



First Session of the Fifty-Second Parliament

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SELECT COMMITTEE

ESTIMATES A

Estimates of the

HON MADELEINE OGILVIE MP

Minister for Arts and Heritage

Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs

Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy

Minister for Environment

Members of Committee

Hon Ruth Forrest MLC (Chair)

Hon Dean Harriss MLC

Hon Sarah Lovell MLC

Hon Cassy O'Connor MLC

Hon Bec Thomas MLC (Deputy Chair)

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REPORT

MINISTER FOR ARTS AND HERITAGE

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 2025

DIVISION 8

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA

Legislative Council Estimates Committee A examined the Estimates of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania, the Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP on Monday, 17 November 2025.

The Committee examined the Estimates contained in the following Output Groups and makes the following recommendations:

Output Group 6 – Heritage	
6.1 Historic Heritage (Div 8, Table 9.2, page. 158)	RECOMMENDED
Grants and Subsidies	RECOMMENDED

The Committee further recommends the Report, together with the minutes of proceedings, responses to questions taken on notice and transcript be tabled.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R Forrest".

HON RUTH FORREST MLC
Chair



REPORT

MINISTER FOR ARTS AND HERITAGE

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 2025

DIVISION 11

DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

Legislative Council Estimates Committee A examined the Estimates of the Department of State Growth, the Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP on Monday, 17 November 2025.

The Committee examined the Estimates contained in the following Output Groups and makes the following recommendations:

Output Group 5 – Cultural and Tourism Development	
5.1 Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery	RECOMMENDED
5.2 Arts Industry Development (Div 11, Table 12.2, page 246)	RECOMMENDED
5.3 Screen Industry Development	RECOMMENDED
Grants and Subsidies	RECOMMENDED

Capital Investment Program	RECOMMENDED
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The Committee further recommends the Report, together with the minutes of proceedings, responses to questions taken on notice and transcript be tabled.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Forrest'.

HON RUTH FORREST MLC
Chair



REPORT

MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 2025

DIVISION 10

DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET

Legislative Council Estimates Committee A examined the Estimates of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, the Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP on Monday, 17 November 2025.

The Committee examined the Estimates contained in the following Output Groups and makes the following recommendations:

Output Group 3 – Community and Government Service Delivery	
3.3 Community Services (Div 10, Table 11.2, page 215)	FURTHER DEBATE 1. Please provide a breakdown of the funding allocated in line item 3.3 on page 215 by organisation, identified as base/core funding and one-off uplifts/commitments. (SL)

The Committee further recommends the Report, together with the minutes of proceedings, responses to questions taken on notice and transcript be tabled.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Forrest'.

HON RUTH FORREST MLC
Chair



REPORT

MINISTER FOR INNOVATION, SCIENCE, AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 2025

DIVISION 10

DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET

Legislative Council Estimates Committee A examined the Estimates of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, the Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP on Tuesday, 18 November 2025.

The Committee examined the Estimates contained in the following Output Groups and makes the following recommendations:

Output Group 3 – Community and Government Service Delivery	
3.1 Digital Government and Information and Communications Technology (ICT) – Strategy, Policy and Service Delivery	RECOMMENDED

The Committee further recommends the Report, together with the minutes of proceedings, responses to questions taken on notice and transcript be tabled.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R Forrest".

HON RUTH FORREST MLC
Chair



REPORT

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 2025 DIVISION 3 ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Legislative Council Estimates Committee A examined the Estimates of the Environment Protection Authority, the Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP on Tuesday, 18 November 2025.

The Committee examined the Estimates contained in the following Output Groups and makes the following recommendations:

Output Group 1 – Environment Protection Authority	
1.1 Environmental Regulation	RECOMMENDED
1.2 Environmental Assessment	RECOMMENDED

The Committee further recommends the Report, together with the minutes of proceedings, responses to questions taken on notice and transcript be tabled.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R Forrest".

HON RUTH FORREST MLC
Chair



REPORT

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 2025

DIVISION 8

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA

Legislative Council Estimates Committee A examined the Estimates of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania, the Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP on Tuesday, 18 November 2025.

The Committee examined the Estimates contained in the following Output Groups and makes the following recommendations:

Output Group 7 – Environment	
7.1 Environmental Management	RECOMMENDED
7.2 Analytical Services	RECOMMENDED
7.4 Threatened Species	RECOMMENDED
Capital Investment Program	RECOMMENDED

The Committee further recommends the Report, together with the minutes of proceedings, responses to questions taken on notice and transcript be tabled.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R Forrest".

HON RUTH FORREST MLC
Chair



REPORT

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 2025

DIVISION 11

DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

Legislative Council Estimates Committee A examined the Estimates of the Department of State Growth, the Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP on Tuesday, 18 November 2025.

The Committee examined the Estimates contained in the following Output Groups and makes the following recommendations:

Output Group 7 – Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania	
7.2 Climate Change	RECOMMENDED

The Committee further recommends the Report, together with the minutes of proceedings, responses to questions taken on notice and transcript be tabled.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Forrest".

HON RUTH FORREST MLC
Chair



OFFICE OF THE CLERK

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4 November 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR :

The Clerk-Assistant & Usher of the Black Rod
Legislative Council

The Legislative Council today resolved: —

That the Legislative Council establish two Estimates Committees each consisting of five members.

And that —

Ms Forrest,
Mr Harriss,
Ms Lovell,
Ms O'Connor, and
Ms Thomas
be of Committee A

and

Ms Armitage,
Mr Edmunds,
Mr Gaffney,
Mr Hiscutt, and
Ms Webb
be of Committee B

That the Estimates Committees report upon the proposed expenditures contained in the Appropriation Bills (No. 1 and No. 2) and budget papers by no later than Friday, 5 December 2025.

And that the schedule emailed to Members on Monday, 3 November 2025 be adopted as the Estimates Committees timetable.

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C.L. VICKERS
Clerk of the Legislative Council

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SELECT COMMITTEE

ESTIMATES A

MINUTES

TUESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2025

The Committee met at 1:04 pm in Committee Room 2, Parliament House, Hobart.

Present

Ms Forrest

Mr Harriss

Ms Lovell

Ms O'Connor

Ms Thomas

Apologies

Nil

In Attendance

Ms Jenny Mannering (Secretary)

Ms Ali Scott (Secretary)

Order Appointing the Committee

The Order of the Council dated 4 November 2025 establishing the Committee was noted.

Election of Deputy Chair

The Chair called for nominations for Deputy Chair. Ms Thomas being the only nominee, the Chair declared Ms Thomas to be duly elected Deputy Chair.

Portfolio Order and Meeting Times

Resolved, that the order of business and approximate times for each portfolio, as amended, be as follows:

MONDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2025

HON ERIC ABETZ MP	
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Treasurer
11:00 am – 11:15 am	BREAK
11:15 am – 1:15 pm	Treasurer (cont)
1:15 pm – 2:00 pm	LUNCH
2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Treasurer (cont)
3:00 pm – 3:10 pm	BREAK
3:10 pm – 3:40 pm	<i>Auditor-General</i>
3:40 pm – 3:45 pm	BREAK
3:45 pm – 5:00 pm	Minister for Macquarie Point Urban Renewal
5:00 pm – 5:05 pm	BREAK

HON MADELEINE OGILVIE MP	
5:05 pm – 6:05 pm	Minister for Arts and Heritage
6:05 pm – 7:00 pm	DINNER
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs

TUESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2025

HON NICK DUIGAN MLC	
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Minister for Energy and Renewables
11:00 am – 11:15 am	BREAK
11:15 am – 12:15 pm	Minister for Energy and Renewables (cont)
12:15 pm – 1:00 pm	LUNCH
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Minister for Sports (inc. Stadiums Tas ex MPDC)
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm	BREAK
2:45 pm – 4:45 pm	Minister for Parks
4:45 pm – 4:50 pm	BREAK

HON MADELEINE OGILVIE MP (cont)	
4:50 pm – 5:20 pm	Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy
5:20 pm – 6:20 pm	Environment Protection Authority
6:20 pm – 7:15 pm	DINNER
7:15 pm – 9:15 pm	Minister for Environment

WEDNESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2025

HON BRIDGET ARCHER MP	
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing
11:00 am – 11:15 am	BREAK
11:15 am – 1:15 pm	Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing (cont)
1:15 pm – 2:00 pm	LUNCH
2:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing (cont)
3:30 pm – 3:45 pm	BREAK
3:45 pm – 4:15 pm	Minister for Ageing
4:15 pm – 5:00 pm	BREAK
5:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2025

HON KERRY VINCENT MLC	
9:00 am – 11:00 am	Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
11:00 am – 11:15 am	BREAK
11:15 am – 1:15 pm	Minister for Infrastructure and Transport (cont)
1:15 pm – 2:00 pm	LUNCH
2:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Minister for Housing and Planning
4:00 pm – 4:15 pm	BREAK
4:15 pm – 6:30 pm	Minister for Local Government

Allocation of Outputs

The Committee allocated areas of responsibility to commence questioning on outputs in each portfolio.

Other Business

- Questions on Notice

The Committee confirmed the due dates for questions taken on notice during the hearings.

Report Deliberations Meeting

Resolved, to meet on Monday, 1 December 2025 at 10:15 am for report deliberations.

Resolved, that the final reports of the Committee be tabled on Friday 5 December 2025 by Ms Thomas at the Quorum Call.

Next Meeting

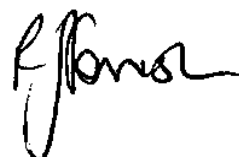
Monday, 17 November 2025 at 9:00 am in the Legislative Council Chambers.

Adjournment

At 1:41 pm the Committee adjourned.

DATE: 17/11/25

CONFIRMED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'F. Jones', is written over the 'CONFIRMED' text.

CHAIR

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SELECT COMMITTEE

ESTIMATES A

MINUTES

MONDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2025 – THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2025

MONDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2025

The Committee met at 8:45 am in the President's Rooms, Legislative Council, Parliament House, Hobart.

Members present

Ms Forrest (Chair)

Mr Harriss

Ms Lovell

Ms O'Connor

Ms Thomas (Deputy Chair)

Staff in attendance

Ms Jenny Mannering (Committee Secretary)

Ms Allison Scott (Committee Secretariat)

Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 11 November 2025 were confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Correspondence

Outgoing

1. Letters dated 11 November 2025 advising Ministers of their attendance at Estimates A 2025
2. Letters dated 11 November 2025 to the Auditor-General and Environment Protection Authority extending invitation to attend Estimates A 2025 hearing
3. Letter dated 14 November 2025 to Hon Craig Farrell, MLC, President of Legislative Council advising extension of meeting times for Estimates A

The Committee **ENDORSED** the outgoing correspondence.

The Committee suspended at 8:55 am.

The Committee resumed at 9:00 am in the Legislative Council Chamber, Parliament House, Hobart.

EXAMINATION OF ESTIMATES

According to the Order the Treasurer attended the Committee.

HON ERIC ABETZ MP

Treasurer

Minister for Macquarie Point Urban Renewal

Division 13 – Department of Treasury and Finance

Treasurer

\$63 238 000

Witnesses

Gary Swain, Secretary

James Craigie, Deputy Secretary, Budget and Finance

Dean Burgess, Deputy Secretary, Economic and Financial Policy

The witnesses took their places at the table at 09:00 am

The Treasurer did not provide an overview.

Output Group 1 – Financial and Resource Management Services

1.1 Budget Development and Management – considered

Questions on Notice

- Please provide a list of the election commitments that are included and those that are not included in the 2025-26 interim budget. (BT)
- Please provide an explanation of how the Government made the determination to include those that were funded, and not others – ie. why were some prioritised for inclusion over others? (BT)
- In relation to the whole of state business case for Marinus Link, please provide modelling on the projection that Hydro will return \$470 million to the state budget in future years. (CO)
- What proportion of public sector wages is made up of Heads of Agency, SES, Specialist roles, Statutory Authorities and Commissioner remuneration and what is the total amount? (BT)
- Can a breakdown of the total wage amount per category be provided (general public service, Heads of Agency, SES, Specialist roles, Statutory Authorities and Commissioner)? (BT)

The Committee suspended at 11:00 am

The Committee resumed at 11:17 am

1.2 Financial Management and Accounting Services – considered

1.3 Shareholder Advice on Government Businesses – considered

1.4 Government Property and Accommodation Services – considered

1.5 Government Procurement Services – considered

Output Group 2 – Economic and Fiscal Policy Advice

2.1 Economic Policy Advice – considered

2.2 Regulatory Policy – considered

Witness

Jonathon Root, Deputy Secretary, Revenue and Regulatory Services

The witness took his place at 1:14 pm

The Committee suspended at 1:17 pm

The Committee resumed at 2:00 pm

2.3 Intergovernmental Financial Matters – considered

Output Group 3 – Revenue, Superannuation and Regulatory Management Services

3.1 Tax Administration and Revenue Collection – considered

3.2 Regulation and Administration of Liquor and Gaming – considered

Tabled Documents

Letter dated 6 November 2025 from the Treasurer to Right Reverend Dr Chris Jones, CEO Anglicare Tasmania in relation to the Liquor Licensing Reforms.

Letter dated 3 November 2025 from the Treasurer to Jenny Cranston, Chair Tasmanian Liquor and Gaming Commission regarding the appointment of Gaming Care officers.

3.4 Office of the Superannuation Commission – considered

3.5 Administration of Grants, Subsidies and Concessions – considered

Question on Notice

- Please clarify the modelling that was done with regard to the increased FHOG including inputs that were fed into that policy modelling including considerations of economic conditions. (RF)

Output Group 4 – Community Assistance

4.1 Public Trustee Community Service Obligation – considered

The witnesses withdrew at 2:35 pm

Division 4 – Finance-General

Treasurer

\$1 239 144 000

Witnesses

Gary Swain, Secretary

James Craigie, Deputy Secretary, Budget and Finance

Dean Burgess, Deputy Secretary, Economic and Financial Policy

The Treasurer did not provide an overview.

Output Group 1 – Debt Servicing and Management

1.1 Debt Servicing – considered

1.2 Interest on Sundry Deposits – considered

Output Group 2 – Employee Related Costs

2.1 Superannuation and Pensions – considered

Output Group 3 – Government Businesses

3.1 Sustainable Timber Tasmania – considered

3.2 State Fire Commission – considered

3.4 Government Businesses – considered

Output Group 4 – Miscellaneous

4.2 Treasurer's Reserve – considered

4.3 Miscellaneous – considered

4.4 Payment to Australian Tax Office: GST Administration – considered

4.5 Tasmanian Risk Management Fund – considered

4.7 Property Management Services – considered

4.8 Infrastructure Investment Project Planning – considered

4.9 Ex-Gratia Assistance – considered

4.11 Productivity and Efficiency Measure – considered

4.12 Home Warranty Insurance Scheme – considered

Grants and Subsidies – considered

Capital Investment Program – considered

The witnesses withdrew at 3:08 pm.

The Committee suspended at 3:08 pm.

The Committee resumed at 3:15 pm

Bill No 2/Division 8 – Tasmanian Audit Office

Treasurer

\$2 727 000

Witnesses

Martin Thompson, Auditor-General

Jonathan Wassell, Deputy Auditor-General

Janelle Tamlin, Director of Corporate Support and Strategy

The witnesses took their places at the table at 3:15 pm

The Auditor-General provided an overview.

Output Group 1 – Public Sector Performance and Accountability

1.1 Public Sector Performance and Accountability – considered

Question on Notice

- What date did you advise the shareholder Ministers that you had reported TT Line insolvency to ASIC? (SL)

The witnesses withdrew at 3:42 pm.

The Committee suspended at 3:42 pm

The Committee resumed at 3:49 pm

Division 11 – Department of State Growth

Minister for Macquarie Point Urban Renewal

\$5 000 000

Witnesses

Craig Limkin, Secretary

Matt Healey, Deputy Secretary, Strategy and Delivery, DPAC

Anne Beach, Chief Executive Officer, Macquarie Point Development Corporation

The witnesses took their places at the table at 3:49 pm

The Minister for Macquarie Point Urban Renewal provided an overview.

Grants and Subsidies – considered

Question on Notice

- Please provide the updated Schedule 12 to show the renegotiated milestones and any other renegotiated aspects, including the Governance Protocol. (BT, RF)
- Please provide the architectural and engineering specifications and designs particularly with regard to the roof. (RF)

- Please provide a breakdown of the utilities component related to facilities costs under operating expenses. (RF)
- Please provide further information on the estimated amount of contaminated fill that will need to be removed from beneath the footprint of the Macquarie Point stadium. (CO)

Witness

James Avery, CEO Stadiums Tasmania

The witness took his place at the table at 4:47 pm

The witnesses withdrew at 5:06 pm.

The Committee suspended at 5:07 pm

The Committee resumed at 5:17 pm

EXAMINATION OF ESTIMATES

According to the Order the Minister attended the Committee.

HON MADELEINE OGILVIE MP

Minister for Arts and Heritage

Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs

Division 8 – Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania

Minister for Arts and Heritage

\$22 115 000

Witnesses

Jason Jacobi, Secretary

Will Joscelyne, General Manager, Heritage

Melissa Ford, Director, Heritage Tasmania

The witnesses took their places at the table at 5:18 pm

The Minister for Arts and Heritage provided an overview.

Output Group 6 – Heritage

6.1 Historic Heritage – considered

Question on Notice

- Please provide clarification of the actuals in the revenue from appropriation, and in response to the Question without Notice in the Legislative Council (asked by Ruth Forrest MLC), please explain how the figures were arrived at, noting there is a discrepancy between the figures provided. (RF)

Grants and Subsidies – considered

The witnesses withdrew at 5:45 pm.

Division 11 – Department of State Growth

Witnesses

Craig Limkin, Secretary

Brett Stewart, Deputy Secretary

Dr David Sudmalis, Director, Creative Tasmania

Mary Mulcahy, CEO, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

Alex Sangston, Manager Screen Tasmania

The witnesses took their places at the table at 5:46 pm

The Minister for Arts and Heritage provided an overview.

Output Group 5 – Cultural and Tourism Development

5.1 Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery – considered

Tabled Documents

Arts Tasmania – Full List of Competitive Grants for 2024-5

Production Support 2024-5

Training and Attachments

5.2 Arts Industry Development – considered

Questions on Notice

- Where exactly is the \$4.5m Capital Funding Support for the TSO reflected (which line)? (BT)
- Will the government still provide this funding to the TSO if the Stadium Order is not approved? (BT)

5.3 Screen Industry Development - considered

Grants and Subsidies – considered

Capital Investment Program – considered

The witnesses withdrew at 6:10 pm.

Division 10 – Department of Premier and Cabinet

Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs

\$31 481 000

Witnesses

Noelene Kelly, Deputy Secretary

Corrina Smith, Director, Community Services

The witnesses took their places at the table at 7:00 pm

The Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs provided an overview.

Output Group 3 – Community and Government Service Delivery

3.3 Community Services – considered

Questions on Notice

- Please detail the total funding for 2024 election commitments being administered by Communities Tasmania over the forward estimates. (CO)
- Please also detail the total funding for 2025 election commitments which is being administered by Communities Tasmania. (CO)
- Please provide a breakdown of the funding allocated in line item 3.3 on page 215 by organisation, identified as base/core funding and one-off uplifts/commitments. (SL)

Tabled Documents

Valuing our Volunteers, Tasmania's Volunteering Strategy 2025-2030

Embracing Diversity, Fostering Belonging: Tasmania's Multicultural Action Plan 2025-2029

Cabinet Endorsed Peak Bodies for Inclusion in Stage One

Output 3.3 Community Services

Output Group Expense Summary by Output

Community Lending for Tasmanians

The witnesses withdrew at 8:50 pm.

Questions on Notice

DIVISION 13 – DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY AND FINANCE

Output Group 1 – Financial and Resources Management Services

1.1 Budget Development and Management

1. Please provide a list of the election commitments that are included and those that are not included in the 2025-26 interim budget. (BT)
2. Please provide an explanation of how the Government made the determination to include those that were funded, and not others – ie. why were some prioritised for inclusion over others? (BT)
3. In relation to the whole of state business case for Marinus Link, please provide modelling on the projection that Hydro will return \$470 million to the state budget in future years. (CO)
4. What proportion of public sector wages is made up of Heads of Agency, SES, Specialist roles, Statutory Authorities and Commissioner remuneration and what is the total amount? (BT)
5. Can a breakdown of the total wage amount per category be provided (general public service, Heads of Agency, SES, Specialist roles, Statutory Authorities and Commissioner)? (BT)

Output Group 3 – Revenue, Superannuation and Regulatory Management Services

3.5 Administration of Grants, Subsidies and Concessions

1. Please clarify the modelling that was done with regard to the increased FHOG including inputs that were fed into that policy modelling including considerations of economic conditions (RF)

BILL NO 2/DIVISION 8 – TASMANIAN AUDIT OFFICE

Output Group 1 – Public Sector Performance and Accountability

1.2 Public Sector Performance and Accountability

1. What date did you advise the shareholder Ministers that you had reported TT Line insolvency to ASIC (SL)

DIVISION 11 – DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

Minister for Macquarie Point Urban Renewal

Grants and Subsidies

1. Please provide the updated Schedule 12 to show the renegotiated milestones and any other renegotiated aspects, including the Governance Protocol (BT, RF)
2. Please provide the architectural and engineering specifications and designs particularly with regard to the roof. (RF)
3. Provide a breakdown of the utilities component related to facilities costs under operating expenses (RF)
4. Please provide further information on the estimated amount of contaminated fill that will need to be removed from beneath the footprint of the Macquarie Point stadium. (CO)

DIVISION 8 – DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA

Minister for Arts and Heritage

Output Group 6 – Heritage

6.1 Historic Heritage

1. Please provide clarification of the actuals in the revenue from appropriation, and in response to the Question without Notice in the Legislative Council (asked by Ruth Forrest MLC), please explain how the figures were arrived at, noting there is a discrepancy between the figures provided. (RF)

DIVISION 11 – DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

Minister for Arts and Heritage

Output Group 5 – Cultural and Tourism Development

5.2 Arts Industry Development

1. Where exactly is the \$4.5m Capital Funding Support for the TSO reflected (which line)? (BT)
2. Will the government still provide this funding to the TSO if the Stadium Order is not approved? (BT)

DIVISION 10 – DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET

Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs

Output Group 3 – Community and Government Service Delivery

3.3 Community Services

1. Please detail the total funding for 2024 election commitments being administered by Communities Tasmania over the forward estimates. (CO)
2. Please also detail the total funding for 2025 election commitments which is being administered by Communities Tasmania. (CO)
3. Please provide a breakdown of the funding allocated in line item 3.3 on page 215 by organisation, identified as base/core funding and one-off uplifts/commitments. (SL)

RESOLVED, That the additional information in Bill No.1 Divisions 8, 10, 11 and 13 and Bill No.2 Division 8 be requested to be provided by Thursday 20 November 2025.

The Committee suspended at 9:00 pm until 9:00 am on Tuesday 18 November 2025.

The Committee resumed at 9:00 am in the Legislative Council Chamber, Parliament House, Hobart

Members present

Ms Forrest (Chair)

Mr Harriss

Ms Lovell

Ms O'Connor

Ms Thomas (Deputy Chair)

Staff in attendance

Ms Jenny Mannering (Committee Secretary)

Ms Allison Scott (Committee Secretariat)

EXAMINATION OF ESTIMATES

According to the Order the Minister attended the Committee.

HON NICK DUIGAN MLC

Minister for Energy and Renewables

Minister for Sport

Minister for Parks

Division 11 – Department of State Growth

Minister for Energy and Renewables

\$25 050 000

Witnesses

Craig Limkin, Secretary, Department of State Growth

Amanda Lovell, Chief of Staff

Vanessa Pinto, Deputy Secretary, ReCFIT and Resources

Adrian Christian, Director Energy Policy (12:12 pm – 12:16 pm)

The witnesses took their places at the table at 9:00 am

The Minister for Energy and Renewables provided an overview.

Output Group 7 – Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania

7.1 Energy and Renewables – considered

Question on Notice:

- Have there been any discussions regarding conservation of the Orange-bellied parrot, and has there been any funding allocated to conservation of the OBP? (CO)

Tabled Document

List of Projects by Region, Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania, Department of State Growth

The Committee suspended at 11:00 am

The Committee resumed at 11:15 am

The witnesses withdrew at 12:17 pm

The Committee suspended at 12:17 pm

The Committee resumed at 1:00 pm

Division 11 – Department of State Growth

Minister for Sport

\$136 964 000

Witnesses

Craig Limkin, Secretary, Department of State Growth

Shane Gregory, Associate Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet

Amanda Lovell, Chief of Staff

Brett Stewart, Deputy Secretary, Creative Industries, Sport and Visitor Economy (1:32pm – 2:30pm)

The witnesses took their places at the table at 1:00 pm

The Minister for Sport provided an overview.

Output Group 5 – Cultural and Tourism Development

5.6 Sport and Recreation – considered

[Ms O'Connor took her seat at 1:07 pm]

Question on Notice

- Can you provide a breakdown of the funding allocation by activity in the 5.6 line item?
- Can you provide a breakdown of the funding allocation by activity in the grants and subsidies line item? (BT)
- Can you provide a breakdown of the funding allocation by activity in the capital investment line item? (BT)
- Can you provide a list of funding amounts and agreed periods for highest participation sports, at each level (professional, elite, grassroots)? (BT)
- Can you provide a breakdown of the change in funding allocation for SSO and peak body funding over the past five years? (BT)

Tabled Document

Sport Portfolio, 5.6 Sport and Recreation, Funding Reconciliation in Budget Papers

[Ms O'Connor left her seat at 1:39 pm]

[Ms O'Connor resumed her seat at 1:52 pm]

Grants and Subsidies – considered

Capital Investment Program – considered

Stadiums Tasmania – considered

Witness

Ben Avery, CEO Stadiums Tasmania (2:16 pm – 2:30 pm)

Question on Notice

- It seems Stadiums Tasmania will likely be required to undertake borrowings during 2027-28; is that true? If so, what is the expected quantum; and Why do the presented statements not include any interest costs? (RF)

The witnesses withdrew at 2:30 pm.

The Committee suspended at 2:30 pm

The Committee resumed at 2:45 pm

Division 8 – Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania

Minister for Parks

\$105 086 000

Witnesses

Louise Wilson, Deputy Secretary, Environment, Heritage and Land (2:45 pm – 3:17 pm)

Stuart Fletcher, General Manager (Land Tasmania) (2:45 pm – 3:17 pm)

Sophie Muller, Deputy Secretary Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service (3:17 pm to 4:45 pm)

Alice Holeywell-Jones, General Manager (Operations) (3:17 pm – 4:28 pm; 4:32 pm – 4:45 pm)

Danielle Poirier, Director Major Projects and Infrastructure (4:28 pm to 4:32 pm)

The witnesses took their places at the table at 2:45 pm

The Minister for Parks provided an overview.

Output Group 1 – Land Tasmania

1.1 Land Titles, Survey and Mapping Services – considered

1.2 Valuation Services – considered

Output Group 4– Parks

4.1 Parks – considered

Question on Notice

- If available, please provide mapping that has been undertaken by Parks on the frequency of dry lightning strikes (over 50 years). How often is that sort of data updated? (CO)

Tabled Document

Visitors to Selected Parks and Reserves, Tasmania (2019-20 to 2024-25)

4.2 Crown Land Services – considered

Question on Notice

- Please provide the total Crown Lands estate by hectareage, as at 1 July 2024, and as at 1 July 2025. (CO)
- What is the process for declaring land as surplus land? (BT)
- What is your role in this process, as Minister for Crown Land? (BT)
- What are the criteria for determining which Minister is responsible for parcels of crown land and for declaring them surplus? (SL)
- What criteria would a Minister need to demonstrate are met in order to declare land as surplus land? (BT)

Grants and Subsidies – considered

Capital Investment Program – considered

Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens – considered

The witnesses withdrew at 4:47 pm.

The Committee suspended at 4:47 pm

The Committee resumed at 4:52 pm

EXAMINATION OF ESTIMATES

According to the Order the Minister attended the Committee.

HON MADELEINE OGILVIE MP (examination continued)

Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy

Minister for Environment

Division 10 – Department of Premier and Cabinet

Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy

\$3 032 000

Witnesses

Dr Justin Thurley, Chief Information Officer (4:54 pm – 5:27pm)

Mike Mogridge, Deputy Secretary, Department of State Growth (4:54 pm – 5:27 pm)

Tara Martin, Director, Antarctic, Science and Technology, Department of State Growth (4:45 pm – 5:27 pm)

The witnesses took their places at the table at 4:54 pm

The Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy provided an overview.

Output Group 3 – Community and Government Service Delivery

3.1 Digital Government and Information and Communications Technology
(ICT) – Strategy, Policy and Service Delivery – considered

Tabled Document

Cyber Security Strategy 2024-2028

Guidance for the use of artificial intelligence in Tasmania Government

The witnesses withdrew at 5:27 pm.

Division 3 – Environment Protection Authority

Minister for Environment

\$16 944 000

Witnesses

Catherine Murdoch, CEO, Environment Protection Authority

Daryl Cook, Director, Finfish Compliance, EPA

Cindy Ong, Director, Environmental Regulation, EPA

The witnesses took their places at the table at 5:27 pm

The Minister for Environment provided an overview.

Output Group 1 – Environment Protection Authority

1.1 Environmental Regulation – considered

Tabled Document

1.2 Environmental Assessment – considered

The witnesses withdrew at 6:20 pm
The Committee suspended at 6:20 pm
The Committee resumed at 7:18 pm

Division 11 – Department of State Growth

Minister for Environment

\$9 501 000

Witnesses

Vanessa Pinto, Acting CEO Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania
Dr Sarah Russell, Director, Climate Change

The witnesses took their places at the table at 7:20 pm

The Minister for Environment provided an overview.

Output Group 7 – Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania

7.2 Climate Change – considered

Tabled Document

Emission Reduction and Resilience Plans – New Action Status

Question on Notice

- Can you provide the table that shows the breakdown of funding – for the 2025/26 - 2028/29 year to deliver programs or projects to be delivered under the six resilience plans. (RF)
- Which, if any, projects extend beyond 2028-29? (RF)

The witnesses withdrew at 8:22 pm.

Division 8 – Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania

Minister for Environment

\$19 126 000

Jason Jacobi, Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment
Louise Wilson, Deputy Secretary, Natural Resources and Environment
Adrian Pearce, Manager Finance (8:44 pm – 8:45 pm)

The witnesses took their places at the table at 8:24 pm

The Minister for Environment provided an overview.

Output Group 7 – Environment

- 7.1 Environmental Management – considered
- 7.2 Analytical Services – considered
- 7.4 Threatened Species – considered

Capital Investment Program – considered

The witnesses withdrew at 9:22 pm.

Correspondence

Outgoing

1. Letter dated 18 November 2025 advising Hon Eric Abetz MP (Treasurer) regarding the QONs taken during the examination
2. Letter dated 18 November 2025 advising Hon Eric Abetz MP (Minister for Macquarie Point Urban Renewal) regarding the QONs taken during the examination
3. Letter dated 18 November 2025 advising Martin Thompson, Auditor-General regarding QONS taken during the examination
4. Letter dated 18 November 2025 advising Hon Madeleine Ogilvie (Minister for Arts and Heritage) regarding QONS taken during the examination
5. Letter dated 18 November 2025 advising Hon Madeleine Ogilvie (Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs) regarding QONS taken during the examination

The Committee **ENDORSED** the outgoing correspondence.

Questions on Notice

DIVISION 11 – DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

Minister for Energy and Renewables

Output Group 7 – Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania

7.1 Energy and Renewables

1. Have there been any discussions regarding conservation of the Orange-bellied parrot, and has there been any funding allocated to conservation of the OBP?

DIVISION 11 – DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

Minister for Sport

Output Group 5 – Cultural and Tourism Development

5.6 Sport and Recreation

1. Can you provide a breakdown of the funding allocation by activity in the 5.6 line item?
2. Can you provide a breakdown of the funding allocation by activity in the grants and subsidies line item? (BT)
3. Can you provide a breakdown of the funding allocation by activity in the capital investment line item? (BT)
4. Can you provide a list of funding amounts and agreed periods for highest participation sports, at each level (professional, elite, grassroots)? (BT)
5. Can you provide a breakdown of the change in funding allocation for SSO and peak body funding over the past five years? (BT)

Stadiums Tasmania

It seems Stadiums Tasmania will likely be required to undertake borrowings during 2027-28; is that true? If so, what is the expected quantum; and Why do the presented statements not include any interest costs? (RF)

DIVISION 8 – DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA

Minister for Parks

Output Group 4– Parks

4.1 Parks

- If available, please provide mapping that has been undertaken by Parks on the frequency of dry lightning strikes (over 50 years). How often is that sort of data updated? (CO)

4.2 Crown Land Services

1. Please provide the total Crown Lands estate by hectareage, as at 1 July 2024, and as at 1 July 2025. (CO)
2. What is the process for declaring land as surplus land? (BT)
3. What is your role in this process, as Minister for Crown Land? (BT)
4. What are the criteria for determining which Minister is responsible for parcels of crown land and for declaring them surplus? (SL)
5. What criteria would a Minister need to demonstrate are met in order to declare land as surplus land? (BT)

DIVISION 11 – DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

Minister for Environment

Output Group 7 – Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania

7.3 Climate Change

1. Can you provide the table that shows the breakdown of funding – for the 2025/26 - 2028/29 year to deliver programs or projects to be delivered under the six resilience plans. (RF)
2. Which, if any, projects extend beyond 2028-29? (RF)

Resolved, That the additional information in Divisions 8 and 11 be requested to be provided by Friday 21 November 2025.

The Committee suspended at 9:15 pm until 8:50 am on Wednesday 19 November 2025.

The Committee met at 8:50 am in the President's Rooms, Legislative Council, Parliament House, Hobart.

Members present

Ms Forrest (Chair)

Mr Harriss

Ms Lovell

Ms O'Connor

Ms Thomas (Deputy Chair)

Staff in attendance

Ms Jenny Mannering (Committee Secretary)

Ms Allison Scott (Committee Secretariat)

Correspondence

Incoming

1. Letter dated 18 November 2025 from Martin Thompson, Auditor-General providing a response to QONS taken during the examination

The Committee **RECEIVED** the incoming correspondence.

The Committee suspended at 8:58 am.

The Committee resumed at 9:00 am in the Legislative Council Chamber, Parliament House, Hobart.

EXAMINATION OF ESTIMATES

According to the Order the Minister attended the Committee.

HON BRIDGET ARCHER MP

Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing

Minister for Ageing

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

Division 5 – Department of Health

Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing

\$2 429 400 000

Witnesses

Dale Webster, Secretary, Department of Health

Sally Badcock, Associate Secretary, Department of Health

Prof. Dinesh Arya, Deputy Secretary CQRA, Chief Medical Officer and Chief Psychiatrist

Michelle Baxter, A/Chief Executive Ambulance Tasmania (2:15 pm – 2:55 pm)

The witnesses took their places at the table at 9:00 am.

The Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing provided an overview.

Output Group 1 – System Management

- 1.1 System Management - Health – considered

Question on Notice:

- Please provide a copy of the Financial Sustainability Plan outlining the \$44.95m savings across the health portfolio, including savings attributed to each measure. (SL)

1.2 System Management – Mental Health and Wellbeing – considered**Question on Notice:**

- Provide a detailed list of programs funded under this line item and the end date of each program. Provide explanation for any program that will not be re-funded e.g. a Tasmanian Lifeline. (RF)

Output Group 2 – Health Services**2.1 Admitted Services – considered**

The Committee suspended at 11:02 am

The Committee resumed at 11:17 am

Questions on Notice

- In relation to Care@home, how many patients have been admitted in last financial year? How many “beds” available/what targets have been set? How many patients had a subsequent admission to hospital? (SL)
- Criterion-led discharge – how many patients were discharged using this protocol this financial year by month (breakdown surgical/medical)? (SL)
- What proactive consent training is provided to obstetricians and midwives in the THS to ensure we are meeting current legal standards/requirements for consent? (SL)
- What is the breakdown of SLRS notifications regarding TML by category (SAC 1-4) each month? (SL)
- Please provide data on infectious disease outbreaks within the major hospitals over the last 12 months (CO)

Tabled Document

- PPE Expenditure FY 2020-21 through 2025-26

[Ms Thomas left her seat at 11:56 am]
[Ms Thomas resumed her seat at 12:01 pm]

[Mr Harriss left his seat at 12:02 pm]
[Mr Harriss resumed his seat at 12:06 pm]

[Ms O'Connor left her seat at 12:08 pm]
[Ms O'Connor resumed her seat at 12:11 pm]

2.2 Non-admitted Services – considered**Questions on Notice**

- How many patients are waiting for anatomical pathology results and reports? What is the average wait time for both? (BT)
- Is the public health radiology equipment current and serviced and eligible for Australian Government rebates? (BT)
- Has the ineligibility of any public health radiology equipment resulted in foregone Australian Government rebates in recent years? (BT)

2.3 Emergency Department Services – considered**Question on Notice**

- Please provide a percentage of patients transferred from ambulance to ED within 60 minutes, across the four major hospitals (SL)

The Committee suspended at 1:15 pm

The Committee resumed at 2:00 pm.

2.4 Community Health Services – considered

Question on Notice

- What is the budget for breast screen services in 2025-26 and through the forward estimates and how does this compare to the budget and actuals in 2024-25? (BT)

2.5 Statewide and Mental Health Services – considered

Question on Notice:

- Please provide a breakdown of the funding allocation that sits under this line item. (RF)

2.6 Ambulance services – considered

Question on Notice

- What is the budget allocation for vehicle replacement (RF)
- What is the final cost of Burnie, Glenorchy and Oatlands Ambulance stations. (DH)

2.7 Public Health Services – considered

Question on Notice

- Please provide data on hospital presentations or episodes for all ages in 2024/25:
 - E. coli infections
 - Viral hepatitis
 - Sarcoidosis of lymph nodes
 - Malignant mast cell tumour
 - Blastic lymphoma
 - Kaposi sarcoma of lymph nodes
 - Strep A sepsis
 - Maternal health (premature births; congenital malformations; developmental disorders; childhood diabetes)
 - Strokes
 - Myocardial infarction (CO)
- Please provide a list of the programs delivered under public health services that are on fixed term contracts, and when does that term end? (RF)

[Ms O'Connor left her seat at 3:12 pm]
[Ms O'Connor resumed her seat at 3:20 pm]

Capital Investment Program – considered

Tabled Documents

- Paid personal leave by Award (Sick and Carers Leave)
- New Workers Compensation Claims 2018-2025
- Outbreaks recorded by Region, Facility and Type – 2022/25 Financial Year
- Emergency Department – Time in ED – Discharged Patients
- Emergency Department – Seen on Time – by triage
- ED Presentations seen within recommended time – Triage Category 5 (seen within 120 minutes)

The witnesses left the table at 3:30 pm.

The Committee suspended at 3:31 pm

The Committee resumed at 3:36 pm

Minister for Ageing

Dale Webster, Secretary, Department of Health

Noelene Kelly, Deputy Secretary

Corrina Smith, Director, Community Services

The witnesses took their places at the table at 3:36 pm.

Tabled Document

Ageing – Funding for the Older Tasmanian Portfolio

The witnesses left the table at 3:50 pm.

The Committee suspended at 3:50 pm

The Committee resumed at 4:15 pm

Division 8 – Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

\$4 391 000

Witnesses

Louise Wilson, Deputy Secretary, Environment, Heritage and Land, NRE

Will Jocelyne, General Manager (Heritage) NRE

Steve Gall, Director (Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania), NRE

Josh Brown, Manager (Budget Services)

The witnesses took their places at the table at 4:15 pm

[Ms O'Connor took resumed her seat at 4:22 pm]

The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs provided an overview.

Output Group 6 – Heritage

6.2 Aboriginal Heritage – considered

The witnesses left the table at 4:56 pm

Division 10 – Department of Premier and Cabinet

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs

\$2 810 000

Witnesses

Melissa (Mel) Gray, Deputy Secretary, Policy, and Reform, DPAC

Caroline Spotswood, Director, Aboriginal Partnerships

[Ms Thomas left her seat at 4:56 pm]

[Ms Thomas resumed her seat at 5:01 pm]

The witnesses took their places at the table at 4:56 pm

[Ms Lovell left her seat at 5:01 pm]

The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs provided an overview.

Output Group 1 – Policy Reform and Government Priorities

1.6 Aboriginal Affairs – considered

Output Group 7 – Community Partnerships and Priorities

7.9 Aboriginal Heritage and Land – considered

The witnesses left the table at 5:26 pm

Correspondence

Outgoing

1. Letter dated 19 November 2025 advising Hon Nick Duigan MLC (Minister for Energy and Renewables) regarding the QONs taken during the examination
2. Letter dated 19 November 2025 advising Hon Nick Duigan MLC (Minister for Sport) regarding the QONs taken during the examination
3. Letter dated 19 November 2025 advising Hon Nick Duigan MLC (Minister for Parks) regarding the QONs taken during the examination
4. Letter dated 19 November 2025 advising Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP (Minister for Environment) regarding the QONs taken during the examination

The Committee **ENDORSED** the outgoing correspondence.

