



City of Hobart

Lord Mayor Annual Report

November 2020–November 2021

I'm pleased to present my second annual report. It's been a busy year but one unfortunately still impacted by COVID in so many ways. In most areas of activity I've been busier this year including:

- The Lord Mayor's Office has received and responded to 1,073 items of correspondence (up from 934 in 2019-20).
- I've had 225 one-on-one constituent meetings, including at 27 Mayor in the Chair sessions held in places around the City.
- 511 additional meetings with organisations, businesses and government agencies and politicians.
- I've also launched or opened 156 events, hosted 11 receptions, run 26 Town Hall sessions for schools and provided 77 media interviews.

All of this activity is central to undertaking the specific duties of a mayor set by the *Local Government Act 1993*. These include:

- 1 to act as a **leader of the community** of the municipal area
- 2 to **carry out the civic and ceremonial functions** of the mayoral office
- 3 to **promote good governance** by, and within, the Council
- 4 to act as chairperson of the Council and to chair meetings of the Council in a manner that supports decision-making processes
- 5 to act as the **spokesperson for the Council**
- 6 to **represent the Council** on regional organisations and at intergovernmental forums at regional, state and federal levels
- 7 to lead and participate in the appointment, and the monitoring of the performance, of the **general manager**
- 8 to liaise with the general manager on:
 - the activities of the Council and the performance and exercise of its functions and powers;
 - the activities of the general manager and the performance and exercise of powers in supporting the Council.



I am thankful for the small dedicated team that supports the Lord Mayor in carrying out this legislated role and functions.

I hope this report is of interest to everyone interested in the City of Hobart.

Anna Reynolds

Cr Anna Reynolds
LORD MAYOR

1. Leader of the community

'to act as a leader of the community of the municipal area'

Below: Mayor in the Chair

Bottom left: Constituent meeting with Kazi Sabbir, Tasmanian Muslim Association

Bottom right: Attending the 75th Anniversary of the Fern Tree Fire Brigade



Constituent correspondence and meetings

The Office of the Lord Mayor has directly received and responded to 1073 pieces of correspondence on a variety of matters via email and letter. Some of these queries and issues were able to be dealt with by research, discussions with City staff or referrals to more appropriate agencies.

As a result of more complex issues raised in this correspondence, Lord Mayor Reynolds met with 75 residents, both in the office and at on-site visits.

Mayor in the Chair

Lord Mayor Reynolds also met with residents via regular 'Mayor in the Chair' listening sessions. These provide an opportunity for community members to raise issues or ask questions without making an appointment. They take place in the Henry Hunter Room at the Hobart Town Hall and in suburban cafés around Hobart.

In the last year, 27 Mayor in the Chair sessions were held, including nine in the suburbs of West Hobart, South Hobart, Lenah Valley, New Town, Battery Point, North Hobart, Mt Nelson, Fern Tree and Sandy Bay.

Community events, launches and official openings

Lord Mayor Reynolds attended, launched or opened 156 events. Some of the more significant occasions included:

- Fern Tree Park Official Opening
- Launch of the Indian Business Association
- Crowther Reinterpreted public art projects
- Antarctic Season Opening and Welcoming the RSV *Nuyina*
- Children's Week morning tea
- Announcing the winner of the Hobart Smart Bus Shelter Challenge
- Tasmanian Community Fund 21st Birthday Celebrations



2. Civic and ceremonial functions

'to carry out the civic and ceremonial functions of the mayoral office'

Below, from top:
Welcoming new Australian citizens
St Mary's College school tour
The inaugural children's Mayor Alexander Johnston, left, and Deputy Mayor Edie Tracey, right



Citizenship ceremonies

The City of Hobart holds citizenship ceremonies on behalf of the Australian Government and Lord Mayor Reynolds presides over the ceremonies.

Over the last year, the City of Hobart conducted six ceremonies where 255 candidates became Australian citizens.

School Tours

Lord Mayor Reynolds hosts Town Hall tours for school groups to assist students to understand the history of the city and the role of Local Government in Australian democracy.

