



# Social Inclusion:

What you've told us...

What we've done...

What next?

## What is Social Inclusion?

Social Inclusion is about:

- having access to the resources and relationships that make life healthy, happy and productive
- caring, confident and resilient individuals, families and communities
- social, economic and civic participation
- government, business and the community sectors working together.

The Social Inclusion Unit was established in March 2008 to progress the social inclusion agenda for Tasmania.

In January 2009, Professor David Adams was appointed to the position of Social Inclusion Commissioner for Tasmania.

Professor Adams' first priority as Commissioner was to prepare a report to the Government containing advice on a social inclusion strategy for Tasmania.

From November 2008 to March 2009, the Social Inclusion Unit held more than 40 forums with community sector organisations, interest groups, Local Government and communities statewide. The purpose of the forums was to seek feedback from as many Tasmanians as possible about what they thought were the challenges faced by, and strengths, of their communities, and the priorities for the development of a social inclusion strategy for Tasmania.

## What you've told us

The consultations identified the following issues as priorities for community members in the development of a social inclusion strategy for Tasmania:

- financial hardship and poverty
- transport and access to services
- education and life skills
- employment
- volunteering and supporting volunteers
- stigma and discrimination
- arts, sports and recreation.

The feedback received from the consultations was incorporated into the Commissioner's report *A Social Inclusion Strategy for Tasmania* (in particular, appendix 2 of the Strategy). The report was presented to the Tasmanian Government on 21 September 2009.

## What we've done

The strategy contains research and evidence about social inclusion that is relevant to Tasmania, including the feedback received from the statewide consultations, and sets out 10 strategies for action:

1. Access to the basics
2. Accessible services
3. Learning for Life
4. Building supportive local networks
5. Social enterprises
6. Volunteering
7. Building local capacity
8. Digital inclusion
9. Planning and liveability
10. Governance

Feedback received from the consultations and early action to implement the strategy has resulted in:

- the Tasmanian Community Transport Trust's Cars for Communities program;
- the Supporting Tasmanian Volunteers Program;
- additional emergency relief to provide assistance to families and individuals in need;
- the Community Capacity Building Grants program;
- the Tasmanian Food Security Council; and
- Social Inclusion Community Liaison Officers.

## Where we're going

Many communities consulted in 2008-09 about the social inclusion agenda emphasised that the Social Inclusion Unit should return to communities and report on progress.

Social inclusion is about all of us and the solutions should be too. We want you to have your say about the ongoing implementation of the strategy. We want to talk to you about the priority actions to be implemented.

Come and have your say at:

1. **Risdon Vale:** Monday 12 April 2010, 2:30 – 5:00 pm at Risdon Vale Neighbourhood House, Sugarloaf Road, Risdon Vale.
2. **Central Highlands:** Tuesday 13 April 2010. 10:30 am - 1:00 pm at Hamilton Hall, Tarleton St, Hamilton.
3. **St Helens:** Wednesday 21 April 2010, 2:00-4:30 pm at St Helens Neighbourhood House, 25 Circassian Street, St Helens.
4. **Ravenswood:** Thursday 22 April 2010, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm at Ravenswood Neighbourhood House, 6 Prossers Forest Road.
5. **Burnie:** Thursday 22 April 2010, 3:00pm – 5:00pm, Burnie Community House, 24 Wiseman Street, Burnie.
6. **Devonport:** Friday 23 April 2010, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm at Eastern Shore Community House, 106 David Street, East Devonport.



## What next?

Have a look at the questions on the back page and contact us to share your thoughts. You can talk to us during the forums, by phone, email or letter.

The Unit will provide your advice on future directions for social inclusion to the Government for its medium to long term response to *A Social Inclusion Strategy for Tasmania*.

Copies of Professor Adams' report and the preliminary response are available for download at [www.dpac.tas.gov.au/socialinclusion](http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/socialinclusion) or you can contact us to have copies sent to you.

