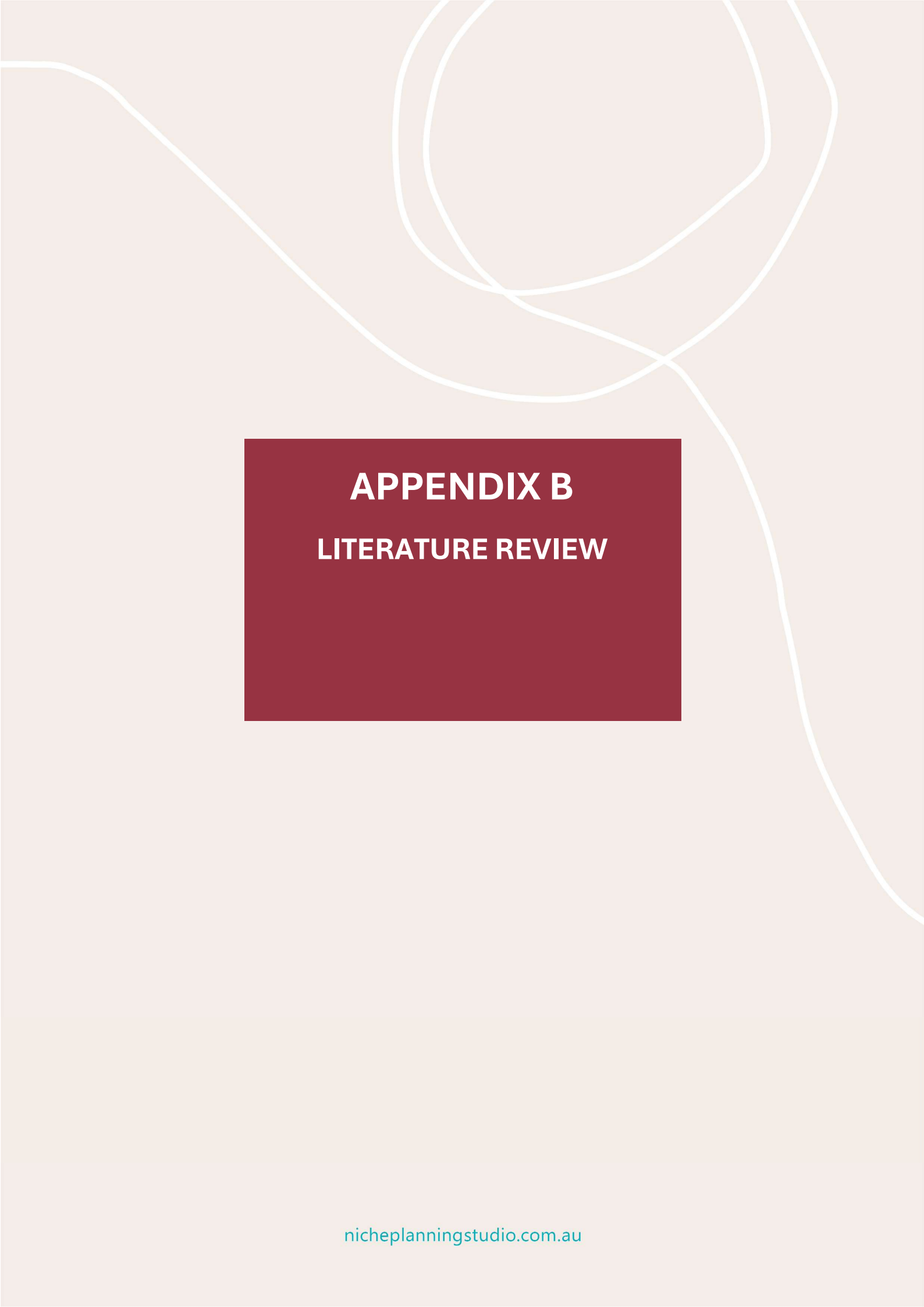


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APPENDIX B

LITERATURE REVIEW



DISCUSSION PAPER

CYGNET TOWNSHIP STRUCTURE PLAN

Melukerdee and Lyluequonny Country

We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the first Australians and traditional custodians of the lands on which we work.

We pay our respect to their Elders past and present.

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Economic Analysis



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Drafted: Marilyn Khan / Amy Longva

Reviewed: Nicola Smith

Version: 1.2

Date 09 July 2025

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CONTEXT

Cygnet is a regional hub and key township located within the Huon Valley. Experiencing ongoing population growth in the Huon Valley, and a strong demand to live in Cygnet township, vital decisions need to be made concerning housing options and development into the future.

The Huon Valley Council has recognised that Cygnet is currently experiencing pressure in the capacity of residentially zoned land to accommodate the demand for diverse housing, together with recognising social, physical and environmental factors that must be considered in the development of land currently zoned Future Urban.

Strategic land use planning undertaken by Council has identified the importance of a holistic Structure Plan for the township of Cygnet. The Structure Plan will provide much-needed guidance for the ongoing growth of Cygnet, and ultimately provide a series of recommendations for the future development of the town. It is intended that these recommendations will flow through to actionable items implemented in the Local Planning Scheme through development of tools such as Specific Area Plans.

1.2 PURPOSE

This Discussion Paper presents a background analysis of the historic growth of Cygnet, analysing the results of community consultation undertaken to date, spatial and land use planning recommendations relevant

to Cygnet from previous strategic work, and raising awareness of key issues to be considered in the preparation of the Cygnet Structure Plan.

This document provides the foundation for further strategic work to be undertaken later within the project timeline, providing a series of recommendations for the future growth of Cygnet.

Ultimately, a Structure Plan will be prepared for Cygnet which will consider the unique characteristics, opportunities, constraints, and issues of the respective areas. The plan will build on the key items raised in the Discussion Paper. The development of this plan will involve extensive community and stakeholder consultation. The project will create a comprehensive overview of Cygnet, incorporating analysis from areas such as traffic and movement, heritage, land demand and supply and urban design.

1.3 SCOPE

This Discussion Paper details the existing site context of Cygnet, together with a review of existing planning policy and strategy, and other relevant background documents. A brief summary of the key documents relating to Cygnet has been provided in Section 3 of this report. Additional documents reviewed have been utilised to provide further detail as relevant to each theme discussed later in the report.

A full list of the documents reviewed to inform the discussion paper has been outlined in Section 3.

CYGNET
LIVING HISTORY
MUSEUM

37

MUSEUM
OPEN

2. SUBJECT SITE

2.1 CYGNET

Cygnet is located approximately 55km south-west of Hobart, between the D'Entrecasteaux Channel and the Huon River. It is approximately 17km south-east of Huonville, the major centre of the Huon Valley. Cygnet itself serves as a regional hub, providing essential services and functions to smaller settlements in its hinterland.

Historically, Cygnet has been a place of significance for the Mellukerdee people, who have cared for Country in this location for thousands of years. The locality was named Port des Cygnet by French explorer Bruni D'Entrecasteaux in 1793, reflecting the presence of swans in the estuary and the strong link to natural values that carries through to today.

A probation station was established in 1845 at Port Cygnet, becoming the township of Lovett in 1862 before being renamed Cygnet in the early 1900's indicating the importance of the port in the region.

Primary production, including apples and aquaculture, have long been important contributors to the economy and heritage of Cygnet. Apples have been exported from Cygnet since the 1840's, with the Port Cygnet Cannery built by local farmers in 1938 to process fruit for export. An annual Apple

Festival was held between 1952 and 1964, crowning an Apple Queen and attracting up to 20,000 people from across the district.

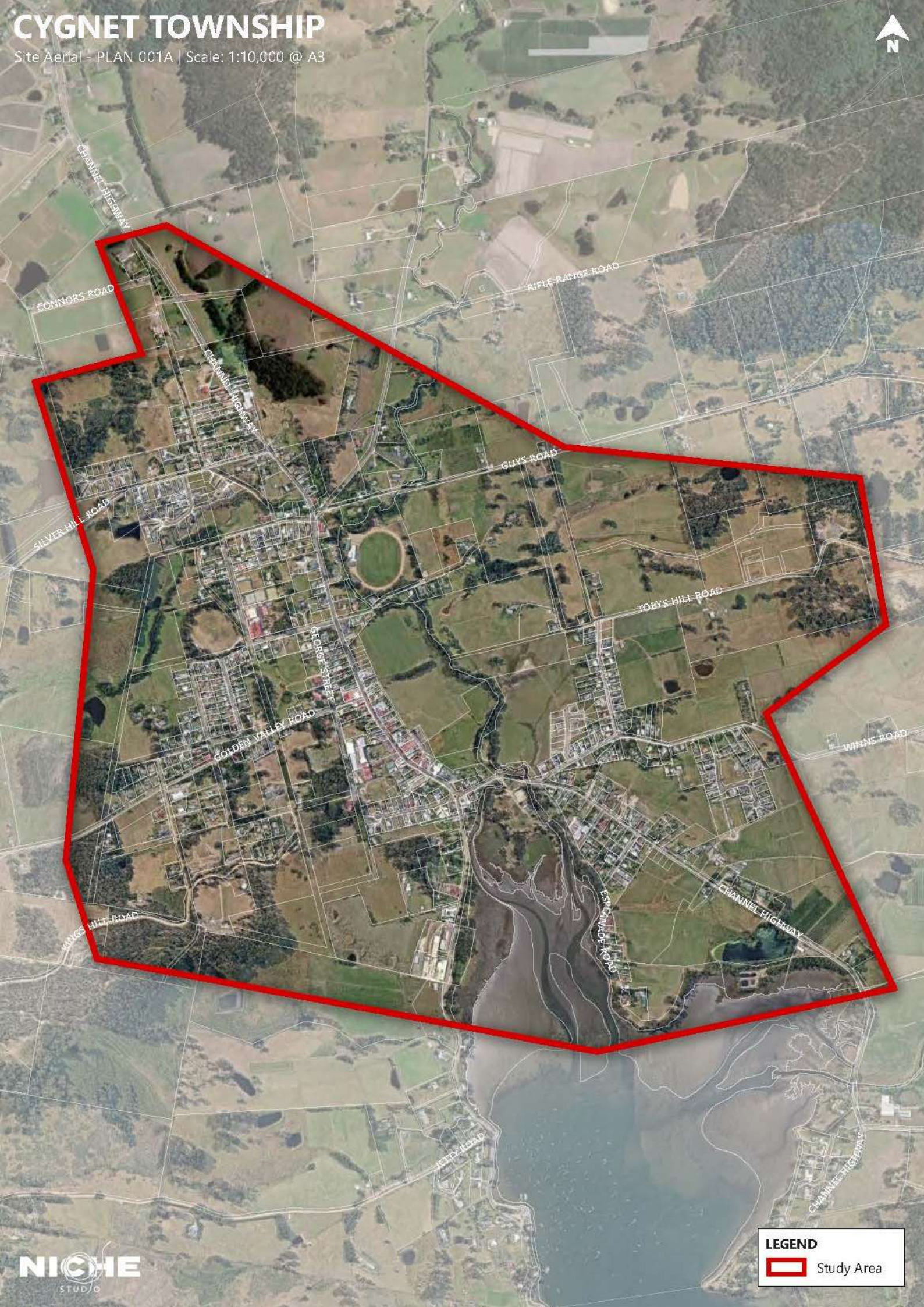
According to the 2021 Census data, the resident population of Cygnet was 1057. Given the current growth rates being experienced in the region, the resident population in the 2026 Census is predicted to exceed high forecast scenario predictions and reach approximately 1200 residents. According to 2021 ABS Census data, the population of Cygnet older than 55 is higher than the general Tasmanian population. However, data collected by Council indicates that the proportion of young families is expected to increase in the 2026 Census.