Questions on Notice

DIVISION 5 – DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing

Output Group 1 – System Management

1.1 System Management – Health

- 1 Please provide a copy of the Financial Sustainability Plan outlining the \$44.95m savings across the health portfolio, including savings attributed to each measure. (SL)

Output Group 2 – Health Services

2.1 Admitted Services

- 1 In relation to Care@home, how many patients have been admitted in last financial year? How many “beds” available/what targets have been set? How many patients had a subsequent admission to hospital? (SL)
- 2 Criterion-led discharge – how many patients were discharged using this protocol this financial year by month (breakdown surgical/medical)? (SL)
- 3 What proactive consent training is provided to obstetricians and midwives in the THS to ensure we are meeting current legal standards/requirements for consent? (SL)
- 4 What is the breakdown of SLRS notifications regarding TML by category (SAC 1-4) each month? (SL)
- 5 Please provide data on infectious disease outbreaks within the major hospitals over the last 12 months (CO)

2.2 Non-admitted Services

- 1 How many patients are waiting for anatomical pathology results and reports? What is the average wait time for both? (BT)
- 2 Is the public health radiology equipment current and serviced and eligible for Australian Government rebates? (BT)

- 3 Has the ineligibility of any public health radiology equipment resulted in foregone Australian Government rebates in recent years? (BT)

2.3 Emergency Department Services

- 1 Please provide a percentage of patients transferred from ambulance to ED within 60 minutes, across the four major hospitals (SL)

2.4 Community Health Services

- 1 What is the budget for breast screen services in 2025-26 and through the forward estimates and how does this compare to the budget and actuals in 2024-25? (BT)

2.5 Statewide and Mental Health Services

- 1 Please provide a breakdown of the funding allocation that sits under this line item. (RF)

2.6 Ambulance services

- 1 What is the budget allocation for vehicle replacement (RF)
2 What is the final cost of Burnie, Glenorchy and Oatlands Ambulance stations. (DH)

2.7 Public Health Services

- 1 Please provide data on hospital presentations or episodes for all ages in 2024/25:
- E. coli infections
 - Viral hepatitis
 - Sarcoidosis of lymph nodes
 - Malignant mast cell tumour
 - Blastic lymphoma
 - Kaposi sarcoma of lymph nodes
 - Strep A sepsis
 - Maternal health (premature births; congenital malformations; developmental disorders; childhood diabetes)
 - Strokes
 - Myocardial infarction (CO)
- 2 Please provide a list of the programs delivered under public health services that are on fixed term contracts, and when does that term end? (RF)

Resolved, That the additional information in Division 5 be requested to be provided by Monday 24 November 2025.

The Committee suspended at 6:15 pm until 9:00 am on Thursday 20 November 2025.

The Committee resumed at 9:00 am in the Legislative Council Chamber, Parliament House, Hobart.

Members present

Ms Forrest (Chair)

Mr Harriss

Ms Lovell

Ms O'Connor

Ms Thomas (Deputy Chair)

Staff in attendance

Ms Jenny Mannering (Committee Secretary)

Ms Allison Scott (Committee Secretariat)

EXAMINATION OF ESTIMATES

According to the Order the Minister attended the Committee.

HON KERRY VINCENT MLC

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

Minister for Housing and Planning

Minister for Local Government

Division 11 – Department of State Growth

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

\$433 561 000

Witnesses

Tim Lovibond, Chief of Staff

Craig Limkin, Secretary, Department of State Growth

Cynthia Heydon, Deputy Secretary, Transport, Department of State Growth

Ben Maloney, Executive Director, Major Transport Projects (9:37 am – 11:07 am; 11:10 am – 1:00 pm)

Travis Boucher, Director Finance, Department of State Growth (11:07 am – 11:08 am; 12:23 pm – 12:26 pm)

Lia Morris, Marine and Safety Tasmania (1:00 pm – 1:15 pm)

The witnesses took their places at the table at 9:00 am

The Minister for Infrastructure and Transport provided an overview.

Output Group 2 – Infrastructure and Transport Services

2.1 Infrastructure Strategy and Delivery – considered

Question on Notice

- Please provide a breakdown of the Tasman Highway upgrades funds spending to date. (CO)
- What other works, if any, contained within the Stadium Order and within the Macquarie Point Precinct, will come before the Public Works Committee (BT)
- Confirm the Tasmanian percentage of average infrastructure cost increases. Line item? (RF)

2.1 Infrastructure Strategy and Delivery

*[Ms O'Connor left her seat at 10:02 am]
[Ms O'Connor resumed her seat at 10:07 am]
[Ms Lovell left her seat at 10:59 am]
[Ms Lovell resumed her seat at 11:03 am]*

The Committee suspended at 11:08 am

The Committee resumed at 11:23 am

2.2 Road User Services – considered

Questions on Notice

- How many claims for compensation due to vehicle damage from damaged roads have been lodged in financial year 2024-2025? How many of those have been paid and what is the total value of those claims? (SL)
- How many potholes/instances of road damage have been reported through the portal in financial year 2024-2025? (SL)
- How many requests for work to roads submitted by contractors have been rejected in financial year 2024-2025? (SL)
- What is the average time taken for those requested to be processed and approved/rejected? (SL)
- Please provide the design regarding the Huon Highway (DH).

2.3 Passenger Transport – considered

Output Group 6 – Subsidies and Concessions

6.1 Shipping and Ferry Subsidies – considered

Question on Notice

- Please confirm the recipient of additional funds to support the drought effort on Bass Islands, and which line item did the funding come from. (RF)

6.2 General Access Services – considered

Question on Notice

- Please provide a breakdown of what is funded out of passenger transport line item. (RF)

6.3 School Bus Services – considered

Question on Notice

- How many and which services have children standing or three to a seat? (RF)
- How does the Department define overcrowding on buses? (SL)
- What is the definition of 'crush capacity'? What is the acceptable threshold for numbers of children on a school bus (measured against the capacity of the bus)? (SL)
- How many buses are older than 14 years, and where were those buses located (RF)

Tabling

- Infrastructure and Transport Portfolio 6.1
- Urban Congestion Fund

Grants and Subsidies – considered

Capital Investment Program – considered

Marine and Safety Tasmania – considered

The witnesses withdrew at 1:15 pm.

The Committee suspended at 1:15 pm

The Committee resumed at 2:02 pm

Homes Tasmania – considered

Witnesses

Tim Lovibond, Chief of Staff

Craig Limkin, Secretary, Department of State Growth (2:02 pm – 2:58 pm)

Anthony Reid, Acting Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Housing, Infrastructure and Planning,
Department of State Growth

Eleri Morgan-Thomas, Chief Executive Officer, Homes Tasmania (2:02 pm – 3:21 pm)

The Minister for Housing and Planning provided an overview.

The witnesses took their places at the table at 2:02 pm

Tabled Document

- Housing Build Figures Since 2022

Division 11 – Department of State Growth

Minister for Housing and Planning

\$162 998 000

Witnesses

Tim Lovibond, Chief of Staff

Anthony Reid, Acting Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Housing, Infrastructure and Planning,
Department of State Growth

John Ramsay, Tasmanian Planning Commission (3:50 pm – 4:00 pm)

The witnesses took their places at the table at 3:22 pm

The Minister for Housing and Planning provided an overview.

Output Group 8 – Housing and Planning

8.1 Housing and Planning – considered

8.2 State Planning Office – considered

*[Mr Harriss left his seat at 3:51 pm]
[Mr Harriss resumed his seat at 3:54 pm]*

Grants and Subsidies – considered

Division 6 – Department of Justice

Minister for Housing and Planning

\$4 989 000

Witnesses

Tim Lovibond, Chief of Staff

Anthony Reid, Acting Deputy Secretary, Strategy, Housing, Infrastructure and Planning,
Department of State Growth

John Ramsay, Tasmanian Planning Commission (3:50 pm – 4:00 pm)

The witnesses took their places at the table at 3:50 pm

Output Group 4 – Regulatory and Other Services

4.2 Tasmanian Planning Commission – considered

The witnesses left the table at 4:02 pm

The Committee suspended at 4:02 pm

The Committee resumed at 4:19 pm

Division 10 – Department of Premier and Cabinet

Minister for Local Government

\$2 853 000

Witnesses

Tim Lovibond, Chief of Staff

Mat Healey, Deputy Secretary, Department of Premier and Cabinet

Luke Murphy-Gregory, Acting Director of Local Government, DPAC

The witnesses took their places at the table at 4:19 pm

[Ms O'Connor left her seat at 4:24 pm]

The Minister for Local Government provided an overview.

Output Group 1 – Policy Reform and Government Priorities

1.9 Local Government – considered

[Ms O'Connor resumed her seat at 4:52 pm]

[Ms O'Connor left her seat at 5:29 pm]

[Ms O'Connor resumed her seat at 5:36 pm]

The witnesses withdrew at 5:54 pm

The Committee suspended at 5:54 pm

The Committee resumed at 5:59 pm

Correspondence

Incoming

1. Letter dated 20 November 2025 from Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP (Minister for Arts and Heritage) providing answers to question taken on notice during the examination

Outgoing

1. Letter dated 20 November 2025 advising Hon Bridget Archer MP (Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing) regarding the QONs taken during the examination

The Committee **ENDORSED** the outgoing correspondence.

Questions on Notice

DIVISION 11 – DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

Output Group 2 – Infrastructure and Transport Services

2.1 Infrastructure Strategy and Delivery – considered

- 1 Please provide a breakdown of the Tasman Highway upgrades funds spending to date. (CO)
- 2 What other works, if any, contained within the Stadium Order and within the Macquarie Point Precinct, will come before the Public Works Committee (BT)
- 3 Confirm the Tasmanian percentage of average infrastructure cost increases. Line item? (RF)

2.2 Road User Services – considered

- 1 How many claims for compensation due to vehicle damage from damaged roads have been lodged in financial year 2024-2025? How many of those have been paid and what is the total value of those claims? (SL)
- 2 How many potholes/instances of road damage have been reported through the portal in financial year 2024-2025? (SL)
- 3 How many requests for work to roads submitted by contractors have been rejected in financial year 2024-2025? (SL)
- 4 What is the average time taken for those requested to be processed and approved/rejected? (SL)
- 5 Please provide the design regarding the Huon Highway (DH).

Output Group 6 – Subsidies and Concessions

6.1 Shipping and Ferry Subsidies – considered

- 1 Please confirm the recipient of additional funds to support the drought effort on Bass Islands, and which line item did the funding come from. (RF)

6.2 General Access Services – considered

- 1 Please provide a breakdown of what is funded out of passenger transport line item. (RF)

6.3 School Bus Services – considered

- 1 How many and which services have children standing or three to a seat? (RF)
- 2 How does the Department define overcrowding on buses? (SL)
- 3 What is the definition of 'crush capacity'? What is the acceptable threshold for numbers of children on a school bus (measured against the capacity of the bus)? (SL)
- 4 How many buses are older than 14 years, and where were those buses located (RF)

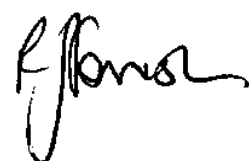
Resolved, That the additional information in Division 11 be requested to be provided by Tuesday 25 November 2025.

Next Meeting – Monday 1 December 2025 at 10:15 am in Committee Room 2 and via Teams.

The Committee adjourned at 6:22 pm.

DATE: 1/12/2025

CONFIRMED



CHAIR

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SELECT COMMITTEE

ESTIMATES A

MINUTES

MONDAY 1 DECEMBER 2025

The Committee met at 10:17 am in Committee Room 2, Parliament House, Hobart.

Present

Ms Forrest (Chair)

Mr Harriss

Ms Lovell

Ms Thomas

Apologies

Ms O'Connor

In Attendance

Jenny Mannering (Committee Secretary)

Ali Scott (Committee Secretariat)

Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 17 November 2025 to Thursday 20 November 2025, were confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Correspondence

Incoming

1. Letter received 21 November 2025 from the Hon Eric Abetz MP, Minister for Macquarie Point Urban Renewal providing response to questions taken on notice.
2. Letter received 21 November 2025 from the Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP, Minister for Environment providing response to questions taken on notice.
3. Letter dated 24 November 2025 from the Hon Nick Duigan MLC, Minister for Sport providing response to questions taken on notice.
4. Letter received 25 November 2025 from the Hon Bridget Archer MP, Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing providing response to questions taken on notice.
5. Letter dated 27 November 2025 from the Hon Nick Duigan MLC, Minister for Parks providing response to questions taken on notice.
6. Letter received 27 November 2025 from the Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP, Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs providing response to questions taken on notice.
7. Letter received 28 November 2025 from the Hon Eric Abetz MP, Treasurer providing response to questions taken on notice.
8. Letter received 28 November 2025 from the Hon Kerry Vincent MLC, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport providing response to questions taken on notice.

The Committee **RECEIVED** the incoming correspondence.

Outgoing

Nil

Consideration of Draft Reports

1. **Hon Eric Abetz MP**
Treasurer
Minister for Macquarie Point Urban Renewal
2. **Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP**
Minister for Arts and Heritage
Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy
Minister for Environment
3. **Hon Nick Duigan MLC**
Minister for Energy and Renewables
Minister for Sport
Minister for Parks

The Committee suspended at 11:01 am
The Committee resumed at 11:19 am

4. **Hon Bridget Archer MP**
Minister for Health, Mental Health and Wellbeing
Minister for Ageing
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
5. **Hon Kerry Vincent MLC**
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
Minister for Housing and Planning
Minister for Local Government

The Committee **RESOLVED** that the draft Estimate Reports were reviewed in full and amended accordingly.

Presentation of Reports

The Committee **RESOLVED** to rescind its resolution of Tuesday, 11 November 2025 that Ms Thomas present reports at the Quorum Call on 5 December 2025.

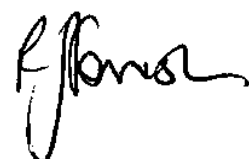
The Committee **RESOLVED** the final reports of the Committee be presented for tabling in the Legislative Council on Thursday, 4 December 2025.

Adjournment

At 11:35 am the Committee adjourned sine die.

DATE 01/12/2025

CONFIRMED



CHAIR

Appendix C

For tabling by Minister Ogilvie

Topic: Arts Tasmania - full list of competitive grants for 2024-25

Aboriginal Arts Program 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
Bonnie Starick	Textile design and clothing upcycle project	Aboriginal arts and cultural practice	Launceston and North East	\$7,095.00
Delia Summers	Moving forward with Strength	Aboriginal arts and cultural practice	Launceston and North East	\$15,150.00
Performing Lines Ltd	<i>Watch Her Burn</i>	Theatre	Interstate	\$40,000.00
Tasdance (t/a Assembly 197)	<i>MAINYARD TO MAINSAIL</i>	Aboriginal arts and cultural practice	Launceston and North East	\$39,998.00

Artsbridge 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
Amber Koroluk-Stephenson	Travel interstate for a solo exhibition and public program at Woollahra Gallery, Sydney	Visual arts, craft and design	South East	\$3,000.00
Anna Lloyd-Parker	Attend an intensive sculpture workshop	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$3,000.00
Bonnie Starick	Professional and artistic development opportunity at the Darwin Aboriginal Art Fair	Aboriginal arts and cultural practice	Launceston and North East	\$3,000.00
Bonnie Starick	<i>Timita Cloak</i>	Aboriginal arts and cultural practice	Launceston and North East	\$9,977.00
Grace Chia	Culture of Queens Vol 2 - Women in Australian Hip-Hop	Music	Hobart	\$9,898.00
Irene Koroluk	Travel for a solo exhibition, artist talk and demonstration at Gallery 76, Sydney	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$3,000.00
Janet Ross	Visual arts response	Community arts and cultural development	Hobart	\$2,961.00
Junction Arts Festival	<i>Cosmic Connections</i>	Community arts and cultural development	Launceston and North East	\$9,980.00
Kate Gordon	Travel to Napier and Hawke's Bay	Literature	Hobart	\$1,302.00

	New Zealand to research new novel			
Lila Meleisea	SA/MOA	Multi-artform	Launceston and North East	\$10,000.00
Marion Abraham	Cité International des Arts Paris residency	Visual arts, craft and design	South East	\$3,000.00
Mudlark Theatre	Development of new play by Emily Goddard, produced by Mudlark Theatre.	Theatre	Launceston and North East	\$3,000.00
Nadira Farid	A Journey of Jazz Mastery and Mentorship	Music	Hobart	\$3,000.00
Natasha Bradley	Rosamond McCulloch Studio Residency in Paris	Visual arts, craft and design	South East	\$3,000.00
Taiko Drum Tasmania Incorporated	<i>Project Hibiki</i>	Music	Hobart	\$6,000.00
Tasmanian Music Teachers' Association	Bringing a music pedagogue to Tasmania	Music	Hobart	\$3,000.00

The Annie Greig Dance Scholarship 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
Lily Alcock	International professional development activities	Dance	Hobart	\$26,500.00

Arts organisations – annual programs 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
Big hART	2025 program	Multi-artform	West and North West	\$140,000.00
Constance Artist Run Initiative	2025 program	Experimental practice	Hobart	\$128,090.00
DRILL Performance Company Inc.	2025 program	Dance	Hobart	\$100,000.00
KICKSTART ARTS INCORPORATED	2025 program	Community arts and cultural development	Hobart	\$100,000.00
Lutruwita Art Orchestra Inc	2025 program	Music	Hobart	\$100,000.00
Mature Artists Dance Experience Inc	2025 program	Dance	Hobart	\$100,000.00
Mudlark Theatre Inc.	2025 program	Theatre	Launceston and North East	\$200,000.00
ROOKE Productions Ltd	2025 program	Multi-artform	West and North West	\$199,931.00

Stompin	2025 program	Dance	Launceston and North East	\$100,000.00
Van Diemen's Band	2025 program	Music	Hobart	\$160,000.00

Arts organisations – multi-year 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
Assembly 197	2025 program	Multi-artform	Launceston and North East	\$250,000.00
Contemporary Art Tasmania	2025 program	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$246,750.00
Design Tasmania Ltd	2025 program	Visual arts, craft and design	Launceston and North East	\$197,720.00
Island Magazine Inc.	2025 program	Literature	Hobart	\$176,855.00
Performing Lines Limited	2025 program	Multi-artform	Hobart	\$250,000.00
SAWTOOTH ARI INC.	2025 program	Community arts and cultural development	Launceston and North East	\$154,523.00
Second Echo Ensemble	2025 program	Multi-artform	Hobart	\$159,984.00
Tasmanian Youth Orchestra Council Inc.	2025 program	Music	Hobart	\$180,000.00
Terrapin Puppet Theatre	2025 program	Theatre	Hobart	\$250,000.00
The Story Island Project	2025 program	Literature	Hobart	\$109,240.00
Theatre North Inc.	2025 program	Multi-artform	Launceston and North East	\$200,000.00

Buildings Block Development Program 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
Alexander Davern	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$4,000.00
Alexandra Crossan	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$4,000.00
Amy Morrow	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	West and North West	\$4,000.00
Anna Mykhalchuk	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$4,000.00
Brandi Salmon	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$4,000.00

Camilla Ker	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	South East	\$4,000.00
Daniel Johann Tucker	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$4,000.00
Edith Perrenot	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$4,000.00
Elizabeth Braid	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	West and North West	\$4,000.00
Evelyn Clarke	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	South East	\$4,000.00
Julia Drouhin	Building Blocks Development Program	Experimental practice	Hobart	\$4,000.00
Keryn Fountain	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	South East	\$4,000.00
Kristen Hynes	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$4,000.00
Louise Middleton	Building Blocks Development Program	Multi-artform	Launceston and North East	\$4,000.00
Maria Holst Salomonsen	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	South East	\$4,000.00
Michael Brady	Building Blocks Development Program	Multi-artform	Hobart	\$4,000.00
Peter Ryan	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$4,000.00
Phoebe Diggle	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$4,000.00
Susannah Coleman-Brown	Building Blocks Development Program	Multi-artform	Launceston and North East	\$4,000.00
Thomas Friend	Building Blocks Development Program	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$4,000.00

Cultural heritage organisations and Cultural heritage organisations (multi-year) 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
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Burnie City Council	2024-25 program	Museums and cultural heritage	West and North West	\$96,250.00
Central Coast Council	2024-25 program	Museums and cultural heritage	West and North West	\$97,813.00
Cygnnet Living History Museum Inc	2024-25 program	Museums and cultural heritage	South East	\$3,437.00
Devonport City Council	2024-25 program	Museums and cultural heritage	West and North West	\$130,000.00
Maritime Museum of Tasmania Inc.	2024-25 program	Museums and cultural heritage	Hobart	\$80,000.00
Narryna Heritage Museum Inc.	2024-25 program	Museums and cultural heritage	Hobart	\$58,000.00

Individuals and groups 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
Amanda Hodder	<i>Rumpel</i> : Libretto by Nicholas Tolputt and Amanda Hodder, Music by Jabra Latham	Music	Hobart	\$27,203.00
Amber Koroluk-Stephenson	Development and delivery for touring group exhibition, <i>There Are No Straight Lines</i>	Visual arts, craft and design	South East	\$21,547.00
Belinda (Bindy) Stephens	<i>Knock Knock</i>	Community arts and cultural development	Launceston and North East	\$14,344.00
Benjamin Paul	<i>Experimental Bathing: Unsettling Waters</i>	Experimental practice	Hobart	\$20,160.00
Blake Nuto	Development and creation of a new picture book	Literature	Hobart	\$13,305.00
Christopher Coleman	Recording and release of fifth studio album - <i>River Just Down The Hill</i>	Music	Hobart	\$23,574.00
Davina Wright	Australian premier of Singaporean collaboration	Theatre	Hobart	\$28,000.00
Emily Sanzaro	Live performance and workshop tour in Australia	Music	Launceston and North East	\$16,600.00
Emma Waters	<i>Belief System</i> - contemporary music recording	Music	Hobart	\$25,261.00
Jenny Mountney	<i>Devonport BIG SING</i> - with Clare Bowditch	Community arts and cultural development	West and North West	\$7,450.00
Jon Smeathers	Reprtrillion Culture Club's international showcase tour	Music	Hobart	\$18,262.00

	through Japan in November 2024			
Keely Jobe	Create a new novel	Literature	South East	\$15,660.00
Leigh Rigozzi	Second draft of graphic novel	Literature	Hobart	\$16,767.00
Lila Meleisea	<i>SA/MOA</i>	Community arts and cultural development	Launceston and North East	\$30,000.00
Lucienne Rickard	Presenting new work	Visual arts, craft and design	South East	\$20,140.00
Paul Snell	Create new work - <i>Developing Light</i>	Visual arts, craft and design	Launceston and North East	\$17,000.00
Sara Maher	Development of new work	Multi-artform	Hobart	\$8,315.00
Sarah Rhodes	Creative research and development of a project about belonging	Visual arts, craft and design	Launceston and North East	\$18,080.00
Sinsa Mansell	<i>Muylatina Paya</i>	Community arts and cultural development	Hobart	\$27,755.00
Tamas Oszvald	Self-directed International research residency	Multi-artform	Hobart	\$8,139.00

Low-interest loans 2024-25

- The recipients and activities supported through Arts Tasmania's Low-interest loans program are not listed publicly due to matters of personal security.
- In 2024-25, three recipients received loans totalling \$24,041 towards the purchase of equipment.

Organisations – projects 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
Burnie Arts Council Inc.	Dream Burnie book launch tour	Multi-artform	West and North West	\$59,179.00
Clarence City Council	Palawa Art Gallery Festival	Aboriginal arts and cultural practice	Hobart	\$72,435.00
Great Southern Dance	Intergenerational community dance residency	Dance	Hobart	\$42,370.00
HUON FOLK INC	<i>Future Folk</i>	Music	South East	\$65,000.00
Moonah Arts Centre (Glenorchy City Council)	<i>Summer Sounds</i>	Music	Hobart	\$34,380.00
Panama Productions PTY LTD	A Festival Called PANAMA 2025	Music	Launceston and North East	\$53,000.00
Print Radio Tasmania Inc.	Podcast about disability storytellers	Community arts and cultural development	Hobart	\$30,050.00
RANT ARTS LTD	<i>New Wave Devonport</i>	Community arts and cultural development	West and North West	\$75,000.00
Salamanca Arts Centre	<i>2025: An Arts Emergency</i>	Multi-artform	Hobart	\$48,827.00

Slipstream Circus	Students attending training at the Flying Fruit Fly Circus	Theatre	West and North West	\$32,305.00
Tasmanian Music Teachers' Association	Guest Music Educator presenter	Music	Hobart	\$5,300.00
Tasmanian Poetry Festival Inc	Tasmanian Poetry Festival 2025	Community arts and cultural development	Launceston and North East	\$10,836.00
The Trustee for the University of Tasmania Community Music Programme Trust	<i>In Celebration of 40 Years</i> - community music composition	Music	Launceston and North East	\$9,500.00
The Unconformity	Creative exchange project	Multi-artform	West and North West	\$45,424.00

Organisations – youth arts 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
Circular Head Council	<i>Artsposure</i>	Community arts and cultural development	West and North West	\$10,807.00
Cygnnet Community Arts Council	Cygnnet Film School	Community arts and cultural development	South East	\$18,880.00
DRILL Performance Company Inc.	2025 youth dance projects	Dance	Hobart	\$80,000.00
KICKSTART ARTS INCORPORATED	Creative mental health program	Community arts and cultural development	Hobart	\$36,978.00
RANT ARTS LTD	Rising Phoenix youth program 2025	Community arts and cultural development	West and North West	\$55,301.00
Stompin Inc	Key projects 2025	Dance	Launceston and North East	\$79,899.00
Young Voices of Hobart	Activities for young people in 2025	Music	Hobart	\$17,142.00

Roving Curators 2025

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
Circular Head Heritage Centre Inc	Significance Assessment review and update	Museums and cultural heritage	West and North West	
Derwent Valley Council	Derwent Valley Heritage collection exhibition project	Museums and cultural heritage	South East	
Devonport City Council	Devonport Reginal Gallery Significance Assessment: stage two	Museums and cultural heritage	West and North West	
George Town Council	Exhibition/Interpretation Project – Model Boats	Museums and cultural heritage	Launceston and North East	
GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY COUNCIL	Significance Assessment and Collection Care and Handling Workshop	Museums and cultural heritage	South East	

Waratah museum society Inc.	Collection Management Project	Museums and cultural heritage	West and North West	
Wilmot Tourist & Progress Association Inc	Collection Management Project and Interpretation Project	Museums and cultural heritage	West and North West	
Woolmers Foundation Inc.	Guardians of Heritage: Preserving and Conserving - Stage 2	Museums and cultural heritage	Launceston and North East	

Strategic initiatives and service organisations 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
Island Magazine Inc	Hobart Readers and Writers Festival	Literature	West and North West	\$150,000.00
Music Tasmania	Services for music in Tasmania	Music	Hobart	\$150,000.00
RANT ARTS LTD	Services for regional arts in Tasmania	Community arts and cultural development	Hobart	\$150,000.00
Tasmanian Live Performance Exchange	Services for theatre in Tasmania	Theatre	Launceston and North East	\$150,000.00
Theatre Council of Tasmania	Services for theatre in Tasmania	Community arts and cultural development	Hobart	\$50,000.00

Tasmanian Aboriginal Arts Mentoring Scheme 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
Bonnie Starick	Rina Designs Micro Collection Mentorship	Aboriginal arts and cultural practice	Launceston and North East	\$10,000.00
Junction Arts Festival	Aboriginal Mentorship Program	Aboriginal arts and cultural practice	Launceston and North East	\$10,000.00
Keia McGrady	<i>Charcoal</i>	Community arts and cultural development	South East	\$10,000.00
Nelson Clay	Creative Development for Nathan Maynard's 'The Line' and Nicola Ingram's 'Watch Her Burn'	Theatre	Launceston and North East	\$10,000.00
SAWTOOTH ARI INC	Supporting emerging, experimental and contemporary practice	Aboriginal arts and cultural practice	Launceston and North East	\$10,000.00

Tasmanian Residencies 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
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Keryn Fountain	Glover Country Residency	Visual arts, craft and design	South East	\$5,000.00
Rachel Meyers	all that we are	Music	Hobart	\$5,000.00
Renate Pluym	Poatina Arts Residency	Music	Hobart	\$5,000.00
Suemi Chiba	Poatina Arts Residency	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$5,000.00
Valerie Sparks	Glover Country Residency	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$5,000.00

Young and Emerging Artist Professional Development Program 2024-25

RECIPIENT	ACTIVITY	AREA OF PRACTICE	REGION OF RECIPIENT	AMOUNT
Abbie Whitton	Self-directed residency in New York City	Experimental practice	Hobart	\$16,000.00
Chloe Catto	National residency and mentorship program	Visual arts, craft and design	Hobart	\$16,000.00
Greta Jean	Shadow puppetry residency in Java	Theatre	Hobart	\$16,000.00
Nelson Clay	Professional development and Artistic Associate Role	Aboriginal arts and cultural practice	Launceston and North East	\$16,000.00
Oscar Waters	Event management mentorship program	Music	Hobart	\$16,000.00

Tabled Document
Minister Ogilvie
17/11/25

Island Screen Incentive 2024-25

App No	Applicant	Project Title	Decision Date	Total Amount Allocated
<u>ISI Grant01July24</u>	ITV Studios Australia	Alone Australia, Series 3	15-Jul-24	\$170,000.00
<u>ISIP24-2506</u>	DPT Film Pty Ltd	Don't Post That!	12-May-25	\$380,852.00
		TOTAL	2	\$550,852.00

Production Support 2024-25

App No	Applicant	Project Title	Total Amount	
			Decision Date	Allocated
<u>ProdSup00002Sept24</u>	Turbo Chook	After All	31-Oct-24	\$50,000.00
<u>ProdSup1Aug 24</u>	Broken Yellow Pty Ltd	A Girl's Guide to Hunting, Fishing and Wild Cooking - Season 2	3-Sep-24	\$160,000.00
<u>ProdSup00004Sept24</u>	Wildman Films Pty Ltd	Tiger: The Return	17-Sep-24	\$50,000.00
<u>ProdSup00003Sept24</u>	Hsquared Media Pty Ltd	The Chefs Garden Series 2	31-Oct-24	\$45,000.00
<u>ProdSup00006Sept24</u>	McAvoy Media	Teenage Boss Series 4	26-Nov-24	\$100,000.00
<u>ProdSup05</u>	Do The Work Pty Ltd	The Pledge	21-Feb-25	\$120,000.00
<u>ProdSup06</u>	[Unreleased]	[Unreleased]	21-Feb-25	\$200,000.00
TOTAL			7	\$725,000.00

Project Development 2024-25

App No	Applicant	Project Title	Decision Date	Total Amount Allocated
<u>ProDevApril24008</u>	Wooden Horse	Hide The Dog	19-Jul-24	\$20,000
<u>ProDevApril24012</u>	Polyphonic Media Pty Ltd	Egg Freezing in America	19-Jul-24	\$25,000
<u>ProDevApril24019</u>	JOY Studios Pty Ltd	Send It!	19-Jul-24	\$19,000
<u>ProDevApril24003</u>	Polaris Pictures Pty Ltd	Liawenee	19-Jul-24	\$20,000
<u>ProDevApril24006</u>	Matt Burton	The Dream	19-Jul-24	\$5,000
<u>ProDevApril24010</u>	Gary McCaffrie	Ground Up	19-Jul-24	\$20,000
<u>ProDevApril24015</u>	Andromeda Projects	Southern Lights	19-Jul-24	\$20,000
<u>ProDevApril24018</u>	Sweet Potato Films Pty Ltd	The Ballroom Forest	19-Jul-24	\$18,600
<u>ProDevJuly2407</u>	Spectral Media	Neil the Seal	29-Oct-24	\$20,000
<u>ProDevJuly2410</u>	Blur Films Pty Ltd	Straight Outta Smithton	31-Oct-24	\$15,000
<u>ProDevJuly2411</u>	Chloe Black	Jennifer Eric is Cancelled	31-Oct-24	\$15,000
<u>ProDevJuly2413</u>	OLD DOG PICTURES 5 PTY LTD	Little J & Big Cuz Season 5	31-Oct-24	\$29,924
<u>ProDevJuly2402</u>	Nick Hayward	Tasmania's Lost Eden	31-Oct-24	\$20,000
<u>ProDevJuly2405</u>	Roar Film	Sins Of Omission	31-Oct-24	\$17,500
<u>ProDevJuly2412</u>	JOTZ Productions	MOTHER MIRIAM	31-Oct-24	\$14,000
<u>ProDev2024-Nov-00006</u>	Good Thing	Remnant	6-Dec-24	\$15,000
<u>ProDev2024-Nov-00016</u>	Bay Of Fires Productions Pty Ltd	Bay Of Fires Season 3	6-Dec-24	\$30,000
<u>ProDev2024-Nov-00020</u>	Big hART	Songs for Freedom	21-Feb-25	\$20,000
<u>ProDev2024-Nov-00019</u>	Katie Robertson	Flick	21-Feb-25	\$30,000
<u>ProDev2024-Nov-00011</u>	Ella Watkins	I Probably Shouldn't Have Said That	21-Feb-25	\$25,000
<u>ProDevFeb2501</u>	i8 Studio Pty Ltd	Tonight at the Museum	23-Jun-25	\$25,000
<u>ProDevFeb2503</u>	Easy Tiger Productions	Five (working title)	23-Jun-25	\$20,000
<u>ProDevFeb2507</u>	The Silver Power Project Pty Ltd	Silver Power	23-Jun-25	\$20,000
<u>ProDevFeb2502</u>	Polaris Pictures	How to Kidnap Someone	23-Jun-25	\$30,000
TOTAL			24	\$494,024

Tabled Document
Minister Ogilvie
17/11/25

Training and Attachments		Applicant	Project Title	Decision Date	Total Amount Allocated
App No					
001		Bus Stop Films Ltd	Bus Stop Films Inclusive Producers Attachment	15-Aug-24	\$2,174.00
BOF3Writers-01		Archipelago Productions	Bay of Fires Season 3	13-Feb-25	\$2,568.00
TeenBossAttach01		McAvoy Media	Teenage Boss Series 4	7-Mar-25	\$15,020.00
BSF_IPA01		Bus Stop Films	Inclusive Producers Attachment	27-May-25	\$4,348.00
Total					\$24,110.00
[one further attachment was approved through Industry Development]					

Cabinet endorsed Peak Bodies for inclusion in Stage One	
Department for Children, Education and Young People	Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare
	Foster and Kinship Carers Association of Tasmania
	The Tasmanian Association of State School Organisations
Department of Health	Health Consumers Tasmania
	Mental Health Council of Tasmania
	The Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drug Council
Department of Premier and Cabinet (Community Services)	Carers Tasmania
	Council of the Ageing Tasmania
	Multicultural Council of Tasmania
	Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania
	Tasmanian Council of Social Services
	Tasmanian Men's Shed Association
	Volunteering Tasmania
Department of Premier and Cabinet (Other Business Units)	National Disability Services
	Returned and Services League of Australia (Tasmanian Branch)
	Tasmanian Aboriginal Corporation
	Tasmanian Family and Sexual Violence Alliance
	Tasmanian Regional Aboriginal Communities Alliance
	Youth Network of Tasmania
Department of Justice	Community Legal Centres Tasmania
	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services
	National Legal Aid
Homes Tasmania	Shelter Tasmania

Peak Body, core recurrent funding lines approved for transition only. Any time limited or other recurrent funding provided to the Peak Body will need to be considered in later stages of the project.

Tabled 17/11/25
Minister Ogilvie

Output 3.3 Community Services

Appropriation	Budget Paper Allocations					Movements between years			
	2024-25 Original	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2024-25 to 2025-26	2026-27 to 2027-28	2027-28 to 2028-29	
Base Funding	21,234,000	14,706,000	15,025,000	14,963,000	17,175,000	(6,528,000)	319,000	(62,000)	2,212,000
Note: Base Appropriation includes recurrent funding for Neighbourhood Houses (\$9m), TasCoss (\$1m), Emergency Food Relief and Family Support.									
ADJGEN-21354 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Budget Efficiency Dividend		(35,000)	(52,000)	(52,000)	(52,000)	(35,000)	(17,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-22449 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Procurement Processes budget savings		(2,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-20209 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Place Based Food Pilot		400,000				400,000	(400,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-20875 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Energy Hardship Fund		150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	0	0	0
ADJGEN-20876 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Community Participation and Appeals Fund		350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	0	0	0
ADJGEN-20878 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Volunteering Strategy Implementation		300,000	300,000			300,000	0	(300,000)	0
ADJGEN-20880 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : LBGTIQA+ Strategy Implementation		202,000				202,000	(202,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-20881 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Older Tasmanians Action Plan Implementation		10,000	281,000	281,000	281,000	10,000	271,000	0	0
ADJGEN-20882 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Food Relief Strategy and Services		2,034,000	1,550,000	1,550,000	1,550,000	2,034,000	(484,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-20883 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Multicultural Action Plan Implementation		200,000				200,000	(200,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-20884 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Community Services Sustainability		150,000				150,000	(150,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-20998 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Energy Saver Subsidy - transfer to DSG	500,000					(500,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-21196 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Neighbourhood Houses Capital Improvement Program - Funding Re-allocation	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000		0	0	0	(2,000,000)
ADJGEN-21330 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Tasmanian Men's Sheds Association - Funding Re-allocation	200,000	200,000	100,000			0	(100,000)	(100,000)	0
ADJGEN-21502 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Youth Participation and Engagement		35,000				35,000	(35,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-21553 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Carers in Tasmania		209,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	209,000	(199,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-21684 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Glenhaven Family Care (Kentish House)		85,000				85,000	(85,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-21709 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Neighbourhood Houses Community Connector Program		324,000	324,000	324,000	324,000	324,000	0	0	0
ADJGEN-21734 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Beyond the Rainbow		66,000	66,000			66,000	0	(66,000)	0
ADJGEN-21735 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Launceston RSL		50,000				50,000	(50,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-21736 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Emu Valley Rhododendron Garden		200,000				200,000	(200,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-21737 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Shekinah house		100,000				100,000	(100,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-21738 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Camp Clayton		160,000	120,000	120,000	120,000	160,000	(40,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-21739 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Deepavali Tasmania Inc		30,000	30,000			30,000	0	(30,000)	0
ADJGEN-21753 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Community and Regions Education, Mentoring and Employment Initiatives			100,000	100,000	100,000	0	100,000	0	0
ADJGEN-21754 : GENERAL : PC : 2025 : Tasmanian Bike collective			100,000			0	100,000	(100,000)	0
	2,700,000	7,255,000	5,481,000	4,885,000	2,885,000	4,555,000	(1,774,000)	(596,000)	(2,000,000)
ADJGEN-15846 : GENERAL : PC : 2023 : Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania - Governance Capacity		100,000				100,000	(100,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-15919 : GENERAL : PC : 2023 : Kentish House Family Support Service	145,000	145,000				0	(145,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-17707 : GENERAL : MULTI : 2024 : NILS Micro Business Loan Program (transfer from SG to PC)	75,000					(75,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19151 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Neighbourhood Houses	1,700,000	1,700,000	1,700,000			0	0	(1,700,000)	0
ADJGEN-19157 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Neighbourhood Houses Community Connector Program	1,298,000	1,298,000	1,298,000	1,298,000		0	0	0	(1,298,000)
ADJGEN-19167 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Food Resilience Strategy	200,000					(200,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-20013 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Community Sector Organisations Indexation - Increase	537,000	921,000	1,323,000	2,101,000	356,000	384,000	402,000	778,000	(1,745,000)
	3,955,000	4,164,000	4,321,000	3,399,000	356,000	209,000	157,000	-922,000	-3,043,000
ADJGEN-15845 : GENERAL : PC : 2023 : Peak Body Funding	941,000	941,000				0	(941,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-15847 : GENERAL : PC : 2023 : Phoenix House	74,000	74,000				0	(74,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-15852 : GENERAL : PC : 2023 : Tasmanian Men's Sheds Association	175,000	175,000				0	(175,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-15860 : GENERAL : PC : 2023 : Youth Week and Other Youth Targeted Programs	105,000					(105,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-15908 : GENERAL : PC : 2023 : Food Vans	180,000	180,000	180,000	180,000	180,000	0	0	0	0
ADJGEN-15917 : GENERAL : PC : 2023 : LBGTIQA+ Grants	70,000	70,000				0	(70,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-16631 : GENERAL : PC : 2023 : Volunteering Tasmania - EV Crew	60,000					(60,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18777 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Sorell Men's Shed	550,000					(550,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18914 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Dorset Community Men's Shed	12,000					(12,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18921 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Star FM Radio	17,000					(17,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18922 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Break O'Day Council	120,000					(120,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18924 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Brighton Council	270,000					(270,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18925 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Derwent Valley Council	225,000					(225,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18928 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Jordan River Service Inc - Gagebrook Community House	16,000					(16,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18931 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Swansea RSL	84,000					(84,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18936 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Tassie Mums	100,000					(100,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18937 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Kentish Council	250,000					(250,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18939 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Westbury Preservation Society	147,000					(147,000)	0	0	0

