaces where young people can connect and engage with other young people was noted as a key aspiration among young people across the region. – Young people want to be engaged and participate in opportunities that are provided for the. Youth advocacy groups were seen as a way that this could be achieved however, they would need to accommodate a variety of delivery and facilitation methods that suit young people. – It was noted that young people want opportunities to develop life skills that are transferrable to employment and further education. – It was reported that there is a high proportion of children in the Sorell LGA that come from difficult family or home life situations or are in Out-of-Home-Care (foster care). – There has been a trend of disengaged youth across the Sorell LGA however, recent programs and support services have assisted in providing opportunities for young people. – Youth crime was reported to be more of a community perception. – A need for social intervention services for youth such as therapeutic and mental health services, housing, financial literacy programs, and learner driving assistance was identified by stakeholders.
Connectivity and access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A lack of connectivity across the region particularly for young people was noted as a key barrier to participate in social activities and gain employment. – There is an overall desire for more active transport links across the region for people to be able to access services and facilities. – Public transport offered across the Sorell LGA was noted as being disjointed and often running at times that don't suit student particularly for those wanting to access sport and recreation opportunities in other areas of the LGA. – People in the Sorell LGA often travel outside the region for education, employment, health care and social activities such as sport and recreation.
Health and wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – There is a lack of support services such as counselling, mental health providers, and support workers for children, young people and families. – There is a desire to have a purpose build centre or facility in Sorell Township which can cater to supporting youth programs and initiatives as well as child and family support, early intervention and rehabilitation.

5. Summary of findings

The Sorell LGA has been earmarked as a region for continued population growth and development in Southern Tasmania. With its convenient positioning as a gateway to southern Tasmania, affordable housing market, relatively flat topography of existing townships whilst being within commuting distance to Hobart, the Sorell LGA is primed for future growth. Residents across the Sorell LGA value the tight knit, friendly and community-oriented nature of the region, as well as the natural environment and coastline which is a draw card for residents and visitors.

Notwithstanding this, the region is facing a number of challenges, including a high dependence on private vehicles, a lack of public transportation, limited social infrastructure to support the current population, ageing facilities and a lack of services and facilities for vulnerable community members. Noting the population of the Sorell LGA is expected to increase by over 32% over the next 20 years, managing this growth with the above-mentioned challenges has been identified as a key community priority by community members consulted with as part of this Strategy.

Table 5.1 summarises the findings of the previous sections of this Strategy, and draws together the data, research and stakeholder engagement to understand the region of Sorell. Outcomes from this summary is a catalyst for understanding and implementing the key priorities and actions for the Sorell LGA, to address challenges, enhance opportunities and to accommodate continued growth across the region.

Table 5.1 Key findings

Ageing population	The latest projections indicate that the population of the Sorell LGA is expected to see a notable increase in older populations particularly those over the age of 65 years. Through both an audit of existing facilities and community consultation, it was noted that there is currently a lack of age specific facilities and services tailored specifically to meet the needs of this ageing demographic. Accessibility issues pertaining to facilities and services designed to support older residents were also highlighted during consultation as was seen as a barrier to those seeking access to these facilities.
Health and aged care	Health care facilities and services in the Sorell LGA are limited to community medical facilities and various private health practices. It was noted during consultation that the lack of access to other health care facilities such as medical imaging, pathology, allied health and emergency care as well as aged care was a key challenge. As the population of the Sorell LGA is projected to grow, the demand for health care services may present challenges for existing providers and community members trying to access health care, particularly older population and individuals with specialist medical needs. Community member expressed aspirations for the establishment of a district level hospital or emergency department to adequately meet the growing needs of the community.
Car dependency, public transport and connectivity	In the Sorell LGA, there is a high reliance on private vehicle use for various purposes including commuting to work and school, shopping, and leisure activities was noted in the Sorell LGA. Community consultation highlighted the lack of reliable and consistent public transport options available across the Sorell LGA. Additionally, the high costs associated with using public transport were identified as a barrier by some residents. The lack of accessible public transport particularly impacts individuals who are unable to drive or lack access to private vehicles, notably young people and older populations. Improving the public transport and active transport systems including upgrading the road network to enhance overall mobility within the Sorell LGA emerged as a central objective in multiple strategies and community consultation.

Schools, education and training	<p>The current capacity of schools in the Sorell LGA was described as a key challenge, with schools either at or nearing capacity. Notably, there is only one school in the LGA that offers secondary school education. Sorell School, which caters to students from Kindergarten to Year 12, and Dodges Ferry Primary School have recently received government funding to facilitate the delivery of new classrooms and upgrade existing facilities. There are currently no tertiary education facilities in the Sorell LGA, however government funding has been secured by the Business and Employment Southeast Tasmania to support the construction of a Regional Jobs and Training Hub facility in Sorell for adult / post-school aged learners and businesses across the regions. As the population grows in the Sorell LGA it is expected that the demand for schools and other education institutions will increase. During consultation, some community members highlighted the need for additional education facilities in the Sorell LGA, including alternative education methods, and further education and training facilities.</p>
Young people	<p>While there is a general trend of an ageing population across the Sorell LGA, outcomes from the community workshop highlighted that the region is becoming an attractive location for young families, due to the affordability, quality of schools and lifestyle. As of 2021, residents aged under 18 represented 20.8% of the population and 18–24-year-olds represented 6.8% of the population. Findings from consultation and strategic context found that there is a lack of spaces specifically for older children (teens) as well as youth specific services and programs in the Sorell LGA which has contributed to feels of loneliness, boredom, and social isolation among young people. Additionally, a lack of social intervention services such as mental health providers, life-skills classes, youth support workers and learner driving assistance was identified as a key challenge in the community. Youth are also more likely to be impacted by the lack of consistent and affordable public transportation, which was reported to be a significant barrier for young people to participate and engage as well as to access services, activities, employment, and higher education.</p>
Facilities, service provision and the public realm	<p>As the population of the Sorell LGA is projected to grow over the next 20 years, there will likely be a heightened demand for infrastructure development and provision. Currently facilities are concentrated in the main townships and population centres of Sorell, Midway Point, Dodges Ferry, and Dunalley. During consultation it was identified that there is a current gap in provision particularly for facilities that support art and cultural activities. Additionally, some community members noted that certain facilities are too difficult to access for elderly residents or are of low quality or poorly maintained. Improvements in signage and the sharing of information such as events across the region was noted as key opportunity to increase knowledge and participation. A key aspiration noted during consultation was to improve services and business though increasing cafes, restaurants, nightlife and entertainment opportunities as well as informal spaces and overall connectivity of these facilities.</p>
Sport, recreation and open space	<p>Across the Sorell LGA there is a wide variety of sport, recreation and open space that services the community. Sorell Township is one of the main hubs for sporting and recreation activities for the region as well as surrounding regions. During consultation sport and recreation, nature, the environment, and open spaces including beaches were highly valued and overall, well utilised by the community. Findings from the online survey and community workshops did note that some parks and open spaces were either poorly maintained or did not meet the needs of the population. Reduced feelings of safety particularly with regards to dogs, was also mentioned as a barrier for some community members who wish to access and use sport, recreation and open space facilities. Gaps in the provision of some infrastructure including skate parks, swimming facilities, dedicated dog parks, playgrounds, outdoor exercise equipment, and supporting infrastructure such as amenities blocks, shade coverage, and seating in areas outside of Sorell Township was also noted during consultation and within the existing facilities audit. Findings from consultation also noted the fees and costs associated with participating in organised sport and recreation activities as a key barrier for some residents.</p>

6. Priorities and actions

The priorities and actions are based on extensive background research and consultation with Sorell Council, the community, and key stakeholders. Framed around four main priorities, it provides a roadmap for Council’s planning, design, management, and delivery of social infrastructure facilities and programs over the next 10 years.

