



JLT PUBLIC SECTOR RISK REPORT TASMANIA

7th Edition



SUMMARY

In examining the risk rankings provided by Tasmanian councils there is a noted shift in priorities. The findings reflect the evolving landscape of challenges faced by local governments.

In the 2024 JLT Public Sector Risk Survey, cyber security remains the leading risk, ranked in this place by 70% of CEOs and General Managers (GMs). This marks a slight decrease from 71.4% in 2023, indicating a sustained concern regarding cyber threats. The second and third positions in 2024 are occupied by climate change/adaptation and financial sustainability, both ranked in these places by 40% of respondents. This is a shift from 2023, where business continuity planning was ranked second, highlighting a growing recognition of climate-related risks and financial pressures.

The movement of risks indicates a broader awareness among councils of the interconnectedness of these issues. The drop in emphasis on business continuity planning, which fell from second to sixth place, suggests that councils may feel more secure in their operational resilience, or perhaps they are prioritising more immediate threats. The consistent ranking of climate change adaptation reflects an ongoing commitment to addressing environmental challenges, while the rise of financial sustainability as a key concern underscores the fiscal pressures councils face, particularly in light of insufficient revenue sources.

This evolving risk landscape encourages that Tasmanian councils continue to adapt their strategies and resource allocations to effectively manage these pressing issues. By prioritising cyber security, climate adaptation, and financial sustainability, councils can better position themselves to navigate the complexities of modern governance.

High Risk	1-3 Rank
Medium Risk	4-8 Rank
Low Risk	9-12 Rank

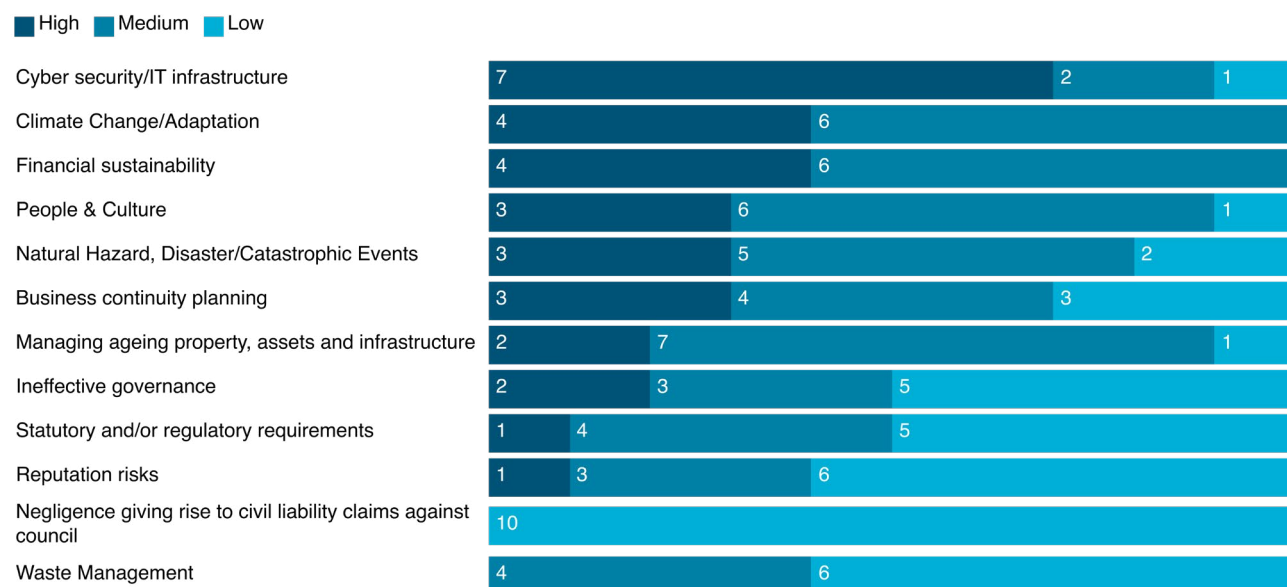


Figure 1: Ranking of Risk TAS risk heat map

CYBER SECURITY

In 2024, cyber security remains the foremost risk for Tasmanian councils, with 80% of CEOs and GMs identifying cyber security failure as the primary concern underpinning this risk. This is a shift from 2023, where the ability of IT infrastructure to proactively manage cyber security was the top concern. The increased focus on cyber security failure indicates a growing recognition of the vulnerabilities inherent in digital systems. Additionally, the ability to respond to a cyber attack is now a significant concern, ranked second by 70% of leaders, reflecting the need for robust incident response strategies. The emphasis on proactive management of IT infrastructure, ranked third by 40% of respondents, suggests that councils are increasingly aware of the importance of maintaining resilient systems to mitigate potential threats. This shift highlights the need and financial support by other tiers of government for councils to invest in cyber security measures and training to protect sensitive data and maintain public trust.

