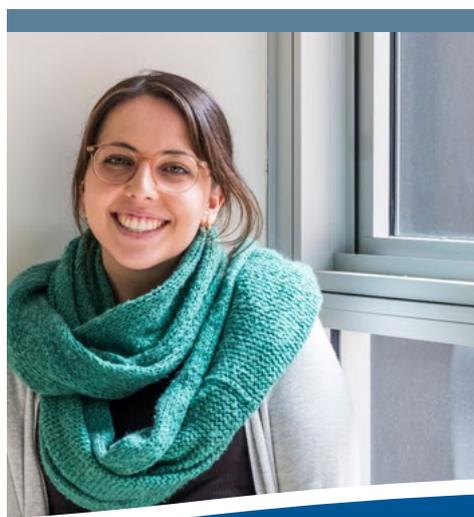




DPAC ANNUAL REPORT  
**2018–19**



## ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This Annual Report provides information for all stakeholders with an interest in the machinery of Government, policy services, whole-of-government service delivery, local government, information technology, state service management, legislation development, security and emergency management and climate change.

It includes the highlights of the year, an overview of our operations, major initiatives, and performance during 2018-19.

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All of our annual reports are available for download from the Department's website, [www.dpac.tas.gov.au](http://www.dpac.tas.gov.au).

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# Submission to the Premier and Ministers



**Hon Will Hodgman MP**  
Premier



**Hon Peter Gutwein MP**  
Minister for Local Government



**Hon Michael Ferguson MP**  
Minister for Science and Technology



**Hon Elise Archer MP**  
Minister for Environment

Dear Premier and Ministers

In accordance with the requirements of Section 36 of the *State Service Act 2000* and Section 42 of the *Financial Management Act 2016*, I submit to you, for presentation to Parliament, this report on the affairs and activities of the Department of Premier and Cabinet for the financial year ended 30 June 2019.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenny Gale".

**Jenny Gale**

Secretary

Department of Premier and Cabinet

2 October 2019



- The Bushfire Recovery Taskforce was formed to assist in the recovery of the 2018-19 statewide bushfires.
- We successfully implemented Emergency Assistance Grants through Service Tasmania to assist communities affected by the 2018-19 statewide bushfires.
- We participated in the Tasmanian Climate Change and Health Roundtable.
- Brand Tasmania was established as a statutory authority and recruited its inaugural Chief Executive Officer.
- The new Aboriginal Employment Strategy was launched including two scholarships for Aboriginal State Service employees.
- The 'What Works For Me' campaign was launched to support flexible working arrangements.
- DPAC hosted a total of 13 Diplomatic and Consular visits.
- A review of the *Local Government Act 1993* commenced, with the appointment of a Reference Group and starting consultation.
- We began a review of the *Burial and Cremations Act 2002*, starting consultation on the Draft Burial and Cremation Bill 2019.
- We supported the 2018 Local Government elections through pre-election information sessions for candidates, and post-election education sessions to newly-elected councillors.
- We supported 41 graduates across seven agencies through the whole-of-government TasGRAD Program.
- The Tasmanian Government Cybersecurity Program was established to coordinate the development of cybersecurity capability across Government.
- A new concierge service was piloted at Service Tasmania Glenorchy and Devonport service centres, which allows people to wait 'out of line' in comfortable seating areas.
- The Strategy and Engagement Unit was formed to develop and implement key Government priorities under a Strategic Growth framework.



In partnership with local councils, hosted four community events in the regions most affected by bushfires: Geeveston, Zeehan, Miena and Westerway, to thank emergency services and others for their efforts. The events were attended by approximately 3,500 people.



We organised the Australian of the Year Awards in 2019, recognising four outstanding Tasmanians.



# Secretary's report



It was a year of transition for the Department of Premier and Cabinet, but as my first full year as Secretary, I have been both impressed and energised by the passion and determination of our team to improve both outcomes for Tasmanians and the culture of our workforce.

On 1 July 2018, we said farewell to the DPAC division of Communities Sport and Recreation including the Tasmanian Institute of Sport and Silverdome, which are now part of the newly-created Department of Communities Tasmania. DPAC has provided ongoing corporate support to the new Department to assist in a smooth transition, and I continue to wish our colleagues all the best with the essential work they do for all Tasmanians.

Participation and feedback from the Tasmanian State Service (TSS) Employee survey was a feature of the year, with the results of the survey allowing us to better understand DPAC's working culture and what we need to do to make sure people are motivated to do their best work. We had some fantastic feedback from our people, including ways we can improve. We know that continuous improvement is important to our goal of delivering the best possible outcomes for the Government and for Tasmanians.

As each year brings its own unique challenges, emergency management and recovery continue to be priorities for the Agency. During the bushfires across Tasmania in early 2019, DPAC's Office of Security and Emergency Management and TasALERT were in full operation, supporting emergency services, operating the Public Information Unit and the Tasmanian Emergency Information Service during the event, and guiding recovery efforts through the Bushfire Recovery Taskforce in the months since. This significant and ongoing body of work demonstrated the high-level professionalism of our people, and the importance of partnerships across Government, and showed that as both a Department and a Government, we are more prepared than ever to assist Tasmanian communities in times of need.

In March 2019, the Brand Tasmania statutory authority commenced – the first statutory place branding authority established in Australia. This is the culmination of many

months of work from our Policy Division and Office of the Secretary. It signals the start of a new chapter for Tasmania's brand, and will help us build a stronger identity that further builds Tasmania's national and international competitiveness and provides even greater opportunities for Tasmania and Tasmanians.

I extend a warm welcome to Mr Todd Babiak, Brand Tasmania's inaugural CEO, who has moved to Tasmania from Canada. Brand Tasmania's mission is to increase aspiration and to help inspire and encourage Tasmanians and those who want to be Tasmanian to create the extraordinary together. Brand Tasmania's vision is Tasmanian success: economic, social and cultural. I am excited to be part of the Brand Tasmania journey as a member of the Board.

Within the Department, we had a small restructure aimed at improving our services across Government.

The new Digital Strategy and Services (DSS) division is a merge of the former divisions of Office of eGovernment and TMD. DSS has a mission of 'working together to lead the digital transformation of the Tasmanian Government through the delivery of trusted advice, strategies and services'.

Our new Strategy and Engagement Unit (S&E) will be coordinating the development and implementation of key Government priorities, such as a Strategic Growth framework, which will include initiatives across Government to ensure more economic growth in regional communities, identify barriers to employment to help more local Tasmanians get local jobs, and deliver a pipeline of jobs and opportunities into the future.

You will find many more examples of the great work that the people of DPAC have delivered for Tasmanians over the past year in this report. The continued professionalism and dedication of my colleagues to not only fulfil the role of the



Department to the best of its abilities but to make DPAC an even better workplace, is to be commended. I am certainly proud to lead a team with such passion and commitment for what they do.

Additionally, 2018 was the final year of the most recent DPAC Strategic Plan. As a result, a significant body of work has taken place during 2018-19 to create a 2019-2022 Strategic Plan that reflects and resonates with the current Department and is aspirational in guiding us towards better leading the State Service in supporting Government and achieving the best possible outcomes for the Tasmanian community. The three guiding principles that have been identified to best direct the work of the Department are:

- High performing people and culture
- Fresh thinking, sound advice
- Effective partnerships

I am excited about the release of the new Strategic Plan in July 2019 and look forward to continuing our momentum, moving from a year of transition to one with our new strategic vision forming a foundation to provide the best possible services and advice, supported by a workplace that is collaborative, diverse and aspirational for our entire DPAC team.

**Jenny Gale**  
Secretary  
Department of Premier and Cabinet

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