



Hall Review FAQs

About the Hall Review

Q: What is the aim of the hall review?

- A. The aim of the hall review is to better understand the pros and cons of the current Hall Management model and explore new management models that reduce risk to Council and volunteers, support the activation of halls as vibrant community hubs, and are scalable and adaptable to reflect the unique character of each hall and local community.

Q: What were the key observations from the hall review?

- A. The review found that:
- An online booking system was generally supported
 - Most committees want to focus on community activation rather than administration
 - Most committees are happy to leave maintenance and bookings to Council
 - Most halls have active and engaged groups of community members
 - There are varied preferences for future management models
 - There is a strong desire to maintain community involvement
 - Hall maintenance and renewal needs attention
 - Volunteer management systems need improvement

Q: What are the key benefits of the new hall management model?

- A. The key benefits include:
- Minimising physical and social risks to Council and community members
 - Improving operational efficiency
 - Clarifying roles and responsibilities
 - Applying consistent and equitable management practices
 - Supporting the formation of groups focused on space and community activation
 - Relieving members of time-consuming administrative responsibilities
 - Reducing stress levels, allowing community members to remain more engaged and motivated in other areas

Q: What does Council want to foster and preserve through these changes?

- A. Council is committed to fostering and preserving:
- Strong community networks
 - Continued volunteer and community engagement at halls
 - Local hall activation events and activities
 - The unique identity of each hall and community
 - Connection between hall activation groups
 - Halls being used as places to locally connect, get informed and feel supported



General Management Changes

Q: What changes are being made to hall management?

- A. Council will be taking over bookings and maintenance of all community halls. The Special Committees of Council (Hall Committees) will cease at the 2025 Annual General Meetings. Bookings will be managed through SpaceToCo with a Council officer administering the process and applying standard conditions.

Q: How will these changes improve risk management?

- A. The new model minimises physical and social risks by:
- Ensuring consistent maintenance standards through Council's property team
 - Implementing standardised booking procedures that include appropriate risk assessments
 - Reducing volunteer liability through clearer role definitions
 - Applying professional risk management practices across all facilities
 - Ensuring compliance with relevant regulations and insurance requirements

Q: How will operational efficiency be improved?

- A. Operational efficiency will improve through:
- Centralised booking management via SpaceToCo
 - Streamlined maintenance reporting and scheduling
 - Consistent application of policies and procedures
 - Professional administration of financial matters
 - Coordinated cleaning and caretaking arrangements
 - Reduced duplication of effort across different hall committees

Roles and Responsibilities

Q: How will roles and responsibilities be clarified under the new model?

- A. The new model creates clear separation of responsibilities:
- Council will handle bookings, maintenance, cleaning, and administration
 - Caretakers will assist with access, basic oversight, and reporting maintenance needs
 - "Friends of" groups will focus on community activation and events
 - This clear delineation removes ambiguity and ensures everyone understands their role

Q: Will community members still have a say in how halls are used?

- A. Yes. While Council will manage the operational aspects, community input remains essential. "Friends of" groups will have direct input into activation activities, and all community members can provide feedback on hall usage and improvements.

Q: Who will be responsible for hall maintenance?

- A. Maintenance will be managed by Council's property team with casually employed caretaker positions helping to improve maintenance consistency and works planning.



Consistent and Equitable Management

Q: How will the new model ensure consistent and equitable management?

A. The centralised approach will:

- Apply the same booking processes across all halls
- Ensure maintenance is prioritised based on need rather than committee advocacy
- Create transparent fee structures with clear community benefit provisions
- Provide equitable access for all community members
- Generate consistent reporting on hall usage and finances
- Apply uniform safety and risk management standards

Q: Will this mean all halls will be treated exactly the same?

A. While administrative processes will be standardised, Council recognises each hall's unique character and community needs. The model allows for customisation in how spaces are activated and used, while ensuring baseline standards for safety, access, and management are consistent.

Reducing Administrative Burden

Q: How will the changes relieve administrative responsibilities from volunteers?

A. Volunteers will no longer need to:

- Process bookings and manage calendars
- Handle financial transactions and reporting
- Coordinate maintenance and cleaning
- Deal with legal and insurance matters
- Prepare formal minutes and comply with committee requirements
- This frees up volunteer time and energy for more rewarding community-focused activities

Q: How will this reduction in administrative burden benefit community members?

A. By relieving volunteers of administrative tasks, the new model aims to:

- Reduce volunteer burnout and stress
- Allow community members to focus on activities they find more engaging
- Encourage broader participation in community activation
- Ensure volunteer time is spent on high-value community building rather than paperwork
- Create more sustainable long-term community involvement

Community Activation

Q: What is meant by "space and community activation"?

A. Space and community activation means bringing halls to life through events, activities, and gatherings that connect people and build community. This might include markets, workshops, social events, cultural activities, or any initiative that brings people together in these spaces.



Q: How will Council support the formation of groups focused on activation?

A. Council will:

- Work with existing committee members to transition to "Friends of" groups
- Provide guidance on different group structures and their benefits
- Assist with initial activation planning and ideas
- Connect groups with relevant resources and support
- Facilitate networking between different hall activation groups
- Honor historical use agreements until June 2026

Q: How can community members get involved in hall activation?

A. Community members can:

- Join or form a "Friends of" group for their local hall
- Propose and organise events or activities
- Book the hall for community-benefit activities through SpaceToCo
- Share ideas for hall activation with Council or local "Friends of" groups
- Participate in community events held at the halls

Bookings and Access

Q: How will hall bookings work in the future?

- A. All bookings will be managed through SpaceToCo with Council officers administering the process. This creates consistency across all halls and simplifies the booking experience.

Q: Will community groups still have access to halls for free?

- A. Historical use agreements will be honoured through to end June 2026. Activities that benefit the community and activate the hall will be considered for free access. The criteria will be developed in consultation with hall users.

Finances and Support

Q: What happens to the money currently in our hall committee accounts?

- A. Existing funds in committee bank accounts will be quarantined for individual halls. After agreed works have been completed, residual funds may go back to community groups that form a "Friends of" entity with appropriate governance structures.

Q: How will hall finances be reported to the community?

- A. Council will prepare and share quarterly community hall reports, which will report on the use, income, and expenditure for each hall.

Q: Who do we contact with questions about these changes?

- A. For questions about facilities, contact Council's Property Services Unit, questions about forming "Friends of" groups, contact Council's Social Resilience Unit. Contact us by emailing hvc@huonvalley.tas.gov.au or phone 6264 0300.