Cygnet has an engaged and well-informed community, and together with the strong heritage and environmental values in the region, has an excellent support base to build a realistic, achievable Structure Plan.

The Cygnet study area shown in following plans has been arbitrarily defined with a loose boundary defining the area of interest. Further discussion and feedback during the plan preparation will inform the boundary location. Recommendations arising from the preparation of the plan will be considered to apply to whole land parcels.

CYGNET TOWNSHIP

Site Aerial - PLAN 001A | Scale: 1:10,000 @ A3



2.2 ZONING

Cygnnet township comprises a diverse 'quilt' of land use zones, the majority of which are residential supporting the ongoing growth of the town:

- General Residential
- Low-Density Residential
- Village
- Future Urban

Local commerce is supported by a section of Local Business zoning defining the Mary Street precinct and a Light Industrial area in the east on Toby's Hill Road.

Other key land use zones within the township are illustrated on the adjacent plan and include:

- Community Purpose
- Environmental Management around the estuary and Agnes Rivulet.
- Recreation
- Open Space
- Utilities
- Particular Purpose

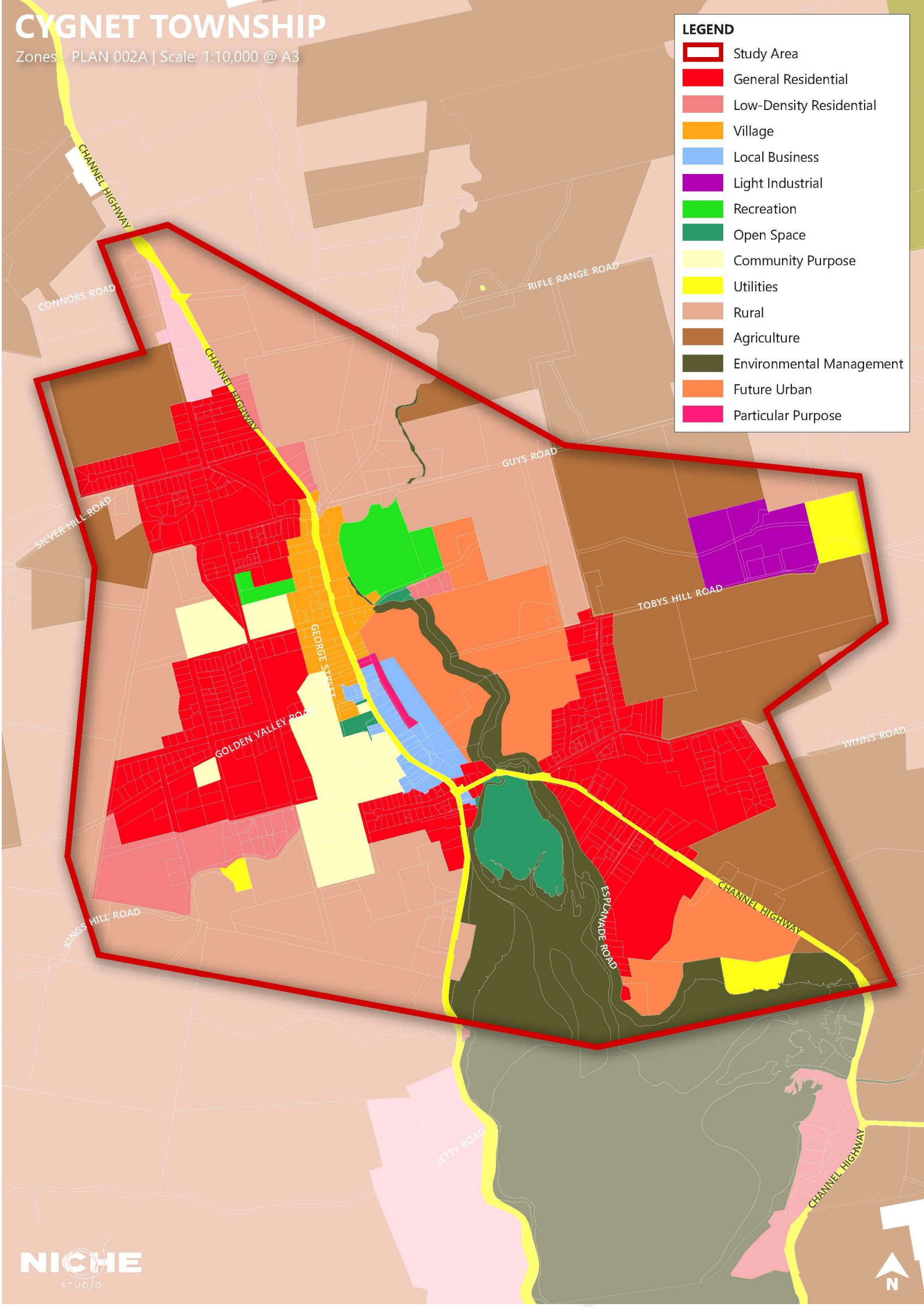
The heart of the township is generally surrounded by Rural and Agriculture zones.

CYGNET TOWNSHIP

Zones - PLAN 002A | Scale: 1:10,000 @ A3

LEGEND

	Study Area
	General Residential
	Low-Density Residential
	Village
	Local Business
	Light Industrial
	Recreation
	Open Space
	Community Purpose
	Utilities
	Rural
	Agriculture
	Environmental Management
	Future Urban
	Particular Purpose



2.3 OVERLAYS

Much of the centrally located land within Cygnet has numerous environmental constraints and risks, limited access to existing infrastructure as well as climate change adaptations. These implications are generally reflected in the various overlays applicable to the township:

- Bushfire Prone
- Coastal Erosion and Coastal Inundation
- Scenic Road Corridor
- Landslip Hazard
- Priority Vegetation
- Waterway and Coastal Protection Area

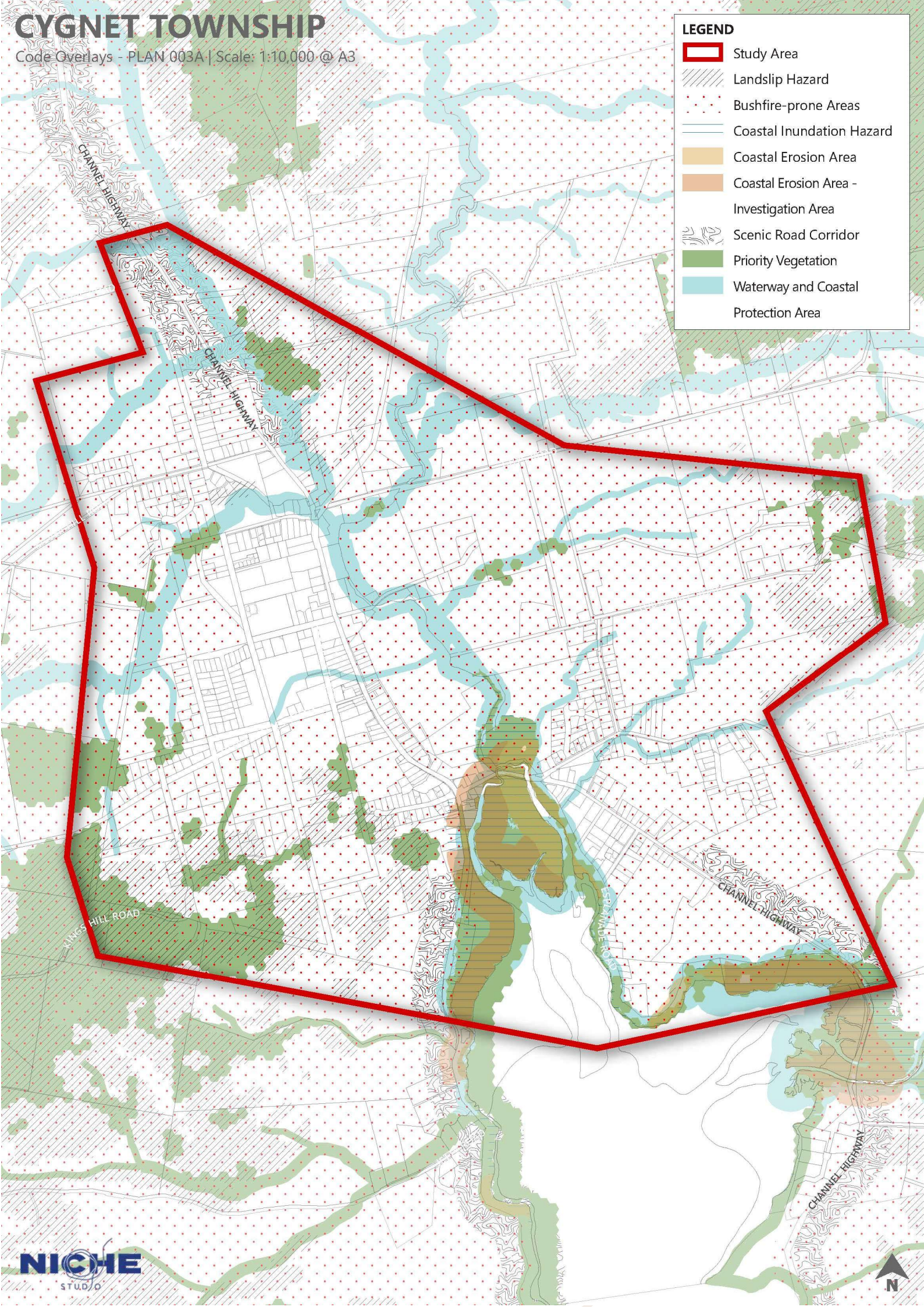
Together with the relevant zones that exist across the township, these overlays illustrate the need for clear government direction together with significant landowner collaboration to bring this land to market. Structure planning and coordination will therefore be essential to achieve sustainable and high-quality development outcomes.