### Contact the Social Inclusion Unit

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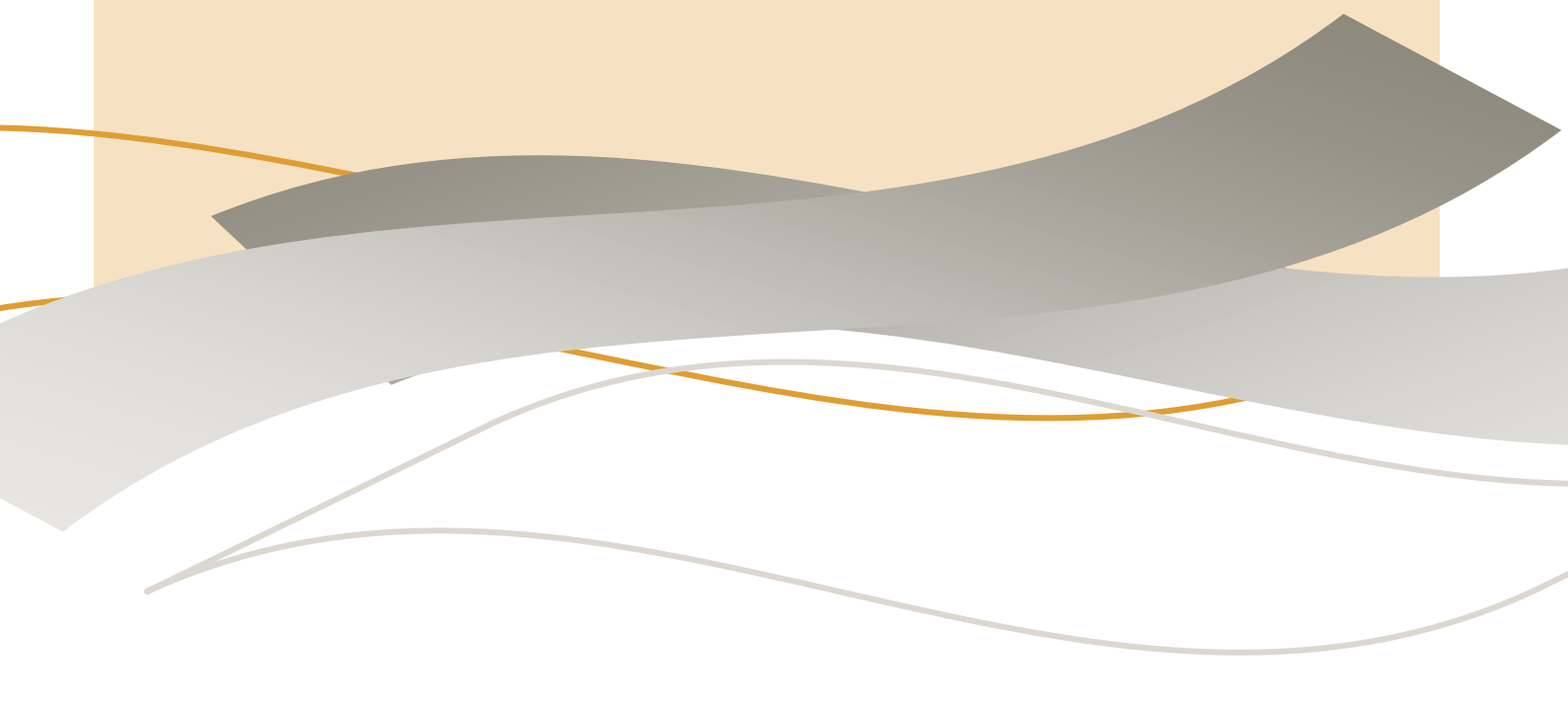


## You can help by telling us:

1. What you think of *A Social Inclusion Strategy for Tasmania*.

2. Which actions in *A Social Inclusion Strategy for Tasmania* should be progressed?

3. Is there anything else you want to share with us?

The bottom of the page features several overlapping, wavy, abstract shapes in shades of grey and orange, creating a modern, flowing design element.