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**Guy Barnett, Minister for Building and Construction**

## **Building work in Tasmania continues to grow**

The ABS data released today again confirms Tasmania is going from strength to strength with the quantity and value of building work being approved around the State.

Tasmania continues to lead the nation in the total value of building approvals, with a massive increase of 46 per cent in the year to August 2018, compared to the previous year, which is the highest rate of growth in the country. The value of residential building work approved increased by 28.9 per cent over this period, again the highest growth rate in Australia.

Tasmania also continues to outperform most of the nation in the number of dwelling approvals, with the State seeing a 2.3 per cent increase in approvals in trend terms in August 2018. This was the second-highest level of monthly growth in dwelling approvals in the nation, and in contrast to a fall in the number of dwelling approvals nationally.

Over the year to August 2018, dwelling approvals were 16.8 per cent higher than a year ago in trends terms – making Tasmania the second strongest growing jurisdiction for annual growth, behind the ACT's increase of 64.9 per cent.

In the year to August 2018, the number of dwelling approvals averaged 249 per month in original terms, 79 more per month on average than the last year of the Labor-Green Government.

These figures demonstrate the Hodgman Liberal Government's long term Plan to build Tasmania's future is working.