

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE 'B'

Thursday, 28 May 2026

The Committee met in the Long Room, Parliament House at 9:21 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)
Mr Bayley
Mr Willie (Deputy Chair)

APOLOGIES:

Prof Razay

TRANSFER OF OUTPUTS TO ESTIMATES COMMITTEE 'A'

Ordered, That in accordance with the information contained in the budget documentation tabled in the House on 21 May 2026, the relevant Ministerial portfolio outputs be referred to the relevant stakeholder Minister for examination by the relevant Estimates Committee (Mr Bayley).

MESSAGE TO HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ESTIMATES COMMITTEE A

House of Assembly Estimates Committee B has passed the following Resolution: -

Resolved, That in accordance with the information contained in the budget documentation tabled in the House on 21 May 2026, the relevant Ministerial portfolio outputs be referred to the relevant stakeholder Minister for examination by the relevant Estimates Committee.

28 May 2026
Parliament House
Hobart.

Mr Rob Fairs MP
Chair – Committee B

ORDER FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF ESTIMATES

The Committee deliberated upon the order for the consideration of relevant estimates contained in the Appropriation (No. 2) Bill.

Ordered, That the Secretary advise:

- (a) The Office of the Ombudsman, Office of the Integrity Commission and Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions that they are required to attend forty-five minutes before examination of the Estimates of the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice concludes; (Mr Fairs).

At 9:25 a.m. the Committee adjourned till 9 a.m., Monday, 1 June next.

Confirmed:

Date: 16/06/26

Chair: 

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE 'B'

Monday, 1 June 2026

The Committee met in Committee Room 1, Parliament House at 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr *Fairs* (Chair)
Ms *Finlay* (substitute for Mr *Willie*)
Mr *Bayley*
Prof *Razay*

Also at the Table:

Mr *Winter*
Mr *Shelton*
Mr *Garland*

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND RENEWABLES, MINISTER FOR SPORT, AND MINISTER FOR PARKS

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND RENEWABLES

DIVISION 11: DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

OUTPUT 7.1

WITNESSES: -

Hon. *Nick Duigan* MLC

Department of State Growth:

Shane Gregory, Acting Secretary
Vanessa Pinto, Acting Deputy Secretary, ReCFIT and Resources
Sean Terry, Executive Director, Energy

Overview of Portfolio activities commenced.

At 9.12 a.m. Mr *Winter* withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

Suspension of sitting 10.30 a.m. to 10.39 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr *Fairs* (Chair)
Ms *Finlay* (substitute for Mr *Willie*)
Mr *Bayley*
Prof *Razay*

Also at the Table:

Mr *Shelton*

Mr Garland

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 11.44 a.m. Mr Bayley withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 11.46 a.m. Mr Bayley returned to the Table.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

The time for the examination of this Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 12.09 p.m. to 1.00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)

Mr Winter (substitute for Mr Willie)

Mr Bayley

Prof Razay

Also at the Table:

Mr Shelton

Ms Finlay

Ms Burnet

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR SPORT

DIVISION 11: DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

OUTPUT 5.6

WITNESSES: -

Hon. Nick Duigan MLC

Department of State Growth:

Shane Gregory, Acting Secretary

Brett Stewart, Deputy Secretary, Creative Industries, Sport, and Visitor Economy

Stadiums Tasmania:

James Avery, Chief Executive Officer

Overview of Portfolio activities commenced.

At 1.30 p.m. Ms Finlay withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

The Chair made a ruling regarding the relevancy of questions to the Minister.

Mr Bayley dissented from the Chair's ruling that the question was not relevant.

The Chair said:

'In accordance with the resolution agreed to by the House, any dissent to a ruling of the Chair must be taken at once and stated in writing.

While the resolution enables the Committee to continue to meet but may not further examine the output under consideration. This is difficult when the Committee is on overview.

Accordingly, I will suspend the sitting to advise the Speaker who will make a ruling on the matter.'

Suspension of sitting 1.44 p.m. to 2.04 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)
Mr Winter (substitute for Mr Willie)
Mr Bayley
Prof Razay

Also at the Table:
Ms Burnet
Ms Finlay

Having reported the dissent to the Speaker, the Chair of the Committee made the following statement:

"In response to my earlier ruling and the dissent moved by the Hon Member for Clark, Mr Bayley, the Speaker has given the following ruling:

'This year the order of the House establishing the Estimates committees included a new provision:

"Questions must be relevant to the portfolio and outputs of a particular session. Ministers must also be relevant to the question asked, and at the discretion of the Chair, the committee may move to a new question if the Minister is not deemed to be relevant to the question asked."

In relation to the Premier, as Leader of the Government, he is able to be questioned on any matter relating to the governance of the State by the Executive, as is the case in Question Time in the House.

