

Wellington Park Management Trust

Annual Report | 2020 – 2021



Wellington Park
Management Trust

www.wellingtonpark.org.au

Hon Jacquie Petrusma MP
Minister for Parks

Dear Minister

In accordance with the requirements of section 75 of the *Wellington Park Act 1993*, I am pleased to submit, for presentation to Parliament, the Annual Report of the Wellington Park Management Trust for the year ending 30 June 2021.

The report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Wellington Park Act 1993*.



Dr Christine Mucha
Chairperson



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The Year at a Glance: 2020–2021

Strategic Plan

During 2020-21 the Trust undertook a major review and revision of its five year Strategic Plan. The revised Strategic Plan for 2021 to 2025, approved at the Trust meeting in April 2021, is based around six “pillars” that align with the Trust’s functions under the *Wellington Park Act 1993* and the Wellington Park Management Plan 2013. They are

1. Visitation and Recreation
2. Natural Values and Conservation
3. Culture and Heritage
4. Regulation and Compliance
5. Engagement and Promotion
6. An Effective Organisation

Each “pillar” includes a Key Strategic Action and specific projects to support the action.

Risk Management framework and Risk Register

At its meeting in April 2020 the Trust approved a revised Strategic Risk Management Policy. Following approval of a revised Strategic Plan, a review of the Trust’s risk management framework and risk register was carried out and approved at the Trust meeting on 24 June 2021.

Visitor and Recreation Strategy

During 2020-21 the Trust continued work on a comprehensive Visitor and Recreation Strategy for the Park. Preparation of the Strategy is an important action in the Wellington Park Management Plan 2013. The Strategy will guide the sustainable provision and management of visitor services and facilities. The initial round of data collection and community and stakeholder consultation has been completed and a draft Strategy prepared for Trust approval prior to the second phase of community and stakeholder engagement.

Visitation

Prior to its suspension due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, the Tasmania Visitor Survey (TVS) recorded 341699 interstate and overseas visitors aged 14yrs or older visiting kunanyi / Mount Wellington between April 2019 and March 2020. This was a 4.5% increase on the corresponding period in the previous year. The TVS does not include visitors who arrive on cruise ships or Hobart residents and other Tasmanians who visit the Park.

Overall visitation is difficult to quantify due to the large number of entry points and the fact that the Park directly adjoins Hobart suburbs and other popular reserves. Analysis of visitation data from various sources for the Visitor and Recreation Strategy showed that, prior to the COVID19 pandemic, visitation to Wellington Park has grown over the past decade at a rate of around 3% to 4% annually.

Although visitation figures for 2020-21 have not been fully analysed, all indications are that visitor numbers have remained high, largely due to Tasmanians taking the opportunity to explore their state and increased usage by locals who have not been able to travel interstate and overseas. For example, the highest number of vehicles recorded entering the Park in the last 12 years was on 8 August 2020 (1736 vehicles) and the third highest number on 9 August 2020 (1541 vehicles).

The Visitor and Recreation Strategy will develop monitoring systems and processes to more accurately capture the full picture of visitation within the Park.

Planning Initiatives

Using State Government funding Hobart City Council prepared a mountain bike network plan for the area below the North-South Track and Glenorchy City Council developed a master plan for the Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park. Both projects include land outside Wellington Park. The Trust has worked closely with the agencies developing the plans to ensure they will be compatible with the Visitor and Recreation Strategy.

The revision of the master plan for the Springs Specific Area was suspended during 2019-20 while Hobart City Council considered the feasibility of constructing visitor entry facilities outside the Park at Halls Saddle.

Partnership Agreements

The Trust has long-established Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with the agencies that own land, or manage assets, in Wellington Park. The Trust's MoUs with the Parks and Wildlife Service and Glenorchy City Council were renewed during 2020-21 and negotiations to renew the MoU with Hobart City Council, which ended on 30 June 2020, were carried out during 2020-21.

During 2020-21 the Trust established a MoU with the University of Tasmania to provide a basis for collaboration on research and learning opportunities. This will improve the Trust's knowledge about the natural values in the Park and provide access to academic expertise in Park management.

Visitor and Facility Improvements

Construction of new facilities in the Park and maintenance of existing visitor facilities is the responsibility of the various Park Management Agencies (Hobart and Glenorchy City Councils, Parks and Wildlife Service) although proposed works need to be approved by the Trust.

Works to benefit Park users included:

- New wayfinding, regulatory and interpretation signage at the Fern Tree Park and Fern Glade Track entry points.
- Re-alignment of the ascent arm of the North-South Track in the Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park.
- Re-alignment of a section of the walking track between Thark Ridge and Devils Throne.
- Repairs to the North-South Track between Shoobridge Bend and Junction Cabin including helicopter operations to transport material.
- Repairs to the East West Trail, Collins Cap Trail and Ringwood Trail.
- Replacement of existing signs and new signs on the Collins Cap Track, Thark Ridge Track and Mount Connection Track.
- Repairs to the access tracks below the Organ Pipes used by rock climbers.

In May 2021, there were 125 businesses licensed to conduct commercial operations in the Park, a decrease on the 137 of the previous financial year. Some operators have left the industry due to COVID-19 restrictions and others no longer visit the Park. Most tour operators just take visitors to the summit lookouts but others offer activities such as guided bushwalks, mountain bike tours, rock climbing and abseiling.

Work Health and Safety

During 2020-21 there have been no notifiable or lost time injuries to Trust staff. The Trust's Work Health and Safety Policy and Procedures including the risk management register were reviewed and revised procedures approved by the Trust at its meeting in September 2021.

Visitor Risk Management

The Trust has approved a visitor risk management policy statement and strategy and is developing the framework for implementing it in the Park. In the interim the Trust and Park Management Agencies have sought to improve visitor awareness of the hazards they may encounter in the Park and advise them how to prepare for a safe visit to the Park.

Pinnacle Road Access

Hobart City Council operates a proactive strategy for closing Pinnacle Road when conditions are unsafe for users due to snow and/or ice. Closures are triggered by overnight temperature forecasts provided by the Bureau of Meteorology. Closures may also be required to manage peak visitation events when the number of vehicles entering the Park exceeds the number of parking spaces. It has been estimated that congestion starts to occur on Pinnacle Road when the number of vehicles entering the Park exceeds 950 vehicles per day. Over the past 12 years, this 'threshold' of 950 vehicles per day has been exceeded on 106 days.

The busiest and third busiest days for traffic on Pinnacle Road were on the weekend of 8 and 9 August 2020 following a heavy snowfall. This peak in usage was due to local visitors as the State was closed to overseas and interstate visitors at the time.

Events

During 2020-21 the Park was used for four privately organised trail running events that each attracted over 100 participants, the annual pub to Pinnacle bike race and a round of the Tasmanian gravity enduro mountain bike race series. There have also been a number of smaller mountain bike events in the Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park.

The famous Point to Pinnacle fun run was cancelled for 2020 due to COVID-19 Restrictions.

Two events of the Mona Foma festival were held in the Park in January 2021.

Heritage Protection

The Trust continued, in conjunction with the Park Management Agencies, to develop a policy framework for the management of the extant historic bush huts in Wellington Park which do not receive regular visitation. One hut continues to be temporarily closed due to safety issues, with routine and structural monitoring also continuing at selected huts. These measures are assisting the Trust to manage the huts for safe use while also protecting their heritage values.

Together with Hobart City Council the Trust continued the review of the conservation needs of, and long term management policy for, the Smiths Monument on South Wellington that dates to 1858. It was agreed that the plaque will be removed and donated to the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery. During 2020-21 various options for replacing the original plaque with a replacement/replica and an interpretation panel were investigated.

A full update of the Wellington Park heritage database was completed in 2020-21 with 18 recently discovered heritage sites and one heritage precinct awaiting endorsement by the Trust. Specific site conservation management in 2020-21 included repair of damage to a historic hut site caused by persons looking for old bottles.

Regulations Awareness Program

During 2020-21 two new Authorised Officers were trained and two retired or resigned. The Regulations Awareness Advisory Group (RAAG), which assists the Trust's Education and Regulations Coordinator (ERC) with the Regulations Awareness Program, met five times.

The ERC has mounted several multi agency compliance operations this year involving Police, PWS Rangers and Authorised Officers from Hobart and Glenorchy City Councils targeting unauthorised vehicle use in the Glenorchy City Council and Parks and Wildlife Service management areas of the Park.

A total of 357 offences were recorded from offence reports or motion sensor camera footage. Eleven Prescribed Infringement Notices, five formal cautions, four conditional cautions and two informal cautions were issued. The remaining offenders could not be identified.

There were 24 dog-related offences detected compared with 29 in 2019-20 and 18 in 2018-19. There were only three recorded dog off-lead offences, which is a significant reduction from 19 in the previous year. However, there were 21 instances of taking dogs where they are not permitted, compared with 10 the previous year. There were 160 recorded instances of mountain bike riding on walking only tracks compared to 90 in 2019-20 and 81 in 2018-19. Although the increasing trend may reflect the Trust's increasing use of surveillance cameras, these are on-going problems that are being targeted through education using the new Track Users Code, engagement with user groups and enforcement.

There were 150 offences relating to unauthorised vehicle use (motorcycle or quad bike or 4WD) detected compared with 118 during 2019-20. Four offenders received Prescribed Infringement Notices and one received a conditional caution. The remaining offenders could not be identified and/or were unable to be communicated with as detections were mostly by motion sensor cameras.

The use of hidden motion sensor cameras has improved the Trust's ability to detect offences. Although they may not always provide enough information to identify the persons involved, they allow the Education and Regulations Coordinator to identify and target problem areas.

Major instances of vandalism recorded in 2020-21 included nine instances of damaging and defacing signs and several instances of damage to gates and locks. A hut in the Glenorchy City Council management area was defaced with graffiti and damaged by persons attempting to force entry. The privately run Lost Freight Café at The Springs was also broken into.

Gate Security

As the patent on the security lock system used in Wellington Park expired at the end of 2020, the Trust is in the process of reviewing and revising the lock and key system for the whole Park in preparation for replacing existing locks with a new secure system.

Fire Management

Only one small bushfire occurred in the Park during 2020-21 ignited by hot ash discarded from a fireplace. The fire was quickly extinguished and only burnt a very small area. In response to this fire the Trust reviewed the operation of designated fireplaces in the Park, which are all in huts and shelters, and decided to prohibit the use of fireplaces during the annual fire permit period declared by the Tasmania Fire Service.

Two planned burns were completed in the Park, 6 hectares in the Glenorchy City Council management area and 15 hectares in the Parks and Wildlife Service management area. Fuel breaks within the Park were maintained and Hobart City Council completed clearing additional fuel breaks along the Park boundary with residential properties at Fern Tree.

Further repairs to fire trails damaged during the severe weather event on 10 May 2018 were completed including Big Bend Trail, East West Trail, Ringwood Trail and Collins Cap Trail.

For visitor safety and to reduce the risk of fires starting, the Park is closed when the Fire Danger Rating is Severe (Forest Fire Danger Index of 50) or greater in the Bureau of Meteorology's South East or Upper Derwent forecast areas for at least 3 hours. During 2020-21 the Park was closed for one day under this policy.

Volunteer Participation

Volunteer bushcare groups continued to assist the Park Management Agencies and TasNetworks with weed control in the Park during 2020-21.

The annual clean up Australia Day event at the Pinnacle organised by Hobart City Council had to be cancelled at the last minute due to bad weather.

The Trust is particularly grateful to the volunteers who have done so much to control weeds and remove rubbish in the Park.

Community Engagement

In 2021 the Education and Regulations Coordinator started a series of, roughly monthly, discussion segments with the host of the ABC local radio breakfast program. These are on a Friday and the Trust is able to choose the topic for discussion. The segment has provided the opportunity to educate the community about the Park. Topics covered so far include; snow safety, dog walking, picking fungi, and accessing the Park when Pinnacle Road is closed.

Other community engagement activities included:

- An on-site survey to investigate the opinions and experiences of users of the Bracken Lane Fire Trail prior to trialling installation of temporary "keep left" signs to reduce conflicts between walkers and bike riders. The survey will be repeated after six months to gauge the effectiveness of the signs.
- Ongoing community involvement in the Regulations Awareness Program and educational activities, including promotional events, interpretation walks and school presentations.
- Planning support and assistance to the Fern Tree and Friends of Wellington Park bushcare groups.
- Continued support for the Heritage Volunteer Network. This comprises community members with a keen and active interest in the history and heritage of Wellington Park, but with a focus on kunanyi / Mount Wellington.
- Continued response to requests from members of the public and researchers for information in relation to the natural values, history and heritage of Wellington Park and environs.
- Educative/interpretative presentations about the values of the Park and their management by the Education and Regulations Coordinator to a variety of school and university groups both in classrooms and within the Park.
- The Wellington Park office provided two days of work experience to a year 10 student.

Administration of Wellington Park

A Complex Reserve

Wellington Park, at 18,250 hectares, is one of the largest areas of reserved land outside of the Tasmanian World Heritage Area and offers certain challenges to its land managers due to its popularity with locals and visitors, diverse ecosystems, heritage values, drinking water catchments and proximity to rural and urban areas. The Park has unique natural and cultural qualities, and includes the icons of kunanyi / Mount Wellington, forming the backdrop to Tasmania's capital city, and Sleeping Beauty, visible from the Huon Valley.

