



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Free Local Government Candidate Information Sessions

The Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT), in conjunction with the Local Government Division Department of Premier and Cabinet, Tasmanian Electoral Commission, the Tasmanian Audit Office, the Integrity Commission and the Australian Local Government Women's Association (Tas) will be running a series of free information sessions for people who are interested in standing at the Local Government elections in October 2018. The information sessions will provide a valuable opportunity for potential candidates to learn what it means to be an elected member and understand community expectations and the roles and responsibilities of becoming a councillor.

The information sessions will be held from **6pm-8pm** at the following locations:

5 June – Gnomon Pavilion

The Wharf, Ulverstone

6 June – Tamar Function Centre

West Tamar Council, Riverside

13 June – Elizabeth St Function Centre, Hobart Town Hall

Elizabeth St, Hobart

Additionally, there will be special session on King Island on 24 May and on Flinders Island during July (date to be advised).

LGAT CEO, Dr Katrena Stephenson said participants will have the opportunity find out more about the roles and functions of mayors and councillors, eligibility requirements, the election process, rules around campaigning as well as ask questions of current councillors about their roles and experiences.

“The information sessions are being held well in advance of the elections to ensure that individuals have ample time to consider the personal impact and time commitment involved, to attend local council meetings and to approach current councillors for advice,” Dr Stephenson said.

“Participants will also be able to hear from current elected members about the personal enrichment that offering your time as an elected member provides, particularly through being able to influence the shape of your community and learn from your fellow councillors”.

“The Local Government Association of Tasmania, the Local Government Division and the Tasmanian Electoral Commission are also updating a range of materials on their websites and these will be available from the end of May. The LGAT website www.lgat.tas.gov.au is a good starting point and will link to a range of external resources”.

To reserve a place at the information forums, please contact the Local Government Association of Tasmania on **6233 5966**, or email reception@lgat.tas.gov.au.

For media enquiries, please contact LGAT CEO, Dr Katrena Stephenson on 0488 610 341