



HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

SESSION OF 2025 - 2026

(FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT)

NOTICES OF MOTION

No. 16

THURSDAY 19 MARCH 2026

Notices of Motion

- 47** Ms *Brown* to move—That the House:—
- (1) Notes that Tasmania remains the only state or territory that has refused to sign up to the Federal Government's Help to Buy Scheme.
 - (2) Recognises that the Help to Buy Scheme provides eligible first home buyers with an additional pathway into home ownership and can operate alongside existing state programs without conflict.
 - (3) Further notes that participation in the scheme comes at no cost to the Tasmanian Government.
 - (4) Acknowledges that Tasmania is experiencing a housing crisis, with record social housing waitlists, declining rates of home construction, and first home buyers increasingly priced out of the market.
 - (5) Expresses concern that by failing to sign up to the Scheme, the Government is denying Tasmanians the same support and options available to first home buyers in every other jurisdiction in the country.
 - (6) Further notes that the Government has repeatedly failed to meet its own housing targets and has faced criticism over how it accounts for housing delivery.
 - (7) Condemns the Rockliff Government for blocking access to a scheme that would expand housing choice for Tasmanians at no cost to the state.
 - (8) Calls on the Minister for Housing and Planning, Hon. Kerry Vincent MLC, to explain to the House why the Government has refused to sign up to the Help to Buy Scheme, and when Tasmanians can expect to be given access to the same opportunities available to first home buyers across the rest of Australia. (3 March 2026)
- 48** Mr *Willie* to move—That the House:—
- (1) Notes:—
 - (a) serious concerns surrounding the Government's proposed dealings regarding public land at Wilkinsons Point; and
 - (b) advice provided to the Premier by multiple government departments recommending that negotiations with LK Group cease and that the land instead be taken to an open market process.
 - (2) Expresses concern that this advice was not followed and that the Government has instead pursued a private negotiation with a single proponent.
 - (3) Further notes:—
 - (a) warnings that proceeding without a competitive process risks exposing Tasmanian taxpayers to costs of up to \$100 million without any guarantee of development at the site; and
 - (b) that the Valuer-General's confidential valuation was shared with LK Group despite advice that it should not be disclosed, giving them an unfair advantage in negotiations.
 - (4) Agrees that decisions relating to the sale of public land should be conducted openly, competitively and in the best interests of Tasmanians.

- (5) Calls on the Premier to explain why departmental advice was ignored, why the market was not tested through an open process, and why confidential valuation material was shared with a private proponent. (3 March 2026)

49 Ms *Finlay* to move—That the House:—

- (1) Notes the critical importance of Tasmania’s major industrials to the State’s economy, energy system, regional employment and sovereign manufacturing capability.
- (2) Recognises that Liberty Bell Bay is Australia’s only manganese alloy smelter and a strategic industrial asset, supported by a highly skilled local workforce.
- (3) Acknowledges that the smelter has been paused indefinitely despite the Tasmanian Government providing a \$20 million loan, which has since been subject to default.
- (4) Further notes reports that suppliers to Liberty Bell Bay are owed significant sums, placing local businesses and jobs at risk.
- (5) Affirms the House’s confidence in the workers at Liberty Bell Bay and the importance of providing them and their families with certainty and security.
- (6) Further recognises that Tasmania owns its energy assets and therefore has both the capacity and responsibility to act in the state’s long term economic interest when negotiating with major industrial users.
- (7) Calls on the Government to urgently finalise and execute a long-term energy contract for Bell Bay Aluminium, and to provide certainty for workers, suppliers and the Bell Bay community.
- (8) Further notes the ongoing uncertainty at Nyrstar in Hobart, and the need for a long-term solution to ensure the ongoing viability of the site and its workforce in the face of international market pressure, power price increases and aging infrastructure. (3 March 2026)