It is not the intention of the Chair to attempt to prevent continuation of the broad ranging examination, but the matter of relevancy does need to be considered, particularly in light of the new provision in the order.

As is the practice, if there are unresolved matters in the opinion of members, these can be raised as 'matter of concern' in the Committee's report."

Examination of the overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 2.26 p.m. Mr Di Falco came to the Table.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 2.28 p.m. Ms Burnet withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 2.29 p.m. Mr Winter withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

The time for the examination of this Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 2.30 p.m. to 2.35 p.m.

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR PARKS

DIVISION 8: DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA

Output Group 1 & Output Group 4.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)

Ms Finlay (substitute for Mr Willie)

Ms Badger (substitute for Mr Bayley)

Also at the Table:

Mr Shelton

Mr Di Falco

WITNESSES: -

Hon. Nick Duigan MLC

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania:

Jason Jacobi, Secretary

Sophie Muller, Deputy Secretary, Parks and Wildlife Service

Danielle Poirier, Director Major Projects and Infrastructure, Parks and Wildlife Service

Deidre Wilson, Acting Operations Officer

Overview of Portfolio activities commenced.

At 3.13 p.m. Mr Shelton withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 3.16 p.m. Mr Shelton returned to the Table.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

Papers: - The Minister for Parks tabled the following document:

Table of existing and proposed new recreational deer hunting areas.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

The time for the examination of this Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The following additional information was requested:

Energy and Renewables:

1. Please provide the Hydro Tasmania advice regarding its future dividend forecasts outlined in the budget and the basis for those projections.
2. Please provide details of the response to the EOI process regarding the Hampshire Hills to Burnie transmission line?
 - a. What are the triggers that would see the \$50 million Government commitment to underwrite the project?
 - b. What are the 'conditions' as mentioned in the Budget Papers for a government investment in this transmission line?


Sport:

1. What is the breakdown of the spending on AFL versus other sporting codes per region over 2026-27 to 2029-30.

At 4:35 p.m. the Committee adjourned till 8:30 a.m., Tuesday, 2 June next.

Confirmed:

Date: 16/06/26

Chair: 

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE 'B'

Tuesday, 2 June 2026

The Committee met in Committee Room 1, Parliament House at 8.30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)
Dr Woodruff (substitute for Mr Bayley)
Ms Haddad (substitute for Mr Willie)
Prof Razay

Also at the Table:

Mr Ferguson
Ms Butler
Ms Burnet
Mr George

ESTIMATES OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL, MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION, MINISTER FOR SMALL BUSINESS, TRADE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

ESTIMATES OF THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL

DIVISION 6: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

APPROPRIATION BILL No.2:

- – SCHEDULE 1, PART 2, INTEGRITY COMMISSION
- – SCHEDULE 1, PART 5, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS
- – SCHEDULE 1, PART 7, OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN

WITNESSES: -

Hon. Guy Barnett MP

Department of Justice:

Kristy Bourne, Secretary

Pauline van Adrichem, Deputy Secretary, Justice and Reform

Integrity Commission

Ellen McKenzie, CEO

Karen Kingswell, Director Corporate Services

Office of the Ombudsman:

Dr Grant Davies, Ombudsman

Natasha Freeman, Deputy Ombudsman

Department of Public Prosecutions:

Daryl Coates, Director of Public Prosecutions

The Chair made the following statement:

“It has been brought to my attention that a media release was issued by the Honourable Member for Clark, Ms Haddad yesterday following my ruling, which was upheld by the Speaker, with the media release implying that the ruling was part of a “cover up”.

As is the practice of the House, it is not in order to reflect on the ruling of the Chair or Speaker in this way.

While Ms Haddad is not a substantive Member of this Committee, I caution all Members that such reflections are in breach of the rules of the House and something the Speaker may address when the House resumes.

In accordance with the practice of the House, I ask *Ms Haddad* to withdraw the comment.”

Ms Haddad withdrew her statement.

The Chair continued.

“I take this opportunity to remind Members of the new provision in the Order establishing estimates committees that was agreed to by the House, that states in Clause (8) Proceedings of an Estimates Committee, that “Questions must be relevant to the portfolio and outputs of a particular session.”

I have a copy of the Order here for Members, so that they can note the Clause.”

Overview of Portfolio activities commenced at 8.31 a.m.