High Risk	1-3 Rank
Medium Risk	4-9 Rank
Low Risk	10-13 Rank

■ High ■ Medium ■ Low



Figure 2: Cyber Security – TAS Ranking of underlying factors

CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change adaptation has emerged as a critical risk for Tasmanian councils, with 60% of CEOs and GMs citing insufficient revenue sources to fund necessary adaptation measures as the leading factor for this risk. This indicates a heightened awareness of the financial implications of climate change. The assessment of predicted climate impacts on council functions is now a priority ranked as the second leading reason for risk by 40% of leaders, though it has moved down one point from the 2023 survey results. This suggests that councils may have made progress in understanding these impacts but still face challenges in implementation. Furthermore, the recognition of climate change projections' effects on community needs is the third leading underlying factor by 30% of leaders, emphasising the importance of aligning council strategies with community expectations. This factor has shifted down one point but still underscores the concern for councils to secure adequate funding and develop comprehensive climate adaptation plans to address the pressing challenges posed by climate change.

High Risk	1-2 Rank
Medium Risk	3-4 Rank
Low Risk	5-8 Rank

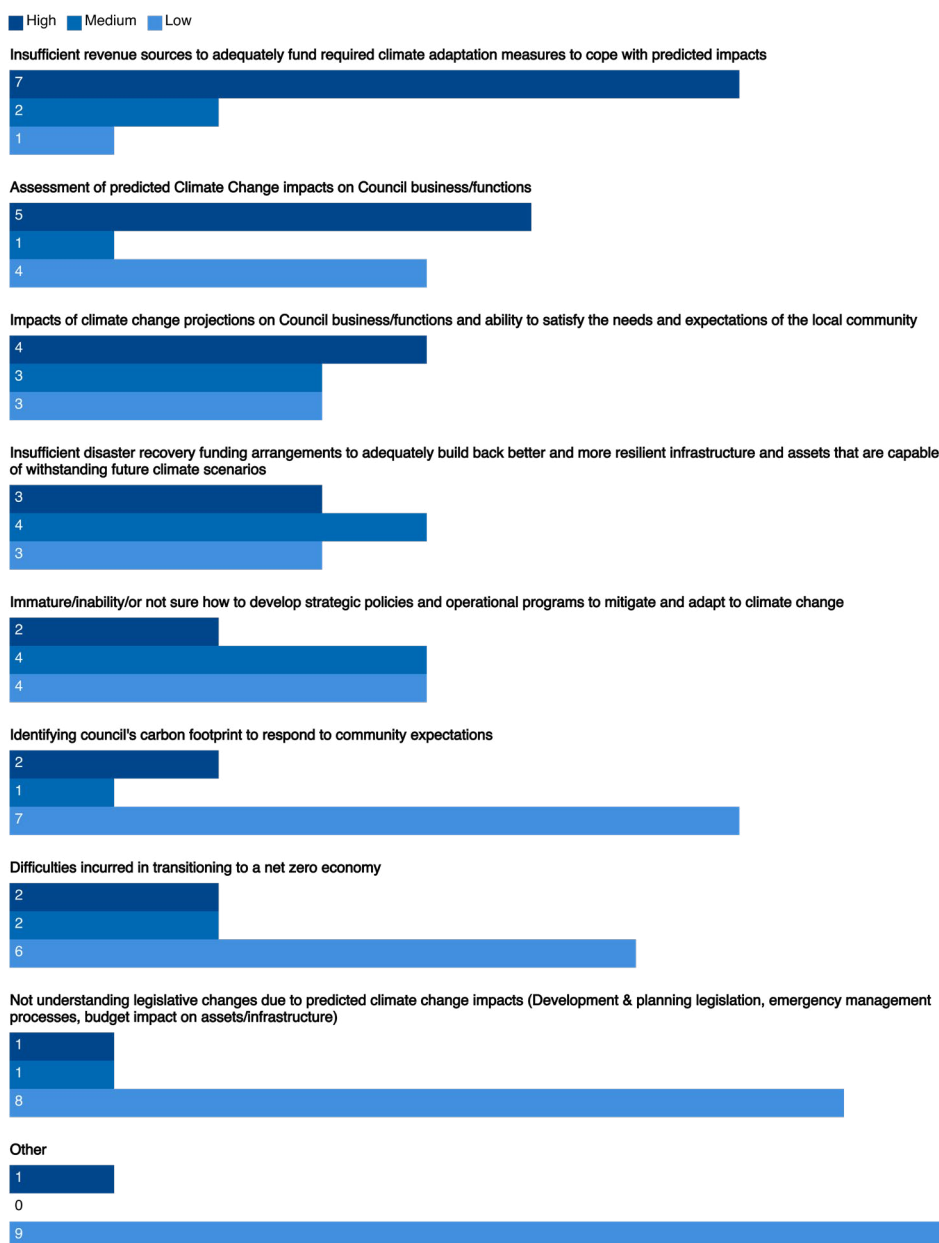


Figure 3: Climate Change – TAS Ranking of underlying factors

