
3. Output Group 1: Administration of Justice

Supreme Court Services

The Supreme Court is the highest court in the State with responsibility for civil and criminal matters. The Supreme Court has unlimited jurisdiction in criminal and civil matters except where legislation, either Commonwealth or State, provides otherwise.

The Full Court and Court of Criminal Appeal hear appeals from decisions of single Judges. The Court is also a court of review from the Magistrates Court and the majority of statutory tribunals that exercise specialist jurisdiction. The Court has jurisdiction to review decisions and hear applications under a wide range of statutory provisions. The Supreme Court also exercises probate and admiralty jurisdictions.

The Supreme Court is provided with funding for six permanent Judges, five acting Judges, an Associate Judge and judicial support staff including associates, attendants, administrative and secretarial support. Funding is also provided for registry services and facilities to support the work of the Court. Registries are located in Hobart, Launceston and Burnie.

It provides the following specialised services:

- the Registrar's office provides a mediation service in matters before the Court; and taxes bills of costs in Supreme Court proceedings and under the *Legal Profession Act 2007*;
- the Registrar in Probate grants probate, letters of administration and reseals in non-contested matters; and
- the Sheriff executes civil process (including admiralty jurisdiction) and manages the jury system.

Find the Supreme Court annual report, practice directions, judgments and other information at <https://www.supremecourt.tas.gov.au>

Law Library Services

The Tasmanian Law Library is administered according to a partnership agreement between the Crown and the Law Society of Tasmania. The strategic direction of the library is determined by a Library Management Committee, comprised of representatives of each of the partner organisations. Day-to-day management is provided by the Department of Justice, through the Library Manager under the administrative direction of the Registrar of the Supreme Court. The Tasmanian Law Library provides library and information services to the Department of Justice and Tasmanian legal practitioners through the following libraries:

- Andrew Inglis Clark Law Library (central service point) in Hobart;
- Launceston Law Library; and
- North-West Law Library.

The Andrew Inglis Clark Law Library and the Launceston Law Library are open to practitioners and members of the public, including self-represented litigants. The D.M. Chambers Library at Crown Law, and the Judges' Library at the Supreme Court are closed access collections. Both libraries are managed by the Tasmanian Law Library and share staff and resources as part of an integrated model. There are small working collections at the Magistrates Courts (Hobart, Launceston, Devonport and Burnie) and other agencies within the Department of Justice.

The Tasmanian Law Library provides a comprehensive range of primary and secondary legal information resources for clients, with a focus on electronic service delivery. Highly trained staff assist clients with reference and research support, and offer a variety of training programs to improve skills in using legal resources in all formats. In 2018-19, a number of skills-based training sessions were developed and delivered to practitioners as part of the first stage of a new legal research training program. The second stage of the program will be designed, developed and delivered during 2019-20. The

Our White Ribbon Accreditation journey

The 2018-19 financial year was bookended by White Ribbon surveys, the first of which guided the accreditation process. This survey had a response rate of more than 50 per cent.



face-to-face sessions were held in the Andrew Inglis Clark Law Library using new electronic equipment purchased and installed from funding by the Law Foundation of Tasmania.

The Tasmanian Law Library launched its new name and web portal in December 2018 in conjunction with the launch of three e-book lending platforms. The new portal was designed to assist clients with greater discoverability and ease of access to legal resources and to offer a range of communication options for clients. The use of social media has also provided an opportunity to promote Tasmanian legal resources to the wider legal community.

In 2018-19, staff responded to 3,085 reference requests of which 96% were satisfied by close of business on the day they were received. This, once again, exceeded the library service desk standard of 95%. Use of the print collection of primary and secondary resources has declined over the past twelve months, with 1,609 titles borrowed or referred to within the libraries. The demand on electronic resources however, continues to rise and the library recorded 129,891 searches within subscription databases during this period. Engagement with clients through the Library Bulletin has remained stable, with 13,125 clicks on the information contained. Web portal access has also increased with 9,448 hits recorded on the home page and 6,143 hits recorded against the web guides relating to legislation, case law and legal commentary.

Find more information about the Tasmanian Law Library at <https://www.lawlibrary.tas.gov.au>

Magistrates Court Services

The Magistrates Court hears and determines simple offences, crimes heard summarily under State and Commonwealth legislation, breaches of duty, and applications under various State and Commonwealth statutes. It also exercises a wide range of appellate and review functions.

Daily court sittings occur at Hobart, Launceston, Devonport and Burnie, and circuit court sittings at Queenstown, Smithton, Currie, Whitemark, Scottsdale, St Helens and Huonville.

The Magistrates Court comprises 15 Magistrates, who in the:

- Courts of Petty Sessions hear and determine simple offences, crimes triable summarily under State and Commonwealth legislation, breaches of duty, applications under various State and Commonwealth statutes, and exercise a wide range of appellate and review functions;
- Youth Division hear simple and indictable offences and exercise child protection and welfare responsibilities under various Acts;
- Civil Division hear and determine civil matters to a value of \$50,000 (or an unlimited amount with the consent of the parties) and minor civil claims to a value of \$5,000;
- Coronial Division sit as Coroners to conduct inquests into sudden and unexpected deaths, fires and explosions; and
- Administrative Appeals Division conduct administrative appeals from various statutory authorities, including appeals from the Residential Tenancy Commissioner.

Find the Magistrates Court annual report, decisions, coronial findings, forms and other information at <https://www.magistratescourt.tas.gov.au>

Births, Deaths and Marriages

The Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages (BDM) is responsible for registering and maintaining records for life events occurring in Tasmania. It also issues certificates and provides information to approved applicants.

Activity and performance

In 2018-19, BDM:

- registered 12,687 life events;
- issued more than 35,000 certificates;
- received more than 17,000 phone and e-mail enquiries; and
- had more than 415,000 page views on its website.

The average processing time for standard certificate applications was 3 days.

Table 2.1: Performance Indicators

Measure	2017-18 Actual	2018-19 Actual	2019-20 Target
% of events registered in less than 7 days	91	95	90
% of applications processed in less than 7 days	90	95	90
Registration error rate (%)	1.8	1.4	<2%
Unit cost per transaction (\$)	14.76	14.91	14.50

These indicators measure operational efficiency as well as the accuracy and accessibility of BDM certificates.

Marriage equality

Following changes to the *Commonwealth Marriage Act 1961* to provide for marriage equality in Australia, there has been an increase in the number of marriages registered in Tasmania. In 2018-19, same sex marriages accounted for approximately 5% of all marriages registered. Throughout the year BDM staff have actively supported celebrants to adjust to new processes.

Access to services

During 2018-19, work has continued to improve operational efficiency and access to information by offering more online services.

In October 2018, BDM launched a new online service for ordering certificates. This enables applicants to order and pay for a certificate (at any time of the day or night) from their personal device. The majority of customers applying from interstate or overseas now use the online service.

Approximately 20% of all certificate applications are lodged online and this is increasing on a monthly basis.

In April 2019, BDM launched an online birth registration service. Parents can now register their baby and order a birth certificate from the comfort of their own home. Since the new service went live 70% of new birth registrations have been lodged online.

The automated processes are not only more convenient for customers, but mean staff can process registrations and certificate applications more quickly and accurately.

During the year, BDM also updated the design and content of its website, to support and encourage use of the new online services.

Protection of Personal Information

The protection of personal information remains a key priority and BDM continues to work with State and Federal Government Agencies to prevent identity fraud and assist with data-cleansing activities.

In response to the increased use of the Commonwealth Document Verification Service (DVS) to check the validity of Tasmanian certificates, updates have been made to the BDM business system to enable more certificates to be automatically verified. In 2018-19, more than 35,000 certificates were verified via the DVS.

BDM also carried out more than 1200 manual information checks for Tasmania Police and other Government Agencies.

Changes to legislation

In April 2019, the *Justice and Related Legislation (Marriage and Gender) Bill* passed through parliament. This legislation includes significant changes to the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1999*, which affects current BDM processes, in particular the registration of sex/gender, change of name and the format of certificates. An implementation project is currently under way to update relevant systems, forms, processes and certificate designs. The changes will be in place for the official start date, 5 September 2019.

Find more BDM registration statistics, including most popular baby names, at <https://www.justice.tas.gov.au/bdm>

Support and Compensation for Victims of Crime

Victims Support Services (VSS) was established to meet the needs of victims of crime in the community. VSS manages the operation of the Victims Assistance Unit, the Eligible Persons Register, Court Support and Liaison Service and the Victims of Crime Service.

Victims Assistance Unit

The Victims Assistance Unit is responsible for:

- producing and maintaining the Eligible Persons Register and providing information to victims on this Register;
- liaising between the victim and other divisions of the Department;
- providing information to victims about court processes and outcomes; and
- administering the *Victims of Crime Assistance Act 1976* and supporting the Criminal Injuries Compensation Commissioners.

Table 3.2: Victims of Crime Assistance Awards

Measure	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Number of applications	443	323	326
Numbers of awards made	246 (including interim awards)	289 (including interim awards)	399* (including interim awards)
Total payments excl costs (\$'000)	3,528	4,510	6,431
Total costs-including reports (\$'000)	171	239	381
Average award	\$15,040.88	\$16,438.20	\$17,075.37

*Note: Includes applications lodged in previous financial year.

Total payments exclude amounts paid to victims to reimburse the costs associated with their claims for compensation. These costs include expenses such as legal costs, the costs of medical and other reports. These are reported under Total Costs.

Court Support and Liaison Service

The Court Support and Liaison Service is a Safe at Home program working with adult and child victims of family violence. Its services include:

- advising victims of family violence on how to take out a Family Violence Order;
- supporting Legal Aid in completing applications for Family Violence Orders;
- accompanying victims to court and providing personal support throughout the court process; and
- providing ongoing updates on progress of a matter in court.

Table 3.3: Court Support and Liaison Service Indicators to manage service delivery

Measure	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Number of existing client contacts	8,507	9,722	9,023
Number of new client contacts	759	997	1,044

Victims of Crime Service

The Victims of Crime Service (VoCS) is a face-to-face counselling, support and referral service for self-identified victims of crime.

The Victims of Crime Service provides:

- personal support, counselling and information;
- referral to appropriate community services and resources;
- information regarding the criminal justice system; and
- assistance with the provision of Victim Impact Statements (VIS) and completing Victim of Crime Assistance (VoCA) applications.

Table 3.4: Victims of Crime: Indicators to manage service delivery

Measure	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Number of client contacts	2,005	1,468	2,000
Number of new client contacts	299	233	261

Table 3.5: Victims of Crime: Client Group Composition

Measure	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Female	1,445	968	1,559
Male	560	500	441

The 2000 contacts by VoCS in the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019 were made up of 947 counselling sessions with the remaining 1,053 being assistance with VIS and/or VoCA applications, preparation of correspondence (referrals, etc.), psychological reports, and provision of Court Support.

The Victims of Crime Service provided (from 1 July 2018-30 June 2019):

- 947 counselling sessions to victims of crime;
- 63 psychological reports to assist with VoCA applications; and
- assisted victims with the completion of 182 VoCA applications and extension of time applications.

Eligible Persons Register

Victims on the Eligible Persons Register are entitled to be provided with certain information about the offender while they remain within the prison system including their location, security classification, parole and hearing dates as well as possible release dates and times.

The role of the Eligible Persons Register is to provide information about leave and convey any concerns from the victim. The Register does not make decisions about leave. The Eligible Persons Register continues to see a high number of eligible victims registered.

Table 3.6: Eligible Persons Register: Indicators to manage service delivery

Measure	2016-17	2017-2018	2018-2019
Number of letters of invitation to join the register	95	131	167
Number of Victim Impact Statements provided to the Parole Board	52	59	54
Number of non-contact clause requests forwarded to the Parole Board	85	125	65
Number of leave notifications sent to registrants	2,234	1,526	1,583
New registrations	73	65	101
Number of current registrations on the EPR (including offenders currently serving parole)	268	311	383

Find more VSS information and publications at www.justice.tas.gov.au/victims

Legal Aid

The Legal Aid Commission of Tasmania delivers a range of high-quality client focused legal services aimed at improving access to justice for Tasmanians in need.

The Legal Aid Commission is a statutory body set up under the *Legal Aid Commission Act 1990* and receives funding from the Commonwealth and State Governments.

Find the Legal Aid Commission annual report, publications and other information at <https://www.legalaid.tas.gov.au/>

Protective Jurisdictions

Guardianship and Administration Board

The Guardianship and Administration Board operates under the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1995*, as a tribunal and holds the Register of Enduring Guardian Instruments. The Board has statutory decision making powers in relation to guardianship and administration matters, enduring guardians and attorneys, certain medical and dental procedures, and functions in relation to restrictive interventions and statutory wills. The work in this protective jurisdiction involves vulnerable Tasmanians – specifically people with a disability who require substitute decision making due to issues of capacity.

The Board's jurisdiction is derived from the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1995*, *Powers of Attorney Act 2000*, *Disability Services Act 2011* and *Wills Act 2008*.

The Board's annual report, publications and other information can be found at <https://www.guardianship.tas.gov.au>

Mental Health Tribunal

The Mental Health Tribunal is an administrative body with primary responsibility to authorise and review the treatment of patients with mental illness who are unable to provide informed consent. The Tribunal is established under the *Mental Health Act 2013* and its primary functions are to:

- make, vary, renew and discharge treatment orders;
- authorise the treatment of forensic patients;
- authorise special psychiatric treatment;
- annually review people subject to Restriction and Supervision Orders;
- determine applications for leave from secure mental health units for patients subject to restriction orders; and
- carry out any further functions given to it under that or any other Act.

Find the Mental Health Tribunal annual report, publications and other information at <https://www.mentalhealthtribunal.tas.gov.au>

Office of the Public Guardian

The Public Guardian has a crucial role in protecting the rights, interests and well-being of some of Tasmania's most vulnerable and disadvantaged people. The Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) staff act as the guardian of an adult with a disability when appointed by the Guardianship and Administration Board (GAB).

Guardians make personal decisions on behalf of people who lack capacity to make reasonable judgments because of a disability such as dementia, mental illness, an intellectual disability or an acquired brain injury. The Public Guardian will be appointed if there is no suitable private person to take on the role, often in situations where there is no family or carer for support; where there are suspicions of, or actual, abuse, neglect or exploitation; or where there is family conflict about the person's circumstances and choices.

The OPG has other functions set out in the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1995*, including:

- to foster, encourage and support the establishment and provision of programs, services, facilities and organisations that support people with disabilities;
- to promote, speak for, protect the rights and interests of, and advocate on behalf of any people with disabilities;
- to investigate, report and make recommendations to the Minister on any matter relating to the operation of this Act; and
- to provide information to the community and the public regarding the OPG, GAB and the Act, and alternatives to guardianship and administration.

Caseload and performance

The OPG spends almost all its resources acting as guardian and this role must take priority over the OPG's other functions: it is non-negotiable and critical that prompt action is taken to ensure the protection of rights, interests and well-being of adults with disabilities.

The guardianship caseload has significantly increased over the last three years, from 169 as at 30 June 2016 to 303 as at 30 June 2019. In spite of these increases the dedicated and professional OPG staff consistently meet key performance measures.

Our White Ribbon Accreditation journey

Distinguished guests attended the Department's "Cheese for Change" event in Hobart, raising awareness of the work of White Ribbon and acting as a launch for the Department's White Ribbon video which showcased services involved in the response to family violence.



Table 3.7: Key performance indicators

Measure	2017-18	2018-19
Allocation of a guardian within 3 days of appointment by the GAB	100%	100%
Completion of investigations within the prescribed timeframe	100%	100%
Attendance at GAB hearings, in person or by phone	100%	100%
Acceptance of requests for formal information and education sessions for 10 or more people	100%	100%

Find the OPG annual report, publications and other information at <https://www.publicguardian.tas.gov.au>

Anti-Discrimination Commissioner

The Anti-Discrimination Commissioner is a statutory appointee administering the *Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Act 1998* (the Act). The Commissioner's role and functions are specified in the Act. Equal Opportunity Tasmania (previously the Office of the Anti-Discrimination Commissioner) supports the Commissioner to fulfil her obligations and functions under the Act.

Find the Anti-Discrimination Commissioner's annual report, along with other reports, publications and information at <https://www.equalopportunity.tas.gov.au/>

Electoral Services

The Tasmanian Electoral Commission (TEC) has statutory responsibility for the independent and impartial conduct of elections and referendums, which are fundamental to Tasmania's democracy. The TEC conducts parliamentary and local government elections and a range of statutory and non-statutory elections on behalf of other organisations. It conducts:

- House of Assembly elections, by-elections and recounts;
- Legislative Council elections and by-elections;
- local government elections, by-elections and recounts;
- State referendums;
- local government elector polls;
- the implementation of electoral boundary redistributions;
- Aboriginal Land Council of Tasmania elections;
- other statutory elections;
- semi-government and other elections conducted in the public interest; and
- public electoral information programs.

The TEC and the Australian Electoral Commission jointly manage and maintain the electoral rolls for Federal, State and Local Government elections.

Find the TEC annual report, electoral results and other information at <https://tec.tas.gov.au/>

Tasmanian Industrial Commission

This report relates primarily to the industrial functions carried out by the Tasmanian Industrial Commission pursuant to the *Industrial Relations Act 1984*, as the President is required to report separately on the review functions that the Commission carries out under the *State Service Act 2000*.

Overview

The Commission is Tasmania's industrial relations tribunal. It is independent of government and other interests, with a jurisdiction mainly limited to state public servants employed pursuant to the *State Service Act 2000*. A private sector jurisdiction exists for long service leave matters where long service leave is not covered in an award or registered agreement.

The principal powers and functions of the Commission are set out in the *Industrial Relations Act 1984*. Section 50 of the *State Service Act 2000* also enables the Commission to review applications from State Service employees for a review of decisions involving selections or any other action that relates to their employment.

In a reciprocal arrangement the President holds an appointment as a member of the Fair Work Commission, and a number of Fair Work Commissioners hold appointments as commissioners of the Tasmanian Industrial Commission.

The Commission is primarily located in Hobart but convenes conferences and hearings throughout the State, as required. However, with the appointment of Deputy President Neroli Ellis, the Commission has been able to increase its presence in the North of the State holding more conferences and hearings in the North and North West.

Performance

The number of applications received remains steady allowing for the cycle of approval of award variations and registration of industrial agreements. The number of applications received is also dependent upon factors such as labour market conditions in the Tasmanian State Service and ongoing employment change processes.

The *Industrial Relations Act 1984* provides the Tasmanian Industrial Commission with the power to hear and determine matters and things arising from, or relating to, industrial matters, including the making of awards and registration of industrial and enterprise agreements.

Table 3.8: Breakdown of applications by type

Applications received	2017-18	2018-19
Award variations (s23)	17	14
Total	17	14
Termination of employment	5	3
Mode, terms and conditions	15	7
Breach of award or agreement	8	10
Long service leave	6	7
Bans and Limitations	1	-
Award Interest	1	-
Total	36	27
Registered Agreements (s55)		
Approved	11	2
Varied	-	
Retirements	2	1
Total	13	3
Full Bench Proceedings		
Appeals (s70)	2	1
Appeals (s14)	-	
Total	2	1
Long Service Leave Disputes (s13)		
Long Service Leave Act 1976	5	4
Total	5	4

Section 50 of the *State Service Act 2000* provides an entitlement (with some exceptions) for State Service employees to make application to the Commission for a review of decisions involving selections or any other action that relates to their employment.