ADJGEN-18940 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Westbury RSL Sub-Branch	20,000				(20,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18942 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Blackstone Heights Community News Association	9,000				(9,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18943 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Quercus Park United Kennel Club	48,000				(48,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18944 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Westbury Men's Shed Inc	220,000				(220,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18946 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Deloraine Agricultural and Pastoral Society	10,000				(10,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18948 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Nile Chapel Deddington Trustees	90,000				(90,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18949 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Northern Midlands Council	150,000				(150,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18957 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Reptile Rescue	43,000				(43,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18962 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Tunnack Community Club	32,000				(32,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18963 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Chauncy Vale Wildlife Sanctuary	80,000				(80,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18965 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Hellenic Dancers Hobart	24,000				(24,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18967 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Southern Midlands Council	448,000				(448,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18971 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Tasman Council	265,000				(265,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18973 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Greek Orthodox Church Hobart	175,000				(175,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18979 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Salamanca Arts Centre	30,000				(30,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18980 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Golden Wattle Club	2,000				(2,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18982 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Preston Community Centre	40,000				(40,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18985 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Circular Head Rotary Club	22,000				(22,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18988 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Waratah Wynyard Council	410,000				(410,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18990 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Central Coast Council	224,000				(224,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18991 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Circular Head Council	635,000				(635,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18992 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Spreyton Scout Group	40,000				(40,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18995 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Wings Wildlife Park	300,000				(300,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-18998 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : King Island Council	108,000				(108,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19001 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Wynyard Agricultural and Pastoral Society	62,000				(62,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19013 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Kingborough Council	630,000				(630,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19015 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Zeehan RSL	60,000				(60,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19024 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Clarence City Council	1,090,000				(1,090,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19025 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : South Arm RSL and Community Club	38,000				(38,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19028 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Country Women's Association Lindisfarne	82,000				(82,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19029 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Huon Valley Council	624,000				(624,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19032 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Kingborough Community Missions	20,000				(20,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19033 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Warrane Mornington Neighbourhood Centre 'Hood in the Hub' Community Garden initiative	150,000				(150,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19038 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Scottsdale RSL	60,000				(60,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19043 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Scottsdale Military Museum	70,000				(70,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19045 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Scottsdale Rotary Club	160,000				(160,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19047 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Dorset Council	150,000				(150,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19050 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Exeter Showgrounds Society	150,000				(150,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19051 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Launceston RSL Sub-Branch	57,000				(57,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19052 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : West Tamar Council	350,000				(350,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19054 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Flinders Island Council	360,000				(360,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19060 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Franklin House	2,000				(2,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19062 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Mechanics' Institute Hall	6,000				(6,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19073 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Lilydale Amenity Upgrades	40,000				(40,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19075 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Lilydale Men's Shed	30,000				(30,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19076 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Festa Italia	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000	0	0	0	(13,000)
ADJGEN-19078 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Estia Greek festival		13,000	13,000		13,000	0	(13,000)	0
ADJGEN-19116 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Unlock Land for Housing on Flinders Island	600,000				(600,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19122 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : The Islander Way - Flinders Island	200,000	200,000	200,000		0	0	(200,000)	0
ADJGEN-19152 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Community Connector Program Extension		236,000	472,000	708,000	236,000	236,000		(708,000)
ADJGEN-19154 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Men's Sheds Grant Program	175,000	175,000			0	(175,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-19160 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Carers Week	40,000	40,000	40,000		0	0	(40,000)	0
ADJGEN-19161 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Council on the Ageing Tasmania	200,000	200,000			0	(200,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-19163 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Volunteering Tasmania	520,000	520,000			0	(520,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-19165 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : No Interest Loan Scheme	700,000	700,000	700,000		0	0	(700,000)	0
ADJGEN-19166 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Digital Inclusion for older Tasmanians	150,000	150,000			0	(150,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-19169 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Volunteering Strategy	150,000				(150,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19170 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Emergency Food Relief	1,000,000				(1,000,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19171 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Emergency Food Relief - Capital Upgrade Fund	5,000,000				(5,000,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19172 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : LGBTQIA+ Framework and Action Plan	250,000	250,000			0	(250,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-19173 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Eat Well Tasmania	75,000				(75,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19179 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Food Relief Vans	180,000	180,000			0	(180,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-19180 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Yemaya Women's Support Service	70,000	60,000	60,000		(10,000)	0	(60,000)	0
ADJGEN-19202 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : St Mary's Evacuation Centre	250,000	250,000			0	(250,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-19207 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Men's Sheds Capital Improvement Program	1,000,000				(1,000,000)	0	0	0
ADJGEN-19226 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Support for the King Island Community	74,000	74,000	74,000	74,000	0	0	0	(74,000)
ADJGEN-19231 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Moonah Multicultural Hub	75,000	75,000			0	(75,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-19232 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Safe Haven Hub Multicultural Employment Services	300,000	300,000			0	(300,000)	0	0
ADJGEN-19233 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Welcome Cultural Services	50,000	50,000			0	(50,000)	0	0

ADJGEN-19238 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Multicultural Council of Tasmania	175,000	175,000			
ADJGEN-19244 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Multicultural Community Festival Grants Program	40,000	40,000			
ADJGEN-19248 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Chinese New Year and Diwali Support	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	
ADJGEN-19261 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Safe Beds Program	75,000	75,000	75,000		
ADJGEN-19271 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Agricultural Shows Small Grants Fund	167,000	167,000	166,000		
ADJGEN-19919 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Primrose Sands RSL - War Memorial Bridge	19,000				
ADJGEN-19920 : GENERAL : PC : 2024 : Oatlands RSL - External refurbishment, painting	20,000				
	22,590,000	5,393,000	2,003,000	985,000	180,000
Total Appropriation	50,479,000	31,481,000	26,774,000	24,176,000	20,540,000

0	(175,000)	0	0
0	(40,000)	0	0
0	0	0	(10,000)
0	0	(75,000)	0
0	(1,000)	(166,000)	0
(19,000)	0	0	0
(20,000)	0	0	0
(17,197,000)	(3,390,000)	(1,018,000)	(805,000)
(18,998,000)	(4,707,000)	(2,598,000)	(3,636,000)

Rollover

ADJGEN-21939 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : Community Services - Committed Grants	870,000				
ADJGEN-21944 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : Support for families Rollover	440,000				
ADJGEN-22127 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : EC2024 Food Resilience Strategy	100,000				
ADJGEN-22131 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : Clarence City Council - Greening Rokeby	25,000				
ADJGEN-22133 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : Warrane Mornington Neighbourhood Centre 'Hood in the Hub' Community Garden initiative	146,000				
ADJGEN-22134 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : Wings Wildlife Park	300,000				
ADJGEN-22135 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : EC2024 Emergency Food Relief - Capital Upgrade Fund	2,500,000				
ADJGEN-22136 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : Lilydale Amenity Upgrades	40,000				
ADJGEN-22137 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : EC2024 Lilydale Men's Shed	30,000				
ADJGEN-22138 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : EC2024 Men's Sheds Capital Improvement Program	1,000,000				
ADJGEN-22142 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : Kentish Council - Kentish Park	100,000				
ADJGEN-22143 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : EC2024 Sorell Men's Shed	550,000				
ADJGEN-22144 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : Salamanca Arts Centre	30,000				
ADJGEN-22145 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : EC2024 Volunteering Strategy	50,000				
ADJGEN-22194 : ROLLOVER : PC : 2025 : EC2024 Volunteering Tasmania	60,000				
	6,241,000				

870,000	(870,000)	0	0
440,000	(440,000)	0	0
100,000	(100,000)	0	0
25,000	(25,000)	0	0
146,000	(146,000)	0	0
300,000	(300,000)	0	0
2,500,000	(2,500,000)	0	0
40,000	(40,000)	0	0
30,000	(30,000)	0	0
1,000,000	(1,000,000)	0	0
100,000	(100,000)	0	0
550,000	(550,000)	0	0
30,000	(30,000)	0	0
50,000	(50,000)	0	0
60,000	(60,000)	0	0
6,241,000	(6,241,000)	0	0

Trust and Accruals:

Trust - Gambling Support Fund	2,595,000	3,879,000	3,909,000	3,909,000	3,909,000
Other Accruals	1,249,000	703,000	588,000	703,000	703,000
	3,844,000	4,582,000	4,497,000	4,612,000	4,612,000

1,284,000	30,000	0	0
(546,000)	(115,000)	115,000	0
738,000	(85,000)	115,000	0

Total Output Expense	54,323,000	42,304,000	31,271,000	28,788,000	25,152,000
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(12,019,000)	(11,033,000)	(2,483,000)	(3,636,000)
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To be tabled if requested	Overview	
Output 3.3 Community Services	FTE	2025-26
Operational View		
Staffing	23.3	3,153,000
Grants and Operational Expenses		39,151,000
2025-26 Total Output Expense		42,304,000
Please note that 2025-26 Total Output Expense includes the following		
Budget Efficiency Dividend		(35,000)
Budget Savings		(2,000)
Projects - Appropriation		
Place Based Food Pilot		400,000
Energy Hardship Fund		150,000
Community Participation and Appeals Fund		350,000
Volunteering Strategy Implementation		300,000
LGBTIQ+ Strategy Implementation		202,000
Older Tasmanians Action Plan Implementation		10,000
Food Relief Strategy and Services		2,034,000
Multicultural Action Plan Implementation		200,000
Community Services Sustainability		150,000
Neighbourhood Houses Capital Improvement Program		2,000,000
Tasmanian Men's Sheds Association		200,000

Youth Participation and Engagement	35,000
Carers in Tasmania	209,000
Glenhaven Family Care (Kentish House)	85,000
Neighbourhood Houses Community Connector Program	324,000
Beyond the Rainbow	66,000
Launceston RSL	50,000
Emu Valley Rhododendron Garden	200,000
Shekinah house	100,000
Camp Clayton	160,000
Deepavali Tasmania Inc	30,000
Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania - Governance Capacity	100,000
Kentish House Family Support Service	145,000
Neighbourhood Houses	1,700,000
Neighbourhood Houses Community Connector Program	1,298,000
Community Sector Organisations Indexation - Increase	921,000
Peak Body Funding	941,000
Phoenix House	74,000
Tasmanian Men's Sheds Association	175,000
Food Vans	180,000
LGBTIQA+ Grants	70,000
Festa Italia	13,000
Estia Greek festival	13,000
The Islander Way - Flinders Island	200,000
Community Connector Program Extension	236,000
Men's Sheds Grant Program	175,000
Carers Week	40,000
Council on the Ageing Tasmania	200,000
Volunteering Tasmania	520,000
No Interest Loan Scheme	700,000
Digital Inclusion for older Tasmanians	150,000
LGBTIQA+ Framework and Action Plan	250,000
Food Relief Vans	180,000
Yemaya Women's Support Service	60,000
St Mary's Evacuation Centre	250,000
Support for the King Island Community	74,000
Moonah Multicultural Hub	75,000
Safe Haven Hub Multicultural Employment Services	300,000
Welcome Cultural Services	50,000
Multicultural Council of Tasmania	175,000
Multicultural Community Festival Grants Program	40,000
Chinese New Year and Diwali Support	10,000
Safe Beds Program	75,000
Agricultural Shows Small Grants Fund	167,000
Projects- Rollover	
Prevention of Elder Abuse	500,000
Heating Allowance	300,000
LGBTIQA+	70,000
Support for families Rollover	440,000
EC2024 Food Resilience Strategy	100,000
Clarence City Council - Greening Rokeby	25,000
Warrane Mornington Neighbourhood Centre 'Hood in the Hub' Community Garden initiative	146,000
Wings Wildlife Park	300,000
EC2024 Emergency Food Relief - Capital Upgrade Fund	2,500,000
Lilydale Amenity Upgrades	40,000
EC2024 Lilydale Men's Shed	30,000
EC2024 Men's Sheds Capital Improvement Program	1,000,000
Kentish Council - Kentish Park	100,000
EC2024 Sorell Men's Shed	550,000
Salamanca Arts Centre	30,000
EC2024 Volunteering Strategy	50,000
EC2024 Volunteering Tasmania	60,000
	23,053,000

► We offer three loans

Loans up to \$2,000
for essential household
products and services



Loans up to \$3,000
to establish or expand
a micro business



Loans up to \$5,000
to purchase a second
hand vehicle



→ No Tasmanian should be forced into hardship or exploitation to access life's essentials



Our Community Partner network



85

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



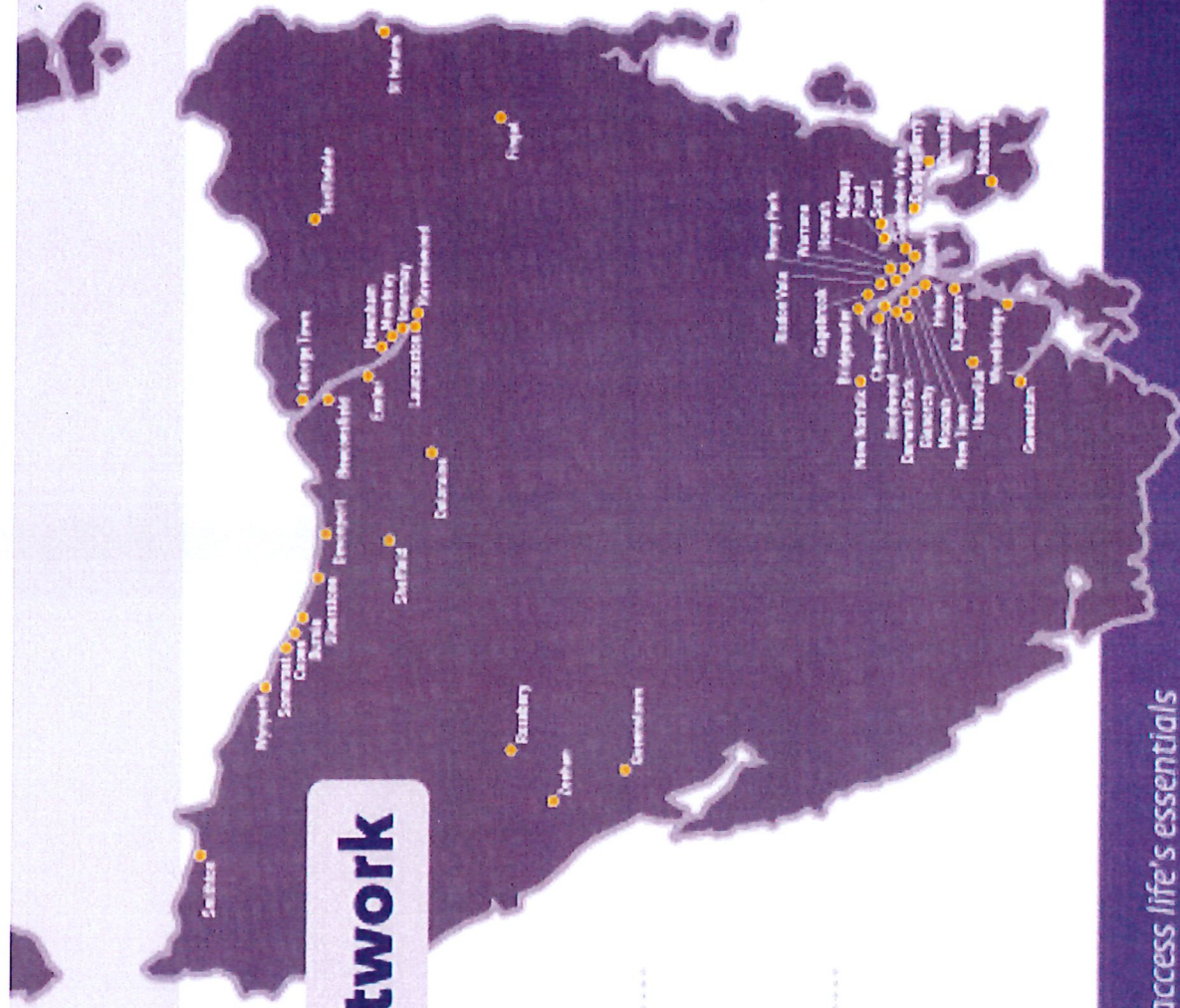
106

ACCESS POINTS



470+

TRAINED NILS LOANS OFFICERS



→ No Tasmanian should be forced into hardship or exploitation to access life's essentials

Converted to: 4548 loans worth \$8.61 million

Loans were used for:



493
VEHICLES
PURCHASES



38
VET
EXPENSES



282
BOND/
RENT



89
DENTAL/
MEDICAL



335
HEATPUMPS



320
WASHING
MACHINES



318
FRIDGES



648
CAR
REPAIRS



18
FUNERALS



21
REMOVALISTS



120
COMPUTERS/
LAPTOPS



29
OPTICAL

\$55 million distributed through 46,000 loans

Loan capital:



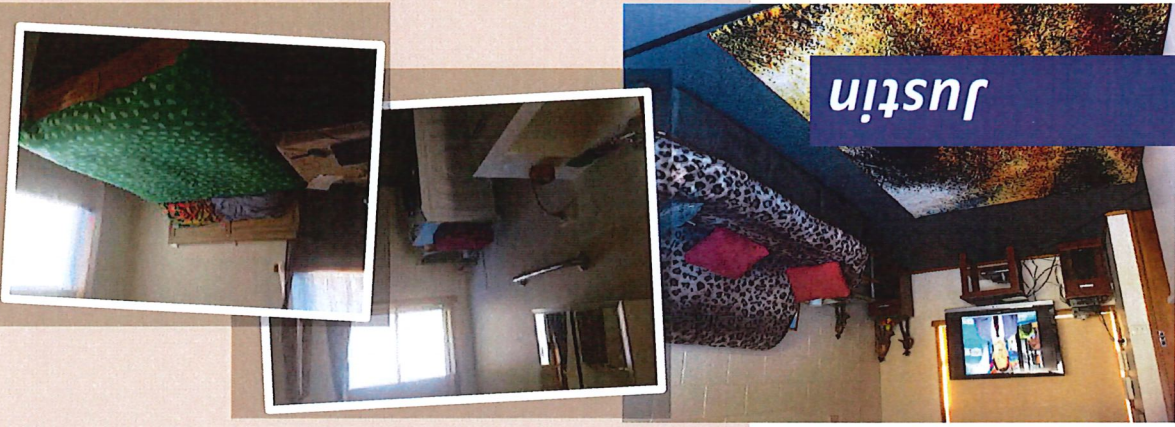
\$5.78 million



\$450,000


→ No Tasmanian should be forced into hardship or exploitation to access life's essentials

Justin



Community Lending for Tasmanians

→ Your support has changed people's lives - Thank you!



← Kim's story

"I am so grateful for my NILS loan as it paid my vet bill and my dog didn't have to suffer. THANKYOU, THANKYOU, THANKYOU!"



Community Lending for Tasmanians

→ No Tasmanian should be forced into hardship or exploitation to access life's essentials





Supplier spotlight – Moonah Auto Repairs



"If we know someone is using NILS to pay, then my team know that we won't seek to profit from that client and we'll take extra care of them. Everyone has tough times, and so if someone's hurting in their life and we can help them through our work and taking care of them with our costs, then that makes me happy. All our team are the same and will listen to people, hear their story and treat them accordingly."

• Sid, Business Owner

→ No Tasmanian should be forced into hardship or exploitation to access life's essentials

The last six years

24,133
loans worth over
\$38 million



50%
more loans than
6 years ago



Delivered
200%
more quickly

→ No Tasmanian should be forced into hardship or exploitation to access life's essentials

State Government & Nils Tasmania

The last six years...

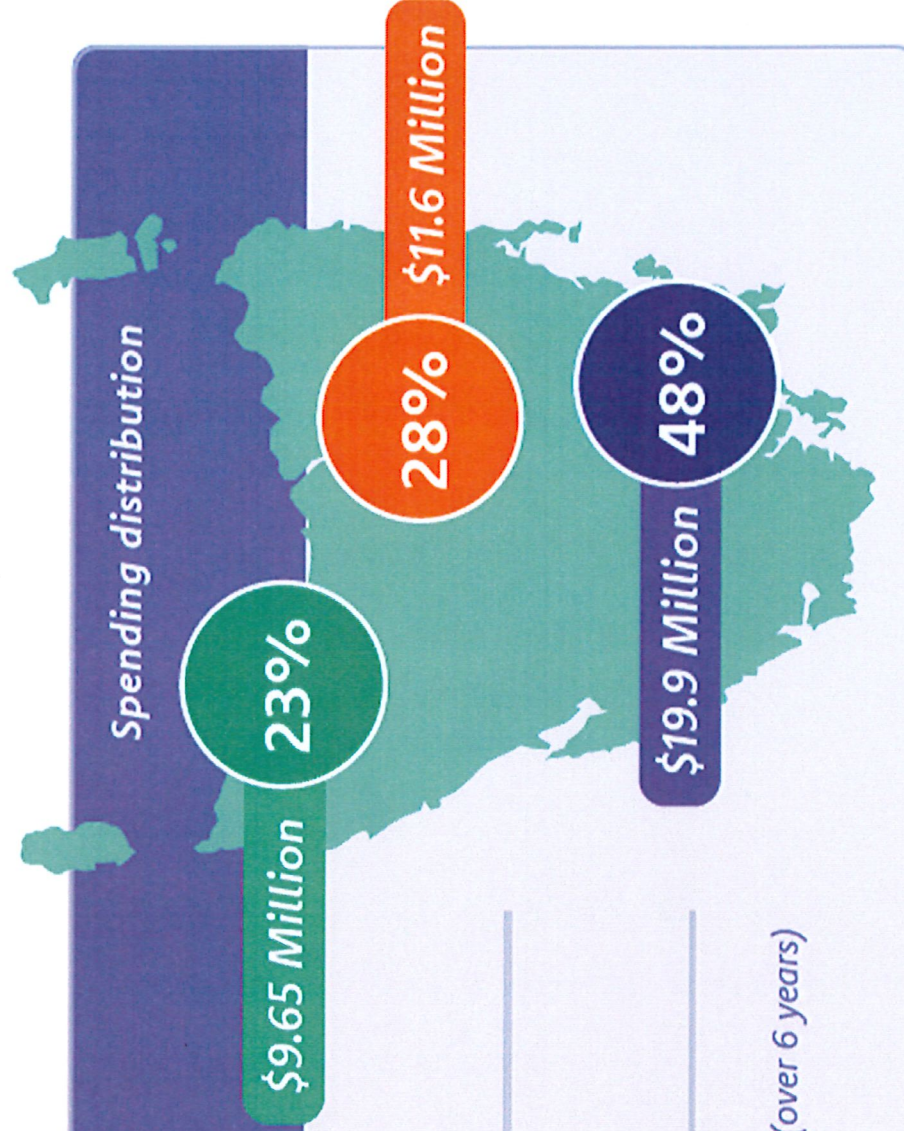


This supported the
Tasmanian economy

→ **26,000** purchases

→ worth **\$41.6** million

→ through **2000** suppliers (over 6 years)



State Government & NILS Tasmania

The last six years...



\$6.6 million in Operating Funding over six years

\$38 million

in loans enabling purchases
in local businesses,
repayments smoothed
out at \$40 per fortnight



\$45 million

in interest savings
and subsidies on
purchases



\$4 million

in energy savings
from energy efficient
appliances

= \$87 million in benefit to Tasmanians

→ *Subsidy contribution of \$2.7 million over six years*

Table a. Output Group Expense Summary by Output

	2024-25
	Actual
	\$'000
Output Group 7 - Community Partnerships and Priorities	
7.2 Community Services	23 900
7.3 Community Development	21 645
TOTAL	45 545

The expenditure amounts in the above table are reported in Note 2.1 of the 2024-25 financial statements of Department of Premier and Cabinet.

Both Output 7.2 and Output 7.3 have been involved in the restructure of outputs. In the 2025-26 Budget refer to Output 3.3 Community Services.

Table b. Revenue from Appropriation by Output

	2024-25
	Actual
	\$'000
Output Group 7 - Community Partnerships and Priorities	
7.2 Community Services	19 287
7.3 Community Development	21 278
TOTAL	40 565



Cyber Safety | Tasmania

Prevent. Protect. Play your part.

Tasmanian Government

Cyber Security Strategy 2024–2028

Digital Strategy and Services (DSS)
Department of Premier and Cabinet



Tasmanian
Government



A photograph of a woman with blonde hair, smiling and looking towards a man in a meeting. The man is partially visible on the left, wearing a blue and white patterned shirt. They are sitting at a wooden table. In the background, there is a large window with wooden frames. A dark blue rectangular box is overlaid on the image, containing white text.

**Enabling our digital
future through
trust and resilience,
for the benefit
of all Tasmanians**

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In today's digitally connected world, the Tasmanian Government's commitment to cyber security remains unwavering.

Tasmanians are more connected than ever before.

Through digitally enabled environments we can now enjoy the convenience of services, information, education, and access to the global economy - all at our fingertips.

This digital transformation and innovation is essential for our economy to grow and our State to flourish.

The benefits of the evolving digital landscape are many, but as digitally enabled environments become increasingly interwoven in our everyday lives, so too are the cyber security risks to both organisations and individuals.

Cyber threats are becoming more complex, more difficult to detect and more costly to fix.

I am deeply passionate about, and committed to, safeguarding Tasmania's digital future.

Tasmanian Government Cyber Security Strategy represents this Government's dedication to protecting both your citizen information and importantly maintaining trust in government services.

Our vision is to enable our digital future through trust and resilience, for the benefit of all Tasmanians.

The Tasmanian Government Cyber Security Strategy embodies our dedication to protecting the wellbeing and prosperity of Tasmanians and maintaining trust in government services.

This strategy will enhance our cyber governance and strengthen cyber security through increased collaboration and resource allocation with our partners. Central to this is embedding a cyber security culture across all Government services, and strengthening cyber defences for our most critical services. We will leverage our partnerships across business and education to improve cyber resilience throughout the Tasmanian Government service delivery ecosystem.

At its core, this strategy will build a foundation of trust, privacy and resilience in digital services, for all Tasmanians.

I am proud to share the Tasmanian Government Cyber Security Strategy with you and the journey it embarks upon, where together we can create a safe, trusted and resilient digital future for all Tasmanians.

I encourage you to join me as we work towards a more cyber safe future for Tasmania.

Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP

Minister for Innovation, Science, and the Digital Economy



OUR VISION

Enabling our digital future through trust and resilience, for the benefit of all Tasmanians



KEY PRINCIPLES

- 1 The wellbeing and prosperity of all Tasmanians is our focus
- 2 We interact with community as one government
- 3 Security is an enabler for trust that underpins our digital services



OUR GOALS

1 CYBER SECURITY LEADERSHIP

Enhance the Tasmanian Government cyber governance and operating model to strengthen the cyber security posture through more effective collaboration

2 EMBED SECURITY IN ALL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Embed a strong cyber security culture throughout government, to strengthen cyber defences for government's most critical services and create opportunities for cyber talent within Tasmania

3 PARTNERSHIPS

Uplift our engagement with partners to strengthen cyber security across the Tasmanian Government service delivery ecosystem



TARGET ACTIONS

- Evolve our cyber governance and operating model to create a better response to changing cyber threat landscape
- Continuously improve cyber security tools and processes to accelerate digital transformation and innovation
- Increase whole of government visibility of risk to better prioritise resource allocation
- Enhance cyber security across whole of government to safeguard Tasmanians' services and information

- Enhance cyber security culture across the whole of government to ensure all staff participate in uplifting our cyber resilience
- Protect critical government systems and information by assessing and identifying new ways to address risks and threats
- Grow cyber talent through sustainable cyber pathways to ensure Tasmania develops a pool of local experts that can be leveraged by government and industry

- Develop Tasmanian Government Partnerships and Cyber Management Framework to strengthen the cyber defences across our entire value chain
- Define the Tasmanian Government Partnership arrangements to ensure all participants benefit and jointly uplift Tasmania's cyber awareness
- Strengthen industry partnerships to grow cyber talent and delivery

Within Australia, the ACSC* reports that governments comprise almost half of all security incidents reported to the ACSC*.

The ACSC* reports that the frequency of cyber-attacks has increased from 1 every 10 minutes in 2020 to 1 every 6 minutes in 2024.

*Australian Signals Directorate's Australian Cyber Security Centre.

Source: Australian Cyber Security Centre (ACSC) Annual Cyber Threat Report July 2020 – June 2024.

RESPONDING TO OPPORTUNITIES AND THREATS

In 2020 the Tasmanian Government launched a strategy aimed at leveraging the opportunities offered by emerging technologies, called 'Our Digital Future'. The strategy focuses on enabling digital services and engagement across the Tasmanian community, the economy and government.

As more and more services and information become available online, citizens must be able to successfully and safely navigate cyber space to participate freely in an inclusive digital environment.

Research continues to remind us that cyber threats are not only becoming more varied and frequent, but also harder to detect and more costly to remediate.

This is also increasingly driven by the growing complexity of cyber, greater integration of technology across government, and the wider ecosystem, including partners as well as citizens.

The ACSC reports that large data repositories like the ones operated by government are attractive to malicious actors, making these the most commonly attacked assets. In addition, perpetrators continue to threaten infrastructure assets as well as private citizens in different ways, with fraud, online shopping and online banking related breaches being the most common methods.

The development of strong cyber defence capabilities is a critical enabler for web-based government services.

The Tasmanian Government is acutely aware of its leadership role as a driver and enabler in the development of a broader, state-wide capability.

As a consequence, the Tasmanian Government will expand its existing cyber awareness programs to uplift the cyber and digital literacy of Tasmanians, Tasmanian businesses and our service delivery partners.

Partnerships with business and educational facilities will provide further stimulus that will lead to the development of skilled resources, as well as allow government to co-create sustainable services and solutions with industry.



OUR PRINCIPLES GUIDE US AS WE DELIVER OUR STRATEGY

1 The wellbeing and prosperity of all Tasmanians is our focus

Any initiative we deliver must make a positive impact on the lives of Tasmanians.

2 We interact with community as one government

Our initiatives will create a more seamless experience with citizens and businesses interacting with government.

3 Security is an enabler for trust that underpins our digital services

We build security into every initiative from the ground up. Security is front of mind, not an afterthought.

OUR ACTION PLAN

Tasmanians are set to gain significant benefits from a digitally enabled environment: better, more convenient access to services and information, easier access to a global economy including world-class education.

On the flipside, this also brings Tasmania well within reach of global crime syndicates and malicious state actors. It is therefore critical to develop suitable multilayered defences for the whole of Tasmanian society, with government at its core.

As one of the largest organisations in the state, the Tasmanian Government is keenly aware of its central role in establishing a cyber resilient and aware society.

The first pillar of our cyber security strategy recognises this responsibility and continues to develop the strong leadership required to address the challenges efficiently and effectively.

Initiatives will focus on further refining the cyber governance, risk assurance and operating model that underpin our digital government services.

The second pillar of our cyber security strategy acknowledges that trusted and resilient government services must be grounded in a strong cyber resilient culture.

Programs will deliver cyber knowledge and skills, observability and information sharing, as well as offer pathways for the development of cyber security talent.

Finally, contemporary services rely on modern ecosystems combining the skills and knowledge of diverse partners. However, complex ecosystems also create new challenges, and the threat surface increases with every new partner.

The Tasmanian Government is committed to leveraging its partnerships across business and education to improve cyber resilience across the entire ecosystem. Together the initiatives supporting these three strategic areas of focus will build a foundation of trust, privacy and resilience in digital services for all Tasmanians.



1

CYBER SECURITY LEADERSHIP

Enhance the Tasmanian Government cyber governance and operating model to strengthen the cyber security posture through more effective collaboration.

DESCRIPTION

The Tasmanian Government understands that the response to the emerging cyber threat landscape requires the rapid evolution of our leadership and governance model, capable of developing and directing required resources in a timely and efficient manner.

This will be achieved through a closer alignment of resources, tools and processes across all government agencies, including the evolution of the Tasmanian Government cyber operating model, and efficient sharing of threat information as well as best practice.

The continuous improvement of the Tasmanian Government cyber incident response capability will remain a cornerstone of our cyber resilience approach. While our cyber security response remains grounded in the agencies' ability to secure their respective ecosystems, the added level of capability and service will significantly improve our cyber security posture.

This combination of a de-centralised service with a shared operating model will provide growth opportunities for Tasmanian cyber specialists, which will continue to underpin our local cyber security response.



TARGET ACTIONS

- Evolve our cyber governance and operating model to create a better response to changing cyber threat.
- Continuously improve cyber security tools and processes to accelerate digital transformation and innovation.
- Increase whole of government visibility of risk to better prioritise resource allocation.
- Enhance cyber security across whole of government to safeguard Tasmanians' services and information.



OUR
GOALS

2

EMBED SECURITY IN ALL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Embed a strong cyber security culture throughout government, to strengthen cyber defences for government's most critical services and create opportunities for cyber talent within Tasmania.

DESCRIPTION

Decisions that affect an organisation's cyber security posture are made by everyone, on every level of the organisation, every day. A strong security culture is therefore critical to creating and sustaining a resilient cyber environment.

The Tasmanian Government has recognised this and created a cyber security awareness program that is continuously updated to reflect latest intelligence about the cyber threat landscape.

Further efforts will be made to embed cyber security in every aspect of the design, implementation and operations processes across the Tasmanian Government service ecosystem.

This will be grounded in a risk-based approach, which recognises that not all assets can be equally protected at all times, and in response every organisation must recognise the value of each asset and develop suitable defences.



TARGET ACTIONS

- Enhance cyber security culture across the whole of government to ensure all staff participate in uplifting our cyber resilience.
- Protect critical government systems and information by assessing and identifying new ways to address risks and threats.
- Grow cyber talent through sustainable cyber pathways to ensure Tasmania develops a pool of local experts that can be leveraged by government and industry.



3

PARTNERSHIPS

Uplift our engagement with partners to strengthen cyber security across the Tasmanian Government service delivery ecosystem.

DESCRIPTION

The delivery of modern, web-based services requires a broad set of competencies, which is why most organisations leverage capabilities developed by partner organisations.

This allows fast, scalable access to critical skills and services, but also expands the attack surface and introduces new risks across the supply chain that are more difficult to assess and manage.

The Tasmanian Government will continue to work across its partner ecosystem to continuously review and where required adjust its cyber security posture.

In addition, the Tasmanian Government will actively seek opportunities to cooperate with local cyber security professionals to continue to leverage their skills in the ongoing defence of the government's assets and encourage the development of the pool of Tasmanian cyber professionals.



TARGET ACTIONS

- Develop Tasmanian Government Partnerships and Cyber Management Framework to strengthen the cyber defences across our entire value chain.
- Define the Tasmanian Government Partnership arrangements to ensure all participants benefit and jointly uplift Tasmania's cyber awareness.
- Strengthen industry partnerships to grow cyber talent and delivery.



Tasmanian
Government

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Guidance for the use of artificial intelligence in Tasmanian Government

September 2024

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

- To provide guidance for agencies to ensure a consistent baseline approach to the use of artificial intelligence by the Tasmanian Government.
- This document recognises the work being undertaken at a national level to provide a nationally consistent approach to the safe and ethical use of artificial intelligence by governments.
- Users of this guidance are advised that developments in AI are evolving quickly, and that guidance may depreciate with newly identified opportunities and risks, and technical developments.
- Release of this guidance was approved by the Tasmanian Government Secretaries Board 13 September 2024 and will be updated periodically, to reflect new developments.

SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS

- Innovation in artificial intelligence (AI) technologies has become major driver for opportunity and risk for Government.
- All jurisdictions in Australia have progressed policy or guidance linked to responsible and ethical use of AI.
- The guidance provided in this document is aligned with the national work that has been undertaken to develop the *National framework for the assurance of artificial intelligence in government*¹.
- This document outlines seven recommendations for agencies in relation to AI deployments:
 1. To deploy AI responsibly and ensure that that AI is deployed in a way that is safe, trustworthy, and ethical.
 2. Adopt a risk-based approach for specific uses and applications of AI.

3. Develop agency specific policy or guidance that is aligned with government and industry standards and frameworks.
 4. Adopt consistent whole-of-government vocabulary for AI.
 5. Build awareness and capabilities to develop, deploy and operate AI systems.
 6. Align procurement practices with responsible deployment and risk assurance processes for AI.
 7. Commit to whole-of-government cooperation and collaboration.
- Additional guidance is also provided with regards to the relevant policy, principles, considerations, and recommendations for various aspects of AI deployment, such as human, societal, and environmental impact, legal advice, transparency mechanisms, privacy, security, information, and data governance.

BACKGROUND

What is Artificial Intelligence?

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a domain of computer science that focuses on building computer systems to imitate human behaviour with a focus on developing models that can learn and can autonomously take actions on behalf of a human¹.
- AS/ISO 22989 defines an AI system as “an engineered system that generates predictive outputs such as content, forecasts, recommendations, or decisions for a given set of human-defined objectives.”²
- AI systems encompass a variety of interrelated techniques and technologies, a basic overview is provided in table 1 (below).

Table 1 – Interrelated AI techniques and technologies

Generative AI	AI applications that when given some prompt or input can generate new content such text, images, audio, video, etc. When Generative AI solutions are combined with sophisticated language models that can interpret and replicate human language, an extremely effective method of communication between humans and machines/computers can be created.
---------------	--

¹ Info-Tech Research Group – provides technology research and advisory services for DPAC DSS.

² AS ISO/IEC 22989:2023 Information technology - Artificial intelligence - Artificial intelligence concepts and terminology

Machine Learning	A subset of AI that trains machines to learn from existing data and improve upon that data to make decisions or predictions. Deep learning is a more specialised machine learning technique in which more complex layers of data and neural networks are used to process data and make decisions ³ .
Natural Language Processing (NLP)	A field of AI that deals with the ability of computer systems to understand and generate human language. NLP algorithms are used to analyse text, comprehend, converse with users, and perform tasks like language translation, sentiment analysis, and question answering ⁴ .
Computer Vision	Systems that enable computers to 'see' and comprehend the visual world, analysing images and videos like humans. Computer vision algorithms analyse images and videos for tasks like object detection, face recognition, and self-driving cars ⁴ .

The emergence and importance of Generative AI

- The recent emergence of Generative AI technology has extended the effectiveness, accessibility, and ease of use of AI technology enabling its integration into mainstream human activity, providing significant opportunity for innovation and productivity.
- Generative AI has the potential to assist workers by “automating well-defined and highly repetitive tasks, allowing them to then spend more time on the more complex aspects of their jobs. Generative AI can also augment and assist workers to complete more complex tasks, such as suggesting step-by-step problem-solving instructions or guiding workers through new skills and new ways of approaching problems”⁵.

The opportunities of AI

- The value proposition of AI powered automation and advanced decision support are already well accepted across industry and government. AI solutions have been routinely deployed in a wide variety of applications and use within organisations for many years.
- The continued technological development and use of AI is expected to impact all sectors of the economy, improving existing industries and creating new products and services, and the use and development of modern AI technologies has significant ongoing potential to transform society and the economy.

³ NZ Government, Interim Generative AI guidance for the public service, <https://www.digital.govt.nz/standards-and-guidance/technology-and-architecture/interim-generative-ai-guidance-for-the-public-service/>

⁴ NSW Government, A common understanding: simplified AI definitions from leading standards, <https://www.digital.nsw.gov.au/policy/artificial-intelligence/a-common-understanding-simplified-ai-definitions-from-leading>

⁵ Tech Council of Australia. “Australia’s Generative AI opportunity” (July 2023).

- For Government, the use of AI is likely to offer many benefits in efficiency and productivity enhancement through process simplification and automation, improved service design and methods of delivery, improved policy development through the classification and collation of large volumes of unstructured information.

Understanding the limitations and risk associated with AI.

- The use and deployment of AI is not without risk. Risks include the potential for bias, inaccuracy, lack of transparency and accountability. These issues are particularly important when working in the public sector. There are also issues relating to privacy and data protection, potential legal risks such as infringement of copyright and intellectual property, and in the worst cases the generation of malicious, fake, or illegal content⁶.
- For many organisations the most likely diffusion of AI will be via the introduction and integration of AI into vendors' solutions and service offerings. This type of technology diffusion will be difficult to control, and some vendors may be protective of the intellectual property associated with their algorithms and capabilities.
- The Human Technology Institute (HTI) at the University of Technology Sydney recently published a comprehensive report that provides an excellent overview of risks/harms and some of the duty of care issues faced by organisations⁷.
- The HTI report emphasises that beyond the generic commercial, regulatory, and reputational risks for organisations, AI systems have capacity to "cause real harm to people, both to individuals and society more broadly", including "threats to safety, discrimination, loss of personal information, and manipulation" along with the capacity "to amplify inequality, undermine democracy, contribute to unemployment, threaten security and increase social isolation".
- The HTI report also suggests that AI-related risks and harms flow from three sources – AI system failures, the malicious or misleading use of AI systems, and the overuse or reckless use of AI systems.
- There is now a greater awareness of AI in many sections of community and people are becoming increasingly concerned about AI-related risks. Only a third of Australians say that they trust AI systems, and less than half believe the benefits of AI outweigh the risks⁷.
- With AI solutions becoming more and more pervasive and accessible, communities, industry and governments around the world are demanding that AI applications adhere to human-based values and take into consideration possible ethical and social impacts of the technology on society⁸.

⁶ DTA, Interim guidance on government use of public generative AI tools - November 2023

⁷ Solomon, Lauren, and Nicholas Davis. "The state of AI governance in Australia." (2023).

⁸ Info-tech Research, Build Your Generative AI Roadmap.

- The new challenge for industry and government is to ensure that AI is developed and used responsibly in a way that the community can trust that the technology is being used safely and appropriately in line with an underlying set of principles that reduces the risk of any unintended consequences.

Development of national principles for the ethical and responsible use of AI

- The Australian Government through the Department of Industry, Science and Resources maintains a *set of internationally aligned principles for AI Ethics*⁹. This voluntary set of eight principles aims to – achieve safer, more reliable, and fairer outcome for all Australians, reduce the risk of negative impact on those affected by AI applications, and help businesses and governments to practice the highest ethical standards when designing, developing, and implementing AI⁹.
- All government jurisdictions in Australia have progressed policy or guidance linked to responsible and ethical use of AI. Many jurisdictions actively engaged in significant AI capability development. Various industry groups and professional bodies have also developed principles, practices, and guidelines to address specific risks within their sector that are also applicable to government e.g., health, education, public safety, etc.
- In 2023 the Australian Government established the Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Government Taskforce that was focused on the safe and responsible use of AI by the Australian Public Service.
- Late in 2023 State and Territory Governments were invited to form a working group (through the Data and Digital Ministers forum) to codesign a nationally consistent approach for the safe and ethical use of artificial intelligence in Australia.
- The objective for this nationally consistent approach was ensure that AI projects are subject to a similar standard of risk assessment across jurisdictions, and to reduce any duplication of resources that may be spent developing individual processes and initiatives in isolation.
- On 21 June 2024, the Data and Digital Ministers endorsed the *National framework for the assurance of artificial intelligence in government*¹⁰. This framework aligns with *Australia's AI Ethics Principles*⁹ and includes additional guidance common assurance practices.¹⁰
- Jurisdictions have agreed to align with the national framework as closely as practicable, understanding its application may differ according to jurisdictional specific governance and assurance protocols.

⁹ <https://www.industry.gov.au/publications/australias-artificial-intelligence-ethics-framework/australias-ai-ethics-principles>

¹⁰ <https://www.finance.gov.au/publications/data-and-digital-ministers-meeting-outcomes/23-february-2024>

AGENCY GUIDANCE

- The following recommendations are provided for Agencies to develop policy and guidance in relation to deployment and use of AI.

Recommendation 1. Deploy AI responsibly: ensure that that AI is deployed in a way that is safe, trustworthy, and ethical.

