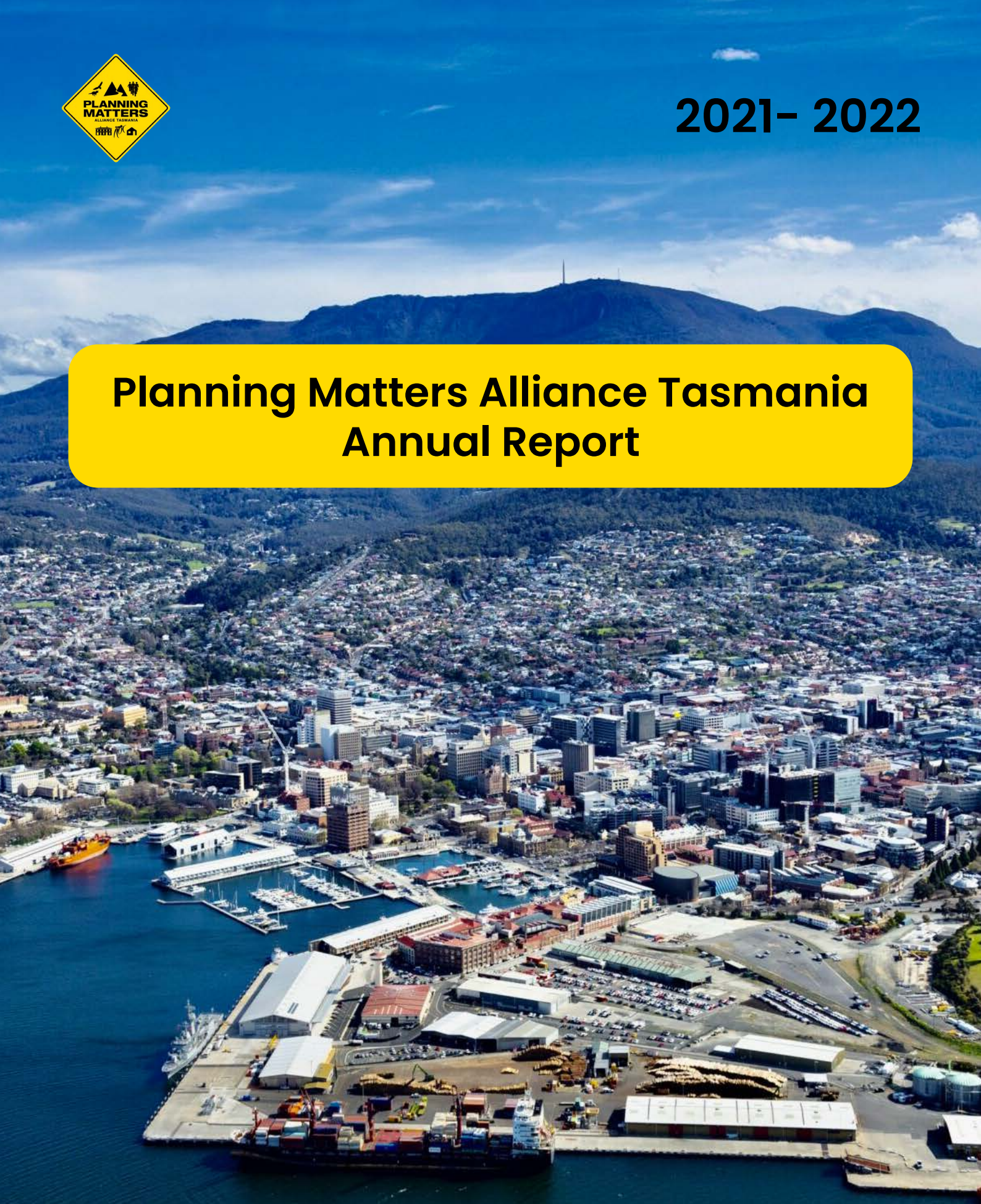
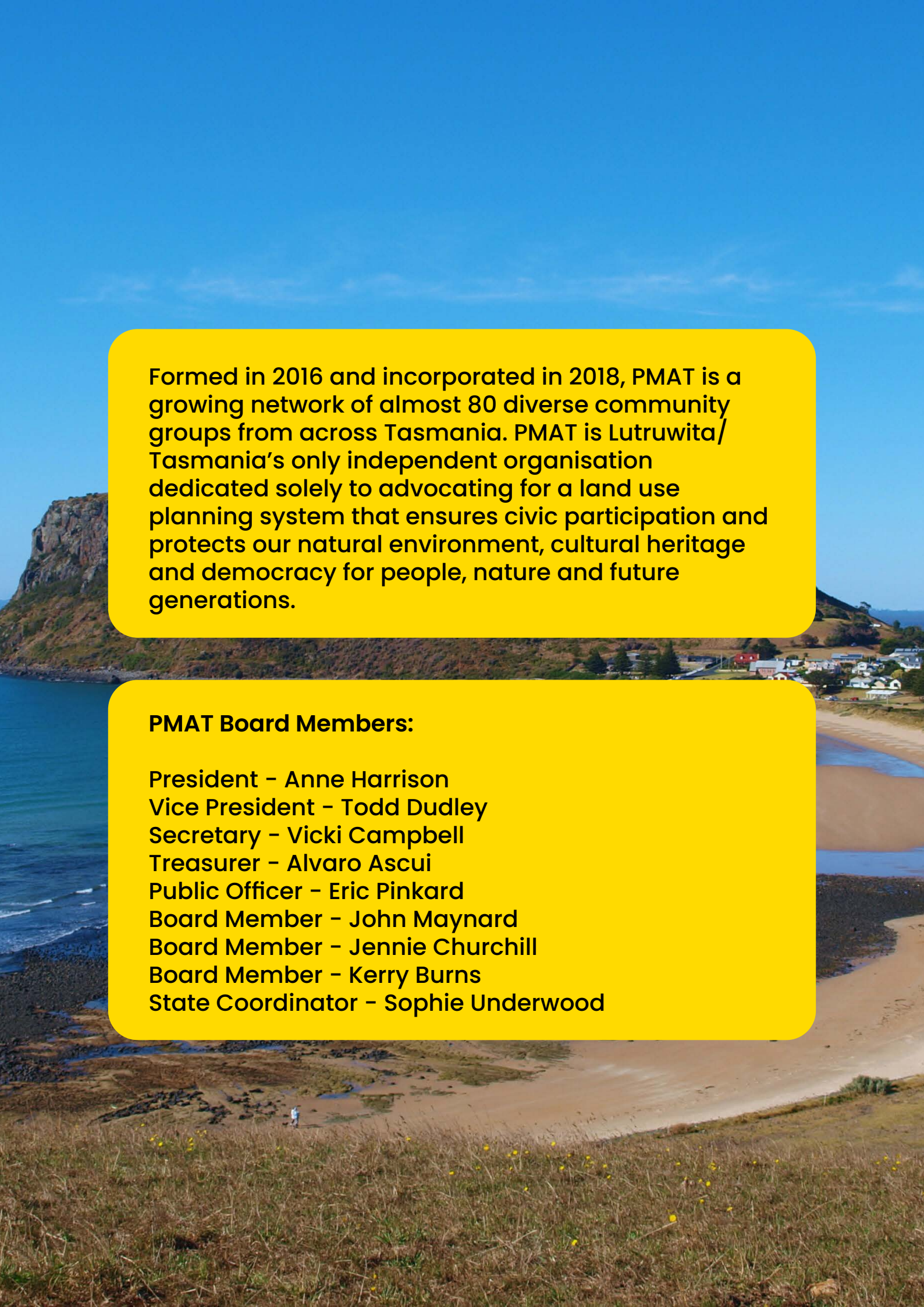
2021- 2022

Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania Annual Report



planningmatterstas.org.au planningmatterstas planningmatterstas



Formed in 2016 and incorporated in 2018, PMAT is a growing network of almost 80 diverse community groups from across Tasmania. PMAT is Lutruwita/ Tasmania's only independent organisation dedicated solely to advocating for a land use planning system that ensures civic participation and protects our natural environment, cultural heritage and democracy for people, nature and future generations.

PMAT Board Members:

President - Anne Harrison
Vice President - Todd Dudley
Secretary - Vicki Campbell
Treasurer - Alvaro Ascui
Public Officer - Eric Pinkard
Board Member - John Maynard
Board Member - Jennie Churchill
Board Member - Kerry Burns
State Coordinator - Sophie Underwood

Annual General Meeting
25 September 2022

President's Report

It's been a year since I became PMAT President (even if Acting) at our 2021 AGM – taking over from Anne Harrison. These were big shoes to fill, but I've been doing my best, although I operate in a different, more behind-the-scenes way than Anne.

I've been involved with PMAT since 2017, but it's only over the past year that I've really begun to appreciate the range of issues that people around Tasmania have with the planning system. There is a huge amount of work being done locally by individuals and groups to protect their neighbourhoods and natural places. It is wonderful that so many of these groups are also part of PMAT's efforts to tackle these issues at a State level.

Our concerted efforts can make a difference.