Wellington Park comprises fourteen separate parcels of land with classifications and ownership including Crown land (managed by the Parks and Wildlife Service), freehold land (held by the two city councils of Hobart and Glenorchy) and Crown land vested in the City of Hobart for water supply purposes.

The Park was originally proclaimed under purpose-made legislation due to internal complexities in land tenure and mixed ownership, and the desire to provide for a co-operative management approach. These matters have historically presented major hurdles in attempting any form of broad or 'whole of Park' management, and it is testimony to the role of the Trust, and the commitment and goodwill of the various landowners and Trust member agencies, that significant progress has been made.

Wellington Park Act 1993

The *Wellington Park Act 1993* (the Act) is purpose-made to deal with the complexities of land tenure within the Park. The Act allows for the establishment and constitution of the Trust, and for the preparation of a statutory management plan for the Park.

During 2020-21, the Act was administered by the Honourable Roger Jaensch, MP, as Minister for Environment and Parks until the State election on 1 May 2021 and then by the Honourable Jacquie Petrusma as Minister for Parks.

The purposes for which the Park is set aside are indicated in Part 2, s5 of the Act as follows:

- (a) the provision of recreational and tourism uses and opportunities consistent with the purposes specified in paragraphs (b) to (e);
- (b) the preservation or protection of the flora and fauna contained in or on the land;
- (c) the preservation or protection of the natural beauty of the land or of any features of the land of natural beauty or scenic interest;
- (d) the preservation or protection of any features of the land being features of historical, Aboriginal, archaeological, scientific, architectural, or geomorphological interest;
- (e) the protection of the water catchment values of the land.

Wellington Park Regulations

Section 79 of the *Wellington Park Act 1993* provides for the making of regulations for the purposes of the Act and prescribes the provisions that the regulations may and may not include. The regulations are remade every 10 years. The current *Wellington Park Regulations 2019* came into force on 27 March 2019.

Wellington Park Management Trust

The Wellington Park Management Trust (the Trust) is an independent Management Authority for Wellington Park, established pursuant to the Act. It has functioned in this capacity since November 1993. Its primary role is to provide a co-operative and effective management and planning structure for this unique and diverse peri-urban reserve.

The objectives and functions of the Trust as set out in Part 3, s11 of the Act are:

- (a) to provide for the management and maintenance of Wellington Park in a manner that is consistent with the purposes for which it is set aside;
- (b) to give effect to any management plan in force for Wellington Park;
- (c) to prepare plans with a view to their submission to the Governor for approval as management plans for Wellington Park and to keep under review the provisions of management plans;
- (d) to ensure that any development undertaken in Wellington Park is consistent with the purposes for which it is set aside and with any management plan;
- (e) when required to do so by the Minister, to advise on any development proposed for Wellington Park;
- (f) to carry out, or arrange for the carrying out of, research and other activities that appear to it to be desirable in connection with the administration of the Act;
- (g) to be the managing authority for Wellington Park;
- (h) to perform such other functions as are imposed on it under this or any other Act.

Vision

The Trust's Vision for the Park (originally adopted in 2006) seeks to provide a consistent and values-based approach to the management of the Park.

For Wellington Park to be a special place, accessible and enjoyed by all for its prominent landscape, natural and cultural diversity, and community value.

The Vision highlights the Trust's desire that the Park be accessible to all who want to enjoy it.

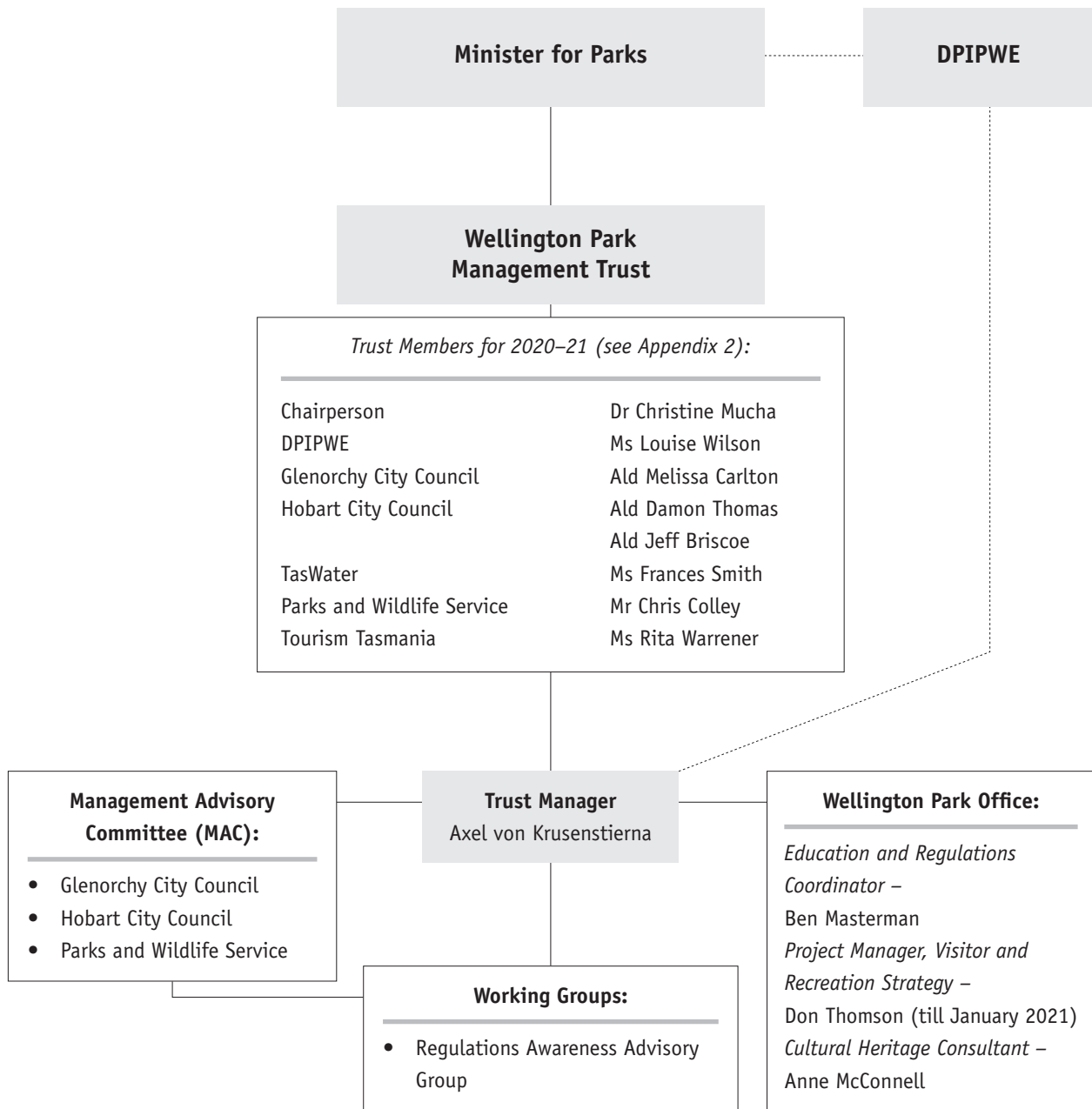
Mission

The Trust's mission statement in the Management Plan is:

To preserve the natural, cultural, recreational, tourism and drinking water qualities of Wellington Park for their own value and for the safe enjoyment of all people.

This will be achieved through outstanding management, sympathetic development and a co-operative relationship with our communities.

Wellington Park Management Trust Organisational Structure



SUPPORT

The Wellington Park Office is located at the Hobart Council Centre. The Office receives administrative support from the Council, and strategic and technical support from all member agencies as required.

The Trust Manager is supported by the Management Advisory Committee (MAC) which includes representatives of the Park's management agencies.

Trust Membership

The membership of the Trust is specified in section 10 of the Act and comprises an independent Chairperson together with: the Director-General of Lands (or nominee); the Director of National Parks and Wildlife and the chief executive officer of Tourism Tasmania (or their nominees); two representatives nominated by Hobart City Council; and one nominee each from Glenorchy City Council and TasWater.

The Trust therefore includes the two councils that own land in the Park, the government agencies responsible for administering the Act and managing Crown land in the Park, and the water supply authority with catchments and infrastructure in the Park. Tourism Tasmania is represented on the Trust due to the significant role the Park has as a major tourist destination and its potential for future sustainable development.

The Chairperson of the Trust is an independent appointment made by the responsible Minister in accordance with the Act. The current Chairperson is Dr Christine Mucha. The nominees of the Trust member organisations specified in the Act are appointed by the Minister. Trust membership details and a meeting attendance record for the year are provided in Appendices 2 and 3.

Clause 5 of Schedule 3 of the *Wellington Park Act 1993* provides for the appointment of a deputy of each member of the Trust, except the Chairperson. If a member of the Trust is unable for any reason to perform the duties of a member, the member's deputy may perform those duties and, when doing so, is deemed to be a member.

During 2019-20 one of the deputy nominees of Hobart City Council, Alderman Tanya Denison, resigned from Council. Councillor Will Coats was appointed as her replacement as the deputy for Alderman Damon Thomas on 23 September 2020. Alderman Damon Thomas was re-appointed as one of Council's two members on 16 March 2021.

During 2020-21 the deputy nominee of the Glenorchy City Council, Mr Ted Ross, resigned his position with Council and was not replaced until 1 September 2021 by Mr Emilio Reale. The member nominee of Tourism Tasmania was re-appointed during 2020-21 with a new deputy, Ms Anne Greentree appointed on 23 September 2020. A new member nominee of the Director of National Parks and Wildlife, Mr Chris Colley, was appointed on 23 September 2020.

Trust Meetings

The Trust holds five scheduled meetings each year with the schedule decided at the beginning of each year. The Trust may also hold additional meetings to deal with issues that require a quick decision. During 2020-21 there were five scheduled meetings and one additional meeting. Appendix 3 summarises the meeting attendance record of each member and deputy member for the six meetings during 2020-21.

Trust meetings, particularly short additional meetings, may be held partly or completely by teleconference or videoconference where members are not able to attend in person. Trust meeting minutes are made available to the public on the Wellington Park website following approval by the Trust at the subsequent meeting.

Governance Policy and Procedures

The functions of the Trust and the roles and responsibilities of its members are described in the Trust's Governance Policy and Procedures, first approved in 2016-17 and reviewed every two years. The Governance Policy also covers general governance and meeting processes.

Disclosure of Interest

In accordance with the *Wellington Park Act 1993* and the Trust's Governance Policy, Trust members (and deputies) have an ongoing duty to disclose any direct or indirect interest, or related party interests, whether pecuniary or otherwise, they have in a matter being considered, or about to be considered, by the Trust as soon as it arises. Any disclosures of interest are recorded in the minutes of the meeting and, unless the Trust otherwise determines, the member must not be present during any deliberation or decision of the Trust with respect to that matter.

Disclosures of interests in Trust agenda items at Trust meetings during 2020-21 are noted in Appendix 3.

Risk Management

The Trust approved a Strategic Risk Management Policy and Framework on 21 September 2017. The Risk Management Policy and Framework identifies the organisational risks that could affect the key functions of the Trust. A risk register was also developed to analyse identified risks and determine the controls that will be

implemented to ensure risks are either minimised or there are effective strategies in place to manage them.

During 2019-20 the Trust commenced a major review of the Risk Management Policy focusing on the risk management framework and risk register. This included a facilitated workshop for members and deputy members to examine the risk register and determine the Trust's risk appetite. At its meeting in April 2020 the Trust approved a revised Strategic Risk Management Policy. A review of the Trust's risk management framework and risk register was carried out in early 2021 and approved at the Trust meeting on 24 June 2021.

Wellington Park Office

The Trust is supported by the Wellington Park Office (WPO) located in the Hobart Council Centre. The WPO plays an important role in preparing planning strategies and protocols, Park regulations awareness and compliance, facilitating regional projects, co-ordinating the management actions carried out by Trust member agencies, and ensuring a regional and co-operative approach to land management within the Park.

In June 2019 the Trust engaged Dr Don Thomson to manage preparation of a comprehensive and sustainable Visitor and Recreation Strategy for Wellington Park. Dr Thomson commenced his employment on 2 July 2019, but resigned on 28 January 2021.

During 2020-21 staff in the WPO consisted of:

- Mr Axel von Krusenstierna – Manager (FTE 1)
- Mr Ben Masterman – Education and Regulations Coordinator (FTE 0.9)
- Dr Don Thomson – Project Manager, Visitor and Recreation Strategy (FTE 0.6) till 28 January 2021

The Trust also continued its engagement of a heritage consultant, Ms Anne McConnell, to co-ordinate the Trust's Cultural Heritage Management Program.

The Trust's Education and Regulations Coordinator works closely with, and receives operational support from, the Parks and Wildlife Service and Park Management Agency Authorised Officers.

The Trust also employs various consultants, project-based staff and research assistants as required.

Human Resources Policies and Work Health and Safety

The Trust has developed a suite of human resources policies and, as a Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU), approved a Work Health and Safety (WHS) policy and a suite of WHS procedures.

WHS issues with Trust staff are dealt with as they arise and discussed in general at regular supervision meetings between the Manager and Trust staff, and at office team meetings. A WHS report is a standing item on the agenda of each Trust meeting and is included in monthly office activity reports to the Trust.

During 2020-21 there have been no notifiable or lost time injuries to Trust staff. WHS incidents for the year are summarised on page 29.

