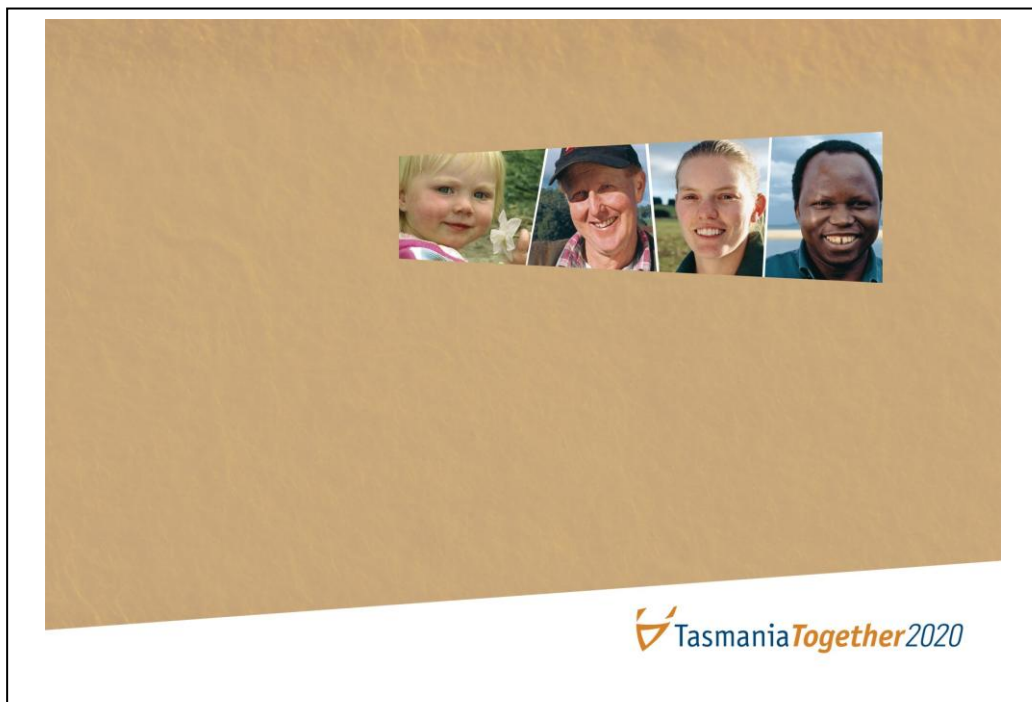


Tasmania *Together*

Planning at the Local Level

A Guide for Councils



 Tasmania *Together* 2020

Measuring our Progress

Tasmania *Together* Planning at the Local Level: A Guide for Councils
November 2007

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Background

This guide has been prepared to assist councils in linking Tasmania *Together* to strategic, annual and community planning at the local level.

The guide:

- provides background information on Tasmania *Together*;
- outlines the benefits of reflecting Tasmania *Together* in local planning;
- shows how to link Tasmania *Together*'s goals and benchmarks to strategic, annual and community planning;
- provides a set of benchmarks relevant to councils; and
- gives some examples of good practice.

The Tasmania *Together* Progress Board recognises the importance of Local Government in building community awareness and engagement in Tasmania *Together*.

Since 2001, Local Government has played an important role in the implementation of Tasmania *Together*. This is due to its proximity to the community, its capacity to draw together community groups, business, industry and government at a local level and its ability to recognise, understand and respond to community needs.

Uniquely positioned, Local Government is responsible for ensuring the delivery of economic, social and environmental outcomes at the local level and has an intimate knowledge of communities and the diversity of their residents. It provides services and programs that are flexible and appropriate to the needs of local communities. It also enables community participation in decision-making and supports the development of community networks.

What is Tasmania *Together*?

Tasmania *Together* is an ambitious long-term plan developed by Tasmanians for Tasmanians. It outlines what we want for ourselves, our children and our State by the year 2020.

By measuring and reporting progress, Tasmania *Together* encourages informed decision-making in government, business and community organisations, and provides a framework for cooperation to achieve the community's vision.