As you know, PMAT formed in 2016 so we have been going now for some 7 years. We are a not-for-profit providing a community service. That service involves working towards best practice planning and helping the Tasmanian community understand the planning reforms – and what these may mean for individuals, communities and our natural environment. This education role has never been more important.

It also means arguing strongly for changes to the planning laws to achieve what is in our platform – in the face of ever new pressures to water down planning controls and reduce effective public participation in the process.

Over the past year the PMAT Board has continued to work closely with State Coordinator Sophie Underwood looking for ways to inform ourselves, spread the message about good planning and influence government and the media where we can.

What have we achieved in 2022?

It has been a very busy year on a number of fronts. I'll briefly mention some of the work we have been involved in, and I'm sure Sophie will say more in her report.

- We continued to work on implementing our initial **strategic plan** – much of it has been advanced. The Plan has now been published on our website, and the Board intends to revisit the strategic plan early next year.

- There has been a revamp of our **website** – and we are looking at how this can be further upgraded.

- PMAT has coordinated a major submission to the scoping stage of the Government's review of **State Planning Policies (SPPs**). This involved a lot of work and resources – including special reports written by consultants on heritage, residential standards and the Natural Assets Code.

  It has been a huge effort – especially on Sophie's part – but it is a rare opportunity to have a say on a core part of the planning reforms. Thank you to everyone involved.

  We are now waiting for the State Planning Office to engage with us on the next stage of the review.

- **Tasmanian Planning Policies (TPPs**). The Government is now developing these with the aim of providing some much-needed strategic guidance to the planning system. PMAT provided a comprehensive submission putting forward a range of issues and proposed TPP topics.

  Just this week the draft TPPs were released for comment.

- PMAT has been engaged in the *Review into the Future of Local Government in Tasmania* currently underway – especially in relation to the role of Councils as planning authorities. There appears to be a strong push to remove planning from Councils – in part or in full. PMAT is undertaking a survey of

candidates for the upcoming local government elections on this issue.

- Other issues of involvement include **commenting on draft legislation** such as the *Draft Land Use Planning and Approvals Amendment Bill 2022,* the proposed *Homes Act* and seeking to have State of the Environment reporting resumed.

- Two comprehensive **guides** – the *PMAT Property Buyers' Checklist* and the *PMAT What to Watch out for* guide have been published on the PMAT website. These have been produced by PMAT volunteer Fiona Brine. Thank you Fiona for your excellent work on these and other PMAT documents.

- The Board has continued to work hard to connect across the Alliance, with the wider community, to build databases, manage risk and support Sophie.

- In September, PMAT received the Bob Brown Foundation Community Group of the Year award.

PMAT could not exist and operate effectively without the involvement and effort of a wide range of people.

Our donors

Thank you to all our generous donors – you are essential for keeping PMAT going.

Sophie, our State Coordinator

Sophie is central to PMAT's work. Sophie's energy and commitment is amazing – she does a huge job and does it extremely well. Thank you for all you do for PMAT and Tasmania's future.

Campaign Advisory Group (CAG)
This group of community leaders from across the State convened by Sophie and representing many Alliance groups, advises and helps identify the way ahead for planning advocacy. Thank you all for your commitment and hard work.

PMAT's volunteer Board.

The Board works very hard behind the scenes to keep PMAT effective and viable. There is a substantial bank of skills, experience and planning knowledge on the Board and I am very happy that all members are nominating for their positions again this year. Thank you PMAT Board.

Many thanks also to our **Public Officer, Eric Pinkard** for everything he does for PMAT.

Special mention to **Anne Harrison** – she may no longer be on the Board but she continues to make a big contribution to PMAT's work. Thank you, Anne.

Alliance member groups. You are PMAT – and therefore most important of all! Thank you for what you do in your areas, and as part of the Alliance. It has been an honour to represent you as your President this year.

In finishing I would like to say that building networks is central to PMAT, and this is something I think we should try to strengthen. I've met some of you but would like to do more to find out about your issues – and to encourage other groups to join PMAT.

I know the Board and Sophie are always happy to hear from you – please get in touch if you do want to discuss your issues and/or PMAT's role.

Kerry Burns
President
Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania

Annual General Meeting
25 September 2022

State Coordinator Report

Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania (PMAT) has now held seven face-to-face Annual General Meetings with Alliance member groups and supporters since the Association's inception: Ross in 2017 (2), 2018, 2019 and 2020, Kingston in 2021, and Hobart in 2022.

Overview

History

PMAT held the first public meeting on World Town Planning Day in November 2016, before officially launching in Hobart in July 2017 and incorporating in 2018.

PMAT is an independent, apolitical, not-for-profit incorporated association, governed by a skills-based Board. The organisation is funded entirely by donations, and operates with one part-time contractor, the State Coordinator.

