

PROGRESS AGAINST PMAT 2021 – 2023 STRATEGIC PLAN

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 - Promoting Planning Excellence

Through knowledge, education, policy development, advocacy and stakeholder engagement, PMAT will work to achieve outstanding planning reform in Tasmania.

OVERARCHING GOAL

STATUS & PROGRESS

Develop a values-based planning vision for Tasmania

An update on the draft values-based planning concept to be provided at the 2024 AGM.

Educate and inform

- More than 12 major submissions to Government including Future of Local Government Review, Tasmanian Planning Policies, Development Assessment Panels (DAPs), Reserve Activity Assessment (RAA) reform, Tasmanian Housing Strategy, Tasmania's Population Strategy and Regional Planning Framework.
- Invited to appear before the Joint House Standing Committee on Public Accounts Inquiry into the Government's Proposed Hobart Stadium Feasibility Planning Process.
- Engaged planning experts, established 3 review sub-committees and delivered submissions on Local Historic Heritage Code, Natural Assets Code and Residential Standards for the State Planning Provisions review.
- Developed free Community Guides to help the public comment on Government reviews and legislation, including their Council's Local Provisions Schedule.
- Facilitated two community groups to develop the South Hobart Specific Area Plan.
- Played an advocacy role in the Government resuming long overdue State of the Environment reporting.
- Developed two free guides for Property Buyers.
- Engaged with Parliamentarians re amendments to the Electoral Disclosure and Funding Bill 2022 to prohibit political donations from property developers.
- Joined the Environmental Defenders Office (EDO), Community Legal Centres Tasmania, Tasmanian Council of Social Services (TasCOSS), Human Rights Law Centre and The Australia Institute calling for improvements to the government's deficient Right to Information processes.

Communicate vision and policy with key stakeholders on a non-partisan basis

- Communications strategy enhanced in 2023 2024 through charitable grant, including part time communications consultant, PMAT website redesign/rebuild, video production (in progress), graphic design, public event support (Hobart Town Hall stadium and #ScrapTheDAP events), increased communication through diverse channels, growing databases.
- Regular e-news updates on planning, policy and advocacy to PMAT Alliance and broader community and stakeholder databases.
- PMAT Director a recognised media commentator on planning issues, delivering numerous radio interviews, 7.30 Report interview, Opinion Pieces in The Mercury, regular media releases and media liaison.
- Surveyed all candidates in 2022 local council and 2024 state elections re key planning policy issues and communicated results to all stakeholders.

Support learning and research

- PMAT State Director Sophie Underwood sits on the UTAS Planning Course Advisory Committee, contributing to the planning curriculum.
- Researchers and academics featured as #ScrapTheDAP public meeting guest speakers.
- Interstate experts engaged re local government reform and DAPs.
- Expert planners engaged to write specific submissions to government.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 – Become A Planning Leader In Tasmania

As the only independent not-for-profit organisation focussing on planning reform in Tasmania, PMAT will be recognised as a leader in the field.

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Become a key knowledge resource for Alliance groups

- The 70 Alliance groups receive regular e-news updates, alerts and advisories.
- PMAT State Director actively responds to Alliance group concerns, providing informed, practical support on local and state planning issues, and assisting with local community meetings and campaigns.
- Alliance group members support PMAT submissions and attend events.
- PMAT hosts CAG (Campaign Action Group) – a collaborative group of over 30 Alliance groups focussed on planning, environmental and social issues of concern.

Be the recognised community leader and ‘go-to’ organisation in the provision of independent planning policy knowledge to communities, organisations, government and the media

- PMAT is a flexible, responsive and very active organisation that works to raise public awareness of key planning issues and consultation processes.
- PMAT’s focus is on giving the local community a voice, protecting rights to planning appeals and retaining planning within local councils.
- Lead community group campaigning against Development Assessment Panels (DAPs).
- New website is a growing central information bank on planning in Tasmania and a resource for Alliance groups, the broader public, media and other stakeholders.
- PMAT’s recognition as a community leader includes the 2022 Bob Brown Foundation National Environment Group of the Year award.
- PMAT invited to sit on the UTAS Planning Course Advisory Committee.
- Invited to brief the Legislative Council on a range of planning policy and legislation.
- Appeared before the Tasmanian Planning Commission with legal representation re Draft Tasmanian Planning Policies concerns.