- Responsible deployment of AI means that those responsible and accountable for the design, development, and use of AI evaluate the impact of AI systems for both the Tasmanian Government and on the broader community and ensure that its use aligns with the *Australia's AI Ethics Principles*¹¹ (see also Appendix A).
- These Principles provide a set of internationally aligned directions for the ethical use of AI that can help guide the design, development, and use of AI within government.
- Responsible AI deployment includes the consideration of fairness and inclusivity, reliability and safety, the ability to interpret and explain system behaviour (transparency), protecting privacy and assuring the security of information assets.
- AI should be viewed as a complementary tool and the application and deployment of AI should ensure that “humans are retained in the loop”, and that AI should not be used in place of critical thinking.
- When AI is deployed responsibly, it can improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and quality of government services.
- Many industry and government sectors also provide similarly aligned principles that may be contextualised for those sectors.

Recommendation 2. Adopt a risk-based approach for specific uses and applications of AI.

- A risk-based approach should be adopted to assess the risk of the impact of AI technology in the context of specific uses and applications for the given appetite for risk set by an agency or by the Government as a whole.
- Risk assessments help to establish the controls needed to ensure the responsible deployment of AI (Responsible AI).
- This recommendation is consistent with the mandatory requirements set out in the *Protective Security Policy Framework (PSPF)*¹¹.

¹¹ Tasmania's Protective Security Policy Framework,
https://www.dpac.tas.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0019/305335/Tasmanias-Protective-Security-Policy-Framework-TAS-PSPF.pdf

- It is important that Agencies take a balanced view of the opportunities and risk associated with AI. Like many technology solutions there are both low and high-risk scenarios associated with AI deployment. Many deployments will present significant opportunities for productivity and innovation and will not be high risk.
- In collaboration with State and Territories, the Australian Government released the National framework for the assurance of artificial intelligence in government[↗] based on work undertaken by the NSW Government to develop guidance on AI risk assurance. The national framework emphasises taking a risk-based approach to AI in the adoption and deployment of AI solutions.
- AS/ISO 31000 Risk Management provides appropriate guidance for managing risk and undertaking risk assessment.
- The NSW Artificial Intelligence Assurance Framework[↗] provides appropriate risk assessment guidance aimed specifically at AI projects and solutions.

Recommendation 3. Develop agency specific policy and guidance that is aligned with government and industry standards and frameworks.

- It is recommended that agencies develop policies and guidance aligned with their specific business requirements and the associated risks.
- Where policies and guidance are developed, it is recommended that Agencies consider how they align with Australia's AI Ethics Principles[↗] and the National framework for the assurance of artificial intelligence in government[↗].
- Additional considerations for aligning with the National AI assurance practices is also provided in the next section– *Additional considerations for aligning with national AI assurance practices.*
- Many industry sectors and areas of government have also developed standards and guidance for AI, where appropriate they should also be taken into consideration.
- National and international standards are also being established to address key aspects of AI; the following standards are particularly relevant –
 - ISO 22989 Artificial intelligence concepts and terminology – establishes terminology for AI and describes concepts in the field of AI.
 - ISO 38507 Governance implications of the use of artificial intelligence by organisations – provides governance guidance relating to the use of AI, in order to ensure its effective, efficient, and acceptable use within organisations.
 - ISO 42001 Artificial intelligence management system – specifies requirements for establishing, implementing, maintaining, and continually improving an Artificial Intelligence Management System within organisations.

Recommendation 4. Adopt consistent whole-of-government vocabulary for AI.

- The diffusion of AI technology has established new vocabularies to describe key concepts for emerging technologies and services. This vocabulary is often inconsistently applied or difficult to explain to people in non-technical terms. Notably there is not even a consistent definition for AI itself.
- To ensure we don't have divergent definitions for key concepts and to avoid misinterpretations, it is recommended that agencies adopt and contribute to the Tasmanian Government AI Glossary (See Appendix B).
- Acknowledging that there is likely to be sector specific terminology that would not be relevant for the Glossary.

Recommendation 5. Build awareness and capabilities to develop, deploy and operate AI systems.

- Agencies should ensure that employees have appropriate training, skills, and knowledge to develop, deploy and operate AI systems. This includes understanding the principles and requirements for responsible deployment of AI, and insight with respect to the capabilities, limitations and risks associated with the AI systems.¹²

Recommendation 6. Align procurement practices with responsible deployment and risk assurance processes for AI.

- It is important to have visibility and control over how vendors and service providers use or integrate AI into the solutions or services they provide.
- Whilst Agencies may plan to directly procure AI technologies, solutions, and services, it is more likely that vendors and service providers will introduce AI technology into their solutions or service offerings.
- Procurement teams should seek to evaluate the responsible AI and risk assurance guidance provided in *Australia's AI Ethics Principles*[↗] and the *National framework for the assurance of artificial intelligence in government*[↗].
- Where feasible key responsible AI and risk assurance concerns should be integrated into requirements documentation. Procurement teams may also consider including specific commercial protections in contracts.

¹² Adapted from the ANZPAA AI Principles for Policing jurisdictions.

Recommendation 7. Commit to whole-of-government cooperation and collaboration.

- It is recommended that agencies commit to a culture of collaboration and knowledge sharing across-agencies and for whole of government collaboration relating to AI.
- This includes –
 - participation in the codesign of policy, standards, and guidance.
 - supporting the alignment of approaches for the assurance of government use of AI.
 - establishing pathways to share knowledge such as AI solution patterns, collaboration on joint projects or sharing examples of newly identified risks, effective mitigation measures, and lessons learnt.
 - responding to newly identified opportunities and risks, technical developments, legislative change, and national and international developments.
 - Supporting the maintenance of a whole-of-government AI initiative register.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR ALIGNING WITH NATIONAL AI ASSURANCE PRACTICES.

- The following guidance is provided in relation to aligning with the assurance practices documented as part of the *National framework for the assurance of artificial intelligence in government*[↗].
- The Tasmanian Government does not have a formal AI assurance framework of its own but has agreed to align with the *National framework for the assurance of artificial intelligence in government*[↗] where practicable.
- Eight assurance practices are outlined in the *National framework for the assurance of artificial intelligence in government*[↗] derived from work undertaken by the NSW Government as part of the *NSW Artificial Intelligence Assurance Framework*[↗].
- The *NSW Artificial Intelligence Assurance Framework* is also a publicly available framework that provides more detailed guidance on the processes for undertaking a risk assessment of AI projects and initiatives against most of the assurance practices.

When should AI assurance processes be used?

- The assurance practices outlined in the *National framework for the assurance of artificial intelligence in government*¹³ can assist agencies to design, build and use AI-enabled products and solutions by helping agencies to identify risks that may be associated with AI projects and initiatives.
- It is highly recommended that the assurance practices be considered in conjunction with the *NSW Artificial Intelligence Assurance Framework*¹³ for initiatives that involve the design, development, deployment, and use of AI solutions that are high risk or include the use of large language models and generative AI.
- In instances of low risk, the evaluation of initiatives or solutions against the assurance processes may not be warranted. For example, you may not need to assess initiatives “that are using AI systems and data driven tools that are a widely available commercial applications (which you are not training, prompting or customising), and you are not using in any way that is a potentially elevated risk use case”¹³.
- Agencies may also consider exempting or whitelisting specific solutions from requiring assessment where it is implicit that responsible AI requirements can be met, and any associated risk levels can be easily assessed as low.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Establish risk tolerances for use of AI assurance practices and processes that are aligned to your agencies risk management policy.
- In the absence of clear risk assessment guidelines, review the *NSW Artificial Intelligence Assurance Framework*¹³ criteria for applying assurance processes and assess whether these criteria would be relevant to your agencies risk appetite.
- Assess projects and initiatives against the initial national framework’s assurance processes and the guidance provided in this document, where risk tolerances are exceeded.
- Agencies should seek advice from the Tasmanian Government CIO or through the Tasmanian Government Data and Digital Subcommittee where they are uncertain on how to approach an AI assurance issue.

¹³ NSW AI Assurance Framework <https://www.digital.nsw.gov.au/policy/artificial-intelligence/nsw-artificial-intelligence-assurance-framework>.

Legal advice

- Legal obligations in areas such as privacy, health information, discrimination, copyright, human rights and the role of AI in decision making are potential challenges for the deployment and use of AI solutions.

CONSIDERATIONS

- If AI is used for the purposes of automated decision making:
 - it should be supported by an appropriate legal foundation (including legislation);
 - humans must remain in the process; and
 - it cannot be used to replace the role of the human decision maker – for example, in a situation where penalties or sanctions may be imposed, the imposition of an appropriate penalty or sanction must not be automated, but instead be carried out by an appropriate human decision maker and then after her or him having turned her or his mind to the matter for determination and genuinely considered the matter on its merits.
- The inappropriate use of AI in decision making may expose the decision to the risk of legal challenge, including judicial review, including on the basis that it may be improper, unreasonable or has resulted in the denial of procedural fairness.
- Agencies should obtain legal advice from the Office of the Solicitor-General or the Office of the Crown Solicitor during the early stages of project development and at any stages during a project where they may have concerns or queries of a legal nature in relation to the use of AI (or otherwise more generally) including if at any stage if it is unclear whether use of AI:
 - complies with legal requirements, including in relation to its use or role in any decision-making process; or
 - otherwise presents legal risks.
- If copyrighted content is intended to be used to train an AI or even create work based on copyrighted content, its use requires the prior written permission of the copyright owner
- AI solutions may also require specific commercial protections in procurement contracts – for example what rights solution providers provide or have in relation to the use of specific data sets and models used in the solution, requirements to provide transparency mechanisms, or specific information security requirements or assurances.

Transparency mechanisms

- It should be made clear when AI tools are being used especially if AI was used to generate any of the information in briefings and official communications.
- When using AI tools, users need to be able to justify and explain their advice and decisions. They also need to critically examine outputs from these AI tools to ensure it reflects all relevant information and does not incorporate irrelevant or inaccurate information.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Users should ensure the ideas being generated by AI are ethical and responsible.
- Information provided by public AI tools is often not verified, may not be factual, or may be unacceptably biased. Users of AI tools should stop and think about where the data comes from and be aware of the nature of the tool being used.
- The United States Government National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) proposes four principles for judging how well AI decisions can be explained⁷.
- Ensure there is an effective way to challenge an AI generated or informed decision.
- Consult with relevant community stakeholders when you design an AI system. This is particularly important for higher risk uses of AI.
- Create protocols or policy for attribution, tell people when you are using AI.

Privacy and data security

- The National framework for the assurance of artificial intelligence in government⁷ provides significant guidance in relation to privacy and the protection of data. However, there are factors to be considered within the Tasmanian Government context.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Ensure that AI solutions and initiatives are compliant with the Personal Information Protection Act 2004⁷.
- Ensure any inputs into 'open' or public AI tools (such as ChatGPT) will not include or reveal sensitive, classified, or personal information.
- Government information should only be entered into these tools if it has already been made public or would be acceptable to be made public. Ensure those determining that the information in question is suitable for public release have the appropriate organisational delegation to do so.

- Protected or sensitive information must not be entered into these tools under any circumstances. Similarly, Information that would allow 'open' or public AI platforms to extrapolate protected or sensitive information based on the aggregation of content entered over time should not be entered. This consideration also extends to contractors and consultants who are working with protected or sensitive information provided to them by government agencies.
- Undertake privacy impact assessments on initiatives that deploy or use AI. The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC) provides authoritative guidance and tools[↗] that can be adapted to assist with this process, noting that specific sectors such as Health and Education will have sector specific guidance.
- Develop a privacy management plan[↗] for initiatives that involve the use of personal information.

Protective and cyber security

- The deployment and use of AI solutions need to ensure that protective security practices are followed.
- The Tasmanian Protective Security Policy Framework establishes the minimum protective security standards for Tasmanian Government agencies and their subsidiaries. This includes specific security requirements for information management and cyber security.
- The Tasmanian Government Cyber Security Policy outlines the principles, roles, and responsibility for managing cyber security risk across government. All agencies maintain cyber security policies, procedures, and guidance.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Where possible ensure that the information assets being used within an AI solution, model, or tool set are classified in accordance with the PSPF information classification requirements specified in INFOSEC-2 Core requirement 8.
- Undertake a cyber security threat and risk assessment (TRA) on AI tools and solutions and where that assessment identifies risk consider the development of appropriate cyber security controls.
- The Australian Signals Directorate (ASD) provides a comprehensive guide on how to use AI systems securely – Engaging with Artificial Intelligence[↗].
- Protective security practices should also include consideration for – foreign ownership, control, or influence, mis/dis-information, and democratic integrity.

Information and data governance

- The decision rights and accountabilities for information and data related processes is essential for successful AI deployment.
- The Office of the State Archivist (OSA) maintains the Tasmanian Government Information Management Framework⁷. The Framework identifies and defines the various components which contribute to effective information management.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Align standards and practices with Tasmanian Government Information Management Framework⁷.
- Maintain or align with uniform standards and practices for data management, including data quality.
- The quality, accuracy, and fairness of AI systems heavily rely on the data used. Ensuring high-quality data inputs is essential for successful AI deployment.
- Ensure the data custodians are identified for data used in AI solutions and initiatives.
- When using AI solutions and tools considerations should be given to data residency and data sovereignty risks.
- Indigenous data sovereignty and governance – if you are you using Indigenous data, ensure the AI outputs are consistent with the expectations of First Nations peoples. The National Indigenous Australian Agency (NIAA) has released a Framework for Governance of Indigenous Data⁷ which can be used as guidance.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND POLICY

- Personal Information Protection Act 2004⁷ – governs the collection, use and disclosure of personal information. Schedule 1 of the act specifies the principles and requirements for the protection of personal information (privacy) by the Tasmanian Government.
- State Service Code of Conduct⁷ – reinforces and upholds the standards of behaviour and conduct that apply to all employees, including officers and Heads of Agency.
- Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Act 1998⁷ – makes discrimination and certain other conduct (such as sexual harassment) unlawful. It is discrimination when a person is treated less favourably (worse) than other people because they have a particular characteristic, such as their age, race, sex, or disability.

- *Tasmanian Government Cyber Security Policy*[↗] – sets out the roles and responsibilities for agencies in relation to protecting Tasmanian Government information, systems, and services from cyber security threats.
- *Tasmanian Government Protective Security Policy Framework (PSPF)*[↗] – establishes the minimum protective security standard required to provide protection, enabling resilience to compromise and harm. The PSPF addresses security outcomes required in the area of security governance, information security, personnel security, and physical security. The information security requirements of the PSPF are highly aligned with risk management issues associated with AI.

APPENDIX A – PRINCIPLES FOR THE ETHICAL AND RESPONSIBLE USE OF AI

Australia's AI Ethics Principles are proposed to be used for the national base approach. This will enable a flexible base for AI assurance that will allow national frameworks to develop over time in line with the quickly evolving nature of AI technology. Jurisdictions are encouraged to adapt these principles to their existing frameworks and ethics principles, as well as issuing additional guidance to support interpretation in their individual contexts.

Australia's AI Ethics principles are:

1. **Human, societal, and environmental wellbeing:** AI systems should benefit individuals, society, and the environment.
2. **Human-centred values:** AI systems should respect human rights, diversity, and the autonomy of individuals.
3. **Fairness:** AI systems should be inclusive and accessible and should not involve or result in unfair discrimination against individuals, communities, or groups.
4. **Privacy protection and security:** AI systems should respect and uphold privacy rights and data protection and ensure the security of data.
5. **Reliability and safety:** AI systems should reliably operate in accordance with their intended purpose.
6. **Transparency and explainability:** There should be transparency and responsible disclosure so people can understand when they are being significantly impacted by AI and can find out when an AI system is engaging with them.
7. **Contestability:** When an AI system significantly impacts a person, community, group or environment, there should be a timely process to allow people to challenge the use or outcomes of the AI system.
8. **Accountability:** People responsible for the different phases of the AI system lifecycle should be identifiable and accountable for the outcomes of the AI systems, and human oversight of AI systems should be enabled.

APPENDIX B – TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT AI GLOSSARY

- Where appropriate the Tasmanian Government AI Glossary will align with ISO 22989 Artificial intelligence concepts and terminology, however preference will be to focus on providing plain English definitions and terminology in the first instance.

Glossary

- **Artificial intelligence (AI)** – is an engineered system that generates predictive outputs such as content, forecasts, recommendations, or decisions for a given set of human-defined objectives². AI encapsulates a domain of computer science that focuses on building computer systems to imitate human behaviour with a focus on developing models that can learn and can autonomously take actions on behalf of a human¹.
- **AI assurance framework** – the processes and practices that ensure the safe, ethical, and effective development and deployment of artificial intelligence (AI) systems.
- **Computer vision** – Systems that enable computers to 'see' and comprehend the visual world, analysing images and videos like humans. Computer vision algorithms analyse images and videos for tasks like object detection, face recognition, and self-driving cars⁴.
- **Cyber security** – the body of technologies, processes and practices designed to protect networks, computers, programs and information from attack, damage, or unauthorised access.
- **Cyber security threat and risk assessment (TRA)** – in the context of AI, a systematic process used to identify, assess, and remediate cyber risks associated with an AI system, solution or use case.
- **Data sovereignty** – ensuring that data remains within the jurisdictional boundaries and legal protections of its origin, impacting how it's stored, processed, and transferred.
- **Data governance** – the processes, policies, and standards put in place to ensure the availability, quality, and security of data.
- **Ethical impact** – behaviour impacting accepted standards of conduct or moral principles (notions of right and wrong). Applicable in both a social and professional context.
- **Generative AI (GenAI)** – AI applications that when given some prompt or input can generate new content such text, images, audio, video, etc. When Generative AI solutions are combined with sophisticated language models that can interpret and replicate human language, an extremely effective method of communication between humans and machines/computers can be created.

- **Large Language Models (LLMs)** – powerful computational machine learning models that excel at natural language processing tasks. LLMs are developed through the use of complex mathematical representations and statistical relationships of language associated with vast amounts of data.
- **Machine learning** – A subset of AI that trains machines to learn from existing data and improve upon that data to make decisions or predictions. Deep learning is a more specialised machine learning technique in which more complex layers of data and neural networks are used to process data and make decisions.
- **Natural language processing (NLP)** – A field of AI that deals with the ability of computer systems to understand and generate human language. NLP algorithms are used to analyse text, comprehend, converse with users, and perform tasks like language translation, sentiment analysis, and question answering.
- **Social impact** – impact on the wellbeing of communities and individuals.

APPENDIX C – SINGLE PAGE AI GUIDANCE REFERENCE

Emission Reduction and Resilience Plans – New Action Status

Tabled - 18/11/25
Minister Ogilvie

Sector	Status at September 2025	Lead/Partner
Cross-cutting		
1	Climate Change Business Innovation Grant Program to support businesses to take action on climate change, focusing on local innovation, collaboration and partnerships.	Climate Change Office
2	Business and Industry Climate Change Innovation Forum to showcase the innovative work underway across Tasmania, provide information about emerging opportunities and risks, and encourage networking and information sharing between sectors.	Climate Change Office
3	Climate Change Champions Program to develop ways to recognise innovative, best practice climate action across all sectors.	Climate Change Office/Brand Tasmania
4	Climate Reporting Support Program to support small- to medium-sized businesses to better understand climate-related risks to meet changing regulatory and market demands, including measuring and reporting on their emissions.	Climate Change Office
Transport		
5	Financial support for Tasmanians to purchase electric bikes (E-bikes included in Energy Saver Loan Scheme).	Climate Change Office
6	Support small businesses to purchase cargo e-bikes for last mile deliveries (Deliver-e grant).	Climate Change Office
7	Support small businesses to purchase electric delivery vans (Deliver-e grant).	Climate Change Office
8	Fund pilot sites for secure bike parking.	Climate Change Office
9	Grants to support the expansion of the state's electric vehicle (EV) charging network (ChargeSmart 3).	Climate Change Office
10	Support the Australian Electric Vehicle Association (AEVA) National Conference and the Energy, Efficiency, Electric Expo in Hobart.	Climate Change Office
11	Develop public education resources about driving electric vehicles in Tasmanian conditions, EV tourism materials, and resources for small business.	Climate Change Office
12	Support industry to develop a skills transition plan to support the switch to electric vehicles, delivered through funding for TasTAFE to subsidise EV-related automotive training for the Tasmanian automotive industry.	Climate Change Office /TasTAFE
Waste		
13	Collaborate with the Waste and Resource Recovery Board and other key stakeholders to consider emissions reduction and resilience in waste policies and projects.	Climate Change Office/WRR Board

Emission Reduction and Resilience Plans – New Action Status

Sector		Status at September 2025	Lead/Partner
IPPU			
18	Work with partners to support research and development to reduce emissions across the IPPU sector (Heavy Industries Low Emissions Carbon CRC membership).	Complete	Climate Change Office/HILT CRC
19	Hold roundtable meetings to share information and learnings about existing technology options to decarbonise.	In progress / ongoing	Climate Change Office/TMEC/HILT CRC
IPPU and Energy			
20	Expand engagement with Tasmanian major industrial businesses to support our large emitters to reduce emissions and achieve their decarbonisation plans.	In progress	Climate Change Office
21	Work with relevant peak bodies and industry to map the strategic transition requirements for Tasmanian businesses to reduce emissions from their energy use and industrial processes.	In progress	Climate Change Office/TMEC
Energy			
22	Develop information and resources to support landlords to improve energy efficiency in rental properties.	In progress	Climate Change Office
23	Work with partners to support households to make informed decisions about reducing or electrifying their gas and other fossil fuel use.	In progress	Climate Change Office
24	Work with partners to deliver workshops for community sector professionals to assist vulnerable clients to manage their energy use and power bills.	In progress	Climate Change Office
Agriculture			
25	Develop a program to support agri-food businesses to better understand climate-related risks to meet changing regulatory and market demands.	In progress	Climate Change Office
26	Seek opportunities for Tasmania through the Australian Government's commitment to accelerate on-ground action through training, education and capacity building.	Scoping	Climate Change Office /NRE
27	Partner in the Zero Net Emissions Agriculture Cooperative Research Centre (CRC).	Complete	Climate Change Office /NRE
28	Consider climate change impacts as part of Tasmania's annual Agribusiness Insights Report.	In progress	Climate Change Office /NRE
29	Review the \$250,000 Carbon Farming Advice Rebate Pilot Program to ensure it complements new national approaches.	In progress	Climate Change Office/NRE
30	Establish a group or partner with existing networks to coordinate action between Tasmania's primary industries.	Scoping	Climate Change Office/NRE

Emission Reduction and Resilience Plans – New Action Status

Sector		Status at September 2025	Lead/Partner
LULUCF			
31	Work with key partners to develop resources to increase understanding for landowners to participate in carbon and other emerging markets.	In progress	Climate Change Office
32	Work with local government, regional development authorities and other institutions to plant climate-tolerant trees in urban environments, to increase carbon storage and build resilience during high temperatures.	In progress	Climate Change Office
33	Undertake a gap analysis and audit of Tasmania's seed bank capacity to support research into seed sourcing, to improve the resilience of native forests and plantations under the changing climate.	Scoping	Climate Change Office /partner organisation
34	Work with the Australian Government to improve transparency of LULUCF emission reporting, for example in relation to native forest harvesting and bushfires.	Ongoing	Climate Change Office

Tabled - 18/11/25
Minister Agilvie

2024-2025 EINs

	Issued To	Location	Date of Notice	Act or Reg	Section	Offence Particulars	Penalty Units	Total Value
1	Riverdale Dairies Pty Ltd	Ten Mile Track, Springfield	3/07/2024	EMPC_Waste_Regs	8(1)	Deposit concentration of a controlled waste	10	\$ 1,950
2	David Michael WILSON	Walton Street Huonville	8/07/2024	Litter_Act_2007	9(1)(c)	Illegal dumping	5	\$ 975
3	Jamie KELLY-SIMPSON	Silverdome, Oakden Rd, Prospect	19/07/2024	Litter_Act_2007	9(1)(b)	Illegal dumping	2	\$ 390
4	Jamie KELLY-SIMPSON	Silverdome, Oakden Rd, Prospect	19/07/2024	Litter_Act_2007	9(1)(b)	Illegal dumping	2	\$ 390
5	Footrot Flats Pty Ltd	Stowport Abattoir, Warra Rd, Stowport	30/07/2024	EMPCA_1994	45(3)	Contravention of condition of EPN	10	\$ 2,020
6	Footrot Flats Pty Ltd	Stowport Abattoir, Warra Rd, Stowport	30/07/2024	EMPCA_1994	45(3)	Contravention of condition of EPN	10	\$ 2,020
7	Tasmanian Berries Pty Ltd	Osmaston Road, Deloraine	31/07/2024	EMPC_Smoke_Regs	8	Burn prohibited waste	10	\$ 2,020
8	Jyhi HEATLEY	Dominic College, Tolosa St, Glenorchy	1/08/2024	EMPC_Waste_Regs	6(1)	Unlawful disposal of a controlled waste	10	\$ 1,950
9	Berried In Tas	Oaks Road Carrick	7/08/2024	EMPC_Smoke_Regs	8	Burn prohibited waste	5	\$ 975
10	Greenwing Resources Ltd	Que River Mine, Waratah	7/08/2024	EMPCA_1994	51B	Breach of permit condition	10	\$ 1,950
11	Greenwing Resources Ltd	Que River Mine, Waratah	7/08/2024	EMPCA_1994	51B	Breach of permit condition	10	\$ 1,950
12	Greenwing Resources Ltd	Que River Mine, Waratah	7/08/2024	EMPCA_1994	51B	Breach of permit condition	10	\$ 1,950
13	Greenwing Resources Ltd	Que River Mine, Waratah	7/08/2024	EMPCA_1994	51B	Breach of permit condition	10	\$ 1,950
14	Greenwing Resources Ltd	Que River Mine, Waratah	7/08/2024	EMPCA_1994	51B	Breach of permit condition	10	\$ 1,950
15	Recycal Pty Ltd	George Town Rd, Rocherlea	9/08/2024	EMPCA_1994	51B	Breach of permit condition	10	\$ 1,950
16	Beau's Excavations Pty Ltd	Nive Plains Quarry	15/08/2024	EMPCA_1994	51B	Breach of permit condition	10	\$ 1,950
17	Nutrien Ag Solutions	Hagley	29/08/2024	EMPC_Waste_Regs	7(1)(a)	Cause controlled waste to be stored in a manner likely to cause environmental harm	20	\$ 3,900
18	Nutrien Ag Solutions	Hagley	29/08/2024	EMPC_Waste_Regs	8(1)(a)	Person must not deposit a controlled waste in manner to cause enviromental harm	10	\$ 1,950
19	Reprocess Tas Pty Ltd	Scotts Rd, Risdon Vale	5/09/2024	EMPC_Waste_Regs	18	Disposal of general waste	5	\$ 1,010
20	Reprocess Tas Pty Ltd	Scotts Rd, Risdon Vale	5/09/2024	EMPCA_1994	53(2)(l)(b)	Environmental nuisance	10	\$ 2,020
21	Greenwing Resources Ltd	Que River Mine, Waratah	9/10/2024	EMPCA_1994	95(1)(c)	Failure to fulfill direction of an Authorized Officer	4	\$ 808
22	Recycal Pty Ltd	Bridgewater	10/10/2024	EMPCA_1994	45(3)	Contravention of condition of EPN	10	\$ 2,020
23	Recycal Pty Ltd	Bridgewater	10/10/2024	EMPCA_1994	45(3)	Contravention of condition of EPN	10	\$ 2,020
24	Jason Terry	Williams Road Royal George	16/10/2024	Litter_Act_2007	9(1)(b)	Illegal dumping	2	\$ 404
25	Martin Ryan	Williams Road Royal George	16/10/2024	Litter_Act_2007	9(1)(b)	Illegal dumping	2	\$ 404
26	D.T.K. Logging Pty Ltd	Gundagai Road Pit Quarry	17/10/2024	EMPCA_1994	51B	Breach of permit condition	10	\$ 2,020
27	D.T.K. Logging Pty Ltd	Gundagai Road Pit Quarry	17/10/2024	EMPCA_1994	51B	Breach of permit condition	10	\$ 2,020
28	Reprocess Tas Pty Ltd	Scotts Rd, Risdon Vale	1/11/2024	EMPC_e_Regs	6(1)(c)	Storage of a controlled waste (J120) without a relevant authority - hydrocarbons and other wastes	10	\$ 2,020
29	Reprocess Tas Pty Ltd	Scotts Rd, Risdon Vale	1/11/2024	EMPCA_1994	45(3)	Contravention of condition of EPN	10	\$ 2,020
30	Reprocess Tas Pty Ltd	Scotts Rd, Risdon Vale	1/11/2024	EMPCA_1994	45(3)	Contravention of condition of EPN	10	\$ 2,020
31	Naracoopa Mineral Sands	Naracoopa	1/11/2024	EMPCA_1994	51B	Breach of permit condition	10	\$ 2,020
32	Michael Barry RADFORD	Williams Rd, Royal George	28/11/2024	Litter_Act_2007	9(1)(b)	Illegal dumping	2	\$ 404
33	RICHARDS, April	Stoodley Forest, Stoodley	9/12/2024	Litter_Act_2007	9(1)(c)	Illegal dumping	5	\$ 1,010
34	FRANKCOMBE, Malissa	Paloona Rd, Paloona	9/12/2024	Litter_Act_2007	9(1)(c)	Illegal dumping	5	\$ 1,010
35	Elphinstone Enterprises Pty Ltd	Emu River, Wivenhoe	11/12/2024	EMPC_Waste_Regs	7(1)	Cause a controlled waste to escape into the environment	20	\$ 3,900
36	Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd	Spreyton	13/12/2024	EMPCA_1994	53(2)	Environmental nuisance	10	\$ 1,950
37	Grange Resources (Tasmania) Pty Ltd	Savage River Mine	13/12/2024	EMPCA_1994	45(3)	Contravention of condition of EPN	10	\$ 1,950
38	Mondelez Australia Pty Ltd	Cadbury Road Claremont	18/02/2025	EMPCA_1994	53(2)	Environmental nuisance	10	\$ 2,020
39	Mondelez Australia Pty Ltd	100 Cadbury Road Claremont	18/02/2025	EMPCA_1994	32(2)	Failure to notify the Director of an incident that may cause environmental nuisance	10	\$ 2,020
40	Mondelez Australia Pty Ltd	100 Cadbury Road Claremont	18/02/2025	EMPCA_1994	51B	Breach of permit condition	10	\$ 2,020
41	Caleb Andrew YOUD	Reservoir Rd, Rocherlea	28/02/2025	EMPC_Waste_Regs	6(1)	Unlawfully dispose of a controlled waste	10	\$ 2,020
42	Zannon HOWARD	Hellyer College, Mooreville Rd, Burnie	11/03/2025	Litter_Act_2007	9(4)(b)	Illegal dumping	2	\$ 404
43	April Richards	Stoodley Forest, Stoodley	14/03/2025	Litter_Act_2007	35(4)	Illegal dumping	8	\$ 1,616
44	Archie Fredrick Darcey STEWART	Proctors Rd, Kingston	17/03/2025	Litter_Act_2007	9(1)(c)	Illegal dumping	5	\$ 1,010

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Legislative Council Select Committee
ESTIMATES A

17 November 2025

The Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP
Minister for Arts and Heritage
Level 5, Salamanca Building
4 Salamanca Place
HOBART 7000

Email: madeleine.ogilvie@dpac.tas.gov.au

Dear Minister *Madeleine*

Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2025

As a result of the examination of the Estimates of the Minister for Arts and Heritage by the Legislative Council Select Committee Estimates A, the Committee requests that the following information be provided to the Committee Secretary, Jenny Mannering by no later than close of business on **Thursday 20 November 2025**.

DIVISION 8 – DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA

OUTPUT GROUP 6 – HERITAGE

6.1 HISTORIC HERITAGE

1. Please provide clarification of the actuals in the revenue from appropriation, and in response to the Question without Notice in the Legislative Council (asked by Ruth Forrest MLC), please explain how the figures were arrived at, noting there is a discrepancy between the figures provided.

DIVISION 11 – DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

OUTPUT GROUP 5 – CULTURAL AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

5.2 ARTS INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

1. Where exactly is the \$4.5m Capital Funding Support for the TSO reflected (which line)?
2. Will the government still provide this funding to the TSO if the Stadium Order is not approved?

Yours sincerely

HON RUTH FORREST MLC
Chair

w. 03 6212 2249 e. jenny.mannering@parliament.tas.gov.au

cc – tristan.bick@dpac.tas.gov.au

Minister for the Environment
 Minister for Innovation, Science, and the Digital Economy
 Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs
 Minister for Arts and Heritage

Level 5, 4 Salamanca Place HOBART TAS 7000 Australia
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20 NOV 2025

The Honourable Ruth Forrest MLC
 Chair
 Legislative Council
 Estimates Committee 'A'
 Email: jenny.mannering@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Forrest

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 2025

Thank you for your letter of 17 November 2025, requesting additional information following examination of my portfolio by the Legislative Council Select Budget Estimates Committee 'A'. Please find the requested information below for noting.

DIVISION 8 – DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA **Output Group 6 – Heritage** **6.1 Historic Heritage**

1. Please provide clarification of the actual in the revenue from appropriation, and in response to the Question without Notice in the Legislative Council (asked by Ruthe Forrest MLC), please explain how the figures were arrived at, noting there is a discrepancy between the figures provided.

Revenue from the Appropriation budget and actual for 2024-25 for Output 6.1 Historic Heritage is provided in the below table:

Output	Reporting Category	2024-25 Budget \$'000	2024-25 Actual ³ \$'000
Minister for Arts and Heritage			
Output 6.1 Historic Heritage	Revenue from Appropriation	4 378 ¹	4 252
	Appropriation Rollover	1 200 ²	1 200
		5 578	5 452

Notes:

1. Budget figure as shown in Table 9.2 *Revenue from Appropriation by Portfolio and Output* (the 6.1 Historic Heritage line) on page 158 of Budget Paper No. 2, Volume 1.
2. Portion of the \$10.598 million in the Appropriation Rollover line that relates to Output 6.1 Historic Heritage, as shown in Table 9.2 *Revenue from Appropriation by Portfolio and Output* on page 160 of Budget Paper No. 2, Volume 1.
3. Actual for 2024-25 as per NRE Tas financial records, noting page 122 of the Department's 2024-25 Annual Report is reported at the Output Group level in accordance with Audit Tasmania's financial statement requirements. Note that the Output Group includes part year of Output 6.2 Aboriginal Heritage which transferred from the Department of Premier and Cabinet from 1 November 2024.

DIVISION 11 - DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH
Output Group 5 – Cultural and Tourism Development
5.2 Arts Industry Development

1. Where exactly of the \$4.5m Capital Funding Support for the TSO reflected (which line)?

The funding of \$4.5 million in 2025-26 for Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra Capital Funding Support can be found Budget Paper No. 2 – Volume 1 in:

- a. Table 12.1 as a Key Deliverable (page 240).
- b. Table 12.2 Revenue from Appropriation by Portfolio and Output, Output 5.2 – Arts Industry Development (page 246).
- c. Table 12.3 total Expenses by Portfolio and Output, Output 5.2 - Arts Industry Development (page 251).

2. Will the government still provide this funding to the TSO if the Stadium Order is not approved?

Funding of \$4.45m was committed to the TSO to help address the impact of stadium construction.

In the event the stadium was not to proceed, this and other stadium-related commitments would be reconsidered by the Government.

Yours sincerely



Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP
Minister for Arts and Heritage



Legislative Council Select Committee
ESTIMATES A

17 November 2025

The Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP
Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs
Level 5, Salamanca Building
4 Salamanca Place
HOBART 7000

Email: madeleine.ogilvie@dpac.tas.gov.au

Dear Minister *Madeleine*

Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2025

As a result of the examination of the Estimates of the Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs by the Legislative Council Select Committee Estimates A, the Committee requests that the following information be provided to the Committee Secretary, Jenny Mannering by no later than close of business on **Thursday 20 November 2025**.

DIVISION 10 – DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET

Output Group 3 – Community and Government Service Delivery

3.3 Community Services

1. Please detail the total funding for 2024 election commitments being administered by Communities Tasmania over the forward estimates.
2. Please also detail the total funding for 2025 election commitments which is being administered by Communities Tasmania.
3. Please provide a breakdown of the funding allocated in line item 3.3 on page 215 by organisation, identified as base/core funding and one-off uplifts/commitments.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ruth'.

HON RUTH FORREST MLC
Chair

w. 03 6212 2249 e. jenny.mannering@parliament.tas.gov.au

cc – tristan.bick@dpac.tas.gov.au

Minister for Environment
 Minister for Innovation, Science, and the Digital Economy
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Hon Ruth Forrest MLC
 Chair
 Legislative Council Estimates Committee A
 Via email: jenny.mannering@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Armitage

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 2025

Please find attached the following responses to question raised in the examination of the Minister for Community Services and Multicultural Affairs.

DIVISION 10 – DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET

Output Group 3 – Community and Government Service Delivery 3.3 Community Services

Questions:

1. Please detail the total funding for 2024 election commitments being administered by Communities Tasmania over the forward estimates.
2. Please also detail the total funding for 2025 election commitments which is being administered by Communities Tasmania.
3. Please provide a breakdown of the funding allocated in line item 3.3 on page 215 by organisation, identified as base/core funding and one-off uplifts/commitments.

Answer:

1. The total funding allocation for 2024 election commitments being administered by Community Services within the Department of Premier and Cabinet over the forward estimates is summarised below:

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
		Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate	Forward Estimate
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total Allocation	24,731	10,072	8,244	5,848

Please note, this funding does not include the key deliverables listed under Commission of Inquiry and Other Initiatives as per pages 255-256.

2. As per Table 1.4: 2025 Election Commitments in the Service Delivery Budget Paper No. 2 Volume 1, there were no Election Commitments in the 2025-26 Budget for the Department of Premier and Cabinet (see page 12).
3. The response is being prepared by the Department of Premier and Cabinet, and will be provided by close of business, Tuesday 25 November 2025.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Ogilvie', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP
Community and Multicultural Affairs

Question on Notice

Legislative Council - Committee A

Question 3: Please provide a breakdown of the funding allocated in line item 3.3 on page 215 by organisation, identified as base/core funding and one-off uplifts commitments.

Answer:

The funding breakdown by organisation for Output Group 3.3 Community Services is provided in the tables in Appendix 1.

The following applies to all tables:

- Funding allocations are current as at 17 November 2025. Amounts will change over time as new agreements are executed or existing agreements conclude.
- Funding figures have been rounded to the nearest whole value, and minor differences may occur due to rounding, particularly where indexation is applied.
- Where applicable, indexation has been included in the base/core funding. The 2024-25 Budget committed 12.5% indexation over four years from 2024-25: 3.5% in 2024-25 and 3% per year for the next three years (2025-26 to 2027-28). The base indexation rate of 2% has been applied for 2028-29.
- Forward estimates are indicative only.
- Gambling harm minimisation programs have been excluded, as funding is allocated through a Specific Purpose Account, not Appropriation.
- In 2025-26, Output Groups 7.2 Community Services and 7.3 Community Development - Policy Advice and Ongoing Community Development were consolidated into Output Group 3.3 Community Services.