The 12 goals and 143 benchmarks in Tasmania *Together* lay the foundations for a community that is healthier, better educated, environmentally sustainable and more equitable.

Tasmania *Together* is now an integral part of the State Government's strategic policy framework and provides a basis for setting Government policy priorities and the allocation of resources. In particular, the State Government has restructured the budget process to better align initiatives with policy priorities and evaluate proposals against Tasmania *Together* benchmarks.

The State Government also produces an annual Government Activity Report, which details the Government's contribution to achieving the goals and benchmarks in Tasmania *Together*.

Nearly 30 business and community organisations have signed partnerships with the Progress Board, committing themselves to help achieve particular goals and benchmarks.

Tasmania *Together* and Local Government

During the first five years of Tasmania *Together*, the Progress Board engaged local government using bilateral and multilateral approaches, such as:

- presentation/ facilitation of workshops for Mayors and general managers;
- presentations to the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) annual conference;
- participation in 5-year strategic planning exercises conducted by Dorset, Glamorgan/ Spring Bay, King Island and Waratah/ Wynyard Councils; and
- meetings with council members and staff in conjunction with regional Progress Board meetings (eg. Circular Head, Tasman, West Coast, Northern Midlands and Derwent Valley Councils).

In a number of instances, councils have raised the issue of how they might better link their efforts at the local level, to the achievement of the statewide objectives and ambitions articulated in *Tasmania Together*.

In June 2005, the Board signed a partnership agreement with the LGAT. This agreement formalises the commitments of the Board and the LGAT to create a consultative and collaborative relationship to work towards the achievement of *Tasmania Together* goals and benchmarks.

The State-Local Government Partnership Agreement program has helped to make progress on the *Tasmania Together* goals, while delivering tangible outcomes to communities. Through Partnership Agreements, State agencies have been able to work with Local Government to develop and implement plans and strategies that address local priorities, in key areas.

Benefits of Linking Local Government Planning with *Tasmania Together* Goals and Benchmarks

Tasmania Together can only be achieved through the combined efforts of all levels of government, business and community groups, and individuals. As the sphere of government closest to the people, Local Government has a vital role to play in promoting *Tasmania Together*.

Tasmania Together was developed through extensive consultation with Tasmanian communities – the same communities that Local Government works with. These communities look to State and Local Government to reflect the results of that consultation in their planning documents so that their vision for the State can be achieved.

Being a statewide plan, *Tasmania Together* creates an opportunity for councils and other organisations to work towards common goals. Linking local and statewide planning will assist to increase community confidence that all levels of government are working together to achieve their vision.

As *Tasmania Together* covers a wide variety of issues, councils can focus on matters that are most relevant to the communities that they work closely with. In this way, *Tasmania Together* can be used to create links between the work of councils to meet the needs of local communities and measurable improvements in the quality of life of all Tasmanians.

The Progress Board will acknowledge councils for their contributions to the achievement of progress towards a better Tasmania. In addition, councils can create positive publicity within their communities using their newsletters and other promotional tools.

How to Link Local Government Planning and Tasmania *Together* Goals and Benchmarks

In planning documents, it is appropriate to refer to Tasmania *Together* goals and benchmarks. An individual benchmark is most likely to be referenced by a project that is specifically targeting that issue. The diagram at Attachment A shows how the benchmarks are set out in the Tasmania *Together* document.

When making these references, the following format is required:

- Goals – use the goal number, eg. 1
- Standards – combine the goal and standard numbers, e.g. 1.1
- Benchmarks – combine the goal, standard and indicator numbers, e.g. 1.1.2 (more examples can be seen on page 5 of this document).

