



## COMMUNITY INFORMATION SHEET

# Local jobs & community benefit

*What the community actually gets — a plain-English guide*

## What's the concern?

Data centres are highly automated, so they employ relatively few people once running. A fair question is what lasting benefit a community receives in return for hosting one.

## The facts

Beyond construction jobs, rates and a small operating team, a growing approach is to secure a **share of the facility's own product** — computing and AI capability — for the community. Under an **AI Public Benefit Agreement**, a facility can reserve compute and AI access for schools, councils, researchers and community groups, alongside skills programs and civic uses. Done well, this is additional, enduring, independently governed and publicly reported — not a one-off gesture.

## What good practice looks like

- Local-hire and local-procurement commitments for construction and operations.
- Apprenticeships, traineeships and skills programs with local schools and TAFE.
- A secured, lasting community benefit — for example reserved compute and AI access for schools, councils and community groups.
- Benefit that is additional, enduring, independently governed (e.g. through a trust), and binding — tied to the approval.

## Questions you can ask

- How many ongoing local jobs, and what local-hire and apprenticeship commitments?
- What lasting benefit is secured — and is it binding and independently governed?
- Is the benefit additional, and publicly reported?

**Want to know more?** Your local council, the EPA Tasmania and ARPANSA publish further information. This sheet is general information, not medical, legal or planning advice; figures are indicative and a specific proposal is confirmed by qualified assessment.