

# Draft Tasmanian Housing Strategy - Online Feedback Form Submission

**Entity name if applicable**

Tasmanian Forest Products Association

**Keep submission confidential?**

No

**‘Our way forward’ identifies several levers for achieving a more equitable housing system for all Tasmanians. Are there additional or alternative more important levers that you believe should be addressed?**

An important lever is knowing where the resource will come from to build these homes. And from a forestry point of view, we know that timber and wooden products assist in turning a build into a home for someone.

Without wood, Tasmanians won't be able to access the many things timber provides. We live in timber houses, surround ourselves with timber furniture and demand timber packaging as the environmentally friendly solution to waste.

We know that forest products are renewable, biodegradable and importantly many of them store carbon, which is why timber and wooden products are becoming the construction material of choice. This is why a priority within the Exposure Draft should be added around where the sustainable resource will come from to build these homes by 2032.

Forestry - the industry that grows and builds Tasmania - will be key to deliver this vision for Tasmania's housing system.

**Theme one identifies the need for ‘more homes, built faster’. Are there additional or alternative objectives you recommend for consideration?**

Tasmanian forest producers are keen to ensure Tasmanian timber is used. Our timber is world-leading – a renewable, responsible and ethical product harvested right here on our island.

When considering the need for 'more homes, built faster' the strategy should also be taking into consideration the construction and design, its sustainability and the environmental aspects of the home. As, building out of timber not only makes your home more beautiful, but it also creates a positive outcome for the environment.

Not only is Tasmanian timber a great way of supporting the local community, it's also esthetically pleasing.

By embracing the use of local timber, it sequesters carbon in every piece of wood used. But more than that, using timber creates up to 40 per cent less greenhouse gas emissions than by using other building materials.

Timber is the ultimate renewable and should be at the forefront of all new building development in Tasmania – both government and private.

**Theme four highlights 'local prosperity' as a priority. Are there additional or alternative objectives you recommend for consideration?**

Local prosperity is at the heart of forestry. The industry supports over 5,000 workers directly and indirectly in and around regional Tasmania.

There is an opportunity for local government and state departments across Tasmania could take a positive step to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by encouraging, or mandating, the use of Tasmanian timber products for all residential, commercial and industrial builds across the state. We have a 'Wood Encouragement Policy' that should be at the forefront of every local government and state department procurement processes.

State's prosperity.

**Are there other ways the government could make its actions and progress to meet the proposed objectives more transparent and accessible?**

Apart from regular updates on the progress of the strategy, a visual on a website showing a running tally of how many houses have been built will demonstrate the progress the government is making in meeting its actions.