



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SESSION OF 2021

(FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTIETH PARLIAMENT)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 7

THURSDAY, 1 JULY 2021

- 1 COUNCIL MEETS.**— The Council met at 11.00 o'clock in the forenoon.
- 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL PEOPLE.**— The Deputy 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 traditional and original owners and the continuing custodians of this land.”
- 3 PRAYERS.**— The Deputy President read Prayers.
- 4 RESPECTFUL RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION.**— Ms *Forrest* asked the Honourable the Leader of the Government with regard to Respectful Relationships Education (RRE) —
- (1) Which public schools throughout Tasmania have delivered RRE?
 - (2) How often is this RRE provided in each school?
 - (3) What is the scope of the RRE program in each school including:
 - (a) the number of hours it takes to be delivered;
 - (b) the period of time over which it is delivered; and
 - (c) whether there are refresher seminars as part of the program?
 - (4) (a) Who has delivered the RRE in each school; and
(b) in each case:
 - (i) do the trainers have a specialist knowledge in gender-based violence;
 - (ii) is there a cost associated with its delivery;
 - (iii) are there wrap around supports for students who may have experienced abuse; and
 - (iv) what are the referral pathways available to support young people?
 - (5) (a) Has a consistent curriculum been delivered in each primary school; and
(b) if not, why has different curriculum content been delivered?
 - (6) (a) Has a consistent curriculum been delivered in each secondary school; and
(b) if not, why has different curriculum content been delivered?
 - (7) (a) Have any schools run the Respectful Relationship course provided by the Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS); and
(b) if so,
 - (i) which schools; and
 - (ii) is there a cost associated with this program?
 - (8) How is the outcome of the REE courses/programs being measured?
 - (9) If evaluation and measurement of outcomes has not been undertaken when will this be commenced?

- (10) (a) Has there been any shift in problematic attitudinal beliefs and/or behaviours of students; and
(b) if so, how has this been demonstrated and measured?
- (11) How many of these RRE courses are currently being run in Tasmania's public schools?
- (12) (a) Does the Department of Education have an understanding of what RRE is being delivered in the private school sector; and
(b) if so,
 - (i) what is the breadth of these programs; and
 - (ii) how do these programs differ from what is occurring in State schools?

The Leader answered, as follows.

All Government schools are required to deliver the Australian Curriculum from Prep to Year 10 and embed RRE in learning, using the RRE Framework and Resource Package developed by the Department of Education (DoE). The mode of delivery will vary according to each school's individual context.

There is no single model for delivering RRE across schools. Individual schools make decisions about the mode of delivery suitable to their local context.

School leaders and teaching staff work with their school communities to embed RRE into their school program. A whole school approach is recommended and the mode and timing of delivery will vary from school to school and across age levels.

A Framework and Resource Package designed to support school leaders and teachers has been developed for use by schools. It incorporates teaching and learning sequences, strategies, and processes to guide schools and communities in the explicit teaching of RRE. The resource package is online and publicly available through the DoE's website.

School leaders and teaching staff are also supported through online professional learning. It is available to all staff to access at any time and as often as required.

School leaders and teachers deliver RRE in schools. Support to schools and teachers is provided by the Respectful Schools Support Team and the Student Wellbeing team.

The state-wide Respectful Schools Support Team works with schools to build whole school inclusive communities and school-wide positive behaviour support systems. The Student Wellbeing team provides support to students enrolled in Government education settings for whom there are safety and wellbeing concerns.

School support professionals including school psychologists and social workers also provide support for students who may have experienced abuse. Referral pathways are managed through school leadership and the Learning Services as appropriate.

DoE also funds Working it Out, Bravehearts and the Sexual Assault Support Service (SASS) to provide training and resources around safety, protective behaviours, and gender-based violence. There is no cost to schools for participation in these programs.

Government primary schools are required to deliver the *Australian Curriculum* from Prep to Grade 6 and to embed RRE within its school program. The curriculum content is consistent and defined through *Australian Curriculum* expectations and the RRE Framework and Resource package. The mode of delivery will vary according to each school's individual context.

