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Local Government Board
The Future of Local Government Review
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Break O'Day Council commends the Local Government Board on the process of engagement with the sector, key stakeholders and the community set out in the Review Roadmap and other documentation. We believe that comprehensive and respectful engagement will provide a solid foundation for the deliberations that will occur through the next two stages of the Review.

The identification of the seven themes has provided a framework for discussions and investigations. It is therefore vital that the Themes accurately reflect what is actually occurring on the ground. In examining the Themes, Break O'Day Council believes that the themes of Community Wellbeing and Economic Development & Local Promotion as detailed in the Review Themes document and other information does not adequately capture the current situation. We note that the Board has acknowledged that no categorisation is perfect. It is important that the detail of what each theme includes is as comprehensive as possible.

To this end the focus of Break O'Day Council's submission is primarily on the Community Wellbeing and Economic Development & Local Promotion themes. Our approach in developing this submission has been to:

1. Compare what the Board has said a theme includes with what Break O'Day Council is actually doing – a place based perspective (Column 2 in the attachment)
2. Make observations about what the future role of Break O'Day Council might look like having regard to what we do now (Column 3 in the attachment)
3. Key recommendations or discussion points in relation to the roles and functions of State and local Government we believe need to be further investigated and considered (Column 4 in the attachment)

Council has asked and received confirmation from the previous Minister, the Hon Roger Jaensch MP that the review process will not just look at the roles and functions of Local Government, but will also look at the roles and functions of State Government and what might more logically rest with Local Government. We are interested in being advised how this is being approached as there is no apparent evidence that this is occurring and it is not mentioned in the various pieces of documentation relating to engagement processes.

We are more than happy to discuss our submission with the Board, officers and consultants working on the project and trust that the points we have raised on the themes will be given close consideration.

We look forward to being able to participate constructively in the next Stage.

