



# **MEDIA RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**22 February 2017**

## **Local Government Welcomes Public Release of the State Planning Provisions**

The Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) welcomes today's release of the State Planning Provisions, as well as the independent report from the Tasmanian Planning Commission.

LGAT President, Mayor Doug Chipman said, "We note that many of the concerns raised by councils have been addressed through the assessment process. However, until councils start preparing local provisions, we can't be truly certain of the impact or effectiveness of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme."

"There is still a long way to go. The development of the local provisions will be a significant drain on council resources and will occur in parallel to the everyday assessment of applications against current planning schemes," Mayor Chipman said.

"To achieve this, councils have already begun looking at how they can undertake the task collectively on a regional basis through resource-sharing or regional collaboration."

"It is vital that the State Government adequately supports the next phase with strong guidance, tools and resources for councils and the Tasmanian Planning Commission," said Mayor Chipman.

"This was a key priority in our recent submission to the State Budget process."

"As the closest level of government to the community, we realise there will still be a high level of community concern and uncertainty about the impact of the State Planning Provisions until the Local Provisions are prepared by councils."

Mayor Chipman said, "It is important that people know that there will be further public consultation, council area by council area, as the Tasmanian Planning Commission undertakes its statutory processes for each Local Provision schedule."

“The sector is still waiting on the new state planning policies which are integral to overall planning reform.”

"LGAT looks forward to working with the State Government on the development of state policies to guide land use and development in Tasmania.”

“A clear articulation of the Government’s strategic aspirations is essential if further improvements to our planning system are to be realised,” he said.

**For media enquiries, please contact  
LGAT President, Mayor Doug Chipman on 0409 704 835**