



MEDIA RELEASE

02 June 2023

The Future of Local Government Review - Stage 3

Stage 3 of The Future of Local Government Review commenced with the release of the Information Packs on 29 May 2023, in line with the nine Community Catchments Identified by the Board in its Stage 2 Interim Report.

"An extension of time has been granted for consultation on the third and final stage of the Future of Local Government Review, allowing more time for engagement from Councils and community. Engagement is expected to close on 02 August 2023," said Huon Valley Mayor Sally Doyle.

Each Information Pack puts forward several different scenarios for new local government boundaries and service delivery models that could build scale and capability to improve services, while also better reflecting the way Tasmanians live and work within these communities.

Huon Valley is in the "Southern Shore Consultation Group" along with Kingborough and Hobart City Councils. The Pack can be viewed at: engage.futurelocal.tas.gov.au/information-packs.

Importantly, the Southern Shore Community Catchment Information Pack contains three scenarios for Future Council boundaries and structure:

Scenario 1 – Establishing two Council areas within the Southern Shores Community Catchment. The first consisting of the existing Huon Valley Council area and the second consisting of the existing Kingborough area minus Taroona (to be included within Hobart). This scenario recognises that while there are strong commuter links from both these areas into Hobart, the connections between the two areas, in terms of commuting and as service hubs, are less pronounced. Existing council service, administration, and works hubs could be maintained.



Scenario 2 – Establishing one Council area. This scenario combines the existing Huon Valley and Kingborough Council areas. This scenario maximises scale capability potential for the Catchment, and having rural areas connected to significant regional commercial centres would enhance the financial sustainability of the new council. Existing council service, administration and works hubs could be maintained in Huonville and Kingston.

Scenario 3 – Establishing one Council area. This scenario combines the Huon Valley and the majority of the Kingborough Council areas minus Tarooma, urban Kingston and its surrounds (to be included within Hobart). It creates a council with more similar regional and rural communities of interest. Huonville would likely become the primary service centre for this council.

According to the Local Government Board, "These scenarios are not the only options for reform. They are designed to prompt a discussion about some of the possible pathways available to deliver a more capable and sustainable system of local government. Communities and councils may have their own ideas about how local government could be better organised in their catchments. The Board welcomes alternative suggestions as part of the engagement process."

Further information and supporting documents are available on the Review engagement website: engage.futurelocal.tas.gov.au/information-packs.

Importantly - feedback is requested on the scenarios and engagement is expected to close on 02 August 2023.

You can provide comment via the Board's *Make a Submission Page*, or by email to submissions.LGBoard@dpac.tas.gov.au.

For each of the scenarios, the Board asks councils and communities to consider four fundamental questions:

1. What are the strengths?
2. What are the weaknesses or challenges?
3. Are there any adjustments that could be made to maximise the strengths and minimise the weaknesses?
4. Are there any other entirely different scenarios the Board should consider, which would still deliver against the Board's criteria and structural reform principles?



At this stage, LGAT will be holding an engagement session for Councillors as well as for Council staff in June.

“Council will continue to engage in the process and consider opportunities to engage with the community in what is a short time frame,” said Cr Doyle.

For more information: Mayor Sally Doyle (03) 6264 0300