

LAUNCESTON

City Deal

Annual Progress Report July 2019



Australian Government





Image credit: City of Launceston



—○ The City Deal is already delivering for Launceston

The Launceston City Deal is delivering real results for Launceston and its community. This is the second Annual Progress Report for this City Deal, and we're pleased to highlight the work that we've achieved over the course of 2018-19. Our confidence in the City Deal to deliver for Launceston is demonstrated by our commitment to extend the initiative from five to 10 years.

Two years in, and the City Heart project has revitalised Launceston's CBD. The new Civic Square and Brisbane Street Mall redevelopments are complete and attracting people to enjoy great community events in modern and fun spaces.

All three levels of government have been working closely to deliver lasting benefits for Launceston and northern Tasmania. The Greater Launceston Transformation project is putting in place the latest technologies, attracting new innovative businesses and industries, and facilitating urban planning and development through 3D modelling, which are all contributing to a better Launceston.

It is encouraging to see that a Development Application for stage one of the new University of Tasmania campus has now been submitted to the City of Launceston. Given the scope of a construction project of this size, we have only one opportunity to get it right. We are confident that the new campus build plan is the right one, and will maximise local employment, industry participation and vastly improve educational outcomes across northern Tasmania.

We are committed to building a more prosperous economy, and to making Launceston one of Australia's most liveable and innovative regional cities. We are looking forward to delivering the projects that will benefit Launceston—and the region—for decades to come.



The Hon. Alan Tudge MP
Minister for Population, Cities
and Urban Infrastructure
July 2019



The Hon. Michael Ferguson MP
Minister for State Growth
July 2019



His Worship the Mayor
Alderman Albert van Zetten
City of Launceston
July 2019

Annual progress report

Key achievements

- The City Heart project is bringing new life to Launceston's city centre. It includes the revitalisation of both the Brisbane Street mall and Civic Square, which are now complete. The first public event at the new Civic Square—a winter night market—attracted more than 4,000 people and a range of local food vendors and local musicians.
- The first projects under the Greater Launceston Transformation Project are also complete, including a digital twin of the city (including 2D and 3D models) and smart technologies to support the industries of the future.
- The first River Health Action Plan commitments have commenced with the launch of the Tamar Action Grants program. This provides incentives for graziers and dairy farmers to stop pollutants entering the Tamar's catchment. More than 100 expressions of interest in the program have already been received.
- A new precinct plan was released and the first development application for the University of Tasmania's Inveresk campus has been lodged. A range of new courses are also underway to leverage the economic opportunities in and around Launceston.
- The Launceston Apprenticeship Pipeline Project has also commenced and will help the construction industry train more apprentices across different projects. Ultimately, this will lead to a more capable local workforce, ready to take on bigger and more complex projects.

Over the next 12 months

- The first sod will be turned on the Inveresk redevelopment, and construction will commence on the first stage: a new library and student experience building, and a pedestrian and cycle bridge that will connect Inveresk to the southern side of the North Esk River and—importantly—the city centre.
- This project will be complemented by the Launceston Apprenticeship Pipeline project, job fairs and other job services so Launceston can maximise employment opportunities from the construction program, including for the local Indigenous community.
- The My Place My Future Plan will be released, improving the opportunities to work, live and play north of the river.
- The first water infrastructure projects will commence to improve the area's combined sewerage and wastewater system. Together with the continuing environmental activities upstream, these projects will help the health of the Tamar Estuary.
- The Launceston Cultural Strategy will be released and put into action.
- Investments in and around the Newnham campus will be coordinated and linked to community needs and aspirations through a new masterplan.
- The final stage 1 City Heart projects will be delivered, and work will begin to consider the next set of projects to continue to improve Launceston's city centre.

The year in review

Two years into the Launceston City Deal, what started out as a vision—to create one of the most liveable and innovative regional cities—is becoming a reality.

The City Heart project has created dynamic public spaces that support a full calendar of community events. Smart cities projects are creating a backbone for the industries of the future. New investments in defence industries and one of Australia's largest research collaboration centres—the 10 year, \$329 million Blue Economy Cooperative Research Centre to be headquartered on the Newnham Campus—are demonstrating the deal's value in attracting new investment, and the industries Launceston needs to sustain its population and continue to thrive.

Unprecedented public investment in Launceston is also encouraging record levels of development applications. From 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019, council approved 646 planning applications with a total value of \$211.2 million. This is higher than the same period last year and reflects the city's level of new building works.

These investments are creating the right environment to realise the second stage of this City Deal—to grow incomes and reduce disadvantage. The My Place My Future Plan is our blueprint to ensure that the most vulnerable get better access to services, education and employment opportunities.

Not everything has gone to plan. But through our willingness to collaborate and to work through issues, new opportunities have emerged. For example:

- the Launceston Apprenticeship Pipeline Project is a big success story that's grown through collaboration between all levels of government and the business community, and that has established a Jobs Pathway Framework
- the relocation of the university campus from Newnham to Inveresk is taking longer than expected, but will build local capacity and more local jobs. This major project has seen some delays, including through a revised flood-level assessment, and a considerable pipeline of infrastructure works. By taking a staged approach however, it will increase local capacity, and create

more local jobs. The university is also committed to building its campus with timber, creating a long-term opportunity for the local industry to move up the supply value-chain. The new contemporary design for the university precinct at Inveresk will create a more vibrant campus that is better connected to industries and that will maximise the city's competitive advantage

- new plans for the northern suburbs (My Place My Future), regional economic development, Newnham campus and Launceston's cultural strategy are all taking longer than expected. But this has enabled greater consultation with stakeholders—including the community and across government agencies—creating better linkages.

Next year major infrastructure projects will start, including the new campus build at Inveresk and water infrastructure upgrades to improve the Tamar Estuary's health. Our commitment to ongoing collaboration will ensure Launceston makes the most of these long-term investments, and that these set the city up for a bright future.



Image credit: Josh Lamont

○ Governance, City Planning and Regulation

Regional Economic Development Plan

Project Description

The Regional Economic Development Plan (REDP) will set out a vision for Northern Tasmania and identify where future economic growth and jobs are likely to emerge.

The plan will include an economic vision, objectives and identify long-term targets for regional economic growth. It will also include:

- a contextual assessment identifying areas of regional strength and likely change,
- an assessment of regional opportunities, and
- serve as a blueprint that prioritises actions to promote business growth through innovation and addressing skills requirements in the food and agribusiness, tourism, manufacturing, health, education and innovation and entrepreneurship sectors.

Progress Statement

The Regional Economic Development Plan has been prepared by the Northern Tasmanian Development Corporation in collaboration with participating Local Government Associations (LGAs) in the northern region, key stakeholders, local business and the broader regional community. The Key Directions Report provided the underlying economic analysis of the region that informed the development of the REDP.

The plan is the first stage in establishing a long-term economic development vision and associated strategies for the region. The REDP builds on existing strategies, providing a comprehensive approach to the region's economic challenges and opportunities. It is a vehicle for engaging the community in a conversation about:

- regional needs and priorities;
- bringing together key stakeholders;
- facilitating access to enabling resources; and
- focussing activities around regional economic actions.

The final REDP was delayed to ensure all Council members and the Tasmanian Government had an opportunity to review the plan and to allow further workshops to better align an implementation program for the region.

The REDP will undergo final consultation with the LGAs and the Tasmanian Government, before being finalised as an Economic Development Strategy for the Region.



Image credit: City of Launceston

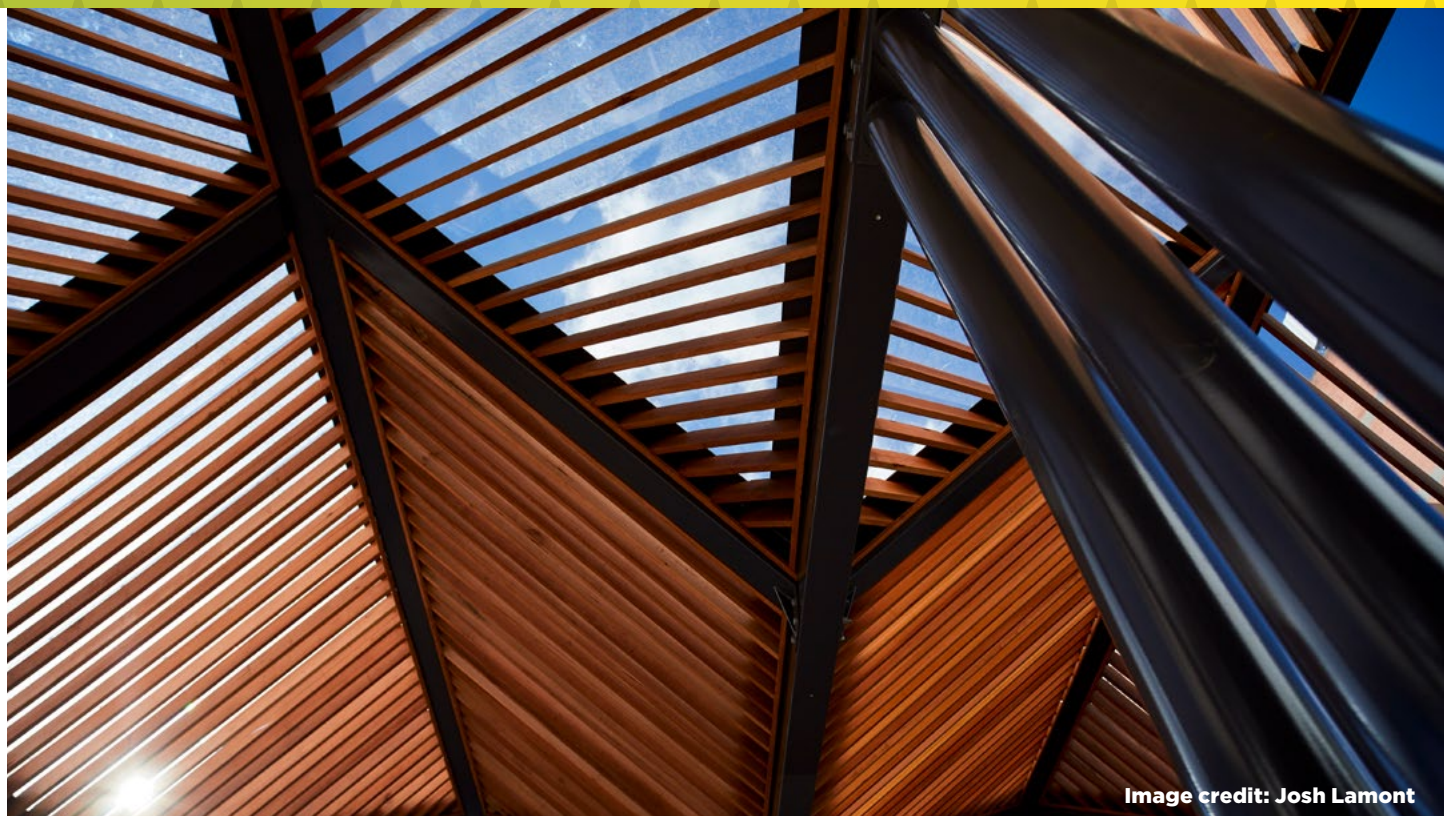


Image credit: Josh Lamont

Key Milestones Achieved

- **July 2018:** The Key Direction Report was finalised by the National Institute of Economic and Industry Research.
- **July to September 2018:** over 100 stakeholder interviews with businesses and organisations in the region to inform the priorities of the REDP.
- **March 2019:** The Launceston City Deal Executive Board, Australian and Tasmanian Governments and Councils provided detailed feedback on the draft REDP.
- **May 2019:** Revised draft presented to the Tasmanian Government.

