



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SESSION OF 2025 – 2026

(FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 49

TUESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 2026

1 COUNCIL MEETS.— The Council met at 11.00 o'clock a.m.

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 first inhabitants and the continuing custodians of this land.”

3 PRAYERS AND REFLECTION.— The President read Prayers.

4 PAPERS.— The Clerk of the Council laid upon the Table the following Papers:—

- (1) Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania: Animal Research Statistics Tasmania - Annual Report - Number 30 (2025). Dated August 2026.
- (2) Department of Health: Tasmanian Disability Inclusion Plan 2026-2030. Dated August 2026.
- (3) *Animal Welfare Act 1993*: Statutory Rules 2026, No. xx, Animal Welfare (Dogs) Regulations 2026.
- (4) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising area of land containing 93.3m² situate in the Town of Ugbrook. Mole Creek Main Road – Sassafras Creek Bridge Replacement. Municipal area of Meander Valley.
- (5) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising area of land containing 356.0m² situate in the Town of Ugbrook. Mole Creek Main Road – Sassafras Creek Bridge Replacement. Municipal area of Meander Valley.
- (6) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising areas of land containing 123.0m² and 324m² situate in the Town of Ugbrook. Mole Creek Main Road – Sassafras Creek Bridge Replacement. Municipal area of Meander Valley.
- (7) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising area of land containing 1553.0m² situate in the Parish of Alphington, Land District of Devon. Mole Creek Main Road – Sassafras Creek Bridge Replacement. Municipal area of Meander Valley.
- (8) *Land Acquisition Act 1993*: Notice of Acquisition of land under Section 18, comprising area of land containing 2602.0m² situate in the Parish of Alphington, Land District of Devon. Mole Creek Main Road – Sassafras Creek Bridge Replacement. Municipal area of Meander Valley.

5 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE.— *Ordered*, That Ms Rattray have leave to move a Motion without Notice.

6 LEAVE OF ABSENCE.— *Ordered*, That the Honourable Member for Nelson, (Ms Webb) be granted leave of absence from the service of the Council for this week's sitting. (Ms Rattray)

7 SPECIAL INTEREST MATTERS.— The President advised the Chamber of five Members who had indicated their desire to speak:—

- (1) Ms *O'Connor* – Hobart City Council State of the City Report;
- (2) Ms *Thomas* – Glenorchy Community Award Winners 2026;
- (3) Ms *Palmer* – Champions of Tourism;
- (4) Ms *Rattray* – National Meals on Wheels Day; and
- (5) Ms *Duigan* – The FaRM Project and Sow It Begins.

At the conclusion of Special Interest Matters the Council proceeded to Orders of the Day.

8 TASMANIA'S FOREST CARBON 2025 UPDATE REPORT.— A Motion was made (Ms *O'Connor*) and the Question was proposed, That the Legislative Council:—

- (1) Notes the release of the report 'Tasmania's Forest Carbon – 2025 Update', a co-sponsored project by the Tasmanian Climate Collective, the Tree Projects and the Wilderness Society, and authored by internationally respected scientist, Dr Jen Sanger.
- (2) Accepts the scientific fact that unlogged forests are the reason Tasmania can claim to be one of the first jurisdictions in the world to become net zero, evidenced by the State's greenhouse accounts from 2012 onwards.
- (3) Notes the report finds Tasmania's forests currently draw down an estimated 22 million tonnes of carbon each year, which would more than triple by 2050 if native forest logging ceases and forests are managed for climate, biodiversity, recreation and tourism.
- (4) Recognises the report finds that ongoing native forest logging and burning is also the State's single biggest emitter, with industrial scale forestry burns accounting for the emission of an estimated 1.6 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO₂e) each year.
- (5) Notes with concern federal and state government moves to facilitate the further burning of native forest for biomass, including at Goliath Cement in Railton.
- (6) Agrees that the single most effective step Tasmania can take to reduce emissions is to end native forest logging and burning – the necessary and ethical response to accelerating global heating which will impact on our communities, environment and economy with increasing intensity in the decades ahead.

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

9 REPORT OF THE OFFICE OF THE CUSTODIAL INSPECTOR: CUSTODY – RECEPTION TO RELEASE INSPECTION REPORT 2025.— A Motion was made (Ms *Armitage*) and the Question was proposed, That That the Office of the Custodial Inspector's Custody: Reception to Release Inspection Report 2025, be considered and noted.

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

10 CLOSURE OF HOBART HOSPITALITY BUSINESSES.— A Motion was made (Mr *Edmunds*) and the Question was proposed, That the Legislative Council:—

- (1) Notes that seven well-known Hobart hospitality venues - Cargo Bar, Jack Greene, Post Street Social, Observatory Bar, Republic Bar, Franklin Wharf Restaurant and Bar and Franklin Wharf Function Centre - closed after the Pub Banc Group entered voluntary administration;
- (2) Further notes that more than 80 Tasmanian workers were stood down as a result;
- (3) Recognises the enormous social, cultural and economic benefits that come from Tasmania's hospitality sector and acknowledges the significant pressure facing the sector, including rising operational costs and weaker discretionary spending;

- (4) Expresses its support for the workers, contractors, suppliers and small businesses affected by the collapse; and notes the impact this will have on younger Tasmanians in particular;
- (5) Further notes that these closures come at a time when Tasmanian businesses and workers across the state are already facing significant economic uncertainty and job losses, including from a significant hospitality supplier in Boag's Brewery;
- (6) Notes that the hospitality industry has welcomed a growing focus on practical measures to support Tasmania's hospitality industry, saying governments at every level have a role to play in helping businesses through one of the toughest trading environments in recent memory.
- (7) Calls on the Rockliff Government to urgently outline what actual action it is taking to support affected workers, help viable venues reopen and address the pressures facing Tasmania's hospitality sector; and
- (8) Acknowledges that Tasmanian businesses and workers are paying the price for a weak economy, rising costs and need a government with a plan to grow the economy and protect jobs.