Table 3.9: Number of section 50 review selection Notices of Intentions

Applications received	2017-18	2018-19
Review selections	46	38

Table 3.10: Breakdown of section 50 applications by type

Applications received	2017-18	2018-19
Review selections	32	27
Review other	30	22

Key initiatives

Industrial Relations Society (IRS), Tasmania

The IRS Tasmania was, until this year, in recess. Deputy President Ellis has played a major role in the re-establishment of the Society.

IRS Tasmania will function as an independent, non-partisan association, which encourages networking, professional development, research and discussions on a wide range of issues affecting employee relationships within both the private and public sectors. IRS Tasmania is targeted towards all interested parties involved in, studying, or interested in industrial, labour or employment relations and human resources.

It will conduct seminars and other functions on its own behalf and also in conjunction with or as a sponsor of educational programs run by the federal society and the Law Society's Employment Law Group. However, IRS Tasmania has a wider reach and a broader focus by specifically including the public sector and those unions in Tasmania which do not have any federally covered employees.

Review of Salaries and Allowances for members of the Tasmanian Parliament

In accordance with the *Parliamentary Salaries, Superannuation and Allowances Act 2012*, a Full Bench of the Tasmanian Industrial Commission conducted a review of the salary, allowances and other entitlements payable to elected members of the Tasmanian Parliament (MPs).

A Report and Determination is due for tabling shortly.

Tasmanian Industrial Commission Users Group (TICUG)

TICUG, which brings together delegates from Union organisations, Unions Tas and State Government Departments, continues. The TICUG is a forum to guide the review, development and implementation (where appropriate) of guidelines, policies and procedure of the Commission. It will also be a forum at which continuing education can be facilitated, including the dissemination of information regarding recent decisions, and the development of advocacy training for those who do, or wish to appear before the Commission.

The TICUG will meet three or four times a year depending on the needs and wishes of the members.

The Deputy President participated in the Unions Tasmania's annual Anna Stewart Memorial Project.

The President attended a meeting of the Heads of all State Tribunals and the Federal Tribunal. These meetings are convened to further cooperation between the various tribunals and exchange information of mutual interest to all tribunals.

Find the Tasmanian Industrial Commission annual report, awards, decisions and other information at <https://www.tic.tas.gov.au>

Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Tribunal

The Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Tribunal hosts the Tribunals listed below, providing the registry, accommodation and full administrative support for all Tribunals that are headed by the Chief Commissioner of the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Tribunal:

- Anti-Discrimination Tribunal;
- Asbestos Compensation Tribunal;
- Health Practitioners Tribunal;
- Motor Accidents Compensation Tribunal; and
- Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Tribunal.

The Tribunals are presently constituted by a full-time Chief Commissioner, along with a part-time Commissioner. The workload is split between the various Tribunals, with the majority of time spent on Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Tribunal matters.

The Tribunals have primary premises in Hobart and leased premises in Launceston. The Tribunal conducts conciliation conferences in Hobart, Launceston and Devonport in order to resolve disputes by agreement. Hearings are held throughout the State in order to resolve disputes by arbitration where agreement cannot be reached between the parties.

Processes for all Tribunals are harmonised as far as possible, to enable familiarity and ease of access for stakeholders.

Find the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Tribunal annual report, decisions and other information at <https://www.workerscomp.tas.gov.au/>

Key Performance Indicators

The 2018/19 financial year saw the introduction of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Tribunal. KPIs are reviewed quarterly by the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Tribunal and addressed as required. The Tribunal is meeting most targets as can be seen from the table below. A delay in processing referrals in the 2018/19 financial year was due to staff shortages caused by long-term leave, which is currently being addressed.