Approved / Not Approved

Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP

Community and Multicultural Affairs

Date: 27/11/25

Appendix 1

Table 1: Organisation Funding by Portfolio in Output Group 3.3 (2024-25 to 2028-29)

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
Carers								
Carers Tasmania	Peak body	Base/core	127,248	131,065	134,998	139,048	141,829	
	Peak body uplift	Time-limited	97,055	97,055	-	-	-	
	Carers Week funding	Time-limited	20,000	20,000	20,000	-	-	
Community Services								
TasCOSS	Peak body	Base/core	1,096,460	1,129,354	1,163,234	1,198,131	1,222,094	
Family Support								
Anglicare Tasmania	Personal and Family Counselling	Base/core	222,820	229,505	236,390	243,481	248,351	
	Family Assistance Program	Base/core	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	
Baptcare	Community Kinship Care Base Funding	Base/core	206,520	212,716	219,097	225,670	230,183	
	Kinship Care Support Extension	Time-limited	155,548	-	-	-	-	See Note 1
CatholicCare Tasmania	Personal and Family Counselling	Base/core	117,652	121,182	124,817	128,562	131,133	
Early Support for Parents	Early Childhood and Parenting	Base/core	111,971	115,330	118,790	122,354	124,801	

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
Foster and Kinship Care Association of Tasmania (FKAT)	Support for Kinship Carers	Base/core	70,000	70,000	-	-	-	
Glenhaven Family Care	Kentish House - Service Delivery Support	Time-limited	145,000	230,000	-	-	-	
Hobart City Mission	Personal and Family Counselling	Base/core	145,206	149,562	154,049	158,671	161,844	
Hobart City Mission	Family Assistance Program	Base/core	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	
Launceston City Mission	Family Assistance Program	Base/core	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	
Lifeline Tasmania	Personal and Family Counselling	Base/core	419,154	431,729	444,680	458,021	467,181	
Mission Australia	Community Kinship Care Base Funding	Base/core	214,550	220,987	227,616	234,445	239,133	
Mission Australia	Community Kinship Care Pilot Extension Program	Time-limited	103,000	-	-	-	-	See Note 1
Mission Australia	Kinship Care Support Extension	Time-limited	155,548	-	-	-	-	See Note 1
Salvation Army (Tasmania)t	Family Assistance Program	Base/core	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
St Vincent de Paul Society (Tas)	Family Assistance Program	Base/core	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	
Wyndarra Centre	Personal and Family Counselling	Base/core	162,562	167,439	172,462	177,636	181,189	

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
Financial Support								
Anglicare Tasmania	Financial Counselling	Base/core	697,126	718,040	739,581	761,768	777,004	
No Interest Loan Scheme (NILS) Network of Tasmania	NILS core funding	Base/core	776,637	799,936	823,934	848,652	865,625	
	NILS - Additional funding	Time-limited	700,000	700,000	700,000	-	-	
	Micro Business Loan Scheme	Time-limited	75,000	-	-	-	-	
Salvation Army (Tasmania)	Energy Saver Subsidy	Time-limited	500,000	-	-	-	-	See Note 2
	Energy Hardship Fund	Base/core	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	350,000	
	Energy Hardship Fund - Additional funding	Time-limited	-	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	
Food Resilience								
Eat Well Tasmania	Place Based Pilot initiative	Time-limited	300,000	-	-	-	-	See Note 3
	Better Together Program	Time-limited	60,000	-	-	-	-	
	Vehicle purchase	Time-limited	75,000	-	-	-	-	
Food Bank	Core funding	Base/core	247,930	247,930	247,930	247,930	247,930	
	Top up funding	Time-limited	132,070	132,070	-	-	-	See Note 3
Food Vans - Gran's Van	Core funding	Base/core	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	
	Top up funding	Time-limited	60,000	60,000	-	-	-	

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
Food Vans - Launceston City Mission	Core funding	Base/core	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	
	Top up funding	Time-limited	60,000	60,000	-	-	-	
Food Vans - St Vincent de Paul Society Tas	Core funding	Base/core	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	
	Top up funding	Time-limited	60,000	60,000	-	-	-	
Loaves and Fishes	Core funding	Time-limited	500,000	500,000	-	-	-	See Note 3
	Social Wholesaler development capital investment	Time-limited	2,500,000	-	-	-	-	
	Social Wholesaler operational costs	Time-limited	500,000	-	-	-	-	
	Severe Weather Event Emergency Funding	Time-limited	50,000	-	-	-	-	
	Well Fed Tasmania Food Truck	Time-limited	24,000	-	-	-	-	
School Food Matters	School Lunch Pilot Program	Time-limited	859,348	-	-	-	-	See Note 4
LGBTIQA+ Tasmanians								
Equality Tasmania	LGBTIQA+ Framework and Action Plan	Time-limited	87,500	87,500	-	-	-	

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
Working It Out	LGBTIQA+ Framework and Action Plan	Time-limited	87,500	87,500	-	-	-	
	LGBTIQA+ Small Community Grants Program	Time-limited	10,000	10,000	-	-	-	
Men's Sheds								
Tasmanian Men's Shed Association (TMSA)	Peak body	Base/core	127,257	131,075	135,007	139,057	141,838	
	Peak body uplift	Time-limited	100,000	200,000	100,000	-	-	See Note 5
Multicultural Tasmanians								
CatholicCare Tasmania	Multicultural Employment Services	Time-limited	300,000	300,000	-	-	-	
Chinese Community Association of Tasmania	Chinese New Year Festival	Time-limited	5,000	35,000	5,000	5,000	-	See Note 6
Deepavali Tasmania	Diwali Festival	Time-limited	5,000	35,000	5,000	5,000	-	See Note 6 and Note 7
Glenorchy City Council	Moonah Multicultural Hub	Time-limited	75,000	75,000	-	-	-	
Greek Orthodox Church Hobart	Estia Greek Festival	Time-limited	-	13,000	13,000	-	-	See Note 6
Italian Community of Tasmania	Festa Italia	Time-limited	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	-	See Note 6
	Peak body	Base/core	162,761	167,644	172,673	177,853	181,410	

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
Multicultural Council of Tasmania	Peak body uplift	Time-limited	12,241	17,745	-	-	-	
	Harmony Week	Time-limited	30,000	-	-	-	-	
	Support delivery of the Multicultural Action Plan	Time-limited	130,400	-	-	-	-	
National Accreditation Authority for Translators (NAATI)	Tasmanian Government NAATI membership	Time-limited	17,200	15,020	-	-	-	
Welcome Cultural Services	Mersey-Leven Partnership	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	-	-	-	
Neighbourhood Houses								
Beaconsfield House	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	51,253	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Buccaan Community House (Chigwell)	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	47,628	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Burnie Community House	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	51,253	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
Clarendon Vale Neighbourhood Centre	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	45,816	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Deloraine House	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	51,253	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Derwent Valley Community House	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	47,628	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Devonport Community House	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	47,628	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Dorset Community Association	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	47,628	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
Dunalley Tasman Neighbourhood House Inc	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	46,903	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Eastern Shore Community Connections (East Devonport)	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	47,628	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	47,628	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Geeveston Community Centre	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	51,253	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
George Town Neighbourhood House	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	51,253	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Goodwood Community Centre	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	47,628	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Jordan River Service (Bridgewater and Gagebrook)	Core funding (Bridgewater and Gagebrook)	Base/core	554,874	571,520	588,666	606,326	618,452	
	Booster funding (Bridgewater and Gagebrook)	Time-limited	100,000	100,000	100,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program (Bridgewater)	Time-limited	47,628	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
	Community Connector Program (Gagebrook)	Time-limited	47,628	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
	Gagebrook Community House	Time-limited	16,000	-	-	-	-	
Karadi Aboriginal Corporation	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	47,628	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Kingston Neighbourhood House	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	51,253	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
Midway Point Neighbourhood Centre	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	46,903	54,289	61,213	68,145	-	
Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania	Peak body	Base/core	421,640	434,289	447,318	460,737	469,952	
	Governance Project	Time-limited	100,000	100,000	-	-	-	
	Community Connector Program support	Time-limited	9,894	12,480	12,775	13,070	-	
Northern Suburbs Community Centre (Mowbray and Newnham)	Core funding (Mowbray and Newnham)	Base/core	554,874	571,520	588,666	606,326	618,452	
	Booster funding (Mowbray and Newnham)	Time-limited	100,000	100,000	100,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program (Mowbray)	Time-limited	40,378	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Okines Community House	Community Connector Program (Newnham)	Time-limited	51,253	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
Phoenix Community House (King Island)	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	46,903	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
	Core funding	Base/core	172,112	177,275	182,594	188,071	191,833	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	40,378	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
	Support for the King Island Community	Time-limited	74,000	74,000	74,000	74,000	-	
Risdon Vale Neighbourhood Centre	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	45,816	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Rokeby Neighbourhood Centre	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	45,816	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Rosebery Neighbourhood House	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	51,253	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
St Helens Neighbourhood House Association	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	47,628	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Starting Point Neighbourhood House	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	51,253	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
Tresca Community Centre Committee (Exeter)	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	40,378	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Ulverstone Neighbourhood House	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	47,628	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Warrane Mornington Neighbourhood Centre	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	45,816	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
West Moonah Community Action Group	Community Garden	Time-limited	150,000	-	-	-	-	
	Core funding	Base/core	277,437	285,760	294,333	303,163	309,226	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
West Winds Community Centre (Woodbridge)	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	46,903	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	46,903	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Zeehan Neighbourhood Centre	Core funding	Base/core	254,217	261,844	269,699	277,790	283,346	
	Booster funding	Time-limited	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	-	
	Community Connector Program	Time-limited	40,378	54,280	61,213	68,145	-	
Older Tasmanians (see Note 8)								
Advocacy Tasmania	Elder Abuse Helpline	Base/core	198,061	203,315	209,414	215,697	220,011	
	Advocacy	Time-limited	20,000	20,000	-	-	-	
Council of the Ageing (COTA) Tasmania	Peak Body	Base/core	162,759	167,642	172,671	177,851	181,408	
	Seniors Week	Time-limited	120,000	120,000	-	-	-	
	Action Plan	Time-limited	195,000	195,000	-	-	-	
	Digital inclusion for older Tasmanians	Time-limited	150,000	150,000	-	-	-	
	Seniors Week, advocacy services, and elder abuse prevention	Time-limited	200,000	200,000	-	-	-	
	Elder abuse awareness and prevention	Time-limited	100,000	100,000	-	-	-	
Migrant Resource Centre Tas	Elder abuse awareness programs with culturally and linguistically diverse communities	Time-limited	30,000	100,000	-	-	-	

Organisation	Funding Line / Name of Initiative	Funding Type	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Forward Estimate	2027-28 Forward Estimate	2028-29 Forward Estimate	Comments
Relationships Australia	Elder Relationships Service	Time-limited	200,000	200,000	-	-	-	
Welcome Cultural Services	Elder abuse awareness programs with culturally and linguistically diverse communities	Time-limited	30,000	100,000	-	-	-	
Volunteering								
Volunteering Tasmania	Peak body	Base/core	181,968	193,680	199,490	205,475	211,639	
	Peak body uplift	Time-limited	142,849	142,000	-	-	-	
	Volunteering strategy	Time-limited	150,000	-	-	-	-	
	Future of Volunteering	Time-limited	208,425	208,425	208,425	-	-	
	EV Crew	Time-limited	60,000	-	-	-	-	

Notes to Table 1:

1. While the funding commitment concluded 30 June 2025, the organisation continues to deliver these services in 2025-26 using unexpended funding from prior years.
2. The Energy Saver Subsidy transferred to the Department of State Growth from 2025-26.
3. Funding from the 2025-26 Interim Budget for continuation of food relief strategy and services is included in Table 5 below. The funding allocations under these initiatives have not yet been finalised.
4. School Lunch Program transferred to the Department for Education, Children and Young People.
5. The \$200,000 funding in 2024-25 has been reprofiled as \$100,000 in 2024-25 and \$100,000 in 2026-27.
6. This organisation received additional multicultural festival funding through the Community Participation and Appeals Fund (CPAF).
7. Deepavali Tasmania also received \$5,000 in 2025-26 under the Multicultural Community Festival Small Grants Program (see Table 6 below).
8. The responsible Minister for the Older Tasmanian portfolio is the Minister for Ageing.

Table 2: One-year time-limited (one-off) 2024 Election Commitments under Output Groups 7.2 and 7.3 (if not in Table 1)

Name of Organisation	2024 Election Commitment (\$'000)
Blackstone Heights Community News Association	9
Break O'Day Council	120
Brighton Council	270
Central Coast Council	224
Chauncy Vale Wildlife Sanctuary	80
Circular Head Council	635
Circular Head Rotary Club	22
Clarence City Council	1,090
Country Women's Association Lindisfarne	82
Deloraine Agricultural and Pastoral Society	10
Derwent Valley Council	225
Dorset Community (Scottsdale and Community) Men's Shed	12
Dorset Council	150
Exeter Showgrounds Society	150
Flinders Island Council	360
Franklin House	2
Golden Wattle Club	2
Greek Orthodox Church Hobart	175
Hellenic Dancers Hobart	24
Huon Valley Council	624
Kentish Council	250
King Island Council	108
Kingborough Community Missions	20
Kingborough Council	630
Launceston RSL Sub Branch	57
Launceston City Council	40
Lilydale Men's Shed	30
Mechanics' Institute Hall	6
Nile Chapel Deddington Trustees	90
Northern Midlands Council	150

Name of Organisation	2024 Election Commitment (\$'000)
Preston Community Centre	40
Quercus Park United Kennel Club	48
Reptile Rescue	43
Salamanca Arts Centre	30
Scottsdale Military Museum	70
Scottsdale Rotary Club	160
Scottsdale RSL	60
South Arm RSL and Community Club	38
Southern Midlands Council	448
Spreyton Scout Group	40
Star FM Radio	17
Swansea RSL	84
Tasman Council	265
Tassie Mums	100
Tunnack Community Club	32
Unlock Land for Housing on Flinders Island	600
Waratah Wynyard Council	410
West Tamar Council	350
Westbury Men's Shed	220
Westbury Preservation Society	147
Westbury RSL Sub-Branch	20
Wings Wildlife Park	300
Wynyard Agricultural and Pastoral Society	62
Zeehan RSL	60

Table 3: One-year time-limited (one-off) Other Initiatives in the 2024-25 Budget under Output Groups 7.2 and 7.3 (if not in Table 1)

Name of Organisation / Initiative	2024 Other Initiatives (\$'000)
Oatlands RSL	20
Primrose Sands RSL - War Memorial Bridge	19
Sorell Men's Shed	550

Table 4: Multi-year time-limited (one-off) 2024 Election Commitments under Output Groups 7.2 and 7.3 (if not in Table 1)

Name of Organisation / Initiative	2024-25 (\$'000)	2025-26 (\$'000)	2026-27 (\$'000)	2027-28 (\$'000)
Safe Beds Program (RSPCA)	75	75	75	-
St Mary's Evacuation Centre	250	250	-	-
The Islander Way - Flinders Island	200	200	200	-
Yemaya Women's Support Service	70	60	60	-

**Table 5: Key Deliverables in the 2025-26 Budget under Output Group 3.3
(if not in Table 1)**

Name of Organisation / Initiative	2025-26 (\$'000)	2026-27 (\$'000)	2027-28 Forward Estimate (\$'000)	2028-29 Forward Estimate (\$'000)	Comments
Beyond the Rainbow	66	66	-	-	
Camp Clayton	160	120	120	120	
Carers in Tasmania	209	10	10	10	See Note 1
Community and Regions Education, Mentoring and Employment Initiatives	-	100	100	100	
Community Participation and Appeals Fund (CPAF)	350	350	350	350	
Community Services Sustainability	150	-	-	-	See Note 1
Emu Valley Rhododendron Garden	200	-	-	-	
Food Relief Strategy and Services	2,034	1,550	1,550	1,550	See Note 1
Launceston RSL	50	-	-	-	
LGBTIQA+ Strategy Implementation	202	-	-	-	See Note 1
Multicultural Action Plan Implementation	357	-	-	-	See Note 1 and Note 2
Older Tasmanians Action Plan Implementation	10	281	281	281	See Note 1
Place Based Food Pilot	400	-	-	-	See Note 1
Shekinah House	100	-	-	-	
Tasmanian Bike Collective	-	100	-	-	
Volunteering Strategy Implementation	300	300	-	-	See Note 1
Youth Participation and Engagement	35	-	-	-	See Note 1

Notes to Table 5:

1. The funding allocations under these initiatives have not yet been finalised.
2. A portion of this was (approximately \$157 000) a 2024 Election Commitment in the 2024-25 Budget.

Table 6: Community Grants Programs under Output Groups 7.2 and 7.3 (2024-25) and Output Group 3.3 (2025-26 onwards) (see Note 1)

Name of Organisation	2024-25 (\$'000)	2025-26 (\$'000)	2026-27 (\$'000)	2027-28 (\$'000)	Link to List of Recipients	Comments
Agricultural Shows Small Grants Fund	167	167	166	-	Department of Premier and Cabinet - Agricultural Show Development Grants Program	
Carers Small Grants Program	20	20	20	-	Department of Premier and Cabinet - Carers Small Grants Program	
Delivering the Women's Leadership Program	100	-	-	-	Department of Premier and Cabinet - Delivering Women's Leadership Program	See Note 2 and Note 3
Family and Sexual Violence: Supporting Diverse Communities Grants Program	\$320	-	-	-	Department of Premier and Cabinet - Family and Sexual Violence: Supporting Diverse Communities Grants Program	See Note 2 and Note 3
Food Relief - Tasmanian Community Food Relief Grants Program	500	-	-	-	Department of Premier and Cabinet - Tasmanian Community Food Relief Grants Program 2025	
Food Relief - Capital Upgrade Grants Program	2,500	-	-	-	Department of Premier and Cabinet - Tasmanian Food Relief Capital Investments Grants Program	
International Women's Day Small Grants Program	20	-	-	-	International Women's Day Small Grants Program | Service Tasmania	See Note 2 and Note 3
LGBTIQA+ Grants Program	65	65	-	-	Department of Premier and Cabinet - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, Asexual+ (LGBTIQA+) Grants Program	
Men's Sheds Capital Improvement Program	1,000	-	-	-	Department of Premier and Cabinet - Tasmanian Men's Sheds Capital Investment Grants Program	See Note 4
Multicultural Community Festival Small Grants Program	40	40	-	-	Department of Premier and Cabinet - Multicultural Community Festivals Small Grants Program	
Tasmanian Men's Sheds Association (TMSA) Grants Program	175	175	-	-	Department of Premier and Cabinet - Tasmanian Men's Sheds Association Grants Programs	

Teddy Sheean VC Memorial Grants Program	100	-	-	-	Department of Premier and Cabinet - Teddy Sheean VC Memorial Grants Program	See Note 2 and Note 5
Youth Week Tasmania	30	-	-	-	Department of Premier and Cabinet - Youth Week Tasmania	

Notes to Table 6:

1. The Community Support Fund (CSF) Small and Large Grants Programs have not been included as they are allocated from Specific Purpose Account funding, not from Appropriation.
2. Funding for this Grants Program from 2025-26 onwards has been excluded as it has transitioned to a different Output Group.
3. The responsible Minister for this Grants Program is the Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence.
4. Funding of \$488,855 is to be utilised for a a second round of the Grants Program in 2025 26.
5. The responsible Minister for this Grants Program is the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.



Legislative Council Select Committee
ESTIMATES A

18 November 2025

The Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP
Minister for Environment
Level 5, Salamanca Building
4 Salamanca Place
HOBART 7000

Email: madeleine.ogilvie@dpac.tas.gov.au

Dear Minister

Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2025

As a result of the examination of the Estimates of the Minister for Environment by the Legislative Council Select Committee Estimates A, the Committee requests that the following information be provided to the Committee Secretary, Jenny Mannering by no later than close of business on **Friday 21 November 2025**.

DIVISION 11 – DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

OUTPUT GROUP 7 – RENEWABLES, CLIMATE AND FUTURE INDUSTRIES TASMANIA

7.2 CLIMATE CHANGE

1. Can you provide the table that shows the breakdown of funding – for the 2025/26 - 2028/29 year to deliver programs or projects to be delivered under the six resilience plans.
2. Which, if any, projects extend beyond 2028-29?

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Forrest'.

HON RUTH FORREST MLC
Chair

w. 03 6212 2249 e. jenny.mannering@parliament.tas.gov.au

cc – tristan.bick@dpac.tas.gov.au

Minister for Environment
Minister for Innovation, Science, and the Digital Economy
Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Arts and Heritage

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Phone: +61 3 6165 7686
Email: minister.ogilvie@dpac.tas.gov.au



The Hon Ruth Forrest MLC
Chair
Legislative Council
Estimates Committee 'A'
Via email: jenny.mannering@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Forrest

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 2025

Thank you for your letter dated 17 November 2025, requesting additional information following examination of my portfolio by the Legislative Council Select Budget Estimates Committee 'A'. Please find the requested information below for noting.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH
Output Group 7 – Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania
7.2 Climate Change

1. Can you provide the table that shows the breakdown of funding - for the 2025/26 - 2028/29 year to deliver programs or projects to be delivered under the six resilience plans.

Funded Emissions Reduction Resilience Plan (ERRP) Programs by Sector						
		Status at November 2025	Total funding allocated \$'000	Total funding expended \$'000	2025-26 Budget allocation \$'000	Lead/Partner
Cross-cutting						
1	Climate Change Business Innovation Grant Program to support businesses to take action on climate change, focusing on local innovation, collaboration and partnerships.	In progress	550	....	550	Climate Change Office
2	Business and Industry Climate Change Innovation Forum to showcase the innovative work underway across Tasmania, provide information about emerging opportunities and risks, and encourage networking and information sharing between sectors.	In progress	50	....	50	Climate Change Office
3	Climate Change Champions Program to develop ways to recognise innovative, best practice climate action across all sectors.	In progress	150	150	....	Climate Change Office / Brand Tasmania
4	Climate Reporting Support Program to support small- to medium-sized businesses to better understand climate-related risks to meet changing regulatory and market demands, including measuring and reporting on their emissions.	In progress	200	....	200	Climate Change Office
Transport						
5	Financial support for Tasmanians to purchase electric bikes (E-bikes included in Energy Saver Loan Scheme).	Complete	....¹	....	....	Climate Change Office
6	Support small businesses to purchase cargo e-bikes for last mile deliveries (Deliver-e grant).	Complete	300	300	....	Climate Change Office
7	Support small businesses to purchase electric delivery vans (Deliver-e grant) ² .	Complete	....	....	....	Climate Change Office
8	Fund pilot sites for secure bike parking.	In progress	200	....	200	Climate Change Office
9	Grants to support the expansion of the state's electric vehicle (EV) charging network (ChargeSmart 3). ³	Complete	500	500	....	Climate Change Office

¹ Funding of \$250,000 was originally allocated for electric vehicle charging infrastructure under Tasmania's Climate Change Action Plan 2023-25 but was reallocated to the energy saver loan scheme. This funding is not included in the total funding for ERRP implementation.

² This program's funding is addressed through program number 6.

³ The actual amount of grants awarded was \$567,000, utilising unexpended funds from the previous round of ChargeSmart.

Funded Emissions Reduction Resilience Plan (ERRP) Programs by Sector							Lead/Partner
		Status at November 2025	Total funding allocated \$'000	Total funding expended \$'000	2025-26 Budget allocation \$'000		
10	Support the Australian Electric Vehicle Association (AEVA) National Conference and the Energy, Efficiency, Electric Expo in Hobart.	Complete	73	73	....		Climate Change Office
11	Develop public education resources about driving electric vehicles in Tasmanian conditions, EV tourism materials, and resources for small business.	In progress	200	50	150		Climate Change Office
12	Support industry to develop a skills transition plan to support the switch to electric vehicles, delivered through funding for TasTAFE to subsidise EV-related automotive training for the Tasmanian automotive industry.	In progress	200	200	....		Climate Change Office / TasTAFE
Waste							
13	Collaborate with the Waste and Resource Recovery Board and other key stakeholders to consider emissions reduction and resilience in waste policies and projects.	In progress	....	....	....		Climate Change Office/WRR Board
IPPU							
18	Work with partners to support research and development to reduce emissions across the IPPU sector (Heavy Industries Low-Emissions Technology CRC membership).	Complete	200	200	....		Climate Change Office / HILT CRC
19	Hold roundtable meetings to share information and learnings about existing technology options to decarbonise ⁴ .	In progress / ongoing	....	....	....		Climate Change Office/TMEC/HILT CRC
IPPU and Energy							
20	Expand engagement with Tasmanian major industrial businesses to support our large emitters to reduce emissions and achieve their decarbonisation plans ⁵ .	In progress	....	....	....		Climate Change Office
21	Work with relevant peak bodies and industry to map the strategic transition requirements for Tasmanian businesses to reduce emissions from their energy use and industrial processes.	In progress	100	....	100		Climate Change Office / TMEC
Energy							
22	Develop information and resources to support landlords to improve energy efficiency in rental properties.	In progress	50	....	50		Climate Change Office
23	Work with partners to support households to make informed decisions about reducing or electrifying their gas and other fossil fuel use.	In progress	50	....	50		Climate Change Office
24	Work with partners to deliver workshops for community sector professionals to assist vulnerable clients to manage their energy use and power bills.	In progress	50	....	50		Climate Change Office
Agriculture							

⁴ This program's funding is addressed through program number 18.

⁵ This program's funding is addressed through program number 18.

Funded Emissions Reduction Resilience Plan (ERRP) Programs by Sector						Status at November 2025	Total funding allocated \$'000	Total funding expended \$'000	2025-26 Budget allocation \$'000	Lead/Partner	
25	Develop a program to support agri-food businesses to better understand climate-related risks to meet changing regulatory and market demands.						In progress	200	....	200	Climate Change Office
26	Seek opportunities for Tasmania through the Australian Government's commitment to accelerate on-ground action through training, education and capacity building.						Scoping	200	...	200	Climate Change Office / NRET
27	Partner in the Zero Net Emissions Agriculture Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) ⁶ .						Complete	....	....	....	Climate Change Office / NRET
28	Consider climate change impacts as part of Tasmania's annual Agribusiness Insights Report ⁷ .						In progress	....	....	....	Climate Change Office / NRET
29	Review the \$250,000 Carbon Farming Advice Rebate Pilot Program to ensure it complements new national approaches ⁸ .						In progress	....	....	....	Climate Change Office / NRET
30	Establish a group or partner with existing networks to coordinate action between Tasmania's primary industries ⁹ .						Scoping	....	....	....	Climate Change Office / NRET
	LULUCF										
31	Work with key partners to develop resources to increase understanding for landowners to participate in carbon and other emerging markets.						In progress	150	150	....	Climate Change Office
32	Work with local government, regional development authorities and other institutions to plant climate-tolerant trees in urban environments, to increase carbon storage and build resilience during high temperatures.						In progress	200	...	200	Climate Change Office
33	Undertake a gap analysis and audit of Tasmania's seed bank capacity to support research into seed sourcing, to improve the resilience of native forests and plantations under the changing climate.						Scoping	50	....	50	Climate Change Office / partner organisation
34	Work with the Australian Government to improve transparency of LULUCF emission reporting, for example in relation to native forest harvesting and bushfires ¹⁰ .						Ongoing	....	....	....	Climate Change Office
Total funding allocated							3 673	1 623	2 050		

⁶ This program is delivered through an in-kind contribution.

⁷ This program is delivered in collaboration with the Department of Natural Resources Tasmania using existing resources.

⁸ This program is funded through the Department of Natural Resources Tasmania.

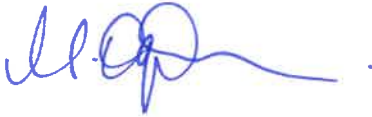
⁹ This program is delivered in collaboration with the Department of Natural Resources Tasmania using existing resources.

¹⁰ This program is delivered applying existing resources within the Department of State Growth.

2. Which, if any, projects extend beyond 2028-29?

None of the above programs have funding that will extend beyond 2028-29. All remaining funding for the programs is allocated in 2025-26. All programs are expected to be initiated within this timeframe with ongoing activities progressing across the forward estimates for some of these programs. If there is a need to adjust cash flows as programs progress, this will be addressed through standard departmental budget processes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M. Ogilvie', followed by a horizontal flourish.

Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP
Minister for Environment



PARLIAMENT OF TASMANIA

TRANSCRIPT

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE A

Hon. Madeleine Ogilvie MP

Tuesday 18 November 2025

MEMBERS

Hon Ruth Forrest MLC (Chair)

Hon Dean Harris MLC

Hon Sarah Lovell

Hon Cassy O'Connor MLC

Hon Bec Thomas MLC

OTHER PARTICIPATING MEMBERS

IN ATTENDANCE

HON. MADELEINE OGILVIE MP

Minister for the Environment, Minister for Innovation, Science, and the Digital Economy,
Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs, Minister for Arts and Heritage

Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy

Department of State Growth

Mike Mogridge

Deputy Secretary

Ben Marquis

Director, Economic Strategy

Travis Boucher

Director, Finance

Department of Premier and Cabinet

Noelene Kelly

Deputy Secretary

Dr Justin Thurley

Chief Information Officer

Ministerial Office

Tristan Bick

Chief of Staff

Jeremy Grey

Senior Advisor

Environment (including Climate Change)

Jason Jacobi

Secretary

Louise Wilson

Deputy Secretary

Catherine Murdoch

CEO - Environment Protection Authority

Jo Crisp

General Manager, Environment

Holly Mackey

A/CEO - Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Board

Daryl Cook

Director - Finfish Compliance - EPA

Cindy Ong

Director - Environmental Regulation - EPA

Raymond Bannister

Manager - Salmon Science and Standards - EPA

ReCFIT (Climate Change)

Vanessa Pinto

A/CEO, Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania

Dr Sarah Russell

Director, Climate Change

Ministerial Office

Tristan Bick

Chief of Staff

Alister Pearce

Senior Adviser

Kandace Giligan

Senior Adviser

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CHAIR - Thanks, minister. We're here to look at your portfolio of digital government, Information, Communications and Technology (ICT) and at 3.1.

If you'd like to introduce the people at your table and then if you wish to make an opening statement?

Output Group 3 - Community and Government Service Delivery

3.1. Digital Government and Information and Communications Technology (ICT) - Strategy, Policy and Service Delivery

Ms OGILVIE - Yes, that'd be great. I will try to sort of cut through it quickly so that you have a chance to speak - folk here.

We have Dr Justin Thurley, Department of Premier and Cabinet. We have Michael Mogridge, Department of State Growth. Tara Martin, Department of State Growth. That's who we have at the table.

Am I okay to go straight into a statement?

CHAIR - Sure.

Ms OGILVIE - Thank you.

Good afternoon, or evening, everybody. Now, we all know of course that the future economy will be a digital one powered by knowledge, creativity and innovation.

In this year's Budget, we're investing \$37.5 million in a whole-of-government ICT and digital transformation initiative - or initiatives - with more than \$98 million being invested across government in innovation technology projects in 2024-26, and \$225 million over the forward Estimates. This investment underpins our long-term digital transformation strategy, Our Digital Future, which is being refreshed to ensure Tasmania remains at the forefront of digital government innovation and cyber resilience.

Our goal is clear: delivering efficient, transparent and secure services that meet the modern expectations of Tasmanians. We're modernising outdated systems, strengthening cyber security, and building the digital capability of our workforce. Importantly, we're also focusing on inclusion, ensuring no Tasmanian is left behind in the digital age.

Already, we're seeing significant progress across agencies. Projects like the digital driver's licence, the EPA information management system upgrade, the gaming and licensing information system replacement, and the parliament digital transformation project, are improving accessibility and efficiency across the public sector. The Cyber Hubs initiative represents a major step forward in protecting Tasmania's data and digital infrastructure to strengthen defences, improve coordination, and help government respond to emerging cyber threats.

We're also ensuring that our digital future is powered by Tasmanians, through initiatives like the Advanced Technology Industries Strategy. We're guiding industry through policy, workforce capability development, and the provision of world-class digital infrastructure to enable the sector to flourish right here at home in Tasmania.

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We're also working closely with UTAS to ensure that its future developments, including the proposed STEM campus at Sandy Bay, deliver real outcomes for Tasmanians. Now, a key part of this partnership will be to ensure the university continues to build the skills and capabilities our state needs for the future.

In closing: as leaders in government and industry alike, we must continue to champion that spirit to demonstrate that digital transformation is not only about technology, but it's about leadership, vision, and the courage to think differently. All of these initiatives come together under one vision: to make Tasmania a place where innovation thrives, government leads by example, and technology serves the public good. Thank you.

CHAIR - Thanks, minister. So, just in terms of- you talked a bit - we've got a couple of those I want to go to - but the cyber security side of it. I mean, there's obviously constant threats and attempts to breach the provisions of [inaudible] protectors.

Ms OGILVIE - Defences? Yes, absolutely.

CHAIR - Can you indicate whether - how many attempts there have been to breach our defences, and if there have been any breaches?

Ms OGILVIE - Thank you. I will actually ask Justin Thurley to speak to this. He is our expert at the table and I think it's helpful to go directly to him, if that's alright.

Dr THURLEY - So, for a 12-month period that we've had - and we won't go into the details of each instance -

CHAIR - No, I'm not asking for that. Don't want to expose any weaknesses, do we?

Dr THURLEY - Yes, good - no, no. So, from 1 July 2025 to 30 September, we've had 65 incidents that we categorised as incidents. Before that, in the 12 months to June 2025, we had 311. We can go back a bit further; it was 282 for the period before, and 237 in 2020.

CHAIR - For the same periods, you're talking about?

Dr THURLEY - Yes, the same periods. We talk about financial years.

CHAIR - Were any of those able to breach the defences?

Dr THURLEY - We have - defining 'breach' is an interesting term as well, but ones that we would consider incidents that needed to be handled by an incident management team with significant effort to run it under the incident management arrangements that we have for Tasmanian cyber security, and that is the Tasmanian cyber security state emergency management plan. What we would have had since then - and just bear with me - there's been two incidents managed under the set from 2024 to 2025 in that reporting period. So, only two that required major mobilisation to address issues.

CHAIR - Were you able to prevent any data being stolen, or infiltration into that?

Dr THURLEY - There's various controls that we have in place within government. They range based on the status of the data and the classification of the data. We've recently

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introduced the protective security framework, our policy framework which is known as the PSPF, which has also introduced information classification, so it allows us to identify and classify information and then add the appropriate controls, i.e. better controls for more sensitive data.

Ms OGILVIE - That's the click-down list we're all doing now.

Dr THURLEY - Yes, that's true. Beyond that, we use the preventative controls that we have in place, we won't go into the details on what those controls are, but they are risk managed, so they're based on risk, and we put those in place to make sure that we aren't opening the government to risk and that information to risk.

I would just add: one of the concerns that we have would be in third-party risk, so we've got a third party that's handling and using our data, or using government-related data, and we seek to manage that through a range of controls, particularly in the procurement side of things. When we sign contracts we add in additional clauses to ensure that the data protections, et cetera, are all in line with government's expectations under the PSPF.

CHAIR - Minister, we heard from the Auditor-General yesterday that there was some funding provided over the last few years for data analytics in the audit office, which has been really important work. Obviously to maintain the security of that, they need ongoing support to do that. His budget's been cut quite significantly. Does this concern you at all? Obviously we want the Auditor-General to have access to data from various departments, otherwise they can't do their work. Is there a role here for you in advocating for that office to have appropriate data analytics capability, but also protection?

Ms OGILVIE - Well, of course. Yes. Absolutely, and look, there's a role for me and the main role that I have in this area is to seek to advocate for the best protections that we can have and that we can afford across government. But also, in parallel, I have a role in helping uplift knowledge and capability in the broader community in relation to cybersecurity as well.

We've done quite a lot of work across that digital divide piece, for example, as well, and we have invested quite a lot of money, particularly in our cybersecurity uplift program to do cyber hubs. I'm just not aware, whether because it's quite a disaggregated portfolio, we sit right across each of the areas, I might turn to Justin. I'm just not aware of where the funding for the Auditor-General's tech comes from; is that out of their budget or consolidated with you?

Dr THURLEY - Their budget is separate from ours.

Ms O'CONNOR - And it's been cut, just for the record.

Ms OGILVIE - So they would have to ask for -

CHAIR - It's been cut, that's the thing, that's my point.

Ms OGILVIE - I would suggest that managing your data securely is a high priority.

CHAIR - But you can't do things without money to do it. Minister, just on that, you talked about - correct me if I'm wrong, \$37 million in the digital transformation piece that's going on, that's right across the whole lot?

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Ms OGILVIE - Yes.

CHAIR - The very long gestation HRIS (human resources information system) was originally with Health and now with DPAC, do you have oversight of that or how does that fit in?

Ms OGILVIE - Yes. Perhaps if I give you a description of how it all fits together and then if you have specific questions about specific projects, that's probably to Justin. Justin as CIO sits across a number of portfolios, and each of them have CIOs or have that capacity in them. Budgets flow down from the top and each - please correct me if I get this wrong, each department defines and works out what money they're going to spend on which projects. That's done in consultation with an overarching strategy, and I brought some of those strategy documents here today. Projects that are going on in health, I'm aware of. They have them within at departmental -

CHAIR - It's not in Health anymore, it's in DPAC; it's been pulled over to DPAC.

Ms OGILVIE - I will refer to Justin to speak to that.

Dr THURLEY - Yes, so the Human Resources Transformation Program was transferred into DPAC this year. The oversight -

CHAIR - It had been in Health for a long time and hadn't really gotten very far.

Dr THURLEY - Yes, it has been in Health and that's where it's been progressing. It is now progressing in our department, in DPAC. It's probably more of a question for the Premier, but what we can say is that the project is underway with DPAC and implementing across whole of government.

CHAIR - So the Premier has carriage of that now; is that right?

Dr THURLEY - Correct.

CHAIR - Okay. In terms of the strategies you were talking about, are these new strategies?

Ms OGILVIE - Well, I've actually brought a couple of things which I thought you might be interested in. We have - and I assume that this is acceptable to hand over as well - we have the Cyber Security Strategy 2024-2028, and we are part way through these and I just thought you might be interested, so I can table that. That gives you an overarching view of what we're doing. I think there was earlier, in the conversation with the Premier, some discussion around artificial intelligence use in the government. I've brought that as well, even though -

CHAIR - Is there a strategy around that or is it a policy position?

Ms OGILVIE - There is a lot of work being done in relation to that, but again, Justin did that work. He's right here if we would like to hear from him.

Dr THURLEY - Yes. So with the artificial intelligence side of things, we commenced our work some time back, a few years back, in relation to where we would head with artificial

intelligence. Primarily, in the early days we were concerned about risk and the ethical and responsible use of AI, so we focused our attention in that space in the original time. That was done at a whole-of-government level because we felt that it needed a whole-of-government response.

From there, we produced what effectively are the guidelines that have been presented here to you today. From the guidelines, once we finish those guidelines, we obviously accept that it's a very dynamic and changing environment; there's also been a more widespread diffusion of AI across the community and into the general economy. We have subsequently had a roundtable within government and identified what the next steps would be, i.e. a road map for internal policy work.

We have subsequently started work on a policy mandate, like a mandated position as opposed to just having guidelines, so a broader whole-of-government policy is currently in consultation across government. It will probably take us a couple of months to get everybody's input, but we feel it's in a very good position once that's finished, and we will publish that.

CHAIR - So will that be a strategy or a policy?

Dr THURLEY - No, it will be a policy -

CHAIR - What will be the output of that?

Dr THURLEY - It will be a policy, not a strategy. The broader strategy will be for artificial intelligence, which as you said, it's got permutations into many aspects of digitalisation. It will be part of the - first of all, a refresh of Our Digital Future which we're working on, so AI will heavily in that, no doubt. That's also the feedback we're getting.

Ms OGILVIE - Yes, absolutely. Yes.

Dr THURLEY - Beyond that, we expect there will be a component in there specifically for government and what strategies in government will be played out in alignment with the work of the EPU.

Ms OGILVIE - Yes. So, if I may also, that's one realm. AI, as we know, is a complex beastie that touches many things. At the other end of the spectrum, we are doing some important work on thought leadership vis-a-vis AI and economic development for Tasmania; particularly I'm working with the university economics department to do that work, and we're commencing with an AI dialogue, getting thought leaders, business leaders, tech leaders, artists, people together to have this discussion about what the big picture for Tasmania should and could look like, but I'm very grateful to Justin and his team because of work they've done at the frontline with the tech sector in particular. Getting that feedback has been phenomenal.

CHAIR - What work is being done right now to ensure that the use of AI is ethical?

Ms OGILVIE - Yes, so the document that I -

CHAIR - Yes. Just pass that over, sorry.

Ms OGILVIE - That's the work that's been done within government, making sure that that's communicated properly within government is all of our responsibilities and a lot of work has been done already, but as you heard, there's a strategic layer with that policy work and then also in relation to the work that's outside of government, which is also incredibly important, and that's where I'm leading some dialogue and some thought leadership conversations.

CHAIR - Alright, so in the meantime people are using AI for a variety of uses, probably within your department, us.

Ms OGILVIE - There is -

Ms O'CONNOR - Election posters, for example.

CHAIR - Well, all sorts of things. We know the risks associated with that, so, how is that being considered and addressed potentially?

Ms OGILVIE - Staff have ability to access and are appraised of the guidelines for use, ethical use of AI as well. I mean, it's here. People are getting used to it. I think when it first arrived, there was a lot of concern and fear. Now, people using ChatGPT and they seem a lot more comfortable with it just at this layer, but when it comes to the opportunities for portfolios to improve productivity through the use of technology, AI is the global uplift that is happening. I think it is incumbent upon Tasmania, not being a hugely wealthy state, to do everything that we can to participate in that future digital economy.

Ms O'CONNOR - The corollary of that is job-losses. If the economic productivity unit is looking at AI, the corollary of that obviously is loss of jobs amongst human beings.

Ms OGILVIE - I don't agree with that, actually.

Ms O'CONNOR - All of the modeling says that's the case.

Ms OGILVIE - What we're seeing, and I've done - can I finish my sentence?

I've actually done a little bit of work with Stanford University on this around the future of work. What we're looking at is a complete change in the way we work. What we want to do is use AI to improve people's working lives and to take the drudgery work out, so form-filling or trying to find bits of information to aggregate into spreadsheets, that work can be done by AI more efficiently and more safely than by humans. It frees humans to have more interesting jobs. Now, I won't speak for the EPU because I'm not on it and I don't know much about it. But I have worked across productivity improvement in the past in the tech sector and I think we have a good plan to utilise AI both within government and more broadly.

I think also. Government, because we have so many technologists in government, we are a lighthouse for what the broader community can see about how to run these sorts of change programmes well. So that's what we're doing. I think it will be a very interesting journey. I feel very confident that our team has done the work and is sensible. The ethics of it matters. People's work lives matter. But we're open to ideas and very happy to hear from people. Sorry if you if.

CHAIR - Some say policy development is being assisted by tools like ChatGPT, public platforms, if you like. We know there's an inherent biases in those. So for example, they're one

of the concerns I would have if you're developing a health policy, the gender bias is extreme in some of those things. And so I think what barriers or guardrails you're putting put around that to ensure that we're not seeing policy development that has inherent gender bias or other biases that are inherent, yeah, in these tools?

Ms OGILVIE - I will ask Justin to speak to that, but I can give you a personal view very quickly, which is having been in and around the tech sector my entire working career, which is male-dominated, I think that there is a concern about that. And I also think that there is a solution to that, which is about having a human in the loop within a year.

CHAIR - It's not just that the bias in the in the gender bias in the in the tech sector; it's the gender bias in healthcare. The General Quality Committee reported on this, if you haven't read the report, you should. It's quite extreme.

Ms OGILVIE - So I understand about the health sector generally, but the application of AI, the bias you're talking about is built into the algorithms that do the AI consolidation. So if there's bias there, that is a place where having a human in the loop with any AI-made decisions is ethical, sensible and prudent. But I agree with you with the merging advancing technologies like this we have to take great care.

I will ask Justin, though, because you've probably had a bit of a think about this issue on your ethics side of things.

Dr THURLEY - Yeah look, with the development of the guidelines and in particular we were closely working with other Australian governments, states and territories, also the Australian Government and their people. We co-developed the assurance framework for AI, responsible use of AI in government, and we have aligned our policy with that arrangement. So that framework's published online. However, to put it in perspective, what the reality is of how do you mitigate the issues of bias and also the transparency so even if you are using it, you should probably have the transparency to admit that you know there could be biases.

Ms OGILVIE - Yes, I agree with that.

Dr THURLEY - It's based on the risk-based approach that's built into the guidelines that we have provided, the specific areas inside it that mentioned the issues of bias and to ensure public confidence and trust we have to make sure that we look and assess those risks and mitigate those risks within a framework.

