



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SESSION OF 2025 – 2026

(FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 51

THURSDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2026

1 COUNCIL MEETS.— The Council met at 11.00 o'clock a.m.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL PEOPLE.— The President said:

“We meet today on Tasmanian Aboriginal land. We acknowledge and pay respect to the Tasmanian Aboriginal people and elders, past and present. We recognise them as the first inhabitants and the continuing custodians of this land.”

3 PRAYERS AND REFLECTION.— The President read Prayers.

4 LEAVE TO TABLE ANSWER TO QUESTION AND INCORPORATE ANSWER INTO HANSARD.— *Ordered*, That Ms *Ratray* have leave to Table answer to Question No. 63 and have the answer incorporated into the Hansard record.

5 GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON ARTS FUNDING.— Ms *Forrest* asked the Honourable the Leader of the Government —

Question:

With regard to responses provided by the Leader for the Government on 11 August 2026 responding to questions related to the 2026/27 State budget and funding for the Arts:

- (1) Given the answer suggests the \$10 million is incorporated into (not additional to as stated previously) the existing Arts Industry Development and Screen Industry Development lines, does the Minister for the Arts accept that the \$10 million cannot properly be described as new or additional funding to the sector or provide a clear explanation as to how it is additional funding?
- (2) Can the Government provide the dollar value attributed to:
 - (a) the conclusion of election commitments; and
 - (b) efficiency measures, for each forward estimate year, so that the net effect on the arts budget line can be reconciled against the stated \$10 million commitment?
- (3) With those two offsetting factors identified, can the Government confirm the net change (increase or decrease) in real terms to the Arts Industry Development line for each of 2026-27 through 2029-30?
- (4) Has any funding request for the Tasmanian Strategic Touring Fund been received or is one anticipated for 2026-27, and if so, what is the expected timing of a decision?
- (5) Is it the Government's intention that the Fund continue in some form beyond 2026-27, or has a decision been made to discontinue it?
- (6) What savings target was assumed in the 2026-27 budget for the Targeted and Negotiated Voluntary Redundancy (TNVR) process in constructing the Arts Tasmania administrative expenses line for 2026-27?
- (7) If the TNVR process does not deliver savings at or near that assumed level, what is the contingency and will the shortfall be met from within the existing arts budget, additional government funding, or through a reduction in program funding?

- (8) Can the Government confirm whether "stable" funding in 2026-27 means the same number of organisations will be funded as in 2025-26, or whether the number of organisations funded may fall while the total dollar amount remains similar?
- (9) Will any currently four-year-funded organisation receive a reduced allocation in 2026-27 relative to 2025-26?
- (10) Once the needs identified through the Cultural and Creative Industries Strategy and the Tasmanian Live Performance Exchange sector report are known, will new funding be allocated to address them, or will any resulting initiatives be funded from within existing Arts Tasmania and Screen Tasmania allocations?
- (11) What is the expected timeframe for receipt of the Tasmanian Live Performance Exchange sector report, and when does the Government expect to respond to its recommendations?
- (12) During Budget Estimates scrutiny, the Director, Creative Tasmania provided the Committee with a specific year-by-year breakdown of the additional \$10 million, including \$0 to Arts in 2026-27 and \$1 million to Arts in 2027-28. The response provided by the Leader stated that no position has been determined for 2027-28, and that a position on 2028-29 to 2029-30 has also not been determined.
 - (a) Can the Government explain why the specific breakdown given by the Director, Creative Tasmania differs from the Leaders response?
 - (b) Was the breakdown given in evidence to Estimates accurate at the time it was given? If so, what has changed since Estimates to make the allocation now "undetermined"?
- (13) The Leader's response stated forward estimates reductions are due to efficiencies, not a decrease in support to the sector, while also stated 2029-30 becomes the new ongoing baseline.
 - (a) Can the Government provide the dollar breakdown of the forward estimates reduction in the Arts Tasmania appropriation between;
 - (i) administrative/efficiency savings; and
 - (ii) any reduction in funding passed through to the sector, for each year 2026-27 to 2029-30?
 - (b) If the reduction is intended to be entirely absorbed through administrative efficiencies with no reduction in sector support, can the Government confirm the dollar value of efficiencies required to achieve this, and identify the specific measures (beyond TNVR) that will deliver savings of that scale?
 - (c) Does the Government accept that if efficiency savings of the scale implied are not achieved, sector funding will necessarily be affected in order to meet the reduced forward estimate?