Practical Examples

Good examples of referencing Tasmania *Together* in strategic, annual or community plans include:

- Break O’Day Council Strategic Plan 2003-2008 – links are made for each objective in the plan.
- Southern Midlands Council Strategic Plan 2006-2011 – a section is included that links the Council’s Strategic Themes to the relevant Tasmania *Together* Goals.
- Glenorchy Social Plan 2003 – Tasmania *Together* goals, standards and benchmarks are used as indicators of success for individual level issues.
- Hobart Community Safety Strategy December 2004 – refers to Tasmania *Together* Goal 2 to support its approach to safety management.
- Northern Midlands Annual Plan 2007-2008 – supports its operational objectives with a reference to key Tasmania *Together* goals.

A Set of Benchmarks Related to Local Government

A full list of the goals and benchmarks in Tasmania *Together* is shown at Attachment B.

The two lists below identify a range of issues that are addressed by Tasmania *Together* benchmarks and that are most relevant to Local Government:

1. Issues that the majority of councils would already be addressing; and
2. Issues that councils may already be working on to meet the needs of the local community.

1. Issues that the majority of Councils would be addressing

- Safety in public (2.1.3)
- Workplace injuries (2.1.7)
- Road crash injuries and fatalities (2.1.8)
- Regional population (5.2.2)
- Public participation in decisions that affect their lives (8.1.1, 8.1.2, 8.1.3, 8.1.4)
- Youth advisory committees (8.2.1).
- Council services are accessible and responsive (8.4.3, 8.4.4, 8.4.5)
- Employees with flexible work arrangements (9.2.1)
- Planning schemes adopting best practice in cultural heritage protection (11.1.1)
- Water quality (12.2.1, 12.2.2, 12.2.4)

2. Additional issues that some Councils would be addressing

- Injuries and poisoning (2.1.1)
- Safety at home (2.1.2)
- Adult literacy (3.2.1)
- Apprenticeships and traineeships (3.4.3)
- Healthy lifestyles – exercise and diet (4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.5, 4.2.1, 4.2.2)
- Problem gambling (4.3.1)
- General practitioners (4.4.5)
- Vibrant communities - disadvantage, population, discrimination and demographics (5.1.2, 5.2.1, 5.3.1, 5.6.1, 5.7.1, 5.7.2, 5.7.3)
- Youth (5.5.1, 5.5.2, 5.5.3)
- Arts and culture (6.2.1, 6.2.2, 6.3.1)
- Work opportunities (9.1.1, 9.1.2, 9.1.3, 9.1.4, 9.2.2)
- Investment and development (10.4.2, 10.6.1, 10.8.3)
- Tourism (10.8.1, 10.8.2)
- Soil, air and water (11.3.1, 11.3.2, 12.1.1, 12.1.2, 12.2.3, 12.2.5, 12.3.2)
- Climate change (12.4.1)

How the Progress Board can Help

The Progress Board is able to assist councils in the following ways:

- give a presentation to councillors or staff on Tasmania *Together*;
- assist with aligning council planning documents and Tasmania *Together* goals and benchmarks;
- participate in strategic planning sessions; and
- publicise council activities that contribute to the Tasmania *Together* goals and benchmarks.

Contact Information

If you would like further information, or assistance from the Board, please contact Carole Williams, Local Government Project Manager on:



Phone: 6233 5958

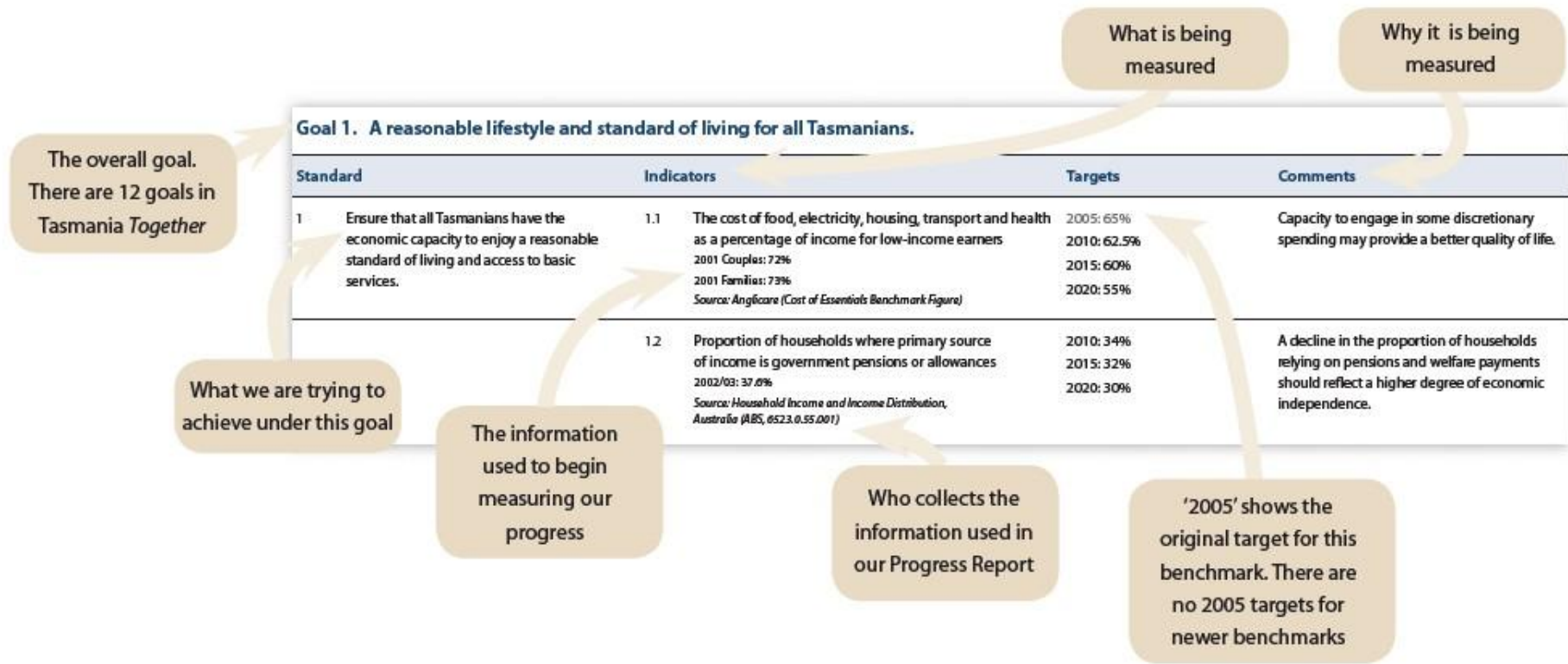
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Attachment A: A Guide to Understanding the Benchmarks

Tasmania Together includes 12 goals and 143 benchmarks. The diagram below shows how they are set out in the Tasmania Together document.

A Guide to Understanding the Benchmarks



Attachment B: List of Tasmania *Together* Goals and Benchmarks

This list only includes Tasmania *Together* goals and indicators. These are not complete Tasmania *Together* benchmarks.

For full details of Tasmania *Together* benchmarks (including standards, targets, source information and comments), see the Tasmania *Together* document or go to the Tasmania *Together* website at www.tasmaniatogether.tas.gov.au

Goal 1	A reasonable lifestyle and standard of living for all Tasmanians.
Indicator 1.1.1	The cost of food, electricity, housing, transport and health as a percentage of income for low-income earners
Indicator 1.1.2	Proportion of households where primary source of income is government pensions or allowances
Indicator 1.1.3	Proportion of persons living in households that could not obtain \$2000 within a week for something important
Indicator 1.1.4	Housing stress experienced by low-income earners in Tasmania within the private rental market
Indicator 1.1.5	Tasmanian house price to income ratio
Indicator 1.1.6	Public housing waiting times for priority applicants
Indicator 1.1.7	Transport accessibility
Indicator 1.1.8	Proportion of retired Tasmanians who rely on government pensions or allowances as main source of income
Indicator 1.1.9	Number of Tasmanians who are long-term unemployed
Indicator 1.2.1	Childcare availability: number of licensed places

Goal 2 Confident, friendly and safe communities.

