



UNIVERSITY of
TASMANIA

**Office of the
Vice-Chancellor**

Commissioner Kate Jenkins
Sex Discrimination Commissioner
Australian Human Rights Commission

By email: sexdiscriminationcommissioner@humanrights.gov.au

Dear Commissioner Jenkins

Thank you for your letter of 18 August following up on the Australian Human Rights Commission's important report, Change the Course: National report on sexual assault and sexual harassment at Australian universities.

We are pleased to have the opportunity to provide an update on the measures that the University of Tasmania has taken in 2019 and 2020 since our last report dated February 2019; our update report is attached summarising our completed actions and planned/future actions in fulfillment of each of the Change the Course recommendations as requested.

Many thanks also for your updates in relation to the Australian Human Rights Commission's inquiry into sexual harassment in Australian workplaces culminating in the release of the Respect@Work report which represents another significant piece of work by the Commission. We have noted the particular recommendations for sexual harassment prevention by universities and other tertiary education institutions (Recommendations 11 and 12), as well as the report's more general guidance including Section 6, Preventing and Responding to Sexual Harassment in the Workplace.

We strongly support the Report's key message regarding the important role Universities play in the prevention of sexual harassment by transforming attitudes and behaviours related to gender inequality and thereby shifting the gendered drivers that underpin sexual harassment. We are committed to building on the work already underway in response to the Change the Course recommendations and provide evidence-based information and training on sexual harassment for staff and students to address drivers of gender based violence as well as to provide content on workplace rights. This intersects well with a broader body of work we have underway to address gender inequality at our University.

Yours sincerely

Professor Rufus Black
Vice-Chancellor

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