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Attn: News Editors, Producers

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## Media Release

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### **Local government supports State Government call to address visa delays**

The Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) supports the call from the State Government for the Federal Government to urgently address the significant delays in processing visa applications.

LGAT agrees that additional resources are required to ensure that the visa processing system is operating effectively and commends the State Government for offering to share resources.

LGAT President, Mayor Christina Holmdahl, said that many Tasmanian councils are experiencing skills shortages in technical disciplines such as planning and engineering, with skilled migrants a key part of the solution.

“The delays on visa processing are hampering our sectors ability to fill these critical occupations in many councils,” Mayor Holmdahl said.

“We welcome the dialogue the Premier has initiated with the Prime Minister on this issue and hope that a satisfactory solution can be reached to ensure certainty within Tasmanian communities,” she said.

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