CYGNET TOWNSHIP

Code Overlays - PLAN 003A | Scale: 1:10,000 @ A3

LEGEND

-  Study Area
-  Landslip Hazard
-  Bushfire-prone Areas
-  Coastal Inundation Hazard
-  Coastal Erosion Area
-  Coastal Erosion Area - Investigation Area
-  Scenic Road Corridor
-  Priority Vegetation
-  Waterway and Coastal Protection Area



3. POLICY CONTEXT

A number of key regional and municipal policy documents have been reviewed to inform the ongoing thematic analysis within this Discussion Paper. Specifically, the following documents have been reviewed:

- Regional Policy
 - Southern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy (2010)
 - STRLUS: State of Play Report (2024)
 - NRM South Regional Strategy 2030
 - Regional Strategy for Adapting to a Changing Coastline in Tasmania (2022)
 - State Policy on Water Quality Management (1997)
 - Regional Councils Climate Change Adaptation Strategy: Southern Tasmania 2013-2017
- Municipal Policy
 - Land Use and Development Strategy (2024 – 2039)
 - State of the Valley Report (2022)
 - Huon Valley Council Strategic Plan (2024 – 2034)
 - Huon Valley Community Vision (2023)
 - Community Engagement Framework (2018)
 - Huon Valley Local Provisions Schedule (2025)
 - Your Marine Values: Public Report (2013)
 - The D'Entrecasteaux and Huon Collaboration Strategic Plan 2018-2023
 - A First Pass Identification of Coastal Hazards for the Huon Valley Council LGA (2015)
 - Huon Valley Council Corporate Adaptation Plan (2012)
 - Climate Change Adaptation Plan (draft, 2023)
 - Weed Management Strategy (2018)
 - Vegetation Condition Assessment in Key Coastal Areas (2023)
 - Natural Resource Management Strategy (2016)
 - Retirement Villages Strategy (2023)
 - Living in the Huon Valley (2021)
 - Huon Valley Aquatic Facility Strategy (2022)
 - Huon Valley Community Recovery Plan (2024)
 - Huon Valley Municipal Emergency Management Plan (2023)
- Local Plans/Documents
 - Cygnet Final Town Plan (2010)
 - Cygnet Communities for Walkability Report (2022)
 - Cygnet Residential Demand and Supply Analysis (2020)
 - The Changing Face of Cygnet: A developmental history (2024)
 - Vegetation Condition Assessment: Burtons Reserve Saltmarsh (2023)
 - Community Engagement Summary Report: Burtons Reserve (2024)
 - Cygnet Theme Book and Implementation Plan (2016)

- Cygnet Skate Park: Consultation Summary (2017)
- Burton's Reserve Bike Track Community Consultation (2022)
- Cygnet Emergency Management Plan
- Community Protection Flood Response Plan: Cygnet and surrounds (2024)
- Cygnet Hall Future Use and Operation: Consultation Report (2023)
- Old School Farm Project and Concept Plan by the Cygnet Association (2018)

Of these documents, the two Southern Tasmanian Regional Land Use Strategy documents together with Council's Land Use and Development Strategy provide clear, high level guidance, to the ongoing planning context for Cygnet. For completeness, these three documents have been summarised here, with specific recommendations from all of the listed documents discussed later within the report as they relate thematically to the following key areas:

- Housing
- Movement
- Local Economy
- Tourism
- Open Space & Recreation
- Heritage
- Public Realm
- Arts & Culture
- Climate Change & Environment
- Servicing & Utilities

3.1 SOUTHERN TASMANIAN REGIONAL LAND USE STRATEGY 2010-2035 (STRLUS)

The regional land use strategy is a broad policy document that outlines a vision of change, growth, and development for the region over a 25-year period. The Regional Settlement Strategy builds upon the work of the Joint Land Use Planning Initiative at a regional level and aims to:

- Minimise pressure on duplication of services in remote areas.
- Avoid the creation of any further environmental issues caused by on-site wastewater disposal.
- Prevent linear development in coastal areas; and
- Protect distinct landscape character.

The STRLUS defines a clear growth management strategy for settlements in the region. Cygnet is defined in the STRLUS as a Township, with a Moderate growth strategy, and its growth strategy has been defined as Mixed. Moderate growth is defined as 10-20% increase in number of potential dwellings.

Townships are defined as residential settlements with prominent town centres providing a number of facilities, some local employment opportunities and convenience shopping.

The STRLUS also provides commentary in regard to Significant Agricultural Land, Agricultural Sub-Regions, Freight Network as it relates to Industrial Activity and Activity Centre Network as it relates to Cygnet Township.

- Land in and around Cygnet is afforded the highest level of protection from land use conflicts through its status as 'Significant Agricultural Land'. Appropriate zoning, attenuation distances, and growth boundaries linked to strategic planning must enable the protection of agricultural land. Specifically, a boundary of 200

metres from the boundary of the Significant Agriculture Zone should be established to mitigate potential land use conflict.

- The STRLUS defines key Industrial Activity areas across southern Tasmania, and Cygnet is identified as having a small proportion of industrial land. The STRLUS does highlight the overarching freight network connecting Hobart and Launceston as well as 'other' roads which provide connectivity across to Cygnet. This ensures the town is well connected for employment, tourism and commuting.
- An Activity Centre Network is proposed within the STRLUS to provide for a regionally defined hierarchy, recognising the primary role that Hobart plays in the southern region. Cygnet is not identified as an Activity Centre, however it is included within the rural zone of influence of the Huonville Rural Services Activity Centre. This catchment should be considered in the overall planning for Cygnet.

Of specific interest to the preparation of a Structure Plan for Cygnet is the strong emphasis on Cultural Values and Biodiversity in the STRLUS. These values are important considerations for future strategic planning work in the region and represent opportunities to build on the unique cultural heritage and sense of place present in the Huon Valley municipality. The STRLUS also recommends a pro-active approach to the recognition and protection of biodiversity values, habitat, and native vegetation throughout ongoing structure planning projects. These are key considerations in the preparation of the Cygnet Township Structure Plan.

It is worth noting that the STRLUS is fifteen years old, and currently under review. Many of

the recommendations and strategies outlined with the document require thorough review in light of the current challenges facing the Southern Tasmanian region. A review of this document was begun by the State Government in 2024.

3.2 SOUTHERN TASMANIAN REGIONAL LAND USE STRATEGY: STATE OF PLAY REPORT (2024)

This document begins the review of STRLUS, defining Cygnet as a town, and noting that it has become a "hub for arts and culture" in the region. Cygnet, although not a large district service centre, provides access to community and social infrastructure for smaller rural communities in its hinterland. This includes access to sport and recreation facilities, education and health and community facilities.

Primary production in the form of aquaculture, fishing and agriculture support the local economy, with consideration given to natural hazards in the form of bushfire, flooding (coastal and riverine) and landslip.

3.3 LAND USE & DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (2024 - 2039)

Overview

The Land Use and Development Strategy (LUDS) is a dynamic long-term plan developed by the Huon Valley Council to guide how land is used and developed across the region. It sets out strategic directions for future housing, infrastructure, jobs, and environmental preservation based on community input and alignment with state and regional planning frameworks. The new LUDS replaces the outdated 2007 version and reflects current trends like population growth, housing needs, and the rising demand for services due to migration and lifestyle changes.

This updated strategy was shaped through extensive research and community consultation, starting with a State of the Valley report in 2022. Residents contributed their visions, raising concerns about affordable housing, transport, sustainability, and the preservation of the area's natural beauty and rural character. The LUDS outlines two key development models — concentrated (within towns) and dispersed (rural living) —and aims to strike a balance between them. Ultimately, it provides a roadmap to support sustainable growth while keeping the unique character of the Huon Valley intact.

The LUDS document covers 10 themes, each presenting issues, opportunities, and directions for development in the broader region:

1. Heritage
2. Transport and Access
3. Service Infrastructure
4. Community Infrastructure
5. Environmental Values and Natural Hazards
6. Resource Industries
7. Tourism Development

8. Commercial and Industrial Employment
9. Communities
10. Housing and Growth

Considerations for Cygnet include:

- Utilise proximity to Hobart to guide planning for transport infrastructure, support residential growth, and strengthen economic connections between the Huon Valley and Greater Hobart.
- Manage coastal zones through integrated land use and environmental planning to balance tourism, aquaculture, and ecological protection.
- Improve transport infrastructure layout (roads, bridges) and condition to enhance regional connectivity and support key economic sectors such as agriculture and aquaculture.

Key opportunities for future strategic planning work in Cygnet are outlined in the plan below.

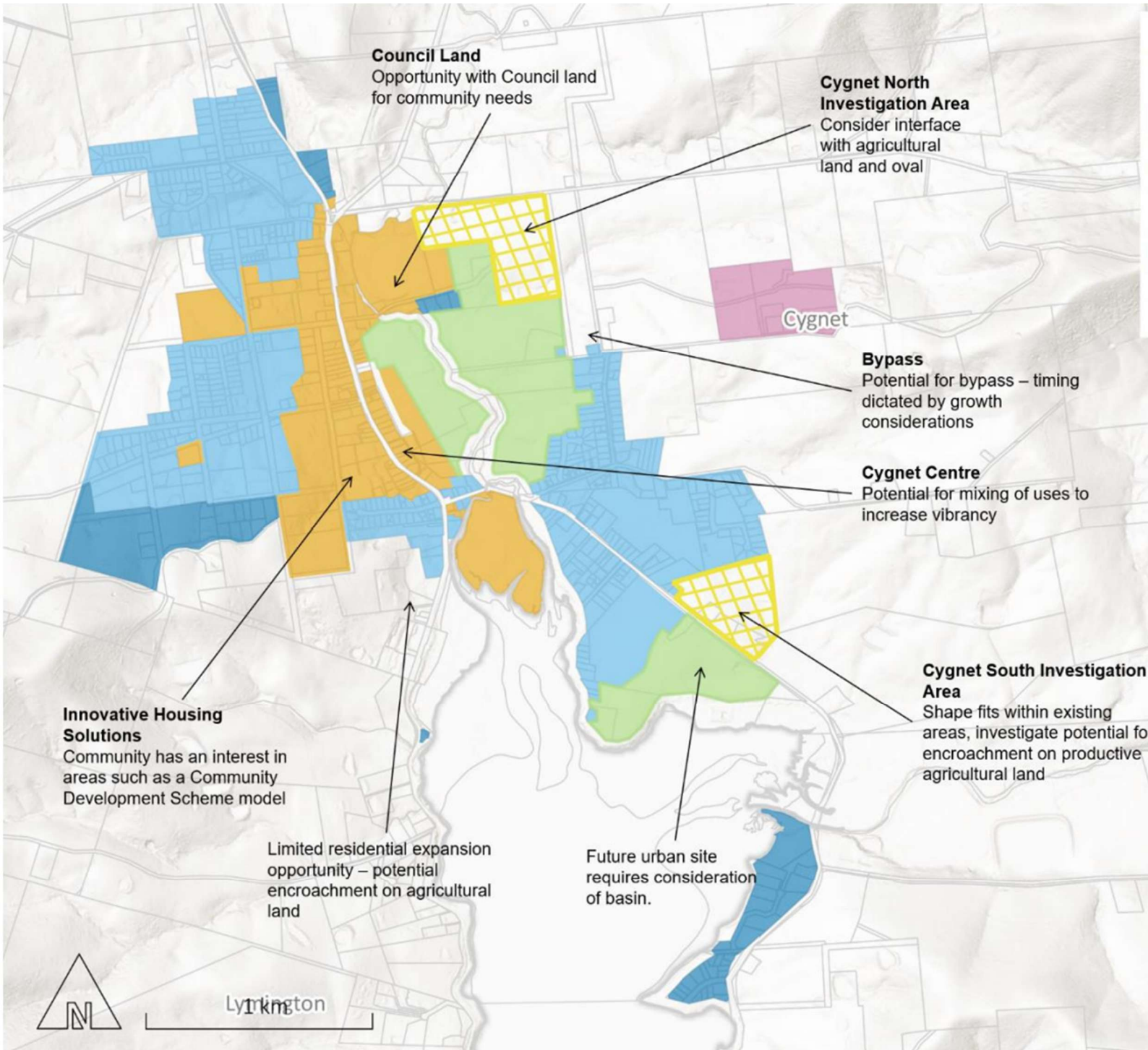


Figure 1: Opportunities for Cygnet identified in the Land Use and Development Strategy (2024)

Legend

-  Investigation areas
-  Existing General Residential
-  Existing Low Density Residential
-  Existing Industrial
-  Existing Village, Community Purpose commercial
-  Existing Future Urban

4. HOUSING

4.1 DISCUSSION

Settlement patterns within Huon Valley can be described as dispersed, with each major settlement having a 'small-town' feel, and larger areas of rural and agricultural land between settlements.

Accordingly, low density residential development has been most prevalent in the Huon Valley municipality historically, including in Cygnet. The larger lot sizes of surrounding rural-residential development contribute to the rural character of Cygnet.

Existing main residential areas of Cygnet are located to the north of the town, on the western slope, and the south-east of the town. There are relatively large areas zoned Future Urban located to the south of the current township and to the east of the town centre.

Dwelling demand is forecast to exceed supply within Cygnet, with a shortfall of 270 dwellings estimated under high population growth scenarios by 2042, reflective of the wider housing crisis currently experienced across Tasmania. The limited diversity of housing currently available within the Huon Valley magnifies the impacts of this housing crisis.

This is reflected in one community group's (Cygnet Association) particular interest in the Old School Farm and Cygnet Council Depot site currently owned by Council. After a protracted process of Council-proposed subdivision plans that were not welcomed by community and an engagement session where the Council encouraged the community group to prepare their own version of a plan for the site, a concept plan has been prepared.

This concept plan includes housing, community facilities and open space facilities that are arranged on the site in a 'village-feel' like layout.

However, certain aspects of the plan have been identified as difficult to accomplish by Council. The major constraint in the process would be funding and finding someone to develop the site according to the plan.

As part of this project, Council will review realistic options for the site, assisted by Niche and Inspiring Place's scope of work for not only this site, but several other Council-owned sites in Cygnet. The community will be widely consulted before any plans are finalised and the current concept plan prepared by Cygnet Association will be duly considered on merit and feasibility.

Another example of Council-owned land within the town that can be repurposed into housing is the Caravan Park site at the entrance of town between Mary Street and Agnes River.

A key consideration for this site is the topographical contours, which offer a unique advantage. A taller built-form structure consisting of social and affordable housing is a viable option for this site, which can take advantage of the sloping contours that slopes down towards the river from Mary Street. The resulting building would not be an imposition on view lines when viewed from Mary Street, as it would be built on lower-lying ground.

The existing Caravan Park on this site would be relocated to a more suitable location within town, thus providing an increase in much-needed affordable housing in town, while also preserving and improving tourism facilities.

4.2 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

The following strategic documents were reviewed for previous recommendations and implications surrounding the theme of housing.

- *Tasmanian Housing Strategy (2023)*

- *Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy, 2010 (amended 2013, 2023)*
- *STRLUS: State of Play Report (2024)*
- *Huon Valley Community Vision (2023)*
- *Land Use and Development Strategy (2024)*
- *Retirement Villages Strategy (2023)*
- *Cygnnet Residential Demand and Supply Analysis, 2020*
- *Living in the Huon Valley (2021)*
- *Cygnnet Township Plan (2010)*
- *Cygnnet Old School Farm Project & Concept Plan (2018)*

4.3 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Review of previous strategic work, as discussed in Section 3, highlighted the following recommendations that have been made, relevant to Cygnnet, in the past:

- Address limited land supply within the Cygnnet Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) by identifying strategies to accommodate projected housing demand and support sustainable town growth (*Cygnnet Residential Demand and Supply Analysis (2020)*).
- Prioritise residential development near the town centre to meet housing needs while enhancing local vibrancy and supporting walkable, community-focused living. (*Cygnnet Residential Demand and Supply Analysis (2020)*).
- Support the proposed 61-lot subdivision within the UGB to help relieve medium-term housing pressure and contribute to a more balanced land supply (*Cygnnet Residential Demand and Supply Analysis (2020)*).
- Monitor and manage shifting housing demand beyond the UGB to avoid unplanned expansion and ensure growth remains aligned with strategic planning goals. (*Cygnnet Residential Demand and Supply Analysis (2020)*)
- Expand diverse housing options, including retirement living and adaptable housing types, particularly close to the town centre, to meet the evolving needs of Cygnnet's ageing population (*Cygnnet Residential Demand and Supply Analysis (2020)*)
- Planning for a mix of affordable, quality housing solutions to meet the diverse needs of the population (*Huon Valley Community Vision 2023*)
- Strategically plan for land for retirement villages in accessible locations (*Retirement Villages Strategy 2023*)
- Engage with for-purpose and other providers to support the delivery of retirement units (*Retirement Village Strategy 2023*)
- Long-term land leases from retirement living service providers (*Retirement Village Strategy 2023*)
- Investigate alternative housing models such as community development schemes for Council land in the George and Donohoe Streets area. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Cygnnet North Investigation Area at the north-eastern corner of the town provides potential connectivity between existing future urban zones northward to Guys Road, and to the recreation ground (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Cygnnet South Investigation Area at the south-eastern corner of the town provides

an opportunity for extension, which would consolidate the southern gateway of the town. The recent area of subdivision through to existing residential lots fronting the highway matches the extent of future urban zoning on the south-east side of the highway. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)

- Support infill development consistent with the maintenance of residential amenity within existing urban areas (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Improve access to affordable decent housing (*Living in the Huon Valley 2021*)

4.4 2010 TOWNSHIP PLAN: RECOMMENDATIONS

No recommendations regarding land use for residential purposes or discussion around housing provision, diversity or typology was made in the 2010 Cygnet Township Plan.

