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Our Reference: 23/22710

Contact: Polly Buchhorn

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Tasmanian Positive - Our state's sustainability strategy
Department of Premier and Cabinet
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Email: policy@dpac.tas.gov.au.

Dear Tasmanian Sustainability Strategy consultation team,

Break O'Day Council response

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of creating a shared sustainability vision and goals for Tasmania.

In the time available Council has given some thought to the consultation and discussion papers you have provided. One comment from Councillors during the discussion they had was that there was too little time to give the important questions around the framing and priorities of 'sustainability' for Break O'Day the consideration they deserve. We were not able to participate in your briefing session for Local Government for example.

That concern is addressed in one of the points, below, Council submits for the development of a sustainability strategy for Tasmania – that it should have as a priority action providing support and facilitation to communities for them to develop their shared sustainability vision, goals and priorities for local action.

- 'Sustainability' has for years now been woven into the business and lives of the Break O'Day community and Council in different ways. For example, in Council, our municipal Strategic Plan 2017-2027, Policies, Environment and NRM Strategy, Wellbeing programs and governance, regulatory controls, services and infrastructure we manage for the future – including Climate Change. (These can be found on [Council's webpages](#))

- While Break O'Day has been taking 'sustainability' action in different ways, the community and council currently don't have a shared municipal view or strategy for it. The state sustainability strategy should include as a priority helping local communities to identify their strategic priorities for sustainability action
- The Tasmanian Government partnerships and support for the strategy should go further (Discussion Paper p.8). It's share of the responsibility includes going to communities and regions with state programs of funding, knowledge and capacity building for local action
- A vision for sustainability will face important challenges from uncertainty of how we will live in the future and pressures to come: ranging from growth in tourism, to climate change impacts, including demand for land development if Tasmania becomes a climate change refuge
- For Tasmania to be accountable globally it should reference the UN Sustainable Development Goals in its sustainability goals and we support using streamlined goals that are based on the SDGs, provided all the SDGs are referenced. However, embracing social and economic wellbeing goals should be with the global outlook of the SDGs for global equity, and what Tasmania can contribute
- The Tasmanian Sustainability Strategy and its goals should not lose sight of social and economic sustainability ultimately being dependent on environmental sustainability
- Tasmania needs to monitor more than just progress on goals set in a state sustainability strategy to know it is 'sustainable'. It must be accountable to its promise to future generations and demonstrate a 'Sustainable Tasmania' brand with indicators for the limits of what the island can sustain.

Council asks that these points be taken into consideration and looks forward to the continued development of a Tasmanian Sustainability Strategy.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Brown", written in a cursive style.

John Brown
General Manager

CC: Rebecca Stevenson, Senior Policy Advisor, LGAT, bec.stevenson@lgat.tas.gov.au