Key Next Steps

- **July 2019:** Workshops with the Tasmanian Government Officers to discuss implementation programs and elements of the final REDP.
- **August 2019:** Final consultation of REDP LGAs and the Tasmanian Government
- **November 2019:** Final 3-year program presented to Council Members with a proposed NTDC 3-year funding agreement (2021-2024)
- **December 2019:** NTDC continues with the implementation and monitoring the KPI's of the REDP

Financial Information

Project cost: \$300,000

Funding partners:

- \$140,000 - Tasmanian Government.
- \$160,000 - Regional Councils (via Northern Tasmanian Development Corporation) (City of Launceston, Northern Midlands, Meander Valley, Flinders, Dorset, Break O'Day, George Town and West Tamar).

Responsibilities

The Northern Tasmanian Development Corporation Ltd (NTDC)

The Australian Government, The City of Launceston and the Tasmanian Government will provide data to support the strategy as necessary.

Develop agreed metrics to measure progress towards regional targets

Project Description

Develop an agreed set of metrics and datasets by 2018 to measure economic and educational outcomes and monitor success in implementing the Regional Economic Development Plan.

Progress Statement

The Tasmanian Government has been working with the Northern Tasmania Development Corporation, the Launceston Chamber of Commerce, Regional Development Australia Tasmania, the University of Tasmania (UTAS), and regional councils to develop the metrics. The National Cities Performance Framework was used as a foundational document to ensure the metrics were focused appropriately and generally consistent with the approach taken to measure change.

The metrics have been created to form a framework to review the impact of the Launceston City Deal. This commitment, while completed for its initial purpose, will be revisited annually.

The metrics have been developed across the three themes of:

- People – population growth, age profile and migration.
- Participation – secondary school, VET, higher education and employment statistics.
- Productivity – focusing on economic and business growth in addition to changes in average income, value of export and innovation.

Data has been sourced predominantly from the Australian Bureau of Statistics Census Data with

inputs from UTAS, Skills Tasmania and the Office of Tasmanian Assessment, Standards, and Certification in relation to the education metrics.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **October 2018:** Final draft of Metrics to measure progress towards regional targets.
- **May 2019:** Metrics and Baseline report completed
- **July 2019:** Publication of the metrics and baseline report on the City Deal website.

Publication of the metrics and baseline report on the City Deal website.

Key Next Steps

- **Ongoing:** Updates may be required following completion of the Regional Economic Development Plan and the inclusion of an innovation metric informed by the findings of the Innovation Metrics Review Taskforce (when available)

Financial Information

Costs associated with developing metrics is funded through existing resources of the commitment partners.

Responsibilities

The Tasmanian Government will work with the Northern Tasmania Development Corporation, the Launceston Chamber of Commerce, Regional Development Australia Tasmania, the University of Tasmania and regional councils to develop the metrics and datasets.



Image credit: Josh Lamont



Image credit: Josh Lamont

Deliver a Regional Industry Forum

Project Description

The regional industry forum was designed to help inform the Regional Economic Development Plan. The forum included a focus on opportunities to improve labour market participation and business productivity and discussion of innovation, regional cooperation, trade, value-add, research and skills.

The forum included participants from all levels of government (including regional councils), local small and medium sized businesses, business organisations, community groups, researchers and education providers.

Progress Statement

The forum was successfully held in May 2017. The outcomes from the forum informed the development of the Regional Economic Development Plan and supported the establishment of the Tasmanian Government's Training and Workforce Development Priorities.

In July 2018, the first Tasmanian Construction Industry Roundtable was held. It brought together industry peak bodies and government stakeholders to discuss how the increased government infrastructure capital spend and general construction may be best addressed.

The discussion focused on measures to overcome skill shortages, with key actions including Skills Tasmania leading a working group comprising industry representatives to deliver a prioritised list of key skill gaps. Skills Tasmania will work with education providers to consider how best to tailor training towards these needs for the 2018-19 teaching year.

A further working group considered the differences in securitisation required across the sector and the implications this has for supply.

A second Roundtable was held in September 2018 to discuss the findings of these actions and progress other issues raised.

The original commitment is now complete and will not be reported on separately in future Annual Progress Reports.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **July and September 2018:** Two Infrastructure Industry Roundtables were held in Launceston.

Key Next Steps

- **Ongoing:** Other forums will be considered and delivered in consultation with Skills Tasmania's Strategic Industry and Community Partners, as required.

Financial Information

Costs associated with the regional industry forum are funded by the Tasmanian Government.

Responsibilities

The Tasmanian Government worked with the City of Launceston, the Australian Government Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business, the Tasmanian Building and Construction Training Industry Board and the Launceston Chamber of Commerce to deliver the forum.

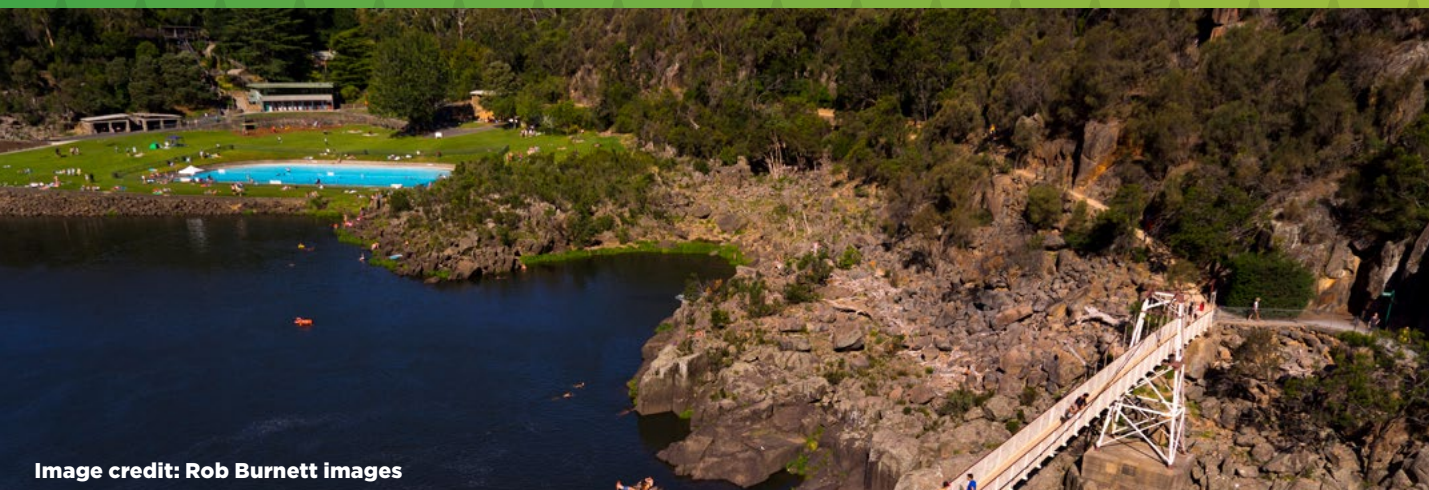


Image credit: Rob Burnett images

Deliver a survey of local businesses on economic opportunities and labour market conditions

Project Description

The Survey of Employers' Recruitment Experiences will collect information from around 200 local businesses annually from 2017 to 2022. Survey results identify labour market challenges and opportunities in the region to inform the Regional Economic Development Plan.

Progress Statement

On 12 November 2018, findings from the 2018 survey were presented to Launceston stakeholders. Attendees of the presentation included members of the Community Business Advisory Group, Launceston Chamber of Commerce, and Northern Tasmania Development Corporation.

The presentation drew from a range of data, including the survey results, to highlight key labour market issues affecting Launceston, including:

- The Launceston labour market had shown some positive signs over the past year, with positive employment growth and an increasing number of internet vacancies.
- The most disadvantaged job seekers had not benefited from improved conditions – the number of long-term unemployed on the jobactive caseload had increased over the period 2017 to 2018.
- The Launceston workforce is ageing, with a 53 per cent increase in the proportion of employed persons aged 55 years and over from 2006 to 2016.
- Survey results revealed that the proportion of employers with recruitment difficulty for higher skilled jobs increased over the past year.

Employers had difficulty filling positions for some occupations, in particular Pharmacists, Motor Mechanics, Metal Fitters and Machinists, and Carpenters and Joiners.

Fieldwork for the 2019 survey was completed in April 2019, with results due to become available in the latter half of 2019.

Key Milestones Achieved

November 2018: Presentation on Launceston labour market, including 2018 survey results, provided to Launceston stakeholders.

April 2019: Fieldwork for the 2019 survey of Launceston employers was completed.

Key Next Steps

Latter half of 2019: Findings from the April 2019 survey to be presented to Launceston stakeholders.

December 2019: Consultation with Launceston stakeholders to determine if any additional questions are to be included in the 2020 survey.

March/April 2020: Fieldwork for 2020 survey will be undertaken.

Financial Information

Ongoing funding through the Australian Government Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business.

Responsibilities

The Australian Government Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business.