The Trust's WHS procedures are reviewed and revised annually and human resources policies are reviewed and revised every two years.

Park Management Agencies

The Park Management Agencies are Hobart City Council, Glenorchy City Council, the Parks and Wildlife Service and TasWater. The first three are responsible for on-ground works within their respective areas in the Park as shown in Appendix 1. TasWater has a statutory responsibility for drinking water supply and, whilst continuing to maintain infrastructure within the Park, contributes significantly as a land manager to ensure the sustainability of the drinking water catchments in the Park.

Section 27(1) of the *Wellington Park Act 1993* stipulates:

"It is the duty of all owners or occupiers of land in Wellington Park to exercise their functions and powers and to use and manage the land in a manner that is consistent with the purposes for which it is set aside and with any management plan."

The Trust, via the Wellington Park Management Plan, ensures that all works undertaken within the Park are consistent with the purposes for which the Park is set aside.

As well as undertaking on-ground management of their areas of the Park, the Park Management Agencies contribute technical and management expertise to the overall management of the Park. In particular, the Parks and Wildlife Service offers substantial conservation

knowledge and experience and Hobart City Council provides general administrative and technical support, and office space. The Trust also receives substantial operational and administrative support from the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment and technical support for the Trust's geographical information system. The Wellington Park Office is also assisted by the Office of the Secretary (DPIPWE) for matters relating to the Department and Ministerial liaison. The Trust remains extremely grateful for this level of support.

Partnership Agreements

The Trust has established partnership agreements with Park Management Agencies to ensure the ongoing management of the Park and support for the Wellington Park Office. The agreements take the form of three or five-year Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), which formalise administrative, strategic and financial contributions to the Trust as well as the Trust's assistance to the agencies including strategic planning, heritage management, a regulations awareness program and co-ordination of management throughout the Park. The MoUs demonstrate the strong commitment of member agencies to the implementation of the Management Plan and also provide for the employment of project-based officers to develop planning policy and to initiate implementation of related actions.

The Trust's MoUs with the Parks and Wildlife Service and Glenorchy City Council were renewed during 2020-21 and negotiations to renew the MoU with Hobart City Council, which ended on 30 June 2020, were carried out during 2020-21.

Administrative contributions from the agencies also assist with the development and maintenance of a marketing and promotional framework, incorporating the Trust's website, information sheets, and various public activities. During 2020-21 the Trust established a MoU with the University of Tasmania to provide a basis for collaboration on research and learning opportunities for undergraduate and post-graduate students. This will improve the Trust's knowledge about the natural values in the Park and provide access to academic expertise in Park management.

Park Management Committees and Working Groups

The Trust first created a Management Advisory Committee (MAC) in 1994. It continued to function intermittently till 2012. The MAC was re-established in 2015-16 under new Terms of Reference to provide management and technical advice to the Trust Manager. The MAC also functions as a steering committee for projects where a specific steering committee has not been approved by the Trust.

The Terms of Reference of the MAC were reviewed and revised in consultation with the Park Management Agencies in 2020-21.

The MAC currently includes nominated representatives of Hobart and Glenorchy City Councils and the Parks and Wildlife Service. The MAC meets approximately three weeks before each scheduled Trust meeting but may be consulted at other times.

During 2019-20 the Trust established a Regulations Awareness Advisory Group (RAAG) to assist the Trust's Education and Regulations Coordinator with the Regulations Awareness Program. The RAAG met concurrently with the MAC during 2020-21.

Other issue-specific working groups and steering committees are formed on a needs basis by the Manager. During 2020-21 these included steering committees to guide the preparation of a Visitor and Recreation Strategy for the Park and a Management Policy Framework for historic bush huts in the Park. These committees included representatives of Hobart and Glenorchy City Councils and the Parks and Wildlife Service.

Trust Representation on other Committees

The Manager represented the Trust on the Hobart Fire Management Area Committee and Southern Fire Management Area Committee.

Financial Resources

The State Government's recurrent financial contribution to the Trust is supplied as an administered grant through the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (DPIPWE).

The Trust's Memoranda of Understanding with TasWater, Glenorchy City Council, and the Parks and Wildlife Service provide substantial administrative, strategic and financial contributions to the Trust to assist in the co-ordination of management throughout the Park. The Education and Regulations Coordinator and consultant Cultural Heritage Coordinator positions are funded through these agreements. Although a new MoU with Hobart City Council was being negotiated during 2020-21, Council continued to provide financial support for the Regulations Awareness Program as well as hosting the Trust office and providing on-going administrative, technical and operational support. DPIPWE provides spatial information for use by the Trust. The Trust remains extremely grateful for this level of support, and is increasingly reliant upon the delivery of such assistance from member agencies.

The Trust receives a small amount of income from fees, fines and the sale of publications. Larger projects are generally funded jointly with one or more Park Management Agencies.

The Trust's financial statement for the 2020-21 financial year and the Independent Auditor's report are attached as Appendix 4 as required by the *Audit Act 2008*.

The Trust is grateful for the high degree of co-operation and resourcing from the respective land owning and managing agencies noted above. The Trust also thanks the State Government for its on-going support.

Community Contributions and Consultation

The Trust has worked hard to maintain its profile as an active and efficient management agency for Wellington Park. It is crucial that the community understands the Trust's role as the strategic planning and approval body, and its relationship to its member and landowning agencies.

The Trust recognises the enormous amount of good will, energy and resources that are contributed by both the community and management agencies to ensure that the Park is protected and maintained as a special place for everyone.

There are many community individuals and groups who directly contribute to the ongoing planning and management of the Park. In particular, the Trust acknowledges the on-ground efforts of the various Bushcare, Trackcare and Landcare groups voluntarily undertaking land management activities in the Park, and the volunteers who assist in maintenance of the Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park.

When required the Trust establishes and facilitates internal reference committees and working groups to implement its participatory planning approach, and also participates in relevant external community groups. During 2021 the Trust Manager attended workshops organised by Destination Southern Tasmania to co-design a new tourism Destination Management Plan for Southern Tasmania.

Strategic Plan

During 2020-21 The Trust undertook a major review and revision of its 5 year Strategic Plan which had been approved in February 2017.

The review included two facilitated workshops in September and December 2020. The workshops were attended by Trust members and deputy members, Trust staff and key Park management agency officers and included consideration of:

- Current and future influences on the Trust
- Has the Trust been able to achieve its vision and the strategic goals in the Wellington Park Management Plan and, if not, what have been the impediments?
- The future of the Park - what would it look like if we got it right, what needs to be improved?
- The roles of the Trust and Park Management Agencies
- Future strategic priorities for the Trust
- Resourcing the functions of the Trust
- Visitor issues to assist with the development of the Visitor and Recreation Strategy for the Park.

A revised Strategic Plan for 2021 to 2025 was approved at the Trust meeting in April 2021 based around the following six “pillars” identified in the workshops:

1. Visitation and Recreation
2. Natural Values and Conservation
3. Culture and Heritage
4. Regulation and Compliance
5. Engagement and Promotion
6. An Effective Organisation

These “pillars” align with the Trust’s function under the *Wellington Park Act 1993* and the *Wellington Park Management Plan 2013*. Each “pillar” includes a Key Strategic Action and specific projects to support the action.

Use and Development in the Park

Wellington Park Management Plan 2013

The Management Plan is the principal planning document for Wellington Park, and ensures a strong unified vision for stakeholders, and a set of realistic and achievable objectives for the Park's long-term management.

Following a comprehensive review of the *Wellington Park Management Plan 2005* and assessment of a draft revised plan using the process set out in the Act, the *Wellington Park Management Plan 2013*, came into effect on 1 January 2014 (refer Annual Report 2013-14). The Management Plan was amended in October 2015 to increase the size of the Pinnacle Specific Area.

The Management Plan provides that commercial uses and developments may be considered in The Springs and Pinnacle Specific Areas in relation to.

- Tourist Operations e.g. visitor centre, interpretation centre, viewing shelter and ancillary uses to the provision of these including limited associated retail;
- Food Services e.g. cafe, restaurant and take-away food premises; and
- Transport Depot and Distribution e.g. bus terminal, council depot, other Potential Transport Modes (including shuttle buses; cable cars and aerial ropeways; and funicular rail and cable rail systems).

Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 (LUPAA)

The interrelationship between the *Wellington Park Act 1993* and LUPAA was first formalised in 2003. In December 2013 Parliament approved an amendment to s 52A of LUPAA to remove the requirement for any application for a LUPAA permit to have the written permission of the Trust. This change was incorporated into the Management Plan.

The process for approving uses and developments in the Park is explained in Chapter 8 and illustrated in Appendix 3A of the Management Plan. During 2020-21 the following proposed works in the Park were assessed under LUPAA:

Assessed by Glenorchy City Council;

- Alterations to a mountain bike track in the Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park.
- Re-alignment of the walking track from Thark Ridge to Devils Throne.

Assessed by Hobart City Council;

- New shared use and mountain bike tracks and associated works.

All these proposals were approved by the respective Councils.

On 19 May 2021 Hobart City Council exhibited an application for a planning permit for a cable car by the Mount Wellington Cableway Company. This application included works on Council land within and outside the Park. The permit application was first lodged on 12 June 2019, however Council requested further information from the proponent.

In accordance with section 8.5.5 of the Wellington Park Management Plan the Trust received a referral of the planning permit application for a cableway and associated facilities, infrastructure and works. The Trust provided Council with a response noting that it had not received an application for a permit under the *Wellington Park Regulations 2019*, for the portion of the proposed development in Wellington Park.

Council completed its assessment of the cable car proposal and voted to reject the permit application at a special meeting on 27 July 2021.

Master Plans

Fern Tree Park Visitor Entry Node Master Plan

The Trust, in collaboration with Hobart City Council, prepared a master plan for the entry point to the Park at Fern Tree. The master plan was endorsed by Hobart City Council on 11 May 2017 and by the Trust at its meeting on 2 August 2017. Stage 2 of the works is now complete including new wayfinding, regulatory and interpretation signage.

Springs Specific Area Master Plan

Hobart City Council and the Trust agreed to revise the out of date master plan for the Springs Specific Area to provide clear guidelines for future development and protection of the heritage and other values of the area. The revision of the master plan was suspended during 2020-21 while Council considered the feasibility of constructing visitor entry facilities outside the Park at Halls Saddle. It will be completed once the new Visitor and Recreation Strategy is finalised.

Project Approvals

The Wellington Park Management Plan provides for exempt uses and developments (those that do not require approval from the relevant planning authority), and applies a performance-based approach to other proposals that must meet the requirements and standards contained in the Management Plan. Apart from routine, general maintenance or emergency works, all proposals for use and development, including those listed in the Management Plan as Exempt, require the submission of a Park Activity Assessment (PAA) to the Trust to ensure that any associated impacts on Park values are addressed.

A permit is required under the *Wellington Park Regulations 2019* for all uses and developments that are in contravention of the Regulations (e.g. disturbing vegetation or soil within the Park). This applies irrespective of whether a use or development may be exempt from requiring a LUPAA permit or a PAA.

The Trust approved the following PAAs within the Park during 2020-21:

- Re-alignment of the ascent arm of the North-South Track in the Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park.
- Clearing and maintenance of various fuel breaks at Fern Tree including around the historic Saint Raphael's Church.
- A new mountain bike track and shared use track between O'Gradys Falls Fire Trail and Shoobridge Bend.
- Formalisation of the unauthorised Upper Luge Track and construction of an adjoining new shared use track.
- Re-alignment of a section of the walking track between Thark Ridge and Devils Throne.
- New interpretation, wayfinding and regulatory signs at Fern Tree Park and the Fern Glade Track car park.

Permits for minor works that did not require a PAA included:

- Erection of a new advertising sign for the Lost Freight Café.
- Erection of signs on the Bracken Lane Fire Trail including temporary "keep left" signs.
- Repairs to the North-South Track between Shoobridge Bend and Junction Cabin including helicopter operations to transport material.
- Trenching at The Springs to install a power and communications cable.
- Repairs to the East West Trail, Collins Cap Trail and Ringwood Trail.
- Replacement of existing signs and new signs on the Collins Cap Track, Thark Ridge Track and Mount Connection Track.
- Repairs to the access tracks below the Organ Pipes used by rock climbers.

A permit for an adjoining landowner to continue to divert water within the Park was re-issued with new conditions.

As part of a new comprehensive Works Approval Manual the Trust is preparing a number of 5-year permits for Park Management Agencies to allow routine, general maintenance and emergency works to proceed without reference to the Trust.

Providing for Visitors

Prior to its suspension due to COVID-19 travel restrictions the Tasmania Visitor Survey found that kunanyi / Mount Wellington is the second most visited attraction in the State after Salamanca Market. The Survey recorded 341,699 interstate and overseas visitors aged 14 years or older visiting kunanyi / Mount Wellington between April 2019 and March 2020 before COVID-19 travel restrictions started. This was a 4.5% increase on the corresponding period in the previous year. The TVS survey does not include visitors who arrive on cruise ships or the many residents of Hobart and other communities near the Park who also use it for a bush walk, bike ride, picnic, walking the dog, admiring the view or any of the other attractions the Park offers.

Overall visitation is difficult to quantify due to the large number of entry points and the fact that the Park directly adjoins Hobart and Glenorchy suburbs and other popular reserves. Analysis of visitation data from various sources for the Visitor and Recreation Strategy shows that visitation to kunanyi / Mount Wellington has grown over the past decade at a rate of around three to four percent (3% to 4%) annually.

