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TASMANIA TOGETHER – STATE PLAN OVERHAUL

The community's 20 year vision for Tasmania is about to get a major overhaul.

Every five years, *Tasmania Together*, the State's 20 year plan, is reviewed following consultation with the Tasmanian community. Following the consultations, the *Tasmania Together* Progress Board then makes recommendations to Parliament on changes to the plan.

The revised *Tasmania Together* document was released today by the Chair of the Board, Mr Bob Campbell. The plan is expected to be considered by Parliament this week.

Mr Campbell said the Board has gone out and listened to the community and had undertaken a major overhaul of *Tasmania Together* to reflect the community's wishes.

"Tasmania has changed over the last five years and so must *Tasmania Together*."

"We are a more prosperous, safe, proud and confident community than we were five years ago."

"Our plan has to remain a living document that can adapt to changes in circumstances and changes in community views."

"Although much of the old *Tasmania Together* has been retained, much has changed to reflect our consultations with the broader community."

Highlights of proposed changes to *Tasmania Together* include:

- a reduction in the number of goals from 24 to 12. All the goals have been rewritten to better align them with the community's wishes;
- the number of benchmarks has been reduced from 212 to 143. Unlike the current *Tasmania Together*, all benchmarks in the new document will be measurable;
- there are 26 new benchmarks and over 90 of the current benchmarks have been refined to better reflect changes in community priorities;
- a new vision for 2020; and,
- the introduction of a headline indicator for each of the new 12 goals.

Mr Campbell said that if approved by Parliament, the new *Tasmania Together* would be more relevant and practical for government and community decision making.

"The new benchmarks in areas such as greenhouse gas emissions, disability services, mental health, workplace relations, and housing affordability, will help us measure progress in areas of current concern to the community."

“At the same time we have retained many of the original benchmarks such as literacy and numeracy, waiting lists, and economic growth that continue to be relevant to the community.”

Mr Campbell said the Progress Board had decided for the first time to include headline indicators for each of the 12 new goals.

“Headline indicators allow for a snapshot of progress using only a handful of indicators.”

“Headline indicators are leading international best practice and will enable the Board to report on progress more often and more succinctly to the Tasmanian community.”

“We expect to be reporting on headline indicators at least annually beginning from next year.”

Goal (summary)	Headline Indicator
1. Standard of Living	Cost of living
2. Community Safety	Feeling safe
3. Education and Training	Literacy and numeracy
4. Health	Avoidable mortality
5. Vibrant Communities	Urban/Regional population
6. Arts and Culture	Attendance at cultural heritage sites
7. Aboriginal Culture	Cultural interpretation at visitor centres
8. Democracy	Local Government elections
9. Work	Workforce participation rate
10. Business and Industry	Investment growth
11. Built and Natural Heritage	Land protection
12. Natural Resources	Greenhouse gas emissions

Mr Campbell concluded by thanking the tens of thousands of Tasmanians who participated in the Five Year Review.

“The Board put a lot of effort into the Five Year Review but it wouldn’t have been possible without the participation of the Tasmanian people.”

“We now have a new Board with a new *Tasmania Together*. Its an exciting time as we focus our attention on further integrating *Tasmania Together* into the broader community.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION TELEPHONE:

For further information contact Mr Bob Campbell on (0408) 336 340.