A Debate arose thereupon.

11 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.

12 QUESTION TIME.— The President called for Questions without Notice. There were 9 Questions asked.

Ordered, That Mr Duigan have leave to Table a document regarding Edgar Dam Upgrade Costs.

13 CLOSURE OF HOBART HOSPITALITY BUSINESSES.— The Council resumed the Debate on the Question, That the Legislative Council:—

- (1) Notes that seven well-known Hobart hospitality venues - Cargo Bar, Jack Greene, Post Street Social, Observatory Bar, Republic Bar, Franklin Wharf Restaurant and Bar and Franklin Wharf Function Centre - closed after the Pub Banc Group entered voluntary administration;
- (2) Further notes that more than 80 Tasmanian workers were stood down as a result;
- (3) Recognises the enormous social, cultural and economic benefits that come from Tasmania's hospitality sector and acknowledges the significant pressure facing the sector, including rising operational costs and weaker discretionary spending;
- (4) Expresses its support for the workers, contractors, suppliers and small businesses affected by the collapse; and notes the impact this will have on younger Tasmanians in particular;
- (5) Further notes that these closures come at a time when Tasmanian businesses and workers across the state are already facing significant economic uncertainty and job losses, including from a significant hospitality supplier in Boag's Brewery;
- (6) Notes that the hospitality industry has welcomed a growing focus on practical measures to support Tasmania's hospitality industry, saying governments at every level have a role to play in helping businesses through one of the toughest trading environments in recent memory.
- (7) Calls on the Rockliff Government to urgently outline what actual action it is taking to support affected workers, help viable venues reopen and address the pressures facing Tasmania's hospitality sector; and
- (8) Acknowledges that Tasmanian businesses and workers are paying the price for a weak economy, rising costs and need a government with a plan to grow the economy and protect jobs.

Ordered, That Mr *Edmunds* have leave to Table the following documents:

- Government press release 'Serving drinks I the beer garden just got easier', dated 2 March 2026.
- Government press release 'Liquor licencing reforms to cut red tape and speed up approvals', dated 5 June 2026.
- Government press release 'Reforming trade waste framework to future-proff major employers', dated 26 June 2026.

14 SITTING SUSPENDED. — It being 4.00 o'clock p.m. the Sitting of the Council was suspended.

The Council resumed the Sitting at 4.30 o'clock p.m.

15 CLOSURE OF HOBART HOSPITALITY BUSINESSES.— The Council resumed the Debate on the Question, That the Legislative Council:—

- (1) Notes that seven well-known Hobart hospitality venues - Cargo Bar, Jack Greene, Post Street Social, Observatory Bar, Republic Bar, Franklin Wharf Restaurant and Bar and Franklin Wharf Function Centre - closed after the Pub Banc Group entered voluntary administration;
- (2) Further notes that more than 80 Tasmanian workers were stood down as a result;
- (3) Recognises the enormous social, cultural and economic benefits that come from Tasmania's hospitality sector and acknowledges the significant pressure facing the sector, including rising operational costs and weaker discretionary spending;
- (4) Expresses its support for the workers, contractors, suppliers and small businesses affected by the collapse; and notes the impact this will have on younger Tasmanians in particular;
- (5) Further notes that these closures come at a time when Tasmanian businesses and workers across the state are already facing significant economic uncertainty and job losses, including from a significant hospitality supplier in Boag's Brewery;
- (6) Notes that the hospitality industry has welcomed a growing focus on practical measures to support Tasmania's hospitality industry, saying governments at every level have a role to play in helping businesses through one of the toughest trading environments in recent memory.
- (7) Calls on the Rockliff Government to urgently outline what actual action it is taking to support affected workers, help viable venues reopen and address the pressures facing Tasmania's hospitality sector; and
- (8) Acknowledges that Tasmanian businesses and workers are paying the price for a weak economy, rising costs and need a government with a plan to grow the economy and protect jobs.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

16 REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS: 18TH AUSTRALASIAN COUNCIL OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEES (ACPAC) CONFERENCE.— A Motion was made (Ms *Forrest*) and the Question was proposed, That the Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts on the 18th Australasian Council of Public Accounts Committees (ACPAC) Conference be considered and noted.

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

17 BILL NO. 24.— The Order of the Day was read for the consideration of the Statutory Holidays Amendment (Central Coast Municipality) Bill 2026 as amended in Committee of the Whole Council.

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended in the Committee, be now taken into consideration. (Mr *Hiscutt*)

The Council, accordingly, proceeded to take the same into consideration.

The Amendment was read the First time.

The said Amendment, being read the Second time, was agreed to.

Ordered, That the Bill as amended in the Committee, be now read the Third time. (Mr *Hiscutt*)

The Bill was read the Third time and passed.

18 BILL NO. 24.— A Message to the House of Assembly:—

HONOURABLE SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed, with Amendment, to a Bill intituled —

‘A Bill for an Act to amend the *Statutory Holidays Act 2000*’,

presents the same to the House of Assembly, and requests its concurrence therein.

Legislative Council, 8 September 2026

C.M. FARRELL, *President*

19 ADJOURNMENT.— *Resolved*, That the Council will, at its rising adjourn until 11.00 o’clock a.m. on Wednesday, 9 September 2026. (Ms Rattray)

Resolved, That the Council do now adjourn. (Ms Rattray)

The Council adjourned at 5.35 o’clock p.m.

C.L. VICKERS, *Clerk of the Council*.

Briefing:

- *Teachers Registration Bill 2026*