Each priority area has specific objectives and corresponding actions, each of which has been assigned its own priority rating – low, medium, or high – and a delivery timeframe of short (<2 years), medium (2-5 years), long (6-10 years), or ongoing. Responsibility for each action is clearly identified, with some actions requiring collaboration and commitment from multiple stakeholders, including government, the private sector, service providers and community groups/ organisations. Sorell Council’s responsibility for each action may vary, ranging from direct involvement such as funding, delivery and management to indirect roles such as advocacy and support to other agencies. These measures ensure a comprehensive and coordinated approach to achieving the Strategy’s objectives as outline in Section 1.2.

6.1 Priority 1: Fostering connected and inclusive communities

Facilities that are welcoming and accessible to all people are essential in fostering communities which celebrate diversity, social connections and a sense of belonging. This can be achieved with a focus on enhancing and celebrating local heritage and championing inclusion across the community so that everyone is supported, valued and respected.

Insights outlined in the summary of findings (Section 5) have informed the development of the following actions. Specifically, a gap was identified in the provision of spaces and places that allow for informal or non-programmed gatherings as well as cultural and arts facilities. A lack of knowledge and awareness of community events and programs was also noted with a desire among the community to improve the promotion of community events to increase overall social cohesion and community participation. A key aspiration of the community was to enhance the public realm through increasing support for local businesses, nightlife and entertainment opportunities across the region.

	Action	Priority rating	Delivery timeframe	Responsibility
Enhance social connections				
1.1	Investigate opportunities to establish shared community spaces that foster community connections through the delivery of a diverse range of recreational and leisure activities and programs suitable for all ages and abilities.	Medium	Short	Sorell Council
1.2	Work with service providers to provide and promote activities and programs available for older people such as digital literacy training.	Low	Medium	Not-for-profit service providers Sorell Council
Improve and activate civic spaces				
1.3	Investigate opportunities for pop-up and reimagined spaces that cultivate use of the public realm as community space. Examples could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pop-up performance spaces – Local markets (including night markets) – Temporary outdoor recreation activities (e.g. chessboards, table tennis, sensory play, nature-based play, fun runs etc.). – Outdoor cinema – Community gardens 	High	Short	Sorell Council

1.4	<p>Improve wayfinding to get to, access, and navigate through community facilities and key points of interest within the Sorell LGA. Examples of wayfinding and accessibility tools include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Clear signage – develop clear signage which is easy to read, positioned at entrances, exits, intersections and key areas of a facility. – Wayfinding maps – create maps which highlight key points of interest, accessible routes, key amenities and entry and exit points. Wayfinding maps should be placed in strategic locations such as entrances and corridors. – Signage on notable information in public spaces <p>Ensuring that signage, wayfinding tools and other navigation designs are accessible to all individuals (including for people with a disability and translated materials in key languages such as Mandarin).</p>	Medium	Short	Sorell Council
1.5	<p>Improve the delivery of information about community facilities, upcoming Council / community events, and local programs and services. This can be implemented through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Installing notice boards and stands at community facilities as well as key community nodes such as town centres, shopping centres, and key civic places. – Increased engagement and information sharing through online digital platforms such as social media and Council's website. 	High	Short	Sorell Council
1.6	<p>Implement public art and other cultural initiatives that recognises and celebrate the regions rich local history and cultural diversity consistent with Sorell Council Strategic Plan 2019 – 2029.</p> <p>These initiatives could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Creating a register of local arts and cultural groups to inform of any upcoming or future Council initiatives regarding arts and culture. – Connecting with local history groups/ individuals who may have local historical information, knowledge and records. Local history information can be included on Councils websites, in key documentation and other publications. – Working with local Aboriginal people including Traditional Custodians, knowledge holders and community leaders to gain a deeper understanding of local shared history, connection to Country, and historic and contemporary cultural values. This information may be able to be recorded and shared, where appropriate, through platforms such as Council's website to increase awareness and recognition for the whole community. 	Medium	Medium	<p>Local history groups and academics</p> <p>Local Aboriginal people and Traditional Custodians</p> <p>Sorell Council</p>

6.2 Priority 2: Promoting safe, healthy and active communities

The promotion of safe, healthy, and active communities not only enhances the quality of life for residents but has the potential to significantly contribute to overarching societal objectives including, but not limited to, equity, resilience, and sustainability.

Insights outlined in the summary of findings (Section 5) have informed the development of the following actions. Notably, consultation reveals that there is an overall lack in active transport connections across the region which is further explored in the Active Transport Strategy 2024. This was seen as a barrier for some residents in accessing key services and facilities. While parks, open space, and sport and recreation were highly valued and utilised by the community, there are notable gaps in the provision of facilities including supporting infrastructure and ancillary services particularly in areas beyond Sorell Township. Furthermore, safety concerns and perceptions within the community were identified as a barrier in accessing community facilities for some residents. These barriers were reported to reduce overall feelings of enjoyment in these spaces.

Action	Priority rating	Delivery timeframe	Responsibility	
Promote active and public transportation to support healthy lifestyles to all communities throughout the Sorell LGA				
2.1	Improve the connection and provision of footpaths, bike paths and civic places across the Sorell LGA consistent with the Sorell Active Transport Strategy 2024.	High	Short-long	Sorell Council
2.2	In collaboration with the State Government, public transport providers and the community, investigate and identify opportunities for improvements to the public transport network across the Sorell LGA. This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Changes to the timetabling and designated routes of public buses Reviewing fare pricing particularly for students and concession card holders. 	High	Ongoing	Transport Tasmania State Growth Redline Coaches Tassielink Sorell Council
Provide and upgrade amenities and spaces that better cater to the diverse needs of the community				
2.3	Review all dog exercise areas to ensure they meet the requirements for community safety and access for dog owners in the Sorell LGA. Update the Dog Management Plan 2017 in line with recommendations set out in the Open Space Strategy 2020.	High	Short	Sorell Council
2.4	Investigate the feasibility of building a new amenities block at the entrance/ boat ramp to Primrose Sands beach.	Medium	Medium	Sorell Council
2.5	Undertake audit of playgrounds and exercise equipment to understand gaps in provision, condition, remaining life of asset, potential risks and compliance with standards and develop a schedule of priority upgrades while investigating opportunities to provide sensory and all ages and abilities play spaces.	High	Ongoing	Sorell Council
2.6	Undertake audit of supporting infrastructure such as garbage bins, public BBQ facilities, picnic tables and shelters, and open space furniture to understand gaps in provision, condition, remaining life, risk and compliance and develop a schedule of priority upgrade works.	Medium	Ongoing	Sorell Council
Seek funding and resourcing for improvements to open space and recreation to support community satisfaction and increased participation in recreation				
2.7	Council to actively pursue and inform local sporting and community groups of available grant and funding opportunities with Active Tasmania and the Department of Premier and Cabinet to establish new or upgrade	High	Medium-long	Sorell Council Local sport and recreation

