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MEDIA RELEASE

HOBART OFFERS CONDOLENCES TO ITALIAN SISTER CITY L'AQUILA SEVERELY DAMAGED BY EARTHQUAKE

Lord Mayor Alderman Rob Valentine said today that the people of Hobart had been shocked to learn of the loss of so many lives and hundreds injured by a massive earthquake that had partially destroyed L'Aquila and neighbouring towns in the Abruzzi region.

“Our Sister City relationship with L'Aquila is very special, only just on a year ago we celebrated our 10th Anniversary by sending a small delegation to the historic town. We have very strong ties with the region with many people from the Abruzzi region living in Hobart.”

“Over the years many have settled in Hobart adding significantly to the overall social fabric of our City.”

“As a mark of respect for the loss of life in the tragedy and the thousands of homeless, the Council is flying all flags at half mast. Our thoughts are with the Abruzzi community in Hobart who have family, friends and loved ones directly affected, in some cases suffering painful losses,” said the lord Mayor.

“I have written to the Mayor of L'Aquila expressing the Council's profound sympathy for this tragedy. We have also been in touch with the local Abruzzi community and we will be keen to work with them to determine the best way of assisting with the recovery process in L'Aquila.”

“On behalf of the City of Hobart, the Council offers their condolences to all families who are suffering as a result of the earthquake in the Abruzzi region,” Alderman Valentine said.

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