

Collaboration to drive growth for Bell Bay Industrial Precinct

The Bell Bay Manufacturing Precinct Sub-Committee welcomes today's announcement by the Tasmanian Government to provide \$50,000 to support a pilot program to engage a specialist project officer to drive growth, commercial outcomes and employment opportunities in the largest and most significant industrial precinct in Tasmania.

This pilot project is driven by a \$60,000 commitment from industry and businesses located in the Precinct as well as a \$50,000 contribution from the George Town Council. The funding will assist to employ a suitably qualified and experienced project officer for three days per week for up to two years.

"As far as industrial precincts in Australia go, the Bell Bay Industrial Precinct arguably presents one of the best opportunities for manufacturing businesses to re-locate, expand or establish operations. Its full potential is untapped so today's announcement by the Tasmanian Government is a very welcome and positive sign for the region. We look forward to working collaboratively with the Tasmanian Government, George Town Council and Regional Development Australia Tasmania to ensure the success of this project," Bell Bay Manufacturing Precinct Sub-Committee Chairman, Ray Mostogl said.

Bridget Archer, Mayor, George Town Council said "The George Town Strategic Plan 2016 - 2026 has confirmed a goal of promoting the growth of existing businesses and the attraction of new businesses to the Bell Bay Industrial Precinct. This is one small but important step toward achieving that goal and facilitating economic development for the George Town community and the Tamar Valley region."

Regional Development Australia Tasmania Chairman Tom Black said "The RDA Tasmania Committee recognizes the significant contribution that Bell Bay businesses make to the Tasmanian economy. Ensuring businesses continue to contribute and attracting new business opportunities to the Precinct into the long term must be a priority for Tasmania, which is why we are happy to be part of this important initiative."

The project officer will execute a work program developed with the Bell Bay Manufacturing Precinct Sub-Committee and will be responsible for a range of key project activities including supporting Bell Bay manufacturers to improve productivity and competitiveness, encourage innovation and diversification and grow the number of complimentary manufacturers within the Precinct.

The project officer role will be advertised on Saturday 8 July.

For more information go to www.rdatasmania.org.au

For further information contact

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About the Bell Bay Manufacturing Precinct Sub-Committee

A sub-committee of Regional Development Australia Tasmania committee membership comprises representatives from Bell Bay Aluminium, South32 Temco, AP Kempe Engineering, CPT Engineering, Ecka Granules, Forico, East Tamar Maintenance, George Town Council, George Town Chamber of Commerce, RDA Tasmania, the Office of the Coordinator General and a community representative.

About the Bell Bay Industrial Precinct

The Bell Bay Industrial Precinct is located adjacent to Bell Bay Port in northern Tasmania. It is Tasmania's largest industrial estate, occupying an area of around 2,500 hectares, and producing almost 60 per cent of Tasmania's total manufactured exports. The Precinct supports a diverse range of largely heavy industrial activities, including metal smelting, alloy production and forest processing.