It comes down to if you're dealing with a high-risk scenario for AI use or deployment then you should be using a recommended assurance framework to make sure that you do that assessment. One of those frameworks that we've looked at is the NSW government's AI assurance framework. If we were to involve ourselves in a high-risk scenario, that's where we would be going towards and probably unlikely to employ a high-risk scenario.

CHAIR - What would constitute a high-risk scenario?

Dr THURLEY - I feel that that comes down to risk tolerances, et cetera, but effectively the full automation from end-to-end of a process that could particularly impact the community or a decision that would impact the community. That's where you start to employ AI for

automation and we always look at something like robo debt, one of those examples of what not to do.

Ms OGILVIE - To give you a level of comfort as well; I might just also add that in September 2023, a Tasmanian government secretary's board established the AI working group, and I'm sure if you were interested in ongoing conversations, they'd be happy to hear from you. We have the single year but preliminary road map for AI governance across the Tasmanian government.

CHAIR - What you tabled?

Ms OGILVIE - Yes, you have that one, and the Data and Digital Committee, which also sits with us, is using the recommendations from the data and digital subcommittees of the Secretary's Board and their AI round table to update that two-year roadmap. So, recommendations there were made in relation to directions for policy, opportunities for government collaboration and knowledge-sharing, procurement and technology-sourcing, longer-term governance.

I will pause to say this portfolio is unusual because it has two realms to it. We have the internal government technology side and then we have the more economic development science side. Totally happy to speak to either of those but just wanted to acknowledge so my friends here are being very quiet.

Ms O'CONNOR - This comes to that issue? Minister, you hold both the information technology and environment portfolios. There is a proposal which was a government election announcement with a person jailed for 15 months for insider trading, Oliver Curtis, to establish an AI centre in the north of the state. Did you not know about Mr Curtis and his chequered history?

Ms OGILVIE - I'm waiting for your question.

Ms O'CONNOR - You just looked confused about.

Ms OGILVIE - I'm not confused.

Ms O'CONNOR - The Premier's been chatting with who spent 15 months in gaol on insider trading.

Ms OGILVIE - Is there a question?

Ms O'CONNOR - Yes, are you able to explain how facilitating an AI data centre in the north aligns with your environmental responsibilities, given that AI data centres are known for high energy and high-water use as they require very significant cooling and powering?

Ms OGILVIE - Interestingly, Fermus is a low-water use centre. They have patented an unusual and very interesting technology which immerses the racks in oil, which means it's lower energy-consumption and lower water-use. I've been and visited. It is interesting and implore you to go and have a look. The benefit of data centres and the digital economy for the environment, particularly in Tasmania, is the future is digital, and by using that capability and connectivity we will engage in the global economy.

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What does that mean, like in proper language? Well, what that means is that when we invent, develop, do some scientific research, create a musical work, make a film, or into all of these industries, we're able to sell that IP over the internet and the royalties come back in. We don't damage the environment. It's high intellectual work. It's good work for our people and for our scientists and researchers. We have IMAS, we have UTAS, we have this great amount of incredible science going on so coming down this end, I can see my science folk perking up. That's why, globally, everybody needs more data centres because it is hungry for information.

AI is coming and content is the king of everything.

Ms O'CONNOR - Can I say, as the Minister for Climate and the Environment, to hear you say -

Ms OGILVIE - Don't you like data centres? I would have thought you'd be right into them.

Ms O'CONNOR - Interesting.

Ms OGILVIE - No, not right?

Ms O'CONNOR - The examples of data centres that are being established in the United States, which are massive power consumers, which are already driving price rises to the towns around those data centres. The fact that in many parts of the world, they're powered by fossil fuels, means that they're not the utopia - and to have you, as minister, come to this table with this Pollyanna view -

Ms OGILVIE - Hah, that's funny. It is absolutely ridiculous to say that, Cassy. Come and see Firmus. You will love it.

Ms O'CONNOR - But it is. It's 'everything's going to be great.' You say the answer to the future-

CHAIR - The question?

Ms O'CONNOR - Yes. You say the answer to the future is more data centres, so I am wondering what your threshold is.

Ms OGILVIE - No, I said it's 'digital'. The future is digital -

Ms O'CONNOR - I'll go back and look at the *Hansard*.

Ms OGILVIE - And to manage the digital future, you need data centres. QED.

Ms O'CONNOR - How many AI data centres does your government expect or intend to see developed in Tasmania?

Ms OGILVIE - That's a good question. We have a data centre strategy. It is connected to the amount of energy we have, as you've correctly pointed out, and also needs to be fired by cable connectivity. Those two things are in balance. The Firmus - which is actually not so much a data centre as an AI factory. It has the same technology as a data centre, but they're going to

do more in AI, which is helpful. But I am looking towards you, Michael, to say if you could perhaps give some more information about that policy.

Ms O'CONNOR - Well, the question is: what's your threshold? Is there any limit?

Mr MOGRIDGE - I think there's a piece of work being done via the economic statement articulating there would be an economic diversification and investment strategy. The purpose of that would be to look forward and see what the sorts of businesses and industries are led by - and I suppose with digital innovation, that we do want to turn our minds to in the context of the future - jobs and solutions and economic opportunities that Tasmania may need.

And I would presume as part of that analysis, we'd be turning our minds to the energy required for these sorts of businesses, whether or not it's green energy and how that provides jobs and regional outcomes for Tasmanians.

Ms OGILVIE - Yes, and connectivity. I can give you a good example.

Ms O'CONNOR - As part of the assessment, data centres themselves are not big employers. That's the experience from the around the world. You can build them and create a few jobs in the build, but they're not big employers ongoing.

Ms OGILVIE - No, they're not. That's right. Where the jobs are in content creation, and management of data and information, and scientific work, and all of that great stuff we do really well here in Clark-land. And so, our proposal - we're really tapped into this - is to support that - to support IMAS and the university and our space sector, which is incredible.

And I was just going to give you that example of a company like Geoneon, which is using the data and information in our telecommunications capacity and our radio telescopes to measure climate change from space. I always like to use that example, because it is a prime example of how these two worlds come together so beautifully to make life better for everyone.

Ms O'CONNOR - Can I ask as a last question, because we are running over time. Minister, do you foresee any environmental standards or conditions being set for AI infrastructure in Tasmania? Has any analysis been done by the agency on the environmental impacts of large-scale data centres, including energy demand, water use, and emissions?

Ms OGILVIE - That's back to this forward planning.

Mr MOGRIDGE - Some of those concepts would probably go to the broad environmental implications of any particular business, which some of that falls outside of this portfolio. But certainly, when we're turning our minds to ongoing strategies like the diversification strategy, which is influenced by the policies that sit within this portfolio, we'd be willing to turn our mind to how do we create sustainable businesses that are the right sorts of businesses for Tasmania moving forward.

Ms O'CONNOR - [inaudible 5.24.15] our brand, don't drain our lakes...

CHAIR - Maybe you can follow that up in the Environment profile.

Ms O'CONNOR - I reckon I might, Chair.

CHAIR - Do you have any other questions you want to ask under this one? It's been a pretty short time; we're trying not to finish at midnight tonight.

Ms OGILVIE - Sorry, that's alright. It's my favourite area. I wish we'd had longer, but nonetheless.

CHAIR - Thank you, minister, for you and your team. We will give you a break. We will see you back at -

Ms OGILVIE - Pleasure. Yes, absolutely.

The committee suspended from 5.24 p.m. to 5.28 p.m.

CHAIR - I know this is perhaps a bit of a first for you with as we see you as an independent statutory authority that has important roles and responsibilities. We appreciate you being here. I will ask you to introduce yourself and the people at the table for the benefit of *Hansard* and then did you want to make an opening statement?

Ms MURDOCH - Catherine Murdoch, I am the CEO of the Environment Protection Agency. With me at the table is Cindy Ong, who is the Director of Environmental Regulation, and Daryl Cook, who is the Director of Finfish Compliance.

Good afternoon, everyone. As you've said, this is a new experience for us as the EPA to have our own session today. I see it as a sign of maturity as an organisation and welcome the opportunity to answer questions put forward by the committee today. We will endeavour to answer all your questions here today, but this is a new process for us, please bear with us at some times. We will try and get all the information in required within the session, if not as soon as possible for you.

In the seven months that I have spent in my role with the APA, I have become aware of how qualified this team is. I am privileged to lead this team. They are here at the EPA because they are committed to upholding our vision to protect and enhance the quality of the Tasmanian environment and balance with economic and social values.

The 2025 Budget allocates \$16.9 million from appropriation and a total of \$3.2 million over the forward Estimates. This funding supports environmental regulation at \$13.449 million for our compliance enforcement and incident response across more than 500 level two activities, including major industrials, waste facilities, and TasWater's larger wastewater treatment plants; also, our environmental assessments at \$5.079 million for timely and rigorous assessment of increasingly complex proposals, including large mines, renewable energy projects, transmission lines, and green hydrogen facilities.

Additional retained revenue streams include the salmon levy of \$2.993 million, which is for oversight of marine and freshwater aquaculture under strengthened environmental standards, the landfill levy for waste compliance and illegal dumping investigations, and grants for digital transformation of regulatory information systems and air quality network upgrades.

Ms O'CONNOR - Can I just ask, do you have another whole page to read?

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Ms MURDOCH - No. I'm happy to - I didn't know protocol or process or how long. Happy to get into - I think that's a good opening statement for us. We're in your hands.

CHAIR - There is a lot going on in your space at the moment.

Ms MURDOCH - There is.

CHAIR - Just about every area would be of relevance to the EPA. So I will go to Cassy.

Ms O'CONNOR - Thank you, Chair. Thank you for the introduction, and hello, everyone. Documents released under right to information show that the director of the EPA, the secretary of NRET, and the CEO of Salmon Tasmania had a discussion on Tuesday 5 August this year about a document entitled Draft Environmental Monitoring of Florfenicol in Salmon Aquaculture Marine Sites.

Output Group 1 - Environment Protection Authority

1.1 Environmental Regulation

CHAIR - Would this be a better fit under 1.3? We're trying to do them in order - 1.1 is Environmental Regulation; is that where it fits?

Ms O'CONNOR - Well, this is about environmental regulation.

Ms MURDOCH - No, that's finfish regulation. If it's to do with florfenicol and salmon, it's definitely in the finfish regulation area.

Ms O'CONNOR - Okay, Chair. I wouldn't have thought it was problematic for it to fit within this section of the outputs. I don't know why there would be a problem with just answering it now rather than trying to box us in on this.

CHAIR - The only reason I say that, is if there was a question on notice that was left open, it needs to be under the line item it's relevant to.

Ms O'CONNOR - Of course. I will come back to this.

CHAIR - We will see how we go.

Ms O'CONNOR - This is about broad environmental regulation issues which the EPA is responsible for and what influence, if you like, industry has on regulatory decisions made by the Environment Protection Authority. If you want me to ask you questions about stadium fill or something like this in this output, I'm happy to do that too. If perhaps we could just do this. If there is a question on notice, I will go back to it in the other output. So the documents provided in the RTI documents, there's no author. Are you able to tell the committee who wrote this draft?

Ms MURDOCH - I actually am unsure of what documentation you're referring to.

Ms O'CONNOR - So were you - so the director of the EPA was at this meeting?

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Ms MURDOCH - You've said 5 August.

Ms O'CONNOR - The document is RTI documents and the document is entitled Draft Environmental Monitoring of Florfenicol in Salmon Aquaculture Marine Sites.

Ms MURDOCH - Are we able to see it? If I can confer with Daryl next to me.

Ms O'CONNOR - This is the bundle that referred to in the RTI, and a lot is blacked out. This document's not ringing any bells with you?

Ms MURDOCH - No. I'm just checking in case it might have been something they lodged with us which was - I'm not quite sure what document we're talking about.

Ms O'CONNOR - How about I find the exact reference in the right to information documents. I'd be surprised - who's the director of the EPA?

Ms MURDOCH - I am.

Ms O'CONNOR - That's right, but I'd be surprised if you hadn't -

Ms MURDOCH - Was this an NRE Tas RTI? Otherwise, I haven't seen it. I'm EPA.

Ms O'CONNOR - Whether or not you've seen it I'm not sure is relevant, because you were at this meeting according to the RTI, and there was a document before you about environmental monitoring of florfenicol.

Ms MURDOCH - Honestly, I do not remember having a face-to-face meeting with John Whittington. I'm presuming it was a Teams meeting potentially, but I'm honestly - I'm presuming it was a florfenicol monitoring program that the industry put forward. My team saw that document. We had a look at it, as you will see, and I'm happy to answer when we get asked about what monitoring we're doing. It might have helped inform, but I think what you can see is that we have gone well above what was put forward in that document.

Ms O'CONNOR - So you're confirming that this document to which I refer -

Ms MURDOCH - I don't know what document you're referring to.

Ms O'CONNOR - The draft Environmental Monitoring of Florfenicol in Salmon Aquaculture Marine Sites document.

Ms MURDOCH - Is it a -

Ms O'CONNOR - It's not in the RTI. It's referred to in the RTI.

Ms MURDOCH - I don't know, and I have not seen that RTI.

Ms THOMAS - Is it a state government document?

Ms O'CONNOR - Well, this is what I'm trying to establish, Bec, whether it was written by government or the EPA or put forward by Salmon Tasmania.

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Ms MURDOCH - I'm happy to talk through, absolutely, our monitoring program that we have put in place, and that was only put in place in September, correct me if I'm wrong, Daryl.

Mr COOK - It may have been August, but after that date that you're talking about. You're talking about 5 August?

Ms MURDOCH - Yes. And we're very happy to absolutely walk through our monitoring program and what's being done and I'm also happy to answer that question, in regards to we are completely an independent, scientifically-based organisation. I take that exceptionally seriously, as do all the staff in this room. It is absolutely a privilege to work for this organisation. We make all our decisions on robust science, and I am impartial, independent and that is the core of what the EPA is.

Ms O'CONNOR - Thank you for that statement. The EPA's website says that it has:

... developed a new florfenicol antibiotic residue monitoring schedule prepared through a review of scientific literature and support from public health services.

Ms MURDOCH -Yes.

Ms O'CONNOR -. Was there any influence at all from the industry on the development of this schedule, and did the EPA undertake an entirely independent literature review -

Ms MURDOCH - Yes.

Ms O'CONNOR - or did they rely on the one done by industry?

Ms MURDOCH - I'm really happy to answer this question because I'm pretty proud of how the team have done this work. So yes -

CHAIR - Are we doing this under 1.3 where it fits?

Ms MURDOCH - I know. I understand, Chair.

Ms O'CONNOR - Yes, we will get back to various questions about finfish regulations.

CHAIR - I'm just trying to make it easy for *Hansard* and for our reporting purposes, that's all.

Ms MURDOCH - Yes. Industry had put forward some ideas and obviously we already have the oxytetracycline monitoring schedule as well. Our team looked at those and have come up with - and I'm actually happy to table the research that my team over 41 - documentation -

Ms O'CONNOR - That would be great.

Ms MURDOCH - I brought that with me because I thought this might come up. My team, in working with public health, developed a monitoring schedule, they reviewed 41 current literature on florfenicol, and I have to say they're continuing to look at literature. I think

public health only sent us one the other day so we're constantly in this. I'm happy to table that bibliography to here.

We looked at that and compared, and I think it's fair to say we have gone a lot stronger, and we can document where and how. For instance, the first sampling that has occurred is over 700 sites are being done under that sampling. There is extensive baseline and there is other extensive monitoring. If you would like me to go through the monitoring program, I'm happy to do that and go through exactly what we're doing.

Ms O'CONNOR - I don't know if we need a blow-by-blow of the monitoring program. I think it'd be great if you could table the literature review.

Ms MURDOCH - Absolutely.

Ms O'CONNOR - But a summary of the monitoring program would be helpful.

Ms MURDOCH - Do I steal your thunder, or would you like me to - Darryl?

Mr COOK - I'm happy to -

Ms MURDOCH - I'm happy to go through it. The summary, just so you know, is still pretty extensive because it goes through the baseline of what we're doing there and then during treatment monitoring, and there are treatment sites, non-treatment sites, control sites and reference sites. There is a lot.

CHAIR - Before you start that, could I just ask on that point, what interaction do you have with the Director of Public Health in this?

Ms MURDOCH - Yes.

Mr COOK - Yes. We communicated - the process that was outlined, that the director has already mentioned - Salmon Tasmania came to us initially with the intention to use florfenicol and that was 29 July, and they had proposed some monitoring, they had done some literature reviews, so we picked up from there. We did our own literature review, we made contact with the Director of Public Health and got input from them as well as our own review of the literature, and we significantly built on the schedule that was put to us by Salmon Tasmania. I can start to take you through some of that if you like.

CHAIR - Sure.

Mr COOK - All right. In chronological order, the first thing that happens is baseline sampling, so that sampling that's undertaken before any florfenicol is put into the water, so we have water sampling. We have that at internal site within the lease, and we have it at external sites 35 metres from the boundary of the lease at three compliance sites. We then have reference sites which are some distance away from the lease ranging from 500 metres away to -

Ms MURDOCH - To 8.5 kilometres.

Mr COOK - Yes.

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CHAIR - Based on water currents?

Mr COOK - They're selected from our broadscale environmental monitoring program from within the region.

CHAIR - Sure.

Ms MURDOCH - There is actually really harsh conditions as well. Apart from what they have to do, like for that one for instance, it says samples must be taken at the edge of the [inaudible 5.40], the pen downstream of prevailing water currents, and the position must be reported at the time of collection. There's a lot of science and methodology in this.

Mr COOK - Then we have sediment sampling sites. Again, we have internal sampling of all the stock pen bays within the lease. We have the external sites in it, the three compliance points 35 metres from the boundary of the lease and the reference sites again. We have the sediment sampling there.

Then we have an untreated lease at some distance away which is also a stocked lease, so sampling of pens at that lease for some stock pen bays and compliance points at that untreated lease.

Then we have what we call in fauna sampling which is looking at the invertebrate communities living in the sediment. We have all stock pen bays again of those leases. The three compliance points are 35 metres from the boundary and the same three reference sites. Then we have the untreated lease again for the in-fauna sampling and then we have sediment microbial sampling. This is to look at the microbial community that is in the sediment, again a similar thing. We have all the internal stocked pen bays within the treated leases. We have the three compliance sites, three reference sites and the untreated lease. A similar thing with the stock pen base, three stock pin bays and three compliance points. That's an example of -

Ms MURDOCH - Baseline.

Mr COOK - For one of the companies and we would have a very similar thing to the other company.

The numbers may change slightly, the number of compliance points.

Ms O'CONNOR - Thank you for that. I am trying to double check in terms of the monitoring that you've outlined here. What we have in the right to information is on the 5 August, the document sent by John Whittington to Jason Jacobi and Catherine Murdoch, which is the draft environmental monitoring of florfenicol in salmon aquaculture marine sites.

Mr COOK - That wouldn't have had any of these baseline requirements.

Ms MURDOCH - We have added baseline requirements, so really happy to get that on the record, we are absolutely doing extensive baseline monitoring of any antibiotic treatment.

Ms O'CONNOR - OK and so if we held up the industry's proposed monitoring program that they certainly would have hoped that you'd adopt -

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Ms MURDOCH - Vastly different.

Ms O'CONNOR - and the one that the EPA has in place now. How far from pen sites is the monitoring extending to, given that there's a three-kilometre impact exclusion of florfenicol.

Ms MURDOCH - It varies. We've just gone through the baseline - and as was said, those sites are reference sites for up to 508.5 kilometres from pens as well as within external. In the monitoring that happens then on day one, 714 and 21.

Mr COOK - Yes, after treatment.

Ms MURDOCH - Again, we had - after treatment - we have a collection of wild fish sampling, water sampling, in-fauna, microbial and sediments again at different ranging sites again. Some of those are within the pens. All the fish, to help inform the monitoring is, is at zones that public health have worked with us, which are 500 kilometre and three kilometres. We are really specific on those of where they have to be collected from. 24 fish, mixed samples and on which days and mid-treatment for those.

Then the water sampling is across all of those sites and the reference sites as well, some of them. We've just had another one that potentially sites are actually 9.1 kilometres from the side. In response to how this varies from what was put to us, I think you will find, there was no microbial, we have added in water quality, we've added in baseline. We've done far more extensive sampling than what was originally proposed and it's extensive.

Mr COOK - You will find we have adopted what industry put forward, though, but we've just added a lot.

Ms MURDOCH - We have added a lot.

Ms O'CONNOR - Noting that other people want to ask questions and wanting to make sure that these questions are asked. Yesterday, the Macquarie Point Development Corporation informed us there was an estimated 130,000 cubic metres of contaminated fill beneath the footprint of the proposed stadium at Macquarie Point. Has the EPA engaged with MPDC on this volume of contaminated fuel, and does the EPA believe it can be safely treated?

Ms MURDOCH - Just to check, what numbers have you there? Because we have our numbers.

Ms O'CONNOR - Can you confirm this? 130,000 cubic metres yesterday. Ms Beach, I think, said?

CHAIR - I would have to check the *Hansard* to be sure.

Ms MURDOCH - It's 130,000 to 220 tonnes that matches with our table here.

Ms O'CONNOR - I think a cubic metre is sort of a tonne.

Ms MURDOCH - Yes, that's about right.

Ms O'CONNOR - 130 to 220 possibly is the range of volume?

Ms MURDOCH - Yes, so what would you?

Ms O'CONNOR - What we're trying to establish here is the role of the EPA as one of the regulators under the order, although you are not as empowered as the Secretary of State Growth. What is the role of the EPA in assessing that contaminated material is and how to dispose of it. Do we think Copping has the capacity?

Ms MURDOCH - Happy to answer, there's different classes. Our understanding is that only 10 per cent or 30,000 tonnes is of level three which would need to go to Copping. We understand that Copping does potentially have that capacity. The remaining is potential level two material.

I think you will find in what our management plans and their statements in regard to the Macquarie Point hearing outlined was that is up to them to do the site contamination assessments. Determine if it can be used on site, if it can be treated. That is our preferred. But it is level two, it's not Level three and if whether or not it can be reused.

Ms ONG - In assessing the contaminated soil on the site, Macquarie Point Development Corporation needs to engage a suitably qualified person to do that.

Ms O'CONNOR - Environmental auditor accepted by the EPA.

Ms ONG - Yes. There is a particular qualification that they have to have. They will do the assessment, and this is a means we commonly use for contaminated sites and then once the final tonnage is known, then it's up to the Macquarie Point Development Corporation to ensure that it goes to a place approved to receive it. As Catherine said, we expect that around 10 per cent will be Level 3 and the Copping can accommodate that

Ms O'CONNOR - Do you expect there to be any level four contaminated soil?

Ms ONG - I don't believe so, but this is part of the assessment that will happen.

CHAIR - There's a risk it could be under the goods shed when they have to move the goods shed. Because that hasn't been cleaned up under the goods shed.

Ms MURDOCH - But the site contaminator in that process should identify that and then they would have to completely comply with all those regulations in regard to those waste levels, yes.

Ms O'CONNOR - Given that you're responsible for waste management, is the EPA comfortable that Copping has the capacity to take the contaminated fill that you don't know the full volume of what you will be dealing with exactly at that site.

Ms MURDOCH - I am happy if you want to answer because the team has done that analysis for us. That was part of our consideration to put forward our recommended conditions. Yes, we understand Copping has availability at this point, but that's obviously a commercial decision for Copping as well and that's up to Macquarie Point to work within those.

Our requirement is obviously that it must be disposed of appropriately in accordance with the waste regulations. We will be informed of that when the the auditor is doing its work and actually determining on site exactly what this makeup is, but it is a decision for Macquarie Point, but they need to make sure where it's going -

Ms O'CONNOR - In terms of the sequencing - Macquarie Point Development Corporation is responsible for commissioning an audit to have a look at what that fill is, including an assessment of what the composite of that fill is, what contaminants are in there and whether or not there's a risk. It then makes an assessment of what needs to be moved. Is that where the EPA as a regulator might come in?

Ms ONG - We set limits on the landfills that we regulate, including Copping as to how much they can receive every year. As Catherine said, it's a commercial decision on the part of the landfill operators to decide whether they can accommodate what might come off Macquarie Point.

Ms O'CONNOR - What if they can't accommodate it? What happens then? It's that Macquarie Point Development Corporation's problem?

Ms MURDOCH - Well, it's contaminated. It's contaminated soil that can only go to a facility. If it can't be treated on site, it needs to go to a facility that can handle that level of waste.

Ms O'CONNOR - There's only one in the south, isn't there?

Ms MURDOCH - Yes.

Ms O'CONNOR - Copping.

Ms MURDOCH - That's for them to enter into those arrangements with it's - until they find out exactly what they've got. But they're aware of that process. We have stepped through that process with them. As this process continues, I would expect that we would be kept informed of those matters.

Ms O'CONNOR - Is there any sort of requirement in the order for the EPA to be kept informed? I don't think so, but I'm just double checking. It's been a couple of weeks since I've been into it.

Ms ONG - I think it would be part of our normal process.

Ms MURDOCH - We're still a regulator.

Ms ONG - To be onsite and check what's is happening. Just in terms of the material that's not level 3, there are options other than Copping. There is McRobies and also Jackson Street.

Ms O'CONNOR - For the level 3 and above contaminants, what's the cap that the EPA has put on Copping?

Ms MURDOCH - I don't have that but we can get that, I'm pretty sure pretty quickly.

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Ms O'CONNOR - That's a volume cap, isn't it?

Ms MURDOCH - Yes, it is.

CHAIR - Which also then potentially has some flow-on it -

Ms ONG - Tons.

CHAIR - - in tonnage. I'm not sure what other developments have been planned in Tasmania where there are contaminated sites. Do you have any vision of that? Any other likely proposal that's going to create that sort of waste that would require storage at Copping? Dispose, not storage. Well, whatever it is.

Ms MURDOCH - This is - all of our assessments would look at contaminated land. We would know what's coming up. That's why that is important for the waste sector to talk to each other, but that's why it's Copping's business decision as to whether or not they're going to take Macquarie Point or if there are other projects that come up that might. But at this point - and we did ask the team to do the analysis. We thought - sorry, Cindy?

Ms ONG - B-cells

Ms MURDOCH - They've given us the B-cells. We want the C-cells.

CHAIR - Copping would charge MPDC for that disposal.

Ms MURDOCH - Absolutely. That's their business to do. As we've said, under EMPCA, we still have regulatory functions and things. We would still regulate that space.

Ms O'CONNOR - We did ask this question of MPDC yesterday, or I did. What's the EPA's knowledge of the historical contaminants onsite? What are we looking at here? Mercury, copper, lead, zinc, arsenic?

Ms ONG - Yes, there are metals, hydrocarbons, probably asbestos. A range of things that will need to be investigated -

Ms MURDOCH - Tested.

CHAIR - Magnetic sand?

Ms LOVELL - No playing in the sand pit there either.

Ms O'CONNOR - Is the EPA comfortable with the level of remediation - acknowledging that the footprint of the stadium, should parliament make the mistake of approving it, has underneath it contaminated fill. What's the EPA's - is the EPA broadly comfortable with MPDC's assurances about site decontamination?

Ms MURDOCH - What we're comfortable with are the conditions that we've proposed that the development of a waste management plan. The site auditor will manage risk appropriately and we will have oversight of what that looks like. We're comfortable that our conditions enable us to actually understand the condition at the site, and that we can ensure that

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appropriate regulated processes are actually followed. That's what we're - we're comfortable our conditions will enable us to do that.

The C cell is 45,000 tonnes per annum, that's total that they're licenced for.

Ms O'CONNOR - Thank you. That's interesting, isn't it, because the broad assessment of the volume of potentially contaminated fill under the footprint of the stadium is that it might reach 220 cubic metres, the maximum capacity of copping and that's a regulated threshold, isn't it? Is 45 cubic metres correct?

Ms ONG - Yes, per annum?

Ms MURDOCH - This is scheduling and they get it there in March and then they do another one. That's per annum and on the financial year.

Ms O'CONNOR - You still potentially, given the time-frames for the stadium, should parliament make the mistake of approving the order, you still potentially will have fill sitting on site that can't go to Copping because a threshold's been met within a year, given the volume.

Ms MURDOCH - That is not for us. That is MPDC and we have absolutely put those positions forward about here, and this is determining what you've got on site. What is that scheduling on site, so as any construction project, understanding that waste and that volume that they have and therefore the best process. They have to find out what's on site, obviously, but they can schedule that. They can determine that and understand and manage that risk. Our contaminated waste plant, is that what that one's called?

Ms ONG - Condition.

Ms MURDOCH - The condition that we have will include those things in there because, yes, we can't have risk of contaminants to air into water and storm water. Those things absolutely need to be considered, but we've had those discussions.

CHAIR - is gaseous.

Ms MURDOCH - Yes. I'm comfortable they understand, and we've had those conversations with them that that process needs to be well thought through.

CHAIR - And planned.

Ms MURDOCH - Yes, planning, really important.

Ms O'CONNOR -Yes, the state is not particularly good at planning out large infrastructure projects and their consequences, but you can take that as a comment if you like.

CHAIR - We will.

OUTPUT GROUP 1

Environment Protection Authority

1.2 Environmental Assessment

CHAIR - This is your activities under the Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act. I might lead off, in terms of the number of breaches that you've had are reported in terms of breaches of EMPCA?

Ms MURDOCH - There are various things here. So, which are we talking? I think we will go to infringement notices.

CHAIR - The number of infringement notices because that would be related to a breach, one would assume. Unless you're being particularly nasty.

Ms MURDOCH - Yes. I think it's the 65 that you're talking about that are in our annual report. There's a list of 65 in there.

CHAIR - And what were they related to? What different sectors were they related to? Do you have a breakdown of that?

Ms MURDOCH - I do, and I haven't printed that table off. It's in the annual report. I have a table printed. I have it prepared, so there are 65 and happy to table this. What we have is the total fine as well on the penalty units applied, and what the basic offences were. So depositive concentration, controlled waste, illegal dumping, breach of permit conditions, failure to fulfil direction of an authorised officer. There are varying ones that I'm happy to table that. What I will also say is this was the first time it was in our annual report this year. I think this is a process that we're looking to continue to improve. Next year we will have at least this level of detail as well. I think that's a fantastic step forward for us.

CHAIR - Public visibility does help.

Ms MURDOCH - Yes, so it's the same as the table but a little bit of extra information if you're happy for me to table that?

CHAIR - Thank you. That would be really helpful.

Ms O'CONNOR - Noting that this is about environmental assessment. After the 2025 salmon mortality event. The EPA commenced an investigation into the event. Including:

Various investigative actions are being used to determine the facts. In fact, chemical analysis of deceased fish and oily material, inspections of fish farm activities and offshore and land-based facilities where deceased fish are handled and assessment of salmon company mortality reports and information.

Would it be possible to provide the committee with an update on the investigation and can we confirm the outcome of this investigation will be made public?

Ms MURDOCH - Yes, the outcome of all of our investigations are, but it's still underway and it is related to the release of controlled waste into the environment. That is the investigation

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that is underway, because that is what we regulate. I am sure you all know this, it's not appropriate for me to comment on it until the active investigation has completed so I don't finish that ongoing matter, but we are finalising that investigation.

Ms O'CONNOR - This event, from memory, happened in February and March of this year? That's now some nine months ago. I understand all government and statutory authorities has resourcing pressures, but that's nine months, where people who live along the southern beaches have had no answers basically about their summer.

Is this going to be one of those situations where we are at the table next year and the investigation is still ongoing?

Ms MURDOCH - I can't tell you, because obviously in regard to judicial matters they take time. They take time to prepare a case, and it will be ultimately; we will put this up to the DPP for decision. Those processes - we don't actually control over those timeframes.

CHAIR - It's not being held up by you though.

Ms MURDOCH - Completely not. No. Absolutely not and happy to have that absolutely on the record. My team has done a really thorough job in regard to all avenues of evidence. What can be included to get this investigation finished. Yes, it had started when I was there, and it's just taken time to [inaudible] that into an appropriate case file.

Ms O'CONNOR - Can I ask then without you having to give anything away necessarily in terms of time: is the investigation near completion?

Ms MURDOCH - Yes, it is.

Ms O'CONNOR - OK. Can you help me understand what the pathway is here. The investigation is completed, there were significant impacts, there may well be referral to the Director of Public Prosecutions. What is the pathway - if you like - if it's to go to the DPP, does any minister sit in there?

Ms MURDOCH - No.

Ms O'CONNOR - Would any industry people be notified?

Ms MURDOCH - No. I have an exceptionally qualified internal legal team, which I'm thankful for. They do an amazing job. This is our case; this is what we will put forward. This is no interference in this process whatsoever.

Ms O'CONNOR - OK. Well, that's reassuring, given the history of this island.

Ms O'CONNOR - Just today, was it, that we have a copy of the Reflections and Learnings 2025 Salmon Mortality Event -

Ms MURDOCH - Today?

CHAIR - No, that was a week or two ago.

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Ms MURDOCH - I think it was a few weeks ago.

CHAIR - Who would know?

Ms O'CONNOR - It's the first time a hard copy has got into my hand. I am thinking, wow, amazing.

Ms MURDOCH - Happy to provide you with hard copies of these.

CHAIR - There was a briefing on it.

Ms O'CONNOR - I wasn't briefed on this.

Ms MURDOCH - There was a briefing we did to members. I am sure it was three weeks ago.

CHAIR - It probably is three or four weeks ago to be fair.

Ms O'CONNOR - In terms of the learnings and what kind of actions the EPA can undertake to prevent that sort of salmon mortality event in the future. What kind of reassurance can the EPA provide - not that this sits on your head, by the way. Not that it does - to residents of all coastal areas that, some actions being taken, we're not going to have another repeat.

Ms MURDOCH - In the time that that was being done, the team certainly have not sat on its hands, and we've been doing things. I think importantly, what will be in place for the first time, this summer, is in accordance with - because we've been rolling out the environmental standards. They are an extraordinary document in regard to what we are bringing and the changes to the management of the industry in this space. Part 4 of that is already in place-

Mr COOK - Some of part four, not all of it.

Ms MURDOCH - Part 5 are the additional things we're adding to environmental licences. And one of those that will be the first time this year is waste management plans. Now those waste management, they're currently being prepared. We're getting those into final stages, those plans address the management of all specified waste but including mortality.

That will outline for us how much waste and different scenarios of waste at levels and also matching to ensure that infrastructure for waste management of mortalities is in place so we can say yes, there is a statewide network at any of these scenarios, we understand that waste will be managed.

There are other things that we are doing, and we've kicked the process off yesterday of varying licences.

Mr COOK - Yes absolutely, first one has been out.

Ms MURDOCH - They're obviously out for consultation, but what we're looking to do there is to actually have stricter language around the removal of mortalities from pens. It was quite a vague licence condition before. We're putting a time frame on that of quite a strict time frame.

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Ms O'CONNOR - Tell us about it.

Ms MURDOCH - We're out for consultation.

Mr COOK - It's out for statutory consultation.

Ms O'CONNOR - If it's out for statutory consultation its public.

Ms MURDOCH - No, it's to the licence holder under the act.

Ms O'CONNOR - To both companies or all companies?

Mr COOK - To all licence holders.

Ms MURDOCH - Yes, but it's statutory under the act.

Mr COOK - It's because it's a variation of a licence at, at the directors volition. We have a statutory step where we have to consult the licence holder.

CHAIR - You don't have to agree with them though.

Ms MURDOCH - No, but we have to consult.

Ms O'CONNOR - What would be best practice then, for example, in terms of.

Ms MURDOCH - In summer we're proposing a 24-hour removal. That's absolutely a learning out of that. Let's get them out of the pens, let's ensure that we've actually got a waste infrastructure network that can cope with this. Also, the assessment team has been working with the waste sector to assess and get licences into place for increased volume as well.

Those things have been happening.

Mr COOK - That's based on when the water's warm, you get very rapid decomposition and like I say the companies, if they have evidence, they can put something else to us.

CHAIR - Do you have the capacity then to ask them also to de-stock?

Ms MURDOCH - No.

Ms O'CONNOR - Who can do that?

Mr COOK - The concept that has come up through the debrief process has been called emergency harvest and through the debrief process Salmon Tasmania is to develop a code of practice so that could be addressed in the industry code of practice.

Ms MURDOCH - Stocking rates and those things obviously that is in biosecurity and in their biosecurity standards. One of the greatest learnings out of this whole process was us as agencies understanding our statutory roles and our processes and where there is potential duplication and crossover and getting better at that and sharing information amongst ourselves. That was actually a positive outcome of that.

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My team are already out on the water with the biosecurity team a lot more and we're looking at how we can align our compliance activities in a much more efficient, effective way.

Ms O'CONNOR - Can I just understand better what an emergency harvest is?

CHAIR - Destocking.

Mr COOK - Yes, it's another word for destocking.

Ms O'CONNOR - Emergency harvest is de-stocking. It doesn't mean take the fish out and prepare them like you'd harvest other foods, does it? The broad English language definition of harvest is to pick to feed people, we're not talking about emergency harvesting.

Ms MURDOCH - It's not a recommendation in the report that's being progressed and whether or not industry includes that in the code of practice, I'm not aware of.

Ms O'CONNOR - Is the EPA feed into that code of practice which is being written by the industry to govern its own actions.

Ms MURDOCH - They're not governing their own actions, because our regulation still stands. They can write a code of practice and lots of industries have a code of practice. There's no issue with an industry going, these are the standards we're going to hold ourselves to. That does not inform our regulatory processes. As we're saying we are getting on and introducing all the technical standards. We have the schedule to get them in place under the environmental standards and into licensed conditions.

The raft of changes that are coming into this industry because, in our space, because of the environmental standards, is changing things a lot. We've got the new conditions already in for noise vessel, basically mitigation, which we've already worked with the companies and have had infringements and we're working with the companies on actually using that condition and to improve noise vessel. There is a lot that has already come in, but we are progressively going through the introduction of the technical standards as well, and that will not change because of a code of practice.

Ms O'CONNOR - Has the EPA had any regulatory role in Macquarie Harbour recently?

Ms MURDOCH - We have an ongoing role.

Ms O'CONNOR - No, on ground: have there been any incidents or matters that the EPA has needed to provide oversight or examine in relation to finfish farming in Macquarie Harbour?

CHAIR - Respond to, perhaps.

Ms MURDOCH - No.

Mr COOK - Not incidents-wise: we're over there doing monitoring on a regular basis, we -

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Ms MURDOCH - Our ongoing role with the environmental licences over there, and our water quality monitoring and all those are ongoing. We haven't had any incidents for Macquarie Harbour.

Mr COOK - We receive regular seabed video surveys and that kind of thing for assessment. We're in regular communication around the oxygenation requirements in Macquarie Harbour, so there's regular communication.

CHAIR - On a slightly different topic before we run out of time: as an independent statutory office here, we did hear from another one which is really struggling with the funding they're getting to deliver what they need to deliver on behalf of the people of Tasmania. I noticed in the appropriation in the budget papers, on page 53, I can see that there are relatively small increases in the environmental regulation line item, but on environmental assessment, it falls away.

I wouldn't have thought that work would have diminished. When we look at the finfish area, that's obviously self-funded, or funded by the industry, but it's flat. You've had a lot more work to do of late, particularly with the use of florfenicol. Is your budget adequate to do what you need to do? You're allowed to speak freely here because the Auditor-General certainly did.

Ms MURDOCH - I know I am. Firstly, I will address what looks like a budget decrease in assessments: that's actually not the case. What's going on here is that there are two buckets really, regulation versus assessment, don't actually match our organisational structure. We might be able to work with Treasury to get it to match. For instance, CEO, everything's in that bucket. There's also an assessments team from our science and technical division that are showing in that regulation. So all of assessments isn't in the assessments bucket. The changing of those budget figures are actually because what we've done is make sure all the operational overheads are actually to the right people in those buckets. So it's just a transfer amongst those.

It's actually not a decrease in funding. It's us actually putting the right money against the right output group there. In regards to more funding, of course I would always love more funding, and my team, I think, are doing an extraordinary amount of work for 117 FTE, a headcount of 129. We're lean, we have a lot of responsibility. I'm so proud of this team behind me and within the whole agency. So, yes, if there was more money to be had, we would probably be able to fast-track some programs, but we are matching our resources to the program we're delivering.

CHAIR - So what gives a bit? What do you have to push back to ensure that you can do the really critical work, like the monitoring, or something that gets dropped in your lap? What actually has to be pushed out to enable that?

Ms MURDOCH - There's one absolute area that we - I don't think anyone in the agency would agree that we would love to do more - is better communication, data analysis, information out. We have terabytes of data within this organisation. Data's different to information, right? We all know that.

Ms O'CONNOR - So this is the studies, the monitoring and that kind of thing?

Ms MURDOCH - Yes. We put the reports up, but there's no dashboard. Our staff do amazing work and we're getting amazing information in. We know we can do it. I do not have resources for that. I'd also love to have the conversation with the community about what is the

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information that you'd like our data to answer. There's a really good piece of work in that. I have a communications team of one media - and we have had over, I think this year, 165 media inquiries. That's the whole job. We can't focus on doing proactive communications. Kylie does an amazing job, but yes, that is a gap that we would absolutely love to fill.

CHAIR - I should know the answer to this, but I don't: how is the \$2.993 million from the industry determined and could that be increased to assist in the extra workload that goes, particularly at the moment, into that sector?

Ms MURDOCH - I've actually got - the real figures around that were actually, because they're just estimates, and the actual money we got from the salmon levy that year was \$3.2 million for instance. So yes, what we can influence is through - so my business manager doesn't say she's given me all the information I need - but it's through the salmon levy. Obviously we work in that process with NRE Tas. It's in arrears, but it is for staff paid directly, or effort paid that year that we can -

CHAIR - So what's it based on? The profitability of the company? Is it the headcount of the company, the number of fish? What's it based on?

Ms MURDOCH - I actually don't know how. I'm just trying to find it here. Is Kylie telling me where to go in the chat? Sorry. Okay, Salmon Cost Recovery Model [Program 6.16.31.]. It's administered by NRE Tas and I haven't yet been through this process with NRE Tas, but I am looking forward to doing it with my team this year.