	existing open space and sport and recreation infrastructure. Potential opportunities could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Development of the new aquatic facility at Dodges Ferry – Formalisation of identified future open space in Primrose Sands, Carlton, and Midway Point. 			groups/ organisations
2.8	Work with local sporting groups and organisations to investigate opportunities to reduce barriers to participation, particularly young people, in recreation activities. This could include improving transportation accessibility through carpooling initiatives or promoting active transport and raising awareness of funding initiatives (e.g. Ticket to Play) which can provide vouchers that can be used towards club membership fees and registration.	Medium	Medium	Sorell Council Local sporting groups/ organisations
Improve safety for users of facilities and the community through design				
2.9	Undertake a review of community facilities against Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) requirements to understand current gaps and opportunities. Outcomes of the review to be incorporated into Council's Asset and Buildings Management Strategy.	High	Short	Sorell Council
2.10	Undertake lighting audits in and around facilities (including parking areas, bus shelters and footpaths etc.) to understand the gaps in supply, condition, remaining life, risk and compliance of lighting assets and develop a schedule of priority lighting upgrade works.	High	Ongoing	Sorell Council

6.3 Priority 3: A focus on children and young people

Youth-focused programs and initiatives can play a pivotal role in shaping the future through empowering young people to realise their full potential and become active contributors to society. Prioritising the needs of young people can provide a platform for personal development, skill-building, and civic engagement, fostering a sense of belonging and purpose among youth.

Insights outlined in the summary of findings (Section 5) have informed the development of the following actions. Specifically, there's a notable gap in the provision of spaces and programs tailored to engage youth, particularly teenagers. Young people in the Sorell LGA encounter significant challenges, including isolation, loneliness, mental health issues, and feelings of judgment. This can be compounded by a lack of adequate access and affordable active and public transport options available. Moreover, a lack of social intervention services, such as mental health providers, life-skills classes, youth support workers, and learner driving assistance, poses a significant challenge for young people in the area particularly as they move into adulthood. Having safe and welcoming spaces that cater directly to the needs of young people such as drop-in sessions was seen as desirable for young people.

Action	Priority rating	Delivery timeframe	Responsibility	
Promote and provide a platform that encourages youth participation in local leadership, engagement, self-determination, and decision making				
3.1	Encourage further collaboration with the youth of the Sorell LGA through supporting co-led initiatives involving youth service providers, youth participants and Council representatives. These initiatives could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Delivering results and outcomes of the YNOT consultation project and share with the community. 	High	Short	South East Tasmania Salvos Not-for-profit service providers Sorell School

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Consultation with youth representatives, service providers and local schools regarding events for young people. – Delivering programs and temporary recreation facilities at the South East Stadium in Sorell. – Work with local youth services and local businesses to provide training opportunities and student work-based placements. – Work with local businesses, TAS Police and community services to make public spaces more youth friendly. <p>Ensuring that Council maintains consultation with State Government departments, community organisations and peak bodies relating to the Youth Sector.</p>			Local businesses Sorell Council
3.2	Work in partnership with local employment and training providers such as BEST, youth service providers such as South East Tasmania Salvos and Sorell School to develop and deliver life skills, mentoring sessions, and volunteering and cadet programs for young people to promote job readiness and gain independence.	Medium	Short	BEST South East Tasmania Salvos Sorell School Local businesses Sorell Council
Co-ordinate education planning and delivery with State Government departments and the private sector				
3.3	Council to liaise directly with the State Government to identify and secure funding opportunities to deliver upgrades to Dodges Ferry Primary School, including new classrooms and learning spaces, amenities facilities, staff areas and a dedicated space for Outside of School Hours Care.	High	Medium	Department of Education, Children and Young People Tasmania Sorell Council
3.4	In collaboration with the State Government, identify opportunities to accommodate additional demand for high school student places in schools across the LGA. This could be undertaken through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Undertaking a detailed audit of high school enrolments across the region. – Projecting the future demand for high school places over the next 10-15 years based on population projections. – Investigating opportunities to provide additional high school places within the LGA through either the redevelopment of existing school sites or new sites as appropriate. 	Medium	Long	Department of Education, Children and Young People Tasmania Sorell Council
3.5	In collaboration with the State Government, conduct an audit of Out of School Hours Care services across education facilities in the Sorell LGA to gather information on capacity, demand, additional needs/ gaps, staffing and adequacy of service. Outcomes of the audit should inform future planning for school-based Out of School Hours Care provision across the LGA.	Medium	Ongoing	Department of Education, Children and Young People Tasmania Sorell Council
3.6	Work with private developers and service providers to encourage the provision of additional childcare facilities particularly in growth areas and new development areas. Council to consider a model where Council is the service provider or in collaboration with the private sector.	Medium	Medium	Private developers Private service providers Not-for-profit service providers Sorell Council

6.4 Priority 4: Opportunities for increased infrastructure service provision and delivery

Effectively managing infrastructure provision and service delivery throughout the Sorell LGA is crucial for understanding and meeting both the current and future needs of the community. This entails adopting a forward-thinking approach to infrastructure provision and service delivery, capable of flexibly adapting to evolving circumstances and new growth. By providing high-quality infrastructure and services the ultimate goal is to enhance the overall well-being of residents and the community.

Insights outlined in the summary of findings have informed the development of the following actions. A notable challenge identified for the findings is the lack of community health care and aged care services and facilities across the Sorell LGA. Furthermore, the delivery of infrastructure was noted to have not kept pace with the current and growing demand across the region.

Action	Priority rating	Delivery timeframe	Responsibility
Understand the health needs and concerns of the community and investigate opportunities for new health care facilities and services to meet future demand			
4.1	Medium	Ongoing	Department of Health Tasmania Private health services Sorell Council
<p>Work with the State Government to undertake an assessment of health services in the Sorell LGA and advocate for health service solutions that support the health needs and demands of people in the community particularly an ageing population.</p> <p>This may involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Providing additional community health facilities – Providing additional private practice providers and health care specialists – Attracting and retaining health care professionals to the region 			
4.2	Medium	Ongoing	Private aged care providers Not-for-profit providers Sorell Council
<p>Continue to monitor the need for additional provision of aged care facilities and services (e.g. independent living units, nursing homes, and home care packages) across the Sorell LGA to support increases in an ageing population.</p> <p>If a need is identified, consider opportunities to develop a clear planning approval pathway and eligibility criteria for development incentives.</p>			
Enhance community infrastructure delivery and utilisation			
4.3	Low	Short	Sorell Council
<p>Investigate options, in collaboration with clubs and organisations, to create secure storage facilities within multi-use facilities for club sharing spaces.</p>			
4.4	Medium	Ongoing	Sorell Council Private developers Private service providers
<p>Council to explore opportunities for implementing funding mechanisms through public-private partnerships, to guide investment into community facilities such as childcare, community centres, and open space particularly in new growth areas. Funding mechanism options may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) – Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) – Contributions – Levies 			

4.5	<p>Undertake a detailed assessment of the utilisation and capacity of existing Council owned community buildings and open space to determine gaps in provision, best future direction and use, and appropriate management models.</p> <p>This can be undertaken through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – A detailed review of utilisation data from bookings of all facilities over a 12-month period. – Engagement with the community and community groups to understand current and future demand. – Review of fees and charges of facilities. 	Medium	Short	Sorell Council
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7. Measures and monitoring

In order to monitor, assess, and evaluate the progress and success of the priorities, objectives and actions outlined in Section 6, the following measurements are proposed.