Suspension of sitting 10.00 a.m. to 10.10 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)
Ms Haddad (substitute for *Mr Willie*)
Dr Woodruff (substitute for *Mr Bayley*)
Prof Razay

Also at the Table:

Mr Ferguson
Ms Butler
Ms Burnet
Mr George

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

The time for the examination of this Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 11.10 a.m. to 11.17 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr *Fairs* (Chair)
Ms *Butler* (substitute for Mr *Willie*)
Ms *Rosol* (substitute for Mr *Bayley*)
Prof *Razay*

Also at the Table:

Mr *George*
Mr *Ferguson*
Ms *Burnet*
Ms *Haddad*

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION

DIVISION 6: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WITNESSES: -

Hon. *Guy Barnett* MP

Department of Justice:

Kristy Bourne, Secretary
Colin Shepherd, Deputy Secretary, Corrective Services
Robyn Pearce, Deputy Secretary, Regulation and Service Delivery
Gavin Wailes, Director, Finance
Narelle Pamplin, Director of Prisons
Wayne Johnson, Director, Monetary Penalties Enforcement Service

Overview of Portfolio activities commenced.

At 12.03 p.m. Prof *Razay* withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 12.05 p.m. Mr *Ferguson* withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 12.07 p.m. Mr *George* withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 12.08 p.m. Mr *Ferguson* returned to the table.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 12.10 p.m. Mr *George* returned to the table.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 12.27 p.m. Ms *Burnet* withdrew.

The time for the examination of this Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 12.47 p.m. to 1.30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)
Ms Broad (substitute for Mr Willie)
Ms Badger (substitute for Mr Bayley)
Prof Razay

Also at the Table:

Mr Mitchell
Mr Garland
Ms Burnet
Mr Ferguson
Mr George

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR SMALL BUSINESS, TRADE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

DIVISION 6: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OUTPUT GROUP 4.1 & 4.3

DIVISION 11: DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

OUTPUT GROUP 1.3

WITNESSES: -

Hon. Guy Barnett MP

Department of Justice:

Kristy Bourne, Secretary
Robyn Pearce, Acting Deputy Secretary, Regulation Service and Delivery Services
Brad Wagg, Acting Executive Director, Consumer, Building and Occupational
Services

Department of State Growth:

Michael Mogridge, Deputy Secretary, Economic Development
Cameron Shield, Senior Director, Trade

Overview of Portfolio activities commenced.

At 2:53 p.m. Ms Burnet withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 2:56 p.m. Mr Garland withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

The time for the examination of this Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 3.00 p.m. to 3.08 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)
Ms Finlay (substitute for Mr Willie)
Dr Woodruff (substitute for Mr Bayley)
Prof Razay

Also at the Table:

Ms Butler
Mr Garland
Mr George
Mr Ferguson
Mr Di Falco

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND WATER, MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND WATER

**DIVISION 8: DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA
OUTPUT GROUP 2, 3 & 7.3**

WITNESSES: -

Hon. Gavin Pearce MP

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania:

Jason Jacobi, Secretary
Mandy Clarke, Assistant Deputy Secretary, Primary Industries and Water
David Midson, General Manager (Marine Resources Tasmania)
Ryan Wilkinson, Director, Inland Fisheries Services
Deborah McSweyn, Acting Chief Veterinary Officer
Rae Burrows, General Manager (Biosecurity Tasmania)
Dr. Susanna Driessen, Chief Plant Protection Officer (Biosecurity Tasmania)
Caroline Atkinson, Director (Water)
Jo Crisp, General Manager (Environment)
Ashley Bastock, General Manager (Agriculture and Water)

Overview of Portfolio activities commenced.

At 4.22 p.m. Mr George withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 4.27 p.m. Mr George returned to the Table.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 4.29 p.m. Mr Ferguson withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

Suspension of sitting 4.30 p.m. to 4.43 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr *Fairs* (Chair)
Ms *Finlay* (substitute for Mr *Willie*)
Dr *Woodruff* (substitute for Mr *Bayley*)
Prof *Razay*

Also at the Table:

Ms *Butler*
Mr *Garland*
Mr *George*
Mr *Ferguson*
Mr *Di Falco*

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 5.26 p.m. Dr *Woodruff* withdrew and was replaced by Ms *Badger*.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 5.53 p.m. Mr *Ferguson* withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 5.55 p.m. Ms *Butler* withdrew and Mr *Ferguson* returned to the Table.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 6.11 p.m. Prof *Razay* withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 6.15 p.m. Ms *Butler* returned to the Table.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 7.01 p.m. Mr *George* withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued and concluded.

The time for the examination of this Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 7.21 p.m. to 7.27 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr *Fairs* (Chair)
Ms *Butler* (substitute for Mr *Willie*)
Mr *Bayley*
Prof *Razay*

Also at the Table:

Mr *Ferguson*
Ms *Finlay*

MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS

DIVISION 10: DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET OUTPUT 1.5

WITNESSES: -

Hon. *Gavin Pearce MP*

Department of Premier and Cabinet:

Mellissa Gray, Deputy Secretary, Policy and Reform

Jodi Willcox, Executive Director, Policy and Intergovernmental

Overview of Portfolio activities commenced.