Yours faithfully,



Mick Tucker
Mayor

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<p>Local economic development</p>	<p>Local Government plays a vital role in developing the local economy of the Local Government area it is responsible for. This is reflected through a range of activities which occur:</p> <p><u>Developing and highlighting opportunities</u> Council’s approach includes developing and highlighting opportunities which exist and can be realised in a manner that respects the natural environment and lifestyle of the Break O’Day. This generally involves being actively involved in infrastructure provisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An example of this is the St Helens and Blue Derby MTB trails where Council has worked with strategic partners to support economic activity generation through these MTB trails – aligning these activities with the community’s unique competitive advantages. <p><u>Employment</u> Through strategic initiatives Council is focussed on creating a variety of jobs that will reduce the seasonality of the local economy and provide ample opportunities for youth to remain in the area. In support of this there is a focus on provision of relevant training and skills development programs to create a workforce for the future that meets the changing needs of business within the Break O Day area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic work was undertaken with a Needs Analysis being completed for the Break O’Day area which highlighted the challenges we face relating to a workforce for the future. - Council plays a significant key role in the governance and managements of the St Helens Jobs Hub (Break O’Day Employment Connect) in partnership with the Fingal valley Neighbourhood House. This provides an employment matching service, facilitates the delivery of training and skills development; whilst also tackling the barriers to employment identified within our community. <p><u>Brand Development and Promotion</u> How the Break O’Day area is seen by the outside world is important as this influences visitors and people to move to the area. It also fosters a sense of pride and helps to create an identity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council has worked to create a positive brand which draws on the attractiveness of the area and lifestyle to entice people and businesses’ to live and work in Break O’Day. This means we need to understand and communicate the unique characteristics and differences of our communities and the Break O’Day area to foster a sense of pride and authenticity. <p><u>Innovation and Growth</u> Support and encourage innovation and growth in the economy through local leadership; infrastructure provision; support services and customer focused service delivery is something that Council believes is undertaken by all Councils within Tasmania. Support and advocate for business support and expansion. Remove impediments to commercial activity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The focal point of this activity is through an Economic Development Officer employed by Council. This position has a focus on supporting businesses with information and assistance to navigate approval and other processes. The position also has a strategic focus on investigating and developing opportunities. - The Break O’Day Business Enterprise Centre is partially funded by Council (approximately 25%) as we believe that this is a vital service in a regional/remote community where local businesses or ‘business intenders’ don’t have easy access to services in cities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address and adapt to relevant economic issues appropriately (e.g. housing, population, employment, skills) • Integrated statewide approach and alignment. Stronger relationship with neighbouring and industry-related Councils • Diversify economy: identify major issues and collaborate with identified partners to address. • LG’s are tasked with bringing together a disparate range of State Government policy directions and sources of funding as a means to craft their own local area economic development strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Break O’Day Council recommends a review of the Western Australia Local Government Association (WALGA) Economic Development Framework Project (completed in 2018). The project is useful in understanding differing Economic Development roles between LGs subject to their size. The role of State Government and its relationship to LG is also considered in the context of Economic Development. Useful documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Research findings and future directions - Framework • LG’s require an overarching State economic development plan, a minister charged with the development and implementation of an economic development strategy and a central agency responsible for the State’s economic development strategy (e.g. Department of State Growth). • State Economic Development Strategy should be developed in consultation with Local Government and other key stakeholders. Important tool to coordinate economic development activities, set out a clear direction and make sure that relevant stakeholders are working towards common goals. • Currently, there is an unintegrated relationship between smaller LGA’S, regional development organisations and the Department of State Growth. A review of how LGA’s can better work together, partner with regional development orgs and State Growth should be undertaken. This should result in better resource sharing mechanisms between stakeholders.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & LOCAL PROMOTION Identified Core Activity	Break O'Day Council Current Activity	Future (In addition to current activity, suggestions for future role)	State and Local Government Role Recommendations and Future Discussion Points
Local economic development cont	<p><u>Population</u> Understanding and addressing the challenges of changes within our population is a critical part of delivering the services and infrastructure required by a community into the future. As a Council area we have a rapidly ageing population and we need to understand the challenges and opportunities this creates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council has developed a detailed understanding of the Break O'Day population through work undertaken by Dr Lisa Denny (Demographer) which is characterised by hyper-ageing; population decline; and shrinking working age population. This work is ongoing and will be further developed as new Census information becomes available. - With this information the focus of the Council is now moving towards what interventions we can take to address population decline and to attract working age people to the Break O'Day area. (This links to Council's employment and housing focus) <p><u>Housing</u> Housing within many Local Government areas of Tasmania is a critical issue. The problem is not created mainly by lack of land availability or torturous approval processes of Local Government as claimed by the State Government and some industry bodies. It is a far more complex problem also involving factors such as the impact of short-term accommodation (AirBNB); cost of construction; availability of materials and tradespersons; as well as the return on investment levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Council is examining opportunities to enter the housing market through the provision of affordable housing, Independent Living Units, and private rentals to generate a better return on the available cash we have than prevailing Interest Rates. - Advocating for the development of a Housing Needs Analysis for the East Coast as the housing shortage also significantly impacts the Tourism industry's capacity to attract seasonal workers to the area. - Supported provision of affordable housing by organisations such as CentaCare Evolve through the offer of land for development. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration should also consider options to align regional boundaries with functional areas targeting Tasmania's competitive and comparative advantages rather than strict geographical boundaries. Therefore, economic development should be planned between economies with economic synergies, rather than economies that simply share geographical borders. For example, NSW Gov has established the Centre for Regional Development (CERD) tasked with developing Regional Economic Development Strategies (REDS). REDS are based on Functional Economic Regions (FERs) which group LGs together on the basis of their economic linkages (e.g aquaculture industry) rather than sharing boundaries. • Economic Development requires clear definition irrespective of the differing ED roles LGs undertake. Break O'Day Council define ED as: not just economic growth and getting people wealthier but a holistic approach that also sees improving health outcomes, better educational attainment, falling levels of disadvantage. Focused on quality outcomes rather than quantity of outcomes.
Tourism	<p>The East Coast of Tasmania as a region is the 5th most dependent on Tourism from an economic perspective in Australia. This results in the Break O'Day Council playing a significant role in Tourism activity in the area.</p> <p>Our focus is multifaceted including broadening, lengthening and improving the visitor experience through development of attractions and activities, promotion and signage, and great customer service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The St Helens MTB Network (wholly operated by Break O'Day Council) and the Blue Derby MTB Network (jointly Dorset and Break O'Day Councils) are examples of direct intervention by local government in Tourism through attraction provision. - Management and funding of a Visitor Information Centre at St Helens at an annual cost of more than \$120k. - Support and funding for East Coast Tasmania Tourism (local Regional Tourism Organisation), \$60k per annum which would be one of the larger contributions by an individual Council within the State (excluding cities). - Supporting local marketing efforts and initiatives by Chambers of commerce and Tourism organisations. - St Helens History Room. - Advocacy with the State Government and key stakeholders relating to the sustainable management and development of our coastal and inland reserves and national parks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LG's role is to work with Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO) and State Tourism Organisation (STO) to provide infrastructure that carries out LG, STO and RTO objectives. • Marketing responsibilities are RTO and STO area. LGs role is to provide assistance when required (e.g. providing local information, disseminating RTO information, advocating for funding of infrastructure). • LGs role is to continue support (financial and in-kind) of RTO'S • Continue to support visitor information centres. However, it should be considered that VI Centres are RTO's responsibility. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This review must consider roles and relationship between STO, RTO's and LGs in order for LGs to understand their role in Tourism. • Visitor information centres should be considered under the statutory structure. Opinion of BODC that VI Centres should be RTO's responsibility to ensure consistent delivery of information that aligns with Brand Tasmania and local knowledge. This will improve dissemination of information between Local and State Government. Particularly relevant as Tourism Tasmania continues to expand their digital platform.
Advocacy on behalf of the community		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocacy on behalf of the community is assumed in the role of economic development. It is a major responsibility in order to receive required resources. 	