As at the September 2022 AGM, PMAT has 67 Alliance member groups.

Communications

We invite and encourage all our supporters and Alliance member groups (and their members) to subscribe to our newsletters and follow and like us on social media:

- The PMAT mailchimp database now has over 1,200 subscribers receiving regular updates and news.
- PMAT is active on Facebook and we can report a current 2,065 likes, increased by 185 from 2021.
- The website is constantly updated to provide background and information on key planning issues, media and events. A new section, Our Work, is under development, highlighting and raising awareness of key issues and campaigns.

PMAT 67 ALLIANCE MEMBER GROUPS

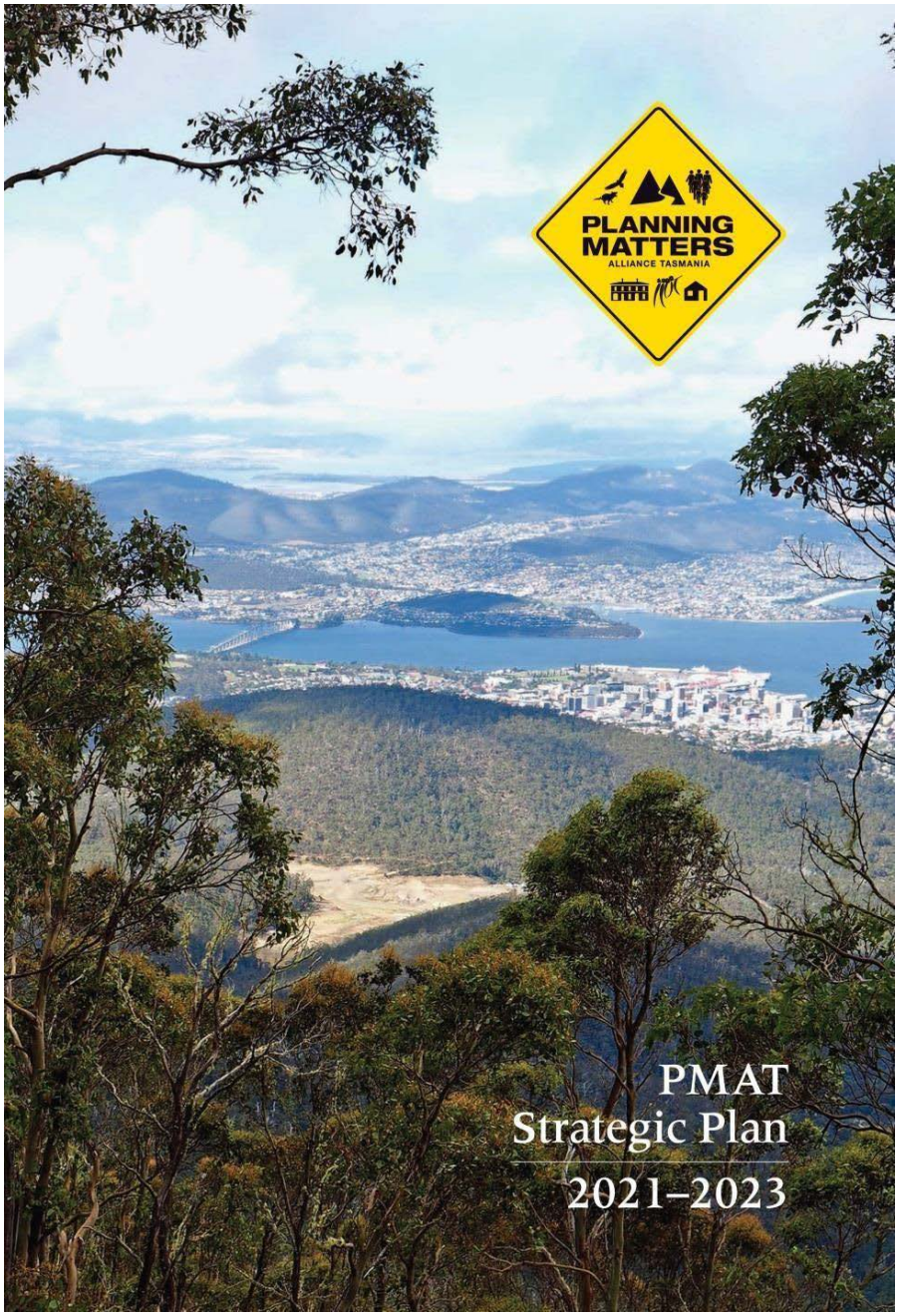
1. Beaumaris Action Network
2. Better Hobart
3. BirdLife Tasmania
4. Blackmans Bay Community Association Inc.
5. Central North Field Naturalists Inc.
6. Climate Action Northwest
7. Council of Hobart Community Associations
8. Cremorne Community Action Group Inc.
9. Earth Ocean Network (EON - Bicheno)
10. East Coast Alliance Inc. (ECA)
11. Environment Tasmania (ET)
12. Far South Future Alliance
13. Fern Tree Community Association (FTCA)
14. Freycinet Action Network (FAN)
15. Friends of Four Mile Creek Inc.
16. Friends of Great Western Tiers
17. Friends of North Bruny Inc. (FONB)
18. Friends of the Blue Tier
19. Friends of Ralphs Bay
20. Friends of the Tamar Valley
21. Friends of Wirksworth
22. Glebe Residents' Association
23. Hands Off Our Gorge
24. Heritage Protection Society (Tasmania) Inc.
25. Hobart Dog Walking Association Inc.
26. Hobart Not Highrise Inc.
27. Howden Progress Association Inc.
28. Howrah Hills Landcare Group
29. Huon Valley Dog Walking Association Inc.
30. Huon Valley Residents & Ratepayers Association Inc.
31. Kangaroo Bay Voice
32. Launceston Heritage Not Highrise
33. Marine Protection Tasmania
34. Meander Area Residents & Ratepayers Association Inc.
35. Mersey Mountains Action Group (MMAG)
36. Mount Stuart Residents Inc.
37. Mt Roland Preservation Society Inc.
38. Neighbours of Fish Farming
39. New Town Community Association Inc.
40. No Fish Farms in Tasmania's East Coast Waters
41. North East Bioregional Network
42. North West Environment Centre
43. No Turbine Action Group (NTAG)
44. Re Imagine The End (RITE)
45. Residents Opposed to the Cable Car (ROCC)
46. Seymour Community Action Group
47. S.O.L.V.E. Supporting Our Loongana Valley Environment Inc.
48. South Hobart Progress Association
49. Southern Beaches Conservation Society
50. St Helens Point Progress Association
51. Taroona Community Association (TCA)
52. Tasman Peninsula Marine Protection (TPMP)
53. Tasmanian Aquaculture Reform Alliance
54. Tasmanian Conservation Trust (TCT)
55. Tasmanian National Parks Association (TNPA)
56. Tasmanian Planning Information Network (TasPIN)
57. Tasmanian Ratepayers Association Inc.
58. The Bob Brown Foundation
59. The Bruny Island Community Association (BICA)
60. The Friends of the Leven
61. The Rosny Hill Friends Network
62. The Tasmanian Dog Walking Clubs Inc.
63. The Wilderness Society (Tasmania) Inc. (TWS)
64. Waterworks Valley Community Group
65. Waterworks Valley Landcare Group
66. Woodbridge Community Association
67. Wynyard Landcare

PMAT's first meeting was held on World Town Planning Day in November 2016

AWARDS

- 2022 – Bob Brown Foundation's Environment Awards – **PMAT Named the National Community Group of the Year**
- 2020 – PMAT named the **2020 National Planning Champion** by the Planning Institute of Australia
- 2019 – PMAT named the **2019 Tasmanian Planning Champion** by the Planning Institute of Australia

Launched PMAT Strategic Plan 2021 – 2023



PMAT's work since the 2021 Annual General Meeting

- Housing e.g. Housing Land Supply Order, Homes Authority
- Commenting on the review of the State Planning Provisions (the core of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme)
- State of the Environment Reporting
- Removing planning from Local Government
- Encouraging community groups and individuals to engage in planning e.g. via the Local Provisions Schedule process
- Local Government review e.g. meeting with the Local Government Review Board members, chaired by Professor Richard Eccleston, Director, Tasmanian Policy Exchange, University of Tasmania
- The creation of the Tasmanian Planning Policies
- Media liaison
- Briefings/meetings with politicians
- Meetings with State Government e.g. State Planning Office
- Writing to Ministers, including the Minister for Planning
- Meeting with non-government groups
- Local Government elections.

Submissions

- State Planning Provisions (SPPs) Review – Scoping Issues – residential standards, Natural Assets Code and the Local Historic Heritage Code. This was informed by three dedicated PMAT review sub-committees made up of experts and community advocates
- Scope/Content and Structure of the draft Tasmanian Planning Policies (TPPs)
- Housing Land Supply Amendment Bill 2021.

PMAT Guides

- Continued to promote PMAT's community guide to assist with public engagement and comment on the Local Provisions Schedule: *Your Guide to Influencing the Development of Your Local Planning Rules (Local Provisions Schedule)*.
- PMAT's Property Buyers' Checklist – particularly for off-the-plan purchasers (August 2022).
- PMAT's What to watch out for – especially when buying property off the plan (August 2022).
- PMAT's submission guide on the State Planning Provision Review, August 2022 and related 2016 Heart Foundation submission (August 2022).

Worked with Alliance member groups and wider community on key issues

- Played a coordinating and leadership role on key issues such as the State of the Environment Report and review of the Tasmanian Planning Scheme.
- Central contact and connecting point for groups and individuals across Tasmania who have planning related issues.
- Helped inspire/support creation of new community groups.
- Worked with the South Hobart Progress Association, South Hobart Sustainable Community and the Waterworks community to develop a Specific Area Plan to help maintain liveability values as part of Hobart's Draft Local Provisions Schedule.
- Continued to support the Kingborough community on Huntingfield – issues around the Land Supply Order.
- Released first PMAT Snapshot.

Public meetings/speaking engagements and briefings

Key speaker at seven community meetings:

1. Met with the Taroona Community Association re the upcoming Kingborough LPS.
2. Main speaker at Huonville public meeting on the Huon Draft Local Provisions Schedule. Three local Councillors also present.
3. Main speaker at a meeting of the Waterworks community, December 2021 – re Hobart Local Provisions Schedule.
4. Met with a Warrane community group about the residential standards and a high-density residential development within the Clarence municipality.
5. Fern Tree Community Association – main speaker re LPS.
6. South Hobart Progress Association – one of the main speakers LPS.
7. Mount Stewart - one of the main speakers – re LPS.

Local and State Government

- Attended the 2021 Built Environment Climate Action Summit.
- The Parks and Wildlife 50 Year Anniversary Conference, 2021.
- Attended transition from RMPAT to TASCAT briefing, 22 November 2021.
- Future Proofing Hobart: Community responses to crisis talk, July 2022.
- State Government briefings on the State Planning Provision review.

High level political engagement

Held meetings with politicians across parties and at all levels:

- Andrew Wilkie MP, Federal Independent for Clark
- Meg Webb, MLC, Independent for Nelson
- Rosalie Woodruff MP, Greens Planning spokesperson
- David O'Byrne MP
- Anna Reynolds, Lord Mayor of Hobart
- Local Mayors and councillors
- Advising various Legislative Council Members on the Housing Land Supply Bill, resulting in a proposed amendment.

- Budget estimates – asking key questions of Minister for Planning.

Briefed Upper House

- PMAT briefed the Legislative Council on the changes to the Housing Land Supply Order process.
- Homes Authority.

Local Government Elections

- Organised PMAT Local Government candidate survey.
- Organised a full copy of candidate emails from Tasmanian Electoral Commission and shared.
- Promotion of PMAT's key question for Local Government candidates: '*If elected will you support retaining Councils as a Planning Authority?*' That is, if elected would you want to retain the power to vote on the developments that have the greatest impact on your local community?

Stakeholder Engagement

- Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT), face to face and phone meetings.
- University of Tasmania: PMAT is now a member of the Masters of Planning Course Advisory Committee.
- Continued to liaise with the Environmental Defenders Office re key planning issues.
- Expert planning events – e.g. Evolving Streets – Hobart CBD Future Directions, 17 May 2022.
- Planning Institute of Australia's National Planning Congress, Hobart, 18-20 May 2022
- Brand Tasmania – planning and brand.
- Organised meeting with RACT and UTAS academics re insurance and planning.
- Heart Foundation – planning and health.
- Future Common – planning and streets.
- National Trust – planning and built heritage.
- Tasmanian Aboriginal Land Council – planning and aboriginal heritage.
- The Australia Institute e.g. attended Politics in the Pub: transparency in donations and truth in advertising, 6pm Thursday 18 August 2022.
- Engaging with Alliance member groups.

Media Engagement

- Facebook, print media, TV, radio, website.
- Briefing journalists on the planning system.
- Media release: PMAT humbled by Environment Group of the Year award, September 2022
- Media release: In 2021 PMAT asked the Government the status of Tasmania's State of the Environment Report', 22 July 2022
- Media release: Another Planning Review – The Best Chance to Improve Land Use Planning in Tasmania, June 2022
- Media release: Solicitor General's Confusion Highlights Flawed Planning Change, 11 November 2021

- Media release: Government unilaterally directs sweeping changes to the planning system, 11 November 2021
- TALKING POINT: The Mercury, 25 September 2022: '*Vital to keep planning matters local'.*
- TALKING POINT: The Mercury, 11 August 2022: *'Let's imagine a planning system which benefits all the community'.*

Vital to keep planning matters local

PMAT understands there are problems with the current system but this doesn't warrant taking planning decisions away from councils, writes Sophie Underwood

THE critical question to ask your local candidates in the upcoming local government election is 'If elected will you support retaining councils as a planning authority?' That is, if elected would you want to retain the power to vote on the developments that have the greatest impact on your local community? Would you want to give up this right to represent your local community?

There is a very real likelihood that in the next term of local government councillors will be asked to vote on this critical question, one which would change not only the face of local government in Tasmania forever, but also how we the community have a say on local planning decisions.

The Property Council has been calling for planning decisions to be taken from local councils.

Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania understands that there are problems with the current system but this doesn't require the dramatic action of taking planning decisions away from councils.

Many of the most controversial developments are discretionary in planning schemes, meaning they are potentially allowable but require a vote of elected councillors to be approved. A development can be refused or approved with conditions. This is a fair process where the elected representatives get a vote on developments that are of most interest to their communities.

In recent times councillors have had a vote on Lake Malbena, Rosny Hill tourism development, kunanyi/Mt Wellington cable car, Cambria, Robbins Island wind farm and others. This fair and democratic process is under threat. If communities are unhappy with how councillors have voted on developments they can vote them out at the next election.

The Property Council and some councillors falsely claim that councils have a conflict of interest acting as both a council (representing ratepayers' interests as specified in the Local Government Act 1993) and acting as a planning authority (implementing the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993). Councils can and do, do both with no apparent conflict.

Our legal advice confirms that there is no conflict between councils representing their communities and acting in the best interests of the community deciding development applications as a planning authority.

PMAT understands that one of the current highest priorities of the Property Council is to remove planning decisions from local councils and have them instead determined by state appointed 'independent development assessment panels', similar to those operating in NSW. There are problems with the way some councils deal with development applications, but most can be fixed with more funding, especially for councillor training, planners and other expert advisers.

In most jurisdictions where 'independent' development assessment panels have been introduced, decisions by panels are triggered for a development over a certain monetary size or have received a certain amount of representations. This many of the most contentious large-scale developments, which potentially have the most impact on our daily lives, will be removed from councils.

One key question is how well are these panels working in other jurisdictions? A recent Sydney Morning Herald article, published in August 2021, titled – How 'unelected faceless men and women' keep approving NSW developments – states local planning panels were created to stamp out corruption, but councillors from across the political spectrum say they favour developers and undermine democratic accountability.

Liberal mayors have joined Labor and Greens councillors in criticising the NSW planning system.

Quotes from elected representatives include, "As a councillor it is frustrating to not be able to support our community and advocate on their behalf with regards to concerns related to development applications"; "As locals we understand our community better than anyone and we are acutely aware of the impact of poor planning outcomes"; "I am mindful that they do represent a further erosion of the authority of our elected officials who represent our residents' and the panels ... tend to be drawn from the development industry in the form of lawyers, planners and architects, and this favours developers over residents".

Rather than remove council planning responsibility, we should be improving their ability to perform their role as a local councillor and consider less dramatic alternatives than removing planning from local councils.

We should keep the status quo where councillors vote on developments and by doing so represent their electors.

The current problems don't require taking planning away from councils. The problems can largely be fixed by resourcing councils better.

We want to keep local councils local – looking after local issues for local people. We want councils to continue their vital role as 'place shapers' underpinning community wellbeing and enriching our cultural and natural heritage, lifestyle and democracy.

Sophie Underwood is the state co-ordinator of the Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania.

> We want councils to continue their vital role as 'place shapers' underpinning community wellbeing and enriching our cultural and natural heritage, lifestyle and democracy.

Sophie Underwood from Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania believes local councils have an important role to play in voting on developments that are of most interest to their communities. Picture: Sam Rosewarne

Sophie Underwood
State Coordinator
Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania

Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania Inc.

Annual Financial Report

For the year ended 30 June 2022

Association information	1
Officers' report	2
Statement of cash receipts and disbursements	3
Notes to the financial statements	4
Independent auditors report	5

Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania Inc.
Association Information

ABN 14 901 724 768

Board of Management	Mr Kerry Burns	President (from 26 September 2021)
	Ms Anne Harrison	President (to 26 September 2021)
	Mr Todd Dudley	Vice president
	Ms Anna Pafitis	Secretary (from 15 July 2021)
	Mr Alvaro Ascui	Treasurer
	Mr Eric Pinkard	Public Officer
	Ms Jennie Churchill	Member
	Mr John Maynard	Member
	Mr Louis Barnett	Member (from 26 September 2021)
	Ms Sophie Underwood	Member (to 15 July 2021)
Primary Consultant	Ms Sophie Underwood	
Principal place of business	7 Ogilvie Street Mount Stuart TAS 7000	
Bankers	Bank of Us	
Auditor	Michael Kennett 128 Willowbend Road Kingston TAS 7050	

Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania Inc.
Officers Report

Your officers present this report to the members of the Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2022.

Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania's Principal Objectives

Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania (PMAT) is a public interest organisation that serves the community by delivering public education sessions and communicating information about best planning practice. We aim to improve outcomes in public engagement, public health, environmental protection and sustainable development, equitable access and economic prosperity. PMAT considers that the planning system must be underpinned by the following six objectives (refer to the website www.planningmatterstas.org.au for explanatory notes):

i. Community and environment—prioritise the health and well-being of the whole community, the liveability of cities, towns and rural areas, and the protection of the natural environment and cultural heritage

ii. Strategic vision—establish and implement a community endorsed, sustainable, long-term strategic vision for Tasmania

iii. Transparency and independence—ensure that planning and decision-making processes are open and transparent, and overseen by an independent commission, with appeals heard by an independent tribunal

iv. Community involvement—provide opportunities for informed community input in planning matters and decisions, including provision of appeal rights

v. Integrated approach—provide an integrated assessment process across all types of developments on all land tenures which includes consistent provision of mediation, public comment and appeal rights

vi. Implementation—consistent with the above principles, planning to be shared between state and local government, with local government to retain primary responsibility for local planning and development decisions, through community consultation.

Statement by the Management Board

The Management Board of Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania Inc. have determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in note 1 to the financial report.

In the opinion of the Management Board the statement of cash receipts and disbursements and the notes to the financial report:

1. Presents a fair and true view of the financial position of Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania as at 30 June 2022 and its performance for the financial year ended on that date
2. At the date of this statement there are reasonable grounds to believe that Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Management Board:

President
Hobart

Dated 11 July 2022

Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania Inc.
Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements
For the year ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 $	2021 $
Income			
Donations		75,138	67,671
Total income		75,138	67,671
Expenses			
Consultants		41,206	36,415
Community education and advocacy		1,335	3,157
Fundraising		970	1,503
Insurance		844	843
Website		454	672
Audit		300	300
Administration		568	194
Total expenses		45,677	43,085
Net income		29,461	24,586
Add unpaid invoices		454	-
Net cash receipts		29,914	24,586
Reconciliation to Bank Statement			
Opening bank balance		51,922	27,336
Add net cash receipts		29,914	24,586
Closing bank balance		81,836	51,922

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the attached notes.

Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania Inc.
Notes To and Forming Part of the Accounts
For the year ended 30 June 2022

Note 1 – Statement of significant accounting policies

The Board of management has determined that the association is not a reporting entity, and this financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1964 (Tas)*. The financial report may not be suitable for any another purpose.

The financial report is prepared on a cash basis, and is based on the value of transactions recorded in the associations bank accounts. The association is not registered for GST.

The association does not pay any income tax as it is exempt under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

Unless otherwise stated all financial figures have been rounded off to the nearest dollar. Where necessary, and unless otherwise stated, comparative information has been reclassified for consistency with the current year financial amounts and other disclosures.

As at the date this report was signed there were no material subsequent events or going concern issues.

Laurasia Consulting Pty Ltd
Registered SMSF Auditor ABN 46139602289

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS™
AUSTRALIA + NEW ZEALAND

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF PLANNING MATTERS ALLIANCE TASMANIA INC FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

Report on the financial report

I have audited the special purpose financial report of Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania Inc for the year ended 30 June 2022. In my opinion, the accompanying financial report of Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania Inc is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with *Associations Incorporation Act 1964 (Tas)*.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibility* section of my report. I am independent of Planning Matters Alliance Tasmania Inc in accordance with the ethical requirements of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit. I have also fulfilled my other responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence that I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

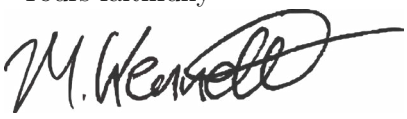
Responsibility of the Board for the financial report

The Board are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1964 (Tas) and the needs of the members. The Board's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial report so that they are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.
In preparing the financial report, the Board is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless there is the intention to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibility

My responsibility is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

Yours faithfully



Michael Kennett CA
11 July 2022

Laurasia Consulting Pty Ltd (Michael Kennett M.Sc CA)
GPO Box 1281 Hobart TAS 7001 (e) mike@laurasia.com.au (m) 04 5083 2007
Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

ABN 14 901 724 768
Email: planningmatterstasmania@gmail.com
Phone: 0407 501 999
Public Officer: 7 Ogilvie Street, Mount Stuart TAS 7000

planningmatterstas.org.au planningmatterstas planningmatterstas