

Minister for Energy and Renewables
Minister for Sports and Events
Minister for Parks

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Simon Wood
Member for Bass
Via Clerk of the House of Assembly
Email: laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Mr Wood

I write in response to a question raised in Parliament on behalf of your constituents on 6 March 2025 in relation to the planned redevelopment of UTAS Stadium and upgrade works currently underway at the venue.

The Tasmanian Government is squarely focused on delivering the transformational infrastructure that will create jobs, economic growth and provide better opportunities for Tasmanians. That is why we are getting on with the job and delivering on our \$65 million commitment to upgrade UTAS Stadium as part of its transfer to Stadiums Tasmania. The redevelopment, once complete, will attract more elite sporting and other events to the north of Tasmania and will also support the Tasmania Devils Football Club.

The Federal Government has committed a further \$65 million towards the development, meaning the total project investment is \$130 million. The matchday facility upgrades on the western side of the ground are now well underway and are due to be completed in April 2025. The existing matchday facilities are being brought up to Australian Tier 2 sporting code guidelines. Umpires, officials and players will enjoy refurbished change rooms, medical, massage and strapping rooms, a briefing room, warm up and training spaces. There will also be an upgrade to the ground's ribbon board.

It is likely your constituents have observed these matchday works underway and may have experienced some changes to game day operations during the recent pre season match at the venue between Hawthorn and the Western Bulldogs. I am advised that all parties are working to minimise future impacts on players, officials and spectators.

The Development Application for the main works redevelopment is open for public exhibition, and community members are invited to review the plans and be part of this once-in-a-generation transformation. This project is set to make Launceston a powerhouse for national sporting and entertainment events, boosting business, tourism, and local pride.

The main works will include a brand-new centre-west stand for an upgraded spectator experience, expanded western infill seating and a revitalised eastern stand for ultimate comfort and atmosphere. The works will also create a dynamic south-east entry plaza. These enhancements will elevate UTAS Stadium into a world-class destination for sports and entertainment, benefiting fans, athletes, and the entire Launceston community. It is expected the improvements will increase overall seating capacity by around 2000. The main works are set to commence in July this year with completion planned by February 2027.

The Tasmanian Government is getting on with the job of delivering this important project for Tasmanians. This revitalisation project ensures UTAS Stadium will continue to host world-class

events, inspiring the next generation of sporting stars and reinforcing Tasmania's status as a premier destination for major events and sporting excellence.

Once again thank you for raising this important issue with me. I trust this information is helpful for your constituents.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Duigan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hon Nick Duigan MLC
Minister for Sports and Events

7 March 2025