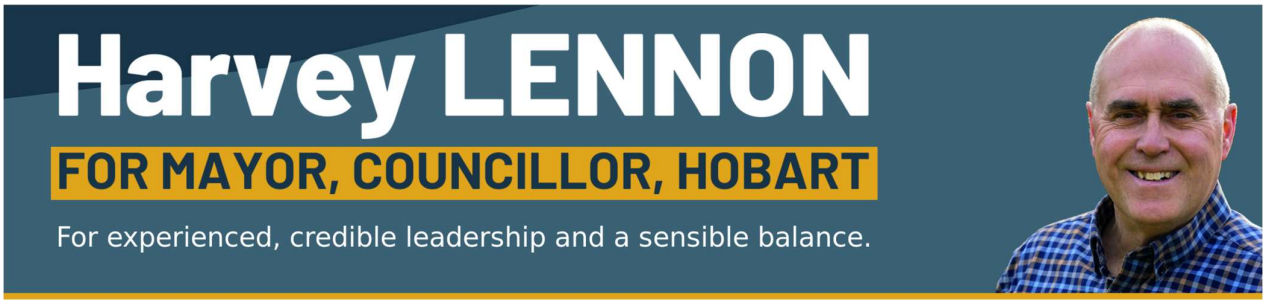

MEDIA RELEASE

Capping total rate rises at 10% over next four years will make our city more affordable: Lennon.

Hobart mayoral candidate Harvey Lennon will ask the incoming Council to set a formal 10% total rate rise cap target over the four year term, if elected.

Mr Lennon said the 10% rate rise cap target would extend to both general residential rates as well as commercial rates.

“Across this campaign I’ve heard loud and clear from ratepayers and businesses that they want rates kept low,” he said.

“I’ve said that we need a Hobart that moves, is affordable and is open for business.

“Capping total rate rises at 10% over the four years will make living in our city more affordable, especially with the cost-of-living challenges our community faces.

“The new Council should prioritise this and should set this formal cap target, with published annual monitoring against the target, to keep the focus squarely on the ratepayers.

“The Council’s 2026-27 Budget carries a surplus of around $3 million with revenue of nearly $189 million. The honest argument is about financial discipline and priorities – and our priority must be the ratepayer.

Mr Lennon has previously pledged to keep rate increases at or below CPI for four years, backed by an independent review of Council services and efficiency and an updated Customer Service Charter for ratepayers and residents.

"Capping total rate rises at 10% over the four years will require clear priorities, careful budgeting and a serious examination of how Council delivers its services,” Mr Lennon said.

"Households and businesses can’t treat cost increases as someone else’s problem. Council must show the same discipline.

"It’s the ratepayers who fund Council and they deserve rates kept as low as possible and timely, respectful service. Better financial management and better customer service must go together.

”Capping rate rises at 10% over the term of Council will make our City more affordable,” Mr Lennon said.

ENDS 9 October 2026

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