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & LOCAL PROMOTION Identified Core Activity	Break O'Day Council Current Activity	Future <i>(In addition to current activity, suggestions for future role)</i>	State and Local Government Role Recommendations and Future Discussion Points
Not identified	<p>Regional Economic Development</p> <p>The Economic Development theme detailed by the Local Government Board has not reflected the crucial roles that Local Government plays in regional economic development. Northern Tasmania Development Corporation and Cradle Coast Authority are examples of regional economic development activity undertaken by collaborating member Councils.</p> <p><i>NTDC is funded by six Council Members, <u>City of Launceston</u>, <u>Northern Midlands</u>, <u>Meander Valley</u>, <u>Break O'Day</u>, <u>George Town</u> and <u>West Tamar</u> to facilitate significant improvement in prosperity in the North and North-East Tasmania. The Council Members established the newly reformed regional economic development agency (NTDC) in February 2017 to achieve the targets set out in the Northern Regional Futures Framework and are committed to move to a new era of collaborative, innovative and sustainable economic growth in the region.</i></p> <p><i>NTDC is tasked with validating and actioning the valuable strategic planning work that has been undertaken in recent years to underpin effective and sustainable economic transition in Northern and North-East Tasmania whilst continuing to place the importance of education and health in our communities. This means finding ways to continually boost economic output, increase investment, create more jobs, and to raise average wage levels.</i></p> <p><i>By 2026 NTDC's goals are;</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">50% increase in GRP 8000 new jobs \$100 per week increase in average weekly wage</p> <p><i>To do this, the NTDC team will be pursuing a strategic and proactive role in identifying regional priorities and undertaking strong advocacy and collaboration with business, the community and the three tiers of government with the objective of significantly improving the prosperity of our region. Our shared vision and projects will have an emphasis on distinct regional 'community attributes' being; Start Ups & Entrepreneurship, Health Products & Services, Educations Services, Health: Wellness for Longer, Education: Learning Region & innovation.</i></p>	<p>It is clear that Councils collaborating on a regional basis can have a meaningful impact on regional economic development and facilitate regional leadership through collaboration with industry, key stakeholders; Federal and State Government.</p>	<p>Consideration of the role of Local Government in regional economic development needs to occur given what currently happens</p>

