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## Media Release

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### Minor works commence to improve Tamar Estuary health

Preliminary upgrade work has begun at the Willis Street Pump Station in support of the Tamar Estuary River Health Action Plan (RHAP).

TasWater Capital Delivery Office (CDO) Group Leader Planning and Investigation Andrew Truscott said it's pleasing preliminary work has begun to upgrade the infrastructure.

"This is the first project in a program of minor upgrades that we're rolling-out across the network while we undertake extensive planning, design and investigation work on the six major infrastructure upgrades related to the Tamar Estuary RHAP," Mr Truscott said.

The original Launceston combined sewage and stormwater system was the second drainage system of its type installed in Australia.

"The current system is designed to overflow during heavy rainfall events, which mostly consists of stormwater, but it does include highly diluted sewage," he said.

"These minor works will see the Willis Street Pump Station upgraded with new pump components and a modern digital control and monitoring system."

TasWater Acting General Manager Corporate & Community Relations Ruth Dowty welcomed the State and Australian Government's announcement today.

"The projects under the Tamar Estuary RHAP will help our infrastructure to better manage stormwater flows within the combined system and increase TasWater's storage capacity during rain events, further protecting the environment," Ms Dowty said.

Of the \$140.7 million allocated to deliver the Tamar Estuary RHAP, TasWater has contributed \$33.2 million, the City of Launceston has contributed \$11 million and the remainder of the funding has been made available by the State and Federal Governments. The overall funding plan is part of the Launceston City Deal.

"We look forward to bringing these projects to life through the collaboration with the Australian and State Governments, City of Launceston Council and other groups under the Launceston City Deal," she said.

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