At 7.36 p.m. Ms *Finlay* withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued and concluded.

The time for the examination of this Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The following additional information was requested:

Attorney-General:

1. The Victims of Crime service team do a wonderful job supporting victims. However, in order to provide timely support, the team need to be aware of a case, or the victim of a crime needs to be asked if they would like to be proactively approached. Can the review into the framework examine this?
2. How much has been spent by the Integrity Commission on legal expenses in the years 2021/2022 and 2022/2023?
3. Of the legal matters for which Integrity Commission monies were spent in each of the years 21/22, 22/23, 23/24, and 25/26 (year to date), how much in each year was spent on:
 - a. Assessment of complaints under section 35 of the Integrity Commission Act, or
 - b. An investigation under Part 6 of the Integrity Commission Act?
4. How many current members of the Tasmanian Parliament are currently under investigation by the Integrity Commission?
5. In cases where Integrity Commission matters have reached the Supreme Court of Tasmania, has the Integrity Commission ever been the party to seek the suppression order?
6. Have any matters for which legal monies were expended in the years 21/22, 22/23, 23/24, 25/26 (year to date), been in relation to a section 92 of the Integrity Commission Act complaint, and if so, when did such matter commence?
7. Without identifying any individual, has the Integrity Commission been unable publish a report due to legal proceedings?

8. Old annual reports of the Integrity Commission have detailed that the authorities' investigations Loyetea and Olegas were about members of parliament, but the current listing on the Commission's website does not – why is this the case, and can you correct it?

Justice, Rehabilitation and Corrections:

1. How many lockdowns were there across the Risdon Prison Complex in March 2026 and April 2026? How many of these were more than 4 hours? How many were more than 8 hours?
2. What percentage of the Tasmanian Prison Service Budget is spent on prisoners who have reoffended?
3. How many unfilled shifts have there been in Tasmanian Prison Service in 2025-2026?
4. How many appointments for health and rehabilitation programs have been cancelled as a result of lockdowns in 2025-2026?

Small Business, Trade and Consumer Affairs:

1. How much staff turnover has there been at the Consumer Building and Occupational Services section that handles building disputes and has this resulted in cases not being proceeded against?
2. Why hasn't Golden Homes been investigated by the Consumer Building and Occupational Services when complaints were first made given the director's history and being later found to have insufficient assets to cover liabilities since inception by the SV Parters' report?
3. Since 2005, how many complaints, notifications, investigation or other reports concerning respirable silica exposure at the Tasmanian Advanced Minerals facility have been received by WorkSafe Tasmania, what enforcement action resulted from those matters, and have you, at any time as Minister in this or any related portfolio, received any written or verbal communications that one or more workers had been formally notified by the company that they had been exposed to airborne silica dust or respirable crystalline silica; and if so, when were you informed?

Primary industries and Water:

1. Please provide the quota numbers of abalone, scallop, rock lobster, scalefish, game and pelagic fish, shellfish; the unit of measure, quota units, fishing licence processing, time target and actual numbers for;
 - a. 2025-26;
 - b. 2024-25;
 - c. 2023-24; and
 - d. 2022-24,by quota units; by species; and by region.
2. Will the Minister give a clear commitment that the Government will review the Geelong-Devonport pathway as a matter of urgency and advise industry in writing of the additional measures being taken.

3. What is the status of outstanding (11) recommendations, of the Independent Review of Tasmania's Water Accountability Framework?

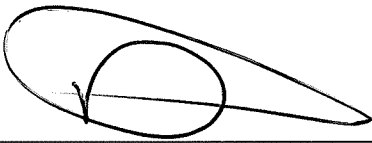
Veterans' Affairs:

1. How much funding was provided to the Tasmanian Government from the Federal Government to support veteran employment services through the outcome of the Royal Commission into Veterans deaths and suicides? When was this funding provided?

At 8:27 p.m. the Committee adjourned till 8:00 a.m., Wednesday 3 June next.

Confirmed:

Date: 16/06/26

Chair:  _____

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE 'B'

Wednesday, 3 June 2026

The Committee met in Committee Room 1, Parliament House at 8.00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)
Mr Willie
Mr Bayley
Prof Razay

Also at the Table:

Ms Haddad
Mr Ferguson
Mr George

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, MINISTER FOR DISABILITY SERVICES, AND THE MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

DIVISION 2: DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

WITNESSES: -

Hon. *Jo Palmer* MLC

Department for Education, Children and Young People:

Ginna Webster, Secretary

Kane Salter, Deputy Secretary, Business Operations and Support

Jodee Wilson, Deputy Secretary, Development and Support

Jenny Burgess, Deputy Secretary, Strategy and Performance

David Tilley, Director, Education Regulation

Patrick Gregory, Executive Director, Libraries Tasmania

Cameron Dinnessen, Acting Deputy Secretary, People and Culture

Trudy Pearce, Deputy Secretary, Schools and Early Years

Overview of Portfolio activities commenced.

