

Future of Local Government Review Newsletter (issue 13)

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More information?
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The Tasmanian Government commissioned the Local Government Board to undertake a broad review into the future of local government in Tasmania. The review is investigating 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 thirteenth in a series of newsletters providing periodic updates on the Local Government Board's [Future of Local Government in Tasmania Review](#).

STAGE 3 ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

From the release of the Review's Stage 2 Interim Report on 14 April to 2 August 2023 the Board invited written submissions both on this Report, and the [Community Catchment Information Packs](#) released in May 2023. All council and organisation submissions are now published [here](#), and we are currently in the process of uploading submissions from the public.

From 8 June to 6 July 2023, the Board also delivered 27 surveys – for community members, council staff, and council elected representatives on each of the nine community catchments. The surveys allowed stakeholders to comment on the local government boundary scenarios proposed by the Board as part of their [Stage 3 Information Packs](#), or discuss any of their own ideas or alternative proposals. In total 1,611 surveys were completed:

- 1,195 community surveys
- 321 council staff surveys
- 95 elected representative surveys

The Board has published a [paper presenting the high level results of these surveys](#), while the deidentified survey raw data can also be found [here](#).

Across August, the Board hosted 10 public hearings for stakeholders to present to the Board on any area of interest relevant to the Future of Local Government Review.

One hearing was held in each of the Board's nine community catchments identified in its [Stage 2 Interim Report](#) for councils and local community members and organisations, while an additional hearing was hosted in Campbell Town for organisations and peak bodies with a Statewide Policy focus.

Each of Tasmania's 29 councils accepted an invitation to present to the Board one or more times across the month, with a particular focus on how they best see local government serving communities in their catchment into the future. Additionally, eight presentations were received from peak bodies and organisations, and 16 from local community members or groups.

The final hearing on 31 August signalled the end of the Review's formal engagement. The Board has now received over 6,500 inputs from Tasmanians and stakeholders from our various engagement events delivered across the entire duration of the Review. We want to thank everyone who has taken the opportunity to have their say on their ideas and aspirations for the future of local government in Tasmania.

WHATS NEXT?

With the conclusion of our final engagement process, the Board is in the process of preparing our Final Report of reform recommendations to the Minister for Local Government, which is due on **31 October 2023**.

Keep an eye out for further updates and we thank you again for your interest in the Review.

