

# Media release

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27 November 2024

## Glenorchy City Council to Unveil Red Bench to Raise Awareness of Domestic Violence

**WHAT:** Red Bench Launch  
**WHO:** Glenorchy Mayor, Sue Hickey, members of the Lions Club of Glenorchy City and domestic violence support services representatives  
**WHEN:** 2pm, Wednesday 27 October 2024  
**WHERE:** Glenorchy City Council front lawns, 374 Main Road, Glenorchy

Glenorchy City Council, in collaboration with the Lions Club of Glenorchy City and the Red Rose Foundation, is proud to announce the unveiling of a red bench as part of the Red Bench Project.

Launched by the Red Rose Foundation in 2019, the Red Bench Project aims to serve as a lasting reminder that domestic violence affects communities everywhere.

Glenorchy Mayor Sue Hickey said that Council is honoured to be the first council in Southern Tasmania to support this initiative, furthering Council's commitment to fostering a safe and supportive community for all.

"This red bench is more than just a seat, it's a powerful reminder that domestic violence is a reality we must confront as a community," she said.

"By placing this bench in a public space, we're making a commitment to raise awareness, start conversations, and inspire action toward ending domestic violence.

"This dedication will not only serve as a statement of solidarity but also as an ongoing opportunity for community members to reflect on the steps needed to end domestic violence."

The initiative began with the first Red Bench in Cleveland, Queensland, and has since grown to include over 300 benches across Australia.

The Red Rose Foundation, a national charity dedicated to ending domestic violence, highlights the need to address the high number of domestic violence-related deaths due to homicide and suicide, noting that many of these tragedies may be preventable.

Their motto, *Change the Ending*, serves as a call to action to break the cycle of violence.

Glenorchy's new Red Bench now stands as a symbol of solidarity and a place for the community to take a stand by taking a seat.

### ENDS

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