

FACT SHEET

Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery Bill 2017

This legislation provides a modern governance system for the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery (TMAG) to ensure that accountability and responsibility for the management and operation of TMAG is clearly established.

The Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery Bill 2017 (the Bill) will enable the continuity of TMAG to be retained with a new governance structure and greater clarity on the functions of the Board. There would be very minimal change, if any, to the daily public operations of TMAG arising from this Bill.

The core elements of the Bill are:

- It provides for the continuation of the Board of Trustees as a statutory authority that, as an instrumentality of the Crown, will be responsible for the strategic management of TMAG. The Board is to be accountable to the relevant Minister.
- A new skills-based Board will be established, comprising of at least 5 but no more than 7 members that will be appointed by the Minister.
- It establishes a number of objectives for the Tasmanian Museum and Gallery and provides an overarching framework that the Board will be required to have constant regard for in performing its duties.
- The Minister will be able to determine the strategic direction through a Ministerial Statement of Expectations and the Board will need to act in accordance with that statement. The Minister will be able to provide limited directions to the Board.
- The Trustees are provided with the function of stewardship of all of the artefacts, objects, specimens and records and other material that comprise the collection under the control and management of the Board.
- There is very limited scope for the Minister to intervene in the stewardship functions of the Board.
- The Bill establishes a set of corporate planning and reporting requirements to ensure that the objectives of TMAG and the strategic direction of the Minister are given effect to, and delivered by, the Board.
- The Bill contains savings and transitional provisions to ensure continuity between the current Board operating under the *Tasmanian Museum Act 1950* and the new Board that will operate under this legislation. This Bill will repeal the *Tasmanian Museum Act 1950*.