The total number of visitors to kunanyi / Mount Wellington arriving by car (and bus) averaged around 410,000 per year for the period 2007 to 2014 and then jumped to an average of 610,000 per annum for the period 2016 to 2019. Peak annual visitation occurred in 2019, with an estimated 633,000 visitors arriving via Pinnacle Road in that year. This figure was derived by combining a vehicle occupancy rate, determined from traffic sampling with the number of vehicles passing the Hobart City Council's vehicle monitoring station on Pinnacle Road at the entrance of the Park.

In the period 2007 to 2014 approximately 88% of visitors arrived by car and 12% by bus (12 seater or larger). In 2019 the percentage arriving by car as opposed to bus had increased slightly to 92%.

The Visitor and Recreation Strategy has provided baseline data on visitation and will develop monitoring systems and processes to more accurately capture the full picture of visitation within the Park.

COVID-19

When the Park re-opened on 11 May 2020 after the COVID-19 shut down it was heavily used by Hobart residents. This continued with the full re-opening of the Park on 5 June with the highest number of vehicles recorded entering the Park in the last 12 years being on 8 August 2020 (1736 vehicles) and the third highest number on 9 August 2020 (1541 vehicles). The Park continued to be popular with local, intra and interstate visitors during the remainder of 2020-21.

Visitor and Recreation Strategy (VRS)

At the beginning of 2019-20 the Trust commenced preparation of a comprehensive Visitor and Recreation Strategy (VRS) for Wellington Park. This was an important action in the *Wellington Park Management Plan 2013*. The Parks and Wildlife Service provided a grant to allow the Trust to employ a project manager for the Strategy. A draft VRS is scheduled to be released to the public in late 2021 as part of the second phase of community engagement prior to final approval.

The VRS will guide future planning and development to cater for the existing and future needs of Park users and visitors. It will set out a management approach to providing a high quality and satisfying visitor experience that is environmentally and socially sustainable and ensures the protection of Park values into the future.

The VRS will identify the tourism and recreation needs and opportunities that can be sustainably provided in the Park, and provide recommendations and actions to realise these opportunities for the next 10 years.

Development of the VRS was guided by a steering committee of experienced officers from Hobart and Glenorchy City Council's and the Parks and Wildlife Service.

A 'co-design' approach has been used in preparing the VRS, maximising the opportunities for landowners, community, business and government agencies to be engaged in the strategy's development. The participatory design of the planning process allows community and landowner ownership of the outcomes of the VRS and will ensure that priority issues are addressed in a timely manner.

The VRS process incorporates an ‘adaptive management’ approach, which will see management options and infrastructure changes trialled and evaluated during implementation of the strategy.

During 2020-21, the VRS process has continued with:

- Analysis of visitation data from a variety of sources and the responses to users surveys and co-design workshops with key Park user groups.
- Preparation of a first draft report and workshopping of this with Trust members, deputy members and Park Management Agency staff.
- Engagement of a consultant to prepare a ‘public facing’ strategy document suitable for Trust approval.

The results of the various user surveys, co-design workshops and analysis of visitation data have been included in a separate Background and Supporting Information Document.

Visitor Risk Management

The Trust’s strategic risk assessment identified preparation of a policy and framework for managing the various risks to visitors in the Park as a high priority. The *Wellington Park Management Plan 2013* also notes the importance of informing visitors of the various safety hazards in the Park. Although the Trust and Park Management Agencies owe a duty of care to visitors to avoid foreseeable risks, the Trust is aware that many visitors come to the Park to be in a rugged natural environment with the challenges it offers.

The Trust has approved a visitor risk management policy statement and strategy and is developing the framework for implementing it in the Park. In the interim the Trust and Park Management Agencies have sought to improve visitor awareness of the hazards they may encounter in the Park and advise them how to prepare for a visit to the Park, particularly in winter.

Access for People with Disability

Improvements to access for people with disability is being considered as part of the Visitor and Recreation Strategy. A temporary accessible toilet has been installed at The Springs. Accessibility at The Springs will be investigated further in the revision of the master plan for the area.

People with disability can obtain a key to gain vehicle access to the Myrtle Forest Picnic Area from the Parks and Wildlife Service Southern Region Office in Glenorchy, however there were no requests for access during 2020-21.

Hobart City Council continues to offer public use of the “TrailRider”—a purpose-built electric motor-assisted wheelchair that can handle rough terrain with the assistance of 2 operators. Hire of the TrailRider is free and it is currently approved for use on the Pipeline and Silver Falls Tracks between Fern Tree Park and Silver Falls.

Nature Based Tourism

Nature based tourism and other commercial operations within the Park are facilitated via the Parks and Wildlife Service (PWS), providing a ‘one-stop’ service for the licensing of commercial activities on lands managed by the Trust, PWS and Sustainable Timber Tasmania. The Trust’s guidelines ensure that the Trust can apply its own assessment criteria and procedures whilst remaining part of the broader arrangement.

In May 2021, there were 125 businesses licensed to conduct commercial operations in the Park, a decrease on the 137 the previous financial year. Some operators have left the industry due to COVID-19 restrictions and others have advised the PWS that they no longer visit the Park when their licences were renewed. Most tour operators just take visitors to the Pinnacle lookouts but others offer activities such as guided bushwalks, mountain bike tours, rock climbing and abseiling.

All commercial operators, except base transport services (where transport only is provided), are required to have appropriate tourism industry accreditation when offering tourism services. The intent is to ensure high quality management and delivery of tourism services within the Park, and is supported by the Tourism Industry Council Tasmania.

In addition to the licences issued by the PWS, the Trust has issued six licences to businesses that only operate in Wellington Park. These include e-bike, abseiling and walking tours, a shuttle bus, trail running events and a small café in a converted shipping container at The Springs. The café operates under the name of “Lost Freight” and is popular with bushwalkers and bike riders. It also provides Park information to tourists and other Park visitors.

Pinnacle Road Shuttle Bus

A private timetabled bus service started operating between central Hobart and the summit of kunanyi / Mount Wellington on 22 October 2018. A shuttle bus service is supported by the Wellington Park Sustainable Transport System (2009). In June 2019 the operator of the shuttle bus was issued a permit to operate a “snow tour” service on Pinnacle Road when it is closed due to ice and snow.

The shuttle bus service recommenced its service in October 2020 following its suspension in March 2020 when the Park was closed due to COVID-19 restrictions. The “snow tour” service started operating again in 2021.

Pinnacle Road Access

Visitor access to the summit of kunanyi / Mount Wellington may be restricted when snow and or ice makes Pinnacle Road impassable or dangerous, or when natural events attract large numbers of visitors. Management of Pinnacle Road is undertaken by the Hobart City Council. The Council provides outstanding support for road and traffic management issues during road closures, and, when required, is supported by Tasmania Police.

Improved weather forecasting has allowed more accurate prediction of ice and snow on Pinnacle Road. This has allowed Council to adopt a more proactive road closure strategy. Although this has resulted in an increase in the frequency of closures it has reduced the risk of accidents on Pinnacle Road.

Snowfalls, as well as other natural events, such as rainfall filling Disappearing Tarn, can attract large numbers of local visitors to the Park, particularly on weekends which average 74% more vehicles per day than weekdays. The busiest for traffic on Pinnacle Road was on the weekend of 8 and 9 August 2020 following a heavy snowfall. This peak in usage was due to local visitors as the State was closed to overseas and interstate visitors at the time.

There are 215 defined parking spaces within the Park, mainly at The Springs and The Pinnacle. Traffic movement analysis undertaken as part of the Visitor and Recreation Strategy found that visitors arriving by car spend an average of 1.18 hours in the Park with evidence that this ‘dwell time’ is longer on snow days. Based on this it has been estimated that congestion starts to occur on Pinnacle Road when the number of vehicles entering the

Park exceeds 950 vehicles per day. Over the past 12 years, this ‘threshold’ of 950 vehicles per day has been exceeded on 106 days. Managing congestion usually requires temporary closure of Pinnacle Road and sometimes Pillinger Drive.

There is limited opportunity to provide additional parking within the Park without impacting on the natural and cultural values of the Park. Parking availability close to the main Park entry point at Fern Tree is also very limited which causes problems for local residents when Pinnacle Road is closed. Hobart City Council is looking at the feasibility of providing parking outside the Park at Halls Saddle both for visitors to Ridgeway Park and the Fern Tree area as well as additional parking for visitors to Wellington Park. Council is also looking at the feasibility of constructing a round-about at the Park entry on Pinnacle Road to improve traffic flow. The Trust has supported the studies and planning required to progress these proposals.

To allow visitors to plan ahead and be prepared for extreme conditions, information is available from the Wellington Park and City of Hobart websites, an electronic message sign on Huon Road and media announcements. Hobart City Council has a dedicated information page on its website which provides up-to-date information on the location of road closures and the distance from the closure to snow. The page also provides real-time images from two cameras positioned in the Pinnacle area.

Recreation

Bush Walking

The use, development and promotion of the walking track network within Wellington Park are one of the fundamental management priorities for the Trust. The Trust, in conjunction with its Park Management Agencies, has continued the implementation of the Walking Track Strategy, endorsed by the Trust in June 2003. This Strategy will be reviewed and revised following completion of the Visitor and Recreation Strategy.

During 2020-21 the Friends of Wellington Park bushcare group completed clearing and re-alignment of the walking track from Thark Ridge to Devils Throne and various other track repairs were undertaken by Hobart City Council. A new shared use track that will link the O’Gradys Falls Fire Trail to Shoobridge Bend has been approved.

The Trust has reprinted (with updates and corrections) its popular bushwalking information brochure. This is available free on the Wellington Park website, from the Lost Freight café at The Springs, the Tasmanian Travel and Information Centre, and the Fern Tree Tavern.

Bike Riding

The Trust has continued the implementation of the Wellington Park Bike Strategy (2000, amended 2018). The Strategy provides the basis for the Trust to manage the multiple forms of bike riding available within the Park and was further amended in February 2021 to include a new downhill only mountain bike track that will link Shoobridge Bend with the O'Gradys Falls Fire Trail.

The constant development of bike technology and changes in rider preferences provides a challenge for the Trust to explore new opportunities for riding within the Park. New tracks and track conversions recommended in the Bike Strategy are subject to an assessment of environmental and cultural impacts and issues, public safety and proposed impact mitigation strategies prior to final approval.

Using State government funding Hobart City Council prepared a mountain bike network plan for the area below the North South Track. Glenorchy City Council also received government funding for a master plan for the Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park. Both projects include land outside the Park. The two projects have assessed existing tracks and proposed a network of potential new tracks aimed at improving network functionality, user safety and to improve the experience of riders with different levels of skill. The Trust has worked closely with the agencies developing the plans to ensure they will be compatible with the Visitor and Recreation Strategy.

Both projects have involved extensive community consultation which has been useful in the development of the Visitor and Recreation Strategy. The Trust has endorsed both plans noting that the location and design of proposed new tracks and other facilities, including assessment of impacts on Park values, will be addressed during detailed design.

Horse Riding

The Trust continues to provide opportunities for horse riding within the Park, however access is by permit only. This approach resolves the need for specialised horse access gates, which may provide openings for other

unwanted access e.g. trail bikes. The Trust has delegated the management of the permit system to the Parks and Wildlife Service. Short-term permits are available for one-off use, whilst long-term permits may be obtained for regular users. Riding opportunities and a code of conduct are contained in the Horse Riding Information Sheet, endorsed by the Australian Trail Horse Riders Association. This Information Sheet and accompanying map were refreshed and updated in early 2021.

During the year eight long-term horse riding permits were renewed.

Four Wheel Driving

The *Wellington Park Management Plan 2013* allows recreational four wheel drive vehicle access on certain fire trails by permit. The all-day journey along the East West Trail offers a unique experience in a wild area, with spectacular views and technical challenges, and is advertised on many local and interstate recreation brochures.

The Park's recreational vehicle permit system is managed by the Parks and Wildlife Service under delegated authority. Fourteen permits with a total of 35 vehicles were issued from 16 November 2020 up to the closure of the trail on 10 May 2021. One of these permits was issued to applicants from Victoria with the rest being from the greater Hobart area.

Surface, drainage and verge repair works completed in 2021 have provided for a much improved travel experience on the East West Trail, although overall numbers are well down on previous years due to COVID-19 travel restrictions.

Rock Climbing

Rock climbing is popular in the Park, most notably on the Organ Pipes on the eastern face of kunanyi / Mount Wellington and to a lesser extent at the Lost World on Mount Arthur. Climbing is usually undertaken by individuals and small groups. Licences have been issued to allow commercial climbing and abseiling tours within the Park.

A group of climbers have recently formed a "Crag Care" volunteer group to help look after the various climbing areas in the Park.

Jefferys Track Upgrade

Jefferys Track is a very rough four wheel drive trail but is an important access route to the western part of the Park, particularly for fire management. The Trust gave Huon Valley and Derwent Valley Councils in principle support for a feasibility study into constructing a sealed road to link the Derwent and Huon River Valleys. The study received funding from the State Government and started in June 2020. The feasibility study considered 3 options for Jefferys Track; upgrade to a heavy vehicle “industry” road, upgrade to a light vehicle “tourist” road and upgrade to an all-weather fire trail. The study concluded that neither the “industry” nor “tourist” road options were economically viable and recommended the trail be upgraded to an all-weather fire trail.