Table 3.1 I: Key Performance Indicators

Measure	Target	2018/19
Lodgements		1323
% of referrals to be processed (entered and first Appearance notices issued) by close of the following business day.	100%	83%
% of referrals to have a first appearance date within 14 days of lodgement.	95%	99%
% of 60A, 81A and 77AB referrals to be finalised within 42 days of lodgement.	100%	97%
% of 132A referrals where a decision is handed down within 14 days of lodgement.	100%	95%
% of referrals finalised within 12 months of lodgement.	90%	92%

Find the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Tribunal annual report, decisions and other information at <https://www.workerscomp.tas.gov.au>

Resource Management and Planning Appeal Tribunal

The Resource Management and Planning Appeal Tribunal is an independent statutory body established by the *Resource Management and Planning Appeal Tribunal Act 1993*. It hears and determines a broad range of appeals and applications from more than 20 statutes. Under Section 5(3) of the *Resource Management and Planning Appeal Tribunal Act 1993*, the Tribunal is part of the State's resource management and planning system. The objectives of that system are incorporated into the *Resource Management and Planning Appeal Tribunal Act 1993* under Schedule 1 and those objectives are:

- promote the sustainable development of natural and physical resources and the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity;
- provide for the fair, orderly and sustainable use and development of air, land and water;
- encourage public involvement in resource management and planning;
- facilitate economic development in accordance with these objectives; and
- promote the sharing of responsibility for resource management and planning between the different spheres of Government, the community and industry in Tasmania.

The Resource Management and Planning Appeal Tribunal Registry is also the premises of the Registry for the Forest Practices Tribunal (see Section 35(1) of the *Forest Practices Act 1985*).

Find the Resource Management and Planning Appeal Tribunal annual report, decisions and other information at <https://www.rmpat.tas.gov.au/>.



Our White Ribbon Accreditation journey

Banners were developed to increase the visibility of the Department's commitment to the White Ribbon Accreditation process among staff and visitors.

Child Abuse Royal Commission Response Unit

The Child Abuse Royal Commission Response Unit is a new output established to coordinate the Tasmanian Government's response to, and implementation of, the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse, as well as Tasmania's role as a participating institution under the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse.

Implementation of the Royal Commission's recommendations

On 15 December 2018, the Tasmanian Government released its First-Year Progress Report and Action Plan 2018-19 for implementing the recommendations of the Royal Commission. In 2018-19, the Child Abuse Royal Commission Response Unit supported the Tasmanian Government to:

- introduce the *Criminal Code and Related Legislation Amendment (Child Abuse) Bill 2018* to implement a number of criminal justice recommendations including a new crime of failing to report child abuse and the abrogation of the confessional privilege for the purposes of the new crime and mandatory reporting obligations;
- develop legislation to implement the Royal Commission's civil litigation recommendations; and
- scope a pilot intermediary scheme for Tasmania.

The key performance indicator for the Tasmanian Government's response to the Royal Commission's recommendations is meeting the annual reporting requirements on implementation activities. In the 2018-19 reporting period, the Tasmanian Government publicly reported on the progress of implementation and planned implementation activities.

Participation in the National Redress Scheme

On 1 November 2018, the Tasmanian Government completed the administrative and legislative requirements to commence participation in the National Redress Scheme. The Child Abuse Royal Commission Response Unit manages and coordinates the Tasmanian Government's participation in the National Redress Scheme and obligations as a State institution, including:

- coordinating and managing information requests from the Scheme from responsible Tasmanian Government Agencies;
- managing the Scheme's Counselling and Psychological Care component to Tasmanian claimants; and
- providing support and facilitation of the Tasmanian Government's Direct Personal Response by responsible Tasmanian Government Agencies.

The key performance indicator for Tasmania's participation in the National Redress Scheme is the percentage of claims addressed by the Tasmanian Government within statutory timeframes. In the 2018-19 reporting period, 100 per cent of claims against Tasmanian Government agencies were responded to within the statutory timeframes.