CHAIR - You've got a pretty good case for, you know -

Ms MURDOCH - We do.

CHAIR - thinking about getting a bit more money into this space, but anyway, that's my view.

Ms MURDOCH - Yes. So, 100 per cent of our positions are funded in this space. Further funds are received to cover our corporate overheads and things as well, but it's basically we put in the resources that - in November, December, so it's coming up pretty soon - and I can, through that process, request additional funds, so we are giving this consideration.

Mr COOK - It has been going up in recent years, yes.

Ms MURDOCH - It has been going up.

CHAIR - So you can clearly demonstrate that in your numbers then, when you go for the meeting?

Ms MURDOCH - All the money we get in this space completely goes to my salmon team. That's very transparent, that's very obvious, and I don't think anyone would say there isn't a need for this space to be improved. We've got so much information to share and get out that we want to get out and share, and I think it's in the best interest of everybody that we actually are able to do that. Yes, we can put a case forward. Obviously also I can - we have been successful this year in getting money through the digital fund; that if this is something in that respect that future budget bids, obviously, would - I think this space, particularly, is one that

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would suit for us to do that, to go in for that funding as well, to get better interface portals with the community around not just salmon, around lots of our regulatory stuff.

CHAIR - Well, the air monitoring stuff is really important too.

Ms MURDOCH - It's so important. Yes. It's really important, it informs public health, it informs bushfires, all of those things. It's used by lots of other agencies. So being able to get that upgraded, I know the team's pretty excited about that, and we will get that rolled out over the next three years, obviously, and upgrade the system and that's on a portal, but it can also be better as well. How we go into the future with much better information and our transparency, all of that is definitely a focus for us.

CHAIR - We need to wrap up here: just one more, yes.

Ms O'CONNOR - One quick question: some years ago, the EPA was undertaking monitoring of emissions from cruise ships in the port of Hobart, noting that here, unlike Sydney Harbour, we allow cruise ships using dirty old bunker fuel to park in the port. Has there been any update on the EPA's monitoring of cruise ship emissions in the City of Hobart?

Ms MURDOCH - I know we got a brief, and you will bring it up, but my understanding is that because we did that monitoring, cruise ships with that kind of fuel are no longer allowed to dock in Hobart. Is that correct?

Ms ONG - That's right. The harbour master has encouraged fuels to shift to low-sulphur fuel when they dock, rather than doing a mix.

CHAIR - They just send them to Burnie, do they?

Ms MURDOCH - No, because we also regulate there.

Ms O'CONNOR - But that's not regulated yet, is it? You said the harbour master encourages.

Ms ONG - Yes. He requests that, so AMSA is the regulator that ships use, and where there's an issue, the harbour master makes a request and it's these days -

CHAIR - Communicates with AMSA?

Ms ONG - Yes absolutely. So, AMSA, the harbour master and ourselves are in communication when there's a problem.

CHAIR - Thank you. It has been a bit of a whirlwind, but we really do appreciate the information you've provided, I don't think there was anything left outstanding, was there?

Ms O'CONNOR - A couple of little bits. You came back with one answer. The volume cap on Copping. You got that?

Ms ONG - Yes, we did.

Ms O'CONNOR - It was 45 cubic each year.

Ms ONG - Yes.

CHAIR - I don't think we need to write to you for further information. Thank you very much for being so prepared. Yes, and we hope it wasn't too traumatic.

Ms ONG - It's parts 3 and 4 of the environmental standards, not 4 and 5.

Mr COOK - So part 3 is already in force.

Ms ONG - And part 4 has been implemented.

CHAIR - Thank you.

The committee suspended from 6.22 p.m. to 7.18 p.m.

**Output Group 7 - Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania
7.2 Climate Change**

CHAIR - Thanks, minister - in your Environment portfolio. We're starting with climate change, then going back to environmental management and working through it, at your request. That's fine. If you'd like to introduce the people at the table.

Ms OGILVIE - I would. From the Department of State Growth Office of Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania, we have Vanessa Pinto, Acting CEO of Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania. Dr Sarah Russell, Director Climate Change.

CHAIR - Do you want to make some opening statements. Do you want to cover the whole lot, not just climate change?

Ms OGILVIE - It's fairly brief anyway. Thank you, Chair. Members of the committee, officials, thank you for joining me. We do have a couple of teams that will move in and out as we need to over the session.

Today's session will obviously cover a number of portfolio areas within my remit including the Environmental Protection Authority - I know you've met with them directly but as the responsible minister, I'm also happy to take questions - and Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change Office.

I would like to begin today by stating how committed we are as a government to protecting Tasmania's environment and threatened species. In relation to threatened species, we take our role very seriously, and to support the important conservation work being undertaken inside and outside of government, including committing \$8 million over four years to establish the Tasmanian Threatened Species Fund.

In its first year, the fund enabled a range of strategic initiatives and on-ground conservation action for a wide range of threatened plants and animals. Through the Threatened Species Fund this year, we've partnered with more than 15 organisations to deliver on-the-ground actions for threatened species. These partnerships have also leveraged significant in-kind support and funding from a range of stakeholders.

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Government continues to invest in efforts to recover the orange-bellied parrot, building on the \$2.5 million to construct the captive breeding facility at Five Mile Beach, which opened in July 2019, with an additional \$1.3 million committed in 2023-24 to further support the captive breeding program and to launch a groundbreaking tracking program which aims to learn more about the movements and behaviours of orange-bellied parrots during their northern migration. The first season of tracking was very successful and has already yielded new insights into the migratory behaviour of this tiny parrot.

Waste and Recovery Board: One of the success stories of 2025 has been the launch of Tasmania's container refund scheme, Recycle Rewards, on 1 May. Now with more than 50 million containers being returned, this makes Recycle Rewards the fastest-growing scheme in the country. Through the Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Board, landfill levy funds have been invested into Tasmania's waste and resource recovery sector, with key investments including: \$5.5 million in high-protection infrastructure grants, \$500,000 for targeted waste and recycling projects in remote councils, \$4.3 million over four years for a statewide education campaign, \$2.36 million to the three regional waste organisations to deliver local waste and resource recovery programs. In total, \$27 million has been collected in levy since it was introduced. The board has reinvested \$23 million of this to date, which we're very proud of.

In relation to climate change: As we are all very well aware, climate change is an integral part of the Environment portfolio, and the Tasmanian Government is committed to taking strong action in this area. The Climate Change Office in Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT) - thank you for being here - have several key priorities this year. This includes executing key projects from Tasmania's Climate Change Action Plan, and the six sector-based Emissions Reduction and Resilience plans.

Our Climate Change Action Plan includes 98 actions in total across government, equating to an investment of more than \$250 million. These activities are already under way. The government is also implementing adaptation actions in response to Tasmania's first statewide climate change risk assessment. So, let me assure you that my departments are working collaboratively to deliver on the comprehensive suite of existing priorities that support Tasmania's environment now and into the future, as the climate continues to change. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR - Thank you. I'll go to you, Cassy, just on climate change.

Ms O'CONNOR - Thank you, Chair. Minister, I heard you just say that the government is 'committed to taking strong action' on climate. If we have a look at the budget for the climate office, it's a little bit hard to believe what you've said. In 2024-25, the budget for the climate office was \$9.9 million. In the out-years 2028-29, the budget for the climate office generously sits a bit under \$3 million. So, there's been a cut of almost \$7 million to the Office of Climate Change budget. Can you explain, as minister, how you let that happen?

Ms OGILVIE - I think we do have some information on the financials, which I'd like to ask Vanessa to explain, and then I'm happy to answer more of your questions.

Ms PINTO - Thank you. So, the reduction in the budget that the member has outlined is in relation to some fixed-term funding priority initiatives. That funding ceases in the next period, which is 2025-26. So, that covers funding for the Climate Change Action Plan, for the

last component of the electric vehicle target, the Emission Reduction and Resilience Plans, and some dedicated funding associated with disaster assistance.

Ms O'CONNOR - Thank you, Ms Pinto, whichever way you look at it, minister, at a time where the science is telling us that the impacts of global heating are accelerating and intensifying, the Tasmanian Government has cut funding to the Climate Office of almost \$7 million over the forward Estimates.

Can you show me anywhere in your budget where the government has committed to a recommendation of the Tasmanian Climate Risk Assessment Report? Because it's my understanding that when the State Climate Risk Assessment report came out, the Tasmanian government said thank you for your work and committed to no actions.

Ms OGILVIE - We have a range of actions we are taking in our Climate Change Action Plan, and I can give you some details on that plan.

Ms O'CONNOR - But that's a plan that expires before too long. I don't really want a historical, I'm looking forward because that's where the impacts are coming.

Ms OGILVIE - The forward work is the projects that we're doing. It might be helpful if I go through those because they obviously range across the forward years. This is the actual work that is happening on the ground.

Ms O'CONNOR - If they relate to any of the recommendations in the Tasmanian Climate Risk Assessment Report, which was what my question was about, that would be great.

Ms OGILVIE - I will run through them and then you can let me know what you would like to know more about. The action plan funding in particular, because I know we're always concerned about the money and resources. We have \$10 million from the 2021-22 Budget, an additional \$3 million for the Low Emissions Livestock Grant Program through the 2023-24 Revised Estimates Report.

There is \$2.4 million and the 2024-25 Budget of \$600,000, \$1.3 million from the Emissions Reduction Loan Scheme from the 2021 budget that's been reprofiled to support the implementation of the Emissions Reduction Resilience Plans. There are 98 actions in the action plan; that's the the projects that we're doing - in total across government - equating to an investment of over \$250 million marks 50 million.

These allocations are further funding outside the initial \$10 million initially invested. There's quite a substantial amount of action happening, particularly with these projects. Is there anything I've missed, Vanessa?

Ms PINTO - The \$1.8 million associated with the Climate Projections Work.

Ms OGILVIE - There is \$1.8 million there as well. The work we're doing is the work that we have agreed strategically. The work that we're doing with the Climate Change Action Plan is important because we're working with industry and community and across sectors. It's been very well funded. The projects are underway.

But I'm always concerned about funding and resourcing and each time I've been at this table in every portfolio, it's the same question we all have. Why isn't there more money for the things that we would like to see money go into?

Ms O'CONNOR - I guess this is a question of community safety. It's a question of protecting that which sets Tasmania apart from the rest of the world. Gondwana island and it's about protecting the economy. If you just want to talk about the kind of money that the experts are telling us will be required, the 2025 National Climate Change Risk Assessment referenced financial and economic modelling from the Colvin Review, which shows Tasmania expecting to pay \$320 million in economic costs from hazards like storms and bushfires each year from 2050. That's equivalent to paying for a new \$1.8 billion Macquarie Point Stadium every 5.6 years.

Minister, are you aware of the evidence in the National Climate Risk Assessment that Tasmania is the most risk exposed state in the nation. Page 51 of the National Climate Risk Assessment has a really confronting graph there. I wonder if you've seen it, minister? And that looks at all jurisdictions and across those jurisdictions it identifies that Tasmania is the most risk exposed state.

Yet, we have evidence in the state budget that certainly from an adaptation point of view, there's very little resourcing being allocated towards keeping communities and the natural environment in our economy safe from the shocks that are coming.

Ms O'CONNOR - Have you had a look at the National Climate Change Assessment?

Ms OGILVIE - I was just waiting for a question.

Ms O'CONNOR - The question is do you understand how serious the threat is?

Ms OGILVIE - Yes, I do and that's why we have this entire department and the work that we're doing. Perhaps I could just turn to the specifics of it.

Ms O'CONNOR - Specifics of what?

Ms OGILVIE - Well, your question. The National Climate Risk Assessment identified Tasmania, as you say, as the most hazard prone state in the country. I think we know that. You've asked what the government is doing to in effect reduce or acknowledge and then reduce Tasmania's risk. We as a government have released our first legislated statewide risk assessment for climate change in November 2024. That's a good first step. Tasmania's Risk Assessment for Climate Change was produced by Deloitte's Risk Advisory Pty Ltd in partnership with the Climate Change Office in RecFit. The risk assessment analysis 40 key risks and opportunities for Tasmania under a changing climate. I am just going to get a little bit of water to make it easy to read.

Ms O'CONNOR - To read.

Ms OGILVIE - To read.

Ms O'CONNOR - You were reading from...

CHAIR - Order.

Ms OGILVIE - Thank you, Chair. The risk assessment analysis 40 key risks and opportunities for Tasmania under a changing climate; 33 of these risks and opportunities are considered tier 1 and 2 meaning action is recommended in the next five years. In 2024, the Tasmanian government also released Managing Tasmania's Climate Risk and Opportunities, which was the government's response to the risk assessment. Response focuses on building our capacity as a state to respond to multiple risks and opportunities through action in five key areas. They are:

- (1) Helping Tasmanians understand climate risks and opportunities and how they might be impacted.
- (2) Supporting fit for purpose climate science data and information to prepare for the changing climate.
- (3) Building public sector capability to strengthen how we adapt and make the most of opportunities.
- (4) Facilitating collaborative partnerships to support adaptation plan.
- (5) Monitoring and learning as we go. And recognising that adaptation is iterative process.

Ms O'CONNOR - Can you tell the committee how many of the recommendations of the State Climate Risk Assessment the government is committed to implementing?

Ms OGILVIE - Let me check, Vanessa, are you able to assist with the numbers?

Ms PINTO - There are a number of actions that are associated with that and go across a breadth of areas. They include elements such as managing risks across different factors of the environment.

Ms O'CONNOR - As you would expect from a risk assessment. I am trying to understand how many of the proposed actions/recommendations in the state risk assessment have the Tasmanian government committed to because it was zero at the time. The question is: has the Tasmanian Government committed to any specific actions from the state-run risk assessment?

Ms PINTO - Dr Russell, if you just want to take through some details on the risk response.

Dr RUSSELL - The risk assessment was an assessment as a legislative requirement as part of the most recent changes to the *Climate Change (State Action) Act*.

Ms THOMAS - Sorry, but could you speak up a bit more?

Dr RUSSELL - I am a bit of a low talker, but maybe it's not on. I am notoriously a low talker. This happened last year. I can't help it. We completed the risk assessment. There were no actual recommendations in the risk assessment report. We prepared a government response

which had five core areas and within that there are a significant number of actions that we have been implementing over time. The government response includes a range of adaptation actions in response to both the risks and opportunities highlighted in the statewide risk assessment and includes a focus on those five areas of action which I spoke about. The first one is helping Tasmanians understand the climate risks and opportunities in the risk assessment and how they might be impacted. The second one is supporting Tasmanians to access fit-for-purpose climate science data and information to prepare for the changing climate, and -

Ms O'CONNOR - Thank you and sorry to interrupt you, but the minister did take us through this.

Dr RUSSELL - Okay. Well, that would include something like the climate change projections, building public sector capability, which is the policy framework that we've implemented, and facilitating collaborative partnerships. Without partnerships across government we are lost, and we need to work with our colleagues across government in local government, in business and in industry to do that, and have a focus on continuous improvement.

Ms O'CONNOR - If we go to the first statewide risk assessment, it provides - it's not as comprehensive as the national risk assessment, but it provides some real significant examples of climate risk across all sectors with cascading impacts. The risks that have a tier 1 urgency rating are of particular concern, as I'm sure they are to all of us. Managing the risks rated tier 1 on the adaptation urgency scale:

requires new, stronger or different government policies or implementation activities over and above those already planned, are needed in the next five years to reduce longer-term climate risk or immediate significant climate risk, and it's clear where this action should be directed.

Minister, can you sit here, hand on heart, and say that the Tasmanian Government, in response to its own state climate risk assessment, has taken that step?

Ms OGILVIE - We are doing a range of projects that I think encapsulate the activities that have been identified, both by government and also by yourself today. What I will say is that resource constraints are real. I've identified particularly forward projects that I think are substantial and ongoing and we continue to implement Tasmania's climate change action plan, and that's the strategic vision and document under which we are implementing our actions. The government is focused on finalising projects from that action plan and delivering projects from the six sector-based emissions reduction and resilience plans and the statewide climate change risk assessment, which were released in 2024.

Now, the six sector-based emissions reduction and resilience plans are really remarkable documents, and it's my understanding that a substantial amount of stakeholder engagement occurred to put those together, and that we are working really carefully and well across those sectors. I think the philosophical approach that we've taken as a government to work with stakeholders with sectors across those pillars of the economy, in particular, is bearing fruit.

Progress on the action plan was publicly reported and I'm sure you've all seen that in an annual climate change activity statement in September 24. Now, we know the next statement, which I'm certain you will be interested in, is currently being prepared, I think that's right to

say, and will be released before the end of the year. There's a range of activities under that plan as well, under the action plan.

Ms O'CONNOR - If we could go back to the state climate risk assessment and those risks that it designates as tier 1 for their urgency, that is, these impact on food supply systems, impact on the built environment - I know you're texting, but if you could just listen. Within the state climate risk assessment report are a range of tier 1 urgency actions required. Are you able to point - and it says in fact that:

Many impacts in the built domain are rated to have a major consequence by 2030. Risks to healthcare and emergency services, built infrastructure and risks to transport networks have an adaptation urgency rating of tier 1.

Minister, can you point to anywhere in the Budget where it is clear that the government has heard this and allocated action and resources to respond, because 2030 is five years away?

Ms OGILVIE - I have just actually answered the question, but I'm happy to give more information, in particular, to Vanessa.

Ms O'CONNOR - Sorry, did you point to areas in the Budget where this is funded?

Ms OGILVIE - Yes, I think we have a list here, so -

Ms PINTO - One of the areas that's identified as a tier 1 is in relation to some of our inland water ecosystems, and some of those areas fall under the government's rural water use strategy where it's looking at a number of areas to examine and understand what's occurring in the ecosystem and understand how to manage those waterways. That's quite a comprehensive program the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania is running. Equally, there are also factors that are being considered across our coastal ecosystems and equally -

Ms O'CONNOR - Funding as well?

Ms PINTO - As a part of those programs, they're being considered as a part of the marine environments that are being looked at within the environment sections of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania.

Ms O'CONNOR - I guess I still haven't had an answer to the question about where we can see in the Budget - and I don't mind if you talk about other portfolios and the allocations in those outputs that respond to the urgency within both the state and commonwealth climate risk assessments.

Ms PINTO - Other areas that, of course, would be covered within the risk assessment fall within the renewable areas, that are looking at a number of factors such as renewable developments to manage the state's requirements. There are also areas where we're looking at clean fuel sources.

Ms O'CONNOR - With respect, just like the rural water use strategy, a lot of the government's renewable projects preceded the release of the state climate risk assessment. Again, minister -

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Ms OGILVIE - The challenges remain the same. We're all dealing with the same science and identifying the projects that need to be done in a priority area, so -

Ms O'CONNOR - If I could just say, everything in response to the question that I've asked about resourcing in the Budget that deals with the real risk, that's been pointed to, is previous government policy, previous funded initiatives.

Ms OGILVIE - You want new funding; is that your question?

Ms O'CONNOR - I want to see evidence of any funding allocation or any program or policy change that deals with the urgency in your own government's state climate risk assessment.

Ms OGILVIE - Well, I think - sorry, Vanessa, please go first and then I will -

Ms O'CONNOR - I think you should go first.

Ms OGILVIE - Well, I'm happy to answer it. We're all dealing with the same science and we're dealing with the same problem, which is climate change, and we have a group of people who are very good at what they do. The programs and projects that we've established are prioritised. In relation to ongoing projects, they are funded. I've just read to you the amount of funding that's gone into it. I share your concern. I'm not here to have a debate with you about the importance of this area. It's urgent and important and serious. In relation to specifics, if you're looking for me to be able to tick a list off of what that document does as opposed to where we're at -

Ms O'CONNOR - Anything in the Budget that points to a response to this.

Ms OGILVIE - That's another question. Vanessa -

Ms O'CONNOR - It's the same question I've asked three times.

Ms OGILVIE - No. Okay. Vanessa, you did want to say something. I will let you do that and then we can come back to it.

Ms PINTO - The key point that I was going to articulate for the committee is in relation to the work that is being done across government to increase the level of education and understanding and comprehension in the way existing programs and new policies and programs are being undertaken. There are a number of areas whereby that consideration is being brought in. I've referred to a couple within Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania.

Equally within the Department of Premier and Cabinet there are resilience and recovery programs that are being run where the integration of the learnings from the risk assessment is being brought into programs that are being run. Now, some of those are across new policies and funding-allocated areas for government. The key message there is that the key learnings, understanding and principles associated with climate change risk adaptation and application is being considered. In many respects, I think, as I would point to my colleague here, the team have over time been conducting a lot of work working with key areas to ensure that that level of education and understanding is instilled within those parts, across government.

Ms O'CONNOR - On the education question, what climate change education programs will the government implement and presumably fund? Given that Tasmania's risk assessment for climate change of 2024 states that:

education is vital to successful climate adaptation and increased resilience for future generations.

Ms PINTO - As an example, in just October this year, there were developed and distributed climate risk summaries and snapshots across agencies. There was also guidance and development materials provided to enable employees to be able to have access to valuable data and be able to understand how to apply that within the portfolio or policy areas that they oversee. This is also all across into case studies, so people can understand how that may apply, whether that could be in a marine context or it could be in relation to active management of land and vegetation resources. It's around taking the learnings and understanding from the significant body of work such that it is brought across for various policy and portfolio areas to understand how to apply.

Ms O'CONNOR - Thank you for your indulgence, Chair. What I heard just there is that there's some work being undertaken to better educate people in agencies and state servants, but there's not - I'm very happy for you to clarify this - funded climate-awareness programs in place for the broader community.

Dr RUSSELL - As part of the action plan, we've got funding to provide a range in the suite of public education material across a range of areas. That will involve information on our climate change projections and what you can do at home. In education, information awareness is a really key role of what our office does. There's a range of fact sheets available online already. We're continuously going to be updating and rolling those out.

In addition, we have done some work with children and young people on climate change through the action plan and through the response to the risk assessment. We recently worked with the department of education to provide information and advice on climate change resources in the curriculum. We've also worked with the university around the Curious Climate program and the Youth Climate Leaders Program as well. There's a range of activities going on in that.

Ms O'CONNOR - Thank you. Those action plan measures preceded the delivery of the state climate risk assessment because that's for the action plan, which is set to expire.

Dr RUSSELL - The action plan did have a time-frame on it of two years, but we've got programs that are rolling out over time. Some of them will be ongoing, for example. There's sort of not a hard start and stop date and information education awareness is a core part of our function.

CHAIR - This sort of feeds a little bit into a couple of the questions you were asking as well. When we look at the Budget line item for climate change, it falls away very sharply. I acknowledge what Vanessa said about some of the programs being funded out of other areas, but in terms of the operational expenditure here, which is what this is, how many staff do we have in the office and what and what proportion of that appropriation for 25-26 of \$9.5 million is staff because if it's more than \$2 million, what happens to everybody else?

PUBLIC

Ms PINTO - There's the equivalent of 12.27 paid full-time equivalents within the climate change office.

CHAIR - What's the salary bill for that annually?

Ms PINTO - I would say probably just under \$2 million of that base funding.

CHAIR - If you look at 2026-27, you've got \$2.780 million so let's say you've got \$700,000 to deliver a lot of work in this area. What is the additional funding for right now in this year?

Ms PINTO - In this current 25-26 Budget estimate year coming up, there is funding for the Climate Change Action Plan for the electric vehicle target for Tasmanian government fleet for the Emissions Reduction and Resilience plans and for disaster assistance for flood impact. They are the main initiatives.

CHAIR - This presumes then that they're all going to be finished.

Ms PINTO - That is correct.

CHAIR - We can go to the resilience plans. Minister, you said that resilience plans are being done. Which ones have been done, and which ones are still being done?

Ms OGILVIE - Sarah probably has that detail.

Dr RUSSELL - There are 6 sectoral emissions reduction resilience plans. Don't try and say it really fast. Their five-year plans, they're ongoing. There's a number of actions in those plans. Some of them are fully funded and some of them are future-funding priorities and some of them are long-term policy pieces that we will look at over time.

If you take, for example, the Transport Emissions Reduction and Resilience plan, there's been a number of initiatives that have been delivered in that plan, but there's also a significant amount of policy work that sits behind that which will be rolled out over time.

CHAIR - Let's just use that one for now, the transport one. The initiatives have been rolled down to that. Where are they funded from? The electric vehicles are probably here

Dr RUSSELL - Yes.

CHAIR - But surely the electric vehicles will need to be a project if it goes beyond next year and the year after. Where's that funding?

Ms PINTO - The electric vehicle fleet funding?

CHAIR - Yes.

Ms PINTO - Okay. So that was provided over a couple of years ago and has been rolled out over time. We've got \$800,000 to expend next year and then as per budget processes, we'll start applying for further funding associated with that.

PUBLIC

CHAIR - So there is no certainty beyond next year.

Ms OGILVIE - I can probably assist a little bit. Where are we getting to this from? Firstly, we need to recall that this is the interim Budget. The Budget that didn't pass is now passing. We're moving into -

CHAIR - It's a budget to take to the end of the year.

Ms OGILVIE - The funding we've got that aligns with climate action plan goes from 23 to 25 and, given the range of actions that you've heard, some are short, longer-term and quite a deep level of activity, range of actions to be delivered under that plan.

The risk assessment at sectoral plans and more of that project-based work and there is a deep amount of work underway that you've heard already. We are going to continue to develop that and the budgeting for that will be requested through the budget process as we go forward this year.

CHAIR - To be really clear then, there are six resilience plans. I will just use the shortened film so that I don't trip over it late in the day

Ms OGILVIE - Yes, I tripped over it.

CHAIR - Six resilience plans. One would imagine they all have actions, not just policy in them, am I correct? And so, actions, usually, or almost inevitably require funding to deliver. How many have been completed did you say?

Dr RUSSELL - Through you, minister, all of the sectoral plans.

CHAIR - So the six are all done. Okay.

Dr RUSSELL - Yes, so they're five-year rolling plans.

CHAIR - Which ends this year?

Dr RUSSELL - No, they're only in their first year. They're currently in their second year now.

CHAIR - Oh, the resilience plans got a five-year plan.

Ms OGILVIE - The action plan is renewed this year.

CHAIR - But there is no funding evident, going back to Cassy's point. There is no funding evident - certainly not in the Climate Change line. And it's seeing a little bit difficult to point to others - some are in the water space - but what about- let's look at the agriculture one. Let's look at the transport one. Just those two. Where's the funding to deliver the policy and actions that sit under those?

Ms OGILVIE - Firstly, I have some information here that I think will assist and I'm happy to table that, which are some of the things you're speaking of. And Vanessa has some further details she can add.

PUBLIC

CHAIR - Sure.

Ms PINTO - I have provided to the Chair, and I do have some additional copies if other members would like to also reference. That might just assist. There are some initiatives that we have that would go across each of the sectors.

CHAIR - There is no funding attached, though.

Ms PINTO - If I just talk through the - sorry- through you, minister?

Ms OGILVIE - Please do, yes. I know you have the details.

Ms PINTO - One of the areas we have listed there which goes across sectors is in relation to a business innovation grant program, and there is \$550,000 that's allocated towards that.

CHAIR - But where is that?

Ms PINTO - That's in the 2025-26 funding.

CHAIR - In this funding under Climate Change?

Ms PINTO - Within- yes, that's correct. What I'm giving is a bit of a breakdown of that funding, so you can get to an understanding of how it's been applied across different programs.

That, as an example an innovation grant program. It's currently live at the moment; I think it's been extended to the end of November. It is an important program designed to provide businesses with an opportunity to access funding to support them in how they can innovate in the way they run their businesses or adapt their business. That's one as an initiative -

CHAIR - That's \$500,000?

Ms PINTO - That's \$550,000 that's associated with that.

There's another initiative sitting under Transport. If you have a look on the details, that's associated with small businesses to purchase cargo e-bikes for last mile deliveries. You might see some, you know, deliveries that are occurring now on bikes versus other forms of transport, and there is allocated funding across that, and also electric delivery -

CHAIR - For this line item.

Ms PINTO - Yes - of \$300,000.

CHAIR - I'm just making sure [inaudible]

Ms PINTO - So, there are a number -

CHAIR - What are the total commitments? I don't know if you can provide that with the funding on it, because that's what we're asking: what is the total funding for these projects under the resilience plans for the 2025-26 year?

PUBLIC

Dr RUSSELL - The funding that has been allocated to the projects in the Emissions Reduction and Resilience Plans - that has come from action plan funding. For these funded programs that are listed in this document, some which have been delivered last financial year and some which will be delivered this financial year, it totals \$3.6 million for all of those service.

Ms LOVELL - Chair, are you asking for a breakdown of each? Is that what you're -

CHAIR - Yes, can you provide the table with the amount of funding that's been allocated to each of those, where there has been funding allocated?

Ms LOVELL - And when, like if it was funded last year or this year? Thank you.

Dr RUSSELL - We could do that but taken on notice.

CHAIR - Yes. I think the same chart but with the dollars in a column at the end of it.

Dr RUSSELL - And we can tell you which ones have been delivered.

CHAIR - Yes, and if you can tell us which year, like if it was a 2024-25 program - or if it's split across two, how much. I am just trying to figure out from the amount, the appropriation of \$9.5 million, knowing there's a bit over \$2 million in salaries, what the rest of it is. I mean, this is not the same with this line item; there's many others where there's a lot of things that sit under it and there's no breakdown.

Ms OGILVIE - No, I understand. It is difficult when you've got the projects that run across multiple years, but if we get those numbers for you, would that assist? We're happy to do that, yes.

CHAIR - Are there any programs in that table that will extend beyond 2025-26?

Ms O'CONNOR - A number of them are complete.

Ms OGILVIE - I don't know the answer to that.

Ms PINTO - I might just use one as an example. If you flip on to page 2 under Industrial Processing Energy, there's an allocation that we've had working with the HILT CRC to work with major industrials to arm them with access to research and intelligence to support them in developing their own emissions reduction plans. The comment I would make is that it's on instilling contacts, research and access to technological solutions for those entities themselves to continue to invest in that. If I was to use an example of that, Grange Resources Ltd is looking at opportunities for how they can electrify the operations.

CHAIR - They've got a pretty serious net zero target.

Ms PINTO - Yeah, that's exactly right. A lot of these major industrials are seeking to do that. What we've sought to do is create a facilitation role by giving them access to a much broader network through the Australian government's HILT CRC to be able to get access to research, technological advancements and information that they then can invest in.

PUBLIC

CHAIR - That's done through your current staffing, I imagine, or is that extra?

Ms PINTO - That's actually leveraging not just within the Climate Change Office itself, but we're actually drawing on other parts of State Growth, extended parts within Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania, but also within the Economic Development team within State Growth.

Further, if I could say part of what we're seeking to do is empower industry themselves to be able to take on this role themselves, invest themselves and seek to take this forward. There's a key role government needs to do to educate and empower, but there is a really important element that, frankly, all parties across society need to take responsibility here.

CHAIR - Are there any of those projects - I am not sure exactly what the number is, 34 projects - that will require funding over the forward estimates?

Dr RUSSELL - I would have to probably take a bit of a look, but if you take something like the HILT partnership, for example, we've paid the money, and the partnership continues over a number of years so, it will go out beyond the forward estimates.

If you take something like a grant program, sometimes that could take a little bit of time to execute one of the grant programs, for example, like an electric vehicle charger potentially, that can sometimes go out across the forward Estimates. These programs will be managed over the forward Estimates but the funding is in this -

CHAIR - To be clear then, the current allocations in the forward Estimates don't make provision for those at this stage. Is that correct?

Ms OGILVIE - Provisions for ones that are -

CHAIR - That continue on or any new ones that are developed as ongoing work. I mean, this is not a set-and-forget thing.

Ms OGILVIE - No.

CHAIR - Is that a fair statement the ones that will require ongoing funding are not included here because -

Ms OGILVIE - If new funding is required, that would have to be -

CHAIR - Yeah, it's not included. If it's not implied in the numbers from 2026-27 onwards. There's going to need to be new funding found.

Ms OGILVIE - Budget cycle. Yep.

Ms O'CONNOR - Can I just - off the back of the Chair's questions - make an observation that when you look at the actual actions in this list, we've things like hold round table meetings, expanding engagement, develop information and resources, work with partners, work with partners, develop a program, seek opportunities, consider climate change impacts, review the \$250,000 Carbon Farming Advice Rebate Pilot Program, establish a group. I mean, minister, undertake a gap analysis, work with the Australian Government. There's a lot of things in here

which are, to be frank, small beer in terms of what's required. Reviewing a grants program is not really what you call a climate action.

Ms OGILVIE - I sort of don't agree with you and I will just explain why as gently and sensibly as I can. The work that you're looking at is the work of the government. The work of the government is to make sure we do what we can internally but also externally. I think the environment movement has done a superb job over - I remember the dams days, from those times in elevating the understanding of not just what were issues around dams in those days but now climate change and climate action as well.

Ms O'CONNOR - It's not just the environment movement doing that.

Ms OGILVIE - Superb job, I'm trying to give a compliment, a superb job. We all care about the environment. The question is what is the role of the government in climate change action? Now, we've taken an approach which is strategic, and we have the strategic-level work happening, we have the action plans and then we have the work where the rubber hits the road with industry, with sectors. That actually has been a very clever and smart way of going about elevating and supporting companies like Grange who want to do the right thing.

By adopting this strategy, which is really project based, that's why it gets complex when you're asking about other projects. The change is happening. Government ought not to be at the top dictating to others how they should do things. We ought to be bringing people on the journey, and I think that is what's happening. We heard a bit about that this morning. I take a different perspective, but I appreciate you want to see more direct action. I'm happy to hear your ideas on that.

Ms O'CONNOR - Well, with respect, I was an actual minister for climate change for four years. You're part of a government that won't even allocate a portfolio.

Ms OGILVIE - Is that a question? No. So I have the portfolio, and -

Ms O'CONNOR - It's a little bit hard to take you seriously when you say committed to taking strong action on climate change when they won't allocate you a climate portfolio. There's cuts to the climate budget across the forward Estimates. There's no indication that the tears and the urgency expressed in the state climate risk assessment have been taken seriously, because the actions that we're looking at are reviews and working groups and conversations and expanding engagement. It worries me that we're sleepwalking under this government.

CHAIR - Do you have a question?

Ms O'CONNOR - Yes, always. Thanks, Chair. Well, how many - it just really worries me because it seems like we're tinkering around the edges, and if you want to talk about the role of government -

Ms OGILVIE - I don't believe that's true.

Ms O'CONNOR - Hang on a minute, if you want the role of the government -

Ms OGILVIE - No, you're making a speech.

PUBLIC

Ms O'CONNOR - you might talk about the climate act.

CHAIR - Do you have a question? I'd really like to get to it.

Ms O'CONNOR - I will get to the question, Chair, because what industry needs as well as partnership, and I know, I went and talked to the major industrials and had them at the table -

Ms OGILVIE - Exactly, I'm trying to give you some credit here.

Ms O'CONNOR - What industry needs, for example, is to work towards sectoral targets. You need some carrot and you need some stick. Let's talk about your climate act review. How many public submissions, minister, were made to the climate act, and when is the government planning on releasing a summary of submissions and a response to them?

Ms OGILVIE - All right, so we had a huge preamble to that question -

Ms O'CONNOR - It was an expression of frustration.

CHAIR - Just focus on the question; the rest were all comments.

Ms O'CONNOR - Don't play dumb, the question was there at the end.

Ms OGILVIE - I'm not playing dumb. I'm just pointing out that, firstly, we're on the same page in the need for climate action -

Ms O'CONNOR - I don't think so.

Ms OGILVIE - Secondly, I support my team and what they are doing and they're doing a great job. Thirdly, we know we're in a budget-constrained environment. I speak about it every time at this table. It's real. We all have to manage through it. What I have is stakeholder and community engagement through the consultation process was strong, you will be pleased to know. A total of 370 pieces of feedback were received, including 99 written submissions, 202 survey responses and 69 ideas or contributions, and there were 84 attendees across the five online workshops.

Ms O'CONNOR - The answer to the question that I asked, about when will the government released a summary of submissions and a response to them, and what's the time frame for finalising the review?

Ms PINTO - The expectation is, because the independent organisations that are working together are preparing that, are looking to provide a report through by the end of this year.

Ms O'CONNOR - Okay, and can I ask a question for the third time, see how we go for an answer?

CHAIR - Yes, just ask one at a time perhaps.

Ms O'CONNOR - No, I did ask this one just now, the third time. When is the government planning on releasing a summary of submissions and a response to them?

PUBLIC

Ms PINTO - What we would be seeking to do is, having received that report, provide an opportunity to review the feedback and the areas that are covered. There are a number of submissions that were provided through that process, and provide that advice through to government such that then the government would be in a position to be able to respond to that. I would expect that that would be something sought to do in early 2026.

Ms O'CONNOR - I'm still not sure I have an answer. Is the government going to release a summary of the submissions and the government's response to them?

Ms OGILVIE - I think we just heard the answer.

Ms PINTO - In answer to that specific - yes, part of that would be to provide those responses that were submitted and then for government to then respond.

Ms O'CONNOR - When does the government plan to release proposed amendments to the *Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008*?

Ms OGILVIE - I don't think I have any details on that. Let me confirm.

Ms O'CONNOR - Could you confirm it's your expectation there will be some amendments to the act?

Ms OGILVIE - I don't know, actually.

Ms O'CONNOR - Christ. Okay.

Ms OGILVIE - I don't know about that.

Ms PINTO - Once we've received the independent assessment of the review of the legislation -

Ms OGILVIE - We will make a determination.

Ms PINTO - We will make a determination at that point, noting that when the prior review was done in 2022, is that right, there were amendments that were made at that point in time, and part of the assessment of the independent report, when it comes through, will be to consider the robustness of the legislative changes that were made at that time to determine.

Ms OGILVIE - We will assess what is needed.

Ms O'CONNOR - So dispiriting.

Ms OGILVIE - You're being quite rude to me, Cassy.

Ms O'CONNOR - I'm really dispirited by these responses.

Ms OGILVIE - You're being a bit rude, though. It would be nice if we could have a genuine conversation.

CHAIR - Just keep going. We have to move on to other areas. We've still got several line items.

Ms OGILVIE - We are actually mostly on the same page, and I am trying to assist.

Ms O'CONNOR - I'm just worried about - anyway, what I'm hearing from you, minister, is that there's no certainty that the act will be tightened up or any of the recommendations that people have been making about sectoral targets, overall emissions targets.

Ms OGILVIE - When I see the recommendations I will make an assessment. We will have a discussion, and if amendments are sensible, then we certainly will consider them. It is a pretty sensible, straightforward process.

Ms O'CONNOR - The former minister for environment and climate change, Mr Jaensch, said in a letter to the Tasmanian Conservation Trust in 2022 that the Climate Office had:

advised government to complete a baseline emissions inventory prior to setting a target to become the neutral target.

That is, a carbon neutral target for government operations, and the minister stated:

The Tasmanian government has committed to completing a baseline emissions inventory that will inform the approach for government operations.

Has that work been undertaken?

Ms OGILVIE - Let me just see if I can get some information on that. Obviously former ministers, I don't have the background. I thought we might have some more information. I understand the baseline assessments are close to being finalised, but you might have a bit more information.

Ms PINTO - As part of the work that was done to develop the Tasmanian government operations, ERM Australia was engaged to undertake a baseline emissions inventory for government operations. This project commenced in August 2024 and is expected to be completed quite soon, probably in early 2026, and it's a key input into the government's Operations Emission Reduction Resilience Plan that's currently in development at the moment.

Ms O'CONNOR - Why did it take two years for that work to start following the correspondence with the Tasmanian Conservation Trust?

Ms OGILVIE - I would be guessing, but I assume there's resourcing and planning requirements.

Ms O'CONNOR - The Australian Government has set an emissions reduction target of 62-70 per cent emissions reduction on 2005 levels, I believe, by 2035. That's just 10 years away, minister. How will the Tasmanian government and our emitting sectors contribute to that national target?

Ms OGILVIE - I have some information to assist with that.

PUBLIC

We as a government are committed to supporting the national transition to net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. The national climate adaptation work program engages with the Australian government on key climate change policy issues. Many of the Australian government's legislative and policy commitments align with the Tasmanian government's agenda for action on climate change.

We as a government are seeking to maximise the opportunities for Tasmania through relevant Australian government climate change policies and programs including opportunities for collaboration and joint funding of programs through the implementation of the national net zero plan, National Climate Risk Assessment, National Adaptation Plan and national sectoral decarbonisation plans.

The Tasmanian government is also supporting Tasmanian entities to access relevant climate change opportunities, including encouraging participation in Australian government funding programs and consultation processes. Tasmania's climate change legislation promotes Tasmania's contribution to international, national and local government emissions reduction and adaptation measures to support the transition to a low emissions future.

We know that on 15 September 2025, the Australian government released the first National Climate Risk Assessment and National Adaptation Plan. On 18 September 2025, the Australian government released its emissions reduction target for the 2035 along with its net zero plan and six sectoral plans.

The Australian government has set up working groups. We've engaged with those, particularly with the Australian government and other jurisdictions on a range of issues, both formally on development of Australian government policies and informally through working groups. Those groups include - Chair, you might be interested in these:

- decarbonisation of infrastructure and transport working groups and associated subgroups,
- adaptation working group,
- coastal hazards working group,
- national partnership for climate projections and associated working groups,
- national electric vehicle action plan implementation group,
- national greenhouse gas inventory committee,
- cross-jurisdictional community of practice for greenhouse gas emissions data reporting,
- inter-jurisdictional working group on greenhouse gas emissions in government operations,
- regional drought resilience planning,
- Australian climate service,
- jurisdictional roundtable, and
- climate risk management community of practice.

I've read those out specifically to show the level of work and the level of integrated conversation that is happening between Tasmania and the federal government. I want to reiterate what a good job ReCFIT with its not huge number of staff and resource constraints does do. They have my full support and enjoy working with them.

Ms O'CONNOR - I have one more, is that okay?