Provide Information and Facilitation Services for major projects

Project Description

Information and facilitation services will be provided to investors for regional projects that make a significant contribution to the regional economy, including the creation of regional jobs.

This will help investors to better understand the approvals process and speed up development times for projects.

Progress Statement

The Australian Government's Major Projects Facilitation Agency is available to provide advice and guidance on regulatory and approval obligations for major projects – with capital investments over \$20 million – at all stages of development.

No requests for advice or services relevant to the Launceston City Deal were received during the last 12 months to 30 June 2019.

Next Steps and Milestones

- **Ongoing:** Delivery of advice and services to major project owners.

Financial Information

Ongoing service funded through the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science.

Responsibilities

The Australian Government's Major Project Facilitation Agency.



Image credit: Josh Lamont



Image credit: City of Launceston

Deliver an updated plan for the central city

Project Description

The Council will produce an updated integrated plan for the central city area covering the Cataract Gorge, Riverbend, the new university campus at Inveresk, the Esplanade precinct and the CBD.

The plan will build on the 2014 Greater Launceston Plan and subsequent developments in the central city area as detailed through the City Heart project.

The plan will address future infrastructure, social needs, land use, communication, transport, water, climate resilience and other environmental objectives and promote greater density and in fill development.

Progress Statement

This commitment has not yet commenced. It is intended that an integrated plan for the central city area be informed by the completion of other key projects, such as the UTAS Relocation, City Heart, Cultural Strategy, Greater Launceston Plan review, and Paterson Barracks.

Additionally, considerable work is being undertaken by the City of Launceston to inform the development of local development controls as part of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme, which will further inform the central area plan, including: scenic management, building heights and massing guidelines, heritage places, and precincts listings.

The City of Launceston has also overseen the preparation of the Launceston CBD Building Height and Massing Study, which provides guidance for future planning controls for building height and setbacks within central Launceston. As part of this process, the Council is also developing a set of building design guidelines, which will help shape the development of the Launceston central area in the future.

The report was approved by the City of Launceston in May 2019 and will protect the historic character of Launceston, and manage the potential increase in demand for development in the city with buildings that may seek greater height and scale.

For these reasons the timing of this deliverable has been deferred to align with the pre-requisite projects currently being completed.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **Deferred:** This project has been deferred until further progress is achieved on key pre-requisite projects.

Key Next Steps

- **Ongoing:** Completion of prerequisite projects
- **July 2023:** Delivery of plan

Financial Information

The cost of developing the central city plan is funded by the City of Launceston.

Responsibilities

City of Launceston to deliver the plan.



Image credit: Josh Lamont

My Place My Future

Project Description

My Place My Future Plan (formerly known as the Northern Suburbs Revitalisation Plan) will provide an integrated approach to revitalising the northern suburbs' infrastructure, public space, transport (including pedestrian-priority and active transport), land-use and broader environmental needs - supporting improved lifestyle, social and economic outcomes for residents.

The plan will help improve the quality and attractiveness of the suburbs and clearly outline opportunities and mechanisms for private sector investment. The plan will be aligned with the Regional Economic Development Plan and the transport and housing opportunities outlined in the City Deal.

Progress Statement

The period from July 2018 to June 2019 has seen significant achievements towards finalising My Place My Future, including multiple rounds of community and stakeholder engagement.

The Plan will demonstrate not only the complexity or delivering broad social and community reforms, but its significance in the context of the City Deal - bringing together three levels of government to create the foundations for change for the Northern Suburbs of Launceston.

Harnessing the opportunity of the City Deal

Bringing together people from different areas of expertise, agencies, and geographical locations has led to conversations between people which would otherwise have never occurred. This has led to new ways of thinking, identifying complex issues and possible solutions, some of which may not be seen for many years. The uniqueness of the City Deal model created the foundation for change.

Challenging traditional silos

The Strategic Action Areas outlined in the draft Plan deliberately seeks to break down traditional silos, based on alignment of existing delivery agencies or institutions. The opportunities that this presents are unique, as actions will create new partnerships, and lead to innovative solutions.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **September 2018:** Completion of Community Consultation Program
- **October 2018:** Completion of a Literature Review
- **February 2019:** Completion of a Preliminary Needs Analysis
- **March 2019:** Completion of all three levels of Government Consultation via the Northern Suburbs Discussion Paper
- **June 2019:** Completion of Needs Analysis, providing a detailed evidence base
- **July 2019:** Completion of the draft My Place My Future Plan

Key Next Steps

- **August 2019:** Delivery of final My Place My Future Plan
- **August 2019:** Delivery of My Place My Future Implementation Framework

Financial Information

The City of Launceston has allocated budget for the employment of the Project Officer and activities required to facilitate the development of the My Place My Future Plan.

The Australian Government has committed \$15 million to the development of a community hub in the northern suburbs.

Responsibilities

The City of Launceston, with support from the Tasmanian Government Office of the Coordinator-General, developed and will implement the My Place My Future Plan.

The City of Launceston will report to the Launceston City Deal Executive Board on progress.

Image credit: Chris Cerer



Divestment of Paterson Barracks

Project Description

The Paterson Barracks will be divested from the Australian Government Defence portfolio and will be revitalised with public accessibility to the site increased.

Progress Statement

An initial business case was completed in June 2018 and proposed options for the relocation of units out of Paterson Barracks as well as the related development of a new cadet facility in North Launceston. In November 2018, the initial business case received Australian Government approval to progress the preparation of a detailed business case.

The Australian Government Department of Defence has consulted with local Launceston community groups that have a specific connection with Paterson Barracks on the future use of the Barracks. Defence will also work with the Tasmanian Government and the City of Launceston to consult the broader Launceston community and progress relevant local planning outcomes to support divestment.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **November 2018:** Initial Business Case complete and approved
- **Ongoing:** Community Consultation on future uses of the Paterson Barracks site

Key Next Steps

- **Late 2019:** Detailed business case
- **TBD:** Decision regarding approach to divestment strategy for Paterson Barracks.

Financial Information

Following approvals, costs to establish alternative cadet and reserve facilities, and to divest of Paterson Barracks will be funded by the Defence Integrated Investment Program. Proceeds of divestment will be returned to the Defence Integrated Investment Program for reinvestment in Defence capability.

Responsibilities

Australian Government Department of Defence.

Defence will undertake consultation the Tasmanian Government, the City of Launceston and Launceston community groups.



Image credit: City of Launceston

Infrastructure and Investment

Reduce Pollution in the Tamar Estuary

Project Description

The Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce was established to oversee the development of the River Health Action Plan (RHAP). The RHAP has recommended priority government investments and policy actions to improve the health of the Tamar Estuary through better governance and planning, reducing pollution through accountable investment, and upgrading Launceston's combined sewerage and stormwater system.

Progress Statement

Having secured \$95 million to complete the 12 projects recommended in the RHAP, the Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce has commenced the delivery of projects. Catchment actions funded under the Taskforce's River Health Action Plan are now being delivered, with an initial focus on greater fencing on farms to prevent stock from entering waterways in the upper estuary.

As part of its program of works, the Taskforce has considered future governance arrangements for the Estuary and has produced a position paper which is currently being considered by stakeholders.

At the end of May 2019, TasWater finalised the preparation of a detailed project plan for the combined sewerage and stormwater system actions. The plan provides details of plausible locations and routes of physical infrastructure.

As we move into 2019-20, further rounds of funding in the catchment actions stream will continue, while approvals and permits will be obtained to commence the initial projects in the combined system infrastructure stream.

The Taskforce has also completed modelling of the potential impacts on sediment in the upper estuary of returning more flows to the South Esk. Communication of this work and consideration of subsequent options regarding sedimentation will be considered by the Taskforce in 2019-20.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **November 2018:** Grant Deed between the Tasmanian Government and NRM North for \$3.5m over four years signed with NRM North to allow commencement of catchment actions.
- **April 2019:** Grant Deed between the Tasmanian Government and TasWater signed to provide \$300,000 in funding to complete the combined system infrastructure upgrades project plan.
- **April 2019:** Tamar Actions Grant process opened. Represents first phase of RHAP catchment actions and will provide co-funding to farms to keep stock from streams and improve effluent management in target catchments.
- **May 2019:** Combined system infrastructure upgrades project plan completed by TasWater.



Image credit: Rob Burnett Images

Key Next Steps

In 2019-20 the following will be achieved:

- Detailed communications plan to be developed for the commencement of combined system projects that will also outline the expected benefits of the collective RHAP actions.
- A 12 month program delivered by the City of Launceston to remove cross connections from separated sewer systems into stormwater in the Launceston suburbs of Trevallyn and Riverside.
- Continuation of Tamar Action Grants process, with further rounds of funding for landholders to be released.
- TasWater to commence approvals processes and, later in the year, procurement of first combined system projects.
- The future governance arrangements will be settled.

Financial Information

Total committed funds from Tasmanian and Australian Governments to address the River Health Action Plan is \$95 million.

An additional \$1.5 million was committed by the Australian Government to NRM North ahead of the RHAP commitments.

An initial \$500,000 was provided by the Tasmanian Government to fund the initial work of the Taskforce.

The Tasmanian Government has committed a further \$300,000 to TasWater to help deliver a detailed project plan for the combined system actions.

Responsibilities

The Tasmanian Government has established the Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce (TEMT) to coordinate the development of the River Health Action Plan.

The TEMT includes experts and local stakeholders. It reports to the Launceston City Deal Executive Board.

Relocate the University of Tasmania's main Launceston campus to the heart of the city

Project Description

City Deal partners will support the University of Tasmania and the local community to deliver a new University campus connected to the Launceston CBD. The investment will deliver new academic learning, teaching and research facilities fitted out with modern, specialised equipment and technology. The development of new campus facilities will provide the capacity to grow student numbers on campus to an initial 10,000 by 2032 with growth ultimately to the target of 16,000 students and staff. The project will also increase student retention rates, strengthen industry engagement and boost the region's economy and jobs.

Progress Statement

Over the past 12 months, the University has spent time listening to the community, staff and stakeholders, and working with its partners to revisit the precinct plan and design the best possible campus for Launceston. In this time, the University has appointed principal consultants, attracted further investment of \$84 million, reconceived the Inveresk precinct plan, agreed on a staged approach to construction and submitted a Planning Scheme Amendment and a development application for the first of its new buildings and a bridge across the North Esk.

