



Media Release

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Local Government reform

Today the Minister for Local Government and Planning indicated that the process suggested by the Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Council's (PESRAC) for local government reform would not be progressing. Instead the Government is now proposing to engage directly with local government and their communities on opportunities for reform.

"LGAT welcomes genuine discussion and collaboration around opportunities for councils and the communities they represent" said Mayor Holmdahl, LGAT President.

As the level of government closest to communities, local government supports a reform process that delivers change in the best interests of Tasmanian communities.

"We know from other states that successful reform must be community-led. Each community's challenges and strengths have to be understood to identify the right services for them now and into the future" Mayor Holmdahl continued.

"Bigger is not always better. Reform should focus on delivering what communities need in a sustainable way, allowing for local innovation and solutions" Mayor Holmdahl said.

The significant work undertaken as part of the Local Government Association of Tasmania's 21st Century Councils Project has already shown significant sectoral support for reforms that leverage local democracy, increase inter-council collaboration to drive improvements, consistency and sustainability.

"LGAT has a strong history on working collaboratively with State Government to enable local government to best serve the needs of our communities. I am confident the Minister for Local Government will follow this approach as we work together on local government's future" Mayor Holmdahl said.

Ends.

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