At 8.08 a.m. *Prof Razay* came to the Table.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 9.28 a.m. *Mr Bayley* withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 9.30 a.m. *Mr Bayley* came to the Table.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 9.42 a.m. Ms *Haddad* withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 9.45 a.m. Ms *Haddad* came to the Table.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

Suspension of sitting 9.58 a.m. to 10.07 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr *Fairs* (Chair)

Mr *Willie*

Mr *Bayley*

Prof *Razay*

Also at the Table:

Ms *Haddad*

Mr *Ferguson*

Mr *George*

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 10.39 a.m. Mr *Ferguson* withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 10.40 a.m. Mr *Vermey* came to the Table.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued and concluded.

The time for the examination of this Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 11.09 a.m. to 11.15 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr *Fairs* (Chair)

Mrs *Greene* (substitute for Mr *Willie*)

Ms *Rosol* (substitute for Mr *Bayley*)

Prof *Razay*

Also at the Table:

Mr *George*

Mr *Vermey*

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR DISABILITY SERVICES

DIVISION 10: DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET

Outputs 1.7, 1.8 and 1.10

WITNESSES: -

Hon. *Jo Palmer* MLC

Department of Premier and Cabinet:

Mellisa Gray, Deputy Secretary, Policy and Reform

Ingrid Ganley, Acting Executive Director, Disability and Reform

Examination of the Disability Services Portfolio commenced.

At 11.53 a.m. Mr George withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 11.55 a.m. Mr George returned to the Table.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 12.00 p.m. Mr Willie withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued.

At 12.15 p.m. Prof Razay withdrew.

Overview of Portfolio activities continued and concluded.

The time for the examination of the Disability Services Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 12.15 p.m. to 1.00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)

Mrs Greene (substitute for Mr Willie)

Ms Rosol (substitute for Mr Bayley)

Also at the Table:

Ms Brown

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

DIVISION 2: DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

WITNESSES: -

Hon. *Jo Palmer* MLC

Department for Education, Children and Young People:

Ginna Webster, Secretary

Peter Whitcombe, Deputy Secretary, Child Safety and Youth Justice Operations

Tiffany Black, Executive Director, Services for Children Youth and Families

Examination of the Children and Youth Portfolio commenced.

At 1.03 p.m. Prof Razay and Mr Ferguson came to the Table.

Examination of the Children and Youth Portfolio continued.

Suspension of sitting 2.28 p.m. to 2.36 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)
Mrs Greene (substitute for Mr Willie)
Ms Rosol (substitute for Mr Bayley)
Prof Razay

Also at the Table:

Ms Brown
Mr Ferguson

Examination of the Children and Youth Portfolio continued.

The time for the examination of this Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 4.08 p.m. to 4.14 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)
Mr Winter (substitute for Mr Willie)
Dr Woodruff (substitute for Mr Bayley)
Prof Razay

Also at the Table:

Mrs Greene
Ms Johnston
Mr Ferguson

ESTIMATES FOR THE MINISTER FOR RACING, THE MINISTER FOR WOMEN AND THE PREVENTION OF FAMILY VIOLENCE, MINISTER FOR TOURISM, HOSPITALITY AND EVENTS

ESTIMATES FOR THE MINISTER FOR RACING

DIVISION 8: DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA

WITNESSES: -

Hon Jane Howlett MP

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania:
Deidre Wilson, Deputy Secretary, Primary Industries and Water
Anita Yan, Deputy Chief Operations Officer
Sean Carroll, Tasmanian Racing Integrity Commissioner

Overview of Portfolio activities in relation to Racing commenced.

At 4.59 p.m. Mrs Greene withdrew.

Examination of the Racing Portfolio continued.

At 5.02 p.m. Prof Razay withdrew.

Examination of the Racing Portfolio continued.

At 5.39 p.m. Mr Ferguson withdrew.

Examination of the Racing Portfolio continued.

At 5.41 p.m. Mr Jaensch took a seat at the Table.

Examination of the Racing Portfolio continued and concluded.

The time for examination of the Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 6.14 p.m. to 6.21 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)

Ms Brown (substitute for Mr Willie)

Ms Badger (substitute for Mr Bayley)

Prof Razay

Also at the Table:

Ms Burnet

Mr Ferguson

Mr George

Mrs Greene

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR WOMEN AND THE PREVENTION OF FAMILY VIOLENCE

DIVISION 10: DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET

Output 1.4

WITNESSES: -

Hon Jane Howlett MP

Department of Premier and Cabinet:

Courtney Hurworth, Chief Reform Lead, Keeping Children Safe Reform Group

Tegan Dwyer, Assistant Director, Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence

Examination of Output 1.4 commenced.