COMMUNITY WELLBEING Identified Core Activity	Break O'Day Council Current Activity	Future (In addition to current activity, suggestions for future role)	State and Local Government Role Recommendations and Future Discussion Points
	<p>The Break O'Day Council has a significant focus on wellbeing within our community. This is reflected within Council's Strategic Plan which includes a Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster a range of community facilities and programs which strengthen the capacity, wellbeing and cultural identity of our community. <p>As well as a Key Focus Area within the Plan which states:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellbeing – support and enhance community wellbeing through shared understandings, and opportunities for people to get involved, connect, build on strengths, and feel a sense of belonging in Break O'Day. <p>Council's Pilot Community Wellbeing Project funded by the Tasmanian Community Fund is creating opportunities for our community to come together to learn about and practice wellbeing, and take shared actions to improve wellbeing. Working together using our strengths and a positive psychology approach, we aim to co-create a more connected, resilient and flourishing community through nurturing community champions.</p>	<p>Council believes that the role of community wellbeing will become increasingly important as we move into the future. Looking after the wellbeing of our community and building resilience has been at the forefront of Local Government's response to the Covid-19 Pandemic. It is important that community wellbeing work is performed together with community to be responsive to local context.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need a Community Wellbeing definition for local government. Should recognise the intersectionality of the work. • Define roles of State and Local Government and the role of partnerships. • Support Local Government to embed this work into Council operations and staffing with consistent role descriptions and recognition of core deliverables and goals.
Not identified in this theme.	<p>Liveability & Infrastructure</p> <p>A core activity of local government is planning for and providing quality infrastructure which enhances the liveability and viability of our communities for residents and visitors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councils manage planning decisions, and create and maintain public space, natural landscapes and built environment (infrastructure) that provides opportunities for healthy activities, social connection and cultural activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a sense of place and a liveability for daily activities through good design of landscapes and infrastructure that provide for walkability, accessibility, safety, and climate comfortability of public buildings and spaces. 	
Not identified in this theme. Sits in Governance theme.	<p>Leadership</p> <p>A focus of Council is to foster and support leadership within the community whilst sharing the responsibility for creating a community we enjoy being part of.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A well developed Community Engagement Framework provides the guidance and direction to support and foster leadership within the community and a partnership between the community and Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Engagement (Public Participation) – Whilst also a governance theme, involving people in decision-making about issues important to them is a core component of fostering belonging and meaning which are central tenets of wellbeing. 	
Not identified in this theme. Sustainability	<p>Council currently undertakes some roles/activities in this area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides sustainability leadership and advocacy. • Provides opportunities for people to perform actions and behaviours that are good for people and planet. • Sharing of best practice information for sustainable behaviours. 	<p>Into the future the role of local government is seen as also including the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fostering a sense of hope for the future and empowerment to co-create a shared future for our community. • Opportunities for people to be informed about and participate in actions that help sustain resources and natural values for future generations. • Foster emerging economies e.g. circular economies, and sustainable development. 	
Museums and galleries Public art	<p>Cultural arts – maintenance of public infrastructure for cultural activities e.g. public halls. Support and advocacy of cultural activities e.g. in partnerships with community and NGOs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster a thriving cultural arts community through strong public participation at the <i>empower</i> level. • Planning for public spaces includes consideration for cultural art activities and displays. 	
Community events, markets and festivals	<p>Council plays a dual role in this regard, delivering its own events as well as creating a culture of volunteering and support to enable vibrant and sustainable events, activities and community groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community events – support and advocate for events in partnership with community and NGOs. • Provide financial support and professional assistance to event organisers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster inclusive, accessible events that value cultural diversity and support participation by everyone in the community. 	