In July 2018, internationally renowned John Wardle Architects were appointed as principal consultants in a partnership with three Tasmanian practices following a competitive tender process. With the project architects in place, the masterplan was reviewed, with a new precinct plan developed that considered community feedback to previous designs and incorporated student accommodation. A Community Co-Design panel was established which provided advice and feedback on designs between August 2018 – June 2019 through a series of workshops.

The new campus will connect the CBD to the Inveresk Precinct, which will be strengthened as an important social, cultural, educational, sporting and gathering place for the community. The University's developments will be carefully integrated within the site's existing buildings, taking their design cues from the industrial fabric of the city. Student accommodation and active recreation facilities will create life along the spine of the precinct, which will feature a welcoming, open and vibrant University square for the whole community.

The development of the new campus has attracted further investment to Launceston.

- In partnership with the private sector, the University will deliver student accommodation (270 beds) on the Inveresk campus worth \$45 million.
- The University has also committed to developing 50 beds in Launceston's CBD worth \$9 million.

These additional investments, and the \$30 million for the Defence Innovation and Design Precinct at the Newnham campus, bring the total capital investment in University developments in Launceston to \$344 million.

Informed by detailed planning and considering the pipeline of infrastructure projects throughout Tasmania, the Precinct will now be built in a staged approach. This will maximise the economic benefit to Tasmania and support a local skilled workforce.

- Stage One: the library and student experience building. Construction is expected to start in the first half of next year, with the building ready for students by the end of 2021. A new bridge across the North Esk will also be built in Stage One.
- Stage Two: construction of the learning and teaching building, which is expected to be completed by early 2023.
- Stage Three: construction of the health, science and research building, which is expected to be completed by early 2024.
- Additional works will see the renovation of existing university buildings and the development of student accommodation, landscaping, active recreation and community spaces in and around the Precinct.

In May 2019, the University completed a Heads of Agreement to purchase part of the Glebe Farm property, which will allow for the addition of an initial 550 parking spaces. This new capacity, combined with parking at the northern end of the precinct and in the centre, will improve traffic flow in the area as well as improving parking for major events.

The City of Launceston endorsed the revised precinct plan in May 2019, and in June 2019, the Plan and designs for the first building were released publicly. The Community Co-Design panel will continue to provide input as the detailed designs for the upcoming stages of the project are developed.

The University has already commenced reshaping and expanding its courses in the North. The University College was established in 2017 delivering two associate degrees that year. As of June 2019, the College was delivering 15 courses across Science, Health, Business, Agribusiness, Technology and Pathways to 1,000 new students around Tasmania. In association with the Masters Games and Rural Youth, the University developed and delivered short courses on volunteering and leadership to more than 1,000 people.

In February 2019, the University began offering an accelerated Bachelor of Business, exclusive to Launceston, and in partnership with local business. It is already attracting significant numbers of students to Launceston and is a model of the type of offerings the University is developing in the North. Research and teaching will be informed and shaped by the region's strengths, including food, agriculture, timber and health.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **March 2019:** Commenced schematic design of the Library and Student Experience building.
- **March 2019:** Commenced preparation of the development application for the Library and Student Experience building.
- **April 2019:** Compiled the University's space and design requirements for the Inveresk Precinct via consultation with key internal and external stakeholders.
- **May 2019:** Obtained endorsement by the City of Launceston for the public release the Inveresk precinct plan.

- **May 2019:** Completion of a Heads of Agreement to purchase part of the Glebe Farm property to satisfy the precinct parking requirements.
- **June 2019:** Geotechnical assessment of the Library and Student Services building completed.
- **June 2019:** Lodgement of a Planning Scheme Amendment for the Inveresk precinct.
- **June 2019:** Lodgement of a development application for the Library and Student Services building and the bridge to Willis St.

Key Next Steps

- **By the end of 2019:** Assessment of the development application for the Library and Student Experience building and bridge to Willis St.
- **End of 2019:** Assessment of the Inveresk precinct Planning Scheme Amendment.
- **First half of 2020:** Construction commences on stage one, the Library and Student Experience building and bridge to Willis St.
- **End of 2021:** Stage One construction complete.
- **Early 2023:** Stage Two construction (learning and teaching building) complete.
- **Early 2024:** Stage Three construction (health, science and research building) complete.

Financial Information

Funding partners:

- \$70 million - University of Tasmania
- \$130 million - Australian Government
- \$60 million - Tasmanian Government
- \$5.4 million (land value) - City of Launceston

The University of Tasmania in partnership with private investors will also develop \$54 million of student accommodation.

Responsibilities

The University of Tasmania will establish the university precinct, facilitate industry engagement and ensure innovation activities at the University are aligned with the objectives of the Regional Economic Development Plan.

The University will report to the Launceston City Deal Executive Board on progress in establishing the new University campus, broader community benefits and progress in engaging local job seekers and apprentices.

Deliver community led master plan for the University of Tasmania's Newnham Campus

Project Description

The University of Tasmania will develop a community led masterplan for its existing Newnham campus site, in collaboration with the City of Launceston.

The masterplan will identify opportunities to support the continued growth of the Australian Maritime College (AMC) on the site and identify preferred uses of the vacant land and buildings.

The masterplan will support the objectives of the My Place My Future: a plan for the Northern Suburbs.

Progress Statement

In December 2018, following a strategic review, the University completed and submitted a business case for a Defence Innovation and Design Precinct to be based at the Australian Maritime College at Newnham. In May 2019, the Australian Government committed \$30 million towards the development of the Precinct.

The Australian Government in May 2019 announced funding to establish the Blue Economy Cooperative Research Centre. Combining aquaculture, marine engineering and renewable energy, the Blue Economy CRC is a \$329 million international partnership between 45 research, government and industry parties headquartered at the AMC's Newnham campus.

An initial Newnham campus masterplan and associated strategy was developed and canvassed with key stakeholders including the Tasmanian Government, City of Launceston, and the Launceston Chamber of Commerce. The result of that round of consultation triggered the development of a further level of detail and will need to incorporate the progress of the elements outlined above to enable the best outcomes for the site, the Northern Suburbs and the region.

Further public consultation will be undertaken in October 2019 as part of the release of the draft masterplan for the site.

As the masterplan is developed and delivered, the University intends to retain the majority of the site and act as a steward for the Newnham campus, ensuring it takes into account community, social and environmental values while supporting the development of new productive and exciting uses for the site.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **In 2018:** Initial land use planning review.
- **December 2018:** Development and submission of the business case for the Defence Innovation and Design Precinct.
- **Late 2018 and early 2019:** Active participation in My Place My Future strategy in as a key context for the masterplan.
- **May 2019:** Commitment from the Australian Government to contribute to the Defence Innovation and Design Precinct.
- **In 2019:** Review of proposed operating model for future site operations.

Key Next Steps

- **In 2019:** Full facilities condition report and planning report.
- **In 2019:** Further consultation to refine proposed zones and precincts.
- **October 2019:** Release of draft masterplan for public consultation.
- **In 2020:** Finalisation of masterplan with City of Launceston and Tasmanian Government.

Financial Information

Costs associated with delivering the community led master plan for the University of Tasmania's Newnham Campus is being funded through the University's existing resources.

Australian Government contribution of \$30 million towards the development of a Defence Innovation and Design Precinct at the AMC on the Newnham Campus.

Responsibilities

The University of Tasmania will develop the masterplan in consultation with the City of Launceston and the Tasmanian Government.

The University will report to the Launceston City Deal Executive Board on progress in developing the masterplan.

Implement the Greater Launceston Metropolitan Passenger Transport Plan

Project Description

With the release of the Tasmanian Government's final Greater Launceston Metropolitan Passenger Transport Plan (GLMPTP), the implementation of the plan has commenced. The objective-based GLMPTP considers the increased number of students and staff at the University of Tasmania's Inveresk campus and supports the prioritisation of active transport to create a more 'walkable city'.

Progress Statement

The GLMPTP is a key document in the revitalisation of both active and public transport for Launceston, with the vision to create sustainable transport options for the city into the future. This will be realised by encouraging and making available accessible public transport routes and active transport paths as a priority.

A key activity for 2019 was the finalisation of a refreshed bus network to improve coordination and integration of services that adjusted service levels to areas surrounding Launceston based on changes in demand since the last bus service review.

Metro – the largest public transport provider in Tasmania – has also completed a review of the Launceston network with the aim of improving services. The City of Launceston has commenced work reviewing how bus stop location and infrastructure can promote an improved community outcome for public transport. The review considers impacts to public transport schedules, infrastructure upgrades, public safety, accessibility and future usage.

Initial high priority tasks have been targeted at the bus network in order to capitalise on the state-wide review of services that occurred in 2018-19. Work on active transport measures is being developed by the Tasmanian Government and the City of Launceston via the draft Launceston Transport Vision.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **January 2019:** Engagement commenced with Department of Education regarding active transport route planning as part of development of new Legana school site.
- **March 2019:** Liaison completed with City of Launceston on ongoing availability of St John Street bus stops to support the new general access network.
- **April 2019:** Completion of draft bus timetable and route proposals for greater Launceston general access bus network review.
- **May 2019:** Engagement commenced with City of Launceston on development of its draft Launceston Transport Vision to include provision for high quality pedestrian linkages within the CBD including connecting to public transport infrastructure.
- **June 2019:** Completion of public feedback stage of the Launceston general access bus network review.

Key Next Steps

June-Sept 2019: Consideration of feedback and any revisions arising from consultation on the amended bus network.

January 2020: Commencement of new bus network

In 2020: Development of call for expressions of interest process in providing a common ticketing solution.

Financial Information

Costs associated with the Greater Launceston Metropolitan Passenger Transport Plan are funded through the Tasmanian Government.

Responsibilities

The Tasmanian Government will implement and monitor the Greater Launceston Metropolitan Passenger Transport Plan.

Jobs and skills

Assisting local job seekers to be competitive for local job opportunities

Project Description

The Australian Government Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business will provide ongoing and targeted employer/job seeker engagement activities that assist local job seekers to be competitive for local employment opportunities.

This will include targeted job fairs, workforce planning and development training for businesses and forums to connect employers with government services.

Progress Statement

The Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business is working with local stakeholders including Skills Tasmania (Tasmanian Department of State Growth), about the Launceston Apprenticeship Pipeline Project, to ensure job seeker activities are aligned to meet the key construction periods for the University of Tasmania's Inveresk campus development. This initiative is part of the Australian Department's ongoing delivery of employment services. The Employment Facilitator has also been working with local proponents to develop regional employment trials that provide placed-based solutions through employment projects. It is expected that trials in the Launceston region will be announced shortly.

