



Review Project Team

By Email: LGAReview@dpac.tas.gov.au

1 March 2019

Dear Review Project Team,

RE: Review of Tasmania's Local Government Legislation Framework

The Tasmanian Government is conducting a major [review of Tasmania's Local Government Legislation Framework](#).

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the principles of how Tasmania's Local Government should be legally established and elected; how it should provide services to its community; and how it should be accountable to the community.

The Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania Inc (PMAT) is an alliance of 60 community groups from across Tasmania which is advocating for a strategic, transparent and robust planning system which works for all Tasmanians.

Local Government is an absolutely vital level of Government as it is closest to the people and our natural and cultural environment.

PMAT has [six key principles](#) which we believe must underpin Tasmania's planning system.

Two of our core principles most relevant to this review are Principles Four and Six which relate to community involvement and how planning is implemented.

PMAT believes that the community must be involved in planning and given opportunities for informed community input in planning matters and decisions, including provision of appeal rights.

PMAT also believes that, consistent with PMAT's five other principles, that planning must be shared between state and local government, with local government¹ to retain primary responsibility for local planning and development decisions⁽²⁾ through community consultation.

Due to time constraints PMAT is not able to provide more detailed comments at this stage but hopes to do so as the review continues.

We look forward to being invited to participate further.

¹ i.e. a restricted role for state government (including the Coordinator-General) or the Minister and the maintenance of the role of local government as: i) The authority responsible for preparing planning provisions; and ii) The planning authority (the decision making authority) for the vast majority of development applications, subject to advice from appropriate referral agencies.

² Consistent with state and regional policies. It is acknowledged that an alternative approach, such as assessment by the Tasmanian Planning Commission, is needed for projects which affect multiple councils (e.g. pipelines) and projects which meet the criteria for Projects of State Significance.



We have notified our member groups and supporters that the review is underway and will encourage them to be involved throughout the review process.

Yours Sincerely,

Sophie

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