The tour includes time in the Council Chamber where local decisions are made that impact on Hobart citizens. Students participate in a 'mock' Council meeting and learn about Australia's third level of government.

During the year, 26 groups from Albuera Street Primary School, Bruny Island District School, Campbell Street Primary School, Princes Street Primary School, Sacred Heart College, Sandy Bay Infant School, South Hobart Primary School, St Mary's College, St Michael's Collegiate and The Hutchins School took up the opportunity to learn about the role of local government and its operations.

Inaugural Children's Mayor Program

2021 saw Hobart's first program to 'elect' a Children's Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

The program, as part of National Children's Week, saw Hobart primary school students encouraged to participate in local government, and experience life in Town Hall for themselves.

Students from schools across the city were invited to write their own manifestos as to what they would do if given the role of Lord Mayor of Hobart.

Lord Mayor Reynolds hosted a Children's Morning Tea where the winning manifestos were read at a formal reception in Hobart Town Hall.

Alexander Johnstone from Lansdowne Crescent Primary School was declared the inaugural Children's Mayor for his idea Saving the Earth on Two Wheels! encouraging a greater focus on active transport.

Lenah Valley Primary School's Edie Tracey earned the role of Deputy Children's Mayor with her idea of Hobart 360: Closing the Loop, addressed the growing problem of recycling soft plastics, which could not be included in domestic recycling bins. A total of 15 manifestos were received from students attending a range of public and private schools within the Hobart LGA.

Lord Mayoral receptions

Upon request Lord Mayor Reynolds gives hosts receptions for clubs at Town Hall and organisations to celebrate significant occasions or national or cultural days. Lord Mayoral Receptions are held in the Court Room at the Town Hall. Over the last year, Lord Mayor Reynolds hosted the following groups:

- Hobart volunteers and workers who provided support to the community during COVID-19
- ICAN – Entry into Force
- TasPride
- The Urban Design Advisory Panel
- 2021 Royal Hobart Regatta
- Indian Business Association Tasmania
- Hobart Holi Festival 2021
- Salamanca Market COVID-19 Volunteers
- Children’s Week Morning Tea



Above, from top:
Antarctic Season Opening Reception
Salamanca Market Volunteer thank you Reception

Official calls

As the City’s civic leader the Lord Mayor receives official calls from Defence Force personnel, Ambassadors, High Commissioners, and delegates from foreign countries. During the year, the Lord Mayor received:

- Ambassador of Norway, His Excellency Mr Paul Gulleik Larsen
- Consul General of the Republic of Indonesia the Honourable Ms Spica A Tutuhaturnewa
- Ambassador of Korea, His Excellency Mr Jeong-sik Kang
- Ambassador of Japan, His Excellency Mr Shingo Yamagami
- High Commissioner of the UK, Her Excellency Mrs Vicki Treadell CMG MVO
- Commanding Officer HMAS *Rankin* Commander R. Dainty, RAN and CO NHQ Tasmania Commander A. Wright, CSC, OAM, RAN

Speeches delivered

Throughout the year, Lord Mayor Reynolds made 63 speeches at various community events, official openings and launches including:

- Secondary Schools’ Science and Engineering Challenge
- Centacare Evolve Housing Ends Homelessness
- Hobart Malayli Association Oman Festival
- Tas Pride Festival Launch

Events

Over the last year, Lord Mayor Reynolds accepted 136 invitations to community events, official openings or launches. She delegated 66 invitations to other elected members with special thanks to the Deputy Lord Mayor, Cr Helen Burnet for accepting to represent the Council at the majority of these opportunities.

3. Promoting good governance

‘to promote good governance by, and within, the Council’

Early in 2021, Lord Mayor Reynolds worked to promote safer workplaces and respect for women in Local Government. This involved developing and promoting a joint statement signed by 38 Councillors from a range of councils around the state. The Lord Mayor also moved a successful motion at the Local Government Association of Tasmania General Meeting calling for the State Government to fund an inquiry into safer workplaces for elected members.



Local government leaders issue a joint statement calling for safe workplaces and respect for women in local government.

