

FACT SHEET

Stadiums Tasmania Amendment (Transfers) Bill 2022

In April 2021, the Tasmanian Government announced plans to establish Stadiums Tasmania, a new statutory authority to oversee the sound use, management and future capital development of Tasmania's major public stadiums and related assets.

The decision to establish Stadiums Tasmania aims to centralise the ownership, management, and future capital development of Tasmania's major stadium assets under a single entity with a state-wide perspective. It will ensure the effective and efficient operation of these assets, that they remain fit for purpose, continue to meet the future needs of sporting codes, users, and event audiences, and further develop staff expertise in stadium management.

The *Stadiums Tasmania Act 2022* was developed in response to this commitment. It commenced on 25 May 2022 and Stadiums Tasmania was formally established. This Act establishes the functions, powers and governance arrangements for Stadiums Tasmania to operate.

The Transfer Bill primarily provides employment arrangements for the new Statutory Authority and provisions to facilitate the transfer of current and future stadium assets, liabilities, contracts, and employees.

Stadiums Tasmania is expected to initially assume responsibility for up to five stadium assets, including MyState Bank Arena and the Silverdome, which are Crown assets, and Blundstone Arena, Dial Park in Penguin and UTAS Stadium, if this can be negotiated with their current owners.

The Stadiums Tasmania Amendment (Transfers) Bill 2022, will amend the *Stadiums Tasmania Act 2022* and includes the following features:

- an updated and expanded list of definitions used in the Act;
- amended timeframes under which the Board is to prepare its first business plan and Annual Report, recognising when Stadiums Tasmania commenced;
- the employment arrangements for the Chief Executive Officer and staff of Stadiums Tasmania;
- confirm the process upon which employees proposed to transfer are made an offer of employment and may voluntarily choose to transfer or not transfer;
- preserve agreed employment entitlements for transferring employees, such as general leave entitlements, long service leave, superannuation and recognition of continuous service;
- outline the processes that will enable the Minister to transfer agreed assets, liabilities, and contracts;

- allow for the transfer of assets, to and from the Authority;
- introduces a provision that waives the payment of State tax by the Authority;
- outlines more explicitly the duties of the Board, officers, and employees to reflect contemporary expectations, consistent with the provisions contained in the *Government Business Enterprise Act 1995* and *Corporations Act 2001*; and
- allows for the repeal of the Act on the first anniversary of its commencement.

A staged approach is being used to implement Stadiums Tasmania:

- The *Stadiums Tasmania Act 2022* has established the statutory authority and the Transfers Bill completes a two-stage legislative process;
- Arrangements have commenced to recruit the Authority's inaugural Chairperson, Board and Chief Executive Officer; and
- Business and infrastructure asset information for each stadium proposed to transfer are currently being prepared to support the due diligence, negotiation, and transfer processes; and
- The *Stadiums Tasmania Amendment (Transfers) Bill 2022* will enable, amongst other things, the transfer of relevant stadium assets, liabilities, contracts, and employees to Stadiums Tasmania.