

26 June 2023

By email to tpc@planning.tas.gov.au

Representation from Mission Australia to the draft Tasmanian Planning Policies

https://www.planning.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0017/703043/Draft-Tasmanian-Planning-Policies-March-2023.PDF

Mission Australia is a national Christian charity motivated by a shared vision of an Australia where everyone has a safe home and can thrive. Since 1859, we have been standing alongside people in need across Australia, offering real hope that has lasting impact.

In 2021-22, we supported nearly 148,000 individuals through 465 programs and services across Australia. This included over 23,500 individuals in Tasmania supported through services including community services (children and families), early learning, employment solutions, housing and disability services (Local Area Coordination and Early Childhood Early Intervention).

In 2009, Mission Australia established Mission Australia Housing (MAH), a Tier 1 Community Housing Provider. In 2013, we took over the management of a portfolio of 500 social homes for Housing Tasmania in Clarendon Vale and Rokeby and, this year, a further 690 social housing homes were added to the portfolio in Warrane, Mornington, Risdon Vale, Chigwell, Midway Point, Sorell, Orford, Triabunna, Swansea and Bicheno.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Tasmanian Planning Policies (TPPs). The TPPs set the high-level strategic policy direction for the planning system. The Settlement TPPs, in particular, are an important way of securing better housing outcomes for all Tasmanians.

Mission Australia supports the content of the current draft policies, noting that they will contribute to improved planning and decision-making across Tasmania. We support the statement in the Policy Context for the Settlement TPP that "It emphasises the delivery of social and affordable housing and recognises that these types of housing are essential to improve social and economic resilience."

We welcome the inclusion of social and affordable housing in the Settlement TPP Housing Objective at 1.5.3 "To provide for a sufficient supply of diverse housing stock, including social and affordable housing, that is well-located and well-served to meet the existing and future needs of Tasmanians."

In addition, we are pleased to see the Settlement TPP recognise the importance of social and affordable housing and crisis accommodation in the following clauses (emphasis added):

1.0.1 Policy Context ... The Settlement TPP requires that sufficient land is allocated to meet the community's needs for housing, including **social and affordable housing**...

1.3.3.6 Facilitate the provision of services that support vulnerable or at-risk people, including **crisis accommodation**, neighbourhood houses, **youth-at-risk centres**, **women's shelters** and **men's shelters**;

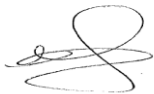
- 1.5.5.3 Facilitate **social and affordable housing** to meet the needs of the community that is located close to services, employment and public transport networks;
- 1.5.5.4. b) supporting the provision of well designed **social and affordable housing**; and
- 1.5.5.4. e) catering for **people requiring crisis accommodation**

Mission Australia supports the definitions of low income household, affordable housing and housing stress in the Glossary, as these enable the TPPs to provide clear guidance to decisionmakers and planners.

The need for social and affordable homes is increasing across Tasmania, and the waiting list for social housing in Tasmania is growing. As at March 2023, there were 4530 household applications for social housing. Including social and affordable housing within the TPPs will help to meet the needs of all Tasmanians for safe, secure and appropriate homes.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require further information.

Yours sincerely



Mychelle Curran
State Director - Tasmania / South Australia
Mission Australia