Interpretation

The Education and Regulations Coordinator provided a number of educative/interpretative presentations for a variety of school and university groups both in classrooms and within the Park. Importantly, these events provided opportunities for local students to engage with the Park and to form an appreciation of the area for the future.

Looking to the future the Education and Regulations Coordinator will continue to develop interesting activities and opportunities in the Hobart and Glenorchy management areas to raise community awareness of Wellington Park’s unique values.

Marketing and Promotion

Park activity and information sheets are distributed in the field upon request or in response to offences and can also be downloaded from the Wellington Park website.

The popular bush walking information brochure is provided free to visitors and covers the most popular walks on the eastern slopes of kunanyi / Mount Wellington. This brochure is regularly improved and updated.

Park maps and information sheets are distributed by the Tasmanian Travel and Information Centre in Davey Street, the Fern Tree Tavern and by the operators of the cafe at The Springs and the Pinnacle Road shuttle bus.

Events

A number of organised sports events were held in the Park during the year including:

- four trail running events
- the pub to Pinnacle bike race from Longley Pub to the summit of kunanyi / Mount Wellington
- a round of the Tasmanian gravity enduro mountain bike race series.

There have also been a number of smaller local mountain bike events in the Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park.

The annual Point to Pinnacle fun run, usually held in November, was cancelled in 2020 due to COVID-19 Restrictions.

Two events of the Mona Foma festival were held in the Park in January 2021:

- A “forest gin walk” between the Fern Tree Tavern and Silver Falls
- A “Faux Mo” event in the observation shelter at the Pinnacle.

Regulations Awareness Program

The *Wellington Park Regulations 2019* (the Regulations) are provided for under section 79 of the *Wellington Park Act 1993* to support effective implementation of the Management Plan and to govern on-ground activities within the Park. The Regulations take precedence over any local government by-laws and regulations that might otherwise apply in the Park.

The Regulations Awareness Program (RAP), administered by the Education and Regulations Coordinator (ERC) and now in its nineteenth year, unites staff from management agencies and other authorities along with members of the community in activities designed to promote and protect the Park's values. The Trust continues to involve the community in management of the Park. Its strong connections to various Park users and community groups, combined with support from authorities and member agencies, continue to be effective in raising community awareness of Park values and the Regulations that underpin them.

Wellington Park Authorised Officers

The ERC trains and works with Authorised Officers (appointed under the *Wellington Park Act 1993*) and other field staff from Park Management Agencies to promote safe, responsible and sustainable enjoyment of the Park by all users. The ERC routinely shares data with and receives information from Tasmania Police to assist in planning and implementing enforcement initiatives.

During 2020-21 two new Authorised Officers were trained and two retired or resigned. As at 30 June 2021 there were 31 Authorised Officers trained and appointed by the Trust; 21 from Hobart City Council, nine from Glenorchy City Council and one from TasWater. This is in addition to all Police Officers and all Rangers within the meaning of the *National Parks and Reserves Management Act 2002* and the *Nature Conservation Act 2002* who are automatically Authorised Officers.

The ERC continues to review the Trust's Authorised Officer guidelines and training materials in line with the Trust's Work Health and Safety Policy and Procedures, and in light of experience gained in the course of undertaking compliance activities in the Park.

Education and Raising Awareness

Teaching the community about the Park's values and the Regulations is the second key role of the Education and Regulations Coordinator. Successful compliance with the Regulations begins with education and awareness. Accordingly the ERC continued to engage with Park visitors and the local community to increase awareness of the Park's values and Regulations. Activities included:

- delivering field presentations about the Park's values to school and university groups
- providing teaching staff with educational information for use in teaching and learning
- preparing and disseminating regulatory and educational information to Park users including field staff, advocacy groups, user groups and clubs, tour operators and local businesses
- maintenance of the Wellington Park website and updating promotional brochures
- interviews on local ABC radio
- attendance at community events
- responding to stakeholder requests for data and information about Park usage
- assistance at bushcare/trackcare working bees.

The ERC has responded to concerns from walkers about discourteous, inconsiderate or unsafe mountain bike rider behaviour on some shared use tracks with enforcement and education measures including; patrolling the tracks, designing and installing signage, and disseminating messages about appropriate behaviour on shared use tracks via the Trust and user group websites.

The Track Users Code, approved in early 2018 and displayed at key entry points, has been incorporated into additional signage at other visitor nodes. Code reminders have been incorporated into replacement signage on shared use tracks and will continue to be included in ongoing signage at suitable locations.

The Trust's policy on drone use in the Park allows for the use of drones for the purposes of Park management, research, commercial and other filming, but only when flown by a person with a Remote Pilot Licence issued by

the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, and public liability and aviation insurance. Regulatory enforcement combined with education via the Trust website and signage have helped ensure than unauthorised drone use was rarely detected in 2020-21.

Social media (primarily Facebook and Instagram) and fitness apps such as Strava and TrailForks continue to be valuable tools for gaining information about how the Park is being used, as well as communicating with Park visitors. The Trust is looking at how it can best use social media to engage with Park visitors and the wider community.

Enforcement and Compliance Activities

The ERC has mounted several multi agency compliance operations this year. Police, PWS Rangers and Authorised Officers from Hobart and Glenorchy City Councils joined forces to plan and implement operations targeting unauthorised vehicle use in the Glenorchy City Council and Parks and Wildlife Service management areas of the Park. Drones, utility terrain vehicles and off road motorcycles were used very successfully, with a number of Prescribed Infringement Notices being issued.

Monitoring

Motion-sensing 'trail' cameras continue to be used to help monitor usage of tracks and fire trails in the Park. By reviewing still and video images gathered over a sample period the ERC has been able to create a detailed snapshot of track use showing user activity (walking, running, riding), number, direction of travel and frequency. This information is used to target compliance activities but also to provide data to assist in visitor management. Simple infrared counters are installed at key locations and monitored seasonally by the ERC and Hobart City Council staff. Glenorchy City Council and the Parks and Wildlife Service also use motion sensor cameras and infrared counters in their management areas, both for surveillance and usage data gathering purposes.

Patrolling

During 2020-21 the ERC spent approximately 600 hours patrolling the Park, predominantly by vehicle and on foot, and occasionally by mountain bike. Given the difficulty of patrolling 18,250 ha of Park, the ERC focuses on target areas and 'hotspots' identified through experience, requests from management agencies, monitoring cameras

and reports from users, field staff, Authorised Officers and Park neighbours.

Infringements of the Regulations

A total of 357 offences were recorded in the Wellington Park Offender Database in 2020-21. (It should be noted that the previous year's total of 607 offences included 369 instances of a person contravening a Park Closed sign during closure of the Park due to COVID-19). In most cases the infringements were detected on motion sensor cameras and the offenders could not be identified, however the following infringements were issued:

<i>Infringement issued</i>	<i>2020-21</i>	<i>2019-20</i>
Informal Caution	2	3
Conditional Caution	4	2
Formal Caution	5	0
Prescribed Infringement Notice (PIN)	11	2

There were 24 dog-related offences detected in 2020-21 compared with 29 in 2019-20 and 18 in 2018-19. There were only three recorded dog off-lead offences, which is a significant reduction from 19 in the previous year. However, there were 21 instances of taking dogs where they are not permitted, compared with 10 the previous year. 21 of the 24 offences were detected by covert surveillance cameras, which were deployed mostly outside the parts of the Recreation Zone where dog walking is allowed. One offender received a conditional caution; one received an informal caution and 22 were unable to be identified.

There were 160 instances of mountain bike riding other than on tracks where bicycles are permitted compared with 90 in 2019-20 and 81 in 2018-19. All of these offences occurred on either the Lower Sawmill Track or the illegal 'upper' Upper Luge Track. 148 of the offences were detected by surveillance camera and the riders were not identifiable. Seven offenders received Prescribed Infringement Notices and two offenders received conditional cautions.

There were 150 offences relating to unauthorised vehicle use (motorcycle or quad bike or 4WD) compared to 118 in 2019-20. 124 of the 150 were detected by surveillance

camera and offenders could not be identified. Four offenders received Prescribed Infringement Notices and one received a conditional caution.

There were three detections of unauthorised drone use. Two offenders could not be communicated with and one received an informal caution.

Three instances of unauthorised lighting of fires were recorded. Campfire remains were found but offenders could not be identified.

There were three detected instances of unauthorised removal of standing flora. A number of orchids and one tree fern were taken from the Hobart City Council management area, and eight trees were cut in the Mount Arthur area. The offenders were not identified.

There was one instance of failing to follow conditions of a permit; a party of five 4WD vehicles entered the Park via the wrong gate and the drivers were issued formal cautions.

Other offences reported where the offender could not be identified included a report of a rider failing to keep left and one instance of erecting a structure without a permit.

Vandalism

Vandalism recorded included nine instances of removing or disfiguring a sign, all in the Hobart City Council management area, and several instances of gates being damaged and locks being removed in the Parks and Wildlife Service and Glenorchy City Council management areas. A hut in the Glenorchy City Council management area was defaced with graffiti and damaged by persons attempting to force entry. There were numerous minor instances of graffiti detected on signs and other structures. All detected instances of vandalism are recorded in a database to guide future management decisions and regulatory activities.

Permits Issued

The Trust may issue permits for activities prohibited under the Wellington Park Regulations. Commonly issued permits cover construction activities, scientific research and recreational access provided for in the Management Plan. The Trust also issues approvals for commercial filming and photography in the Park including the use of remotely piloted aircraft (drones).

In accordance with the Management Plan, the Trust has delegated the issuing of permits for recreational four wheel drive vehicles and horse riding on permitted trails within the Park to the Parks and Wildlife Service. Glenorchy City Council has been delegated authority to issue vehicle access permits to the Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park.

The number of permits issued under the Regulations in 2020-21 compared to the previous year are:

Activity	2020–21	2019–20
Maintenance and construction works including permanent signs	17	37
Planned burns	2	3
Scientific research/ take flora or fauna	14	10
Commercial filming	25	32
Use of a remote piloted aircraft (drone)	19	17
Recreational vehicle access ¹	14 (for 35 vehicles)	24 (for 54 vehicles)
Non-recreational vehicle access	2	5
Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park vehicle access ²	1	4
Horse riding ³	8	8
Camping	1	3
Placement of a temporary sign	5	4
Restricted area access including restricted use tracks and trails	1	0
Events ⁴	3	5
Launch/land aircraft	1	1
Divert water	1	0

¹ Issued by the Parks and Wildlife Service under delegated authority.

² Issued by Glenorchy City Council under delegated authority.

³ These are annual permits.

⁴ Includes cultural, sporting and entertainment events. Events organised by commercial licence holders do not require a separate permit under the Wellington Park Regulations.

Managing Park Values

The Trust has continued to implement various operational procedures for agencies undertaking works within the Park. These include the Vehicle Hygiene Protocol (to minimise the introduction and spread of weeds and plant pathogens throughout the Park) and the Working in Wellington Park Induction Kit (aimed at the Manager/Supervisor level, and those people with project management responsibilities).

These procedures are included in management agency standard operating procedures and project briefs for external contractors.

Cultural Heritage Management

The Trust has both a coordinating and a compliance oversight role in relation to the cultural heritage of the Park. This applies to both Aboriginal heritage and historic heritage. This work was primarily undertaken by the Trust's consultant Cultural Heritage Co-ordinator, who was engaged on a one-day per week basis during 2020-21 but has since ended her consultancy contract.

As well as engaging with the Park Management Agencies and the community in relation to inventorying and understanding the cultural heritage values of the Park generally, the Trust also develops policies for managing cultural heritage and for the centralised management of cultural heritage data. This includes regular liaison with the heritage staff of the Park Management Agencies including an annual review of the heritage program; and occasional coordinating of input and actions between the Trust and the Park Management Agencies, and occasionally community groups, on a needs basis.

The Trust also reviews cultural heritage conservation and other management proposals, and development and works proposals, as part of its regulatory role under the Wellington Park Management Plan, and provides cultural heritage conservation and impact mitigation advice to the Park Management Agencies, developers and Park users in relation to these. During 2020-21 this included heritage inductions for works crews when Park Management Agency heritage staff were not able to do so; liaison with the Wellington Park History and Heritage Volunteer network; and coordination of the Mountain Water Supply System (MWSS) Heritage Advisory Group.

In 2020-21 cultural heritage management was focused on historic heritage, with little Aboriginal heritage management being undertaken, except in relation to the Trust's regulatory role.

Data Management

A full update of the Wellington Park heritage database was completed in 2020-21 with 18 recently discovered heritage sites and one heritage precinct that meet the criteria for inclusion on the Wellington Park heritage database ready for endorsement by the Trust. Most of the new sites come from a review of the Glenorchy reserves (including Wellington Park) history study by Haygarth (2017).

Policy/Strategy

Development of a 'Management Policy Framework' for the more remote standing bush huts continued during 2020-21. It is anticipated that the *Draft Extant Historic Bush Huts Management Policy Framework* will go to the Park Management Agencies for comment and finalisation in 2021-22.

Heritage Conservation Projects

A small number of heritage conservation projects were coordinated or undertaken by the Trust in 2020-21. An ongoing project to monitor the structural and general condition of a small number of the extant huts in the Park, which are not actively promoted for use, continued. The quarterly monitoring has demonstrated that regular monitoring leads to better hut care by visitors.