It is best practice to apply a triangulation methodology to measure the success of priorities and actions using both quantitative and qualitative data points. This method ensures validity and quality of monitoring and evaluation, and to reliably track effectiveness of actions over time. The measurements should be reviewed using this methodology at least once every two years over the life of the Strategy and could assess quantitative and qualitative changes, as detailed in Table 7.1.

Once this Strategy is endorsed and adopted by Council, an implementation plan should be developed based on the priorities and actions outlined in Section 6. The plan would outline works to be undertaken, taking into consideration content of this Strategy and other relevant Council Strategies as well as more detailed information captured around each facility e.g., current user profiles, returns, lease agreements and building conditions.

Table 7.1 Monitoring data sources

Quantitative	Qualitative
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data on social infrastructure facility utilisation - Member registration and uptake of groups, organisations and programs - Demographic trends - Planning approvals - Education data including outcomes, attendance rates and enrolment numbers - Data on youth participation and utilisation of community programs, facilities and services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community survey or community engagement - General community feedback - Feedback from service providers, users and staff - Community directory in new growth areas - Surveys to understand the utilisation or community facilities, active transport and health services - Youth engagement

Table 7.2 Monitoring framework

Priority	Desired outcome	Data source
Priority 1: Fostering connected and inclusive communities		
Enhance social connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased functionality of spaces and programs to better meet the needs of the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service provider feedback - Facility utilisation data - General community feedback
Improve and activate civic spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased usability of the public realm - Improved awareness about public spaces - Increased awareness, promotion and celebration of the region's history 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community feedback from users of public spaces and facilities and staff - Business surveys - General community feedback - Facility utilisation data - Register of social infrastructure and services available
Priority 2: Promoting safe, healthy and active communities		
Promote active and public transportation to support healthy lifestyles to all communities throughout the Sorell LGA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased connectivity around the region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trend survey over a period of time to measure uptake of active transport - General community feedback - Outcomes of community surveys
Provide and upgrade amenities and spaces that better cater to the diverse needs of the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase use of amenities and public spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Facility utilisation data - Planning approvals - General community feedback - Outcomes of community surveys

Seek funding and resourcing for improvements to open space and recreation to support community satisfaction and increased participation in recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Increased participation in sporting groups and organisations – Increased number of sporting groups and organisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Member registration of individual sporting groups – General community feedback
Improve safety for users of facilities and the community through design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Improved design of facilities, amenities and spaces to improve safety – Increased use of facilities and public spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – General community feedback – Facility utilisation data
Priority 3: A focus on children and young people		
Promote and provide a platform that encourages youth participation in local leadership, engagement, self-determination, and decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Increased youth participation – Improved outcomes and pathways for youth the region 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Monitoring outcomes from the YNOT report – Outcomes of youth engagement – Data on youth participation and utilisation of community programs, facilities and services
Coordinate education planning and delivery with State Government departments and the private sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Improved functionality of education facilities – Increased capacity of education facilities – Increased capacity of Out of School Hours Care services to meet growing community needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Enrolment numbers over time – Education outcomes – Attendance rates – Planning approvals
Priority 4: Opportunities for increased infrastructure service provision and delivery		
Understand the health needs and concerns of the community and investigate opportunities for new health care facilities and services to meet future demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Improved health outcomes and health care services which meet the needs of an ageing population and can support current population growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Data on the proportion of residents who access health care and aged care services outside the region – Demographic trends including age and population – General community feedback
Enhance community infrastructure delivery and utilisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Increased number of community infrastructure facilities and services in new growth areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Register of social infrastructure and services available – Population trends – Planning approvals

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Appendix A

Social infrastructure audit

A-1 Education

ID	Facility name	Address	Number of enrolments (2022/2023)
Employment Training Centre			
1	Business & Employment Southeast Tasmania	11 Fitzroy St, Sorell	-
Government Primary School			
2	Dodges Ferry Primary School	538 Old Forcett Rd, Dodges Ferry	551
3	Dunalley Primary School	20-32 Bay St, Dunalley	110
Government Combined School			
4	Sorell School	41 Gordon St, Sorell	821
Independent Education			
5	Indie School	Suite 4, 35-37 Gordon St, Sorell	40+
Trade Training Centre			
6	South East Trade Training Centre	10 Forcett St, Sorell	-

A-2 Health services and facilities

ID	Facility name	Address
Ambulance station		
1	Dodges Ferry Ambulance Station	2 Tiger Head Rd, Dodges Ferry
2	Sorell Ambulance Station	44 Cole St, Sorell
Medical centre		
3	Dodges Ferry Medical	1/52 Carlton Beach Rd, Dodges Ferry
4	Sorell Community Health Centre	57 Cole St, Sorell
5	Sorell Family Practice	11/12 Cole St, Sorell
Private Health Practice		
6	Back in Motion Connect	22 Gordon St, Sorell
7	Dentists of Tasmania	Shope 13/5 Fitzroy Court, Sorell
8	Dentures at Sorell	46 Main Rd, Sorell
9	Eyelines Optometrists	Gateway Shopping Centre, Shop 3, Cole St, Sorell
10	Hearing Australia Sorell	13 Gordon St, Sorell
11	Hobart Pathology	12 Cole St, Sorell
12	Island Dental Sorell	35/37 Gordon St, Sorell
13	Psyche Mental Health Centre	12 Fitzroy St, Sorell
14	Sorell Chiropractic	7 Station Ln, Sorell
15	Sorell Podiatry	Unit 5/5 Fitzroy St, Sorell
16	Tasmanian Foot & Ankle Clinic	31 Gordon St, Sorell
17	Total Eyecare Optometrists	Sorell Plaza, 10/12 Cole St, Sorell
18	Sorell Doctors	31 Gordon St, Sorell

A-3 Emergency services

ID	Facility name	Address
Fire and rescue		
1	Dodges Ferry Fire Brigade	460 Old Forcett Rd, Dodges Ferry
2	Dunalley Fire Station	32 Bay St, Dunalley
3	Midway Point Fire Station	14-16 Penna Rd, Midway Point
4	Orielton Fire Station	3054 Tasman Hwy, Orielton
5	Primrose Sands Fire Station	3 The Esplanade, Primrose Sands
6	Sorell Fire Station	59 Cole St, Sorell
7	Wattle Hill Fire Station	506 Nugent Rd, Wattle Hill
Police station		
8	Dunalley Police Station	126 Arthur Hwy, Dunalley
9	Sorell Police Station	59 Cole St, Sorell
Sea rescue		
10	Sea Rescue Tasmania	4 Tiger Head Rd, Dodges Ferry
SES facility		
11	Sorell SES	47 Cole St, Sorell

