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Media Release

***Take a Seat at the Table* in upcoming local government elections**

The Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) and the Tasmanian Government are calling on people from all walks of life to consider running for their council in the local government elections later this year.

The joint campaign launches this week and encourages people to consider taking 'A seat at the table' to represent their local community.

LGAT President, Australian Local Government Association of Australia Vice President and West Tamar Mayor Christina Holmdahl said the campaign will encourage diversity in local government.

"Strong and effective councils reflect the diverse communities they serve," Mayor Holmdahl said.

"That's why we must do all we can to encourage and empower people from a diverse range of backgrounds, abilities, genders and ages to stand for their community," she said.

Local government offers an exciting and rewarding opportunity to work with residents and businesses and make a real difference in the lives of Tasmanians.

"It's an enormous privilege to represent your community; I'd encourage everyone to consider giving it a go," she said.

Minister for Local Government Nic Street echoed the call, encouraging locals who want their voices heard to consider nominating.

"As the closest level of government to the community, councils make important decisions every day that impact peoples' lives and they should reflect the broad range of the communities they serve," Minister Street said.

Councillors, Deputy Mayors and Mayors all play a vital leadership role in developing and implementing their community's vision and values.

"Over four years, they help enable the economic, social and cultural development of the community, as well as supporting individuals and groups and providing a wide range of wellbeing services.

"If you have a strong sense of community and are keen to make a difference in your local area, I urge you to consider nominating for the upcoming elections. If you are interested, there is plenty of support available to help you take that next step," he said.

Nominations for the local government elections open on 5th September, and voting starts in early October 2022.

LGAT and the Office of Local Government have comprehensive information available on the [LGAT website](#) that provides potential candidates with all they need to run as a candidate in the election.

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