



***MEDIA RELEASE – June 4, 2026 - For immediate release***

**COTA Tasmania welcomes appointment of inaugural Older Tasmanians Ministerial Advisory Council**

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COTA Tasmania has welcomed the appointment of the inaugural Older Tasmanians Ministerial Advisory Council, announced by Minister for Ageing, Bridget Archer.

COTA Tasmania CEO, Brigid Wilkinson, said the establishment of the Council is an important milestone in delivering *A Respectful, Age-Friendly Island: Older Tasmanians Action Plan 2025–2029*.

“The appointment of this Council is a significant and welcome step in ensuring the voices, experiences, and priorities of older Tasmanians are heard at the highest levels of government,” Ms Wilkinson said.

“Older Tasmanians contribute enormously to our communities, families, workplaces, volunteering, caring, civic life, and the economy. It is vital that government policy is informed by the lived experience of older people themselves, alongside the organisations that work with and support them.”

The Tasmanian Government has announced that five older Tasmanians and representatives of two community organisations have been appointed to the Council, which will contribute to the oversight and implementation of the Older Tasmanians Action Plan and provide advice on issues affecting older people.

COTA Tasmania has also been appointed as a permanent sitting member the Council, reflecting its longstanding role as the peak body representing the interests of older Tasmanians.

“We are pleased that COTA Tasmania will have the opportunity to contribute directly to the Council’s work, alongside older Tasmanians with diverse lived experience and other community representatives,” Ms Wilkinson said.

“We congratulate all those appointed and look forward to meeting Council members once their appointments are publicly confirmed.”

Ms Wilkinson said COTA Tasmania looks forward to working with the Council and the Minister to progress practical action under the Older Tasmanians Action Plan.

“There is important work ahead - including tackling ageism, improving access to services and supports, strengthening digital inclusion, supporting housing and transport options, and ensuring older Tasmanians can remain connected, valued, and supported in their communities,” Ms Wilkinson said.

“COTA Tasmania sees the Council as an important mechanism for accountability, advice and partnership. We look forward to its first meeting and to working constructively with Council members, the Minister and government agencies to help ensure the Older Tasmanians Action Plan delivers meaningful outcomes for older people across Tasmania.”

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