Indicator 2.1.1	Injuries and poisoning (measured by hospital separations)
Indicator 2.1.2	Percentage of people who feel safe at home
Indicator 2.1.3	Percentage of people who feel safe in public places
Indicator 2.1.4	Crime victimisation rate
Indicator 2.1.5	Reported level of family violence
Indicator 2.1.6	Proportion of adult offenders convicted again within two years
Indicator 2.1.7	Incidence of workplace injuries
Indicator 2.1.8	Road crash fatalities and serious injuries
Indicator 2.2.1	Deaths due to external causes for people aged 0-24
Indicator 2.2.2	Children on care and protection orders
Indicator 2.2.3	Proportion of 14-24 year olds at risk of short-term alcohol related harm
Indicator 2.2.4	Incidence of sexually transmitted infections in Tasmanians aged 15-24

Goal 3 High-quality education and training for lifelong learning and a skilled workforce.

Indicator 3.1.1	Proportion of children meeting the Kindergarten Development Check
Indicator 3.2.1	Proportion of persons (15-74) who are considered to be functionally literate
Indicator 3.2.2	Student performance against national literacy & numeracy benchmarks

Indicator 3.3.1	Retention from Year 10 to 12
Indicator 3.4.1	Proportion of Tasmanians with high-level skills/ qualifications (Certificate III +)
Indicator 3.4.2	Participation in post-secondary education and training
Indicator 3.4.3	Number of Tasmanians commencing apprenticeships and traineeships

Goal 4 Active, healthy Tasmanians with access to quality and affordable health care services.

Indicator 4.1.1	Avoidable Mortality
Indicator 4.1.2	Percentage of population who do not do enough exercise to avoid chronic disease
Indicator 4.1.3	Proportion of children (5-14) participating in organised sport
Indicator 4.1.4	Proportion of Tasmanians over 18 who eat at least 2 serves of fruit and 5 serves of vegetables a day
Indicator 4.1.5	Proportion of Tasmanians over 18 who are overweight or obese.
Indicator 4.1.6	Prevalence of Type 2 diabetes in persons aged 25-64
Indicator 4.2.1	The proportion of Tasmanians 15 years and over reporting their health as very good or excellent
Indicator 4.2.2	Proportion of the Tasmanians 18 years and over who report their level of psychological distress as high/ very high
Indicator 4.3.1	Prevalence of problem gambling
Indicator 4.3.2	Proportion of Tasmanians who use illicit drugs
Indicator 4.3.3	Proportion of Tasmanians aged 18 and over who are current smokers

Indicator 4.4.1	Number of people on waiting lists for more than six months for full dentures
Indicator 4.4.2	Public hospital waiting times for elective surgery
Indicator 4.4.3	Proportion of persons with a serious mental illness whose needs are met by the Tasmanian Mental Health Service
Indicator 4.4.4	Proportion of people entering residential aged care within 3 months of assessment
Indicator 4.4.5	Number of General Practitioners per 100,000 people
Indicator 4.4.6	Number of qualified ambulance paramedics in rural and regional areas

Goal 5 Vibrant, inclusive and growing communities where people feel valued and connected.

Indicator 5.1.1	Supportive living for older persons and people with a disability
Indicator 5.1.2	Hours of community usage of public education facilities
Indicator 5.2.1	The proportion of Tasmanians residing in socially disadvantaged regional areas
Indicator 5.2.2	Proportion of Tasmania's population outside the four major urban centres
Indicator 5.3.1	Per capita voluntary participation in community and service activities in a 12-month period
Indicator 5.3.2	Primary carers devoting more than 20 hours per week
Indicator 5.4.1	Public access to Internet services
Indicator 5.4.2	Percentage of households with Internet connections
Indicator 5.5.1	Percentage of 15 to 19 year-olds not employed or in education

