



Policy P2009 - Climate Change Policy Launceston Chamber of Commerce

INTRODUCTION

- The Tasmanian Government has set a target to be 200% renewable by 2040.
- The state is heavily invested in renewables: Battery of the Nation and Marinus are worth \$4.8 billion, plus the blue economy, hydrogen, and wind developments, all of which are strongly driven by a carbon-constrained economy.
- The state would benefit from better national policy and funding initiatives.
- Tasmania could do a lot more in terms of reducing emissions from sectors other than electricity and appears to be missing a strong program for attracting business to establish here based on access to renewable energy.
- Bass is a marginal seat which swings regularly, which in the current federal political landscape gives the Chamber an opportunity to influence policy at a national level.
- City of Launceston's climate emergency motion last year included a commitment to work with the business community.
- Climate resilience will be a critically important factor for Launceston's future and something that is essential if we are to become one of the great regional cities of the world.

PURPOSE

In response to scientific evidence, the Chamber believes that Tasmania is at risk of being negatively impacted by global warming as a result of increased worldwide greenhouse emissions being released by human activities.

Feedback from the membership indicates broad support for the introduction of climate change policies and initiatives that will support business to reduce their emissions. Further, the Chamber and its membership believe that Tasmania is well positioned to derive a comparative advantage by becoming a place-based centre for research and development of initiatives and enterprises that will contribute to the advancement of worldwide carbon emissions reduction.

There is a role for the Chamber to:

- Position itself as a conduit between government and business for policy and activity on climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Deepen engagement with members on the opportunities presented by climate change, while increasing our appeal to a broader business constituency.
- Influence climate change policies and initiatives at a local, state and national levels.



Policy P2009 - Climate Change Policy Launceston Chamber of Commerce

POLICY STATEMENT

Detailed Position

The Chamber will:

- Look for opportunities to advocate for and support climate change mitigation and adaptation policies and initiatives on behalf of our membership from all levels of government.
- Engage with our membership and the broader northern business community to advocate for and support initiatives such as: thought leadership, training & education centres, enterprises & start-ups, capital investment opportunities, etc., related to climate change mitigation and adaptation to be based in Northern Tasmania.
- Actively seek to reduce the emissions contributed by Chamber activities

Policy Implications

This Policy position is aligned to:

- the voice of business on an area of interest/concern/opportunity to our broader membership base.
- our vision of Launceston being a great regional city: population attraction of younger people who value the environment, seeking to develop opportunities for business and the northern region more broadly that will elevate the stature of Launceston both domestically and internationally.

CROSS REFERENCES

A 2019 Chamber survey returned a 65% YES result to the question "Do you think there are significant economic advantages in embracing climate change mitigation strategies?" This points to a solid opportunity for the Chamber to both engage with members and broaden our appeal to a wider business constituency.

DOCUMENT CONTROL AND SUMMARY OF CHANGES

Version	Effective Date	Prepared By	Approved By	Summary of change
Ver 1.0	09/09/2020	A.Pitt	Board	Introduce new Policy