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MEDIA RELEASE

Organisation: Glamorgan Spring Bay Council

Contact details: Mayor Michael Kent

Subject: Sewer system for Freycinet Peninsula

Date: 27/09/2018

The Mayor of Glamorgan Spring Bay, Mayor Michael Kent is delighted that the State Government and TasWater have publicly stated on September 19 in The Mercury that Coles Bay is one of three big water and sewerage projects they have on their agenda and will hopefully start investigating the most effective sewer system for the Freycinet Peninsula.

Community engagement informed the draft Freycinet Master Plan undertaken by Parks in 2018. This draft Master Plan identified that sewage treatment (including toilets) were inadequate and were a major constraint to sustainably managing visitors and forecast increased visitor numbers to the area.

Mayor Kent said:

"The Coles Bay, Swanwick and Fisheries communities are eager to have existing sewerage issues resolved urgently. The Council has been working for many years to find a suitable solution for Coles Bay and surrounds with many alternatives being looked at. However, most solutions have been out of the realm of a small Council such as ours."

The Mayor expressed the urgency of the situation and requested that both TasWater and the Government get onto the project as soon as possible.

This is a major piece of infrastructure that the community has highlighted as a priority and should be delivered before any major environmental harm occurs and the Freycinet National Park as one of the State's most visited parks and natural icons becomes a less than ideal experience for visitors.

Mayor Kent noted that in the 2017/18 financial year there were 280,000 visitors to Cradle Mountain, whilst there were 310,000 visitors to Freycinet National Park. These visitor numbers serve to highlight the priority that infrastructure investment for the Freycinet Peninsula in something as essential as a sewer system deserves.

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For more information please contact Mayor Michael Kent at Glamorgan Spring Bay Council on 0418 120 770