COMMUNITY WELLBEING Identified Core Activity	Break O’Day Council Current Activity	Future <i>(In addition to current activity, suggestions for future role)</i>	State and Local Government Role Recommendations and Future Discussion Points
Community support services for vulnerable people	Break O’Day Council employs a strengths-based practice working in partnership with NGOs, community and service providers. Connector role and advocacy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for and provide services that support everyone to participate in community life regardless of age, culture, identity, capacity and socio-economic factors. • Ensure appropriate support services are available to those that need them. 	
Social welfare	<p>This is quite a broad and increasingly important area of focus, which we consider relates to both safety and welfare – having the right to feel safe and be safe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocating for delivery of services into our community that reflects the needs of our community. • Having access to safety information and access to services if needed. Including access to safe housing. • Advocating for affordable housing and facilitating its provision where opportunities exist • Advocating for no violence and human rights, including anti-discrimination rights. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of safety information for all residents. • Connector role for services and promotion of support services. • Strong working relationship with NGOs to foster resilience. • Advocate for housing and service providers to deliver holistic support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is meant by social welfare?
Youth services	<p>To enable Break O’Day Council to focus its efforts in this area we need to understand the needs of Break O’Day young people to better support and advocate for them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We currently employ a strengths-based practice working in partnership with NGOs, community and service providers. Connector role and advocacy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide direct support to foster a youth-led network or advisory group through strong public participation at the <i>empower</i> level. 	
Support for community volunteer, sport and cultural groups	<p>The Break O’Day Council Strategic Plan includes a Strategy: <i>Build community capacity by creating opportunities for involvement or enjoyment that enable people to share their skills and knowledge.</i></p> <p>This links to a Key Focus Area with the Plan which states: <i>Volunteering - Build community sustainability and inclusion through a culture of volunteering and support within our community</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for community work – Working in partnership with NGOs, community and service providers. To provide inclusive and equitable opportunities to help everyone make a valued and meaningful contribution in our community. Including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Additional targeted support for vulnerable members of our community. - Support of volunteerism and community groups e.g. council grants program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support community groups through partnerships and grant funding. • Ensure opportunities for life-long learning and skills development are available and equitable. • Celebrate diversity and foster inclusivity and accessibility to opportunities. 	
Emergency and disaster management and recovery	Emergency and disaster management, recovery, and resilience building – Coordination role in disaster response. Strengths-based practice working in partnership with NGOs, community and service providers in recovery. Ongoing role in building resilience of community through awareness raising, fostering connections and strengths building.		
Public health/medical services	<p>The focus of Council in relation to health and mental health is to Improve health and mental health outcomes by ensuring programs reflect community needs and are accessible and inclusive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General practitioners – support the activities of local GP services in their recruitment of new GPs to the area • Hub4Health – current role in supporting the delivery of allied and preventative health services and programs on council premises. • Mental Health – strengths-based practice working in partnership with NGOs, community and service providers. Health connector role and advocacy. Nurturing community champions to promote mental health and wellbeing across the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working in partnership with NGOs, community and service providers to ensure mental health and wellbeing actions and services are available and equitable and meeting the needs of the local community. • Health promotion – Actions to address the social determinants of health. Build capacity for preventative health actions. Fulfil a health connector role fostering networks among service providers community and NGOs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differentiate between rural and remote communities and cities where NGOs are based. Cities don’t need to advocate for and represent community in the same way, and fill gaps in service provision.

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Transport accessibility	<p>Being a rural/remote Council area, accessibility to transport is an ongoing issue, something experienced by all rural/remote Council areas. We do not have the luxury of a public transport system that the cities enjoy and who don't have to advocate for the provision of this service. Activities Break O'Day undertake in this area include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of a Learner Driver Mentor Program with some support from the State Government. Very few Councils in Tasmania deliver this program, • Work in partnership with community organisations and Break O'Day Employment Connect to understand the barriers being experienced within the community and work for solutions to be developed and implemented. 	Continue current activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differentiate between rural and remote communities and cities where NGOs are based. Cities don't need to advocate for and represent community in the same way, and fill gaps in service provision.
Accessibility and inclusion	<p>A Goal within Council's Strategic Plan is: <i>To have access to quality services that are responsive to the changing needs of the community and lead to improved health, education and employment outcomes.</i></p> <p>Linked to this is a new Key Focus Area resulting from the recent review of Council's Strategic Plan:</p> <p><i>Access and Inclusion - Foster a culture of inclusion within our community by facilitating equitable access to opportunities, information and services.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in networks and programs that foster inclusion and celebrate diversity. • Council programs, events, services, infrastructure and landscapes are reviewed and upgraded to meet accessibility and inclusivity standards as feasible. 	
Education, Skills and Training (Break O'Day Council believes that this activity is more closely aligned with the theme of Economic Development)	<p>Council has a focus on improving employment pathways and outcomes and greater personal development through delivery of programs locally which meet the needs of Industry and the community.</p> <p>As outlined in the Economic Development theme response, Council is focussed on creating a variety of jobs that will reduce the seasonality of the local economy and provide ample opportunities for youth to remain in the area. In support of this there is a focus on provision of relevant training and skills development programs to create a workforce for the future that meets the changing needs of business within the Break O Day area.</p> <p>Rural/Remote areas face significant challenges in relation to the delivery of training and skills development with many Registered Training Organisations and TasTAFE reluctant to travel to our area to deliver required training.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working in partnership with NGOs, community and service providers to advocate for and ensure education, skills and training actions and services are available and equitable and meeting the needs of the local community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differentiate between rural and remote communities and cities where NGOs are based. Cities don't need to advocate for and represent community in the same way, and fill gaps in service provision.

