

Future of Local Government Review Newsletter (issue 2)

May 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 second 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.

Our last [newsletter](#) introduced the Review and some key aspects of Stage 1, including the first Research Paper – [The History of Local Government in Tasmania](#), the Board's [Reflections](#) on the paper, our Councils [Data Dashboard](#) and the wide range of events being undertaken to hear your views on local government in Tasmania.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT FOR STAGE 1 HAS NOW CONCLUDED

- The community engagement program for Stage 1 of the review has formally concluded.
- Community and stakeholder input is at the heart of this Review – the Board wishes to thank everyone in the community, the local government sector and all other stakeholders for their passion and participation in providing views on what matters for the future of local government.
- Throughout the engagement program, the Board provided a wide range of events and opportunities for Tasmanians to have their say on the key issues, challenges and opportunities facing local government. These events took place all over Tasmania, and included 'Pop-Ups', in-person and online community workshops, peak body forums and an online and hard-copy community survey.



Community Workshops in Huonville and Burnie

- The local government sector was also supported with numerous regional and online forums for both Elected Representatives and council employees.
- Members of the Board attended a number of workshops held across the State, and were impressed by the level of engagement.
- While the Board implemented a broad advertising campaign in support of the Review, the Board would also like to acknowledge councils who had an important role in raising awareness within their communities.

WEBSITE UPDATES

- Research Paper 2 - [National and international trends in local government and their relevance to Tasmania](#), was commissioned and published by the Board and prepared by the University of Tasmania. This paper explores interstate and international lessons on local governance and how it can be useful for the Tasmanian Review.
- The Board has provided its own concise Reflections on research paper 2, highlighting the insights and the key points it will consider moving forward - take a look at the Board's Reflections [here](#).
- Also, keep an eye on our Tasmanian Councils [Data Dashboard](#) for updates in the future. Using this tool, you can gain a better understanding of the diversity of activity and performance across councils in your local area, or beyond.

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Community Workshops in Hobart and Devonport

WHAT'S NEXT

- The Board will now carefully consider the engagement feedback and other research and information to identify priority reform areas for further exploration in Stage 2.
- The Board will provide an interim report to the Minister for Local Government by the end of Stage 1 (30 June 2022). It is expected that the Board will release a paper for public discussion shortly after this.
- Importantly, there will continue to be engagement opportunities as the Review progresses. The Board wants to stay connected to Tasmanian communities during each stage of the Review, so keep an eye on our [website](#) and [social media](#) presence for further updates, or subscribe to this [newsletter](#) to hear more.