The Leader answered:

With regard to responses provided by the Leader for the Government on 11 August 2026 responding to questions related to the 2026/27 State budget and funding for the Arts:

- (1) Additional funding of \$10 million over four years for the Creative Industries initiative was included in the 2026-27 Budget. This funding is specifically highlighted in the Key Deliverables table, however, for the purposes of Output specific tables, it is incorporated into the Arts Industry and Screen Industry Development Outputs, with profiles as shown in the following table:

Table 1

Additional Creative Industries funding included in the 2026-27 Budget				
Output	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
5.2 - Arts Industry Development		1 000	1 500	2 500
5.3 - Screen Industry Development	1 000	1 000	1 500	1 500
Total	1 000	2 000	3 000	4 000

- (2) (a) Funding for specific initiatives which ceased in 2025-26 in the Arts Industry Development Output includes:

- (i) \$4.5 million which was provided to support infrastructure works associated with the redevelopment of Federation Concert Hall, and
 - (ii) \$500,000 which was provided to support the Youth Arts Grant Funding Program.
- (b) Operational efficiency requirements were allocated to Departmental Outputs, including the Arts Industry Development Output, in the 2026-27 Budget. The allocations were provisional, pending completion of Machinery of Government (MoG) processes, which are currently underway, with the final allocated efficiencies to be incorporated into new organisational structures and budgets. Outcomes of this process will be detailed in the 2027-28 Budget.
- (3) The following table details the year-on-year comparison of appropriation between the 2025-26 Budget and the 2026-27 Budget for the Arts Industry Development Output:

Table 2

Arts Industry Development				
Net Change Between Budget Years				
Budget Year	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30
2025-26 Budget	9097	8940	9027	
2026-27 Budget	9000	9271	9825	10713
Net movement	-97	331	798	N/A
*Note that the 2029-30 budget information was not included in the 2025-26 Budget.				

- (4) The Department does not hold a record of a funding request for the Tasmanian Strategic Touring Fund having been received for 2026-27.
- (5) No decision has been made about the continuation or discontinuation of the strategic touring fund.
- (6) At the time of the finalisation of the 2026-27 Budget, decisions regarding a Targeted and Negotiated Voluntary Redundancy (TNVR) process for the Department had not been finalised. As such, there were no specific assumptions made in the 2026-27 Budget regarding expected impacts of the process on the Arts Industry Development Output.
Note that the Arts Tasmania administrative expenses line relates to payments to external entities, including the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Ten Days on the Island, and the Theatre Royal. It is noted that the Department's Targeted and Negotiated Voluntary Redundancy (TNVR) process did not apply to these organisations.
- (7) The machinery-of-government process is underway, with final allocated operational efficiencies to be incorporated into new organisational budgets and structures. Strategies to achieve operational efficiencies in the 2026-27 year include measures, such as lease rationalisation, reductions in supplies and consumables, automation of selected functions, and the centralisation of services. Strategies to achieve Operational Efficiencies from 2027-28 onwards will be encapsulated with the Government's machinery-of-government changes and will be detailed in the 2027-28 Budget, as new agency structures and operating arrangements are finalised.
- (8) Funding in 2026-27 is broadly comparable to funding provided in 2025-26 for this Output, with no change to existing executed funding agreements from the application of operational efficiency requirements.
- (9) There will be no change to existing executed funding agreements from the application of operational efficiency requirements.
- (10) Outcomes from the Cultural and Creative Industries Strategy and the Tasmanian Live Performance Exchange sector report will be considered in the context of available budget resources and other competing priorities.
- (11) The Tasmanian Live Performance Exchange (TLPX) sector report was scheduled to be provided to Government in June 2026, but there have been delays with the delivery of the report. The Department is in regular contact with TLPX. The Government will respond to the recommendations once the Minister has had the opportunity to review the final report.

- (12) (a) and (b) Creative Industries initiative funding was allocated to the Arts Industry Development and Screen Industry Outputs as part of the 2026-27 Budget. This allocation was communicated by the Director during Budget Estimates and has not changed. Refer to the table provided in response to Question 1.

It is noted that specific program allocations have not yet been finalised, and these may result in changes to the distribution of funding between Outputs or years. Following machinery-of-government processes currently underway, a final allocation for the period 2027-28 to 2029-30 will be detailed in the 2027-28 Budget, as new agency structures and operating arrangements are finalised.

- (13) (a), (b) and (c) As shown in Table 2 above, the total appropriation for the Arts Industry Development Output has increased when compared with the 2025-26 Budget. As noted in the 2026-27 Budget, operational efficiency requirements have been provisionally allocated to Outputs, pending machinery-of-government processes currently underway. Final allocated operational efficiencies will be incorporated into new organisational budgets and structures. Strategies to achieve operational efficiencies in the 2026-27 year include measures, such as lease rationalisation, reductions in supplies and consumables, automation of selected functions, and the centralisation of services. Strategies to achieve Operational Efficiencies from 2027-28 onwards will be encapsulated with the Government's machinery-of-government changes and will be detailed in the 2027-28 Budget, as new agency structures and operating arrangements are finalised.

Ordered, That Ms *Rattray*, have leave to Table Government Response to Notice of Motion – Gambling Advertising at State-owned and State-funded venues.

6 REPORT OF THE JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON INTEGRITY.— Ms *Armitage* laid upon the Table of the Council the Annual Report of the Joint Standing Committee on Integrity.

Ordered, That the Report be received. (Ms *Forrest*)

Ordered, That the Report be printed. (Ms *Forrest*)

7 BILL NO. 69 OF 2025.— The Integrity Commission Amendment (Mandatory Notifications) Bill 2025 was read the Third time and passed.

8 BILL NO. 69 OF 2025.— A Message to the House of Assembly:—

HONOURABLE SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council has this day agreed, without Amendment, to a Bill intituled, 'A Bill for an Act to amend the *Integrity Commission Act 2009*'.

Legislative Council, 10 September 2026

C.M. FARRELL, *President*

9 BILL NO. 22.— The Order of the Day was read for the consideration of the Land Use Planning and Approvals (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2026 as amended in Committee of the Whole Council.

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended in the Committee, be now taken into consideration. (Mr *Vincent*)

The Council, accordingly, proceeded to take the same into consideration.

The Amendments were read the First time.

The said Amendments, being read the Second time, were agreed to.

Ordered, That the Bill as amended in the Committee, be now read the Third time. (Mr *Vincent*)

The Bill was read the Third time and passed.

10 BILL NO. 22.— A Message to the House of Assembly:—

HONOURABLE SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed, with Amendments, to a Bill intituled —

‘A Bill for an Act to amend the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* and the *Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993*’,

now returns the same to the House of Assembly, and requests its concurrence therein.

Legislative Council, 10 September 2026

C.M. FARRELL, *President*

11 BILL NO. 15.— The Order of the Day was read for the Second reading of the Housing Land Supply (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2026.

A Motion was made (Mr *Vincent*), and the Question was proposed, That the Bill be now read the Second time.

A Debate arose thereupon.

12 SITTING SUSPENDED.— It being 1.00 o'clock p.m. the Sitting of the Council was suspended.

The Council resumed the Sitting at 2.30 o'clock p.m.

13 QUESTION TIME.— The President called for Questions without Notice. There were 8 Questions asked.

14 BILL NO. 15.— The Council resumed the Debate on the Question, That the Housing Land Supply (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2026 be now read the Second time.

And the Bill was, accordingly, read the Second time and committed to a Committee of the Whole Council.

And the President having left the Chair, the Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

(In the Committee)

Ms *Forrest* in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 6 agreed to.

Clause 7, Amendments made. (Mr *Vincent*)

First Amendment

Page 6, proposed new subsection (5).

Leave out that subsection.

Second Amendment

Same page, proposed new subsection (5A).

Leave out that subsection.

Clause 7 as amended agreed to.

Clauses 8 and 9 agreed to.

Clause 10, Amendments made. (Mr *Vincent*)

First Amendment

Page 8, proposed new subsection (6).

Leave out that subsection.

Second Amendment

Same page, proposed new subsection (7).

Leave out that subsection.

Clause 10 as amended agreed to.

Clause 11 disagreed to.

Clause 12 disagreed to.

Clause 13 disagreed to.

Clause 14 disagreed to.

Clauses 15 to 21 agreed to.

Clause 22 disagreed to.

Clause 23 agreed to.

New Clause X brought up (Mr *Vincent*) and read the First time as follows:—

X. Section 9 amended (Parliament may disallow proposed housing land supply orders and amendments)

Section 9 of the Principal Act is amended as follows:

- (a) by omitting from subsection (1)(b) “not been disallowed by a” and substituting “been approved by each”;
- (b) by omitting subsection (4) and substituting the following subsection:
 - (4) If a proposed order has been laid before a House of Parliament under subsection (2), the House is taken to approve the proposed order if –
 - (c) the House passes a motion approving the proposed order; or
 - (d) within 5 sitting-days after the order has been so laid before the House, the House has not disallowed the proposed order.

Read the Second time and made part of the Bill (to follow Clause 11).

New Clause Y brought up (Mr *Vincent*) and read the First time as follows:—

Y. Section 13B inserted

After section 13A of the Principal Act, the following section is inserted into Division 2 of Part 2:

13B. Notice to be given if certain orders are made

- (1) If, after complying with the requirements of section 10 in relation to a proposed order, the Minister makes the order under section 4(1) or section 8(1), the Minister must ensure that a notice is published, on the website operated by or on behalf of the Department, that –
 - (a) specifies the reasons why the Minister made the order; and
 - (b) specifies the grounds on which the Minister is satisfied that the order does not contravene section 5(2) or section 6(1) or (2), if relevant; and
 - (c) includes a copy of –
 - (i) each submission made under section 13(1) in relation to the order; and
 - (ii) the Minister’s response in respect of each such submission; and

- (d) if the order was altered between consultation under section 10(2), includes a statement as to –
- (i) how, and why, the order was altered; and
 - (ii) whether the order so altered was publicly exhibited in accordance with section 12.

- (2) The information published, on a website as required under subsection (1), in respect of a housing land supply order is to remain available for viewing by members of the public for a period of at least 6 months after the order was made.

Read the Second time and made part of the Bill (to follow Clause 14).

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with Amendments.

The Council being resumed, Ms *Forrest* reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and directed her to report the same to the Council with Amendments.

Ordered, That the consideration of the Bill as amended in Committee be made an Order of the Day for tomorrow. (Mr *Vincent*)

15 BILL NO. 29.— The Order of the Day was read for the Second reading of the Sentencing Amendment (Publication of Criminal Activity) Bill 2026.

A Motion was made (Ms *Rattray*), and the Question was proposed, That the Bill be now read the Second time.

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

And the Bill was, accordingly, read the Second time and committed to a Committee of the Whole Council.

And the President having left the Chair, the Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

(In the Committee)

Ms *Forrest* in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 6 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without Amendment.

The Council being resumed, Ms *Forrest* reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and directed her to report the same to the Council without Amendment.

Ordered, That the Third reading of the Bill be made an Order of the Day for tomorrow. (Ms *Rattray*)

16 ADJOURNMENT.— A Motion was made (Ms *Rattray*) and the Question was proposed, That the Council will at its rising adjourn until 9.30 o'clock am on Friday, 11 September 2026.

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

Resolved, That the Council do now adjourn. (Ms Rattray)

The Council adjourned at 5.52 o'clock p.m.

C.L. VICKERS, *Clerk of the Council*.

Briefings:

- *Housing Land Supply (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2026*