

Tasmanian Development Board

Summary Activity Report for period ending 31 March 2017



The Board continues to provide strategic advice to government in regard to key industry and economic growth matters.

The Board's current focus areas include:

- Continued use of the Board's powers to pursue the government's agenda to drive state growth and employment through increased business investment and activity.
- Continued use of the Board's capacity to support the government's economic development policies, objectives and priorities including consideration of new programs.
- Working with the Office of the Coordinator-General to support the attraction of new investment and development to Tasmania. Areas of focus continue to include agribusiness, tourism, information communication and technology, international education, mining and resources. The Coordinator-General provides an update to each meeting of the Board.

Prospectively, the Board activities in the next quarter be focused on the administration and assessment of key programs aimed at drought and flood recovery including:

- [Tasmanian Government's AgriGrowth Concessional Loan Scheme](#). The Minister confirmed the expansion of the Scheme to \$20 million extended until 30 September 2018.
- The [Drought Recovery and Dairy Recovery Concessional Loan Schemes](#) (launched in November 2016), under the Australian Government's Farm Business Concessional Loan Scheme allowing eligible farmers to borrow up to 50% of eligible farm business debt, up to \$1 million over a maximum of 10 years.
- The [Flood Recovery Loan Scheme](#) (launched in June 2016) to assist primary producers and small businesses directly affected by the June 2016 floods providing loans ranging from \$25 000 to \$200 000 for eligible businesses. The closing date for the Scheme has been extended to 31 March 2017.
- [Pilot Loan Guarantee Scheme](#) established as a pilot scheme of \$500 000 to assist small to medium size enterprise located in the north-west and western regions of Tasmania to access mainstream finance providers to fund business expansion. Applications opened on 18 January 2017 and will remain open until 31 October 2017.

The main decisions and recommendations made to government during this quarter included applications under the following Programs:

	No of Loans	Total Loans
AgriGrowth Loan Scheme	1	\$900 000
Farm Business Drought Assistance Concessional Loans	1	\$1 000 000
Farm Business Dairy Recovery Concessional Loans	3	\$1 975 000
Flood Recovery Loan Scheme	2	\$400 000