



# LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SESSION OF 2021

(FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTIETH PARLIAMENT)

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 10

THURSDAY, 26 AUGUST 2021

- 1 **COUNCIL MEETS.**— The Council met at 11.00 o'clock in the forenoon.
- 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 traditional and original owners and the continuing custodians of this land.”
- 3 **PRAYERS.**— The President read Prayers.
- 4 **PROPOSED CALVARY HEALTH CARE CO-LOCATED HOSPITAL FACILITY IN LAUNCESTON.**— Ms *Armitage* asked the Honourable the Leader of Government,

With regard to the proposed Calvary co-located hospital slated or Launceston:

- (1) Given that it has been three years since the unsolicited bid was made by Calvary Health Care, when will all stakeholders have an opportunity for an open and transparent conversation regarding what services Calvary Health Care intend to provide in order to cater for the future needs of the regions' population?
- (2) Does the Government acknowledge that, in order to achieve the best outcomes for the state's north, a significant and detailed consultation will be required?
- (3) (a) How extensive will the public consultation process be; and  
(b) will the Government ensure transparency during this process by allowing public submissions?
- (4) Given that Calvary Health Care has already rules out an accident and emergency department for this facility, does the Government believe that it is acceptable to forgo this service requirement as part of its proposal – noting that this service is provided by Calvary Health Care to patients in the state's south and given the pressures that the Launceston General Hospital Emergency Department finds itself under?
- (5) Can the Government give any indication about what services the proposed facility will offer, understanding that there is significant public demand for pregnancy, post-natal, mental health services, palliative care, pain management services and elective surgery capabilities?
- (6) Can the Government guarantee this co-located hospital will not simply be a combination of both St Luke's and St Vincent's campuses on one site with no additional services?

The Leader answered,

It is important to understand that this is not a co-investment with the Tasmanian Government, but a privately funded development by Calvary that must be commercially viable to ensure its longevity in the provision of private health services to northern Tasmanians.

The Tasmanian Government's contribution to this project is the sale of land to Calvary at market value as determined by the Valuer General, and funding for the airbridge connection between the two buildings.

In that context I provide the following responses to Ms Armitage's questions:

- (1) Calvary presented its proposal, including concept drawings and a Clinical Services Plan, to the Launceston General Hospital Executive on Wednesday 11 August 2021. Calvary have been in discussion with various stakeholder groups, including St Luke's Health.

The Department of Health Project Team will be facilitating further presentations by Calvary to key stakeholder groups.

- (2) Consultation includes senior clinical staff at the LGH through the Hospital Executive, the AMA, ANMF, private health insurers and the Northern Health Group (a group of health industry professionals). The Department of Health project team negotiating with Calvary will be seeking input from these key stakeholders.
- (3) The Calvary proposal will be subject to broader community consultation through the Planning Authority Development Approval process.

The Department of Health Project Team negotiating with Calvary will be seeking input from the key stakeholders mentioned above.

- (4) It is an agreed principle that the co-location should not unnecessarily duplicate services, with a preference to have complementary services across the public and private sector.

While discussions are at an early stage, Calvary has identified several opportunities to relieve pressures on the LGH Emergency Department and these will be considered by a working group comprised of senior clinical representatives from the LGH.

- (5) While still subject to negotiation, the Calvary proposal includes both overnight and same-day beds, with services including palliative care, mental health, post-natal services and elective surgery. The full detail of the service offering will be the subject of further discussion over the next few months.
- (6) The Government's stated position to Calvary is clear that the co-location must provide an enhanced level of service to northern Tasmanians.

**5 PAPER.**— The Clerk of the Council laid upon the Table the Education and Care Services National Amendment Regulations 2021

**6 BILL NO. 15.** — The Justice Miscellaneous (Increasing Judicial Retirement Age) Bill 2021 was read the Third time and passed.

**7 BILL NO. 15.**— A Message to the House of Assembly:—

MR SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council has this day agreed, without Amendment, to a Bill intituled, 'A Bill for an Act to Amend the *Magistrates Court Act 1987*, the *Supreme Court Act 1887* and the *Supreme Court Act 1959*'.

*Legislative Council, 26 August 2021*

C.M. FARRELL, *President*

**8 BILL NO. 14.**— The Order of the Day was read for resuming the Debate on the Question, That the Guardianship and Administration Amendment (Advance Care Directives) Bill 2021 be now read the Second time.

The Question was again proposed, and the Council resumed the Debate.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

And the Bill was, accordingly, read the Second time and committed to a Committee of the Whole Council.

And the President having left the Chair, the Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

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(In the Committee)

Ms *Ratray* in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 14 agreed to.

Clause 15 read.

**9 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.

**10 QUESTION TIME.**— The President called for Questions without Notice. There were six Questions asked.

*Ordered*, That Mrs *Hiscutt* have leave to Table answers to Questions and have the Answers incorporated into the Hansard record in relation to Questions from: —

The Hon Member for Murchison (Ms *Forrest*) in relation to ambulance response times in the Circular Head region.

The Hon Member for McIntyre (Ms *Ratray*) in relation to Future Potential Production Forest land outside the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area.

**11 SITTING SUSPENDED.**— *Resolved*, That the Sitting of the Council be suspended until the ringing of the Division bells for the purpose of enabling Members to attend the Assembly to hear the Budget Speech delivered by the Treasurer. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

The Sitting was suspended at 2.48 o'clock p.m. and resumed at 3.56 o'clock p.m.

**12 LEAVE TO TABLE PAPERS.**— *Ordered*, That Mrs *Hiscutt* have leave to Table Papers.

**13 BUDGET PAPERS.**— Mrs *Hiscutt* laid upon the Table Budget Papers for 2020-2021 entitled:

Budget Speech;

The Tasmanian Budget – Budget Paper No 1;

Government Services – Budget Paper No 2, Volumes 1 and 2;

Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2021; and

Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2021.

**14 MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE.**— *Ordered*, That Mrs *Hiscutt* have leave to move two Motions without Notice.

**15 PRECEDENCE OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.**— *Ordered*, That Government business have precedence on the next two sitting Tuesdays being Tuesday, 31 August and Tuesday, 21 September 2021. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

**16 BUDGET PAPERS 2021-22 AND APPROPRIATION BILLS (NO.1 AND NO.2) 2021: TAKE NOTE.**— A Motion was made (Mrs *Hiscutt*) and the Question was proposed, That the Budget Papers and the Appropriation Bills (No. 1 and No. 2) 2021 be noted.

*Ordered*, That the Debate be adjourned. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

**17 ADJOURNMENT.**— *Ordered*, That the Council at its rising adjourn until 11.00 o'clock a.m. on Tuesday, 31 August 2021. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

A motion was made (Mrs Hiscutt) and the Question was proposed, That the Council do now adjourn.

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put.

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

The Council adjourned at 4.00 o'clock p.m.

D.T. PEARCE, *Clerk of the Council.*

*Briefing:*

- *'Just Desserts' Justice Reform Initiative*