Key Milestones Achieved

- This commitment is reliant on the progress of the construction timeframes for the University of Tasmania campus at Inveresk.

Key Next Steps

- 2019-2020: Targeted employer/job seeker connection events to fill University of Tasmania's campus construction jobs.

Financial Information

Part of ongoing delivery of employment services by the Australian Government Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business.

In-kind or co-funding assistance from the Tasmanian Government and the City of Launceston.

Responsibilities

The Australian Government Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business with support (co-funding or in-kind) from the Tasmanian Government and the City of Launceston.



Image credit: City of Launceston

Establish Aboriginal Employment Targets

Project Description

Establish employment targets for Aboriginal Tasmanians in infrastructure projects and infrastructure-related services.

Progress Statement

In June 2019, the Tasmanian Government released its Aboriginal Employment Strategy 2022 to increase the number of Aboriginal employees in a range of occupations and levels across all State Service Agencies from 3% to 3.5%.

In April 2019, the Australian Government and the Tasmanian Government signed a new National Partnership Agreement (NPA) on Land Transport Infrastructure Projects, which includes agreement to the Australian Government's Indigenous Employment and Supplier-use Infrastructure Framework (Indigenous Infrastructure Framework). The Framework aims to increase participation opportunities for Indigenous job-seekers and businesses in the delivery of government-funded land transport infrastructure projects.

Tasmanian projects receiving \$7.5 million of funding or more of Australian Government funding through the \$100 billion Infrastructure Investment Program will have an Indigenous Participation Plan which sets out:

- A participation target which reflects the local Indigenous working age population and comprises either, or both an employment component and supplier-use component;
- An engagement plan outlining engagement with relevant Indigenous stakeholders, and supply-side support providers; and
- A plan for public reporting on performance to promote transparency and accountability.

The NPA, and the Indigenous Infrastructure Framework is a five year agreement, and commenced on 1 July 2019.

Throughout the year, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PMC) continued to coordinate actions to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander jobseekers benefit from the opportunities generated by the key infrastructure projects (UTAS campus relocation and redevelopment, upgrade of combined storm water and sewerage network and the Defence Cadet Facility).

PMC will continue to support the indigenous community to engage with upcoming programs and events for jobseekers, including exploring the possibility of funding an employment agreement to support the training and placement of Indigenous jobseekers. PMC will also continue to offer support to employers to set and achieve targets.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **April 2019:** The Tasmanian Government signed the NPA on Land Transport Infrastructure Projects, and the Australian Government's Indigenous Employment and Supplier-use Infrastructure Framework.
- **June 2019:** Tasmanian Government releases Aboriginal Employment Strategy with employment targets of 3% to 3.5%.
- **From 1 July 2019:** The Australian Government's Indigenous Employment and Supplier-use Infrastructure Framework commences for applicable Tasmanian road construction projects.
- **Ongoing:** PMC supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians to be well placed to benefit from the opportunities generated by the key infrastructure projects (UTAS campus relocation, combined storm water and sewerage upgrade and redevelopment, and the Defence Cadet Facility).

Key Next Steps

- **Ongoing:** Engage with key stakeholders to ensure training and skills development programs are in place to support Aboriginal jobseekers into jobs created by the UTAS campus development.
- **Over 2019-20:** Explore the possibility of funding an employment agreement to support the training and placement of Indigenous jobseekers.

Financial Information

Costs associated with establishing aboriginal employment targets for infrastructure projects are funded by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Responsibilities

The Australian and Tasmanian Government will ensure support is available to businesses, employers and employees, for example, through the Vocational Training and Employment Centre and other employment and business support programs.

Provide work experience for disadvantaged youth

Project Description

Three local work experience places will be provided for disadvantaged youth, including Aboriginal Australians, within the City of Launceston.

Progress Statement

In 2018, 7 students from High Schools and Colleges in Launceston were placed in work experience with the City.

Separately, the City of Launceston established 'Work Discovery', a program to deliver an age-relevant work experience program for 10 - 11 year olds. This was leveraged through The Smith Family's strong relationship with schools in the Northern Suburbs.

In November 2018, 30 students from Mowbray Heights Primary School and 16 City of Launceston employees participated in Work Discovery at Town Hall. The program focused on exposing students to the broad range of jobs and opportunities available as careers in Local Government. Students were able to hear firsthand that not all career pathways are the same, by interviewing employees on their journey from school leavers to working with the City.

The City of Launceston received fantastic feedback from both students and staff on the Work Discovery Program and are working with The Smith Family and another school from the Northern Suburbs to deliver the program in 2019.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **November 2018:** Delivery of Work Discovery to Mowbray Heights Primary School.
- **December 2018:** Program debrief with The Smith Family and planning for delivery in 2019.
- **March 2019:** Engagement with a Northern Suburbs school to deliver the Work Discovery Program in 2019.

Key Next Steps

- **October 2019:** Delivery of Work Discovery program.
- **November 2019:** Program debrief and planning for delivery in 2020.

Financial Information

Costs associated with delivering Work Discovery is funded by the City of Launceston with support from the Launceston School Community Partnership, which is an initiative funded by the Tasmanian Government.

Responsibilities

The City of Launceston will continue to deliver the three local work experience places and Work Discovery on an annual basis.



Image credit: City of Launceston

Support an Entrepreneurship Facilitator position to 2020

Project Description

The Entrepreneurship Facilitator is located in Launceston and services the broader Launceston and North East Tasmania region. The Facilitator promotes self-employment and provides mentoring and support to individuals interested in starting or growing their own business. The Facilitator also connects individuals with existing support services in the region such as those eligible for “New Business Assistance with [NEIS](#)”, a program supporting individuals interested in starting their own business.

While anyone can receive support from the Entrepreneurship Facilitator, they target services to individuals aged between 18 – 24 years. The Facilitator attends career expos, job fairs and presents information sessions about starting a business to high school students to encourage them to think about self-employment as a potential employment opportunity.

Progress Statement

During the last year, the Facilitator promoted self-employment and their services more broadly, including at the Small Business Fair held in Launceston in March 2019. They continued to build clients’ skills and confidence and encourage them to achieve their personal and business goals, as well as referring clients to other business and support services such as lawyers, accountants or community organisations.

Between 5 December 2016 and 31 March 2019, the Entrepreneurship Facilitator assisted 12,314 individuals interested in starting or running a business:

- 431 individuals were provided comprehensive support. That is, they may have participated in a workshop, received mentoring or one-on-one help to start or run a business.
- 11,883 individuals were provided general assistance. That is, they received general advice and information about starting or running a business.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **Since 1 July 2018:** the Facilitator has delivered 428 networking events, workshops and individual mentoring sessions.

The [SelfStart online hub](#) featured three of the Entrepreneurship Facilitator’s clients in 2018-19. These videos highlight how the Entrepreneurship Facilitator helped them start a business.

Key Next Steps

- **Ongoing:** The Entrepreneurship Facilitator delivers Entrepreneurship Facilitator Services to 30 June 2020.

Financial Information

Cost: \$985,381 provided by the Australian Government Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business, from December 2016 to 30 June 2020.

Responsibilities

The Australian Government Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business.



Image credit: Chris Crerar

Establish a Jobs Pathways Framework

Project Description

Delivery of a project that will drive a step change in employment and education outcomes, particularly among disadvantaged communities.

The project will:

- Map existing programs to identify successes and gaps, with a view to sharing these experiences with the employment pathways network; and
- Work with stakeholders to develop a Launceston Jobs Pathways Framework.

Progress Statement

As part of the Jobs Pathway Framework project, the partners (led by the Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business) developed a “Jobs and Education Pathways Map” for the Northern region. This document outlines the different pathways to rewarding careers for secondary school students, school leavers, job seekers and those looking to change careers. It outlines the roles of the different parts for employment and training ecosystem which is often seen as difficult to navigate.

In October 2018, the *Building Launceston’s Apprenticeship Pipeline project* (LAPP) was established to create more than 80 new apprenticeships or traineeships over the next 2 years, in order to grow the supply of building and construction trade apprentices and to support their future career prospects in the building and construction industry.

The project is being developed through the Tasmanian Building and Construction Industry Training Board (TBCITB). A partnership between the Tasmanian Government, TBCITB, University of Tasmania and the City of Launceston will ensure the utilisation of the apprentices and trainees (employed through Tasmanian Building Group Apprenticeship Scheme (TasBGAS)) in Launceston City Deal building and construction projects.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **September 2018:** agreement with TBCITB.
- **January 2019:** TasBGAS appointed as the successful Group Training Organisation to delivered School-based apprenticeships component in.
- **March 2019:** LAPP initiated.
- **March 2019:** Announcement of successful proponent, marketing and commencement of the LAPP.
- **March 2019:** LAPP launched by the Tasmanian Minister for Education and Skills.

Key Next Steps

In 2019-20 the following will be achieved:

- Commitment from local builders to provide 40 Certificate II Construction students with work experience placements.
- Work placements and VET program agreements in place with Colleges.
- Delivery of pre-employment preparation courses to 40 students.
- Commencement of Stage 1 school-based pre-apprentices/apprentices (20 enrolments).

Financial Information

Funding: \$260,000

Funding partners:

- Tasmania Government
- Tasmanian Building and Construction Industry Training Board
- Regional Development Australia Tasmania

Responsibilities

The project lead is Skills Tasmania and the Tasmanian Department of Education.

The Australian Government is providing in-kind support through the Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business and the Australian Government funded Employment Facilitator.

Support schools to extend to years 11 and 12 by 2024

Project Description

The extension of high schools to years 11 and 12 will be rolled out in partnership with schools and the broader community.

Progress Statement

The Tasmanian Government has brought forward the Extension School Program implementation date for all secondary schools to extend to years 11 and 12 by 2022, instead of the previous 2024 timeframe.

Kings Meadows and Prospect High Schools started Years 11-12 delivery in February 2019, providing more choices and opportunities for young northern Tasmanians for continuing to years 11 and 12.

The Tasmanian Department of Education is working with the three remaining high schools (Brooks High School, Queechy High School, and Riverside High School) to explore extending to years 11 and 12 in the future.

