



City of **HOBART**

Memorandum: Lord Mayor
Deputy Lord Mayor
Elected Members

Response to Question Without Notice

HOBART RIVULETS - IMPACT ON FLORA AND FAUNA

Meeting: Parks and Recreation Committee **Meeting date:** 10 September 2020

Raised by: Deputy Lord Mayor Burnet

Question:

Could the Acting Director please provide the Committee with an update on the status of Hobart's main rivulets – including Sandy Bay, Hobart, Maypole, Brushy Creek and New Town Rivulets - relating to impacts on flora and fauna from development and any water sampling results?

Response:

In meeting its obligations under the State Policy on *Water Quality Management 1997* and the *Urban Drainage Act 2013* the City operates a waterway monitoring program.

The City currently undertakes monthly sampling of 20 sites across its catchments for E. Coli (sewerage) contamination and Enterococci (water way organic health), with data recorded since 2004, with some site variations.

The results inform the City as to potential other locations for further targeted testing and investigation. Subsequent investigations are undertaken in consultation with TasWater and the Derwent Estuary Program.

The City is currently reviewing its testing sites' program in consultation with community and government partners, including the Derwent Estuary Program and TasWater, with the intent to strengthen focus on areas of high ecological/ recreational value.

The City is also working at improving how it engages with the community around water sampling, including investigation methods for publicising a rolling 3/5 year result on the City website.

As is commence national trend for urbanised catchments, the City does not currently meet water quality standards in all areas, predominantly due to historical infrastructure, long term settlement and current catchment usages that hinder potential longer term improvements.

It is noted however that water quality is measured against Australian Water Quality Guidelines that were established as an aspirational target under the Federal State of Environment report structure.

Despite this, the City remains committed to working collectively with its partners, community and developers to improve the City's urban catchment.

The City requires developers undertaking construction activities to have in place Soil and Water Management Plans to prevent sediment from entering nearby waterways.

The City's own construction and repair works recently undertaken in close proximity to its rivulets has significantly reduced due to the completion of the 2018 Flood repair works in July 2020.

Refer for information.

As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.



Glenn Doyle
DIRECTOR CITY AMENITY

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