At 6.54 p.m. Ms Burnet withdrew.

Examination of Output 1.4 continued.

The time for the examination of this Output having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 7.21 p.m. to 7.28 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr *Fairs* (Chair)
Ms *Dow* (substitute for Mr *Willie*)
Ms *Badger* (substitute for Mr *Bayley*)
Prof *Razay*

Also at the Table:

Mr *Ferguson*
Mr *George*
Mr *Di Falco*
Ms *Brown*

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR TOURISM, HOSPITALITY AND EVENTS

DIVISION 11: DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH

Output Group 5

DIVISION 12: TOURISM TASMANIA

Output Group 1

WITNESSES: -

Hon *Jane Howlett* MP

Department of State Growth:

Brett Stewart, Deputy Secretary, Creative Industries, Sport and Visitor Economy

Tourism Tasmania:

Sarah Kingston Clark, CEO

Examination of the relevant outputs commenced.

The time for the examination of these outputs having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The following additional information was requested:

Education:

1. Can you provide the six-monthly reports from the Literacy Outcomes Monitoring Group that haven't been uploaded to the government website?
The last update was December 2024.

Racing:

1. What is the number of greyhound trainers, with a breakdown of dogs per trainer?
2. Has the Sellenger Report been completed, or received by the Minister? When is the Sellenger Report due to be completed?


At 8.28 p.m. the Committee adjourned till 9:00 a.m. Thursday, 4 June next.

Confirmed:

Date:

16/06/26

Chair:



ESTIMATES COMMITTEE 'B'

Thursday, 4 June 2026

The Committee met in Committee Room 1, Parliament House at 9.00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)
Ms Finlay (substitute for Mr Willie)
Dr Woodruff (substitute for Mr Bayley)
Prof Razay

Also at the Table:

Mr Ferguson
Ms Burnet
Mr George
Mr Garland
Mr Mitchell

**ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, MINISTER FOR INNOVATION,
SCIENCE AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY, MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL
AFFAIRS, AND MINISTER FOR THE ARTS & HERITAGE**

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

DIVISION 3: ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

DIVISION 8: DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA

DIVISION 11: STATE GROWTH

WITNESSES: -

Hon. Eric Abetz MP

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania:

Jason Jacobi, Secretary

Louise Wilson, Deputy Secretary

Holly Mackey, Acting CEO, Tasmanian Waste and Resource Recovery Board

Environment Protection Authority:

Catherine Murdoch, CEO - Environment Protection Authority

Cindy Ong, Director, Environmental Regulation

ReCFIT (Climate Change)

Vanessa Pinto, Acting CEO, Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania

Dr Sarah Russell, Director, Climate Change

Examination of outputs in relation to the Environment Portfolio commenced.

Papers: - The Minister for the Environment tabled a document in relation to the Climate Change Action Plan.

Examination of outputs in relation to the Environment Portfolio continued.

At 10.24 a.m. Mr *Garland* withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 10.25 a.m. to 10.36 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr *Fairs* (Chair)
Ms *Finlay* (substitute for Mr *Willie*)
Dr *Woodruff* (substitute for Mr *Bayley*)
Prof *Razay*

Also at the Table:

Mr *Ferguson*
Ms *Burnet*
Mr *George*
Mr *Garland*
Mr *Mitchell*

Examination of outputs in relation to the Environment Portfolio continued.

At 10.58 a.m. Dr *Woodruff* withdrew.

Examination of outputs in relation to the Environment Portfolio continued.

At 11.00 a.m. Mr *Bayley* came to the Table.

Examination of outputs in relation to the Environment Portfolio continued.

At 11.02 a.m. Ms *Burnet* withdrew.

Examination of outputs in relation to the Environment Portfolio continued.

At 11.04 a.m. Ms *Burnet* came to the Table.

Examination of outputs in relation to the Environment Portfolio continued.

At 11.09 a.m. Mr *Garland* withdrew.

Examination of outputs in relation to the Environment Portfolio continued.

At 11.14 a.m. Mr *Garland* came to the Table.

Examination of outputs in relation to the Environment Portfolio continued.

At 11.22 a.m. Mr *George* withdrew.

Examination of outputs in relation to the Environment Portfolio continued.

At 11.30 a.m. Mr *Mitchell* withdrew.

Examination of outputs in relation to the Environment Portfolio continued.

At 11.56 a.m. Mr *George* came to the Table.

Examination of outputs in relation to the Environment Portfolio continued.

