

OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT Promise

When we engage with you we will...

Be Clear – About the reason for engaging with you and any influence this can have on decision-making.

Be Educated – seek to understand the different views of our community and do our best to help you understand the topics and projects of interest to you.

Be Timely – strive to give you as much chance as possible to contribute to decision-making.

Be Inclusive – Use different methods to make sure information and opportunities are accessible to everyone.

Be Meaningful – strive to find and engage with people, groups and organisations in our community who have a specific interest, or will be directly affected by a decision.

Be Transparent and Accountable – be honest with you about the limitations of participation opportunities. We will report back to you and explain how your participation influenced decision-making.

Before we start engaging with you, we will ask ourselves:

- Who will be directly affected/impacted by this (topic)?
 - Who has involvement in the (topic)?
- Who can influence the outcome of this project/issue?

When we CAN and CAN'T engage

When CAN we engage?

- On projects or issues of significant community interest for example the development of strategies and plans.
- When a Council decision could have significant impact on the community or a stakeholder group. For example project works in a particular township
- When there is an opportunity to involve the community in decisions relating to the nature, scope, design or delivery of a project or initiative. For example, developing community facilities.
- When an outcome involves a change in services or infrastructure provided by Council. For example a change to playground equipment
- When Council has a statutory, legislative or regulatory requirement that needs community input. For example, the Dog Management Zones.

When CAN't we engage?

- When an immediate response is required, such as in an emergency situation. For example evacuating certain areas and facilities.
- When a decision must be made because of legal or safety requirements. For example, closing beach access because of contamination.
- When the activity is considered “business as usual” and there is no new information to consider.
- When community input would not influence a decision. For example, when there is already legislation in place that will determine the outcome.
- When timeframes and direction from other levels of government do not allow for meaningful engagement.

How will we engage with you?

The IAP2 framework is Industry Best Practice and describes the different levels of public participation in decision-making. This framework will guide the choices we make about our community engagement (pictured below).



| IAP2 Level | Explanation | Suitable Methods |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Inform | Our community will not be able to influence a decision but we can INFORM you of Council's decisions, projects and activities. We will also promote engagement opportunities using the inform methods. | Web page, social media, newsletter, media (TV, radio, newspaper), direct email and community noticeboard. |
| Consult | Community feedback will influence a Council decision, activity or project. | Online and hard-copy survey including the availability to do them over the counter at reception, community meetings or drop-in sessions. |
| Involve | Our community has influence on a decision, project or activity and your feedback will be important before finalising a decision. | Community workshops and/or online forums. |
| Collaborate | Partner with our community on a project that they will have high influence over. | Establishment of Working Group/ Advisory Committee, online forum supported by Council. |
| Empower | Support our community to take the lead on a project. | Community group reports back to Council on their activities and are supported by Council where required. |

More information can be found on our website under My Community/ Community Consultation



Email: admin@bodc.tas.gov.au
 Address: 32-34 Georges Bay Esp, St Helens
 Phone: 6376 7900

from the **mountains** to the **sea** | www.bodc.tas.gov.au