There was further joint liaison about the long-term conservation of Smiths Monument by the Trust and Hobart City Council with the Hobart Walking Club (who raised the matter of the management of Smiths Monument), the Freemasons (who erected the monument in 1858), and the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery who kindly provided materials conservation advice. It was agreed that the original plaque will be removed and donated to the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery which will undertake much needed conservation work on the plaque. During 2020-21 various options for replacing the original plaque with a replacement/replica and an interpretation panel were investigated.

Heritage Conservation Coordination

The Trust continued its coordinating role in facilitating the Mountain Water Supply System Heritage Advisory Group in 2020-21. The Heritage Advisory Group was created to provide a co-ordinated and strategic approach to the management of this Tasmanian Heritage Register listed site. Its membership includes the Trust, Hobart City Council, TasWater, Heritage Tasmania and Cultural Heritage Practitioners Tasmania. The Heritage Advisory Group had its annual meeting in July 2020.

The Trust also continued to liaise with the Wellington Park Heritage Volunteer Network. The Network is an informal group of Hobartians with an active interest in the history and heritage of kunanyi / Mount Wellington. During 2020-21 members of the Network continued to generously contribute new historical and heritage site data, generated through their volunteer research to the Trust.

Most of the heritage impact assessment to support development and works proposals was undertaken by the Trust's Cultural Heritage Coordinator or relevant Park Management Agency Heritage Officer. However, four projects engaged a heritage consultant to assess the heritage impacts. These reports were also reviewed by the Trust Cultural Heritage Coordinator.

Field Inspections

Wattle Grove 2 historic hut was visited in the company of the Education and Regulations Coordinator to document damage from bottle digging (brought to the Trust's attention by members of the public), and to rehabilitate the damage. The illegal excavations were filled in and the work documented. Temporary signs were placed at the site advising visitors that bottle digging is illegal in the Park.

Fire Management

Only one small bushfire occurred in the Park during 2020-21 due to careless disposal of hot ashes from one of the fireplaces in the Park. The fire was quickly extinguished and only burnt a very small area. Two planned burns were completed in the Park, one in the Glenorchy City Council management area (6 ha) and the other in the Parks and Wildlife Service management area (15 ha). A proposed burn on Glenorchy City Council and private land that included a small section of the Park, was approved but could not be completed due to adverse weather

conditions. Fuel breaks within the Park were maintained and Hobart City Council completed clearing of additional fuel breaks along the Park boundary with residential properties at Fern Tree.

The Trust works with the Tasmania Fire Service Bushfire Risk Unit and the Park Management Agencies to plan strategic fuel reduction within the Park. General fire management activities are carried out by Park Management Agencies in accordance with the *Wellington Park Fire Management Strategy (2006) (FMS)*. The FMS aims to protect life and property, and ensure the sustainability of natural systems and the Park's natural and cultural values. A major revision of the FMS is listed as a key project in the Trust's revised Strategic Plan.

The Trust Manager has been on the working groups developing the new state-wide bushfire risk management tool and developing a new template for the Bushfire Risk Management Plans produced by each Fire Management Area Committee.

The portion of the Park east of Jefferys Track is in the Hobart Fire Management Area which includes Hobart, Glenorchy, Clarence and part of Kingborough, Huon Valley and Derwent Valley Councils. The remainder of the Park is in the Southern Fire Management Area which covers most of southern Tasmania. The Manager represents the Trust on both committees.

Major repair work on Big Bend Trail was started in March 2020 but was suspended due to wet conditions over winter. The repairs were completed in February 2021. Further repairs to the East West Trail, Ringwood Trail and Collins Cap Trail started in 2019-20 have also been completed.

Access to fire trails in the Park is controlled by locked gates. A security key system allows the emergency services and management agencies access to the gates. The Trust also has locks on some private gates on vehicle trails leading into the Park. In some cases private landowners are provided with keys to these locks but the locks are configured so the key will only open the lock(s) the landowner needs for access. Damage to gates is an ongoing problem with the gate at the western end of the East West Trail needing frequent repair. Locks on other gates have been cut or damaged requiring replacement.

As the patent on the security lock system used in Wellington Park expired at the end of 2020, the Trust is in the process of reviewing and revising the lock and key

system for the whole Park in preparation for replacing existing locks with a new secure system.

Tasmania Fire Service brigades that may have to respond to fires in the Park are provided with information on the condition of fire trails and other relevant information at the start of the bushfire season.

The Trust continued to share digital geographic data with DPIPW under a data sharing agreement between the agencies first signed in 2010. Under this agreement the Trust has access to geographic data from the LIST and provides the Department with data relevant to the Park which is then available for use by the Tasmanian Fire Service and other emergency services. Sensitive data relating to Wellington Park is held in a special emergency services section of the LIST and is not accessible by the general public. The data transfer takes place annually in October.

The Wellington Park Regulations 2019 allows the Trust to close an area of the Park in the event of a fire, flood, natural disaster or other emergency to ensure the safety of Park visitors by a notice on the Wellington Park website. This provision allows for emergency closure of the Park when it is not possible to quickly install no-access signs on tracks and trails. Under the Trust's emergency closure policy a precautionary closure is triggered when there is a Fire Danger Rating of Severe (Forest Fire Danger Index (FFDI) of 50) or greater in the Bureau of Meteorology's South East or Upper Derwent forecast areas for at least 3 hours. The South East forecast area includes Hobart and the eastern part of the Park. The western part of the Park is in the Upper Derwent forecast area it is also the area from which major bushfires are most likely to enter the Park. During 2020-21 the Park was closed for one day under this policy.

Park closures due to fire danger are implemented by closing Pinnacle Road as required and placing "Park Closed" signs at the major entry points to the Park. The Trust developed two 'flip over' designs for "Park Closed" signs; one free standing and the other retrofitted to existing Park entry signs. These can be quickly installed by Park Management Agency staff and include a QR code that links to the closure notice on the Wellington Park website.

Closure of minor entry points continues to be via temporary 'wing' signs fixed to the side of Park entry signs during the fire permit period warning visitors not to enter the Park on days of Severe, Extreme or Catastrophic Fire Danger.

In February 2021 the Trust reviewed the operation of designated fireplaces in the Park. Under the Wellington Park Regulations fires may only be lit in designated fireplaces and these are all in huts and shelters. Following a small fire started by hot ash discarded from one fireplace the Trust decided to prohibit the use of fireplaces during the annual fire permit period declared by the Tasmania Fire Service. Steel gates have been installed to close off the fireplaces in the more popular huts and notices under the Regulations are placed in other huts.

Water Quality and Catchments

Management of the Park's vital drinking water catchments remained a priority for the Trust during 2020-21. The catchments utilised for drinking water supply include:

- North West Bay River
- Humphreys Rivulet
- Southern Catchments (Pipeline Track off takes)
- Rocky Creek (supplying Crabtree)
- Stevensons Creek (supplying Mountain River).

Depending on rainfall Wellington Park may supply up to 20% of greater Hobart's drinking water. The Park is the only source of water for Fern Tree, Crabtree and Mountain River. The Trust has worked closely with TasWater to strategically manage the catchments for the long-term benefit of the community.

TasWater is preparing a Drinking Water Catchment Management Strategy for all catchments supplying the Hobart area. This Strategy will address the emerging water quality issues in the Park.

The Regulations Awareness Program (RAP) has continued to play a vital role in educating the public and other Wellington Park users about which activities are permissible in the various drinking water catchment areas. The RAP is strongly supported by TasWater.

Threatened Species

There has never been a systematic survey of Wellington Park for threatened species, however incidental sightings by Trust and agency staff are reported to the Natural Values Atlas to build up a picture of the distribution of threatened species in the Park. Recently recorded threatened species include: Tasmanian devil, swift parrot, spotted-tail quoll and eastern barred bandicoot.

The Trust invited Birdlife Tasmania to present and discuss the bird data they have on the Park and how to access it. Birdlife Tasmania members carry out regular surveys of birds in the Park at fixed sites so have valuable data for Park management. The seminar was attended by staff from Hobart and Glenorchy City Councils, the Parks and Wildlife Service and the Tasmania Fire Service.

Weed Management

Park Management Agencies have continued their efforts to reduce the incursion and spread of weeds through the Park. Large-scale weed control works are approved by the Trust via the Park Activity Assessment procedure, which includes a requirement for the approval of herbicide use, particularly within the Drinking Water Catchment Zone.

The main focus for weed control continues to be the Glenorchy Council management area, with further progress being made in the last year, particularly the treatment of infestations of Spanish heath in the Upper Merton area and on Goat Hills, and removal of *Pinus radiata* trees and scattered saplings.

Weed control by Park Management Agencies is assisted by a number of community Landcare groups, including groups located at Fern Tree and Kangaroo Valley, and the Friends of Wellington Park, a Park-wide group focusing on remote weed populations and also assisting with walking track clearing and repair. The Friends of Wellington Park continued their long running projects to eradicate gorse in the part of the Park near Inglewood Road and Spanish heath on Goat Hills and the Merton area.

Weed control is carried out alongside fire trails by the Parks and Wildlife Service, Hobart City Council and Glenorchy City Council, with the intent of preventing weed invasion through the Park and ensuring safe access during fire events.

The Trust continued to implement the actions contained in the Vehicle Hygiene Protocol, aimed at reducing the spread of weeds and other plant pathogens throughout the Park. The protocol provides practical guidance and procedures for management agencies, contractors and other Park users.

Feral Animals

There are small populations of feral goats in the western part of the Park and possibly still some in the Goat Hills area that survived a recent cull. Numbers are not known and there are no plans for further control measures at present.

There are also feral cats in the Park, though the size and extent of the population is unknown and there is currently no control program. Sightings are provided to the Natural Values Atlas.

Lyrebirds (a native bird introduced to Tasmania in the 1930s) are established in the area around St Crispins Well on the Pipeline Track and have also been seen near Fern Tree and The Springs. Although there is evidence they are spreading through suitable habitat in the Park, they are not currently considered a management issue.

There have been reports of deer in bushland near the Park but no confirmed sightings in the Park.

Rubbish

The annual Clean-up Australia Day activity at the Pinnacle, organised by Hobart City Council, was cancelled due to bad weather. Park Management Agency and Trust staff continued to collect rubbish when found.

Other Activities

Trust Vehicle

In May 2021 the Trust purchased a new vehicle for use by Trust staff, a 4WD VW Amarok dual cab utility, to replace the previous Mitsubishi Triton utility.

Nomenclature

The Trust supported a submission to the Place Names Advisory Panel by a descendent of Robert Featherstone to have Featherstone Cascades in the Park officially named. Trust records showed that the small waterfall on the Hobart Rivulet was named after Robert Featherstone who was employed by Hobart City Council as a Mountain Ranger and also spent a lot of his spare time and money improving the tracks in the area. Featherstone Cascades first appeared on a Hobart Walking Club sketch map in 1931.

Park Boundary Changes

There are a number of changes to the Park boundary recommended for investigation in the Wellington Park Management Plan. These include the area around Limekiln Gully Dam where a boundary change to move all of the Tolosa Quarry and the gun club firing range below Limekiln Gully Dam outside the Park is being investigated with Glenorchy City Council. These, and a number of other proposed boundary changes, require the approval of both houses of Parliament and a revision of the Wellington Park Management Plan. The Trust will pursue the boundary changes in conjunction with the next revision of the Wellington Park Management Plan.

Right to Information

One application for assessed disclosure of information under the *Right to Information Act 2009* was received and determined during 2020-21. One application received in 2019-20 was determined in 2020-21.

Offers of Gifts and Benefits

Offers of gifts and benefits to Trust members and staff are managed through the Trust's Offers of Gifts and Benefits Policy first approved by the Trust in July 2016 and reviewed biennially.

No gifts or benefits were declared by Trust members or staff during 2020-21.

Work Health and Safety (WHS)

COVID-19 Response

The Trust continued to revise and implement its COVID-19 Safety Plan. Under the Safety Plan staff working in the Trust office have isolated and been tested if they have had COVID-19 symptoms. All tests have been negative.

Wellington Park Induction Kit

The Trust regularly revises its Working in Wellington Park Induction Kit which is included in all works permits issued in the Park. The induction kit and Field Staff Checklist leaflet aim to inform agency staff and contractors about working safely in the Park and protecting Park values.

WHS Incidents

There have been no WHS incidents involving Trust staff that are notifiable under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2012*.

Other WHS incidents are reported to the Trust monthly and discussed at each Trust Meeting.

