
MEDIA RELEASE

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Tasmanian councils unite to boost coastal resilience

Tasmanian coastal communities are set to benefit from nearly \$1 million in new investment to improve resilience and planning for coastal hazards, following the successful funding of the Coastal Hazard Resilience Planning Project under the Commonwealth Disaster Ready Fund.

This initiative involves 16 coastal councils working together to address a number of major challenges with managing coastal use and development. The project is being delivered by the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) in partnership with Huon Valley, Brighton, and Kingborough councils and will improve coastal hazard mapping, council and community awareness, and the ability to adapt to coastal risks.

LGAT President and Break O'Day Council Mayor Mick Tucker said the project represents a milestone in statewide collaboration.

“When councils come together and work as one, we are able to make decisions for Tasmania’s coastline that are smarter, fairer, and more effective. This project shows how united local leadership can deliver national-scale benefits.”

Acting Huon Valley Mayor Toby Thorpe said the project builds on demonstrated local experience.

“Our work engaging the Garden Island Creek community has shown that clear communication and local involvement are key. This project allows us to share these lessons while continuing to strengthen our coastal resilience.”

Brighton Mayor Leigh Gray said the partnership highlights the value of proactive investment.

“Local councils have jointly committed resources of more than \$400,000, which secured around \$100,000 from the Tasmanian Government through Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT) and matched Commonwealth funding of over \$417,000. It’s a great example of collaboration unlocking national support.”

“This project will guide Council in discussing future coastal risks with our community,” Kingborough Mayor Paula Wriedt said.

“Rising sea levels and more frequent, intense coastal storms will increase erosion and threaten property and vital infrastructure. We want to better equip our coastal communities to engage in adaptation efforts that will improve resilience and recovery.”

Increasing coastal hazards are driving change in the places our community values most. As coastal councils, this project demonstrates the leadership local government can show on managing and improving understanding of complex environmental challenges.

The project will commence in 2026 and run through to 2029, with outcomes shared across Tasmania.

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