The time for the examination of Outputs relating to the Environment Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 12.41 p.m. to 1.30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr *Fairs* (Chair)
Ms *Finlay* (substitute for Mr *Willie*)
Ms *Badger* (substitute for Mr *Bayley*)
Prof *Razay*

Also at the Table:

Mrs *Greene*
Mr *George*
Mr *Ferguson*
Ms *Burnet*

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR INNOVATION, SCIENCE AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY

DIVISION 10: DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET

OUTPUT GROUP 3.1

WITNESSES: -

Hon. *Eric Abetz* MP

Department of State Growth:

Mike Mogridge, Deputy Secretary

Department of Premier and Cabinet:

Dr Justin Thurley, Chief Information Officer

Mathew Healey, Deputy Secretary, Strategy and Delivery

Examination of expenditure in relation to Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy commenced.

Papers: - The Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy tabled the following paper: -

Department of Premier and Cabinet, Digital Strategy Services, Digital Tasmania 2026-2031.

Examination of expenditure in relation to Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy continued.

At 2.21 p.m. Prof *Razay* withdrew.

Examination of expenditure in relation to Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy continued.

At 2.50 p.m. Ms *Burnet* withdrew.

Examination of expenditure in relation to Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy continued.

At 2.57 p.m. Prof *Razay* came to the Table.

Examination of expenditure in relation to Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy continued.

Papers: - The Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy tabled the following paper: -

Department of Premier and Cabinet, Digital Strategy Services, Data and Digital Government: Highlights for 2025-2026.

At 3.18 p.m. Ms *Finlay* withdrew.

Examination of expenditure in relation to Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy continued.

At 3.25 Ms *Brown* came to the Table.

The time for the examination of expenditure in relation to Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of Sitting 3.30 p.m. to 3.38 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr *Fairs* (Chair)
Mrs *Greene* (substitute for Mr *Willie*)
Ms *Rosol* (substitute for Mr *Bayley*)
Prof *Razay*

Also at the Table:

Mr *George*
Mr *Ferguson*
Ms *Brown*

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

DIVISION 10: DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET

OUTPUT GROUP 3.3

WITNESSES: -

Hon. *Eric Abetz* MP

Department of Premier and Cabinet:

Noelene Kelly, Deputy Secretary, Community and Government Services

Corrina Smith, Director, Community Services

Examination of activities in relation to Community and Cultural Affairs commenced.

At 4.00 p.m. Mr *Bayley* came to the table.

The examination of expenditure in relation to Community and Multicultural Affairs continued.

At 4.06 p.m. Ms *Johnston* came to the Table.

The examination of expenditure in relation to Community and Multicultural Affairs continued.

At 4.30 p.m. Ms *Johnston* withdrew.

The examination of expenditure in relation to Community and Multicultural Affairs continued.

At 4.31 p.m. Pro *Razay* withdrew.

The examination of expenditure in relation to Community and Multicultural Affairs continued.

At 4.44 p.m. Mr *George* withdrew.

The examination of expenditure in relation to Community and Multicultural Affairs continued.

The time for the examination of the expenditure in relation to Community and Multicultural Affairs having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

Suspension of sitting 5.08 p.m. to 5.14 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr *Fairs* (Chair)

Ms *Brown*

Mr *Bayley*

Also at the Table:

Mr *Vermey*

Mrs *Greene*

ESTIMATES OF THE MINISTER FOR THE ARTS & HERITAGE

DIVISION 8: DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT TASMANIA

OUTPUT 6.1

DIVISION 11: DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH.

OUTPUTS 5.1, 5.2 AND 5.3

WITNESSES: -

Hon. *Eric Abetz* MP

Department of State Growth (Arts):

Brett Stewart, Deputy Secretary

Dr Dave Sudmalis, Director, Creative Tasmania

Mary Mulchahy, CEO, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery

Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania (Heritage):

Jason Jacobi, Secretary

Will Joscelyne, General Manager, Heritage

Melissa Ford, Director, Heritage Tasmania

Examination of Outputs in relation to the Arts and Heritage Portfolio commenced.

At 5.15 p.m. Prof *Razay* came to the Table.

Examination of Outputs in relation to the Arts and Heritage Portfolio continued.

At 5.23 p.m. Mr *George* came to the Table.

Examination of Outputs in relation to the Arts and Heritage Portfolio continued.

At 5.57 p.m. Mr *Vermey* and Prof *Razay* left the Table.

Examination of Outputs in relation to the Arts and Heritage Portfolio continued.

Papers: - The Minister for Arts and Heritage tabled the following paper:

Curriculum vitae Hon Stephen Parry

Examination of Outputs in relation to the Arts and Heritage Portfolio continued.

At 6.02 p.m. Mr *Vermey* returned to the Table.

Examination of Outputs in relation to the Arts and Heritage Portfolio continued.

At 6.02 p.m. Mr *Vermey* withdrew.

