Local Government Association Tasmania

Our Ref: DJL | MP

12 December 2024

To whom it may concern

By email: governmentbusinesses@treasury.tas.gov.au

Dear recipient,

Government Business Governance Reform – Draft Plan

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the Government Business Governance Reform – Draft Plan. This submission has been prepared by the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) on behalf of Tasmanian local government in collaboration with our members; all 29 councils.

LGAT is incorporated under the *Local Government Act 1993* and is the representative body and advocate for local government in Tasmania. Where a council has made a direct submission to this process, any omission of specific comments made by that council in this submission should not be viewed as lack of support by the LGAT for that specific issue.

This submission has not extended to the full scope of the Draft Plan, but rather deals with a critical, but often poorly delivered aspect in the performance of Government Business Enterprises (GBEs), being local government liaison.

Local government considers there is significant room for improvement in the interaction between many GBEs and our sector. Councils are often required to balance competing interests in determining the best overall outcome for our communities. Whilst respecting regulatory, commercial and other compliance obligations, our sector considers that too often interactions with GBE's are difficult, with an unwillingness to consider any broader negative community impact beyond their direct commercial remit. This is not the best outcome for local communities.

It is important that as part of the reform of GBEs the government considers the establishment of principles and a process for consultation and engagement with local government.

Local government would welcome further discussion on what this consultation and engagement framework could look like.

Please contact Dion Lester if you have any questions or would like further information, at dion.lester@lgat.tas.gov.au or 03 6147 3740.

Yours sincerely



Dion Lester
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER