

4 September 2018

The Hon. Roger Jaensch MP
Minister for Housing, Human Services and Planning
Level 5, Salamanca Building,
4 Salamanca Place,
Hobart, 7000.



Australian Institute of Architects

Dear Minister,

On behalf of the members of the Tasmanian Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects (the Institute), I would like to congratulate you on your elevation to State Cabinet, with the important Housing, Human Services and Planning portfolios. Your commitment at the recent Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) conference to an overall coordinated strategic planning vision for Tasmania is a most welcome approach and we would like to offer our support and assistance in achieving this.

The Australian Institute of Architects is the peak body for the architectural profession in Australia, representing 11,000 members. The Institute works to improve our built environment by promoting quality, responsible design, that achieves sustainable economic and social outcomes.

We are in the fortunate position in Tasmania of living in one of the most beautiful and liveable places in the world. The challenge for us all is ensuring that we maximise our economic opportunities without compromising our liveability. To achieve this, the Institute supports housing, employment, education and health being considered in a wholistic planning process to which our membership would like to contribute. Our members – the architects of Tasmania – have the skills, experience and local knowledge needed to assist governments in addressing key challenges we are facing in our cities and towns. We believe their expertise in areas such as planning policy, urban form, affordable housing, education, medium density development in the transport corridor and designing for an ageing population would be invaluable in helping to achieve the state's full potential.

Good urban policy and design yield a dividend for all stakeholders, which is returned not just in the immediate term, but over the lifetime of a well-designed and delivered built environment and through strategically coordinated infrastructure delivery. High-quality urban design, public buildings, infrastructure and spaces add value by stimulating the economy, as well as improving quality of life, and social, environmental and health outcomes in the community.

We would be very happy to meet and discuss opportunities for us to work together to achieve what we all ultimately want, which is the best outcomes for our community and for our State.

Kind regards,

Yvette Breytenbach RAlA
President, Tasmanian Chapter,
Australian Institute of Architects