4.5 KEY ISSUES

- Each of the Future Urban areas have been identified as having approximately 33% net developable land.
- There is insufficient capacity of residential zoned land in Cygnet to cater for demand in the short, medium and long term.
- In the current market, land values may become prohibitive for households to move into Cygnet.
- The majority of additional housing capacity exists within the General Residential zone, suggesting that intensification of existing residential areas through infill development is possible.
- Council-owned sites like the Old School Farm and Cygnet Council Depot, and the Caravan Park site may offer opportunity for delivery of additional housing lots.
- There is the possibility to consider innovative solutions, such as multi-residential buildings, tiny houses and mixed-use developments.
- Consideration of demographic change within the population may require provision of dwellings that enable aging in place, but should inform dwelling diversity and typology in general.

5. MOVEMENT

5.1 DISCUSSION

The movement network through Cygnet is highly vehicle dependant. The town itself is situated on the Channel Highway, which becomes Mary Street as it moves through Cygnet. Mary Street is the local 'high street', fulfilling daily needs of residents. High volumes of freight traffic along this road are inappropriate for safety and road network maintenance. Based on a site visit undertaken by pitt&sherry, it was observed for it to be difficult for pedestrians to cross Mary Street unless at the one designated wombat crossing. Speed limits on Mary Street were reduced to 40 km/hr last year to improve pedestrian safety.

A potential bypass of Mary Street has been previously proposed, and land has been rezoned to support this, together with a grant from the State government intended to facilitate scoping and construction. Further investigation of the location of this proposed bypass has presented traffic engineering issues, regarding the ability of trucks to navigate the proposed route safely. Additionally, the grant provided from State government was not sufficient to cover scoping and implementation of any new road, with significant investment required from both Council and State government for any proposed new road.

Crash data provided by the Department of State Growth indicated that most traffic accidents through Cygnet relate to car-parking related incidents. This, together with potential increase to traffic volume from additional residential developments would warrant investigation into other options, preferably off-street, for car parking for businesses and

services on Mary Street. This would remove use conflicts and address competing priorities.

A bus service links Cygnet to Hobart, via Kingston. The buses travel through Huonville, and offer six weekday services (equating to three return trips) and four weekend services (equivalent to two return trips). Enhancements to the active transport network and public transport services will support the local community in meeting daily needs and journey planning.

5.2 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

The following strategic documents were reviewed for previous recommendations and implications surrounding the theme of movement.

- *Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy, 2010 (amended 2013, 2023)*
- *STRLUS: State of Play Report (2024)*
- *Huon Valley Community Vision (2023)*
- *Land Use and Development Strategy (2024)*
- *Living in the Huon Valley (2021)*
- *Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2023-2034*
- *Cygnet Township Plan (2010)*
- *Cygnet Communities for Walkability (2022)*
- *Burttons Reserve Council Report (2022)*

5.3 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Review of previous strategic work, as discussed in Section 3, highlighted the following recommendations that have been made, relevant to Cygnet, in the past:

- Focus on enhancing transport links between townships to improve mobility

across the valley (*Huon Valley Community Vision 2023*)

- Maintain and upgrade footpaths throughout Cygnet, addressing wear and tear to provide safe, comfortable, and accessible walking routes for all community members (*Cygnet Communities for Walkability (2022)*).
- Improve pedestrian safety and connectivity by ensuring continuous, well-marked footpaths along key routes such as Mary Street and Lymington Road, making walking safer and more accessible across Cygnet (*Cygnet Communities for Walkability (2022)*).
- Development of local paths and trails to improve access to outdoor activities and enhance the health and wellbeing of residents (*Huon Valley Community Vision 2023*)
- Focus on enhancing transportation networks, including pedestrian and cycling infrastructure, to improve accessibility between towns and key services (*Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2024-2034*)
- There is a need for traffic calming measures within Burtons Reserve carpark. (*Burtons Reserve Playground Council Report 2022*)
- Ensure that use and development does not jeopardise future important transport corridors through application of appropriate zones. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Parking strategies for townships may provide opportunities under the Parking & Sustainable Transport Code of the planning scheme for tailored parking arrangements suitable for individual

towns. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)

- Investigate a potential bypass in Cygnet, which will ease traffic congestion on Mary Street. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Improve amenity for pedestrians through provision of high quality footpaths and tracks. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Include provision of cycling in the design and layout of streets (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)

5.4 2010 TOWNSHIP PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

A number of recommendations around movement and access were made in the 2010 Cygnet Township Plan. They have been analysed and outlined overleaf.

5.5 KEY ISSUES

- Provision of a movement network that links local towns. Notably, distance and safety limits the feasibility of extended active transport networks.
- Consideration of alternative routes and connections through the township developed through organic growth and development to remove freight traffic from main roads and residential precincts.
- Active transport linkages between key destinations in Cygnet, where possible and practical.
- Assessment of car-parking requirements, safety and amenity on Mary Street.
- Consideration of a 'park and ride' arrangement for the township to balance the needs for short term and all-day parking.

Table 1: 2010 Township Plan Recommendations - Movement

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS/ COMMENTS
Continuation of the Lymington Road trail to Robleys Point picnic facilities and launching ramp and public toilets at Catos Bay.	Completed.
Development of a trail from Burtons Reserve through the Coastal Reserve around the eastern foreshore of Port Cygnet.	Completed.
Consideration of the construction of roundabouts at the Lymington Road, Mary and Charlton Street intersections.	Completed.
Limit the length of stay along Mary Street to short term parking.	Completed.
The development and maintenance of an informal overflow parking area that caters for both long term customer and visitor parking to the east of Mary Street behind the Town Hall.	Completed.
The use of road markings to define on street parking spaces.	Completed.
A connection to the proposed Cultural Recreation Area via the multiple use path network.	Completed.
The provision of new pedestrian crossings in locations as shown on the master plan.	In progress – one wombat crossing provided to date.
Relocation of the bus stop to the northern end of Mary Street which will help reduce the parking of vehicles by bus users in the main car park.	In progress –may no longer be the most appropriate location.
Construction of a road on the eastern side of Mary Street businesses that would provide access to a future car parking area and convenient pedestrian access to the town centre.	In progress – land has been rezoned but may not be best location.
Relocation of the bus stop and construction of a new shelter to be located near the BP service station.	Bus stop relocated, no shelter required.
Upgrading the pedestrian link between the Primary School (and Sports Centre) and the Child Care Centre, St James College and Mary Street – possibly integrated with an open space linkage through the Council owned residential land.	Not undertaken.
Upgrading and defining the pedestrian route between Mary Street and the Recreation Ground.	Not undertaken.
The development of multiple use trail network on the eastern side of Mary Street properties aligned with the proposed new road link.	Not undertaken.

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS/ COMMENTS
Realignment of the Golden Valley Road and Mary Street intersection to improve safety, reduce vehicle speed entry and provide improved turning radii.	Not undertaken.
Construction of a pedestrian refuge on Golden Valley Road adjacent the Mary Street intersection.	Not undertaken.
Traffic calming and road re-alignment or closure of a portion of Louisa Street to limit through traffic between the Primary School and the Sports Ground.	Not undertaken.
Businesses are to be encouraged and/or assisted to provide and promote off street customer parking at their premises.	This item is for Council to facilitate, not action.

6. LOCAL ECONOMY

6.1 DISCUSSION

The local economy of Huon Valley and Cygnet has traditionally been based on primary production, focused on apples, cherries and berries, aquaculture and fishing, and forestry. The natural assets of the region underpin the economic advantages (e.g. agriculture, aquaculture and tourism). However, in recent years, the focus of the local economy is somewhat shifting towards service provision. The 2021 Census reported that the employment share of health care and education grew over the previous ten years, while the labour force employed in primary production and manufacturing shrank.

Due to the proximity of greater Huon Valley and Cygnet to Hobart, commuting to Hobart and surrounds for employment is feasible. A number of residents utilise either public transport or private vehicles to access employment out of the region, including in Hobart and surrounds. This can be seen to reflect a desire for lifestyle and amenity in daily life, with compromises made in commuting time..

Tourism is providing an important driver to the local economy of Cygnet, with established festivals and events such as the Cygnet Folk Festival drawing people to the region. The reputation of Cygnet as an emerging “arts and crafts hub” is further facilitating this increase in tourism numbers.

In recent years, there has been a significant uptake of industrial land within the Huon Valley municipality. There is very limited supply of serviced industrial land that is ready, available and suitable for immediate development. It is predicted that with employment forecast to grow by 1.72% per annum in the municipality, that the demand

for employment floorspace will grow accordingly.

6.2 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

The following strategic documents were reviewed for previous recommendations and implications surrounding the local economy.

