



Local Government Association Tasmania

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## **Media Release**

### **Southern Councils Awarded for Excellence**

Three southern Tasmanian councils emerged as the winners of the 2009 Local Government Awards for Excellence at a special dinner, held tonight at the Derwent Entertainment Centre as part of the annual Local Government Conference.

**Brighton Council** received the **Delivering Excellence for our Communities Award** for its *Brighton Alive* initiative, which has provided the community with more than 50 events including a range of social, educational and sporting programs over the past three years.

LGAT CEO Allan Garcia said with events such as Anzac Day Ceremonies, Street Cricket, a “Best You Can Be” Personal Growth Competition and a Health Expo, *Brighton Alive* had given enormous benefit to the 15,000 residents living in the municipality.

“It has brought together disparate parts of the community and has delivered experiences for a diverse range of community members,” Mr Garcia said.

The **Delivering Excellence in Natural or Built Environments Award** went to **Clarence City Council** for their *Climate Change Impacts on Clarence Coastal Areas Report*.

“This report does not only focus on the impacts climate change might have in Tasmania but it is a nation leading blue print for all coastal councils in Australia,” Mr Garcia said.

The Climate Change Impact Report encourages innovative and flexible responses to setting new development planning guidelines in keeping with the highest range sea level rise estimates for 2100.

The report is now among the leading resources for climate change mitigation in Tasmania and is an important contributor to planning schemes at a local and state level.

In the **Demonstrating Operational Excellence** category, **Kingborough Council** was the successful entry. Its *Paperless Building Application Processing* took out the award.

Kingborough Council implemented a cost efficient system by processing, storing and retrieving electronically building and plumbing permit documentation.

“Kingborough Council has proven that sometimes the simplest solutions can provide the best outcomes,” Mr Garcia said.

“Easy to implement by using existing computer software, huge savings in money and time have been made, and the system is environmentally friendly.”

The annual Local Government Awards for Excellence aim to promote outstanding achievement and inspire leading management practice and continuous improvement. The awards recognise initiatives that have, or are delivering, a positive result for communities and the Local Government workplace.

The 2009 Local Government Awards for Excellence are proudly sponsored by Civic Mutual Plus – a division of MAV Insurance.

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*\*Project summaries attached*

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