

Media Release

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By-Laws an important tool for councils

The Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) notes there has been significant interest in the use of by-laws by Councils in response to the recent update of Clarence City Council's Public Places By-Law.

LGAT CEO, Dr Katrena Stephenson said, "the use of by-laws to govern the use of public buildings and spaces is common across Tasmania".

"Public space or similar by-laws are developed in order to ensure safe, orderly and equitable use of spaces and places that belong to the whole community".

"By-laws are specifically designed to ensure that the actions of an individual or a group do not have an adverse impact on the community as a whole".

"The Local Government Act details rigorous requirements for the making of by-laws by councils, including the development of a Regulatory Impact Statement, public notification of intent and community consultation".

"It is common practice for government organisations to use a permit system to manage the use of public places by community groups and organisations."

The Local Government sector supports the use of by-laws, including public place or similar by-laws, to allow councils to ensure a focus on broad community benefit and community good,

LGAT is confident that councils work hard to get the balance right when it comes to establishing by-laws.

Ends.

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