

# Feedback form

## DRAFT ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN 2022/23

Council would like your feedback on its **Draft 2022/23 Annual Business Plan**.

Hard copies of the plan are available from the Civic and Community Centre during business hours. The plan is also available by visiting [yoursay.walkerville.sa.gov.au/2022-23-abp](https://yoursay.walkerville.sa.gov.au/2022-23-abp)

All submissions will be considered by Council at its **1 August 2022** meeting in accordance with Council's Community Engagement and Consultation Policy.

All questions marked with an **asterix (\*)** must be completed for your survey to be taken into consideration as part of consultation.

### YOUR DETAILS

Full name:\*

Email:\*

Year of birth:\*

Suburb:\*

- Gilberton  
 Medindie  
 Vale Park  
 Walkerville  
 Other:

\_\_\_\_\_

What is your connection to the Town of Walkerville?  
Select all that apply.\*

- I am a ratepayer  
 I live here  
 I own a business here  
 I work here  
 I study here  
 I am a visitor

Street address (number and street name):\*

### YOUR FEEDBACK

1 What do you think of Council's proposed average residential rate increase of 3% (excluding growth from newly created and developed properties)? This is based on the cost of maintaining existing services and the projected costs included in the Long Term Financial Plan.\*

- Too high:** I would prefer to cut projects and services to lower the rate
- Ideal:** I believe this is a good middle ground to provide the appropriate amount of projects and services
- Too low:** I would prefer to add more projects and services and increase the rate

2 Do you have any comments on the rate increase?

Please provide any comments:

## YOUR FEEDBACK CONTINUED

Very satisfied

Satisfied

Neither/nor

Dissatisfied

Very dissatisfied

3 How satisfied are you with our proposed priorities for 2022/2023?\*

4 What is your reason for the above answer?

Please provide any comments:

5 Do you think there is anything missing from the 2022/23 budget?\*

Yes

No

Unsure

6 If so, what would you like to see included?

Please provide any comments:

7 Do you have any general comments you would like to make on the 2022/23 Annual Business Plan?

Please provide any comments:

Following a long-term operational review of Council's future projects and budget, as part of the 2023/24 Annual Business Plan, Council is looking to raise the debt ceiling from **\$9.5 million to \$12 million**.

This would enable Council the extra funding to undertake strategic projects as they arise.

***Please note that this will not impact the budget or rates for the 2022/23 financial year. Please see the overturned page for further information.***

8 Would you be supportive of this?\*

Yes

No

Unsure

9 Why or why not?

Please provide any comments:

### Completed surveys can be returned:

**In-person** at the Civic and Community Centre, 66 Gilberton Terrace, Gilberton

**Via email:** [walkerville@walkerville.sa.gov.au](mailto:walkerville@walkerville.sa.gov.au) with the subject line "Draft 2022/23 Annual Business Plan"

**Mail to:** Chief Executive Officer, "Draft 2022/23 Annual Business Plan", Town of Walkerville, PO Box 55, Walkerville SA 5081

# Borrowings overview

## Town of Walkerville - debt ceiling information sheet

The Town of Walkerville will face new challenges, as well as new opportunities, which calls for consistent financial decisions and innovative and community-centered solutions.

Where Council identifies potential strategic projects that will deliver agreed economic, social or environmental benefits, Council's current debt ceiling should be considered in line with these projects.

Council is required to review the structure of its debt and investment on an annual basis to ensure that the debt ceiling in place is sufficient to allow Council to remain agile, with the ability to undertake projects as and when the opportunities are presented.

Council can only use debt to fund capital expenditure. The term of any debt shall not exceed the life of the asset that the debt has been used to fund.

Under Council's Financial Guiding Principles, it cannot increase loan borrowings (debt) beyond its current debt ceiling of \$9.5m without community consultation.

The current debt ceiling of \$9.5m came into effect in August 2018 (CNC50/18-19). The \$9.5m cap was aligned to new borrowings that Council took out in 2012/13 to fund the redevelopment of the Town of Walkerville Civic and Community Centre.

Current debt levels derive from renewing, upgrading and sustaining Council's assets. These are community assets and typically have very long lives (i.e. they are intergenerational).

As Council continues in perpetuity and funds intergenerational assets, debt should be considered in a different light to that of household or business debt. There is no pressing need to repay debt rapidly; rather, debt should be maintained at serviceable levels.

Council is seeking preliminary community feedback on whether ratepayers would be supportive of increasing the debt level from \$9.5m to \$12m as this would allow for greater opportunity to undertake larger projects or developments as they arise. For example, should Council wish to embark on a park upgrade or redevelopment of a public site, this would be limited at the current debt ceiling.

***The Draft 2022/23 Annual Business Plan and Budget provides for a debt level as at 30 June 2023 of \$7.28m. Should the community be in favour of increasing the debt ceiling, no change would be made to the 2022/23 budget - any impacts would be factored into future financial years.***