



MEDIA RELEASE

31 August 2021

New General Manager appointed to Huon Valley Council

Huon Valley Council Mayor Bec Enders has announced the appointment of Mr Jason Browne as the new General Manager.

“Earlier in the year, the Council embarked on a nationwide recruitment process for a new General Manager and we received 85 applications. After an extensive and rigorous process, we selected Jason and I am delighted to announce his appointment. We look forward to him joining Council on 21st September 2021,” Mayor Enders said.

“Jason’s appointment is a clear reflection that this Council is ready to take on the future forecast of population growth and the need to be agile in a forever fast changing environment. Whether that be responding to natural disasters, negotiating the best outcomes for our ratepayers or Council investing into forward planning to ensure that we remain sustainable and relevant for future generations.

“We’re excited by Jason’s energy and his experience in leadership and creating a positive work culture that is customer focused. His solid track record in the delivery of financial performance and improving service quality will help prepare the council for future opportunities, ensuring that the Council returns value to our rate-payers whilst making council a rewarding place to work”, Mayor Enders said.

Mr Browne has in excess of 4 years’ service with TasWater in the role of Department Manager Business Performance where he was responsible for leading the corporate strategy, business performance and innovation. He also benefited from acting in the role of Chief Financial Officer with TasWater leading over 170 employees that work across multiple services.

Prior to TasWater, Mr Browne held the position of Executive Manager Finance and Business Services (CFO) for the Glenorchy City Council. He has also held positions in the energy, banking and private sectors.

“I am honoured to be joining the Huon Valley Council team, and I look forward to continuing to partner with the community on shaping the future of this wonderful region so that its residents, businesses and visitors can enjoy all that the region offers,” Mr Browne said.

Communications & Media Officer

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Mr Browne holds numerous qualifications. He has a Master of Business Administration (Major in Human Resources), a Graduate Diploma in Applied Finance and Investment (Major in Corporate Finance) and Bachelor of Economics (Majors in Accounting and Finance). He is a Certified Practising Accountant and has undertaken contemporary leadership courses throughout his career.

Mayor Enders said she acknowledges River Road Consulting, Andrew Wardlaw and Paul West for being the caretaker Acting General Managers.

“They have provided a steady and supportive working environment for everyone, and we are very appreciative to have secured their wisdom and experience,” she said.

Acting General Manager Paul West will stay on in the role for the interim to ensure a smooth transition.

Council made the decision to appoint Mr Browne on Wednesday 25th August at a Closed Meeting of Council.

Mayor Bec Enders said due to concerns that have recently been raised by some members of the public about the robustness of the GM recruitment process, Council has commissioned an external review of the process. However, she said in managing the recruitment process the Council had been cognizant and diligent in its approach.

Mayor Enders said some members of the public would be aware that I submitted a complaint to the Director of Local Government on the same day regarding an alleged leak from the Huon Valley Council about the GM recruitment process.

“Council will be fully transparent with the Director and has provided to date full access to their records and will continue to do so. All councillors and staff are required by law to uphold the legislation and regulations that guide their decision making and they are accountable for actions of breaching confidentiality.”

For more information: Mayor Bec Enders (03) 6264 0300

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