



## **Discussion Paper: Review of Tasmania's Local Government Legislation Framework**

Local Government Legislation Review  
Local Government Division  
GPO Box 123  
HOBART TAS 7001

Dear Committee,

The Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association (TFGA) is the leading representative body for Tasmanian primary producers. TFGA members are responsible for generating approximately 80% of the value created by the Tasmanian agricultural sector.

The TFGA is grateful for the opportunity to make comment and recommendations on the review of Tasmania's Local Government Legislation Framework. The review of the local legislation is a great opportunity to update the legislation and improve collaboration between councils and communication to residents.

Although the review is in the preliminary stages of discussion, there are several recommendations that the TFGA would like to put forward for consideration in the new legislation.

The TFGA recommendations are:

- Consistency across the current 29 councils in areas of management and community. For example, a standard management strategy for roadside weed control across councils
- Effective communication and engagement with the community. The use of multiple communication methods such as social media, online and public consultation to reach all sections of the community
- Collaboration between councils and resource sharing between councils when needed, particularly for smaller councils with fewer residents
- Efficiency when dealing with community issues and reduced red tape to allow faster action on important issues
- Ability to be flexible when it is possible when working with the community on issues
- Transparency of council decisions and activities to the community to ensure accountability of council activities

The TFGA is thankful to be able to contribute to the review of the local government legislation. This review is a positive step to continuing to improve local government across Tasmania. The TFGA looks forward to continuing to be involved in the review of the local government legislation.

Please contact the TFGA if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'P' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

**Peter Skillern**

Chief Executive Officer

1 March 2019