



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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West Tamar and George Town Councils Exploring the Opportunity of a 'Tamar Valley Council'

The Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) supports the West Tamar and George Town Councils agreeing to explore the opportunity of a 'Tamar Valley Council'.

LGAT President, Mayor Doug Chipman said the combined Municipal Areas of West Tamar and George Town Councils form the heart of the Tamar Valley, and the two councils share the common interest of wanting to see this part of Tasmania prosper.

"All Tasmanian councils have been exploring reform opportunities – from strategic resource-sharing to voluntary mergers," Mayor Chipman said.

"In the North, councils have been undertaking considerable work in developing meaningful benchmarks and understanding the opportunities for resource-sharing."

"The conversation between the George Town and West Tamar Councils around merging is a natural extension of that and is to be applauded. However, all Tasmanian councils appreciate that any future mergers will need to demonstrate that they will enhance service delivery, benefit the community and ultimately have the support of the community," he said.

"As with all significant reform, it will be important to fully understand the likely impacts, to ensure the outcomes are positive and to consider how changes will be implemented. This will take some time and it will be important to keep the community informed along the journey," Mayor Chipman said.

Ends....

**For media enquiries, please contact
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