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## MEDIA RELEASE

22 January 2025

### Council awarded for Planning Excellence

Huon Valley Council's Land Use and Development Strategy (LUDS) has received a major Strategic Planning Project Award, recognising excellence in planning and community engagement.

The Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) Awards for Planning Excellence recognise the contributions that planners make to enhance communities and create liveable, thriving and sustainable places.

The project, a collaboration between Council, SGS Economics and Planning, Ireneinc and Resonance, captured the vision of the Huon Valley community and provides a comprehensive roadmap for the region's future development.

Led by Council's Strategic Land Use Planning and Community Engagement Units, this two-year initiative tackled crucial planning matters from tourism development to housing needs, creating a foundation for the region's growth.

"This recognition validates our commitment to strategic planning that reflects community needs," said Mayor Sally Doyle. "The strategy addresses our changing region's challenges while setting clear directions for future development."

Building on this success, Council is progressing key projects including:

- Link Road Residential Area Structure Plan
- Cygnet Structure Plan (currently seeking Quotation submissions)
- Rural Living Densification Study

Under Council leadership, this award-winning strategy marks the first stage of a broader 5-year Strategic Planning Program, demonstrating Council's commitment to the Huon Valley's sustainable future.

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