A-4 Community and cultural facilities

ID	Facility name	Address	Size (m ²)
Art gallery			
3	Three Peaks Gallery	21 Gordon St, Sorell	-
Community centre			
1	Copping Community Care Centre	2186 Arthur Hwy, Copping	-
2	Dunalley Neighbourhood House	172 Arthur Hwy, Dunalley	-
4	Midway Point Neighbourhood House	34 Hoffman St, Midway Point	-
5	Okines Community House	540 Old Forcett Rd, Dodges Ferry	-
6	Primrose Sands Community Centre	570 Primrose Sands Rd, Primrose Sands	762.1
7	Sorell Men's Shed & Heritage Museum	8 Station Ln, Sorell	439.7
Community hall			
7	Bream Creek Hall and Showground	138 Marion Bay Rd, Bream Creek	655.7
8	Copping Hall	69 Allanby St, Copping	359.2
9	Dunalley Hall	5 Franklin St, Dunalley	646.0
10	Forcett Community Hall	699 Arthur Hwy, Forcett	-
11	Midway Point Hall	32 Hoffman St, Midway Point	518.9
12	Orielton Hall	3271 Tasman Hwy, Orielton	-
13	Pawleena Hall	598 Pawleena Rd, Pawleena	-
14	Sorell Memorial Hall	47 Cole St, Sorell	817.7
Girl guides			
15	Sorell Butterfly Girl Guides	South East Anglican Church, 16 Gordon St, Sorell	-
Library			
16	Sorell Library	25 Cole St, Sorell	-
Masonic Centre			
17	Pembroke Masonic Lodge	31 Parsonage Pl, Sorell	-
Museum			
18	Beatties Studio	51 Tiger Head Rd, Dodges Ferry	-

A-5 Childcare facilities

ID	Facility name	Address	Number of places
Long day care			
1	Discovery Early Learning Centre – Sorell	23 Dubs and Co Dr, Sorell	191
2	Gumnut Long Day Care Centre	1 Jetty Rd, Dodges Ferry	50
3	Lady Gowrie Tasmania Midway Point Education and Care Services / Malunna Child Care Centre	17-19 Penna Rd, Midway Point	38
4	Lady Gowrie Tasmania Penna Early Learning Service	136 Penna Rd, Midway Point	30
5	Nest Child and Family Learning Centre	41 Gordon St, Sorell	n/a
Outside of School Hours Care			
6	Dunalley Outside School Hours Care (located on Dunalley Primary School grounds)	20-32 Bay St, Dunalley	45
7	Gumnut Outside School Hours Care (located on Dodges Ferry Primary School grounds)	538 Old Forcett Rd, Dodges Ferry	60
8	Lady Gowrie – Sorell Outside School Hours Care (located on Sorell School grounds)	41 Gordon St, Sorell	40

A-6 Aged care services and facilities

ID	Facility name	Address	Number of places
Home care			
1	South Eastern Nursing & Home Care Association Inc Community Aged Care Packages	12 Somerville St, Sorell	-
Residential care			
2	Uniting AgeWell Ningana Independent Living	1 The Circle, Sorell	72

A-7 Sport and recreation facilities

ID	Facility name	Address	Size (m ²)
Bowling green			
1	Sorell Bowls Club	11 Parsonage Pl, Sorell	-
BMX Track			
2	Kellevie Mountain Bike Park	Access via 509 Kellevie Rd, Kellevie	
Equestrian Park			
3	Sorell Equestrian Park Facility	2 Montagu St, Sorell	-
Golf course			
4	Murraville Golf Course	25 Florence St, Dunalley	-
5	Pittwater Golf Club	Penna Rd, Midway Point	-
Gun and rifle			
6	Blue Hills Shooters Club	Blue Hills Rd, Copping	-
Skatepark			
7	Dodges Ferry Skateboard Park	510 Old Forcett Rd, Dodges Ferry	-
8	Dunalley Skatepark	Church St E, Dunalley	-
9	Sorell Skatepark	6 Montagu St, Sorell	-
Sports complex			
10	South East Stadium	13 Montagu St, Sorell	1,659.56
Sports courts			
11	Dunalley Tennis Courts	25 Florence St, Dunalley	1,035
12	Midway Point Courts	Hoffman Street, Midway Point	1,175
13	Pioneer Park Tennis Courts	14 Parsonage Place, Sorell	2,299
Sports field			
14	Dunalley Recreation Ground	53 Imlay St, Dunalley	14,530
15	Flora Park	538 Old Forcett Rd, Dodges Ferry	14,300
16	Pembroke Park Sporting Precinct	7 Tasman Hwy, Sorell	41,540
Swimming facility			
17	Flippers Swim Centre	99 Lewisham Scenic Dr, Lewisham	-

A-8 Parks and open spaces

ID	Facility name	Address	Size (ha)
Dog park			
1	Dodges Ferry Recreation Park	Old Forcett Road and Ranton Road	0.6
2	Sorell Dog Park	12 Arthur St, Sorell	0.8
Local park			
3	Billy Kessarinos Memorial Park	29 Brady St, Midway Point	0.2
4	Boat Park	18 Kannah St, Dodges Ferry	0.6
5	Denison Canal Park	Arthur Hwy, Dunalley	1.0
6	Dodges Court Reserve	Dodges Ct, Sorell	0.1
7	Fenton Street Reserve	5 Fenton St, Midway Point	0.4
8	Imlay Street Park	14 Imlay St, Dunalley	0.6
9	Lewis Court Playground	Lewis Ct, Lewisham	0.1
10	Madison Lyden Park	Pawleena Dr, Sorell	0.3
11	Miena Park	Miena Dr, Sorell	12.7
12	Pioneers Park	14 Parsonage Pl, Sorell	1.0
13	Primrose Sands Park	570 Primrose Sands Rd, Primrose Sands	1.1
14	Samuel Throne Reserve	140 Lewisham Scenic Dr, Lewisham	0.3
15	St George's Square Park	Fitzroy St, Sorell	1.5
16	Sweetwater Park	Sweetwater Rd, Midway Point	0.1
17	Vancouver Park/Flyway Island Park	Honolulu Street / Vancouver St / Midway St / Bay Rd	1.2
Nature reserve			
18	Casuarina Reserve	7 East St, Dodges Ferry	0.3
19	Dodges Ferry Reserve	Old Forcett Dr, Dodges Ferry	11.0
20	Jacks Flat Reserve	Old Forcett Dr, Lewisham	1.7
21	Blue Lagoon Park	Tiger Head Rd, Dodges Ferry	5.5
22	Lagoon Park	Old Forcett Rd, Dodges Ferry	0.8
23	Payeena Reserve	4 Payeena St, Dodges Ferry	0.4
24	Townsend's Lagoon	Lewisham Scenic Dr, Lewisham	6.3
25	Woodvine Nature Reserve	681 White Hill Rd, Forcett	374.0