In the climate risk assessment undertaken by Deloitte for the Tasmanian government on page 63 it says there is limited research linking climate change impacts on retention of Tasmania's net zero status explored in the scenarios used for the risk assessment. As you know, minister, when you look at our greenhouse accounts, it's the forests that do the heavy lifting, but they will suffer the consequences of global heating in the years ahead. Forests aside from in the Tasmanian Forest Agreement, I might add.

Minister, Tasmania's net zero status relies almost entirely on carbon sequestration by our forests, with little to no absolute emissions reductions across any other sector. Does the government have access to or plans to fund modelling of the changes in Tasmania's forest carbon carrying capacity against future private scenarios and the impact on the state's emissions profile and net zero status?

Ms OGILVIE - I want to understand the question; you want to know if we plan to do modelling on the change in -

Ms O'CONNOR - If there's any understanding in government given that our net zero status and our net zero target are predicated on continuing sequestration from forests because there're no emissions across the other sectors. If you haven't had a good look at the greenhouse account -

Ms OGILVIE - There are emissions across the other sectors.

Ms O'CONNOR - There are no emissions reductions across the other sectors, and given that our target is net zero by 2030 -

Ms OGILVIE - Well, we are net zero.

Ms O'CONNOR - I know that, because of our forests, but the fact is the climate risk assessment has identified the global heating's impact on the forest's capacity to sequester.

CHAIR - Say there is a big bushfire that wipes out a fair bit of forest.

Ms OGILVIE - So, it's a hypothetical situation?

Ms O'CONNOR - No, it's not a hypothetical situation. It's a scientifically grounded analysis of risk because of heating that would make forests more flammable. Given that our target is net zero, and it's our forests that are letting us be at net zero, has the government done any sort of modelling on the risk that climate poses -

CHAIR - Climate change.

Ms O'CONNOR - Climate change poses to our net-zero status as a result of the impacts on our forests?

Ms OGILVIE - I think we can give you some information on that. Thank you, Sarah.

Dr RUSSELL - Thank you. In 2021, when we reviewed the *Climate Change (State Action) Act*, we did a number of foundational pieces of work, including an emissions pathway review and an economic impact analysis. The review considered a 10 per cent year-on-year increase over the previous five years of areas burnt and emissions from modelled bushfire events, an assumption that 5 per cent of the area burned in these bushfire events will be forest land converted to another land use. These assumptions are based on the expectation of increasing impacts of climate change and bushfires over time, and assume both land use change and the short- to long-term forest degradation that may result after major fire events. We've considered this in our previous work over time.

CHAIR - We might move otherwise we will have time to get through the others. I know you've got questions in other areas. Thank you, climate change people.

We will move to 7.1 Environmental Management and then go on to 7.2 Analytical Services and Threatened Species.

Output Group 7 - Environment

7.1 Environmental Management

CHAIR - When you're ready, if you can introduce the new person at the table.

Ms OGILVIE - We now have, from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania, Jason Jacobi, Secretary, and Louise Wilson, Deputy Secretary.

CHAIR - Thank you.

Ms THOMAS - Thank you, Chair. I wanted to ask, Minister, whether you have an update on the ban of single-use plastics? The commitment was to introduce this by the end of 2025. I wonder where it's at? There's a discussion paper released in September 2024. The website says a consultation summary is now being prepared, but at some 14 months later, I was wondering why the delay and where it's at?

Ms OGILVIE - I can help you with that. Single-use plastics phase-out. Please bear with me one second so I make sure I've got the right document.

Thank you. We are addressing the impact of single-use plastics - it is a priority as you quite correctly point out. We will reduce landfill and reduce the amount of plastic litter that ends up in our beaches and waterways and parks and by the roadside. We all appreciate that. In 2021, we committed \$1 million over four years to develop an implementation plan, draft legislation, and support businesses through the transition to phase out single-use plastics. A report on the public consultation undertaken in response to the phasing out problematic single-use plastics in Tasmania discussion paper is released today. That's just gone live today, so it might be helpful perhaps you could have a look at that, or we could provide you with the link.

The Revised National Waste Policy Action Plan 24 updates the commitment from the 2019 Action Plan which was to phase out problematic and unnecessary plastics by 2025. Going to the timing of things. The updated commitment removes the year 2025 from the target but confirms the commitment for the continued phase-out of problematic and unnecessary plastics.

The Tasmanian government intends to introduce legislation for the phase out of certain single use plastics across the state and that and that is stage 1. Stage 1 items being considered for phase-out have been assessed as low-risk and have been phased out or banned in at least one other state or territory. All states and territories, with the exception of Northern Territory and Tasmania, have already legislated bans on certain single-use plastic items.

We've done quite a lot of consultation. The first stage was the release of a discussion paper in August 24 outlining the planned phase-out process, including timing, specific products to be phased out and the potential for exemptions where required. The Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania has considered the feedback received through an online survey and written submissions. The survey received over 1,100 responses with approximately 97 per cent of responders supporting reducing single-use plastic in Tasmania.

Since the release of the discussion paper, NRE Tas has established a stakeholder reference group, which I think is a positive thing to seek input from key stakeholders. NRE Tas is undertaking targeted consultation to inform government and how the phase-out on some single-use plastic items will impact industry and businesses and what kind of support may be needed before, during and after the transition.

So NRE is continuing to work with government agencies, key stakeholders and importantly businesses to identify challenges and opportunities associated with implementing the phase-out. Draft legislation and implementation plan will be informed by feedback from the community and the industry. Learnings from other jurisdictions and harmonisation work which is tricky bit occurring right across the country.

Ms THOMAS - Thank you for the comprehensive update, Minister. My question was also why the delay? So, Tasmania first committed to this in April 2021 as part of a national agreement. It's four and half years later, why has it taken so long?

Mr JACOBI - We're conscious of the fact that there has been a lot of learnings from other states in this space. I will defer to Louise Wilson in a minute, but one of the advantages of being the last cab on the rank is that you can learn from what the other states have - the challenges about having implementation of the Subs. But also, I suppose the positive is that we can take those learnings and make sure that we don't make the same mistakes and some of that has led to a delay in the program, but I might defer to Louise Wilson just for further clarification.

Ms WILSON - Yes, that's right. We've been watching the national scene and watching issues come out there and also how other states and territories have been adapting to that. It's comparable to what's happened with our container refund scheme, Recycle Rewards. We've actually benefited from watching some of the issues, lots of learnings.

Some other reasons for some of the delays is we actually we've had a couple of elections and changes of ministers, so that always slows things down and just a little bit, but we have been doing a lot of work behind the scenes, and we're actually really well placed. Soon we will release a consultation report saying that describes what we've heard from the consultation, and we're really well placed to develop a draft bill and a regulatory impact statement. We're doing work behind the scenes to make up for lost time.

Ms THOMAS - When do you expect that will occur?

Ms WILSON - The consultation report we're expecting to release this week, and as far as we've got a regulatory impact statement that has been prepared, it hasn't been through approval processes. It's quite a hefty document and neither Jason nor I have had a chance to read that. That will take a little bit of time, and we will have to go through Cabinet processes as well.

Ms OGILVIE - I think, though, what I can say from my perspective at this - at the ministerial level, with the harmonisation challenges, they're quite real and quite big. So, coming into this portfolio, this was one of the areas that we wanted to make sure we delivered, and I know that there were some single-use plastic replacements that then ended up not being appropriate for the market. So, to make sure that we get it right across Australia, it's a fairly challenging array of areas that have to be harmonised. Just to read a bit of the list, we've got:

- those expanded polystyrene food trays,
- single-use pre-packaged condiment containers - you know, those soy fish sauce packets,
- produce stickers,
- bread tags,
- cotton buds,
- microbeads in rinse-off personal cares - I've been on and on about that for years,
- balloon release,
- balloon plastic accessory items,
- EPS consumer food containers,
- expander plastic packaging,
- heavyweight shopping bags,
- barrier bags,
- cups with and without lids,
- bowls with and without lids,
- food containers,
- pizza savers,
- lightweight bags,
- straws - the big one,
- cutlery,
- plates,
- stirrers.

So, it's a vast array of items that when you go to perhaps get your takeaway, you think, 'Oh, this is simple, we'll just change out the packaging,' it's actually a huge array of items that go right through the value chain, particularly in food services.

We need to make sure - some of the challenges businesses have had, not just with the replacement - the cost of the replacement, making sure it's appropriate and safe and that it's all agreed, and then also I've seen - been invited to some businesses particularly in the multicultural sector where they've actually struggled to find storage room for different-shaped containers. So, even the fit-out of their restaurants was made for the old days.

So, there's a range of challenges that we're having to deal with, right across the spectrum of this. But I will also say changes of ministers and obviously elections does tend to slow things down.

PUBLIC

Ms THOMAS - Minister, the government had committed \$1 million over four years to plan and implement the legislation to phase out single-use plastics. So, is that funding allocation still within the budget and the forward Estimates?

Ms OGILVIE - I will ask Jason. I think that's been allocated [inaudible 8.32.28]

Mr JACOBI - I will refer to Louise [inaudible 8.32.30]

Ms WILSON - Thank you. So, since this initiative has been announced, the government has introduced the landfill levy and established the Waste and Resource Recovery Board. And the waste - the board has released a Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy, and it is looking at single-use plastics as part of that strategy. So, we're in discussions with both the minister and with the board to look at how we can work better together to deliver on these really important initiatives for Tasmania.

Mr JACOBI - You will note, though, that in the budget profile for Revenue for Appropriation, the 2025-26 increase reflects \$250,000 for the problematic single-use plastics.

CHAIR - Oh, that's for that - right. It does drop away as well as we go.

Mr JACOBI - It does drop away, but in 2025-26, there's \$2.3 million -

CHAIR - Sorry - yes, I'm in the wrong page.

Mr JACOBI - Revenue by Appropriation.

CHAIR - Yes. Just on that, the Budget - it all sits under Environmental Management - just that line item, is where this sits?

Mr JACOBI - Output Group 7.1. Yes, that's correct.

CHAIR - Right. So, it was \$5.2 million, the budget.

Mr JACOBI - Yes. That's 2024-25.

CHAIR - That's right. The actual appropriation for that year was \$3,050,000, which is significantly less, and then the Budget is back up to \$6.7 - which is fine; I'm just trying to understand why that is - what's covering that, because then it drops right away to \$1.2 million. Acknowledging the expenses are different because you're getting the waste levy into there, I assume?

Mr JACOBI - If you go to Environmental Management, Revenue by Appropriation -

CHAIR - Yes, page 159.

Mr JACOBI - I haven't got the page open in front of me, but what I've got is that the -

CHAIR - Trust me, it's on page 159.

Mr JACOBI - 2025 original budget was \$30 million -

PUBLIC

CHAIR - That's the expenses, not the appropriation.

Mr JACOBI - Sorry - I was reading Revenue but from Appropriation. Do you -

CHAIR - But that includes your waste levy, doesn't it?

Mr JACOBI - No. Cashflow changes relate to the circular economy, the waste initiatives program, and that's due to delays for recipients submitting milestones affecting project scheduling, and this is resulted in appropriation transfer of \$2.6 million into 2025-26.

CHAIR - This would be in your appropriation, then?

Mr JACOBI - I might get the lawyers to explain it.

Ms WILSON - I have the budget papers over there. I didn't bring them with me -

CHAIR - We are dealing with Budget, I sort of think people should bring the budget papers to the budget scrutiny, but anyway, just saying that. The Treasurer didn't have his budget paper with us either, so that's -

Ms THOMAS - It's only an interim Budget that's maybe why.

CHAIR - It's only his Budget, that's all.

Ms WILSON - What I did want to say is that the revenue by appropriation doesn't include the levy.

CHAIR - That's what I'm saying, that's exactly what I'm saying. Yes. I was saying that revenue by appropriation is how much we, the parliament, is saying you can have. The expenses include what you spend and what you also get through other sources like waste levies.

I'm going back, then, through the revenue by appropriation, how much we say you can have.

Ms THOMAS - You were talking about last year's though, which may have confused things because it's not in the budget papers. The actual expenditure is.

CHAIR - The actual is not in the budget papers, but I did ask a question without notice last week and got this information. It's also in your annual report, if you just want to find it there as well. Okay, but I didn't want to try to - I don't know how many annual reports to find - I just ask because every department would have this in the spreadsheet.

Anyway. The question I have is: last year's budget, which is in this year's budget paper, was \$5.2 million. 2025-26 is \$6.7 million, but the actual spend for 2024-25 was only \$3 million. That is \$2 million less, roughly, that's rough figures. Why is that the case? Then, there's an increase in 2025-26. I assume this is partly to do with getting rid of the single-use plastics, but then it drops right back to \$1.2 million for the out-years. That's quite a drop.

Ms O'CONNOR - They fixed all the problems about them, Chair.

PUBLIC

CHAIR - Are you sure?

Ms O'CONNOR - Nah, they would have, really, because they don't need extra money because it will all be fixed.

CHAIR - Well it does make you wonder what's going to be achieved on this line item.

Mr JACOBI - I thought the Chair was referring to the original 2025 Budget compared to the actual 2025 Budget. Now, my figures - that's not this brief - it's this one about revenue from appropriation was \$33.03 -

CHAIR - No, it's not.

Ms OGILVIE - That's for all of Environment.

Mr JACOBI - That's for all of Environment? Sorry, we have \$28.136 down to \$15.899.

Ms THOMAS - 7.1

CHAIR - Maybe someone could get to the budget papers, do you want me to pass you mine?

Ms WILSON - Some of the changes for 7.1 are related to circular economy fund and it's about the - that fund is allocated to a range of grants and the milestone payments, some of those are the money has been pushed forward into the next year, into 2025-26, because of the milestone payments. That's where, from \$5.238 million to \$6.709 million, and then those, the circular economy fund, those grants are expected to stop then.

That's where we see that reduced back down to \$1.25, and settle down in the out-years because that's back to environmental -

CHAIR - Settle down? It drops even further. Every out-year, which is a decrease in funding - a literal decrease - and when you add in CPI, it's an absolute decrease across the forward estimates.

Ms WILSON - On page 159.

CHAIR - Yes. See, it's \$1.25 million; \$1.248 million less, \$1.245 million less. It's dropping every year over the forward Estimates. Which doesn't account - so you're having your budget cut, minister. You still got on with the important work to do with no money.

Ms OGILVIE - Welcome to my world. We are doing everything we can with the resources that we have.

Ms THOMAS - It's false budgeting; that's what we've seen across any line item.

CHAIR - This is the point that we tried to make with the Treasurer who seemed to not give (inaudible). He didn't have his budget paper either. Either of them, 1 or 2.

Ms OGILVIE - I can't comment on that.

CHAIR - What we're seeing here appears to be an underfunding of departments with work they need to do in the out years, which is creating a very unrealistic picture of what the May Budget will need to look like to deliver the services that you need to deliver. What are you going to do in your portfolio? Once you take out the circular economy money, and you might be able to give me the figure of how much of the \$6.7 million that equates to - take that out, what will you be looking to cut to achieve these budget savings that are pretty drastic, adding CPI?

Mr JACOBI - The intent was that the waste levy would become the primary vehicle for funding many of these initiatives, and that rather than, I suppose, duplicate that in a budget line item, we would be working with the waste and recovery board to identify particular projects that would deliver on some of these.

Ms THOMAS - Is the output environmental management about waste management, or is it about more than that?

Ms WILSON - This output is a combination of - let's say when the EPA separated, we got some resources from the EPA that stayed in the department and came into my division and they came under the environmental management, and those resources, it was a few FTE from memory, and I have to make sure that's exactly right. They were the environmental policy resources, if you like, looking after EMPCA.

We also, in some of the staff that were allocated to waste initiatives and funded through a range of means, some of it circular economy fund and other EPA sources, they stayed in the department to do the foundational work to set up the waste and resource act and deliver on those early waste initiatives. Those resources stayed. Some of them were funded through the circular economy fund and that which has dropped off, and so these positions are a combination of waste which looks after - it's actually in a different unit, and some environmental policy people, so that's -

CHAIR - Could we have a breakdown of this, minister? Can you provide it, and I'm happy to take it on notice, a breakdown of what in line item 7.1, the breakdown of what the \$6.7 million in the appropriation is allocated to, and then if we can look at the expenses, which is on the next page, 161, this is where you were first, I think, Jason, the budget was \$28 million rounded. The actual expenses, how much you actually spent was \$16 million rounded. Was that because there was less money coming in from the levy than was expected, or why is that the case? Do you want to take that one on notice?

Mr JACOBI - No. I'm going to ask Adrian Pearce to come to the table.

CHAIR - Is he the finance guru?

Mr JACOBI - He is.

Ms OGILVIE - Just what we need: thank you, Adrian.

Ms LOVELL - You mentioned something was released today on this. What is it and where is it? I can't find anything that's been released today.

PUBLIC

Ms OGILVIE - Let me just double check. I hope I've given you the correct information. On the single-use plastics, right? Let me just confirm that for you. Yes, a report on the public consultation undertaken in response to the Phasing out Problematic Single-use Plastics in Tasmania discussion paper. You've not located it?

Ms LOVELL - No. Louise said a consultation report will be released this week. Are they two different things? Are they the same thing?

Ms OGILVIE - No, it's what I'm talking about.

Ms LOVELL - And it's been released today? Okay. No, I can't find it.

Ms OGILVIE - Okay. I will see if we can locate that for you.

CHAIR - Maybe you could provide a copy to the committee. That way we will have it, or a link if it's on a website, whatever.

Ms OGILVIE - I think I have that now.

CHAIR - Minister, can you introduce the new gentleman at the table?

Ms OGILVIE - Thank you. Adrian Pearce, thank you for coming and I think you will be able to help us with some of the finance.

CHAIR - Do you understand my questions?

Mr PEARCE - I will cover some of the items. So, when you look at page 159, and you've raised about the \$6.7 million dollars, \$5 million of that is the circular economy initiative.

CHAIR - Sorry. How much was that?

Mr PEARCE - \$5 million. That ceases the year after and that's the main reason why it goes down to the 1.25 the year after, which is more like the standard budget for that output.

CHAIR - The rest of it is just pretty base funding, but it is still falling away in the out years. When you add CPI to it - slightly but it's still falling.

Mr PEARCE - Slightly: so the indexation and savings will be the two main elements in those two - in the out years.

CHAIR - The savings are factored in?

Mr PEARCE - Yes.

CHAIR - They're baked in there?

Mr PEARCE - Yes.

CHAIR - Someone's going to have to find them. Is that your job?

PUBLIC

Mr PEARCE - Well, a team effort.

Ms THOMAS - How many outputs is a lifeboat? Every second line in the Budget.

Mr PEARCE - 2024-25, that 5.2 line, that would have been circular economy as well, but a lot of it didn't get spent and it's rolled over. That's one of the attributes to why it was - it was actually a lot less than the Budget, so about \$2.3 million was rolled over into the 2025-26 Budget. That's why it looks a little bit higher, being 6.7.

CHAIR - When we go to the expenses, then, is that due to a less amount from the waste levy?

Mr PEARCE - When it comes to the expenses that - so the numbers on page 161 are quite large because that's where the waste levy comes along. That's where the grant - there's a large grant program. I guess a lot of it didn't get spent as expected. That's why there's a big difference between actual, when you were referring to last year's 2024-25 Budget, with the Budget versus outcome, actual outcome. We didn't spend - a lot of the grants didn't go out as much as we would have liked. That's the main reason -

CHAIR - The money doesn't go off to some fund in finance general to be hidden away from -

Mr PEARCE - No. We have a specific SPA account for the waste resource recovery. It sits there. If you don't spend it one year, it will be forwarded on to forward years. We don't lose it.

CHAIR - The uncommitted grants that sit in there are still there.

Mr PEARCE - Yes.

CHAIR - In the 22 million or 179,000 for the Budget year.

Mr PEARCE - Well, each year we're planning to spend - I will come and give you the number in front of me, but a lot of them, about \$20 million in grants.

CHAIR - That includes the waste levy money?

Mr PEARCE - That's the waste levy, yes. The grants are part of the waste levy program.

Ms OGILVIE - I have found that link to that document. How would you like me to - would you like the link? Would you -

CHAIR - You can send it to Jenny and then she will circulate it to everyone.

Ms OGILVIE - Thank you.

CHAIR - Thanks, minister. It's not an NRE website?

Ms O'CONNOR - Minister, recommendation 1 of the *State of the Environment Report* which I, for the purposes of the public record, would remind anyone who is up this late

watching that the government missed two statutory deadlines to deliver, recommendation 1 is to develop a long-term vision and strategy for Tasmania's environment. Are you committed to that and is there work being undertaken on that?

Ms OGILVIE - We have done that. I do have some information pertaining to the State of the Environment Report. I do understand the energy around this topic. We did commit to providing a response to the State of the Environment Report before the end of 2024. That is what we did. The response to the report identified four key priorities based on report recommendations, the first of which was develop a long-term vision and strategy for Tasmania's environment, develop an environmental data strategy - very important - focus on securing covenants and other effective conservation measures through the private land conservation program to deliver greater protection for underrepresented ecosystems, improve native vegetation mapping and information and in a manner that is carefully planned and mindful of the current fiscal constraints.

We are progressing, scoping and planning this priority work to ensure that resources are used efficiently, opportunities for partnering are identified and outcomes are delivered effectively. I would also like to acknowledge the important role of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania in coordinating the preparation of the government's response to the State of the Environment Report, and in supporting the commission by contributing data, reviewing reports for 17 of the environmental indicators and preparing a case study and other feedback.

Whilst this report is the responsibility for the minister for Housing and Planning, the continuous improvement ethos for protecting Tasmania's environment is a responsibility that spans multiple portfolios, governments, industries and communities. The government's responses to the 2024 State of the Environment Report and Tasmania's first Climate Change Risk Assessment, along with the threatened species and various sustainability strategies being developed form a substantial platform for investment and action to secure Tasmania's future social, economic and environmental wellbeing. Government priority number one, vision and strategy for Tasmania's environment.

I won't repeat a lot of what I've just said, but we are developing a state sustainability strategy, which will encompass social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability, builds on existing policies we have in place across portfolios such as rural water use strategy, climate change action plan, waste and resource recovery strategy, and a new Tasmanian threatened species strategy, which is great.

We are participating of course in national and cross jurisdiction, ministerial and senior officers groups, working with reference groups to support collaboration and learning across environment, water, circular economy, climate change and threatened species and the three regional Tasmanian natural resource management bodies - NRMs people will be familiar with them - which develop and implement their own regional NRM strategies, will be important partners in the development of an environment strategy for Tasmania and other actions to respond to the State of Environment Report.

These organisations have expressed strong interest in working with the government on action in response to the State of Environment Report and the \$2.4 million funding boost to the three regional NRMs in the 2024 budget will ensure these organisations have the capacity to do so.

PUBLIC

Ms O'CONNOR - When should we expect to see the Tasmanian government's long-term vision and strategy for the environment? And will it include - as is recommended in the State of the Environment Report two-yearly progress reports to the Tasmanian parliament?

Ms OGILVIE - Do you have timelines you could share?

Mr JACOBI - No we don't have a timeline at the moment. We've begun engagement with the three NRM groups. But I would expect that we would have a landing on an overall vision and strategy within the next 12 months.

Ms OGILVIE - That's good.

Ms O'CONNOR - Can I ask in terms of natural values -

CHAIR - Just one more because we have to go to the other line items. We've got analytical services and threatened species.

Ms OGILVIE - Threatened species is important.

Ms O'CONNOR - Yes, so important you've defunded the Orange-bellied Parrot Program in the out years, but anyway, we will get to that.

In terms of the other recommendations of the State of the Environment Report: tapping into Aboriginal knowledge and values, developing an environmental data strategy and contemporising the resource management planning scheme objectives and legislation, establishing more marine protected areas. Are any of these on the government's radar?

Ms OGILVIE - Happy for Jason to say something of course, but I am very excited about the *Marine Environment Act* and that work that we are doing, that picks up a range of important matters that were spoken of in that document that is absolutely on our agenda. I'm working with Mr Garland well on that. I can say that it is a priority of mine to land that. Jason may have some other information in relation to the other elements you've mentioned.

Ms O'CONNOR - Well they're political questions and not for the secretary of the department. Has the government committed to those other recommendations?

Ms OGILVIE - Okay, sure. The marine environment act is a prime example and look, I'm prioritising that. It's a good thing to do and overdue to have the dialogue. It won't be simple or easy, but it's something you need to do as an island state that houses the Blue Economy CRC, that has IMAS, it has our research scientists. We are a seafaring nation, a nation state - I feel like sometimes we are a separate nation.

That for me, is from a political perspective one of the key things we ought to be delivering in this great contemporisation of environmental laws, that I do understand is due to a lot of the organic nature of the way our environmental laws have developed over time. There is a moment where we do need to have a look at the overarching framework and say what can we do better? What can we do in a more contemporary way? What is a good series of reforms that make sense? The marine environment act is one of those. Jason has just also reminded me regarding the state of the environment, that environmental data strategy is important as well. We have been doing some work on that, investing in that.

Mr JACOBI - Some very exciting work is being as a consequence of the rural use strategy. We're starting to get some real traction with integrating all of the data from water health and river quality across all the different agencies - Hydro, Tasmanian Irrigation, the departments in the water monitoring program, and the EPA. There's also some really exciting work being done around the Natural Values Atlas.

Ms O'CONNOR - I do have a question about natural values management. Is that where the Natural Values Atlas sits? In expenses by portfolio, you're saying about \$4 million being spent on natural values management over the next four years. All of that natural values management is under the minister for primary industries?

Mr JACOBI - The Natural Values Atlas work that's being done by Jo's team?

Ms O'CONNOR - Where does that sit? The Natural Values Atlas work, The TASVEG work as well.

Ms WILSON - That, technically, could be said to sit under the PIW portfolio, but the Natural Values Atlas covers, for example, the recent OBP tracking data. It's one of those functions in our environment business unit that might be allocated because of the admin orders around legislation. It might sit in one or the other, but really some of these functions actually serve a number of portfolios. Absolutely, the primary industry water, general wildlife management, natural values management, as well as threatened species - it's a bit hard to sort of split them exactly like that.

CHAIR - I am going to move on to Analytical Services 7.2 and then we will come to threatened species.

Mr HARRISS - Thank you, Chair. Minister, can you briefly just provide an overview of what the analytical services provide? Just briefly, and then how much of the appropriation is taken up by staffing costs?

Ms OGILVIE - Sure, I'm happy to do that. I will refer to the department for the staffing costs issue. Analytical Services Tasmania - we know they provide high-quality, accredited chemical and biological testing to the Tasmanian government, industry, and the public. AST continues to support the Environment Protection Authority and the Director of Public Health with essential testing services. They perform around 275,000 to 300,000 individual tests per year. AST aims to deliver all testing services in a timely manner, of course. In 2024-25, AST exceeded the jobs reported on time target of 83 per cent, so that was good.

However, turnaround times can vary due to unexpected demands that can't be planned for. For example, when the EPA Tasmania responds to an unexpected environmental incident, this may lead to a sudden influx of samples to be tested by AST, at times requiring intensive forensic investigation to determine the source and nature of pollution. To effectively manage these challenges, AST may reprioritise workloads to focus on threats to public or environmental health, resulting in minor delays to lower priority work, which is carefully managed to minimise impacts. Targets for percentage of jobs on time performance measure are set based on known and expected demand for testing and the 2025-26 target has been set at 75 per cent, slightly lower than the target for 2024-25 in anticipation of a number of factors that place pressure on resources in response times. These include relatively high demand for testing services, unplanned demand for testing associated with environmental incidents,

planning for training and delivery of new specialist testing regimes (e.g. marine algal identification).

I do have some key statistics here, and I will quickly give those to you, and then if we need more I will turn to the department. As I said, 309,000 analyses were undertaken in 2024-25. That's an eight per cent increase in work. The increases related to the environmental incident response and regulatory activities.

Performance measures - number of analyses performed:

- 2023-24: the actual was 311.
- 2024-25, 285. 2024-25 - sorry, that was the target: 285 for 2024-25: actual, 309.
- We have a target in 2024-25 of 300, with the year obviously yet to finish.

CHAIR - 2024-25? The year has finished.

Ms OGILVIE - Sorry, 2025-26. I misspoke. So, the 2025-26 target is 300, with the year yet to finish. So, there's the statistics I have on the actual work that's flowing through -

CHAIR - I think one of the questions was, though, about how much the staff -

Ms OGILVIE - About the staffing? Yes, which is one for the department. I could refer to you, Louise? Thank you.

Ms WILSON - Thank you. In June 2025, Analytical Services Tasmania had 44.67 FTEs. That - it's important to note though that those staff were paid for, not just through appropriation but also through retained revenue, because AST is able to charge some clients and retain the revenue from that.

Mr HARRISS - Okay. The 2024-25 actuals, which the Chair questioned on notice. In the total expenses, the actual is \$9,410,000. The budgeted amount for 2025-26 is only \$7,883,000. So, that's a reduction from the actual last year of \$1.5 million. What's that going to do to the services and the testing and the analytical stuff? Where does that \$1.5 reduction come from?

Ms WILSON - I will start, but we might bring Adrian back to the table. But, in the budget was \$7.8 million for analytical services to Tasmania, and the actual was - expenses were actually more than that, and there's a -

CHAIR - Dean was talking about the appropriation.

Mr HARRISS - No, I was -

CHAIR - Oh, weren't you? Sorry, Dean.

Mr HARRISS - No, sorry, because I got that from total expenses.

CHAIR - Sorry, my mistake.

Mr HARRISS - So, the total expenses - what I have from the actuals - was \$9.4 million. Is that right?

PUBLIC

Ms WILSON - Yes.

Mr HARRISS - [inaudible]

Ms WILSON - So, would you like an explanation of that bit -

Mr HARRISS - Yes, and I want to understand where that - so, if we're to meet that budgeted amount of this year at \$7.8 million, that's \$1.5 million less than was spent in 2024-25. What's that going to do? Am I making -

CHAIR - Yes.

Ms WILSON - So, the \$7.804 original budget was for 2024-25.

Mr HARRISS - Yes. Don't worry about that, because that's irrelevant, isn't it? So, we actually spent -

Ms WILSON - And the actual - we actually spent \$9.410

Mr HARRISS - That's right, yes. So, the difference between that and this year's budget, so the 2025-26 budget, which is \$7.883 million -

CHAIR - \$1.5 million, effectively.

Mr HARRISS - So we're essentially spending - or if we stick to that budget, we're essentially spending \$1.5 million less on analytical services this financial year than we did last year. So, I'm trying to understand where that will come from, what will that mean. Will that mean you won't do 309,000 tests? You will do a percentage of that, or?

Mr JACOBI - But quickly, because I know Bec's got [inaudible 9.04.44]

So, the increase was due to additional expenditure on salaries and wages. AST operates under do-and-charge arrangements; this is part of their sort of consultancy work. And demand for their services has increased over time, but the 2024-25 regional Budget and the forward Estimates from Treasury's system have not been updated to reflect this increase. The forward Estimates for expenditure and revenue are being reviewed and will be updated to reflect this increased activity, and I know that this is not a budget risk as expenses are covered by the revenue retained by AST, and if we need any more detail, I could ask Damien to come to the table.

Mr HARRISS - I will finish off then. What you're saying is, then, the revenue from appropriation won't change? Is that what you're saying? Whilst total expenses will change, the revenue from appropriation, of \$4.7 million that won't change.

Mr JACOBI - That is correct.

Mr HARRISS - The secretary's just said that the over expenses are essentially recouped back in from the \$1.5 million. The 2025-26 Budget with the revenue from appropriation of \$4.7 million, are we saying that is all that -

Mr JACOBI - We don't expect that they will change. It depends on the increased activity and consultancy work that AST performs.

Witness - I think what's important here is that there are no cut days to this Budget in any of those figures.

CHAIR - So, the same number of staff will be able to deliver, ideally, the target number of tests within the budget you have.

Witness -Yes.

CHAIR - No-one is losing their job next week?

Witness - I hope not.

CHAIR - We might move on to threatened species, Bec.

Output Group 7 - Environment

7.4 Threatened Species

Ms THOMAS - Minister, in the budget paper 2, volume 1 on Page 159, it has a decrease in the funding over the forward Estimates from \$8.03 million to \$5.8 million.

Can you explain what is going to not be occurring?

Mr JACOBI - In revenue from appropriation for threatened species, the decrease in 2028-29 reflects the completion of the 2024-25 Threatened Species Fund.

Ms THOMAS - How will the outcomes of that funding allocation over that four-year program be measured?

Ms OGILVIE - I do have, and I will just confirm with you, Jason, I do have some performance measures here. Is this the correct document just to make sure?

Mr JACOBI - No.

Ms OGILVIE - Okay, thank you.

Ms WILSON - With the Threatened Species Fund, we're into the second year now and we've started with planning and we've started spending some of that money and the Threatened Species Grants, as the minister mentioned earlier, are about to be opened, a second round, and we have a list of a combination of deliverables - what we've delivered as well as what we've committed to in terms of grant funding from the previous year.

What we haven't done yet, but I think would be a really good idea, you've just given me a great idea, is that we should publish what we've spent and delivered. We've only just delivered a minute to you minister, outlining what we've done in the first year, which is a lot. and we're very grateful to have that funding. It allows us to do a lot of really good work across four streams of activity and I take every opportunity to promote what my team do in this space.

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Ms THOMAS - Can you explain what those four streams of activity are?

Ms WILSON - Yes. The first stream is for high-priority species conservation activities and those things are things like last year was maugean skate monitoring, things like that. There's some flexibility to adjust each year. The second stream is the Strategic Partnership Grants Program and the idea of that is to allocate an amount of funding and partner with strategic partners that we know can deliver programs and outcomes on the ground that match whatever our priorities might be year on year.

This year's prime themes are healthy habitats and building resilience to invasive species. The third stream - what am I up to?

Ms THOMAS - Decision-making tools.

Ms WILSON - Decision-making tools. The third stream is specifically to do some of the things that are not showy, and a lot of people take for granted or I guess they're not a real announceable, but important to good conservation outcomes and that is developing guidelines. We're looking at, due to popular demand, some guidelines on masked owls are really important, so we're developing those. We are looking at wedge tailed eagles as well, but that'll take a little bit of time. The fourth stream we're setting aside for emergency preparedness and to date, we've been using some of that funding for preparing for HPAI in relation to our threatened species -

CHAIR - HPAI just for the benefit of *Hansard*.

Ms WILSON - I beg your pardon, avian flu. We need to make sure that we protect -

CHAIR - The chooks.

Ms WILSON - and take steps.

CHAIR - Well, everybody.

Ms WILSON - In the threatened species space, we're particularly concerned about our orange-bellied parrot facility, our captive facility and our wild release activities and also the devils that we have.

Ms OGILVIE - There are, if I could just capture a little bit more of that because you may have an interest. In 2024-25, some of the expenditure across those areas included \$515,000 to continue priority research for the maugean skate, funding to enable the Secretariat to support the national recovery team for the maugean skate to implement the conservation action plan. There was \$255,000 for the red handfish habitat restoration activities and a further \$100,000 for mapping the red handfish with a full population census. Allocation of approximately \$400,000 across seven projects being delivered in partnership by over 15 organisations through a threatened species partnership grant program. That leverages over \$270,000 in co-contributions.

These project grants have delivered on the ground conservation benefits for a range of threatened species such as the burgundy snail, forty-spotted pardalote, morrisbyi gum, miena cider gum, southport heath and several Tasmanian orchid species. These projects will have co-

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benefits for a wide range of other threatened species including swift parrot, masked owl and the Tasmanian devil.

Ms O'CONNOR - Do you want to check on the orange-bellied parrot funding?

Ms THOMAS - I am happy for you to ask those questions.

CHAIR - Have they got their backpacks on yet to track them?

Ms OGILVIE - We will track them from space.

Ms O'CONNOR - Minister, has there been any information flowing through to the agency about detections of avian influenza, either H6N1 or H5N1 on island?

Ms OGILVIE - I would have to ask.

Mr JACOBI - I need to clarify, when you say on island you mean information from the recent Miena trip to Heard and McDonald islands or just -

Ms O'CONNOR - No, on Tasmania.

Mr JACOBI - Any information.

Ms O'CONNOR - Any information; any indication that avian influenza has arrived here.

Mr JACOBI - No, there been no indication at all that there are any cases in Tasmania. We have had, in the last six months, some alleged reports of concerns from bush walkers around numbers of birds on beaches, which we've investigated immediately and confirmed that there were no cases.

Ms O'CONNOR - Tested?

Mr JACOBI - Yes, they were tested.

Ms O'CONNOR - Why was funding for the orange-bellied program cut in the two out years? Top line. Because we've heard a lot from the minister how seriously the government takes the protection of threatened species, and the evidence is in the numbers, the funding for an orange-bellied parrot program seems to have been slashed.

CHAIR - A thousand this year and then nothing.

Ms OGILVIE - I'm just being directed to some more specific information.

Ms O'CONNOR - This is the sort of stuff you could just know, as minister.

Ms OGILVIE - It's good to get the details right.

Ms O'CONNOR - Yes, but it gets a bit boring after nine hours at the table being read to.

Ms OGILVIE - The orange-bellied parrot is one of the world's rarest and most remarkable migratory parrots, as we know. We love the orange-bellied parrots. I've been able to visit them. Tasmania does play a critical - I have been out to visit them - role in its survival. The question and the interest that you have in this, I know is very genuine and I take that for real, obviously. It's an iconic and critically endangered species. It breeds only at Melaleuca, in Tasmania's remote south-west and migrates across Bass Strait to mainland Australia every autumn. It's one of only three migratory parrots in the world and its survival depends on the work we do here in Tasmania.

Ms O'CONNOR - So why'd you cut the funding?

Ms OGILVIE - Monitoring of the population of orange-bellied parrots at Melaleuca commenced in 1979. Captive breeding started in 1981. We thank generations of hard-working staff and all Tasmanians for their love of this beautiful little bird.

Ms O'CONNOR - Waste of time.

Ms OGILVIE - The Tasmanian government has been investing in orange-bellied parrot conservation for more than four decades. In 2023-24, we committed an additional \$1.3 million over two years to improve our understanding of migration threats and to maintain the facility and critical infrastructure, the Five Mile Beach captive breeding facility.

This funding supports the orange-bellied parrot migration tracking project, which is now in its second year with 42 birds fitted with transmitters - I think you were mentioning those before, Chair - and 18 receiver towers installed across the migration route. Technologies are giving some unprecedented insight into species movement, and at the same time upgrades to the Five Mile Beach wildlife management facility are underway to improve breeding success and biosecurity measures.

The results speak for themselves: last season the wild population reached 91 adults, the highest since the 1990s, and produced a record 99 wild-born fledglings at Melaleuca, 28 captive juveniles and 15 captive adults released. These successes meant an estimated 172 birds migrated north to a future only unimaginable just a decade ago.

Ms THOMAS - Was there an answer to the question? The question was why is the funding cut, and there was nothing in that answer, in that very long spiel, about the answer.

CHAIR - How many came back?

Ms OGILVIE - How many came back? Yes, I've got that.

CHAIR - Just to cut to the chase - it's in the capital investment program -

Ms OGILVIE - In 2026-27 when the orange-bellied parrot budget initiative funding concludes, the migration tracking project will conclude in 2026 and a final report will be released following analysis of next year's data. Additional monitoring and funding needs will be identified through the course of the project with the threatened species fund, one potential source of funding for this priority work.

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Ms O'CONNOR - This morning, and I think we're just about to be out of time - in the minister for energy's Estimates - I will note that he didn't need to read too much from his brief, but we were trying to establish whether or not ACEN has been working with his agency or the environment department on mitigation of the impacts of the Robbins Island Wind Farm on migratory orange-bellied parrots. He suggested we ask you. Are you aware of any work that's been undertaken with the proponent of the Robbins Island Wind Farm? There's a contract requirement -

Ms OGILVIE - In relation to transmitters?

CHAIR - The wind turbines.

Ms O'CONNOR - in relation to the impacts of the turbines on the orange-bellied parrots who fly across that region. It's an identified risk by the Environment Protection Authority to the bird itself.

Ms OGILVIE - I would have to ask. I think the - I'm not aware.

Ms O'CONNOR - Last time you visited them?

Ms OGILVIE - I think the stage of the process is that an EIS has to be developed.

Ms WILSON - I think, just to clarify the question, any interactions we've had with ACEN and in relation to the parrot - with the tracking project, we worked with ACEN. ACEN put some VHF towers in the migratory pathway. That helped us get a constant - I guess -

Ms OGILVIE - A feed.

Ms WILSON - Feed. Thank you, minister. But their raw data was sent directly to us so there was absolute independence of the data. Where now birds flew over their towers, they would ping and that was a great help to the project. We have liaised with them on that and just incidentally, their towers have contributed more to the data than any of our other towers, so that was really useful.

Ms O'CONNOR - Will the environment department be working with ACEN on the conservation program - through you, minister - that I understand, they're required to prepare and implement for the orange-bellied parrot?

Ms WILSON - ACEN as part of their EPBC -

Ms O'CONNOR - To develop a conservation program for a critically endangered bird.

Ms OGILVIE - EPBC level, yes.

Ms WILSON - As part of their conditions, there are lots of conditions there that will require us to provide some advice and I understand that, from memory, the decision also included approval of management plans and all those sorts of things.

Ms O'CONNOR - [inaudible] management?

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Ms WILSON - No, it's actually management plans in relation to the specific income, not a recovery plan, as in for the species. I think ultimately under the decision the Commonwealth department, DCCEEW, as the ongoing regulator, is responsible for approving those plans but they will - and we've had discussions with the assessment team - we will be consulted to make sure that they're appropriate.

CHAIR - Thanks, minister. I hope those orange-bellied parrots are tweeting their locations so you can record them.

Ms OGILVIE - Well, I'm hoping that we will be able to map them from space if we get some of our good tech on board.

CHAIR - They're very tiny; they will be hard to see from space.

Ms OGILVIE - Well, we can measure climate change from space. I'm sure we can track parrots.

CHAIR - Anyway, thank you, minister, and your team. We have gone a little bit over. It's been a long day and we'll stop the broadcast.

The committee adjourned at 9.22 p.m.