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Media Release

Parties and candidates urged to put local communities first

The peak body representing Tasmanian councils is urging candidates and parties in the Federal Election to put local communities first.

Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) President, West Tamar Mayor and Vice President of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Christina Holmdahl said LGAT is asking all Tasmanians to vote for local this Federal Election.

“As you head to the ballot box, I urge you to vote for the party that backs local communities and commits to funding programs that create and support local jobs and infrastructure,” Mayor Holmdahl said.

On behalf of the state’s 29 councils, LGAT is asking the next Federal Government to work with the sector to support local communities.

“All levels of government must work together to address the cost of living and housing affordability crisis,” she said.

Mayor Holmdahl said Tasmanian councils are also seeking other commitments, like ensuring local perspectives are involved in national decision making.

“Councils play a crucial role in a number of policy areas like housing, environmental management and transport, and as the closest level of government to the community, it’s vital we represent our communities at National Cabinet,” she said.

Without local government’s voice at the table, Tasmanian communities risk being left behind.

“Working together, we can better protect our communities from fires and floods and create thousands of new jobs right across Tasmania,” she said.

“We can build safer roads and provide more affordable social housing and reduce indigenous disadvantage.

“We can drive down the cost of living pressures for families and help to deliver a better future for all Australians,” Mayor Holmdahl said.

“This Federal Election, we are supporting ALGA’s campaign that calls on all parties to not leave local communities behind.”

Further information on ALGA’s local government asks can be found [here](#).

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