A-9 Blue infrastructure

ID	Facility name	Address
Beach		
	Blue Lagoon Beach	Kannah St, Dodges Ferry
	Carlton Beach	Raprunner St, Dodges Ferry
	Connellys Marsh Beach	Fulham Rd, Dunalley
	Dunalley Beach	Fulham Rd, Dunalley
	Marion Bay Beach	Marion Bay Rd, Marion Bay
	Okines Beach	Dodges Ferry
	Park Beach	Park Beach Rd, Dodges Ferry
	Parnella Reserve Beach	Carlton Beach Rd, Dodges Ferry
	Penna Beach	Penna Rd, Midway Point
	Primrose Sands Beach	Petrel St, Primrose Sands
	Red Ochre Beach	Tiger Head Bay, Dodges Ferry
	Tiger Head Beach	Tiger Head Rd, Dodges Ferry
Fishing spot/ boat ramp		
13	Boomer Bay Boat Ramp	18 Boomer Jetty Rd, Boomer Bay
14	Denison Canal Wharf	Fulham Rd, Dunalley
15	Dodges Ferry Boat Ramp	25 Tiger Head Rd, Dodges Ferry
16	Dunalley Jetty	4 Imlay St, Dunalley
17	Gypsy Bay Boat Ramp	119 Linden Rd, Primrose Sands
18	Lewisham Jetty	Lewisham Scenic Dr, Lewisham
19	Midway Point Causeway	Tasman Hwy, Midway Point
River		
20	Sorell Rivulet	Parsonage Pl, Sorell
Surf lifesaving		
21	Carlton Park Surf Life Saving Club	1 Raprunner St, Carlton Beach
Yacht and sailing club		
22	Midway Point Yacht Club	40 Brady St, Midway Point

Appendix B

Survey questionnaire

Sorell Council - Active Transport & Social Strategy: Sorell

14 February - 8 March 2024

We want you to tell us what you love and wish for. Your insight will help us develop strategies that address community needs to guide investment and bring the greatest benefit to you.



The Active Transport Strategy will help Council understand how best to prioritise and improve infrastructure such as paths and cycleways to increase safety and accessibility.

The Social Strategy will help Council understand what social services and infrastructure e.g. community centres, education, healthcare and sport and recreation, will support community health and wellbeing and enable the community to thrive.

The Social and Active Transport Strategies offer an exciting opportunity for the community to get involved in reimagining the future of the municipality.

Participation in the survey is voluntary and confidential. We appreciate you taking the time to respond. It will take around 10 minutes to complete. So, let's get started.

About you

1. Gender

- Woman
- Man
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to say

2. Age

- Under 18
- 18-34
- 35-54
- 55-64
- 65+

3. Which best describes your household?

- Couple with children
- Couple without children
- One parent with children
- Lone person
- Group household or other family

4. Which best describes you?

- I live in the Sorell municipality
- I work in the Sorell municipality
- I work outside the Sorell municipality
- I own property/land in the Sorell municipality
- I own a business in the Sorell municipality
- Other

5. Please tell us which area in the municipality

- Boomer Bay
- Bream Creek
- Carlton/Carlton River
- Connellys Marsh
- Copping
- Dodges Ferry
- Dunalley
- Forcett
- Kellevie
- Lewisham
- Marion Bay
- Midway Point
- Nugent
- Orierton
- Pawleena
- Primrose Sands
- Sorell
- Wattle Hill

6. Do you identify as any of the following?

- Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander
- Born outside of Australia
- Speak language other than English at home
- None of the above

7. Do you have any of the following?

- No
- Speech-related disability
- Attention deficit
- Autism
- Visually impaired
- Deaf or hard of hearing
- Health-related disability
- Learning disability
- Mental health condition
- Mobility-related disability
- Sensory-related disability
- Other

8. What do you love most about where you live?

9. Are you happy to continue with the survey? We have several more questions we'd like to ask.

Yes

No

Tell us about your area

10. What would you like to see more of in your area (tick all that apply)

- Education and training facilities
- Health care services
- Emergency services and justice facilities
- Community facilities
- Cultural facilities
- Youth services and facilities
- Surf life saving clubs
- Childcare services
- Aged care services
- Sport and recreation facilities
- Parks, playgrounds
- Nature reserves and open space
- Waterways, lakes, beaches
- Social housing
- Cycleways, footpaths, walking tracks
- Other

11. Please rank from highest to lowest what you would like to see more of in your area

Education and training facilities
Health care facilities
Youth services and facilities
Emergency services and justice facilities
Cultural facilities
Childcare services
Aged care services
Sport/recreation facilities
Social housing
Parks and open space

12. Tell us more about what you would like to see more of in your area

13. Are you part of a local organisation or community group? Please provide the name of the group.

14. Which of the following do you use? Select all that apply.

- Education and training facilities
- Childcare services
- Aged care services
- Community/ neighbourhood halls and centres
- Libraries
- Galleries, exhibition spaces
- Theatres and performance spaces
- Swimming centres
- Cycling facilities
- Golf courses
- Equestrian centres
- Showground
- Bowling greens
- Skatepark/ BMX park
- Playgrounds
- Nature reserves
- Mountain biking trails
- Sports complexes
- Sports fields (e.g., soccer fields, football fields, cricket ovals etc.)
- Sports courts (e.g., basketball, netball, tennis etc.)
- Target, gun or rifle ranges
- Yacht and sailing facilities
- Sea fishing spots

How often do you use the following....?

15. Education and training facilities

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

16. Childcare services

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

17. Aged care services

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

18. Community halls and centres

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

19. Libraries

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

20. Galleries, exhibition spaces

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

21. Theatres/performance spaces

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

22. Swimming centres

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

23. Cycling facilities

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

24. Golf courses

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

25. Equestrian centres

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

26. Showground

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

27. Bowling greens

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

28. Skate/BMX Park

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

29. Playgrounds

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

30. Nature reserves

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

31. Mountain bike trails

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

32. Sports complexes

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

33. Sports fields (soccer, football, cricket etc.)

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

34. Sports courts (basketball, netball, tennis etc.)

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

35. Target, gun or rifle ranges

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

36. Yacht/sailing facilities

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

37. Sea fishing spots

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

38. Boat ramps

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

39. Dog parks

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

40. Local beaches

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

41. Local campgrounds

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

42. Why do you enjoy using these facilities? Select all that apply.

- Necessary for employment, training or study
- Well located
- Have a pleasant look and feel
- Easily accessible
- I feel safe there
- Activities/services/programs offered interest me
- Activities/services/programs offered are affordable
- Staff/volunteers assist me with what I need
- Other

43. Are there any challenges or barriers for you using these facilities? Select all that apply.

- Located too far away
- Difficult to access
- Low quality or poorly maintained
- I feel unsafe there
- The activities/ services/ programs offered do not interest me
- The activities/ services/ programs offered are unaffordable
- Other

How often do you...

44. cycle/scoot for fitness/leisure?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

45. cycle/scoot to visit parks/cycleways?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

46. cycle/scoot to the local shops?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

47. cycle/scoot to cafes, restaurants, bars or entertainment?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

48. cycle/scoot with friends/family/children to places nearby?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

49. cycle/scoot to work?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

50. cycle/scoot to visit family/friends?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

51. cycle/scoot to shopping centres?

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

52. cycle/scoot to school/training centre

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

53. cycle/scoot to childcare

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

54. cycle/scoot to other locations?