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Financial sustainability remains a significant risk for Tasmanian councils, with 80% of CEOs and GMs identifying cost shifting from other tiers of government as the third underlying concern for this risk in 2024. This concern has remained consistent with 2023 data, where it was also the top factor. The cost of funding infrastructure and asset management from existing revenue sources was an introduced factor in 2024 and came in as the second underpinning factor for this risk as ranked by 70% of leaders. This reflects the ongoing financial pressures councils face. Additionally, inadequate government funding and grants were cited as the third leading underpinning reason for this risk by 50% of leaders, highlighting the challenges in securing necessary resources for essential services. This persistent focus on financial sustainability indicates that councils may need to advocate for better funding arrangements and explore innovative revenue-generating strategies to ensure they can meet community needs effectively. The evolving financial landscape encourages a proactive approach to budgeting and resource management to maintain service delivery and support long-term sustainability.

High Risk	1-3 Rank
Medium Risk	4-7 Rank
Low Risk	8-12 Rank

■ High ■ Medium ■ Low

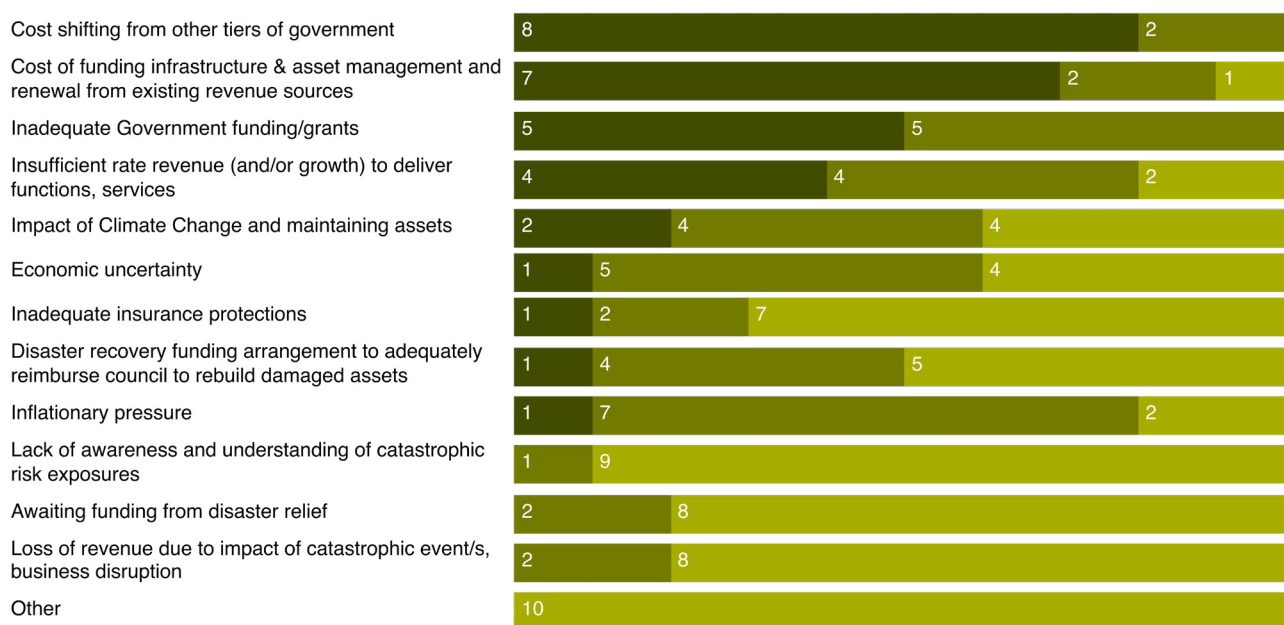
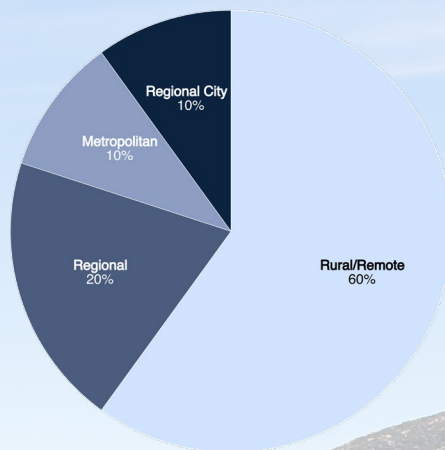


Figure 4: Financial Sustaining – NSW Mapping of underlying factors

SURVEY RESPONDENTS

The 2024 JLT Public Sector Risk Survey engaged 10 local government CEOs and General Managers from TAS. Participants represented a diverse range of communities, including metropolitan, city, regional, regional city, and rural/remote areas. Below is a detailed breakdown of the respondents by community type:

□ Rural/Remote ■ Regional ■ Metropolitan ■ Regional City



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