



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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2019-20 State Budget

Local Government welcomes the announcement of additional resources for the Government's Planning reform agenda.

LGAT President, Mayor Doug Chipman, highlighted that for the past few years the State Government and councils have been implementing a significant planning reform agenda. A large body of work has been progressed but there is much still to be done.

"Today's announcement of additional resources for the Planning Policy Unit is very welcome as now the remaining work can be appropriately resourced, allowing the critical missing pieces of our planning system to finally be put in place."

However, while the Government has delivered on planning, the Local Government sector is disappointed there is no new funding to support waste management and resource recovery.

"Tasmania lags well behind most other jurisdictions when it comes to how we manage our waste and as a State we are missing out on significant opportunities associated with resource recovery. For example, proportionally Tasmanian is not diverting as much material away from landfill compared to other States".

"We have seen nothing specific in today's budget to address deficiencies in waste and resource recovery in Tasmania." Mayor Chipman said

"For more than 2 years the State Government has promised a State Waste Action Plan. With this Action Plan due to be delivered in June, we would have expected to see funds to support its implementation".

Waste management and resource recovery is not just an essential service, but also a significant contributor to our economy, with the potential for Tasmania to become a leader in this area, aligning with our clean and green branding.

Local Government, industry and the community are beginning to forge a pathway forward on waste issues and through LGAT, councils are considering waste issues at a strategic state-wide level. What is needed now is a clear direction and investment by the State Government.

For further information please contact:

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