



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SESSION OF 2024 - 2025

(FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FIRST PARLIAMENT)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 40

TUESDAY, 1 APRIL 2025

UNCORRECTED PROOF

- 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.**— The President read Prayers.
- 4 PAPERS.**— The Clerk of the Council laid upon the Table the following Papers:—
 - (1) Office of the Tasmanian Economic Regulator: Energy in Tasmania Report 2023-2024.
 - (2) *Firearms Act 1996*: Statutory Rules 2024, No. 74, Firearms Amendment Regulations 2024.
 - (3) *Police Offences Act 1935*: Statutory Rules 2024, No. 75, Police Offences Regulations 2024.
 - (4) *Electoral Act 2004*: Statutory Rules 2025, No. 3, Electoral Regulations 2025.
 - (5) *Nature Conservation Act 2002*: Statutory Rules 2025, draft Proclamation Under the Nature Conservation Act 2002.
 - (6) Gene Technology Amendment (Minor Measures) Regulations 2025 of the Commonwealth.
 - (7) *Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022*: Waste and Resource Recovery (Exclusion of Engineered Stone) Order 2024: Excluding engineered stone from Part 3 of the Waste and Resource Recovery Act 2022.
 - (8) Clarence City Council: Local Highways Standard Requirements By-Law No. 1 of 2025.
 - (9) Sorell Council: Public Places By-Law No. 1 of 2025.
 - (10) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising area of land containing 170.0 m² situate in the Parish of Carrick, Land District of Westmorland. Illawarra Main Road – Perth to Bass Highway. Municipal Area of Meander Valley.
 - (11) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising area of land containing 208.0 m² situate in the Parish of Carrick, Land District of Westmorland. Illawarra Main Road – Perth to Bass Highway. Municipal Area of Meander Valley.
 - (12) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising area of land containing 3586.0 m² situate in the Parish of Carrick, Land District of Westmorland. Illawarra Main Road – Perth to Bass Highway. Municipal Area of Meander Valley.
 - (13) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising area of land containing 3908.0 m² situate in the Parish of Carrick, Land District of Westmorland. Illawarra Main Road – Perth to Bass Highway. Municipal Area of Meander Valley.

- (14) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising area of land containing 5700.0 m² situate in the Parish of Carrick, Land District of Westmorland. Illawarra Main Road – Perth to Bass Highway. Municipal Area of Meander Valley.
- (15) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising area of land containing 6426.0 m² situate in the Parish of Carrick, Land District of Westmorland. Illawarra Main Road – Perth to Bass Highway. Municipal Area of Meander Valley.
- (16) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising area of land containing 8190.0 m² situate in the Parish of Carrick, Land District of Westmorland. Illawarra Main Road – Perth to Bass Highway. Municipal Area of Meander Valley.
- (17) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising areas of land containing 1.81 ha, 3.321 ha, and 323.0 m² situate in the Parish of Carrick, Land District of Westmorland. Illawarra Main Road – Perth to Bass Highway. Municipal Area of Meander Valley.
- (18) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising area of land containing 2033.0 m² situate in the Parish of Cranbourne, Land District of Dorset. Heavy Vehicle Rest Area – East Tamar Highway/Bridport Main Road Junction. Municipal Area of George Town.

5 REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.— Mr *Edmunds* presented a Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts on the University of Tasmania’s Financial Position.

Ordered, That the Report be received. (Mr *Edmunds*)

Ordered, That the Report be printed. (Mr *Edmunds*)

Ordered, That consideration of the Report and its noting be made an Order of the Day for Tuesday next. (Mr *Edmunds*)

6 RESIGNATION OF SENATOR ANNE URQUHART: A LETTER FROM HER EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.— The President said:—

“Honourable Members, I have received a letter from Her Excellency the Governor which reads as follows:

28 March 2025

The Honourable Craig Farrell MLC
President of the Legislative Council
Parliament House
HOBART TAS 7000

Dear President

I enclose a copy of a letter I have received from the President of the Senate notifying me that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 21 of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution, a vacancy has occurred on 28 March 2025 in the representation of the State of Tasmania as a result of the resignation of Senator Anne Urquhart.

I have also written to the Premier and the Speaker of the House of Assembly to advise them of the vacancy.

Yours sincerely

Barbara Baker
Governor”

Letter from Parliament House, Canberra read as follows:—

“Her Excellency the Honourable Barbara Baker AC
Governor of Tasmania
Government House
HOBART TAS 7000

Your Excellency,

Pursuant to the provisions of section 21 of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution, I notify Your Excellency there is a vacancy in the representation of the State of Tasmania through the resignation of Senator Anne Urquhart on Friday 28 March 2025.

Yours sincerely

Senator Sue Lines
President of the Senate

28 March 2025”

7 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE.— *Ordered*, That Mrs *Hiscutt* have leave to move a Motion without Notice.

8 LEAVE OF ABSENCE.— *Ordered*, That the Honourable Member for Murchison, (Ms *Forrest*) be granted leave of absence from the service of the Council for this week’s sitting. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

9 STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT – WELCOME TO NEW STAFF MEMBER.— The President said:—

“Honourable Members, before proceeding to the business of the day it is with pleasure that I formally and very warmly welcome a recent addition to the staff of the Legislative Council, Ms Melissa Hill.

Melissa commenced in the role of Electorate Officer to the Member for Rosevears on 11 March 2025. Melissa has extensive experience working within Tasmania’s Education system, most recently having worked as School Business Manager at East Tamar Primary School.

This background has provided Melissa with a keen interest in assisting those in the local community. Melissa’s experience, combined with her clear respect and care for the community will make her an asset for the Member for the Rosevears, as well the Legislative Council.

Melissa will be observing proceedings in the Legislative Council today as part of her orientation to the Council. On behalf of all Members I extend Melissa a very warm welcome.”

10 SPECIAL INTEREST MATTERS.— The President advised the Chamber of three Members who had indicated their desire to speak:—

- (1) Ms *Webb* – Blackmans Bay Edible Garden Trail;
- (2) Ms *Lovell* – Tasmanian Bike Collective; and
- (3) Ms *O’Connor* – The Streets People Love in Hobart.

At the conclusion of Special Interest Matters the Council proceeded to Orders of the Day.

11 TASMANIAN PORTS CORPORATION PTY. LTD. ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024.— A Motion was made (Ms *Armitage*) and the Question was proposed, That the Tasmanian Ports Corporation Pty. Ltd. Annual Report 2023-2024, be considered and noted.

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

12 REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE *UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA ACT 1992*.— A Motion was made (Ms *Webb*) and the Question was proposed, That the Final Report of the Select Committee Inquiry into the Provisions of the *University of Tasmania Act 1992* be considered and noted.

A Debate arose thereupon.

13 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.

14 QUESTION TIME.— The President called for Questions without Notice. There were ten Questions asked.

Ordered, That Ms *Palmer* have leave to Table and incorporate into the Hansard record a table outlining the Department of Education, Children and Young People's 2025 Capital Priority Rankings.

15 REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE *UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA ACT 1992*.— The Council resumed the Debate on the Question, That the Final Report of the Select Committee Inquiry into the Provisions of the *University of Tasmania Act 1992* be considered and noted.

16 SITTING SUSPENDED. — It being 4.00 o'clock p.m. the Sitting of the Council was suspended.

The Council resumed the Sitting at 4.30 o'clock p.m.

17 REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE *UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA ACT 1992*.— The Council resumed the Debate on the Question, That the Final Report of the Select Committee Inquiry into the Provisions of the *University of Tasmania Act 1992* be considered and noted.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

18 PRIVATISATION OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS ENTERPRISES.— A Motion was made (Ms *O'Connor*) and the Question was proposed, That the Council:

- (1) Notes the stated intention of the Rockliff minority government to privatise Government Business Enterprises (GBEs) and State-Owned Companies (SOCs), with only Hydro Tasmania excluded from possible sale.
- (2) Recognises this means the potential sale of TasNetworks Pty Ltd, Aurora Energy Pty Ltd, Tasmanian Irrigation Pty Ltd, Metro Tasmania Pty Ltd, TasPorts Pty Ltd, Tasmanian Railway Pty Ltd, TasRacing Pty Ltd, TT-Line Company Pty Ltd, Forestry Tasmania Pty Ltd, the Motor Accidents Insurance Board, Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority, Tasmanian Public Finance Corporation, and the Public Trustee.
- (3) Agrees these GBEs and SOC's have been built up by generations of Tasmanians and are owned by the people of Tasmania.
- (4) Further notes this massive privatisation agenda was not taken to the 2024 State Election, nor included in the Tasmanian Liberals 2030 Strong Plan.
- (5) Agrees, the Rockliff minority government has no mandate for its privatisation agenda.

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put,
It was resolved in the Affirmative.

19 BILL NO. 55 OF 2024.— The Electoral Disclosure and Funding (Donation Disclosure) Bill 2024 was read the Third time and passed.

20 BILL NO. 55 OF 2024.— 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 *Electoral Disclosure and Funding Act 2023*’.

Legislative Council, 1 April 2025

C.M. FARRELL, *President*

21 BILL NO. 3.— A Message from the House of Assembly:—

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly hath passed a Bill, intituled — ‘A Bill for an Act to amend the *Police Offences Act 1935* and the *Police Offences Regulations 2024*’,

to which the House desires the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

House of Assembly, 1 April 2025

MICHELLE O’BYRNE, *Speaker*

The Bill was read the First time.

Ordered, That the Third reading of the Bill be made an Order of the Day for Tuesday next.
(Mrs *Hiscutt*)

22 ADJOURNMENT.— *Resolved*, That the Council will, at its rising adjourn until 11.00 o’clock a.m. on Wednesday, 2 April 2025. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

Resolved, That the Council do now adjourn. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

The Council adjourned at 7.23 o’clock p.m.

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