55. What type of trips would you like to make more often? Select all that apply.

- Cycle/scoot for fitness and leisure
- Cycle/scoot to visit parks/cycleways
- Cycle/scoot to the local shops
- Cycle/scoot to visit cafes, restaurants, bars, or for entertainment
- Cycle/scoot with friends to places nearby
- Cycle/scoot with family and kids to places nearby
- Cycle/scoot to work
- Cycle/scoot to visit family/friends
- Cycle/scoot to major shopping centres and precincts
- Cycle/scoot to school/training centre
- Cycle/scoot to childcare
- Other

56. What stops you from making these trips more often? Select all that apply.

- It is dangerous to ride on the road
- Lack of safe crossings
- Lack of secure storage
- I don't have a bicycle/scooter
- I'm not in the habit of riding
- I don't know where there are good places to ride
- I am not confident enough to ride
- I would ride more if I had someone to ride with
- Nobody else rides
- I need to take my family places and can't do that on a bike/scooter
- I can't take my kids
- My workplace doesn't have facilities for bike riders
- I am not fit enough
- I am not interested
- My health does not permit cycling/scooting
- Ebikes are too expensive
- Distance and time
- Other

57. Tell us more

Walking

How often do you...

58. Walk for fitness/leisure

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

59. Walk to local shops

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

60. Walk to cafes/bars/restaurants

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

61. Walk to work

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

62. Walk to school/training centre

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

63. Walk to shopping centre

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

64. Walk to visit family/friends

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

65. Walk with family/friends to places nearby

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

66. Walk to childcare

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

67. Walk to parks/playgrounds/nature reserves

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly
- Seasonal
- Yearly
- Never

68. What type of walks would you like to make more often? Select all that apply.

- For fitness/ leisure
- Walk to local shops
- Visit cafes/bars/restaurants
- Walk to work
- Walk to school/training centre
- Walk to shopping centres
- Visit family/ friends
- Walk with family/friends to places nearby
- Walk to childcare
- Walk to the park
- Other

69. What stops you from making these trips more often? Select all that apply.

- Need to carry things
- Weather
- A lack of safe walkways
- A lack of safe crossings
- Not pram friendly
- Would if someone to walk with
- Nobody else walks
- Personal safety
- I don't enjoy walking
- Traffic safety and fast moving traffic
- Need to take family
- Lack of route information/wayfinding
- Health issue
- No showers/change room/lockers at work
- Not fit enough
- Not interested
- Lack of wayfinding
- Other

70. Is there anything else that would encourage you to walk or ride more often? Select all that apply.

- Better/more walkways
- Better/safe crossings
- More secure storage for bikes and ebikes
- Provide a shared bike service
- Incentives
- Lighting
- Reduce speed of traffic
- More information about paths and trails
- Shade/Seating
- Green spaces
- Better public transport links
- Street cleanliness
- Better amenities (toilets, bubblers)
- Promote health benefits
- I walk enough
- Accessibility
- Street/path beautification
- Cafes, bars, restaurants, etc
- More pet friendly areas
- Better parking
- Other

Your contact details

If you would like to be contacted about future engagement activities for the Sorell Active Transport and Social Strategies please leave your details below...

71. Name

72. Email

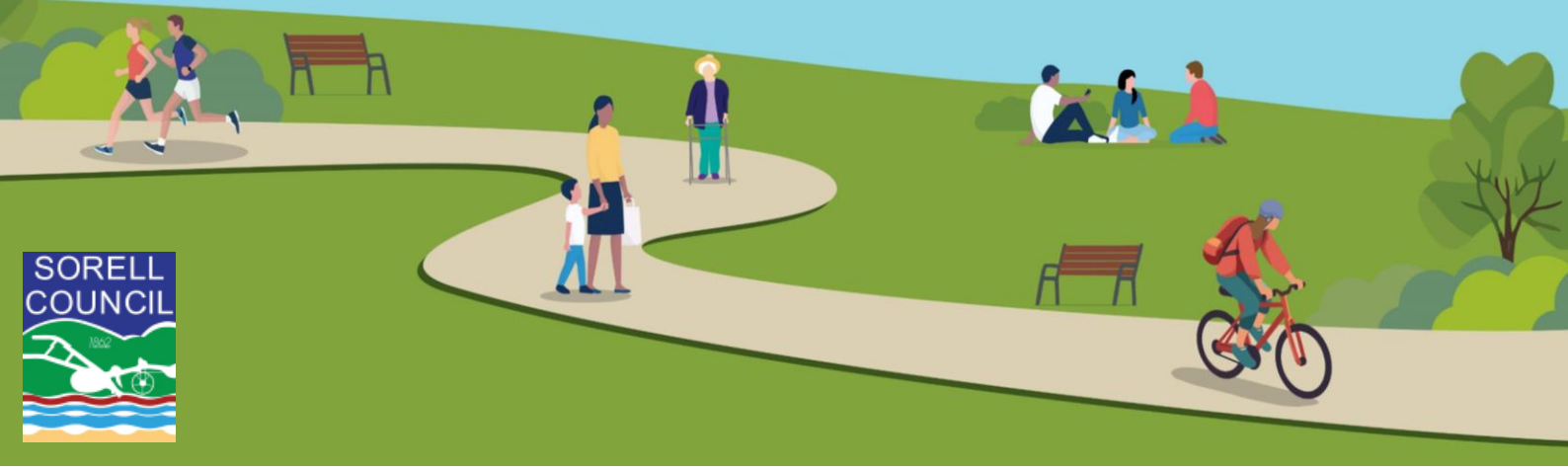
73. Telephone

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 Microsoft Forms

Appendix C

'Have Your Say' feedback summary



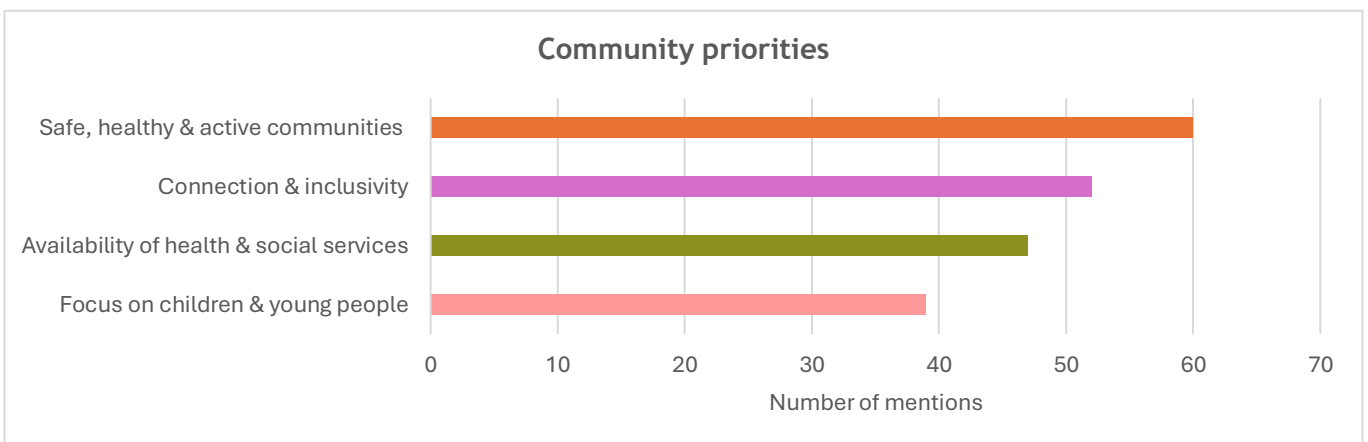
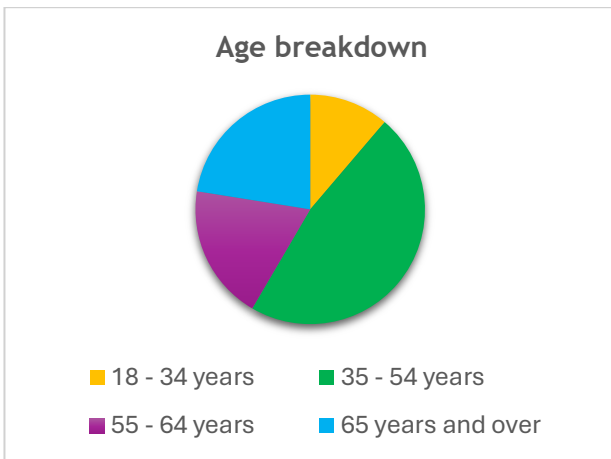
Sorell Social Strategy

