

16 March 2021

Project Team
Wellbeing in Tasmania

Email: hello@wellbeing.tas.gov.au

Dear Project Team

Submission - Tasmania's Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission on the *Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy* (the Strategy).

This submission has been prepared by the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) on behalf of the Tasmanian Local Government sector. LGAT is incorporated under the *Local Government Act 1993* and is the representative body and advocate for Local Government in Tasmania.

LGAT welcomes the development of the first Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy for 0 - 25 year olds, supported by the January 2021 Discussion Paper. The Premier's vision, that there will be opportunities for a better life for every Tasmanian, no matter where they live, resonates strongly with Local Government's work. The work of councils across the state contributes to all six-wellbeing domains that frame the strategy.

Councils are the enduring and reliable, local face of many government programs: contributing to being healthy, participating in an active society, being safe, providing essential needs, acknowledging and supporting culture and identity and facilitating learning. Councils play an essential partnership role to help tailor the provision of these services to align with local needs and circumstances. It is the ongoing, effective partnerships between councils and other agencies that must be recognised and nurtured to provide sustainability and continuity for local communities.

LGAT believes that the potential of councils as important partners can be further realised through the new Strategy. We would welcome the opportunity to explore how Local Government's current and potential roles in contributing to the key ingredients of wellbeing

could be linked into the Strategy and future resource allocations. That would include discussion on building useful local data (including subjective wellbeing data) to inform local action, inclusion in strategic planning and performance frameworks, designing more effective accountabilities and measures and building capacity of council officers.

If you have any queries or would like further information, please contact Lynden Leppard at Lynden.Leppard@lgat.tas.gov.au or telephone 6146 3740.

Yours sincerely



Dion Lester
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER