## **MEDIA RELEASE**



## 23 February 2024

## **Lawyers For Forests Opens Launceston Office**

Today, 23 February 2024, Lawyers for Forests Inc officially opens its first Tasmanian office, at 45 Brisbane Street, Launceston.

"We need more capacity for more legal action to stop unlawful logging of native forest in Tasmania", committee member of Lawyers for Forests Vanessa Bleyer said.

"Lawyers for Forests is overwhelmed with inquiries from community groups and concerned individuals about the destruction of native forests and threatened species habitat by the Tasmanian Liberal government through its state owned business Forestry Tasmania trading as Sustainable Timber Tasmania" Ms Bleyer said.

"Due to significant community support for an immediate end to native forest logging, Lawyers for Forests has the resources to expand its operations in Tasmania and establish its first office.

"Lawyers for Forests is now positioned to better respond to the community's cries for legal support about unlawful logging of Tasmania's native forests.

"Legal action, bringing unlawful logging to justice, played a significant role in stopping logging of native forest in Victoria, which was announced last year by the Victorian Labor government with logging stopping from 1 January 2024.

"We now have capacity to focus on other jurisdictions in Australia since logging has ended in native forest in Victoria.

"Lawyers for Forests have decided to expand into Tasmania to continue our work in Tasmania to provide access to justice for native forests and the species dependent on them to live, who without people like lawyers for forests do not have a voice" Ms Bleyer concluded.

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