Host and participate in events

- Over 400 attended Hobart Town Hall meeting on Development Assessment Panels and Reserve Activity Assessment reform, the largest public event held during the March 2024 state election campaign.
- The nine Future of Local Government Review public meetings held across the state in 2023 were instrumental in the State Government abandoning forced amalgamations.
- Hosted the Future of Mac Point event in November 2022, filling Hobart Town Hall.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 – Forming Strategic Partnerships And Growing The Alliance

PMAT will grow effective and strategic partnerships with Alliance groups and other NGOs, the broader community, all levels of government, academics, researchers, planning and legal experts, and the media to achieve planning excellence.

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Engage with partners

- Regular meetings with numerous stakeholders including politicians, Local Government Association Tasmania (LGAT), Tourism Tasmania, Planning Institute Australia (Tasmania), housing advocates, NGOs, professionals (architects, planners).
- PMAT collaborates closely with advocacy groups including the Tasmanian Conservation Trust, Tasmanian National Parks Association and the Environmental Defenders Office to work on policy, submissions, responses to legislation, media campaigns and events.

Maintain a database of key stakeholders

- Regular meetings with numerous stakeholders including politicians, Local Government Association Tasmania (LGAT), Tourism Tasmania, Planning Institute Australia (Tasmania), housing advocates, NGOs, professionals (architects, planners).
- PMAT collaborates closely with advocacy groups including the Tasmanian Conservation Trust, Tasmanian National Parks Association and the Environmental Defenders Office to work on policy, submissions, responses to legislation, media campaigns and events.

Grow the Alliance

- PMAT expanded to 70 Alliance group members.
- Group membership has grown annually as PMAT is increasingly recognised for its work; new member groups subject to Board approval process.
- Strategy to recruit other relevant Tasmanian organisations.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 - Achieving Organisational Resilience

Through a focus on good governance, financial sustainability, operational flexibility, effective stakeholder engagement, PMAT will be a robust and secure organisation with the capability of adapting to change.

OVERARCHING GOAL

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Build PMAT's capability and capacity

- State Director undertaking leadership development program with [Impact Solutions International](#).
- Funded part time communications consultant, increasing capacity significantly in 2023 2024.

Adopt a sustainable funding model

- PMAT continues to strive for long term financial sustainability, guided by the Board Budget Sub-committee.
- PMAT must rely on philanthropic income to remain independent of government and industry.
- Current application for DGR assessment with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). Granted PMAT Registered Charity status by ACNC in April 2024 (a step in this process).
- Fundraising donor database installed, enabling targeted end of financial year fundraising campaigns with increasing annual donation income.
- Secured significant charitable grant in 2023 2024 to employ communications consultant, continuing negotiations for future funding.
- State Director presented to Australian Environmental Grant Makers Network in 2023, securing additional funds.

PMAT has skilled and effective management/staff and Board

- State Director Sophie Underwood outstanding and highly effective, as has been the impact of PMAT's new Communications Consultant Monique Kreis.
- Volunteer Board is skills-based, focus on Board recruitment to fill key skills gaps.
- All Board members actively involved in relevant sub-committees and activities to support the State Director and organisation.
- Board Charter in place; annual Board Strategic Planning Retreat.
- Board Health Check survey in 2024 (re Board and organisational effectiveness).

PMAT operates ethically and in compliance with all ATO requirements, statutory codes and regulations

- PMAT Board and Director ensure all relevant operational and legislative requirements are met to deadline including Incorporated Associations Act, ATO reporting, privacy policy, insurance renewal.
- EOFY reports audited annually for good governance (not a current ATO requirement for PMAT).
- From 2024, Board to incorporate ACNC and ATO income tax exemption reporting into compliance requirements.

Risks are effectively managed

- Risk matrix update in process.