



Media Release

23 November 2017

Local Government Welcomes State Government Regulation of Waste Tyres

The Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) welcomes today's announcement by the Hon. Elise Archer, Minister for Environment, that waste tyres will be included as a level two activity under the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act or EMPCA.

The changes announced will mean that the Environment Protection Authority will now play a role in supporting councils in the assessment and regulation of waste tyres over a certain threshold in Tasmania.

The Local Government sector supports the approach being taken. LGAT, on behalf of councils, first highlighted the issues and challenges of waste tyre storage through the Premier's Local Government Council in late 2015 and participated on a working group to discuss options for dealing with the issue throughout early 2016.

The legislative changes announced today are an important first step in resolving a significant waste challenge in Tasmania.

LGAT President, Mayor Doug Chipman, noted that alongside regulated changes there was also a need for the State Government to better educate consumers and tyre retailers about the options available for end of life tyres.

"Many consumers simply do not know that in Tasmania old car tyres can either end up being chipped locally and then exported for recycling or just stored in large tyre piles with no future use", Mayor Chipman said.

Local Government has a strong history of working with the State Government to manage the environment in Tasmania through both co-regulation roles and working on strategic priorities such as this issue. The sector looks forward to continuing this partnership approach into the future including discussions around appropriate education for consumers on options for end of life tyres.

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For further comment please contact LGAT President Mayor Doug Chipman on 0409704835