Government high schools are required to deliver the *Australian Curriculum* from Year 7 to Year 10 and to embed RRE within its school program. The curriculum content is consistent and defined through *Australian Curriculum* expectations and the RRE Framework and Resource package. The mode of delivery will vary according to each school's individual context.

DoE has funded the Sexual Support Services (SASS) to deliver its primary intervention program in Government secondary schools and colleges since 2016.

In 2020/21 the program is being delivered at:

- Bayview Secondary College; Years 7-10
- Campania District School; Years 7-10
- Tasman District School; Years 7-10
- Jordan River Learning Federation; Years 7-12.

From 2016/17 to 2019/20 the program was delivered at:

- Bayview Secondary College; Years 7-10
- Rose Bay High School; Years 7-10
- Huonville High School; Years 7-12
- Hobart College; Years 11-12
- Mountain Heights School; Years 7-10
- Triabunna District High School; Years 7-10
- Montrose Bay High School; Years 7-10
- New Norfolk High School; Years 7-12
- Smithton High School; Years 7-12
- Dover District School; Years 7-10
- Sorell School; Years 6-10
- Clarence High School; Years 7-12
- Campbell Town District High School; Years 7-10.

There is no cost to schools to participate in this program.

DoE monitors implementation of RRE across all Government Schools using a range of measures, including staff attendance at professional learning, data from the annual Student Wellbeing Survey, and measuring access to the RRE website and online professional learning modules.

DoE will continue to evaluate and measure outcomes using the methods outlined in the answer to Question 8 (as set out above).

Student Wellbeing Survey data from 2019 and 2020 was stable across the School Climate, Bullying and Safe at School domains. The data showed that:

- 86 per cent of students feel safe at school most of the time
- 76 per cent of students felt that teachers and students care about each other and treat each other with respect.

Data for suspension in Government Schools indicates that there has been a noteworthy decrease in suspension for bullying and physical harassment of another student from 2017-2020.

All Government schools are required to deliver the Australian Curriculum and to embed RRE within the scope of its school program. Given this, DoE does not maintain a specific count of the number of schools delivering RRE.

DoE does not monitor or regulate the delivery of RRE in the non-government school sector.

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

- (1) Tasmanian Economic Regulator: Report on the State of the Tasmanian Water and Sewerage Industry 2019-20.
- (2) University of Adelaide: Fifth Social and Economic Impact Study of Gambling in Tasmania 2021. Volume 1: Industry Trends and Impacts. Report Commissioned by Department of Treasury and Finance – Tasmanian Government.
- (3) Theatre Royal: Annual Report 2020.
- (4) Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment. The Statutory Review of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1975*: Review Report Accompanied by a Tabling Report – Government Commitment in Response to the Review Findings.
- (5) Gaming Control Act 1993: Statutory Rules 2021, No. 21, containing Gaming Control (Infringement Notices) Regulations 2021.

- (6) Poisons Act 1972: Statutory Rules 2021, No. 32, containing Poisons Amendment Regulations 2021.
- (7) Dog Control Act 2000: Dog Control Regulations 2021.
- (8) Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment: Ministerial Portfolio of Primary Industries and Water. Fees set in accordance with the Fee Units Act 1997.

6 DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS.— In accordance with Sections 19 and 20 of the *Parliamentary (Disclosure of Interests) Act 1996* (Act No. 22), the Clerk of the Council laid upon the Table of the Council from the Register of Members' Interests, the Primary Return of the Member for Windermere which, having been lodged with the Deputy President and this day tabled and placed on the public records, is now deemed to have been published.

7 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE.— *Ordered*, That Mrs *Hiscutt* have leave to move a Motion without Notice.