<p>LAND USE PLANNING & OTHER REGULATORY SERVICES Identified Core Activity</p>	<p>Break O’Day Council Current Activity</p>	<p>Future (In addition to current activity, suggestions for future role)</p>	<p>State and Local Government Role Recommendations and Future Discussion Points</p>
<p>Land use planning</p>	<p>Ensure the necessary regulations and information is in place to enable appropriate use and address inappropriate actions.</p> <p>Encourage sensible and sustainable development through sound land use planning, building and design.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing and implementing Land Use planning strategies that are responsive and proactive in nature. • Partnering with regional bodies (e.g. NTDC) and work groups to stay informed and respond to land use issues. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully integrated planning referral system with the state government and their business entities; • Fully integrated land use planning system between the state and local government; • Formalised regional planning groups with a state wide agreement on how they function and operation. Fully funded through agreement between state and local government; • Integrated state and local planning instrument review process; • Local Government is the planning authority and best placed to manage the development assessment process in its entirety. • Increasing public awareness, ownership and responsibility for land use planning and control instruments as their shared public policy for the future. 	<p>There is an opportunity now, as Tasmanian local governments move to the state wide planning system, to align the review processes at every level of the planning system. Formalisation of the relationship between each tier and each local government strategic plan review will ensure a continued transparent, robust and methodical review of planning in Tasmania. Importantly it would also enable funding from the state and local government to be planned and sourced within a schedule of events. Formalisation of Regional Planning Groups across the state and allocation of annual state funding recognizing current monetary and in kind funding from Local Government. Formalisation would include agreed standards of how the groups operate and what their goals and objectives are. The Northern Group is a good example.</p>
<p>Planning and building permits</p>	<p>Development and building application process including approvals.</p> <p>Encourage sensible and sustainable development through sound land use planning, building and design.</p>	<p>Council continues to act as the delegated authority for Planning and Building Permits. Better integration between State and LG is required for an efficient development approval system.</p> <p>Mechanisms that allow evaluation of the performance of the planning and building permits.</p> <p>Local Government is the planning authority and best placed to manage the development assessment process in its entirety</p>	<p>Council should be considered the delegated authority for applications requiring Crown consent to lodge and Crown licenses. A system of notification as part of the local government planning application process should replace the separate process for Crown consent to lodge and the considerable delays incurred by the applicant. Assessment administered by Crown should therefore be integrated into the planning process with Crown being a statutory referral body and recognition of local government as the planning authority</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated development approval system between State and LG is required that recognises local government is the most appropriate development manager as the planning authority. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Level 2 EPA DA’s need to be streamlined into one application process with LG as planning authority and manager of the approval process and State Government as a statutory referral body.