The following hazards and incidents were reported during 2020-21:

Summary of WHS hazard and incident reports

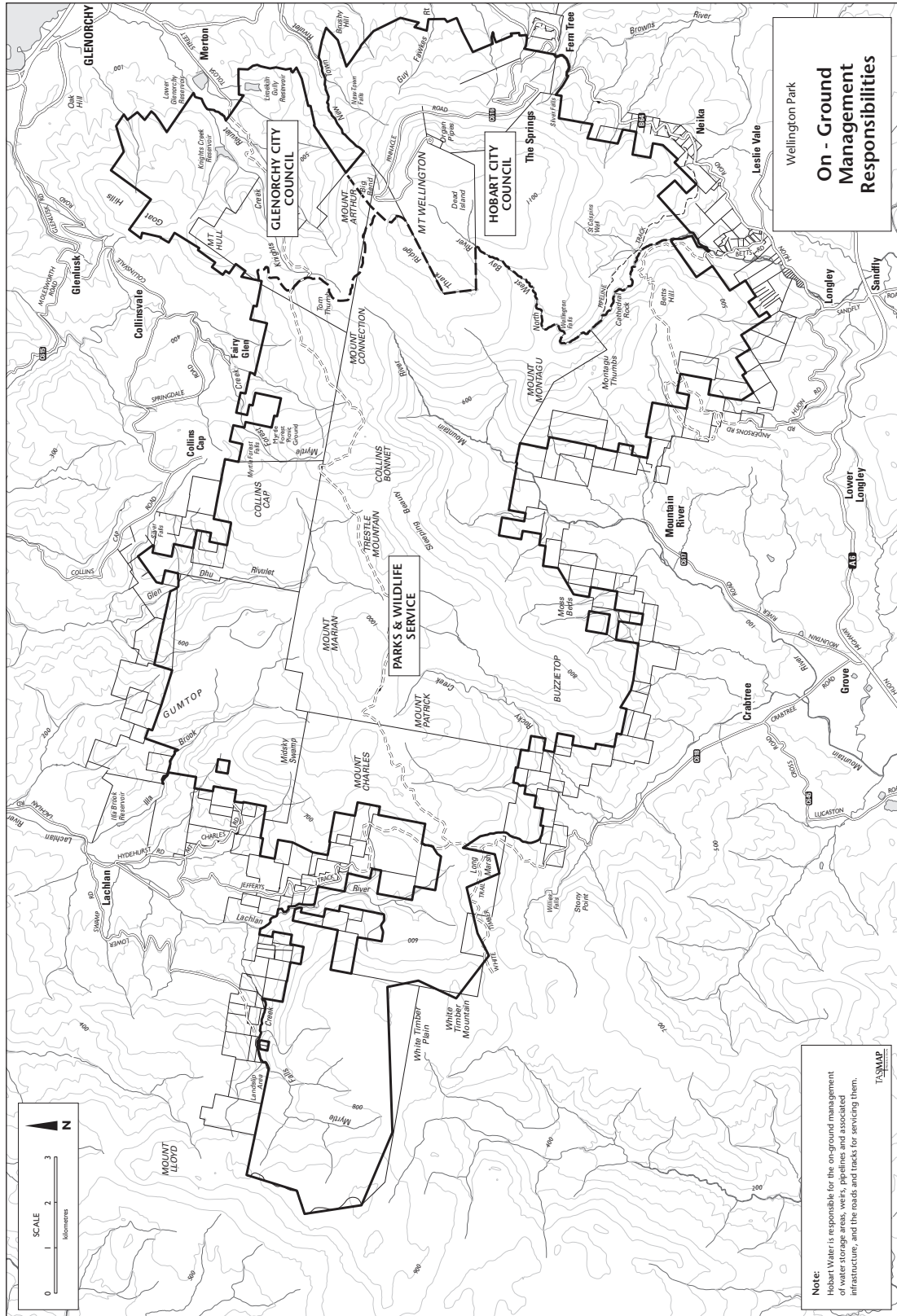
<i>Incident/Hazard</i>	<i>Number reported</i>	
	<i>2020–21</i>	<i>2019–20</i>
Lost time injury	none	none
Hazards identified through incident/near hit reports	1	none
Staff incidents reported	1	1
Visitor incidents reported	6	12
Contractor incidents reported	none	none

During 2020-21 there were no lost time injuries to Trust staff. The staff incident reported involved a minor collision with a stationary vehicle.

The visitor incidents include those reported through an arrangement with Police Search and Rescue to provide details of incidents attended by the Police in the Park. However there are likely to have been visitor incidents that the Trust and Police are not aware of.

Appendix 1

Wellington Park – On Ground Management Areas



Appendix 2

Membership of the Wellington Park Management Trust ^a

1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

MEMBER	DEPUTY
Chairperson Dr Christine Mucha	(Deputy not provided for in the Act)
Director-General of Lands Ms Louise Wilson Ag/Deputy Secretary (Corporate, heritage and Land), DPIPWE <i>(Nominee of the Director-General of Lands)</i>	Mr Ben Goodsir Director, Natural Heritage, DPIPWE
Glenorchy City Council Alderman Melissa Carlton OAM <i>(Nominee of Glenorchy City Council)</i>	Mr Ted Ross Director, Infrastructure and Works <i>(to 24 December 2020)</i>
Hobart City Council Alderman Damon Thomas <i>(Nominee of Hobart City Council)</i>	Councillor Will Coats <i>(from 23 September 2020)</i>
Alderman Jeff Briscoe <i>(Nominee of Hobart City Council)</i>	Councillor Helen Burnet
TasWater Ms Frances Smith Department Manager System Performance & Productivity <i>(Nominee of the chief executive officer TasWater)</i>	Mr Heath Woolley Department Manager Community, Stakeholder and Key Accounts
Director of National Parks and Wildlife Mr Chris Colley <i>(from 23 September 2020)</i> Director Tourism, Experiences & Visitor Services <i>(Nominee of the Director of National Parks and Wildlife)</i>	Ms Alice Holeywell-Jones Executive Director, People, Performance and Governance Division, DPAC
Tourism Tasmania Ms Rita Warrenner Policy and Industry Manager <i>(Nominee of the chief executive officer, Tourism Tasmania)</i>	Ms Anne Greentree <i>(from 23 September 2020)</i> Director Visitor Economy Strategy

Notes: (a) Members and deputies may be appointed by the Minister for a period not exceeding 3 years. A member's appointment may terminate if they no longer occupy the position under which they were appointed or they resign. Members and deputies may be re-appointed.

Appendix 3

Trust Meeting Attendance Record

1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

The Trust held five scheduled meetings between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021, and one additional meeting on 3 December 2020.

<i>MEMBER</i>	<i>Meetings Attended During 2020–21</i>	<i>Meetings During Membership</i>
Chairperson Dr Christine Mucha	6	6
Director-General of Lands nominees Ms Louise Wilson	0	6
Mr Ben Goodsir (<i>deputy</i>)	6	6
Glenorchy City Council Alderman Mellissa Carlton OAM	4	6
Mr Ted Ross (<i>deputy till 24 December 2020</i>)	1 as observer	3
Hobart City Council Alderman Damon Thomas	5	6
Councillor Will Coats (<i>deputy to Alderman Thomas from 23 September 2020</i>)	0	5
Alderman Jeff Briscoe	4	6
Councillor Helen Burnet (<i>deputy to Alderman Briscoe</i>)	1	6
TasWater Ms Frances Smith	6	6
Mr Heath Woolley (<i>deputy</i>)	0	6
Director of National Parks and Wildlife nominees Mr Chris Colley (<i>member from 23 September 2020</i>)	1 1 as member nominee	5
Ms Alice Holeywell-Jones (<i>deputy</i>)	0	6
Chief Executive Officer of Tourism Tasmania nominees Ms Rita Warrener	6	6
Ms Anne Greentree (<i>deputy member from 23 September 2020</i>)	0	5

Mr John King (PWS General Manager Parks Operations & Business Services) attended a Trust meeting as an observer at the invitation of the Chairperson.

Clause 3 of Schedule 3 of the Act entitles members who are not State Service officers or employees to remuneration and allowances as determined by the Governor. These are specified in each member's Instrument of Appointment. During 2020-21 the Chairperson was paid an annual fee and councillors who are members or deputy members were paid a sitting fee for each meeting attended.

Disclosures of interests and related party interests

The following interests in items on the agendas of Trust meetings during 2020-21 were declared at the commencement of the meetings and noted in the minutes:

<i>Meeting Date</i>	<i>Member</i>	<i>Interest declared</i>
3 December 2020	Ald Carlton	Item 4, Request for Trust endorsement of the draft Glenorchy Mountain Bike Park Masterplan.

Ald Carlton remained in the meeting but did not participate in the discussion or decision about the item.

Appendix 4

Financial Report 2020–2021



**Independent Auditor's Report
To the Members of Parliament
Wellington Park Management Trust
Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of the Wellington Park Management Trust (the Trust) which comprises the statement of financial position/balance sheet as at 30 June 2021, statements of comprehensive income, changes in equity and cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the statement of certification by the Chairperson.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report:

- (a) present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Trust as at 30 June 2021 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended
- (b) is in accordance with the *Wellington Park Act 1993* and Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report. I am independent of the Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

The *Audit Act 2008* further promotes the independence of the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General is the auditor of all Tasmanian public sector entities and can only be removed by Parliament. The Auditor-General may conduct an audit in any way considered appropriate and is not subject to direction by any person about the way in which audit powers are to be exercised. The Auditor-General has for the purposes of conducting an audit, access to all documents and property and can report to Parliament matters which in the Auditor-General's opinion are significant.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Appendix 4

Financial Report 2020–2021

Responsibilities of Members of the Trust for the Financial Report

The members of the Trust are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the financial reporting requirements of the *Wellington Park Act 1993* and for such internal control as determined necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the members of the Trust are responsible for assessing the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trust is to be dissolved by an Act of Parliament, or the members intends to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by members of the Trust.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of members of the Trust's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusion is based on the audit evidence obtained up to the

date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Trust to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the members of the Trust regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.



Jan Lynch
Senior Manager Financial Audit Services
Delegate of the Auditor-General
Tasmanian Audit Office

22 October 2021
Hobart

Statement of Comprehensive Income For Year Ended 30th June 2021

	Note	2020/21 \$	2019/20 \$
REVENUE			
Grants - State Government	6	195,000	120,000
Grants - Other	6	163,510	174,977
Interest		527	2,760
Fines		516	188
Other		5,652	6,192
Total Revenue		365,205	304,117
EXPENSES			
Park Administration			
Advertising		-	380
Audit Fees		5,250	5,250
Chairperson Remuneration	12	13,688	13,688
Contractors and Consultants		25,942	10,625
Hobart City Council Administrative Support	5	31,459	30,424
Depreciation		4,760	4,667
Employee Costs - Management		131,978	126,916
Employee Costs - Education and Regulations		83,756	99,630
Employee Costs - Visitation and Recreation		41,154	73,490
Workers Compensation Insurance		2,956	3,118
Miscellaneous		11,882	14,498
Sitting Fees		2,250	2,550
Stationery		1,120	1,782
Vehicle Expenses		10,232	7,897
Cultural Heritage Co-Ordinator		13,935	22,403
Website Maintenance		1,110	2,540
		381,471	419,858
Total Expenses		381,471	419,858
Surplus/(Deficit) for year		(16,266)	(115,741)
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
Gain on sale of asset		5,426	
Comprehensive Result		(10,840)	(115,741)

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity For Year Ended 30th June 2021

	Note	2020/21 \$	2019/20 \$
Balance at beginning of period		84,214	375,955
Adjustment due to change in accounting policy	3j		(176,000)
Restated balance as at 1 July 2019		-	199,955
Comprehensive Result		(10,840)	(115,741)
Balance at end of period		73,374	84,214

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position As At 30th June 2021

	Note	2020/21 \$	2019/20 \$
ASSETS			
Current			
Cash	7	344,155	496,321
Stock on Hand		6,664	6,664
Receivables		3,628	3,398
		354,447	506,383
Non-Current			
Plant & Equipment at Cost		41,541	34,065
Less Accumulated Depreciation		866	24,797
		40,675	9,268
TOTAL ASSETS		395,122	515,651
LIABILITIES			
Current			
Employee Benefits	8	71,114	42,192
Payables		15,609	143,656
Contract Liabilities	4	235,026	226,000
		321,748	411,848
Non-Current			
Employee Benefits	8	-	19,589
		-	19,589
TOTAL LIABILITIES		321,748	431,437
NET ASSETS		73,374	84,214
EQUITY			
Retained Earnings		73,374	84,214
TOTAL EQUITY		73,374	84,214

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows For Year Ended 30th June 2021

	Note	2020/21 \$	2019/20 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts			
Grants - State Government		195,000	120,000
Grants - Other		141,341	321,659
Interest		527	2,760
Other		5,674	12,657
		342,541	457,076
Payments			
Employee and Contracted Services Costs		451,902	248,531
Other		12,064	37,477
		463,966	286,008
NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	4	(121,425)	171,068
Proceeds from			
Sales of Plant and Equipment		10,800	-
		10,800	-
Payments for			
Equipment purchases		41,541	-
		41,541	-
NET CASH (USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES		(30,741)	-
NET INCREASE / (DECREASE) IN CASH HELD		(152,166)	171,068
Opening Cash Balance		496,321	325,253
Closing Cash Balance		344,155	496,321

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to and forming part of the Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2021

1. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Wellington Park Management Trust (the Trust) is to deliver coordinated and effective management for Wellington Park to preserve the area's unique conservation and water catchment values while promoting appropriate tourism and recreation opportunities.

2. LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

The Trust was established by the *Wellington Park Act 1993* as a Statutory Authority to facilitate and provide a cooperative land management structure for Wellington Park, one of the State's largest distinct areas of reserved land and a primary icon in terms of tourism.

The Park was proclaimed under specific legislation due to its complexities in land tenure and ownership. At present, Wellington Park comprises twelve separate parcels of land with classifications and ownership ranging from Crown land, freehold land (held by the two city councils of Hobart and Glenorchy) and land vested in the City of Hobart for water supply purposes. TasWater also has a statutory responsibility for bulk water supply to the Greater Hobart area and maintains infrastructure within the Park associated with this role. Electricity and telecommunications suppliers also maintain infrastructure within the Park associated with their roles.

The Trust has resolved that it does not control either the constructed or natural assets within the Park, and accordingly has not recognised a value for those assets in its financial report.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

a) Basis of Preparation

The financial report is a general purpose financial report and has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB). Compliance with the Australian Accounting Standards may not result in compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as the Australian Accounting Standards include requirements and options available to not-for-profit organisations that are inconsistent with IFRS.

The Trust has analysed its purpose, objectives, and operating philosophy and determined that it does not have profit generation as a prime objective. Consequently, where appropriate, the Trust has elected to apply options and exemptions within Accounting Standards that are applicable to not-for-profit entities.

The financial report has been prepared on the accrual basis under the convention of historical cost accounting and does not take into account changing money values.

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars.

b) Revenue

The Trust recognises untied grant revenue and grants without performance obligations when received. In cases where funding includes specific performance obligations, a liability is recognised for funds received in advance with income recognised as obligations are fulfilled and which reflect the transfer of goods or services to customers in amounts that reflect the consideration to which the Trust expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. Interest is credited to revenue as it accrues. In 2020-21 Other Revenue consisted of sale of goods, wages reimbursement for assistance with a planned burn, fines, filming approval fees and commercial operator licence fees.

c) Expenses

Expenses are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income when a decrease in future economic benefits related to either a decrease in an asset or an increase in a liability has arisen that can be measured reliably.

d) Cash

Cash consists of funds held in an account at the Tasmanian Public Finance Corporation.

e) Stock

Stock on hand at the reporting date comprise a number of publications which are held with an expectation of generating future sales. Stock is valued at cost.

f) Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment are valued at cost and consist of a vehicle as well as office equipment. The vehicle has been estimated to have a useful life of seven and a half years in line with the Australian Taxation Office Commissioner's cap for vehicles of this type and the office equipment a useful life of three years. The estimated residual value of plant and equipment at the end of its useful life is reviewed annually. Useful lives are reviewed annually and depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method.

g) Employee Benefits

The provision for employee benefits represents the amount which the Trust has a present obligation to pay resulting from employees' services provided up to the reporting date in respect of salaries, annual leave and long service leave.

Provisions made in respect of employee benefits which fall due wholly within 12 months after the end of the period in which the employees rendered the related service, are measured at their nominal values using remuneration rates expected to apply at the time of settlement. Other provisions are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made in respect of services provided by employees up

to the reporting date. Discount rates used are those attaching to national government guaranteed securities at balance date which most closely match the terms to maturity of the related liabilities. In determining pre-conditional long service leave entitlements, the amount of cash outflows required to be made by the Trust in the future have been estimated based on experience of similar not for profit entity trends.

Under current employment contracts there is no entitlement to payment of unused personal leave upon termination and so no provision has been made in this regard.

h) Comparative Figures

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified to achieve consistency in disclosure with current financial year amounts and other disclosures.

i) Taxation

The Trust is subject to both Goods and Services Tax (GST) and Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT). No FBT events were experienced by the Trust in the year. The Trust's current payroll is below the annual threshold for Payroll Tax liability and is exempt from all other taxes.

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense. Receivables and payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority.

j) Change in Accounting Policies

The Trust has adopted the following new and revised Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board which are relevant to its operations and effective for the current reporting period:

AASB 2018-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Definition of Material.

The amendments refine the definition of material in AASB 101 and are applicable for the year ended 30 June 2021. The amendments clarify the definition of material and includes guidance relating to obscuring information that could be reasonably expected to influence decisions of the primary users of the financial information. The amendments include additional guidance to the definition of material, gives it more prominence, and clarifies the explanation accompanying the definition of material. The adoption of the amendments have not had any significant impact on the Trust.

k) New accounting standards for application in future periods

The AASB has issued new and amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods. The following summarises those future requirements, and their impact on the Trust:

AASB 2017-5 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards (Applies from 1 January 2022).

The amendments address an acknowledged inconsistency between the requirements in AASB10 Consolidated Financial Statements and AASB128 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures in dealing with the sale or contribution of assets between an investor and its associate or joint venture. The main consequence of the amendments is that a full gain or loss is recognised when a transaction involves assets that do not constitute a business, even if these assets are housed in a subsidiary. The Trust members have assessed the impact of the new standard and concluded that there will be no impact because AASB 10 and AASB 128 are not applicable to the Trust activities.

All other Australian accounting standards and interpretations with future effective dates are either not applicable to the Trust's activities or have no material impact.

4. RECONCILIATION OF 'NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES' TO SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR

	2020/21	2019/20
	\$	\$
Surplus / (Deficit)	(16,266)	115,741
Add back Depreciation	4,760	4,667
(Increase) / Decrease in Receivables	(230)	103,954
Increase / (Decrease) in Employee Benefits	9,333	8,057
Increase / (Decrease) in Payables	(128,048)	120,131
Increase / (Decrease) in Contract Liabilities	9,026	50,000
Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities	(121,425)	171,068

In 2020/21 the Trust has recorded a deficit due to the expenditure of grant funds received in prior years – in particular the expenditure of funds associated with the Visitor and Recreation Strategy, and also the treatment of grant funds received. In accordance with AASB 15, recognition of revenue associated with \$235,026 of grant funds received and unexpended in 2020/21 has been deferred. The funds will be progressively recorded as revenue as grant conditions are met.

The decrease in Payables reflects the amount to be paid by the Trust to Hobart City Council at 30 June 2020 having been settled during the year. This is offset by a decrease in trade creditors due at 30 June 2021.

5. SUPPORT PROVIDED BY TRUST MEMBER AGENCIES

In 2020/21 Trust member agency, the Hobart City Council, continued charging the Trust for the administrative and technical support provided to the Trust. This support includes provision of office space, landline phone costs, computer supply and maintenance, local postage, photocopying, and general administration.

The charge for these support services was \$31,459 for which the Hobart City Council provided an equal and offsetting financial contribution. Both the cost and grant have been recorded in the 2020/21 Financial Statements.

6. GRANTS ALLOCATION

	2020/21 \$	2019/20 \$
Grants - State Government		
Park Administration	150,000	120,000
Management Strategies	45,000	-
	<u>195,000</u>	<u>120,00</u>
Grants - Other		
Grants - Other	163,510	174,977
	<u>163,510</u>	<u>174,977</u>

The Grants – State Government – the allocation of \$150,000 was received from the State Government for general usage.

The Grants – Other figure of \$163,510 comprises the following contributions: \$62,857 from the Hobart City Council, \$35,191 from the Glenorchy City Council and \$65,463 from TasWater. These figures and those in the above table are exclusive of applicable GST.

Recognition of the \$150,000 grant income received in prior years from TasWater and the Glenorchy City Council for the Big Bend Trail has been deferred until grant conditions are met, as per AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers. Similarly, recognition of the grant income of \$76,000 for Urban Renewal and Heritage Fund as well as \$9,026 from Huon Valley Council for maintenance of Jefferys Track have also been deferred.

7. CASH

The Trust has received a number of conditional grants. At 30 June 2021, the Trust is committed to expend \$251,735 of its cash balance in the manner specified by the terms of these grants. These amounts being made up of:

Restricted Cash	\$
Conditional Grants	
Urban Renewal & Heritage Fund	76,000
Big Bend Trail	150,000
Jefferys Track	9,026
	<u>235,026</u>
Unconditional Grants	
Website Development	16,709
	<u>16,709</u>
Unrestricted Cash	92,420
	<u>92,420</u>
Total Cash	<u>344,155</u>

\$235,026 of Conditional Grants have been deferred and transferred to the Statement of Financial Position, as per AASB 15.

8. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

	2020/21	2019/20
	\$	\$
Wages and Salaries	8,482	6,372
Annual Leave	31,979	27,496
Long Service Leave	22,656	18,749
Superannuation	7,997	9,165
	<u>71,114</u>	<u>61,782</u>
Current	71,114	42,193
Non-Current	-	19,589
	<u>71,114</u>	<u>61,782</u>

9. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**a) Financial Risk Management**

The Trust's financial instruments consist of a deposit with the Tasmanian Public Finance Corporation, receivables and payables. Financial risk is managed by ensuring that investments are carried out in accordance with the Trust's Investment Policy Statement.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss to the Trust if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. The maximum exposure to credit risk is the carrying amount of recognised financial assets as disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position. The Trust does not have any material credit risk exposure.

Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The primary market risk that the Trust is exposed to is interest rate risk. The Trust's cash held is subject to variable interest rates. Remaining financial assets and all financial liabilities are non-interest bearing. The Trust's exposure to interest rate risk in relation to cash held at bank is considered to be minimal.

An increase in variable rates of 100 basis points at the reporting date would result in a profit and an increase to equity of \$3,442 (2020 \$2,176). A decrease in variable rates of 100 basis points at reporting date would result in a loss and a decrease to equity of \$3,442 (2020 \$2,176). This analysis assumes all other variables remain constant. The analysis was performed on the same basis for 2020.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Trust will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Trust manages liquidity risk by monitoring cash flows. Exposure to liquidity risk is considered to be minimal.

b) Net Fair Value

The Trust considers that the carrying amount of its financial assets and liabilities approximate their fair value.

10. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

No events have occurred subsequent to balance date that would require adjustment to, or disclosure in, the financial report.

11. CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

There were no material contingent assets or contingent liabilities at year-end.

12. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

a) Responsible Persons

Names of persons holding positions of responsibility at any time during the year are:

Trust Members	Organisation	Title	Appointment	Expiry
Dr Christine Mucha		Independent Chairperson	29-Mar-19	30-Jun-21
Ms Louise Wilson	DPIPWE	Member	09-Mar-20	31-Dec-22
Ald Melissa Carlton	GCC	Member	12-May-18	31-Dec-20
Ald Damon Thomas	HCC	Member	22-Jan-18	Nomination for reappointment submitted 31-Dec-20 Reappointed on 16 March 2021
Ald Jeff Briscoe	HCC	Member	20-Mar-19	31-Dec-21
Ms Frances Smith	TasWater	Member	30-Apr-20	31-Dec-22
Mr Chris Colley	PWS	Member	23-Sep-20	30-Jun-23
Ms Rita Warrener	Tourism Tas	Member	07-Sep-17	30-Jun-23 Reappointed on 23 sept 2020
Trust Deputy Members	Organisation	Title	Appointment	Expiry
Mr Ben Goodsir	DPIPWE	Deputy	09-Mar-20	31-Dec-22
Mr Ted Ross	GCC	Deputy	20-Mar-19	24-Dec-20 Resigned from GCC
Mr Heath Woolley	TasWater	Deputy	15-Feb-19	30-Jun-21
Ms Alice Holeywell-Jones	PWS	Deputy	30-Apr-20	31-Dec-22
Ms Anne Greentree	Tourism Tas	Deputy	23-Sep-20	30-Jun-23
Cr William Coats	HCC	Deputy to Ald Thomas	23-Sep-20	31-Dec-21
Cr Helen Burnet	HCC	Deputy to Ald Briscoe	20-Mar-19	31-Dec-21
Trust Manager: Axel von Krusenstierna				24/2/2014 - current

b) Key Management Personnel Compensation

	2020/21	2019/20
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	109,880	110,179
Post-employment benefits	11,669	15,189
Chairperson Remuneration	13,688	13,688
Sitting fees	2,250	2,550
	137,487	141,606

Short-term employee benefits represent wage related benefits paid, payable or provided by the Trust to the Trust Manager while in the employ of the Trust. Post-employment benefits include superannuation paid or payable by the Trust for the Trust Manager while in the employ of the Trust. Amounts are calculated on an accruals basis.

13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

a) Transactions with other related parties

A Trust Deputy Member is the wife of the Deputy Secretary, Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service, a division of the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (The Department). The Department provided grants funds to the Trust in 2020-21 of \$75,000. The grant funding is considered to have been provided by DPIPW in the ordinary course of business for the 2020-21 financial year.

b) Loans and guarantees to/from related parties

The Trust has not entered into any loans or guarantees with related parties.

c) Commitments to/from related parties

The Trust has not entered into any commitments with related parties.

d) Transactions with related parties that have not been disclosed

Most of the entities and people that are related parties of the Trust live within greater Hobart. Therefore, on a regular basis, ordinary citizen transactions occur between the Trust and its related parties. Some examples are:-

- Permit Application Fees
- Licence fees
- Fines for breaches of Wellington Park Regulations

The Trust has not included these types of transactions in its disclosure where they occur on the same terms and conditions as those available to the general public.

The Trust has made full disclosure in the financial report of information concerning related party transactions in accordance with the Applicable Australian Accounting Standards and/or legislative requirements.

Certification

The accompanying financial statements of the Wellington Park Management Trust are in agreement with the relevant accounts and records and have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other authoritative pronouncements issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

I believe that, in all material respects, the financial statements present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Trust's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and the results of its operations and cash flows for the year then ended. At the date of signing, I am not aware of any circumstances which would render the particulars included in the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.



Dr Christine Mucha

Chairperson

Date: 22 October 2021

Vision

For Wellington Park to be a special place, accessible and enjoyed by all for its prominent landscape, natural and cultural diversity, and community value.

Mission

To preserve the natural, cultural, recreational, tourism and drinking water qualities of Wellington Park for their own value and for the safe enjoyment of all people.

This will be achieved through outstanding management, sympathetic development and a co-operative relationship with our communities.

Cover photography by Peter Mellows | Cathedral Rock, Wellington Park