THEMERCURY.COM.AU

Women in Government band together against abuse

4. Chairperson of Council

‘to act as chairperson of the Council and to chair meetings of the Council in a manner that supports decision-making processes’

Lord Mayor Reynolds chaired 22 out of 23 Council Meetings between November 2020 and November 2021.

5. Spokesperson of Council

‘to act as the spokesperson for the Council’

Lord Mayor Reynolds provided 77 media events or interviews during the year including regular appearances on *ABC Breakfast* after Council meetings.

While most media was local, she also appeared on national radio and TV about climate change, COVID-19 and the arrival of the RSV *Nuyina*.

Taste festival back on summer menu



Hobart Lord Mayor Anna Reynolds and Tasmanian Premier Peter Gutwein reveal plans for the new Taste festival.
Picture: Nikki Davis-Jones

Mercury coverage about the Taste Festival with Peter Gutwein

6. Represent the Council

‘to represent the Council on regional organisations and at intergovernmental forums at regional, state and federal levels’

Intergovernmental Forums

Lord Mayor Reynolds is on the following bodies and intergovernmental committees:

	Meetings attended 20–21
Council of Capital City Lord Mayors	5
Local Government Association of Tasmania	7
Premier’s Local Government Committee	1
Greater Hobart Strategic Partnership	10
Greater Hobart Homeless Alliance	1
ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability	6
Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy	9
Greater Hobart Committee and Advisory Group Workshop	1



Australian Local Government Association

At the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly in Canberra in June, Lord Mayor Reynolds successfully presented a motion on behalf of the City to lobby the Australian Government about 5G technology and the protection of public spaces from phone infrastructure.

At this conference, Lord Mayor Reynolds also gave a keynote plenary address about Local Government leadership on Climate Change.

Local Government Association of Tasmania

Lord Mayor Reynolds is a member of the Local Government Association of Tasmania’s General Management Committee that comprises the President of LGAT, the Lord Mayor (by virtue of Hobart’s capital city status) and seven representatives from the North, West/ North-West and South.

She attended five meetings of the General Management Committee this year.



Top: Speaking at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly

Above: Council of Capital City Lord Mayors, left to right, Lord Mayor Reynolds; Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Sally Capp; Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Adrian Schinner and Lord Mayor of Adelaide, Sandy Verschoor

Meetings held with State and Federal Representatives in 20–21

	Meetings
The Hon Peter Gutwein MP, Premier of Tasmania	2
The Hon Elise Archer MP, Attorney General	2
The Hon Roger Jaensch MP	1
The Hon Michael Ferguson MP	3
The Hon Jacquie Petrusma MP	1
Ms Cassy O'Connor MP, Leader of the Tasmanian Greens	1
Ms Madeline Ogilvie MP	3
Mr Andrew Wilkie MP, Independent Federal Member for Clark	4
Ms Kristie Johnston MP	2
The Hon Rob Valentine MLC	1
The Hon Sussan Ley MP	1
The Hon Trevor Evans MP	1
The Hon Andrew Giles MP	1
The Hon Paul Fletcher MP	1

7. Appoint the CEO

'to lead and participate in the appointment, and the monitoring of the performance, of the general manager'



The Lord Mayor led the recruitment process to appointment a new Council Chief Executive Officer, Kelly Grigsby, following former General Manager Nick Heath stepping down from his role in April 2021.

A specialist executive recruitment firm was overseen by a Committee of Elected Members comprising the Lord Mayor; Deputy Lord Mayor, Cr Burnet; Ald Thomas and Cr Coats. The process involved a national search, an advertising and marketing strategy, candidate screening, short-listing, undertaking first interviews and running second interviews with the Full Council to agree on an appointment.

Lord Mayor Reynolds also arranged an induction program over a number of weeks between May and July and accompanied Kelly on dozens of introductory meetings.

The CEO is pivotal to the success of council and the community they serve so this appointment took many hours of the Lord Mayor's time this year. It was important for the Council to ensure a proactive, inclusive and transparent process to make sure the best possible candidate was secured for the role.

Presenting New Town High School students with the Australian Aboriginal Flag