- *Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy, 2010 (amended 2013, 2023)*
- *STRLUS: State of Play Report (2024)*
- *Huon Valley Community Vision (2023)*
- *Land Use and Development Strategy (2024)*
- *Living in the Huon Valley (2021)*
- *Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2023-2034*
- *Huon Valley Term Plan 2023-2027*
- *Huon Valley Economic Development Strategy (2015)*
- *Cygnet Township Plan (2010)*

6.3 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Review of previous strategic work, as discussed in Section 3, highlighted the following recommendations that have been made, relevant to Cygnet, in the past:

- Highlighting the importance of maintaining agricultural and aquaculture industries as key economic drivers, particularly in the production of local food (*Huon Valley Community Vision 2023*)
- Ensuring access to education from early years through to adulthood, with a focus on building skills that align with local job opportunities (*Huon Valley Community Vision 2023*)

- Promote mixed-use developments that integrate residential, commercial, and recreational spaces to support local businesses and vibrant town life (*Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2024-2034*)
- Identify locations where additional light industrial land, transport, and services are available but where impacts on residential areas, heritage, natural values or visual landscapes can be avoided or mitigated. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Expanded commercial area can accommodate mixed use to add vibrancy to the town centre (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Development east of Mary Street should create a connected commercial precinct that supports improved traffic management and improves walkability and pedestrian safety in the town. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Encourage innovative re-use of existing buildings to stimulate economic development while retaining township character (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Maintain the commercial centre of the town around the existing commercial area

(*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)

- Enhance the Huon Valley's regard nationally as a creative region. (*Huon Valley Economic Development Strategy (2015)*)
- Direction to expand the focus on the arts and other creative elements in and around Cygnet, and to link with other similar experiences around the region (*Huon Valley Economic Development Strategy (2015)*).

6.4 2010 TOWNSHIP PLAN: RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations around the local economy were made in the 2010 Cygnet Township Plan and are listed on the following page.

6.5 KEY ISSUES

- Consider whether additional industrial land is required, or if industrial uses can be facilitated through mixed use zoning.
- Consider whether expansion of the existing commercial precinct is required.
- Develop methods to strengthen existing and developing economic assets.

Table 2: 2010 Township Plan Recommendations - Local Economy

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS/COMMENTS
The finalisation and subsequent introduction of a more performance-based planning scheme for the Huon Valley may provide greater flexibility to support the use and development of Mary Street as the business precinct of Cygnet, and the retention of the rural character of Cygnet	No longer relevant due to introduction of State-wide planning system.
The continued preference for infill development of Mary Street for general business development - business development should be consolidated between the Mary Street and Lymington Road intersection in the south, and the Mary Street and Frederick Street intersection in the north, rather than encouraging commercial development to spread beyond Mary Street in any direction.	Not undertaken – to be reviewed in the current study.



7. TOURISM

7.1 DISCUSSION

Tourism is becoming an important economic driver for Tasmania, and is set to continue growing. Identified trends in the Huon Valley for tourism growth include:

- Agritourism
- Nature-based or adventure travel.
- Caravan and camping holidays, particularly for families with no children.
- Cultural tourism, including interest in built heritage and First Nations heritage. There is growing interest in the arts and craft sector of Cygnet for 'experience' tourism.

Regular festivals, such as the Cygnet Folk Festival and markets provide attractions for day-trippers and holiday makers. The Cygnet Living History Museum displays photographs and artefacts that detail Cygnet's history and provides an attractor that has the potential to be built on. With growing interest in food and local produce, there is ample opportunity to capitalise on the agriculture past and present of the area to develop farmgate or farm to table experiences.

There is also the opportunity to capitalise on the town's existing strengths like the Cannery and surrounding historic sheds, the Golden Valley Highway - west, the Northern entry on Channel Highway and the South- East entry on Channel Highway by establishing Gateway Precincts at these sites. These precincts could contain wayfinding and marketing signage, information boards, cultural activities/events and other tourism-related functions in order to attract both targeted visitors and passers-by travelling through Cygnet.

7.2 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

The following strategic documents were reviewed for previous recommendations and implications surrounding tourism within the local place and economy.

- *Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy, 2010 (amended 2013, 2023)*
- *STRLUS: State of Play Report (2024)*
- *Huon Valley Community Vision (2023)*
- *Land Use and Development Strategy (2024)*
- *Living in the Huon Valley (2021)*
- *Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2023-2034*
- *Huon Valley Term Plan 2023-2027*
- *Huon Valley Economic Development Strategy (2015)*
- *Cygnet Township Plan (2010)*
- *RV Research*

7.3 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Review of previous strategic work, as discussed in Section 3, highlighted the following recommendations that have been made, relevant to Cygnet, in the past:

- Encourage development of new tourist accommodation within key locations where reticulated water and sewerage can be provided. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)

7.4 2010 TOWNSHIP PLAN: RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations around tourism were made in the 2010 Cygnet Township Plan.

The two key recommendations are listed on the following page.

7.5 KEY ISSUES

- Capitalise on the natural advantages and strategic location of Huon Valley to grow visitation and the destination appeal.
- Ensure provision of short-stay accommodation does not preclude provision of housing for residents of Cygnet.
- Potential for relocation of caravan park site to allow expansion and reuse of current site. This would allow for location of a site with greater tourism amenity.
- Promote sustainable and heritage-focused tourism.

Table 3: 2010 Township Plan Recommendations - Tourism

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS/COMMENTS
The provision of improved visitor facilities – including seating, interpretation and picnic facilities within the reserve.	Ongoing. There is a yearly asset renewal program in line with Council budget.
Alternative uses of the existing caravan park site may be pursued in the future if a new development is undertaken that replaces its current role.	Not undertaken.

8. OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION

8.1 DISCUSSION

Cygnet is anchored by two major open spaces; the Cygnet Sports Ground at the northern entrance and Burtons Reserve at the southern entrance. The Sports Ground is home to the local AFL team, the pony club, a woodchopping arena, the Men's Shed, and the fenced dog park. This active recreation hub is well utilised by the local community, but does not enjoy pedestrian linkages to surrounding destinations or the broader town.

Burtons Reserve abuts the Port Cygnet Conservation Area, which includes a listed wetland of state significance. The reserve serves as a refuge area for numerous bird species, including migratory birds. Within Burtons Reserve, the playground has recently been refreshed and upgraded, with swings, slides and climbing frames. There is a skate park and a bike pump track established on previous basketball/netball courts. While there are shared paths and trails within Burtons Reserve, these do not link to the township more broadly.

Loongana Park, on Mary Street in the heart of Cygnet, offers open space within the main street. There are public toilets, seating, public phone boxes and pedestrian paths running through the park. The oval at Cygnet Primary School, together with the indoor/outdoor sports courts, also provide additional open space facilities for use by the general community outside of school operational times.

8.2 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

The following strategic documents were reviewed for previous recommendations and implications surrounding open space and recreation in Cygnet.

- *Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy, 2010 (amended 2013, 2023)*
- *STRLUS: State of Play Report (2024)*
- *Huon Valley Community Vision (2023)*
- *Land Use and Development Strategy (2024)*
- *Living in the Huon Valley (2021)*
- *Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2023-2034*
- *Huon Valley Term Plan 2023-2027*
- *Huon Valley Economic Development Strategy (2015)*
- *Cygnet Township Plan (2010)*
- *Cygnet Communities for Walkability 2022*
- *Cygnet Skate Park: Summary of Consultation (2017)*
- *Burtons Reserve Bike Track: Council Report (2022)*
- *Review & Development of a Future Aquatics Facility Strategy Report (2022)*
- *Burtons Reserve Engagement Report*

8.3 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Review of previous strategic work, as discussed in Section 3, highlighted the following recommendations that have been made, relevant to Cygnet, in the past:

- Integrate green and social spaces into the urban fabric to boost walkability, support social interaction, and ensure Cygnet remains a welcoming, inclusive, and vibrant place for all residents (*Cygnet Communities for Walkability (2022)*)
- Ensure public spaces, such as parks and town centres, are well-distributed and accessible, fostering social interaction and

community engagement (*Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2024-2034*)

- Opportunity for community facilities to be included at the Council's recreational ground, subject to review of future community need (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)

8.4 2010 TOWNSHIP PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations that encompass the theme of open space and recreation were made in

the 2010 Cygnet Township Plan, detailed in the following table.

8.5 KEY ISSUES

- Connectivity to key destinations and broader Cygnet is an issue for the two key open spaces.
- Consider whether community facilities can be co-located at the Cygnet Sports Ground.

Table 4: 2010 Township Plan Recommendations - Open Space and Recreation

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS/COMMENTS
Retention and upgrading of at least one netball/basketball court at Burtons Reserve for informal sport – ideally such casual sports facilities (would be integrated with the proposed Cultural Recreation Area), thus allowing Burtons Reserve to develop more as a passive recreation area based around natural values, and the Sports Centre and Recreation Ground to continue as the formal sporting venues	Completed – skate park and bike pump track installed.
Provision of mature landscaping and tree plantings to provide shade and shelter from the wind.	In progress – ongoing yearly planting program.
Paving of a new formal entrance and access paths through the site and to the toilets at Loongana Park.	In Progress – New paving has been installed.
At Loongana Park, relocation of the two Telstra phone booths to an area adjacent the public toilet.	No longer relevant.
Enlarged soil embankment to create more of an amphitheatre around the central performance space at Loongana Park.	No longer relevant – site serves a multifunctional purpose as is.
The provision of ‘pocket parks’ which may include mature plantings (to provide shade), landscaping, seating and/or rubbish bins.	Not undertaken– preference to examine opportunities for larger reserves instead.



9. HERITAGE

9.1 DISCUSSION

The heritage of Cygnet, built and cultural, contributes to the unique sense of place and character that defines Cygnet. A detailed review of Cygnet's heritage has been completed on behalf of Huon Valley Council, which sought to identify and define the physical elements within Cygnet that define its history. Surviving buildings are the most obvious of these to identify and protect within the planning scheme, however the contribution of other elements such as vegetation, outbuildings and infrastructure should not be discounted.

The Cygnet Historical Society and Living History Museum provide valuable insight into the tangible and intangible elements of Cygnet's heritage.