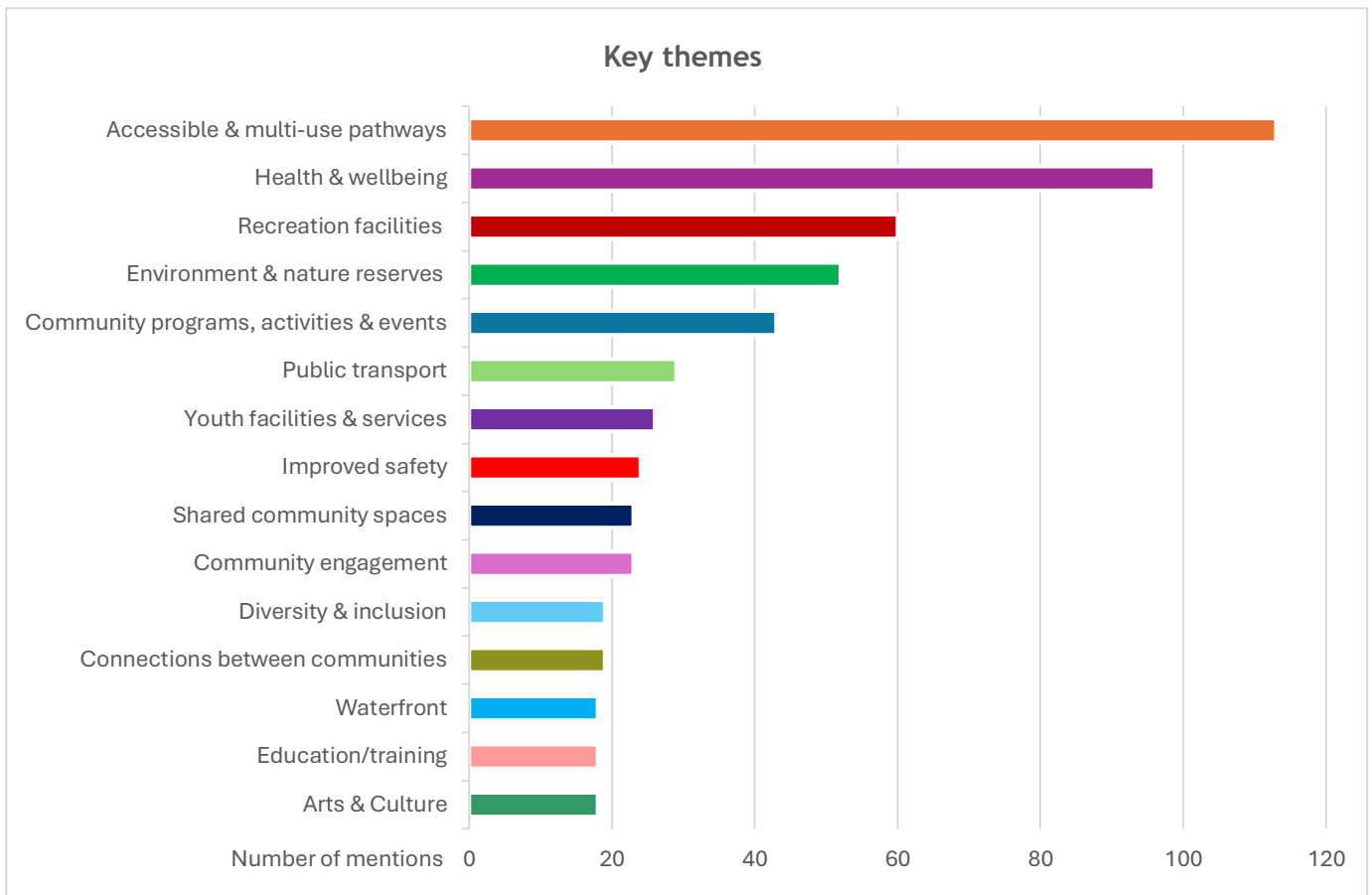
Have Your Say feedback

From 3 June to 23 July the community were invited to 'Have Your Say' on the draft Social Strategy. A number of key themes emerged from the feedback, identifying what is important to the community. These themes were consistent with what we heard from the community during earlier consultation that was used to inform development of the Strategy.

This summary provides an overview of feedback received from the 'Have Your Say' period.

'Have your say' participant response





Accessible multi-use pathways	Shared pathways to and within localities to enhance access to services, for recreation and leisure.
Health & wellbeing	More health and social support for the aging, vulnerable, and lower-income communities across the Sorell municipality including, enhanced health facilities, aged care provision, social housing, childcare, public health clinics and disability services.
Recreation facilities	Additional playgrounds, sporting clubs, and community gardens to foster community unity and enhance social well-being.
Environment & nature reserves	Open spaces, greenery, and nature reserves, with opportunities for organised volunteer groups to collaborate in maintaining these areas.
Community programs, activities & events	Mentorship programs, positive role models, walking groups, live music, volunteer groups, and community houses.
Public transport	Better public transport including, more frequent services to Hobart and other towns.
Youth facilities & services	Youth-oriented facilities and services such as after-school programs and summer camps to mitigate boredom and address social isolation.
Safety	Increased police presence, improved lighting, safer pedestrian crossings, wider footpaths, enhanced pedestrian safety, secure cycling infrastructure, and safer bus stops.
Shared community spaces	Inclusive social spaces that are readily accessible and can be safely enjoyed by all community members.
Community engagement	More community engagement on projects to foster community pride and encourage a sense of community ownership.
Diversity & inclusion	Foster collaboration and strengthen social networks. Inclusive policies to provide more opportunities for aging communities.
Connections between communities	Walkways, cycleways and a community bus providing better connections between communities.

Waterfront	Safer and better access to the foreshore to promote social activity and active transport.
Education/training	Education programs for all age groups covering a range of topics including, life skills, college preparation, family education, and bullying prevention.
Arts & culture	More community events, festivals, exhibitions, art and music, and the establishment of a Cultural Precinct.