Indicator 5.5.2	Proportion of 15 to 29 year-olds leaving for interstate or overseas for 12 months or more
Indicator 5.5.3	Participation of young people in community groups
Indicator 5.6.1	Number of accepted complaints to the Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Commissioner
Indicator 5.6.2	Number of discrimination complaints lodged on grounds of disability, race or sexual orientation.
Indicator 5.6.3	Teacher training in discrimination (a) Percentage of teachers who have received professional development training in racial, gender and disability related discrimination and harassment issues over the past three years (b) Percentage of teachers who have received professional development training in sexual and identity related discrimination and harassment issues over the past three years
Indicator 5.7.1	Level of population growth
Indicator 5.7.2	Proportion of 15 to 39 year-olds
Indicator 5.7.3	Proportion of migrants

Goal 6 Dynamic, creative and internationally recognised arts community and culture.

Indicator 6.1.1	Contribution to Gross State Product by selected cultural industries
Indicator 6.1.2	Employment in cultural industries
Indicator 6.2.1	Percentage of people participating in cultural activities (ie people who are actually involved in activities, not audience)
Indicator 6.2.2	Attendance at cultural venues
Indicator 6.3.1	Number of multicultural events in Tasmania

Indicator 6.3.2	Number of schools integrating multicultural perspectives in the curriculum
Indicator 6.4.1	Number of attendances at major cultural heritage sites
Indicator 6.5.1	Number of enrolments in cultural heritage courses
Indicator 6.5.2	Percentage of significant items conserved
Indicator 6.5.3	Number of heritage documents and artefacts publicly available in digital format

Goal 7 Acknowledgement of the right of Aboriginal people to own and preserve their culture, and share with non-Aboriginal people the richness and value of that culture.

Indicator 7.1.1	Percentage of teaching staff who have received professional development specifically related to their role as teachers of indigenous studies
Indicator 7.1.2	Percentage of schools integrating Aboriginal perspectives throughout all relevant areas of the curriculum
Indicator 7.1.3	Number of major visitor centres containing Aboriginal cultural interpretation
Indicator 7.2.1	Number of Aboriginal identified positions in the State Service that are filled by Aboriginal people or Torres Strait Islanders
Indicator 7.3.1	Hectares of land owned or managed by the Aboriginal community
Indicator 7.4.1	Percentage of Tasmanian Aboriginal cultural property collections repatriated

Goal 8 Open and accountable government that listens and plans for a shared future.

Indicator 8.1.1 Proportion of people who think there are opportunities to have a real say on important issues

Indicator 8.1.2 Proportion of people participating in a decision-making process.

Indicator 8.1.3 Proportion participating in local government elections

Indicator 8.1.4 Involvement in community action to improve or protect local services or activities

Indicator 8.2.1 Percentage of councils with youth advisory committees

Indicator 8.2.2 Performance of students against national benchmarks for civics and citizenship

Indicator 8.3.1 Number of State Government Regional Community Forums

Indicator 8.3.2 Ministerial and agency review through the parliamentary process:
(a) Time set aside for non-government business (House of Assembly)
(b) Proportion of Questions Without Notice asked by non-government members (House of Assembly)
(c) Number of hours devoted to scrutiny of agency and GBE budgets by Estimates and GBE Scrutiny Committees

Indicator 8.4.1 Level of satisfaction with government services provided through *Service Tasmania*

Indicator 8.4.2 Number of *Service Tasmania* over the counter, over the phone and online government services provided to local communities

Indicator 8.4.3 People who feel comfortable contacting someone in government for information

Indicator 8.4.4 Proportion of people who have difficulty accessing government services

Indicator 8.4.5 Proportion of Freedom of Information (FOI) requests denied

Goal 9 Increased work opportunities for all Tasmanians.

Indicator 9.1.1	Workforce participation rate
Indicator 9.1.2	Extent of under-employment
Indicator 9.1.3	Proportion of employees in secure employment
Indicator 9.1.4	Tasmanian average weekly earnings as a proportion of national average weekly earnings
Indicator 9.2.1	Proportion of employees who have flexible work arrangements
Indicator 9.2.2	Families using flexible working hours to manage child care
Indicator 9.2.3	Employee dissatisfaction
Indicator 9.2.4	Pay equity between men and women in Tasmania
Indicator 9.2.5	Number of employment-related complaints registered with the Anti-Discrimination Commissioner

Goal 10 Thriving and innovative industries driven by a high level of business confidence.