Two heritage precincts within Cygnet have been identified:

- Cygnet Commercial Precinct
 - Mary Street, between Lourdes Rise and Golden Valley Road.
 - Includes the Cygnet Town Hall, the Cygnet Post Office and the Cygnet branch of the Hobart Savings Branch. Comprises a concentration of historic buildings from the Victorian to the Inter-War period.
 - Many of these buildings have been repurposed, with the streetscape evolving since the 1840s to reflect the modern needs of the 21st century.
- Ecclesiastical Precinct
 - Reflects the religious history of Cygnet, from its initial establishment to the Post-War period.

- Comprises ecclesiastical buildings including churches, rectories, religion-based school and boarding houses, from the Victorian to Post-War period reflecting historical styles.

Additionally, numerous heritage places of significance were identified during the review. This reflects the importance of heritage protection as highlighted in strategies arising from the Land Use and Development Strategy (2024).

9.2 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- *Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy, 2010 (amended 2013, 2023)*
- *STRLUS: State of Play Report (2024)*
- *Huon Valley Community Vision (2023)*
- *Land Use and Development Strategy (2024)*
- *Living in the Huon Valley (2021)*
- *Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2023-2034*
- *Huon Valley Term Plan 2023-2027*
- *Cygnet Township Plan (2010)*
- *Cygnet Heritage Study (2024)*

9.3 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Review of previous strategic work, as discussed in Section 3, highlighted the following recommendations that have been made, relevant to Cygnet, in the past:

- Efforts to create an inclusive community that respects cultural diversity, particularly with a focus on Aboriginal culture and history (*Huon Valley Community Vision 2023*).

- Consider dual naming using local language (*Land Use and Development Strategy, 2024*)
- Share local, culturally sensitive Aboriginal histories and cultures to all in an inclusive and accessible way (interpretation signage, displays, films, exhibitions) (*Land Use and Development Strategy, 2024*)
- Ensure that expansion of urban areas, rezonings and the like consider Aboriginal Heritage (*Land Use and Development Strategy, 2024*)
- Include identified heritage values not currently included in the draft Huon Local Provisions Schedule for the Tasmanian Planning Scheme. (*Land Use and Development Strategy, 2024*)
- Implement a local heritage review of towns and villages to identify significant sites, streetscape, townscape or landscape values that require protection (*Land Use and Development Strategy, 2024*)
- Undertake an assessment of the local heritage significance of sites within Cygnet, as well as the streetscape and townscape features that provide its local character (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Develop design standards or other provisions to support amendment of the Local Provisions Schedule of the planning scheme Heritage Code or a Specific Area Plan. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Encourage a high standard of urban design and protect buildings of architectural or heritage significance. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)

- New development will have regard to existing heritage values and existing built form. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- New development should be consistent with the main conclusions of the Cygnet Township Plan (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- New development will be required to complement the existing heritage values and promote enhancement of streetscapes (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)

9.4 2010 TOWNSHIP PLAN: RECOMMENDATIONS

A recommendation discussing heritage were made in the 2010 Cygnet Township Plan.

9.5 KEY ISSUES

- The need for increased infill housing provision should not forestall the protection or enhancement of the heritage elements that provide a significant sense of place and identity to Cygnet.
- Identified heritage precincts and places should be incorporated into the Huon Valley Local Provisions Schedule.
- Development of Urban Design Guidelines can provide a starting point to ensure new development responds and complements existing heritage values within heritage precincts of Cygnet.
- There are opportunities to collaborate with South East Tasmanian Aboriginal Corporation (SETAC) to protect areas of Aboriginal cultural significance.

Table 5: 2010 Township Plan Recommendations - Heritage

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS/COMMENTS
Portrayal of building histories through thematic interpretation plaques	In progress. In collaboration with Cygnet Association.



10. PUBLIC REALM

10.1 DISCUSSION

Well-designed public spaces can strengthen Cygnet's role as both a service centre for the surrounding rural community and a destination for tourists. Considerations around street furniture, lighting, signage and landscaping help create an inviting environment that supports local businesses and enhances the rural character of the town.

The town's compact main street, historic building and stunning natural surroundings require careful attention to streetscape design, pedestrian accessibility and the integration of new development within the existing heritage fabric. Additionally, public realm improvements can enhance connections between the town, its heritage, and the natural environment, capitalising on the views and vistas and create gathering spaces for the local community.

Given Cygnet's position within a significant landscape, public realm planning that celebrates local identity while providing practical amenities will help ensure the town remains a vibrant, liveable community for residents and visitors.

10.2 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- *Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy, 2010 (amended 2013, 2023)*
- *STRLUS: State of Play Report (2024)*
- *Huon Valley Community Vision (2023)*
- *Land Use and Development Strategy (2024)*
- *Living in the Huon Valley (2021)*
- *Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2023-2034*
- *Huon Valley Term Plan 2023-2027*
- *Cygnet Township Plan (2010)*

- *Cygnet Communities for Walkability Report (2022)*
- *Burttons Reserve Playground Council Report 2022*
- *Cygnet Theme Book & Implementation Plan 2016*

10.3 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Review of previous strategic work, as discussed in Section 3, highlighted the following recommendations that have been made, relevant to Cygnet, in the past:

- Reflect Cygnet's unique identity in infrastructure design by using local materials and incorporating features like public art, green areas, and gathering spaces that reinforce the town's character and community feel (*Cygnet Communities for Walkability Report (2022)*)
- Revitalize town centres with pedestrian-friendly streets, improved public transport, and integration of cultural and historical elements (*Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2024-2034*)
- Design inclusive, accessible public spaces that ensure equal access to services and recreation for all users (*Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2024-2034*)
- Investigate water refill station and shade provision at Burttons Reserve over existing picnic tables (*Burttons Reserve Playground Council Report 2022*)
- Provision of signage and seating in Loongana Park (*Cygnet Theme Book & Implementation Plan 2016*)
- Provision of signage to town entrance (*Cygnet Theme Book & Implementation Plan 2016*)

- Create street tree planting plan (*Cygneth Theme Book & Implementation Plan 2016*)
- Creation of signage plan (directional and interpretative) and implement (*Cygneth Theme Book & Implementation Plan 2016*)
- Replacement of seating, tables and rubbish bins (*Cygneth Theme Book & Implementation Plan 2016*)
- Investigate increasing placemaking (such as greening) on roads including Mary Street in Cygneth. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Increase tree canopy provision to increase environment protection and amenity of streets for users and residents (*Land Use and Development Strategy, 2024*)
- Include consideration of providing increased canopy cover during upgrade and maintenance of Council's land and infrastructure. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Encourage improvements to the streetscape within Cygneth. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)

10.4 2010 TOWNSHIP PLAN: RECOMMENDATIONS

Numerous recommendations were made in the *Cygneth Township Plan (2010)* for public realm improvements.

These are discussed in the table overleaf.

10.5 KEY ISSUES

- Heritage integration and character preservation, ensuring that additions and upgrades to the public realm do not compete with Cygneth's established character.
- Pedestrian safety and connectivity, ensuring safe crossing points, adequate footpaths and clear sightlines are provided and maintained.
- Supporting the local economy and tourism with public infrastructure upgrades, including exploring opportunities for street activation and wayfinding.
- Explore provision of community space, gathering places and 'pause points'.

Table 6: 2010 Township Plan Recommendations - Public Realm

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS/COMMENTS
Mature tree plantings within carriageway outriggers along the western edge of the Mary Street carriageway.	Completed.
Landscaping of the proposed roundabouts with native shrubs to DIER specifications.	Completed.
Mature tree plantings around the Town Centre parking area.	Completed.
The streetscape furniture should be sympathetic with the historic characteristics of the town.	In progress. As items require replacement, they are being replaced with appropriate items.
Improved weed control and roadside vegetation maintenance program on the approaches to Cygnet.	Ongoing task – yearly cycle.
'Adopt a box' planter boxes along Mary Street where footpath width allows and individuals, businesses and organisations support their introduction (potential sites may include the Post Office, Antique store at the intersection of Frederick and Mary Street, outside the Chemist and café adjoining the town centre parking area, outside the Haberdashery at the intersection of Golden Valley Road and Mary Street, and where appropriate within the eastern redevelopment of the footpath).	In progress.
Refurbishment of banner poles to increase their use and promote the sense of arrival to Cygnet during community events.	In progress; installed by Council with updates as required by the Cygnet Association.
Footpath inserts developed in collaboration between the students, Council, businesses and community members included in forthcoming upgrade of the eastern footpath.	Not undertaken.
Interpretive 'mural map' depicting Cygnet (potentially on the wall of 'Wild Thyme' cottage adjoining Loongana Park)	Not undertaken.
Further implementation of established streetscape colour scheme for street furniture by Council, community and business stakeholders within Mary Street.	Not undertaken.



11. ARTS & CULTURE

11.1 DISCUSSION

Cygnet is being recognised as a hub for arts and culture, and this provides a key point of difference and identity for the town. The town has developed a growing reputation for its vibrant arts scene, with local galleries, studios and cultural events drawing visitors from across Australia and the state.

Cygnet's compact size and historic setting provide an intimate background for cultural activities, from street art and pop-up exhibitions to music festivals and craft markets. Leveraging from this can provide investment and diversity in the local economy, unique tourist attractors and facilitate the growth and development as new residents move to live, work and play in the region.

11.2 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- *Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy, 2010 (amended 2013, 2023)*
- *STRLUS: State of Play Report (2024)*
- *Huon Valley Community Vision (2023)*
- *Land Use and Development Strategy (2024)*
- *Living in the Huon Valley (2021)*
- *Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2023-2034*

- *Huon Valley Term Plan 2023-2027*
- *Cygnet Township Plan (2010)*

11.3 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Review of previous strategic work, as discussed in Section 3, highlighted the following recommendations that have been made, relevant to Cygnet, in the past:

- Fostering creative spaces and opportunities for the community to engage in arts and culture, enhancing local identity (*Huon Valley Community Vision 2023*)

11.4 2010 TOWNSHIP PLAN: RECOMMENDATIONS

Some recommendations under the theme of Arts and Culture were made in the 2010 Cygnet Township Plan.

