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## MEDIA RELEASE

25 June 2020

### Huon Valley Council delivers 2020/21 budget

At yesterday's Council meeting, the Huon Valley Council delivered the budget for the 2020/21 financial year. The budget provides immediate crisis relief for residents and supports a strong road to recovery.

Huon Valley Council Mayor Bec Enders praised the work of Council staff for the careful work they have put in to this year's budget preparations, which were strongly shaped by the unprecedented impacts of COVID-19.

"Significant changes to the budget were due to the broad social and economic impacts of the pandemic, Government advice and directions, centre and program closures, policy decisions by Council, and the likely loss of dividends from TasWater," said Cr Enders.

"However, the Huon Valley Council has met these challenges with a solid budget that will see the Council still deliver community services and support as well as an economic stimulus for local businesses, while remaining sustainable into the future."

As a result of these changes, an operating deficit of \$432,000 is forecast.

Council is committed to softening the blow of the pandemic for our communities, and the 2020/21 budget delivers a number of assistance measures.

The budget includes:

- 0% General Rate increase
- \$250,000 program of savings
- \$6,293,000 capital works program, with a focus on asset renewal
- \$260,000 community recovery package

Council's *Financial Hardship and Payment Assistance Policy* supports residents who are struggling to meet their financial commitments to Council.

A link to the 24 June Council meeting live stream recording is available at [www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au](http://www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au) and on Council's Facebook page.

**Communications & Media Officer**

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The budget document is available on the Council website at [www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au](http://www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au), and at the Customer Service Centre at 40 Main Street, Huonville.

**For more information: Mayor Bec Enders (03) 6264 0300**