



Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts

Media Advisory

Thursday, 16 June 2022

Public Hearings

- 1. Tasmanian Government's continuing response to the COVID-19 pandemic**
 - 2. Hydro Tasmania and the termination of the Basslink Services Agreement**
 - 3. Progress of Selected Public Works: Sorell Emergency Services Hub and the Major Redevelopment of Sorell School**
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The Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts is undertaking three inquiries:

1. the Tasmanian Government's continuing response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The areas to be covered in the inquiry include measures taken by the Government, including relevant Public Health advice, to prepare for the State border re-opening on 15 December 2021, the return to school, the vaccination rollout, business support and the Covid-19 Tasmanian Check-in app;
2. the decision by Hydro Tasmania to terminate the Basslink Services Agreement (BSA) and the financial and other implications this may have for Hydro Tasmania; and
3. the progress of public works projects, approved by the Joint Standing Committee on Public Works, related to the Sorell Emergency Services Hub and the Major Redevelopment of Sorell School that were both approved in 2020.

The Committee will conduct a public hearing to obtain further details around the respective responses to the Committee's questions submitted by the Government.

The hearings will be held in Committee Room 2, Parliament House, Hobart and will commence at 9:30 am on Friday, 17 June 2022. The timetable and details of witnesses are attached.

The public hearings will also be broadcast via the Parliamentary Broadcast Service and will be available at the following link <http://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/>.

The Members of the Committee are:

Legislative Council

Hon Ruth Forrest MLC (Chair)
Hon Meg Webb MLC
Hon Josh Willie MLC

House of Assembly

Dr Shane Broad MP
Mr Felix Ellis MP
Mr John Tucker MP

Further information about the Committee is available on the [Committee website](#).

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Further information: Ruth Forrest MLC (Chair) – 0419 879 524



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Public Hearing Schedule

Public Hearings

1. Tasmanian Government's continuing response to the COVID-19 pandemic
 2. Hydro Tasmania and the termination of the Basslink Services Agreement
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Date: Friday, 17 June 2022

Venue: Committee Room 2 – Parliament House, Hobart

Time	Witnesses
9:30 am – 11:00 am	<p>Hon Roger Jaensch MP Minister for Education, Children and Youth</p> <p><u>Department of Education Representatives</u> Tim Bullard (Secretary) Jenny Burgess (Deputy Secretary Strategy and Performance) Kane Salter (Deputy Secretary Corporate and Business Services) James Burrows (Manager, Office of the Secretary)</p>
11:00 am – 1:00 pm	<p>Hon Guy Barnett MP Minister for Energy and Renewables</p> <p><u>Hydro Tasmania Representatives</u> Grant Every Burns (Chairman) Ian Brooksbank (A/Chief Executive Officer)</p>
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	<p>Hon Jacquie Petrusma MP Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management</p> <p><u>Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management Representatives</u> Erin Baker (A/Director Business Services)</p>

Lisa Kavanagh (Project Manager)
Leon Smith (A/Director State Emergency Service)
Jeremy Smith (Regional Chief (South), Tasmania Fire Service)
Tim Dooley (Commander Southern District, Tasmania Police)