

Department of Communities Tasmania

GPO Box 65, HOBART TAS 7001, Australia
Web: www.communities.tas.gov.au



Contact: Anthony King
Phone: (03) 6232 7080
E-mail: anthony.king@communities.tas.gov.au

Mr Bill Boehm
General Manager
Flinders Council
PO Box 40
WHITEMARK TAS 7255
office@flinders.tas.gov.au

Subject: Review of the Model for Returning Land to the Aboriginal Community

Dear Mr Boehm

The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, the Hon Jacqui Petrusma MP has announced a review of the model for returning land to the Aboriginal community in Tasmania. This review is being progressed by the Department of Communities Tasmania and the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

The return of land to Tasmania's Aboriginal people has been an important way to progress reconciliation between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Tasmanians. To date, the Tasmanian Government has returned 55,617 hectares of culturally and historically significant Crown land to the Aboriginal community.

The return of more land to its original custodians forms a crucial part of the Tasmanian Government's Reset Agenda. Reviewing the model for returning land to the Aboriginal community is the first step in this process. This review will identify barriers to returning land, and seek options to improve the land return process.

A Discussion Paper – *Improving the Land Return Model in Tasmania* has been prepared to support the review consultation process. I would like to invite your Council to provide comments on the Discussion Paper by close of business 20 September 2018. A copy of the Discussion Paper is attached. Further information about the review is available at www.aboriginalaffairs.tas.gov.au.

Should your Council wish to meet with departmental officers to discuss the review or have any queries in relation to the review, the contact officer in the Department of Communities Tasmania is Mr Anthony King, Senior Project Manager.

Mr King can be contacted by email at anthony.king@communities.tas.gov.au or by telephone on 6232 7080.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Kendall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end.

Deputy Secretary

28 August 2018

Enc: *Discussion Paper - Improving the Land Return Model in Tasmania*