

ITEM 5**POST EXHIBITION - HELENSBURGH COMMUNITY ROOMS - PROPOSED FEES AND CHARGES 2024/2025**

This report provides advice on the outcome of the exhibition of Fees and Charges for the hire of Helensburgh Community Rooms and seeks Council approval to adopt these for the 2024/2025 financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

Council adopt the Helensburgh Community Rooms – Proposed Fees and Charges 2024/2025

REPORT AUTHORISATIONS

Report of: Sarah Taylor, Manager Libraries + Community Facilities

Authorised by: Kerry Hunt, Director Community Services - Creative and Innovative City

ATTACHMENTS

- 1 Helensburgh Community Rooms Fees and Charges 2024/2025
- 2 Engagement Report - Helensburgh Community Rooms - Fees and Charges - 2024/2025

BACKGROUND

Following the decision in 2022 to close and demolish the Helensburgh Community Centre (HCC) because of mould issues, the fees and charges were removed from the Council's Schedule of Fees and Charges. However, Council continued to work on investigating ways of providing alternative meeting rooms in the short term for the Helensburgh Community whilst planning for the new Helensburgh Community Centre and Library was finalised.

During these investigations Council was able to establish that the HCC mould issues had several contributing factors, some of which included roofing and drainage problems. The investigation showed that, in the stage, main hall area and rooms linked to the entry foyer it was not practicable to address these problems due to their complexity, but it was possible to address these problems in the rooms immediately fronting Walker Street, formally known as the Helensburgh Youth Rooms.

Repairs and remediations works are currently underway to enable the temporary reopening of the rooms fronting Walker Street, which will be known as the Helensburgh Community Rooms in January 2025.

The stage, main hall and rooms linked to the entry foyer will remain closed and off-limits and measures will be established to ensure community members do not access these areas.

The long-term plan for the current HCC is for it to be demolished.

To reinstate community access to the centre, fees for hire of the Helensburgh Community Rooms need to be reintroduced to Council's Annual Schedule of Fees and Charges.

Current Situation

The fees for Meeting Room 1 (Large) and Meeting Room 2 (Small) are proposed to be the same as the fees when the centre was closed in 2021/2022. New fees are proposed for the office which was previously not available for hire.

A reactivation promotion plan has been developed, notifying the community that the rooms are available for hire and reactivating the centre.

On 8 August 2024, Executive endorsed the public exhibition of the proposed fees and charges for hire of Helensburgh Community Rooms for a period of 28 days.

The proposed fees were placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days concluding on 23 September 2024. Two submissions were received during the exhibition period in support of the proposed fees.

PROPOSAL

Council adopts the schedule of Fees and Charges for hire of the Helensburgh Community Rooms – 2024/2025.

CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

The Finance Division were consulted regarding the process for adoption of Fees and Charges.

The proposed fees and charges were placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days commencing 26 August 2024. During this period there were 36 visits to Council’s Have Your Say website, the document was downloaded 19 times, and 2 submissions were received. They are summarised in the table below:

Submission summary	Council Officers Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fees very cheap and more than fair 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledged No change recommended
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fees acceptable Have used the facilities previously Assume rooms will be cleaned regularly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledged, no change recommended Acknowledged Acknowledged, rooms to be cleaned in accordance with Community Facilities standard procedures

PLANNING AND POLICY IMPACT

This report contributes to the delivery of Our Wollongong 2032 Goal 4 – We are a connected and engaged community. It specifically delivers on the following:

Community Strategic Plan 2032	Delivery Program 2022-2026
Strategy	Service
4.11 Quality services, services and facilities are available to communities to access and gather	Libraries

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Adoption of the proposed fees and charges for hire of Helensburgh Community Rooms will provide income to Council which will assist in meeting the operating costs of the facility.

CONCLUSION

The proposed fees and charges have been on public exhibition for a period of 28 days. As no objections have been received, it is recommended that Council adopt these fees and charges for the 2024/25 financial year.

Helensburgh Community Rooms – Proposed Fees and Charges 2024/2025

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DRAFT FEES AND CHARGES	FUNCTIONS	ALL OTHER ACTIVITIES	
		NON PROFIT ORGANISATIONS (Community based and charity organization for non function activities)	ALL OTHER ORGANISATIONS (Commercial, private, government departments etc for non function activities)
	Social functions, weddings, balls, plays, conferences, exhibitions, dances, etc		
ROOM 1 (LARGE)			
Hourly rate	\$26.00	\$12.00	\$18.00
ROOM 2 (SMALL)			
Hourly rate		\$6.00	\$8.00
OFFICE			
Hourly rate		\$3.00	\$4.00
Half day rate (9am – 1pm, 1pm – 5pm)		\$6.00	\$8.00
Day rate (9am – 5pm)		\$12.00	\$16.00
Note: All fees are inclusive of GST			