8 LEAVE OF ABSENCE.— *Ordered*, That the Honourable the President (Mr *Farrell*), be granted leave of absence from the service of the Council for this day's sitting. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

9 BILL NO. 12.— The Order of the Day was read for the consideration of the Treasury Miscellaneous (Cost of Living and Affordable Housing Support) Bill 2021 as amended in Committee of the Whole Council.

Ordered, That the Bill, as amended in the Committee, be now taken into consideration.

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. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

The Bill was read the Third time and passed.

10 BILL NO. 12.— A Message to the House of Assembly:—

MR SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed, with Amendment, to a Bill intituled — ‘ A Bill for an Act to amend the *Duties Act 2001*, the *First Home Owner Grant Act 2000*, the *Land Tax Act 2000*, the *Land Tax Rating Act 2000* and the *Taxation Administration Act 1997*’,

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

Legislative Council, 1 July 2021

R.J. FORREST, *Deputy President*

11 BILL NO. 13.— A Motion was made (Mrs *Hiscutt*) and the Question was proposed, That the Land Use Planning and Approvals Amendment (Tasmanian Planning Scheme Modification) Bill 2021 be now read the Third time.

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative and the Bill was read the Third time and passed.

12 BILL NO. 13.— A Message to the House of Assembly:—

MR SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council has this day agreed, without Amendment, to the Bill intituled, 'A Bill for an Act to amend the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*'.

Legislative Council, 1 July 2021

R.J. FORREST, *Deputy President*

13 LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT ON PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS.— A Motion was made (*Ms Forrest*) and the Question was proposed, That the Legislative Council Select Committee Report on the Production of Documents be considered and noted.

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

14 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE.— *Ordered*, That Mrs *Hiscutt* have leave to move a Motion without Notice.

15 LEAVE OF ABSENCE.— *Ordered*, That the Honourable Member for Pembroke, (*Ms Siejka*) be granted leave of absence from the service of the Council for the remainder of this day's sitting. (*Mrs Hiscutt*)

16 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.

17 QUESTION TIME.— The President called for Questions without Notice. There were sixteen Questions asked.

18 LEAVE TO TABLE ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS AND INCORPORATE ANSWERS INTO HANSARD.— *Ordered*, That Mrs *Hiscutt* have leave to Table answers to the following Questions and have the answers incorporated into the Hansard record.

Member for Elwick (*Mr Willie*) regarding figures related to bullying, assaults, stress claims, suspensions, incidents reported to Tasmania Police, family violence notifications and the like in relation to Tasmanian schools

Member for Murchison (*Ms Forrest*) regarding the 2021 Tasmanian Liberal State Election Policy: Delivering Better Health Care for Tasmanians in the North-West.

Member for Murchison (*Ms Forrest*) regarding the employment of additional education staff.

Member for Elwick (*Mr Willie*) regarding attendance data for Year 11 and Year 12 for Tasmanian Extension schools for 2020 and 2021 to date.

19 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE.— *Ordered*, That Mrs *Hiscutt* have leave to move a Motion without Notice.

20 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER - QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE.— *Ordered*, That so much of Standing Order No. 49 be suspended to allow for a further period of 10 minutes for Questions without Notice. (*Mrs Hiscutt*)

21 QUESTION TIME.— The Deputy President called for further Questions without Notice. There was a further one Question asked.

22 SITTING SUSPENDED.— *Resolved*, That the Sitting of the Council be suspended until the ringing of the Division bells. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

The Sitting was suspended at 3.07 o'clock p.m. and resumed at 4.32 o'clock p.m.

23 STATEMENT BY THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT –ADDRESS IN REPLY.—

The Deputy President said —

“I have to report to the Council that, accompanied by the Honourable Member for Elwick as the Mover and the Honourable Member for McIntyre as the Seconder and other Honourable Members, the President presented to Her Excellency the Governor the Address-in-Reply to Her Excellency’s Speech, to which the Council agreed on 24 June 2021, and that Her Excellency has been pleased to make the following acknowledgement:

‘Mr President and Honourable Members of the Legislative Council, on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen, I thank you for your Address’.”