As Launceston area schools are continuing to extend to Years 11 and 12, there is an opportunity to create a new vision for education delivery in northern Tasmanian schools and colleges. The following initiatives, being delivered by the Tasmanian Government's Department of Education are converging to raise the aspirations and educational attainment of young Tasmanians:

- the Anything Can Happen Campaign and website;
- Years 9-12 Project;
- synchronous and asynchronous learning through Virtual Learning Tasmania (VLT);
- Student Engagement Project; and
- Education Act (2016) Implementation's increase in school leaving age starting in 2020.

Launceston schools and colleges will be guided by the Years 11 and 12 Principles of Practice including 'Collective approaches and purposeful partnerships' and 'contextually relevant provision and building community aspiration' in shaping their vision to increase retention and attainment in the region.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **January 2019:** A new process to support those yet-to-extend schools through a staged implementation process was approved for Brooks High School, Queechy High School and Riverside High School planning to commence delivering Year 11 in 2021 and Year 12 in 2022.
- **February 2019:** Prospect High School and Kings Meadows High School began delivery of Years 11-12 in February 2019.

Key Next Steps

- **In 2019-20:** The Tasmanian Department of Education will continue providing support to Extension Schools as well as working with yet-to-extend schools to begin scoping their program this year.
- **In 2019-20:** The Extension School Project Team will work with Launceston secondary schools and colleges to develop a 'vision' and implementation plan for Years 11 and 12 provision in the Launceston region.

Financial Information

The funding is provided as part of the Tasmanian Government's state-wide Years 11-12 Extension Program.

Responsibilities

The Tasmanian Government in partnership with schools and the broader community that choose to participate in the extension program.

Establish a new Defence Force Cadet Facility

Project Description

A new cadet facility is planned to be established in Launceston's northern suburbs to provide young local people with the opportunity to become a Defence cadet. The cadet program will provide participants with resilience, leadership, team building and practical skills.

Progress Statement

The initial business case for the proposal was completed in June 2018 and progressed to the Australian Government for a First Pass approval in November 2018. The proposed new Defence Force Cadet multi-user facility will be established in the Northern Suburbs, and is proposed to include training and administration facilities, a Q-Store, parade ground, an open area for minor field training, and sleeping quarters with the capacity to accommodate up to 60 cadets a night. A detailed business case for the proposal is underway.

Initial scoping and due diligence for a suitable site has commenced. This information will inform site selection.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **November 2018:** Initial business case received approval by the Australian Government to proceed to a detailed business case
- **2019:** Development of detailed business case commenced

Key Next Steps

- **2019 – 2021:** Site selection (incl. consultation), Detailed Business Case, Government Approvals.
- **2022 – 2023:** Commencement of construction.
- **2024:** Completion of Facility (including Defects Liability Period).

Financial Information

- The costs associated with the detailed business case are funded through the Australian Government Department of Defence.
- Subject to Australian Government approval, costs for the Department of Defence to build a new ADF cadet facility at North Launceston, and to support the divestment of Paterson Barracks will be borne by the Defence Integrated Investment Program.

Responsibilities

The Australian Government Department of Defence.



Image credit: Rob Burnett Images

○ Innovation and Digital Opportunities

Establish a Launceston hub of the National Institute for Forest Products Innovation

Project Description

The Launceston Hub of the National Institute for Forest Products Innovation will investigate innovation in areas such as forest management, timber processing, wood fibre recovery, advanced manufacturing and the bio-economy. It is based at the University of Tasmania (UTAS).

Progress Statement

This commitment allows the region to leverage off Tasmania's native forest resources in new and sustainable ways. Creating opportunity to think differently and create an open platform for forestry research, development and innovation.

The commitment is being delivered by providing grants to proponents aiming to grow Australia's forest and forest products industry by exploring and facilitating innovation in the forest products sector.

On 23 November 2018, nine successful projects under the first round of funding were announced. The Australian and Tasmanian governments contributed \$1.9 million to these successful projects. This investment was matched with \$3.6 million of investment and in kind contributions from the forest industry and research organisations.

On 6 April 2019, eight successful projects under the second round of funding were announced. The Australian and Tasmanian Governments contributed \$1.9 million to these successful projects. This investment was matched with \$2.3 million of investment and in kind contributions from the forest industry and research organisations.

Examples of projects from both rounds include:

- Neville Smith Forest Products - developing a new generation of

Tasmanian hardwood products for In-State design and manufacturing.

- CSIRO - unlocking financial innovation in forest products with natural capital.
- Sustainable Timber Tasmania – Eagle Eye – applying the internet of things to landscape scale Wedge-tailed eagle management.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **November 2018:** The first round of successful projects for the Launceston NIFPI centre were announced.
- **April 2019:** The second round of successful projects for the Launceston NIFPI centre were announced.

Key Next Steps

- **2019-2021:** 17 research projects are underway and most will run to mid-2021.
- **2021:** Reporting of achievements and findings.

Financial Information

Funding partners:

- \$2 million - Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources.
- \$2 million - Tasmanian Government Department of State Growth.

This investment has been matched by \$5.9 million by the forestry industry and researchers.

Responsibilities

The Australian and Tasmanian Government will each provide \$2 million, with contributions also sought from industry. The governments have commissioned Forest and Wood Products Australia Limited (FWPA) to provide administrative support to the Launceston Hub.

Support delivery of a new Low-Power Wide-Area Network (LoRaWAN)

Project Description

Roll out a new Low-Power Wide-Area Network through Enterprize (an innovation hub designed to support start-ups). This will enable infrastructure that local developers and businesses can use to create, trial and commercialise new technology solutions for a range of purposes aligned to the Internet of Things. It should also work to accelerate start-up and entrepreneurial activity.

Progress Statement

Since launching the pilot in November 2017, the LoRaWAN network has provided an opportunity to collect data through sensors for councils, industry, entrepreneurs and educational institutions to be able to make informed data driven decisions.

A number of pilot projects were completed by project partners Sense-T, CSIRO, the Tasmanian Government and entrepreneurs at Enterprize during the 12 month pilot.

Based on the success of the pilot, negotiations began between the project partners to investigate the possibility of providing long-term open access to the network for research and educational purposes.

Definium Technologies have now committed to a statewide LoRaWAN rollout, with Enterprize partnering to provide access to the research and education network.

The remaining deliverable of the funded project is to install four LoRaWAN gateways in locations in Meander Valley, George Town and West Tamar.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **January 2019:** Identified four LoRaWAN gateways to be relocated to Meander Valley, George Town and West Tamar LGAs.
- **February 2019:** Negotiated in-kind support for the installation of those four gateways.
- **February 2019:** Completed negotiation for a long-term LoRaWAN in Greater Launceston, with free access for education and research.

Key Next Steps

- **July 2019:** Installation of LoRaWAN gateways in West Tamar, George Town and Meander Valley LGAs.
- **August 2019:** Establishment of pathway to access long term research and education network.
- **September 2019:** Final project reporting.

Financial Information

The Tasmanian Government provided \$100,000 in July 2017 to establish a pilot Low-Power Wide-Area Network (LoRaWAN) in Launceston (LoRaTAS). This has been fully expensed in the delivery of the pilot network.

An additional \$5,000 has been allocated for a LoRa education project (LoRa Schools Challenge) and committed to a project supported by further Smart Cities funding.

Responsibilities

The Tasmanian Government through Enterprize and the Macquarie House Entrepreneurship and Innovation Hub.



Image credit: City of Launceston

Data Commitments

Project Description

The three data commitments in the City Deal are:

- Develop a list of datasets that showcases the maturity of open data release for the region. Make all regional openly-licensed datasets available through a dedicated URL on data.gov.au, and a Launceston-specific catalogue item on [National Map](#).
- Progressively release non-sensitive public data in areas such as the environment and waste, welfare, education, employment and infrastructure.
- Northern Tasmanian councils to work together to gradually adopt a consistent approach to data release. This will assist local businesses and community groups that operate across council boundaries.

Progress Statement

At the end of April 2019, 49 non-sensitive datasets had been released on data.gov.au and the National Map, with the Launceston data catalogue continuing to be updated. These datasets will also be made available for use at GovHack Launceston 2019, with the hope to publish live open data service streams from Internet of Things (IoT) devices that participants can use.

Moving forward, it is expected that approximately two datasets per month will be added over the coming months.

The top 15 accessed datasets over a six month period during 2018 were as follows:

Dataset Title	Views	Visits	Resource downloads
Speed Limits	49	13	8
Addresses	25	4	9
Central Launceston photo mesh 3D Model	25	11	7
Burnt Areas	15	1	1
Road Surface	12	4	2
Building Floor Heights	10	4	3
Road Classification Hierarchy	9	2	1
Trees	8	1	3
Drainage	5	4	0
Recreational Trails	5	0	1
Rubbish Bins	4	1	0
Parking Bays	4	0	1
Parking Meters	4	3	1
Playground Equipment	4	1	1
Load Limits	3	0	0

The original commitment is now complete and will not be reported on separately in future Annual Progress Reports.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **Ongoing:** The City of Launceston continued to explore new datasets to publish with a view to publishing live city data in 2019 such as water quality, parking or facility usage numbers collected using IoT devices.
- **Ongoing:** Explored new ways to present open data.
- **Ongoing:** Maintained the Launceston catalogue on data.gov.au.

Key Next Steps

- **Ongoing:** The City of Launceston will continue to explore new datasets for release including working with neighbouring councils and Tasmanian Government on new and valuable open data products that benefit the community.

Financial Information

Costs associated with data commitments are funded through existing resources from the Australian and Tasmanian Governments and the City of Launceston.

Responsibilities

The Australian Government in conjunction with Data 61, will provide the technical components of the project whereas the Tasmanian Government and the City of Launceston will agree on datasets to be featured

Improve digital literacy

Project Description

We will work with local stakeholders, such as the Launceston Chamber of Commerce, to determine the best ways to promote further uptake of the National Broadband Network and deliver programs to improve digital literacy in the community.

Progress Statement

The Australian Small Business Advisory Services (ASBAS) Digital Solutions is a program funded by the Australian Government that delivers low-cost, high-quality digital advisory services to small businesses in metropolitan and regional areas to build digital capabilities.

The ASBAS Digital Solutions program is designed to assist businesses with the following technical challenges:

- websites and selling online;
- social media and digital marketing;
- using small business software; and
- online security and data privacy.

In Tasmania, the program providers are Switch, The Van Diemen's Project and In-Tellinc. The Van Diemen's Project is delivering this service in Northern Tasmania due to their existing working relationships with Small and Medium Enterprises in the region. One of the most valuable aspects is the opportunity for Van Diemen's Project representatives to sit down with a client and map out the best pathway for them to improve the digital systems and tools used in their business. Suggestions can include:

- mapping out a Marketing Strategy (through the Enterprise Centres Tasmania program);
- coaching on building a web site and setting up their social media presence (through the Tasmanian Government Digital Ready program);
- coaching to check the Search Engine Optimisation and effectiveness of their website; and
- feeding the above changes back into their broader business plan and goals.

By combining multiple programs, clients are offered the best solution to work on their business and up to 9 hours of free one-on-one advice per calendar

year. This combination of training, via the group workshops and online resources offered by Digital Solutions and Digital Ready, matched with advice tailored specifically for their needs, has proven the most powerful to improve the digital reach of Northern Tasmanian businesses and maximise their chances of success.

In addition, to support small businesses to become digitally engaged, the Small Business Digital Champions project was announced in December 2018, and officially commenced in April 2019. As part of this project 100 small businesses from across Australia have been selected to receive a digital transformation with assistance from a Digital Transformation Provider.

There are six businesses from Tasmania participating in the project, including one Launceston based business, Cataract on Paterson. All 100 participating small businesses will receive up to \$18,500 worth of digital goods and services to transform their business, plus additional support offered by Corporate Partners.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **July 2018:** ASBAS providers began delivering services and business uptake of the program is progressing well.
- **To date:** there has been a keen interest for workshops on Cyber Security, Digital Marketing and Social Media, and Building a Website.

Key Next Steps

- **30 June 2021:** End of the ASBAS Digital Solutions program.

Financial Information

Costs associated with improving digital literacy are funded through existing Australian Government programs, including funding of \$6.25 million from the Australian Small Business Advisory Services (ASBAS) Digital Solutions to cover Tasmania, as well as South Australia and Victoria.

Responsibilities

The Australian Government Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business and the Tasmanian Government.

Greater Launceston Transformation Project

Project Description

The Greater Launceston Transformation Project (GLTP) is a collaboration with the City of Launceston, West Tamar, Meander Valley and George Town councils along with the University of Tasmania and Telstra to explore smart city approaches to improving service delivery and innovation across the Greater Launceston area.

The GLTP aims to address regional challenges of economic growth, education attainment and social inclusion. We are challenging ourselves to build a socially inclusive thriving community competing on a global stage.

Progress Statement

The GLTP project has attracted 2 rounds of Australian Government funding from the Smart Cities and Suburbs program. Combined with partner investments, it is now a \$10.3 million initiative that is delivering 14 smart cities' projects that are creating a rich digital ecosystem that promotes collaboration and innovation, developing open and real time data platforms, and providing opportunities for clever, meaningful engagement with citizens.

The program has created the foundations for a smarter region and more engaged citizens through the following projects:

- using smart analytics to build better educational outcomes;
- new 3D virtual city modelling tools to transform city planning processes;
- a community co-designed innovation framework and hub;
- development of a roadmap to build our intelligent city of the future; and
- planning the deployment of smart technology in industries of the future such as aged care and smart emergency response systems.

Round two - Creating Our Digital Future - has three components: Smart Movement Launceston, Internet of Things (IoT) in Schools, and Digital Cultural Experience.

Smart Movement Launceston will install a traffic management system (TMS) at up to 53 sites across the city that synchronises traffic signals to optimise traffic flows and manage congestion. The real time data collected via the TMS will be complimented with additional sensors, CCTV and mobility data patterns (from the digital models) to build a Multi-Modal Model (MMM).

The IoT in Schools program will deliver a world-class education resource that will build entrepreneurship and innovation and help prepare students for careers and future studies in STEM and design. The IoT in schools program will deliver a total of 600 IoT kits to grade 4-5 classes in public, independent and catholic schools across the greater Launceston area.

The Digitising Cultural Experience project will enable collections to be digitally scanned and then discoverable, searchable and accessible online by developing an interoperable digital platform.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **May 2019:** Completion of 3D models covering 6,567 square kilometres and incorporating live 3D scenario modelling.
- **May 2019:** Aged care wearables trial completed.
- **May 2019:** Design and operating model of the innovation framework and hub completed.
- **May 2019:** Digital roadmap for emergency response services completed.
- **May 2019:** Education analytics completed that model the expected rate of tertiary participation for each school.
- **May 2019:** Skills Demand Report completed that outlines the five and ten year projections of skill demand by industry by area in Northern Tasmania.

Key Next Steps

- **From June 2019:** Following the completion of round 1 of Smart Cities and Suburbs programing in May 2019, the GLTP will review and coordinate the follow-up outcomes and opportunities.
- **June 2020:** completion of the three projects under round two.

Financial Information

Funding: \$10.3 Million

Funding partners Round 1:

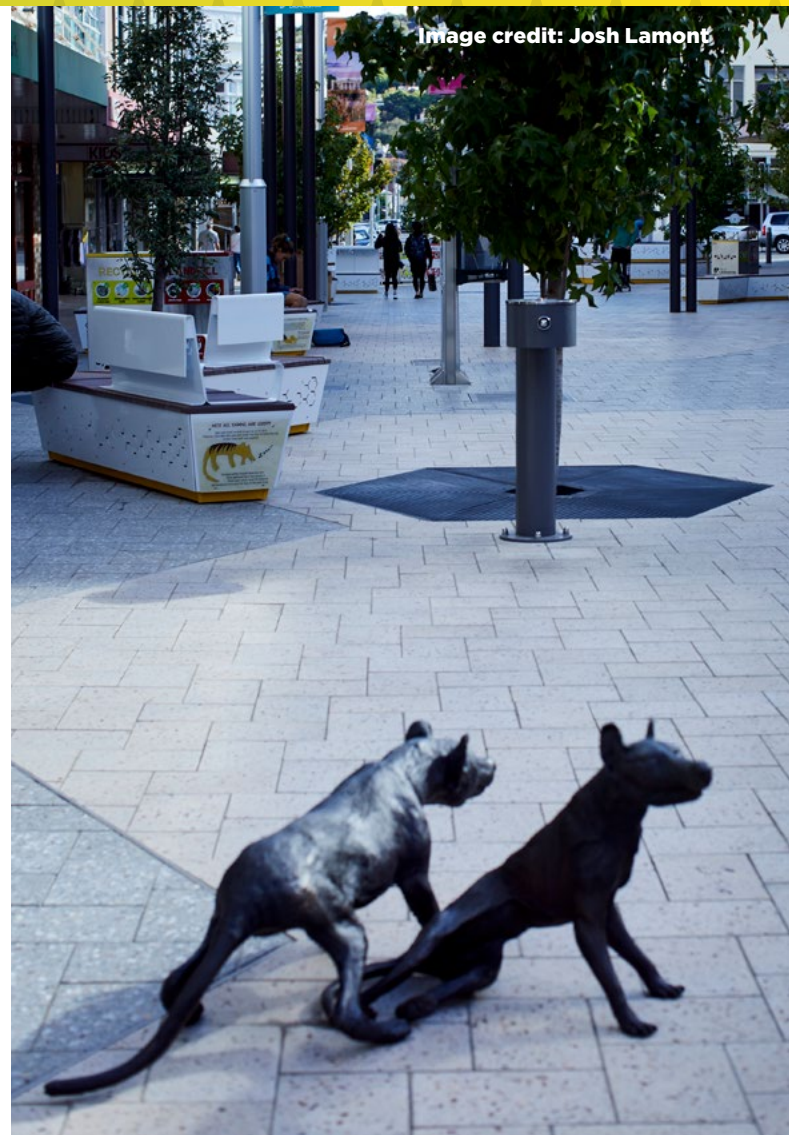
- Australian Government - \$1,580,000
- Tasmanian Government - \$600,000
- City of Launceston - \$295,400
- West Tamar Council - \$72,940
- Meander Valley Council - \$72,940
- George Town Council - \$31,470
- University of Tasmania - \$250,000
- Telstra - \$598,050

Funding partners Round 2:

- Australian Government - \$2,904,775
- Tasmanian Government - \$1,500,000
- City of Launceston - \$2,150,000
- University of Tasmania - \$150,000
- Enterprize - \$5,000

Responsibilities

The Tasmanian Office of the Coordinator General, in collaboration with the City of Launceston, West Tamar Council, Meander Valley Council, George Town Council, the University of Tasmania and Telstra.



Defence Innovation and Design Precinct

Project Description

The new Defence Innovation and Design Precinct at the University of Tasmania's (UTAS) Australian Maritime College (AMC) will help drive defence-related research and development projects, giving new life to this world-class research precinct, and contributing high-skill jobs to the regional economy.

Progress Statement

In December 2018, UTAS submitted a business case to the Australian Government proposing the re-development of the Newnham campus into a Defence Innovation and Design Precinct.

The Australian Government has committed \$30 million to realise the Precinct.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **December 2018:** UTAS submitted a business case to the Australian Government proposing the re-development of the Newnham campus into a Defence Industry Precinct.
- **April 2019:** UTAS and a Tasmanian Government delegation presented its business case to Senior Defence Officials.
- **May 2019:** Australian Government committed \$30 million to support the development of the Defence Innovation and Design Precinct.

Key Next Steps

- **In 2019-20:** UTAS and the Department of Defence to develop an implementation plan for the Innovation and Design Precinct at the Newnham Campus.

Financial Information

As of June 2019, the Australian Government committed \$30 million towards the development of the Defence Innovation and Design Precinct.

Responsibilities

Australian Government Department of Defence and the University of Tasmania.



Image credit: University of Tasmania

Liveability and sustainability

Implement the City Heart Project

Project Description

The \$19.4 million City Heart project will reposition Launceston's CBD as a competitive, vibrant and attractive retail and visitor experience. The City Heart project has already redeveloped Launceston's Civic Square and Brisbane Street Mall, and will continue to develop Wi-Fi infrastructure and improve signage and public transport.

It will also support the City of Launceston to maximise outcomes from the CH Smith development and the attraction of additional event opportunities at the University of Tasmania Stadium.

Progress Statement

In 2018, the Launceston City Heart project delivered the Brisbane Street Mall Redevelopment. The project commenced in late April and was reopened to the public in late September.

The estimated economic impact of adding \$14.8 million of output to the Building and Construction sector for the City resulted in an estimated 142 jobs, including 74 full time equivalent, of which 15 were trainees/apprentices roles.

2018 also saw the Events Activation Project Strategy successfully assist and organise numerous events. The first event to be held in the newly redeveloped Civic Square was the Launceston Night Market, which saw more than 4,000 people brave the Tassie winter to enjoy food and music.

The event activation strategy also includes activation over the festive period, where the City of Launceston installed Christmas Selfie pods through the CBD which had a social media reach of nearly 13,000.

The activation of these newly renovated public spaces has brought thousands of people into the CBD over the last 12 months, creating a more positive atmosphere, making the City a more appealing, contemporary, and liveable place.

The next deliverable is the expansion of the Free Wi-Fi network. This project has been developed and is ready for implementation.

Rollout of the Wayfinding project commenced on a precinct-by-precinct basis and is expected to be fully completed by October 2019.

In late 2018 local government held elections and a review of future stages of the City Heart project is being undertaken with the new Councillors, with priority projects expected to be determined by late 2019.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **July 2018:** First Launceston Night Market in Civic Square drew a crowd in excess of 4,000 patrons.
- **September 2018:** Brisbane Street Mall community open day held, with over 1500 patrons attending.
- **December 2018:** Brisbane Street Mall officially opened.
- **January 2019:** Public Wi-Fi expansion project software and hardware vendor selection completed.
- **May 2019:** Public Wi-Fi expansion project hardware rollout commenced.

Key Next Steps

- **October 2019:** Complete Wayfinding signage installation.
- **October 2019:** Complete free Wi-Fi network expansion Project.
- **June 2020:** Revisit St John Street Redevelopment design.
- **June 2020:** Complete Public Transport Infrastructure Upgrade Project.

Financial Information

Project cost: \$19.4 million

Funding partners:

- \$7.5 million - Australian Government
- \$5.8 million - Tasmanian Government
- \$6.1 million - City of Launceston

Responsibilities

The project is being delivered by the City of Launceston, in partnership with the Tasmanian and Australian Governments.



Image credit: Josh Lamont

Deliver a Launceston Cultural Strategy

Project Description

The City of Launceston committed to deliver a Launceston Cultural Strategy in partnership with local cultural organisations and Aboriginal associations, to:

- better coordinate and promote cultural events,
- invest in new cultural assets,
- review City of Launceston processes and assets that support or influence cultural considerations, and
- incorporate arts and culture as a key element of city planning.

The Cultural Strategy will recommend actions to promote a sense of belonging and pride for the community. It will leverage Launceston's status as Australia's third oldest city, its Aboriginal heritage and the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery to increase local engagement in cultural activities and promote Launceston as a year round cultural tourism destination.

The activities identified in the strategy will help inform city wide planning initiatives such as My Place My Future, Smart Cities and the City Heart project, as well as DNA Launceston and Tomorrow Together Community Engagement roll outs.

Progress Statement

In June 2018, the QVMAG Feasibility Study was completed and presented to Council and a decision was taken to extend and expand the Strategy document and further incorporate community engagement.

In November 2018, the Cultural Strategy survey was launched on the Council's online community engagement platform, "Your Voice, Your Launceston", resulting in the second-highest response rate ever received, with more than 270 submissions. The responses have been analysed and a summary released publically. This analysis will form the basis of the next round of stakeholder communications and community engagement.

In May 2019, the City of Launceston and the University of Tasmania (UTAS) formalised an agreement to ensure the unique opportunities presented by the UTAS co-location and revitalisation of the Inveresk precinct are maximised in the Cultural Strategy.

Through the development of the strategy a number of projects have been identified for future priority, including several culturally based infrastructure projects such as the enhancement of Albert Hall, QVMAG and the establishment of a new multi-purpose indoor stadium. An election commitment was made by the Australian Government for \$10 million to progress these initiatives, with a particular focus on the Albert Hall.

The draft Cultural Strategy is expected to be delivered in September 2019, and released for public comment and community consideration before being formally published and implemented until 2022.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **September 2018:** Consultants engaged to deliver the Strategy.
- **November 2018:** Your Voice Your Launceston campaign to collect data from community and creative industries completed.
- **December 2018:** Community Consultation underway, including through the online Your Voice Your Launceston survey.
- **December 2018:** Completion of data collection via survey.
- **March 2019:** Data analysis and shaping of Cultural Strategy framework.
- **May 2019:** Partnership with University of Tasmania.
- **June 2019:** Engagement of Consultant to finalise the Cultural Strategy and incorporate the joint ambitions and opportunities between the City of Launceston and University of Tasmania, teaching and learning opportunities (co-funded position).



Key Next Steps

- **August 2019:** Robyn Archer AO engaged to review and ensure Strategy delivers on the foundation vision of the Cultural Strategy project.
- **September 2019:** Draft Cultural Strategy delivered.
- **September 2019:** Public Comment and Community engagement.
- **September/October 2019:** Cultural Strategy published and implemented until 2022.

Financial Information

Costs associated with delivering a Launceston Cultural Strategy is funded by the City of Launceston.

Responsibilities

The City of Launceston in partnership with local cultural organisations, agencies, practitioners and Aboriginal associations.

Housing

Increase infill development in the CBD

Project Description

Identify opportunities to make better use of vacant brownfield and greyfield land in the city centre and review planning provisions to maximise opportunities for infill development by 2018.

Progress Statement

The final Toward Infill Housing Development Background Report and associated Summary Report was delivered in June 2019.

The Toward Infill Housing Development project examined the benefits, opportunities and potential barriers to infill development. It also makes recommendations to support the development of more infill housing to the Tasmanian market with a focus on Launceston and Hobart. This includes identifying opportunities to make better use of existing urban areas and reviewing planning provisions to maximise opportunities for infill development.

With Launceston's potential to increase tourism numbers and population (through attracting new students and skilled workers), questions around the opportunity to explore how to best utilise spaces within the CBD were raised, creating the opportunity to review barriers to inner city living (inclusive of top floor) to give Launceston a viable inner city lifestyle that would be of the benefit to both developers and residents alike.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **June 2018:** Project commencement.
- **July and October 2018:** Stakeholder engagement.
- **June 2019:** Final versions of the Background Report and Summary Report provided.

Key Next Steps

- **In 2019-20:** Engagement with stakeholders to report on outcomes of the project.
- **In 2019-20:** Tasmanian Government to consider response and future actions.

Financial Information

Costs associated with increasing in-fill development are funded through existing resources from the Tasmanian Government and City of Launceston.

Funding partners:

- City of Launceston
- \$150 000 - Tasmanian Government

Responsibilities

The Tasmanian Government (Office of the Coordinator-General and the Department of State Growth) and the City of Launceston.

Assist the private sector to redevelop buildings in Launceston's CBD for residential purposes

Project Description

We will establish a working group to implement actions to assist the private sector to redevelop underutilised buildings in the CBD. This will increase commercial activity, increase residential density, support new tourist and student accommodation, increase vibrancy and increase property values.

The working group will:

- Map existing regulations across the three levels of government and identify those that are over and above the requirements of the National Construction Code.
- Develop and promote cost effective performance solutions to meeting building codes.
- Release a development guide to help building surveyors, planners, developers and architects to meet regulatory requirements.
- Increase the knowledge of and use of performance criteria in the National Construction Code, in particular, how they apply to emerging technologies.

The Tasmanian Government will continue to promote the range of flexible options available in terms of Tasmanian regulatory requirements relating to the conversion of first floor spaces into sole occupancy dwellings.

Progress Statement

The City of Launceston and the Tasmanian Government have worked together to explore innovative solutions to meet building code requirements. This includes engaging with stakeholders, such as the Launceston Chamber of Commerce, on ways to encourage inner city living projects.

In September 2018, a workshop was held with the Chamber of Commerce that was attended by a real estate agent and local developers. From these discussions a number of obstacles were outlined. These included:

- Financial viability of projects - many Development Application's approved but did not go ahead due to feasibility concerns e.g. Boland Street Cottages;

- TasWater restrictions on drainage and sewerage would lead to increased infrastructure costs;
- Environmental Health restrictions on ground floor commercial hospitality related tenancies as there is a need for grease traps and greater public toilet options which become impractical in small CBD shop fronts;
- Fire solutions and separation between commercial ground floor requirements and upper level residential have been clarified in recent times but still require significant cost; and
- Accessibility to upper levels is difficult with lifts impractical on some sites.

The City of Launceston is continuing to workshop a number of initiatives aimed at streamlining the regulatory processes and developing draft guidelines that outline the process from beginning to end. This draft is currently going through internal review for comment and feedback by City of Launceston.

The CBD Infill Development Guidelines are targeted towards potential investors and/or current building owners within the Central Business District.

These guidelines are in the final stages of review and will be presented to the Office of Coordinator General to obtain their input and ensure alignment with the "Towards Infill Housing Development" project currently being undertaken by State Growth.

In the second half of 2019 the CBD Infill Development guidelines will be presented to an advisory group of developers and real estate professionals to workshop and provide guidance on how they can be improved.

Key Milestones Achieved

- **September 2018:** Workshop.
- **April 2019:** Complete assessment of infill development.
- **April 2019:** Draft Guidelines approved by Launceston City Development Team.

Key Next Steps

- **July 2019:** CBD Infill Guidelines PDF designed.
- **July 2019:** City of Launceston website updated.
- **August 2019:** CBD Infill Guidelines mail out to Building Owners.
- **October 2019:** Public Forum with Developers, Real Estate Agents and Building Owners if enough interest is gained from all key stakeholders.

Financial Information

Funding partners:

- City of Launceston
- \$150 000 - Tasmanian Government

Responsibilities

The Australian and Tasmanian Governments and the City of Launceston will map existing regulations and identify opportunities to reduce costs.

The Tasmanian Government will introduce any Tasmanian regulatory exemptions considered necessary.

The City of Launceston will work with the Tasmanian Government to release the development guide, deliver workshops and increase the knowledge and use of performance criteria.



Image credit: City of Launceston



Image credit: Josh Lamont



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Communications Parliamentary and Governance Branch
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Cities and Regional Development
GPO Box 594 Canberra ACT 2601 Australia

Email: publishing@infrastructure.gov.au

Website: www.infrastructure.gov.au

