



HUON VALLEY COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

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State Grants Commission visits the Huon

The State Grants Commission (SGC) recently met with Adriana Taylor, the Huon Valley Council Commissioner and Emilio Reale, Council's General Manager to examine details of the Huon Valley Council's submission into the allocation of Federal Assistance Grants funding.

The SGC is an independent statutory body. The primary function of the Commission is to make recommendations to the Tasmanian Treasurer concerning the distribution of Australian Government financial assistance grants to local government.

The Australian Government financial assistance is provided in two parts: a Base Grant (general purpose) component and a Road Grant component. The Australian Government determines each state's share of the Base Grant pool based on population share and the Road Grant pool based on historically agreed proportions. Financial assistance grants are provided to councils as untied, general revenue.

Huon Valley Commissioner Adriana Taylor said while the process has a way to go, it is always a good opportunity to present the Huon Valley's case for funding.

"We were the first Council they've visited. They've obviously got to visit ten other Tasmanian Councils in 2018 but we were happy we could highlight some of the issues facing people and the Council in the Valley.

"We are slightly different in that we provide services some other Councils don't, such as medical centres and childcare centres. We also suffer from a lack of public transport and logistical problems caused by the river, in what can be seen as a certain tyranny of distance and geography.

"We also highlighted the potential adverse effects of any climate change in the region," Commissioner Taylor said.

Each year the SGC visits approximately one third of all councils, however all other Councils are invited to provide submissions. This program is aimed at the Commission visiting every council at least once every three years.

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