



Media Release

RESOURCE SHARING IN SOUTHERN TASMANIA

For immediate release

2 February 2018

The Mayor of Kingborough Cr Steve Wass, Commissioner of the Huon Valley Council Adriana Taylor and respective general managers of Kingborough Council Gary Arnold and Huon Valley Council Emilio Reale met recently to discuss resource sharing opportunities.

Whilst Kingborough and Huon Valley Councils have already been working together on a number of initiatives over the past few years the discussion was about exploring new opportunities where both councils can gain efficiencies and service our communities in more effective ways.

The two council's Information technology teams completed a joint procurement project last year for a new financial, payroll and asset management system, and continue to share skills, knowledge and equipment between the two locations.

Natural resource management collaborations are on-going, with both councils working together with other agencies such as Landcare Tasmania, NRM South and commercial businesses. The D'Entrecasteaux Channel Project coalition was formed late 2012 and enables the partners, including both councils, to develop a coordinated approach to managing this important waterway in a sustainable manner for the future.

Promoting the Kingborough and Huon Valley regions to visitors is another example of the councils working with local industry successfully, with the creation of a new Southern Trove visitor guide. The guide is a key marketing activity designed to help visitors move around Southern Tasmania and highlights its diversity of experiences.

There has been a good working relationship between our two Councils where we have been sharing many everyday things such as equipment, information and documents, staff members for specialised tasks, an immunisation fridge, economic development opportunities for the region, disaster recovery support and exercises, climate change initiatives, spatial data and much more.

The Mayor of Kingborough, Cr Steve Wass said partnership working is essential between the neighbouring councils, particularly when planning for emergencies. "We share a boundary that is not visible during an

emergency, so we must work together to build resilience for our communities,” he said. “Recently we have been carrying out joint emergency management exercises to strengthen our planning and resources. We have agreed to continue to meet periodically to continue investigating further opportunities of resource sharing with Huon Valley Council, ensuring we achieve the best possible outcomes for our communities.”

The Huon Valley Commissioner Adriana Taylor said the arrangement was benefitting residents in both municipalities.

“We are already working together closely in many areas by sharing resources and expertise.

“Our aim is to give the communities of the region good value for money services, and we are on a continuum of growing this through collaboration and cooperation, while still recognising and valuing our own identities and different communities,” Commissioner Taylor said.

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For more information please contact

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