Tuesday, 24 November 2026

11.00 am

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Acknowledgement of Traditional People

Prayers and Reflection

Petitions

Notice of Question

Notice of Motion

Answers to Questions

Tabling of Papers

Message from Government House

Special Interest Matters

Notices of Motion Nos. 15, 18 and Orders of the Day Nos. 1, 3 & 7

Notices of Motion

15 Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG) Herbarium Cuts

Given by: Ms *Webb*
Date: 28 October 2026

To be moved:

That the Legislative Council:

(1) Notes with concern the Tasmanian government's intention to cut resourcing and staffing of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG) which holds internationally significant natural history collections, including vital educational, interpretative, promotional and senior curatorial roles;

(2) Acknowledges the considerable alarm and disbelief expressed by many in the Tasmanian scientific, cultural history and broader communities in response to the news of the threatened government funding cuts;

(3) Notes the range of urgent representations from local, interstate and international university-based and other professional research institutions expressing significant alarm over the proposed cuts and the impacts they will have on established research projects underway, the health and viability of the TMAG

collections, current and future research and capacity, and the reputational damage to Tasmania;

(4) Acknowledges TMAG's collections management is not a passive administrative task but instead requires skilled and continual high-level research, classification and maintenance;

(5) Notes the government's intended staffing and resourcing cuts risks jeopardising the integrity of the TMAG collections and public assets, and also endangers:
   (a) The collections' security and conservation due to inadequate oversight accelerating the physical degradation of vulnerable, unique and irreplaceable type specimens;
   (b) Current and future research throughput as the absence of dedicated research risks collection stagnation, reduced active loans and innovation collaboration, exchanges, and cross-regional biosecurity support;
   (c) Capacity to meet statutory obligations as set out in section 5 'Institutional objectives' of the *Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery Act 2017*;
   (d) Tasmania's access to vital skills, knowledge and expertise.

Further, that the Legislative Council notes the motion passed at the Friends of TMAG public meeting of the 8th of October, and calls on the government to:

(6) Immediately reverse the intended job cuts at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery;

(7) Retain the skilled staff who care for and interpret Tasmania's TMAG state collections;

(8) Commit to providing TMAG with the secure, long-term funding needed to fulfil its public, cultural, scientific and legal responsibilities; and

(9) Reflect the long-term funding commitment in the 2027-28 state budget and forward estimates.

18 Midwives Homebirth Professional Indemnity Insurance Exemption

Given by: Ms *Forrest*
Date: 17 November 2026

To be moved:

(1) That the Legislative Council notes:
   (a) the exemption that enables privately practising midwives to attend homebirths without professional indemnity insurance ends on 31 December 2026;
   (b) the only insurance product available is for endorsed midwives, and fewer than five per cent of midwives are endorsed;
   (c) every homebirth needs a second midwife, and that midwife is usually not endorsed, so up to a third of Australia's private midwives who offer homebirth, may leave the profession;
   (d) that Tasmania is the only state without a publicly funded homebirth program, so private midwives are the only option for Tasmanian women who want to give birth at home with registered health professionals; and
   (e) losing these midwives will limit women's birthing choices, especially in rural and regional areas, and increase the risk of birth without a registered health professional attending.

(2) That the Legislative Council calls on the Tasmanian Minister for Health to urge the Australian Government to urgently extend the exemption so registered midwives can keep attending homebirths as second midwives from 1 January

2027, and to put in place a permanent, affordable insurance solution by the end of 2027.

Orders of the Day Nos. 1, 3 & 7

1 **Follow-up of the Report of the Auditor-General - Expressions of Interest for Tourism Investment Opportunities (No. 3 of 2020-2021)**
Mover: Ms *Forrest*
Date: Report tabled and made an Order of the Day on 1 September 2026
Status: Report to be considered and noted

3 **Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts Follow-up of the Report of the Auditor-General Improving Outcomes for Tasmanian Senior Secondary Students (No. 1 of 2022-2023)**
Mover: Ms *Forrest*
Date: Report tabled and made an Order of the Day on 3 September 2026
Status: Report to be considered and noted

7 **Conversion Practices Prohibition Bill 2026 (45 of 2026)**
Mover: Ms *O'Connor*
Date: Read a second time on 19 November 2026
Status: Awaiting Consideration of Bill in Committee of Whole Council

Question Time 2.30 pm

Notices of Motion and Orders of the Day continued

Adjournment

C L VICKERS
Clerk of the Council