Indicator 10.1.1	Level of research and development expenditure as a proportion of Gross State Product
Indicator 10.1.2	Employment in science, technology, research and development as a percentage of total employment
Indicator 10.2.1	Ranking of Tasmania on Competition Index
Indicator 10.2.2	Credit Rating
Indicator 10.3.1	Growth in Gross State Product
Indicator 10.4.1	Export value

Indicator 10.4.2	Investment
Indicator 10.4.3	Growth in the number of small businesses
Indicator 10.5.1	Business connections to the Internet
Indicator 10.6.1	Level of Tasmanian business confidence
Indicator 10.7.1	Level of value added by manufacturing industries per head of population
Indicator 10.7.2	Food production value added
Indicator 10.8.1	Tourism expenditure
Indicator 10.8.2	Visitor numbers
Indicator 10.8.3	Mineral exploration expenditure
Indicator 10.8.4	Exports of food, agriculture and fisheries

Goal 11 Built and natural heritage that is valued and protected.

Indicator 11.1.1	Percentage of local government planning schemes adopting best practice in cultural heritage protection
Indicator 11.1.2	Number of sites listed on the Tasmanian Heritage Register
Indicator 11.1.3	Proportion of work applications with positive impacts on heritage values
Indicator 11.2.1	Area reduction of clear-felling in old-growth forests
Indicator 11.2.2	Area of RFA old-growth forest in protected reserves and covenants
Indicator 11.2.3	The proportion of area of reserves subject to a system of reserve management audits (Tasmanian Reserve Code of Practice)

- Indicator 11.3.1 (a) Number of species showing a decline in status on the schedules of the *Threatened Species Protection Act*
(b) Number of species showing an improved status on the schedules of the *Threatened Species Protection Act*
- Indicator 11.3.2 Reducing the adverse impacts of pests:
Number of new pests established
- Indicator 11.3.3 Kilos of private confiscations by state quarantine services
- Indicator 11.3.4 The use of commercial food and non-food GM crops in the open environment
- Indicator 11.4.1 Percentage of land protected either by legislation or by contract in conservation reserves, under covenant or heritage regimes
- Indicator 11.4.2 Percentage of protected land covered by approved management plans
- Indicator 11.4.3 Reservation shortfall in hectares in relation to RFA targeted communities
- Indicator 11.4.4 Area of non-forest native vegetation protected:
(a) All reserves included in the CAR Reserve system
(b) All other non-binding agreements such as vegetation management plans and Land for Wildlife agreements
- Indicator 11.4.5 Establishment of a representative system of Marine Protected Areas in the 8 interim Tasmanian marine bioregions in accordance with the Tasmanian Marine Protected Areas Strategy
-

Goal 12 Sustainable management of our natural resources.

- Indicator 12.1.1 Area of land affected by salinity
 - Indicator 12.1.2 Percentage of Tasmania covered by native vegetation
 - Indicator 12.2.1 Proportion of water measurement sites showing no increase in turbidity
 - Indicator 12.2.2 Proportion of sampling sites in each AusRivAS band
 - Indicator 12.2.3 Breaches of National Environment Protection Measure air standards
 - Indicator 12.2.4 Breaches of Australian Drinking Water Standards
 - Indicator 12.2.5 Breaches of recreational water standards
 - Indicator 12.3.1 Levels of usage of 1080
 - Indicator 12.3.2 Proportion of water samples with pesticides exceeding national guidelines
 - Indicator 12.4.1 Levels of greenhouse gas emissions (megatonnes)
 - Indicator 12.4.2 Number of Tasmanian businesses participating in the AGO's Greenhouse Challenge Plus greenhouse gas abatement program.
-