

Media Release

1st May 2018

MBT Applauds Win-Win TasWater Outcome

Statement by Mr Lyndon Fenton, President

Today's announcement that the State Government will be entering into an MoU with the Local Government Owners Chief Representative and TasWater is an excellent outcome for the state, according to Master Builders Tasmania (MBT).

Mr Lyndon Fenton, President of MBT stated, "Today's position is definitely a win-win for everyone involved. The agreement will result in the acceleration of the forward capital works program over the next ten years. Critically the MoU will also address key major projects such as the combined Launceston system and Macquarie Point."

Mr Fenton added, "MBT's consistent concerns over the last year or so on this issue have revolved around the possibility of future developments being hamstrung due to a lack of capital expenditure. Today's announcement changes all of that and will allow the state's ailing infrastructure to keep pace with the booming private sector investment that is occurring."

Mr Fenton stated, "With State Government financial assistance of \$20 million per annum and a slightly different focus, there is every chance that opportunities such as MBT's vision of a northern suburbs growth corridor for Hobart will now be able to be realised. TasWater will have the funds and the charter to support long-term projects such as this one, which will grow and benefit the state for decades."

Mr Fenton concluded, "The building and construction sector has grown enormously over the last 4 years or so, generating approximately 7,000 jobs. This growth is at risk of unwinding due to delays caused as a result of infrastructure bottlenecks. MBT is satisfied that today's announcement will fundamentally address any sewer and water related concerns moving forward. MBT applauds all parties involved in this excellent and common sense reform package."

For further comment contact Lyndon Fenton (m) 0438 348 361