

MEDIA RELEASE

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Tasman District Council team to represent New Zealand at Australasian Management Challenge finals

A team from Tasman District Council has been crowned the winner of the New Zealand leg of the Australasian Management Challenge, supported by Marsh, earning the opportunity to represent Aotearoa New Zealand at the Australian Management Challenge finals later this year.

This year's Challenge brought together teams from across Aotearoa, with participants tested on their ability to analyse issues, develop solutions and present recommendations under tight timeframes. The winners were announced at the 2026 LGFA Taituarā Excellence Awards held at Tākina in Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington on 18 June 2026.

Competing under the team name *Tactically Tasman*, the team of six impressed judges with its ability to work collaboratively, think creatively and respond effectively to complex local government scenarios.

The Management Challenge is a unique professional development experience that enables local government professionals to test and strengthen their skills in collaboration, creativity, communication and leadership. Teams work together to tackle a series of real-world challenges faced by councils in a fast-paced and highly competitive environment.

The Challenge reflects the increasingly complex environment in which local government operates and provides participants with an opportunity to build practical skills that can be applied directly within their organisations and communities.

As the New Zealand champions, *Tactically Tasman* will progress to the Australasian finals, where they will compete against leading local government teams from across Australia and New Zealand.

The Australasian Management Challenge has been developing local government leaders for more than three decades and remains one of the sector's premier professional development programmes.



About the Australasian Management Challenge

The Australasian Management Challenge is a professional development programme for local government professionals that builds leadership capability through team-based competition. Participants work together to solve realistic local government challenges, developing skills in communication, collaboration, strategic thinking, problem-solving and leadership. The New Zealand competition is supported by Marsh and coordinated by Taituarā – Local Government Professionals Aotearoa.

For more on the 2026 LGFA Taituarā Excellence Awards:

[Download the full media pack](#)

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