24 REPORT OF THE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION IN RELATION TO THE SCRUTINY OF NOTICE ISSUED UNDER SECTION 14 OF THE COVID-19 DISEASE EMERGENCY (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 2020 (LAND USE PLANNING AND APPROVALS ACT 1993) – REPORT 15.— *Ordered*, That Ms *Webb* have leave to present a Report of the Joint Parliamentary Standing Committee on Subordinate Legislation in relation to the Scrutiny of Notice issues under Section 14 of the Covid-19 Disease Emergency (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020 (Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993) – Report 15.

Ordered, That the Report be received. (Ms *Webb*)

Ordered, That the Report be printed. (Ms *Webb*)

25 REPORT OF THE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION IN RELATION TO THE SCRUTINY OF NOTICE ISSUED UNDER SECTIONS 11, 18 AND 19 OF THE COVID-19 DISEASE EMERGENCY (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 2020 (LOCAL GOVERNMENT) AND SCRUTINY OF NOTICE ISSUED UNDER SECTIONS 11 AND 17 OF THE COVID-19 DISEASE EMERGENCY (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 2020 (LOCAL GOVERNMENT) – REPORT 14.— *Ordered*, That Ms *Webb* have leave to present a Report of the Joint Parliamentary Standing Committee on Subordinate Legislation in relation to the Scrutiny of Notice issued under Sections 11,18 and 19 of the Covid-19 Disease Emergency (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020 (Local Government) and Scrutiny of Notice issued under Sections 11 and 17 of the Covid-19 Disease Emergency (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020 (Local Government) – Report 14.

Ordered, That the Report be received. (Ms *Webb*)

Ordered, That the Report be printed. (Ms *Webb*)

26 CONDOLENCE MOTION FOR HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH.— A Motion was made (Mrs *Hiscutt*) and the Question was proposed, That the Communication from the Joint Presiding Officers dated 12 April 2021 to Her Majesty the Queen on the Passing of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh be noted.

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

27 BILL NO. 12.— A Message from the House of Assembly:—

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly doth agree to the Amendment made by the Legislative Council to the Bill, intituled, 'A Bill for an Act to amend the A Bill for an Act to amend the *Duties Act 2001*, the *First Home Owner Grant Act 2000*, the *Land Tax Act 2000*, the *Land Tax Rating Act 2000* and the *Taxation Administration Act 1997*'.

House of Assembly, 1 July 2021

MARK SHELTON, *Speaker*

28 BILL NO. 15.— A Message from the House of Assembly:—

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly hath passed a Bill, intituled — 'A Bill for an Act to amend the *Magistrates Court Act 1987*, the *Supreme Court Act 1887* and the *Supreme Court Act 1959*', to which the House desires the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

House of Assembly, 1 July 2021

MARK SHELTON, *Speaker*

The Bill was read the First time.

Ordered, That the Second reading of the Bill be made an Order of the Day for Tuesday next. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

29 SITTING SUSPENDED.— *Resolved*, That the Sitting of the Council be suspended until the ringing of the Division bells. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

The Sitting was suspended at 5.15 o'clock p.m. and resumed at 5.56 o'clock p.m.

30 BILL NO. 14.— A Message from the House of Assembly:—

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly hath passed a Bill, intituled — 'A Bill for an Act to amend the *Guardianship and Administration Act 1995*', to which the House desires the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

House of Assembly, 1 July 2021

MARK SHELTON, *Speaker*

The Bill was read the First time.

Ordered, That the Second reading of the Bill be made an Order of the Day for Tuesday next. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

31 ADJOURNMENT.— A Motion was made (Mrs *Hiscutt*) and the Question was put, That the Council will at its rising adjourn until 11.00 o'clock in the forenoon on Tuesday, 24 August 2021.

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

Resolved, That the Council do now adjourn. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

The Council adjourned at 5.58 o'clock p.m.

D.T. PEARCE, *Clerk of the Council*.