

2025 – 2030

Our vision:

To be the voice of the Derwent.

Our purpose:

We work together to understand the Derwent Estuary, use science to enhance and protect its values and inform and involve the whole community.

Our values:

We care

The natural, cultural and community values are at the heart of everything we do.

We are collaborative

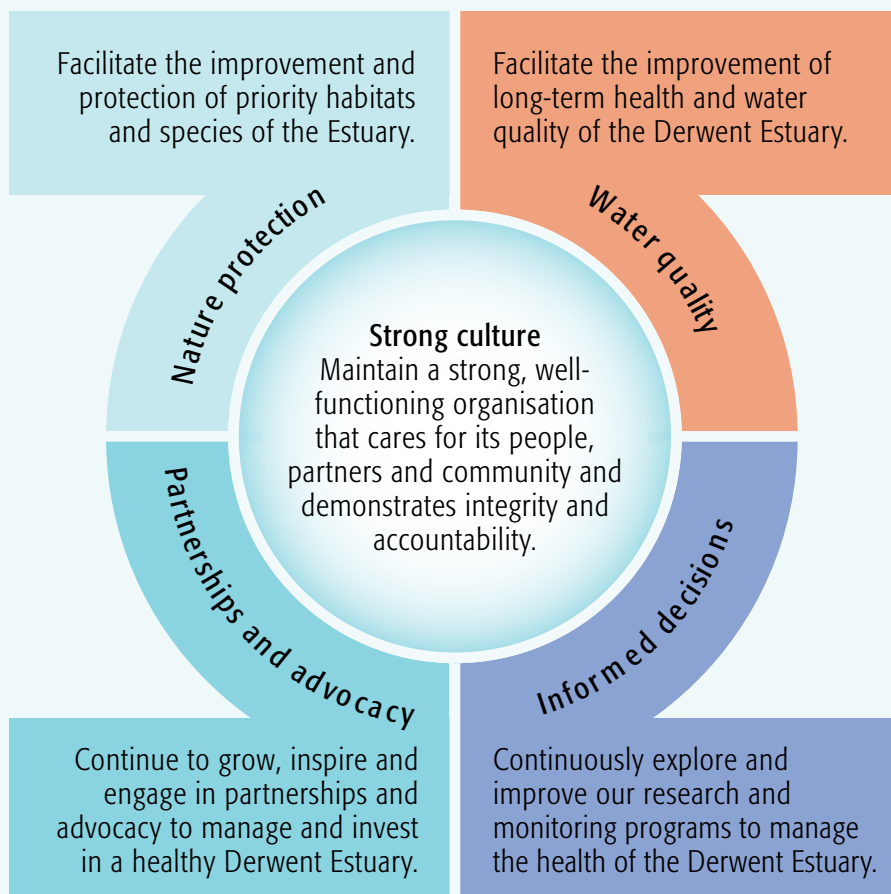
We work inclusively to develop strong partnerships for the health of the Derwent.

We are objective

We are apolitical, open-minded, and use scientific information in our mission to enhance and protect the Derwent.

We are transparent

We build trust through transparency, integrity and honesty in our communications.



Our priorities:

Facilitate the improvement of long-term health and water quality at the Derwent Estuary.

- Understand, evaluate and advocate for stormwater quality standards and investment.
- Manage and demonstrate outcomes of water quality programs to raise awareness of the state of the estuary and our shared responsibilities.
- Research, manage and advocate for pollution reduction initiatives.
- Facilitate partnerships and share information to advocate for and improve catchment management and monitoring.

Continuously explore and improve our research and monitoring programs to manage the health of the Derwent Estuary.

- Understand, and respect cultural values, science and knowledge to inform management plans.
- Identify priority research needs and partnerships to deliver them.
- Assess and improve how we store and share data with partners to benefit long-term management and collaboration.
- Understand the needs of our partners and assist in the facilitation and monitoring of special projects where able.

Facilitate the improvement and protection of priority habitats and species of the Estuary.

- Understand and develop management initiatives to care for urban rivulets, living foreshores and freshwater habitats.
- Facilitate saltmarsh and wetland restoration and management.
- Monitor and assess seagrass and rocky reef conditions.
- Advocate for and encourage investment in the protection of priority species.

Continue to grow, inspire and engage in partnerships and advocacy to manage and invest in a healthy Derwent Estuary.

- Strengthen partner relationships and explore opportunities to grow memberships aligned with our strategic priorities.
- Engage and involve partners to share and celebrate partnership successes to advocate for further investment.
- Demonstrate the value of the DEP through public communications and engagement opportunities.

Maintain a strong, well-functioning organisation that cares for its people, partners and community and demonstrates integrity and accountability.

- Implement strong strategic planning and governance processes and report on any risks and compliance.
- Empower staff to establish a positive team culture and environment.
- Grow knowledge and skills through professional development opportunities.
- Develop and maintain appropriate data and document management systems.