

I live in Launceston, and I believe Tasmania doesn't need a new stadium. It is not for the AFL to decide our economic future, and, in view of the current financial situation, we cannot afford to be burdened with the debt.

# Terms of Reference

## ToR 1

**To inquire into and report upon the Tasmanian Government's process into the proposed Arts, Entertainment and Sports Precinct in Hobart with a particular emphasis on matters related to the *Club Funding and Development Agreement* (Agreement) signed between the Crown in the Right of Tasmania and Australian Football League.**

The AFL has made demands insisting on a location they chose, and insisting on an agreement that seems to put Tasmania's financial future at risk. It appears to be a highly speculative venture at barely any cost or risk to the AFL. The cost burden has been placed mainly on the Tasmanian community.

## ToR 2

**To inquire into and report upon the Tasmanian Government's process into the proposed Arts, Entertainment and Sports Precinct in Hobart with a particular emphasis on the suitability of Macquarie Point as the site for a proposed the Arts, Entertainment and Sports Precinct.**

The scale of the proposed stadium impinges on many sites around it. Macquarie Point is unsuitable for a structure of these dimensions. The ground will not take the weight, without extensive and costly engineering.

Moreover, the stadium robs Tasmanians of opportunities provided by a prime waterfront site in their capital city. The precinct is suitable for a range of uses, but scale must be realistic, with all consequences considered and addressed properly.

Finally, the stadium will create a logistics' nightmare when looking at traffic and parking.

## ToR 3

**To inquire into and report upon the Tasmanian Government's process into the proposed Arts, Entertainment and Sports Precinct in Hobart with a particular emphasis on the financial risks associated with the Agreement.**

The stadium doesn't appear to have been adequately costed. It is a financial risk for taxpayers as we will have to cover the costs of development and construction, and will have to pay for overruns and time penalties. The AFL should carry some risks.

We can't afford it and there are better ways to use the funds. Tasmanians want government funds directed towards addressing well-identified shortcomings in housing, health, education; not a stadium that has no grounding in community consultation and no connection with community need.

## ToR 4

**To inquire into and report upon the Tasmanian Government's process into the proposed Arts, Entertainment and Sports Precinct in Hobart with a particular**

## **emphasis on matters related to the financing and delivery of the entire proposed Arts, Entertainment and Sports Precinct.**

Funding from the Commonwealth's would be better spent on housing, health, and education. Current economic conditions suggest we cannot afford to spend taxpayer money on a project of this size. It seems little consideration has been given to the disruption this project would impose on the area (noise, waste, congestion, etc ...) and how it would integrate with current infrastructure without incurring further costs. Moreover, the alternative of a more appropriate development for the area has been largely ignored.

All financial assumptions need to be visible and challenged on revenue and cost. The proposal needs to face scrutiny of any government infrastructure project. Community values and outcomes need to be included; not just requiring it to turn a hard cash profit for the AFL.

### **ToR 5**

**To inquire into and report upon the Tasmanian Government's process into the proposed Arts, Entertainment and Sports Precinct in Hobart with a particular emphasis on the future of Blundstone Arena and UTAS Stadium.**

The Mac Point plan is socially divisive. Locating a third stadium in the south only adds to the north-south divide. More money would be spent in the south and not in the north.

I don't believe Tasmania needs a costly 3rd stadium. We already have two sites that have hosted AFL in the past. Public money has already been spent upgrading Blundstone Arena.

### **ToR 6**

**To inquire into and report upon the Tasmanian Government's process into the proposed Arts, Entertainment and Sports Precinct in Hobart with a particular emphasis on any other matter incidental thereto.**

A careful study of how any other projects of this size were carried out previously would give a useful insight on how this would work out (e.g., Old Trafford), or not.