LAND USE PLANNING & OTHER REGULATORY SERVICES Identified Core Activity	Break O'Day Council Current Activity	Future (In addition to current activity, suggestions for future role)	State and Local Government Role Recommendations and Future Discussion Points
Planning and building permits cont			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formalised state referral system for both statutory referrals and advice referrals. This referral system needs to be fully integrated into the state planning system. State government bodies or their business entities e.g. TasNetworks, TasWater, Sustainable Timbers Tasmania, EPA, Parks and Wildlife, DSG; (in the case of DSG provisions of complete and accurate conditions for crossovers, access, and storm water disposals on State roads) • Review Qld's 'Growth Monitoring Program' associated with Regional Planning to determine applicability to Tasmania. The GMP reports annually on land supply and development within a region. Review the function of their Housing Supply Expert Panel, 'Measures that Matter' program and Land Supply and Development Monitoring Report and determine how this program could be adopted by Tasmania albeit in a form appropriate for the state.
Local heritage	<p>Council's responsibility is to ensure that all local heritage sites are protected as per standards to the Planning Scheme Heritage Code and Tasmanian Heritage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referrals to Heritage Tas when required. 		
Environmental protection/pollution control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulating environmental emissions, water quality/pollution, littering, noise and other nuisances (Health, EMPCA, LGAct,). Permits, licenses and enforcement administration. Investigations, education and public communication. Reporting and risk/priorities planning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River Management – local government left, through LUPA, with a role it can't fulfil properly. • Biosecurity - opportunity with new Act to actively build roles and functions of local government. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop capacity and systems in local government for its biosecurity roles and functions in new Local Government Act. Including state resourcing of services and programs to support and coordinate local government activities.
Food and other public health standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring complaints and regulating standards • Ensuring new and current developments adhere to the legislative requirements • Provide input and advice to better management food and public health systems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council's responsibility is to ensure and monitor compliance to all relevant food and public health standards. 	
Not identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Health - Immunization, food regulation, water and air quality regulation, noise regulation, pollution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Query re immunisation role. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental health role is the enforcement of state government regulation and could be the responsibility of state government. Could local government host staff funded by state government? Would some activities (e.g. immunization) be more efficient if managed solely by state government?

ENVIRONMENT Identified Core Activity	Break O’Day Council Current Activity	Future (In addition to current activity, suggestions for future role)	State and Local Government Role Recommendations and Future Discussion Points
WASTE MANAGEMENT Tips and transfer stations Garbage collection Recycling	<p>Local Governments role is to manage local waste through provisions of waste collection, and tips and transfer stations.</p> <p>Local Government takes a proactive role in investigating recycling and circular economy opportunities. However, resource shortages (e.g. funding) means that potential opportunities cannot be capitalized upon. State government support is required.</p> <p>Regional waste management groups have been established around the State and have been providing a valuable mechanism to tackle the waste challenges we face.</p>		<p>State Leadership in fostering a circular economy and finding local solutions to address recycling needs.</p> <p>Waste Management is a Statewide Issue requiring state support including industry investment so that waste needs, particularly recycling can be dealt with in Tasmania.</p>
Cleaning public areas	No comment necessary		
Animal control	<p>Dictated by State regulations and legislation.</p> <p>Local Government ensures that State regulations and legislation relevant to Animal Control is enacted.</p>	State/regional coordination of joint dog and cat management	This activity requires better State and regional coordination.
Catchment/natural resource management Land reserves Weed control	<p>Local government has a role in managing land, water and weeds that extends beyond regulation. It includes education and involvement from the community as to how we can sustainably address and manage our natural resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the community’s awareness of the natural environment; the pressures it faces; and actions we can take to sustain it and what it provides. • Undertake and support activities which restore, protect and access the natural environment which enables us to care for, celebrate and enjoy it. • Recognise and alleviate the issues and risks to the environment from our use, and the risk to us from a changing environment.(For example flood and fire.) • Collaborate with the community in sharing responsibilities of looking after our environment <p>Land Management: Develop the financial and human resources to undertake projects and activities which address environmental issues such as weeds and land degradation.</p> <p>Water: Develop and implement strategies and activities to improve water quality and health within our rivers, estuaries and coastal areas and reduce the risks from flooding, inundation and erosion.</p> <p>Weed Management: Weed control – strategy/priorities, education, support/enforcement, land holder & land manager coordination). Council activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controlling weeds on Council land and roadsides to implement strategic weed action priorities. • Working other land managers and property owners to coordinate weed management activities across property boundaries • Provide landholders and managers weed management information, advice and support, and enforcement of legal obligations • Facilitate weed hygiene and other preventative weed management protocols and practices at council, community and industry levels. • Secure funding and resources to deliver local weed management initiatives. 	<p>In addition to the current activities additional activities into the future could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councils will have a role to play in future proofing communities from water shortages and access to drinking water. • Councils will have a role to play in ensuring public areas are drought proof. <p>Biodiversity and vegetation loss – is managed by the State who provide LG with management mechanisms and capacity to monitor, regulate, educate and enforce Monitoring Biodiversity loss through regulatory services managed at a State level.</p> <p>Working across boundaries and collectively on a Statewide Weed management plan that is well resourced and supported by State, community and other state agencies and stakeholders.</p> <p>Council can support and facilitate State and Federally led activities.</p> <p>Facilitate a governance and strategic planning framework for the community and industry to share responsibility for Environment and NRM issues, priorities and action.</p>	<p>State and industry (ie TasWater) support LG in navigating future proofing drinking water and drought protection in our communities.</p> <p>Management of rivers and waterways by the State Government has significantly declined over the last few decades, The State Government needs to be more active and take greater responsibility for the management of rivers, wetlands and waterways, providing technical services and support to landholders and LG.</p> <p>LG Act needs to support, eg. 337 Certificates and ‘purpose’ access to private property owner information.</p> <p>Responsibility for public reserve infrastructure maintenance undertaken by the Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Service could be undertaken by Local Government with appropriate funding</p> <p>Municipal Strategies feed into a Regional and State approach to NRM that is well resourced and financed.</p>

ENVIRONMENT Identified Core Activity	Break O'Day Council Current Activity	Future (In addition to current activity, suggestions for future role)	State and Local Government Role Recommendations and Future Discussion Points
Catchment/ natural resource management Land reserves Weed control Cont.....	<p>Municipal NRM Committee and Strategy : Council convenes its <i>Break O'Day Council Natural Resource Management Special Committee</i> of Council to provide advice on significant environmental issues. The Committee serves as a community reference group with representation for community interest groups, industry sectors and land management partners.</p> <p>Council also maintains the <i>Break O'Day Environment and NRM Strategy</i> and an <i>Action Plan</i>. These are also overseen by the NRM Committee and provide direction and priorities for what are shared responsibilities across the municipality. The Environment and NRM Action Plan informs Key Focus Areas for the Environment Goal of Break O'Day Council's Strategic Plan and Council's Annual Plan priorities to implement them.</p>		
Not identified	<p>Climate Change : Understand, address and evaluate the challenges of climate change in Break O'Day and develop and implement mitigation strategies.</p> <p>Council has recognized the seriousness of climate change. It has reduced energy consumption from its own operations with efficiency and renewable energy actions and supported mitigation actions in the community and by industry, supporting electric vehicle charging stations for example.</p> <p>Adaptation actions have focused on the significant flood and extreme weather risks we face, for example reducing flood risks at St Marys with flood mitigation infrastructure and stronger controls for land use development, and anticipating increasing flood and sea level rise risks around the shores of Georges Bay.</p>	<p>Develop facilitate and support a climate change strategy at a local area level that will cross a range of related themes, roles and functions.</p> <p>Participate in northern region Councils climate change action initiative for better outcomes on the climate change mitigation and adaptation challenges faced within local government and by our communities.</p>	<p>State develops a State wide approach to Climate Change that allows a consistent and collaborative approach across LG borders and regions.</p> <p>State provides a range of tools and mechanisms to address climate change in local communities.</p>
Not identified	<p>Natural Hazard Protection: (flood, fire, drought, landslip and coastal) Central role in disaster risk, response and recovery management, including planning to avoid future risks and necessary community and stakeholder participation.</p> <p>Council supports the national focus on whole of community strategies for disaster risk reduction and resilience in the overlapping built, social, natural and economic settings. that include shared responsibility for risks.</p> <p>As well as its state emergency management role for response and recovery, Council acts to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> engage communities in the shared responsibility for risks they face (for example at St Marys) and build their resilience to disaster events mitigating risks, (on the George River floodplain for example) preventing risks, for example improving data and knowledge of flood prone land risks across the municipality and applying it to regulation of land use development. 	<p>Continue to provide on the ground support to communities affected by natural disasters.</p> <p>Increase our knowledge and evaluation of natural hazard risks, engaging communities affected and state and national partners in strategies for risk mitigation, avoidance and preparedness.</p> <p>Meet the challenges of natural hazard risks being made worse by climate change in future with prudent policies and strategies.</p>	<p>State develops a clearer framework on Natural Hazards Management so LG can deliver functions on disaster risk reduction, resilience and Emergency Management roles. Including integration with economic and community development, planning and strategies, infrastructure and engagement of higher govt. and the community.</p>