11.5 KEY ISSUES

- Highlighting the opportunities that arts and culture offer Cygnet.
- Innovation in bringing these opportunities into the township and broader community.

Table 7: 2010 Township Plan Recommendations - Arts and Culture

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS/COMMENTS
Small community based artistic (i.e. sculpture, painting, 'life like' murals) elements integrated with pocket parks, street furniture and/or in collaboration with business premises.	Not undertaken.
Extension of the mural program developed in collaboration between students, Council, businesses and community members (potential locations include the Newsagency, Laundromat, Wild Thyme Cottage and the Porthole).	Not undertaken.

12. CLIMATE CHANGE & ENVIRONMENT

12.1 DISCUSSION

A major impact of global warming on climate is a tendency towards greater extremes, potentially more heatwaves and cooler weather, greater rainfall, and longer periods of drought. This could combine with existing natural hazards in Cygnet to exacerbate estuarine and riverine flooding, inundation with rising sea levels, storm surge, and increased bushfire risk, posing a risk to human life, safety and infrastructure.

While urban areas are generally at low risk from bushfire, expanding development on the fringes of settlements and in rural areas exposes communities to greater risks. Expanding development, and corresponding increases in impervious surfaces, can also lead to increased flood risk.

These are direct impacts of climate change and do not consider the indirect impacts to the local economy – for example, resulting from changes in climate impacting on primary production and fishing, or damage to infrastructure results from natural hazards. Indirect and direct impacts should be considered in long term strategic planning for Cygnet.

12.2 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- *Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy, 2010 (amended 2013, 2023)*
- *STRLUS: State of Play Report (2024)*
- *Huon Valley Community Vision (2023)*
- *Land Use and Development Strategy (2024)*
- *Living in the Huon Valley (2021)*
- *Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2023-2034*
- *Huon Valley Term Plan 2023-2027*

- *Cygnet Township Plan (2010)*
- *Cygnet and surrounds: Community Protection Flood Response Plan (2024)*
- *Community Recovery Plan (2024)*
- *Huon Valley Municipal Emergency Management Plan (2023)*
- *Huon Valley Council Climate Change Adaptation Plan (2023)*
- *Corporate Adaptation Plan (2012)*
- *Vegetation Condition Assessment: Burtons Reserve Saltmarsh (2023)*
- *A First Pass Identification of Coastal Hazards for the Huon Valley Council LGA (2015)*
- *The D'Entrecasteaux and Huon Collaboration Strategic Plan 2018-2023*
- *State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997*
- *Adapting to a Changing Coastline in Tasmania*
- *NRM Strategy: Southern Tasmania 2030*
- *Regional Councils Climate Change Adaptation Strategy: Southern Tasmania 2013-2017*
- *Natural Resource Management Strategy (2016)*
- *Vegetation Condition Assessments in Key Coastal Areas (2014)*
- *Your Marine Values (2013)*
- *Huon Valley Weed Management Strategy (2018-2023)*

12.3 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Review of previous strategic work, as discussed in Section 3, highlighted the following

recommendations that have been made, relevant to Cygnet, in the past:

- Prioritising the protection of the natural environment and ecosystems, especially in relation to climate change resilience and sustainable practices (*Huon Valley Community Vision 2023*)
- Design eco-friendly infrastructure with energy-efficient buildings and green spaces to support sustainability and economic resilience (*Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2024-2034*)
- Implement climate-adaptive strategies like flood-resilient infrastructure, green stormwater systems, and urban greening to improve environmental resilience (*Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2024-2034*)
- Use sustainable land-use planning to protect natural resources while accommodating growth, especially in vulnerable areas (*Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2024-2034*)
- Consider inherent flood risk of land in determining land-use zones by avoiding residential zones within 1:100 flood risk areas (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Avoid expanding development where bushfire risk cannot be adequately managed or where mitigation measures such as hazard management will have a significant impact on natural and scenic values (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Control use and development within areas identified to be susceptible to sea level rise and storm surge. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Reduce emissions from residential woodfuelled heating in towns though encouraging passive heating through design and technology, use of electric heating or upgrade of older, higher-emitting woodfire. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Land that is subject to inundation from Agnes Creek is to only be used for recreation or remediation works. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Protect waterways from sedimentation and other pollutants which affect water quality. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- Maintain access to the natural environment (*Living in the Huon Valley 2021*)
- Proposed changes to the Huon Valley Council planning scheme include provision for primary management responses such as sea level rise planning allowances and the development of climate change adaptation plans and strategies by local governments (*Your Marine Values 2013*)
- Wetlands and some coastal sections in the Huon Valley area are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, such as sea level rise, saltwater intrusion into freshwater systems, the effects of storm surges, coastal erosion and inundation, also threatening Aboriginal heritage sites (*Natural Resource Management Strategy 2016*).
- Working with partners to conduct further research into the region's coastal and waterway values will provide a stronger base on which to inform decisions regarding land use and marine-based industry development and expansion, including climate adaptation planning

(*Natural Resource Management Strategy 2016*).

- Good coastal zone planning can help avoid new development in hazardous areas and identify where development or infrastructure is appropriate. Innovative design and construction methods can be used to help accommodate changed conditions (*Adapting to a Changing Coastline in Tasmania*)
- Extensive estuarine and deltaic floodplains at the mouths of Agnes Rivulet and Nicholls Rivulet are at risk of coastal flooding during storm surges and will be increasingly so towards 2100. With moderate areas of partly cleared land in both the Agnes Rivulet and Nicholls Rivulet catchments, there is additional potential for co-incident storm surges and catchment flooding to enhance the depth and extent of estuarine flooding in the event of heavy rainfall accompanying low pressure conditions associated with a storm surge (*A First Pass Identification of Coastal Hazards for the Huon Valley Council LGA (2015)*)
- Consideration of climate change risks and impacts during the development of other Council strategies, policies and plans (*Climate Change Adaptation Plan 2023*)

12.4 2010 TOWNSHIP PLAN: RECOMMENDATIONS

Some recommendations regarding climate change and the environment were made in the 2010 Cygnet Township Plan.

12.5 KEY ISSUES

- Development of sensitive uses in hazard prone areas should be restricted
- Preserve and protect natural landscapes of significance that contribute to the identity and culture of Cygnet.
- Both direct and indirect climate change impacts should be considered in all future strategic planning.
- Consider community resilience and readiness for emergencies in light of anticipated climate change impacts.
- Land use change and intensification are key drivers of increased pollution, nutrient and sediment loads deteriorating water quality levels.
- Burtons Reserve and associated estuarine floodplains, together with Lymington Road and associated buildings, and the Channel Highway at the Agnes Rivulet crossing are at risk of inundation, erosion and shoreline recession by 2100 as a result of climate change and sea level rise.

Table 8: 2010 Township Plan Recommendations - Climate Change and Environment

RECOMMENDATION	STATUS/COMMENTS
The completion of a landscape character and scenic assessment for the Huon Valley as strategic support for the new planning scheme.	Not undertaken; Scenic Protection Code applied to highway corridors and hilltops unchanged from the interim scheme.
Liaison with the Forest Practices Board and forestry companies to ensure that local landscape values are adequately managed.	Ongoing.

13. SERVICING & UTILITIES

13.1 DISCUSSION

Cygnet faces the common regional challenge of aging infrastructure designed for a smaller population and different usage patterns. The town's location along the Channel Highway provides good road connectivity, but it's distance from major urban centres means that upgrades to water, sewer, telecommunications and power systems requires careful planning and substantial investment.

The compact historic core of the town offers opportunities for efficient service delivery, but also presents constraints where heritage considerations limit infrastructure placement and upgrades. The growing need for housing puts additional pressure on existing systems, particularly during peak periods.

The surrounding rural landscape provides opportunities for innovative approaches to stormwater management and renewable energy, although Cygnet's location in a valley environment also requires careful consideration of flood management and slope stability in infrastructure planning. Topography can represent additional challenges to infrastructure provision.

13.2 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- *Southern Tasmania Regional Land Use Strategy, 2010 (amended 2013, 2023)*
- *STRLUS: State of Play Report (2024)*
- *Huon Valley Community Vision (2023)*
- *Land Use and Development Strategy (2024)*
- *Living in the Huon Valley (2021)*
- *Huon Valley Strategic Plan 2023-2034*
- *Huon Valley Term Plan 2023-2027*
- *Cygnet Township Plan (2010)*

- *State Policy on Water Quality Management (1997)*

13.3 POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Review of previous strategic work, as discussed in Section 3, highlighted the following recommendations that have been made, relevant to Cygnet, in the past:

- Future development is to be located in locations that can be serviced and provide a high level of residential amenity within the capacity and coverage of existing and planned infrastructure. (*Land Use and Development Strategy 2024*)
- The planning scheme must ensure that land use and development is consistent with the physical capability of the land (*State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997*).

13.4 2010 TOWNSHIP PLAN: RECOMMENDATIONS

No recommendations regarding servicing or utility provision were made in the 2010 Cygnet Township Plan.

13.5 KEY ISSUES

- Capacity of water and sewerage systems. Addressing the limitations of infrastructure to accommodate both population growth and increased visitation rates, while managing the cost of system upgrades with a relatively small customer base and navigating environmental constraints.
- Digital Infrastructure and Connectivity. Improving telecommunications to support economic diversification, remote work opportunities and modern business

operations while managing the visual impact of infrastructure in the historic streetscape and rural setting.

- Stormwater management and climate resilience. Developing sustainable approaches to managing increased flows

from development and extreme weather events, utilising the valleys natural drainage patterns while protecting the town and the surrounding eco-systems from potential impacts of pollution and flooding.