



Bec Thomas
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Nomination for LGAT GMC and President

Dear Mayors, Deputy Mayors, Alderman and Councillors

As you may be aware I have nominated for election as President of the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) and to represent the Southern Electoral District (more than 20,000) on the General Management Committee (GMC).

I am writing to tell you why I have nominated and to share some information about me, my skills, experience and networks, to help inform your vote.

I was elected as a Glenorchy City Council Alderman in January 2018 and in 2020 I was fortunate enough to be elected by my peers as Deputy Mayor following a vacancy. I have lived in Glenorchy for all 37 years of my life and am driven to make our municipality the best it can be, particularly by improving health and economic outcomes. I am Chair of the Council's Healthy Communities Advisory Committee and a member of the General Manager's Performance Review Committee and Glenorchy Planning Authority.

My experience in local government also includes participation as a member of Glenorchy City Council's Sport and Recreation Advisory Special Committee for approximately six years prior to becoming an Alderman, including 2 years as Chairperson of this committee, as well as working in the Local Government Division on the Targeted Review of the Local Government Act in 2016.

I graduated from UTAS with a Bachelor of Arts majoring in Psychology and Sociology and First Class Honours in Sociology in 2006, before embarking on a public service career in 2007. My career has included roles at the Australian Bureau of Statistics; Sport and Recreation Tasmania; the Premier's Physical Activity Council; the Tasmanian Institute of Sport; the Local Government Division; and the Mental Health, Alcohol & Drug Directorate in the Department of Health. Most recently I worked as an Adviser to the Hon. Sue Hickey MP, Speaker of the House of Assembly and Member for Clark (Aug 2019 – current).

I have experience at all three levels of government and in both an administrative and strategic capacity. My time in the Local Government Division, together with my broader public service experience and role on council, has provided me with a sound understanding of good governance and I have been part of a council committed to establishing and demonstrating best practice in this over the past three years.

I have well established networks within Government, industry and the not-for-profit sectors and have a solid history of forming and maintaining respectful and positive relationships with stakeholders. I pride myself on being approachable and respectful of all beliefs and views and am committed to listening and seeking to understand the views of all LGAT members, regardless of whether or not I agree with them. I am not a member of or aligned with any political party and consider myself a staunch independent.

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I am also an [accredited Mental Health First Aid Instructor](#) and founded my own business, [Rising Kind](#) in March 2019, as platform to promote positive mental health and kindness and deliver Mental Health First Aid Training.

In any role I perform, my main goal is to make a real difference to the Tasmanian community. My commitment to this, together with my inquisitive nature and highly developed skills and experience in community liaison & advocacy, policy development, strategic planning and project management, make me a strong candidate for LGAT President and GMC member.

Personally, I love spending time with my husband of ten years, Ross, and my family, including Kelsey the Kelpie dog! I enjoy keeping fit and active through running, swimming and weight training, and wine tasting, a day at the races, fundraising events, reading, jigsaw puzzles and op shopping.

I live and work by the values of:

- Authenticity – being always genuine and respectful
- Activism – strong belief in fairness and equity and standing up for the principle
- Attention to detail – being thorough, logical and organised
- Courage – taking action in the face of uncertainty and doubt
- Determination – being achievement orientated, always doing my very best
- Independence – feeling empowered with a humble confidence
- Kindness – backpack judgement, seek to understand and help others

You can be assured I will be a strong voice for the local government sector in Tasmania. I will actively seek out and listen to the views of member councils and accurately represent these views in lobbying the state and federal governments to improve the conditions and outcomes for the local government sector. I will also seek to partner with industry and not for profit peaks for collaborative advocacy and greater efficiencies. I am committed to working productively with the LGAT CEO and broader team to achieve the best possible outcomes for the local government sector in Tasmania.

Thank you for taking the time to learn a bit about me. Please don't hesitate to call or email me if you have any questions or would like to discuss further.

With kindness

Bec Thomas
Deputy Mayor, Glenorchy City Council
5 May 2021