Project Report

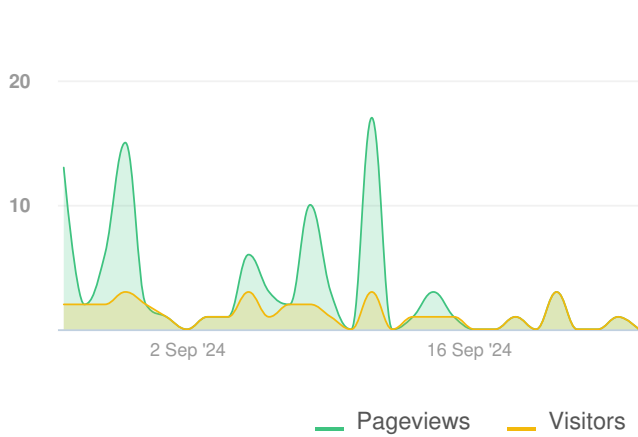
26 August 2024 - 23 September 2024

Our Wollongong

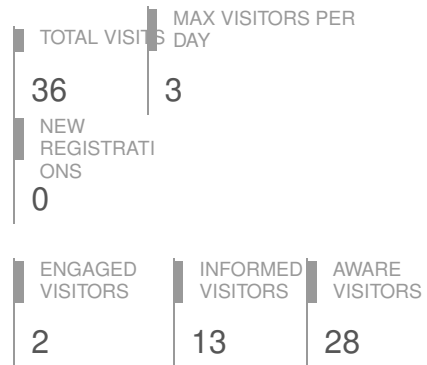
Helensburgh Community Rooms - Fees and Charges



Visitors Summary



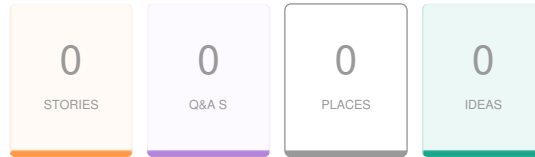
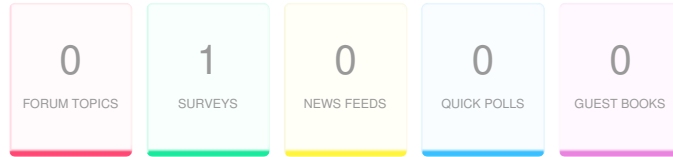
Highlights



Aware Participants	28	Engaged Participants	2		
Aware Actions Performed	Participants	Engaged Actions Performed	Registered	Unverified	Anonymous
Visited a Project or Tool Page	28	Contributed on Forums	0	0	0
Informed Participants	13	Participated in Surveys	1	1	0
Informed Actions Performed	Participants	Contributed to Newsfeeds	0	0	0
Viewed a video	0	Participated in Quick Polls	0	0	0
Viewed a photo	0	Posted on Guestbooks	0	0	0
Downloaded a document	11	Contributed to Stories	0	0	0
Visited the Key Dates page	0	Asked Questions	0	0	0
Visited an FAQ list Page	8	Placed Pins on Places	0	0	0
Visited Instagram Page	0	Contributed to Ideas	0	0	0
Visited Multiple Project Pages	10				
Contributed to a tool (engaged)	2				

Our Wollongong : Summary Report for 26 August 2024 to 23 September 2024

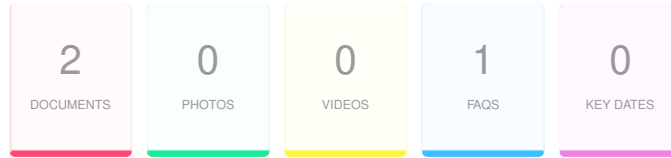
ENGAGEMENT TOOLS SUMMARY



Tool Type	Engagement Tool Name	Tool Status	Visitors	Contributors		
				Registered	Unverified	Anonymous
Survey Tool	Draft Helensburgh Community Rooms - Fees and Charges	Archived	3	1	1	0

Our Wollongong : Summary Report for 26 August 2024 to 23 September 2024

INFORMATION WIDGET SUMMARY



Widget Type	Engagement Tool Name	Visitors	Views/Downloads
Document	Draft Helensburgh Community Centre - Fees and Charges	10	13
Document	Updated Community Rooms Plans	6	6
Faqs	faqs	8	8
Key Dates	Key Date	0	0

Our Wollongong : Summary Report for 26 August 2024 to 23 September 2024

ENGAGEMENT TOOL: SURVEY TOOL

Draft Helensburgh Community Rooms - Fees and Charges

Visitors 3	Contributors 2	CONTRIBUTIONS 2
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No Graphs to show

Pro Tip:

The following types of questions are shown here as graphs.

Dropdown Type Question

Checkbox Type Question

Radio Type Question

Region Type Question

Number Type Question

Text based responses are not shown in this report.