

## Department of Treasury and Finance

The Treasury Building  
21 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000  
GPO Box 147 HOBART TAS 7001 Australia  
Telephone (03) 6166 4444 Facsimile (03) 6173 0219  
Email [secretary@treasury.tas.gov.au](mailto:secretary@treasury.tas.gov.au) Web [www.treasury.tas.gov.au](http://www.treasury.tas.gov.au)



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Hon Ruth Forrest MLC  
Chair  
Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts  
Parliament House  
HOBART TAS 7000

Dear Ms Forrest

### **Tasmanian Government's use of provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2016* to fund election commitments in 2021**

On Monday 28 November 2022 I provided evidence at a public hearing held in relation to the inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's use of provisions of the *Financial Management Act 2016* to fund election commitments in 2021.

At the hearing, I made the following statement (page 4 of the transcript):

“On 1 May, that was the election day, the Liberal Party claimed election victory, and vote counting continued for a period after that. In the period 3 May to 8 June, we reconciled the election commitment listing that we had captured with that provided by the incoming government. The first iteration of the election commitments provided by the Liberal Party and the Premier/Treasurer's office was over the period through the 3 to 19 May 2021. Treasury undertook a detailed reconciliation of the information provided and the Treasury listing of commitments collated during that election period. The Local Community Facilities Fund of \$20 million is included in the listing we received on the 5 May 2021.”

This statement was one of a number I made referencing a detailed chronology of events which I had prepared for the hearing.

It has come to my attention that this statement was partially incorrect. The listing Treasury received on 5 May 2021 included a number of election commitments, but the Local Community Facilities Fund was not referenced.

A line item for ‘*Community Fund (\$20m) for Members*’ was included in a listing (spreadsheet) Treasury received on 4 May 2021. The full detail of grants to be paid under the LCFF was received on 31 May 2021.

I apologise for this error and I would like to correct my statement to the Committee as follows:

“On 1 May, that was the election day, the Liberal Party claimed election victory, and vote counting continued for a period after that. In the period 3 May to 8 June, we reconciled the election commitment listing that we had captured with that provided by the incoming government. The first iteration of the election commitments provided by the Liberal Party and the Premier/Treasurer's office was over the period through the 3 to 19 May 2021. Treasury undertook a detailed reconciliation of the information provided and the Treasury

listing of commitments collated during that election period. *The Community Fund (\$20m) for Members is included in the listing we received on the 4 May 2021.*”

Should you have any queries or require any further information regarding this matter, please contact me on [REDACTED] or email [Tony.Ferrall@treasury.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tony.Ferrall@treasury.tas.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Tony Ferrall  
Secretary

8 June 2023