Examination of Outputs in relation to the Arts and Heritage Portfolio continued.

At 6.06 p.m. Mr *Vermey* returned to the Table.

Examination of Outputs in relation to the Arts and Heritage Portfolio continued.

The time for the examination of the expenditure in relation to the Arts and Heritage Portfolio having expired.

The witnesses withdrew.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The following additional information was requested:

Environment:

1. What is the total budget allocation over the forward estimates, for monitoring and enforcement of air quality and dust regulation in Tasmania? What has been the total cost over the past 5 years? Are companies that emit dust required to pay for any of the monitoring that is involved?
2. What has been the total amount of annual fees, levies or cost-recovery charges paid by Tasmanian Advanced Minerals (TAM) to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), and do those payments fully recover the cost of the EPA's compliance, inspection and air-quality monitoring activities associated with the TAM facility?

3. Does the Government intend to respond to the Climate Change Action Report, and if so, when? And if not, why not?
4. Can you please explain the risk assessment released on 20 May 2026 relating to the salmon industry's use of florfenicol? How does it compare with research undertaken globally? How much florfenicol is used in aquaculture and other primary production globally (estimates are fine)? How does that compare with the amount used by the salmon industry over summer?
5. Can the Minister table an updated version of the document provided to Estimates on 4 June 2026, with the new document to include an extra column detailing what the current level of funding is per project, and new rows populated by any new projects that have commenced subsequent to the 2023 publication of this document's data?
6. Please detail fossil fuel boilers that have been replaced as part of the Government program and the emissions reductions that have been achieved.
7. With regard to the investigation into unauthorised law reclamation in the Derwent River at Derwent Port, when did the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) become aware of the allegations and when did it commence the investigation?
8. Regarding the Tasmanian Advanced Minerals (TAM) silica processing facility emissions stack: what types of particulate emissions are emitted out of the TAM emissions stack into the environment, under the current Environment Protection Authority (EPA)- issued permit? The Managing Director of TAM said they monitor any emissions that come out of the stack, so does silica dust come out of the emissions stack? What are the minimum and maximum size of the particles that come out of the stack?
9. Does the Government have any plans to support the cost to vehicle dealers of electricity infrastructure to support electric vehicle fast charging, given BEV/PHEV sales are around half of new vehicle sales and costs to TasNetworks can be around \$1 million per dealership?
10. Can the Government provide an indication of the total number of BEVs and PHEVs expected in the Government fleet at the end of the budget period?
11. Please provide the letter from the EPA to the Glenorchy City Council in response to its letter regarding the investigation into its potential unauthorised reclamation of the Derwent River in Derwent Park.

Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy:

1. How many start-ups supported by the Government directly or through GBE sponsorship have gone on to secure private investment or generate substantial revenue within 3 years. Please detail.
If the answer is none, will the Government and GBE's change their approach?
2. What confidence can the Tasmanian Government give Tasmanians that data factories and the associated subsea cable won't impact Tasmanian power supply or impact power prices?

Community and Multicultural Affairs

1. How many people accessed the Pensioner's Heating Allowance in 2025-2026?
2. Please provide a breakdown of the funding allocations that sit under the multicultural affairs line item in the budget.

Arts and Heritage:

1. Have any current or former members of the Tasmanian Heritage Council had legal fees paid for by the taxpayer since 1 July 2022? And are there any ongoing legal matters?
2. How much has Heritage Tasmania spent on consultancy fees since 1 July 2022? What were these for? Has the work been completed?
3. Please provide the historic funding and performance measures for TMAG for the last ten years (Pre Covid)

At 6.14 p.m. the Committee adjourned till 9:15 a.m. Tuesday, 16 June next.

Confirmed:

Date:

16/06/26

Chair:



ESTIMATES COMMITTEE 'B'

Tuesday, 16 June 2026

The Committee met in the Long Room, Parliament House at 9:14 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr Fairs (Chair)
Mr Willie
Mr Bayley
Prof Razay

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings held on 28 May, and 1 to 4 June 2026 last were read and confirmed as a true and accurate record. (Mr Bayley)

DRAFT REPORTS

The Chair brought up draft reports on the estimates of the: -

- Minister for Energy & Renewables, Minister for Sport, and Minister for Parks;
- Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, Corrections and Rehabilitation, and Minister for Small Business, Trade, Consumer Affairs;
- Minister for Primary Industries and Water and Minister for Veterans' Affairs;
- Minister for Education, Minister for Disability Services and Minister for Children and Youth;
- Minister for Racing, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence, Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events; and
- Minister for the Environment, Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy, Minister for the Community and Cultural Affairs, and Minister for the Arts and Heritage.

The reports were adopted. (Mr Willie)

At 9.15 a.m. the Committee adjourned *sine die*.

Date:

16/06/26

Chair:

