

What helps us in our journey towards a
Connected and Respectful Tasmania?
What gets in the way? What should we focus on?



What we heard from Tasmanians living in rural and remote areas*

Challenges

Social dynamics: Local tensions and divides can limit trust, participation and collaboration, making it harder for people to feel included and engaged.

Discrimination: Prejudice and bias make some people feel unwelcome, reducing their sense of safety, belonging, and willingness to participate.

Access to services and support: Distance, transport and connectivity barriers make it harder to access support and stay socially connected.

Strengths

Supportive and positive relationships: Trusted local relationships build inclusion and compassion, helping communities stay connected.

Practical resources and infrastructure: When there are good practical supports like spaces, transport and connectivity, it's easier for people to gather and participate.

Inclusion, diversity and accessibility: Welcoming attitudes, accessible design, and inclusive culturally safe activities ensure everyone can belong and contribute.

Priorities

Inclusion, diversity and equality: Offer simple, welcoming approaches and fair access so everyone can take part.

Collaboration and community engagement: Work together. People value partnering, co-designing and making local decisions for shared ownership.

Compassionate communication: Communicate clearly, respectfully and with cultural awareness.

*These insights were collected from deep conversations with 560 people in rural and remote areas, out of over 1600 people of all ages and backgrounds across Tasmania during 2025. www.connectedandrespectful.org.au

The next steps towards a *Connected and Respectful* Tasmania...



What could the future look like?

Imagine a future where people living in rural and remote areas feel included, respected, and able to participate.

Strong local relationships, supported by practical resources and infrastructure will make it easier to gather, collaborate, and respond to community needs.

Inclusive and accessible practices ensure people from diverse backgrounds feel like they belong, building trust and deeper, lasting connections.

What if we don't act now?

Relationship tensions, gatekeeping and prejudice will continue to erode trust and reduce participation.

More people will feel unwelcome or left out, and barriers like distance, transport and connectivity will continue to limit access to support, weakening connection and making respectful community norms harder to sustain.

How can we work together?

We need to work together to create positive and lasting change.

We welcome new partners on this journey towards our vision of a Connected and Respectful Tasmania.

No matter who you are, you can be an important part of this initiative.

To find out about community actions around Tasmania, learn about grants and other supports, or if you are a business or organisation who would like to talk about becoming a partner, you can find out more at www.connectedandrespectful.org.au, or contact us at community@reltas.org.au.