50 Ms *Dow* to move—That the House:—

- (1) Notes the:—
 - (a) costs for berthing and port charges for the new Spirit of Tasmania IV in Melbourne has now blown out from \$600,000 a month to \$900,000 a month; and
 - (b) cost blowout comes on top of the Devonport berth cost blowout from \$90 million to \$493 million.
- (2) Recognises the Liberal Government’s mismanagement of the project has seen the delivery date for the new ships fall years behind schedule.
- (3) Expresses disappointment that the Government’s failure has resulted in the travelling public, including Tasmanian residents, paying the price with slower crossings and increased costs.
- (4) Further notes the ridiculous situation that should the new ships be berthed in Tasmania, TasPorts, a state owned company, would charge another state owned company, TT-Line, to berth state owned ships in a state owned port.
- (5) Calls on:—
 - (a) Shareholder Ministers, Hon. Eric Abetz MP, and Hon. Kerry Vincent MLC, to issue a Ministerial Direction to TasPorts to waive berthing fees and other port charges for the new ships at Tasmanian ports until they come into service; and
 - (b) the Ministers to immediately bring the new ships home to a Tasmanian port. (3 March 2026)

51 Ms *Haddad* to move—That the House:—

- (1) Notes the:—
 - (a) ongoing industrial action across key parts of the Tasmanian public sector, including health, education, justice and child safety, following the Government’s failure to reach fair industrial agreements; and
 - (b) Treasurer’s comments that “police have a more difficult role than public servants” and acknowledges the offence caused to correctional officers, paramedics and other health workers, child safety officers, fire fighters, educators and countless other hard-working Tasmanian public sector workers by those remarks.
- (2) Condemns the Government for negotiating in bad faith, including cancelling meetings, issuing ultimatums through the media, derailing progress in discussions, failing to bring decision makers to meetings, failing to address claims until after some agreements had expired and frustrating constructive engagement.

- (3) Recognises that Tasmania operates in a national labour market and continued disrespect and uncertainty for public sector workers risks driving Tasmanians interstate, reducing the likelihood of people moving to Tasmania to take up work opportunities in our public sector and having a devastating impact on all Tasmanians who rely on the public services.
- (4) Calls on the Government to:—
 - (a) show respect to all of their public sector workforce and retract recent out of touch public statements made by the Treasurer, Hon. Eric Abetz MP, pitting groups of workers against each other; and
 - (b) prioritise reaching fair and sustainable employment agreements that value these vital workers and provide certainty for Tasmanian families who depend on them. (3 March 2026)

52 Mr *Vermeij* to move—That the House:—

- (1) Recognises the Royal Hobart Hospital is Tasmania’s major tertiary level teaching hospital, and that timely, high quality emergency care is critical for Tasmanians.
- (2) Welcomes the next phase of the \$130 million Royal Hobart Hospital (RHH) Emergency Department (ED) Expansion as part of the broader Stage 2 RHH Redevelopment.
- (3) Notes:—
 - (a) phase one was completed in 2023, delivering an additional 28 treatment points and enabling preparatory works for the next phase of construction;
 - (b) the expanded ED will deliver increased services and modern, fit-for-purpose facilities designed to improve patient flow, safety, and the experience of patients, visitors and staff;
 - (c) that construction will commence with a temporary ED entrance on Argyle Street to enable demolition and redevelopment of the existing ED on the lower ground level of Liverpool Street; and
 - (d) that, from mid-2026, the construction site will transition to the Liverpool Street side of the hospital, with works expected to continue until early 2028, supported by temporary signage and traffic management to maintain safe access. (4 March 2026)

53 Mr *Vermeij* to move—That the House:—

- (1) Recognises the positive impact accessible, modern community sporting infrastructure has on Tasmanians, supporting healthy lifestyles and building community connection across all ages and abilities.
- (2) Welcomes the new multi-sport Glenorchy Sports Centre serving Hobart’s Northern Suburbs.
- (3) Notes Tasmanian firm Fairbrother has been awarded the construction contract, with around 500 people expected to work on the project over its life and with the majority of work earmarked for Tasmanian businesses.
- (4) Commends the accessibility-focused consultation that has been undertaken with state sporting organisations, local sporting clubs and disability groups, to implement wider hallways, modern amenities, wellbeing spaces, parent and sensory rooms, and a registered Changing Places Facility.
- (5) Further notes:—
 - (a) the facility will include four indoor multi-sport courts (including a dedicated show court), and courts for basketball, netball, volleyball, badminton, futsal, pickleball and a range of wheelchair sports;
 - (b) the Centre will also include three multi-purpose meeting and event spaces for local clubs, seating for up to 600 spectators, and 68 car parks;
 - (c) the site is located near Claremont College and adjacent to the upcoming Claremont Park and Ride facility, supporting improved public transport access; and
 - (d) construction is set to begin in early March 2026 and is due for completion in mid-2027. (4 March 2026)

54 Mr *Winter* to move—That the House orders the Treasurer, Hon. Eric Abetz MP, to table by Wednesday 25 March 2026, the following information:—

- (1) The savings targets issued to each agency for the 2025–26 financial year under the Government’s efficiency dividend policies.
- (2) The amount achieved through the efficiency dividend in the current financial year, disaggregated by agency.
- (3) A summary of the measures implemented by each agency to meet their savings requirements, including the value attributed to each measure.
- (4) A list of the 2024 and 2025 election commitments that the Government has decided not to proceed with as a consequence of budget savings decisions.
- (5) A summary of the programs, initiatives and efficiencies identified and removed from the Budget by the Government’s Efficiency and Productivity Unit, including associated funding amounts.
- (6) The total number of:—
 - (a) job requests rejected under the Government’s vacancy control and hiring freeze policies in the current financial year to date, broken down by agency and job title; and
 - (b) unfilled or vacant positions in each agency as at 30 June 2025 and as at 31 December 2025. (4 March 2026)

56 Mr *Willie* to move—That the House:—

- (1) Recognises that high-quality early childhood education is one of the most effective investments a government can make to improve lifelong educational, social and economic outcomes.
- (2) Notes that too many Tasmanian children are starting school already behind, and that stronger early years support is critical to lifting educational outcomes across the state.
- (3) Acknowledges that Tasmania has the lowest workforce participation rate in the nation and that access to affordable, reliable early learning is a key barrier preventing many parents, particularly women, from increasing their participation in the workforce.
- (4) Supports the:—
 - (a) delivery of five days of kindergarten in every Tasmanian public school to give children more time to learn, build confidence and be ready for school; and
 - (b) introduction of universal access to pre-school for three-year-olds to expand opportunity, ease cost-of-living pressures for families, and improve access to early education across the State.
- (5) Further recognises that expanding kindergarten will also reduce pressure on long day care. (5 March 2026)

57 Mr *Willie* to move—That the House:—

- (1) Notes the results of the statewide survey of Tasmanian school principals showing overwhelming concern with the Government’s rollout of Multi-School Organisations (MSOs).
- (2) Recognises that Tasmania’s educators and support staff have already passed a motion of no confidence in the Minister for Education, Hon. Jo Palmer MLC, over her failure to provide safe working and learning conditions.
- (3) Further notes that the Government’s own Independent Education Review stated that major reforms require sustained bipartisan support, thorough design, and appropriate implementation, monitoring and evaluation strategies.
- (4) Calls on the Minister for Education to:—
 - (a) demonstrate how the MSO trial meets the standards for consultation, evidence, planning and change management recommended by the Government’s own review; and
 - (b) explain why so many Tasmanian principals lack confidence in her handling of the MSO rollout, and to outline what steps she will take to restore trust, provide clarity, and properly consult school leaders before proceeding further with the reform. (5 March 2026)

58 The Treasurer to move—That the House:—

- (1) Recognises that Australia’s Goods and Services Tax (GST) distribution system was founded on the principle of horizontal fiscal equalisation, ensuring that all Australians, regardless of where they live, can access a similar standard of public services and infrastructure, and incur a similar level of tax.

- (2) Acknowledges that:—
 - (a) GST represents over 40 per cent of Tasmania’s General Government revenue and is critical to funding essential services including hospitals, schools and infrastructure; and
 - (b) the 2018 changes to the GST distribution system departed from full horizontal fiscal equalisation by guaranteeing resource rich Western Australia a permanently inflated share of GST, regardless of its fiscal capacity to fund from its own revenue base.
- (3) Further recognises that:—
 - (a) this has created a two-tier federation, where some states receive GST well above their assessed need while others receive less, undermining the fairness and integrity of the system; and
 - (b) the Commonwealth’s temporary ‘no-worse-off guarantee’ has masked the true impact of these changes at significant cost to the federal budget, diverting billions of dollars from other national priorities, further entrenching fiscal imbalance across the federation.
- (4) Further acknowledges that partial equalisation weakens national cohesion, entrenches structural fiscal imbalance between the states, and undermines the founding egalitarian principles of Australia’s federation.
- (5) Calls on the Commonwealth to revert to a GST system that is fit-for-purpose, fair, and consistent with the intent of full horizontal fiscal equalisation. (5 March 2026)

LAURA ROSS, *Clerk of the House*