

Future of Local Government Review Newsletter (issue 6)

October 2022

More information?
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The Tasmanian Government has commissioned the Local Government Board to undertake a broad review into the future of local government in Tasmania. The review will look at the fundamentals of the local government system: the role it should play in supporting communities, the services it should be delivering, and the most effective ways of doing so.

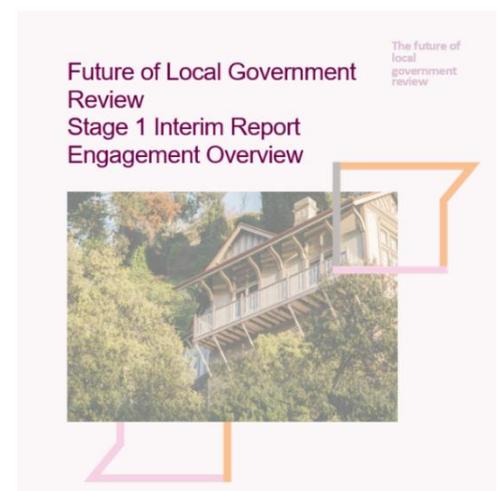
This is the sixth in a series of newsletters which will provide periodic updates on the Local Government Board's [Future of Local Government in Tasmania Review](#). These newsletters will also provide updates and information on key engagement opportunities to ensure you understand how to have your say on local government in Tasmania.

THE INTERIM REPORT SUBMISSION SUMMARY HAS NOW BEEN RELEASED

From 21 July to 29 August 2022 written submissions were invited from members of the public and stakeholders in response to four sets of questions regarding the key findings and outputs of the Stage 1 Interim Report.

Overall, we received 82 submissions from 46 members of the public which responded to individual sections of the report and their accompanying questions. We also received 18 submissions from councils, 2 submissions from Mayors and 3 submissions from peak organisations in Tasmania.

The Board has been pleased by the response to the Interim Report and impressed by the effort that Tasmanians have put into engaging with the issues and ideas we have put forward. We want to thank everyone who shared their thoughts on the report. The Board will be taking all your



Stage 1 Interim Report Engagement Overview

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ideas and suggestions into consideration as we develop and test a wide range of options for reform.

Submissions will be published on the [Review's website](#) in accordance with the [Tasmanian Government Public Submissions Policy](#).

THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA'S SHARED SERVICES PAPER HAS NOW BEEN RELEASED

The fourth in our series of Research Papers prepared by the University of Tasmania has been published on the Review's website.

This paper, which explores approaches to shared services in local government, was commissioned in support of a core focus area of the Review – building strategic and regional capability, efficient and effective service delivery, and operational sustainability.

[Research Paper 4 – Options for sharing services in Tasmanian Local Government](#) finds that shared services represent one strategy with the potential to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and sustainability of Tasmanian local government. However, the extent of these benefits depends on a series of critical 'success factors', which are examined in this report. The Board has also published its own reflections on this paper, which can be found [here](#).

STAGE 2 ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

We held four workshops at the end of September with members of Tasmanian Aboriginal communities; one in Hobart, two in Launceston and one in Ulverstone.

We would like to thank all facilitators and participants for sharing their experiences with local government, and their thoughts and ideas on how councils can better support and engage with Aboriginal communities. The Board members are extremely grateful for the honest and open approach participants took to these workshops.

We will now be preparing a report on the outcomes, and our thoughts and reflections on what we heard at these workshops.

UNIVERSITY of
TASMANIA 



Options for sharing services in Tasmanian Local Government

FUTURE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVIEW
BACKGROUND RESEARCH PAPER NO. 4

Prepared by the
Tasmanian Policy Exchange
August 2022

Research Paper 4 – Options for sharing services in Tasmanian Local Government



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WHAT'S NEXT

- Focus group meetings will be held at the end of October, facilitated by the Board with the assistance of UTAS. These groups will provide expert advice to the Board which will help us continue to develop reform options.
- Stage 2 engagement continues in other areas as well – in addition to consultation on the Interim Report, focus group meetings and Aboriginal engagement, the Board is also meeting individually with every council and undertaking targeted engagement with younger Tasmanians on how local government can best support them into the future.
- Local government elections will occur in October and the Board is mindful of respecting Caretaker Conventions and limiting its engagement with the sector during this time.
- Moving forward, the Board is tasked with consolidating our preliminary research, analysis and engagement to develop a suite of draft reform options which will be presented to the public towards the end of the year. There will be further opportunities to hear everyone's thoughts on these potential reform options - keep an eye on our [website](#) and [social media](#) presence, or subscribe to this [newsletter](#) to hear more.