

TASMANIA POLICE
AFTERNOON TEA TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE LAUNCH OF THE
ARCH CENTRE AND COLLABORATIVE PILOT PROGRAM
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC,
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, MONDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

Good afternoon. I warmly welcome you all to Government House and to this afternoon tea.

I begin by paying my respects to the traditional and original owners of this land: the palawa people. I acknowledge the contemporary Tasmanian Aboriginal community and recognise their enduring culture and continued connection to land, sea and waters.

We are here to acknowledge what you have achieved through the collaborative efforts of Laurel House, Sexual Assault Support Services Tasmania, Tasmania Police and our Tasmanian Government in the setting up and launching the Arch centre and coordination of the pilot program.

We thank you all and appreciate the efforts by everyone involved.

This project focuses on the provision of trauma-informed responses to victim survivors of sexual harm. Your project was commenced only mid last year. I also understand that the pilot program and the centres needed to be completed in a compressed timeframe.

To achieve this timeframe, a lot of your time, effort, and collaboration had to be invested in the project. You met your deadlines and you demonstrated what can be achieved when people and services work together.

The Arch centre was officially opened last month on the 19th August. It was not only a successful event, but also a very powerful moment for many who attended.

I understand that this project has been a long-term aim for many of you. It is an excellent facility for victim survivors in our State.

It is my great pleasure to sincerely congratulate you on all that you have achieved. May I also thank you for your dedicated hard work and diligence. I am very pleased that the pilot program is progressing very successfully. And now, I invite you all to enjoy afternoon tea.