



PREMIER OF TASMANIA

Hon Ivan Dean MLC  
Chair  
AFL Tasmania Select Committee  
Parliament House  
HOBART TAS 7000

10 APR 2019

  
Dear Mr Dean

Thank you for your letter dated 2 April regarding the Select Committee inquiry into the future of AFL in Tasmania.

As you are aware, the Government supported the establishment of the inquiry, as it is consistent with our stated position that Tasmania should work towards an AFL team of our own. We believe that the inquiry complements the ongoing work that the Government and the broader football community is doing to progress this aim.

The Government has supported the establishment of the Football Tasmania Board, which will be the voice for Tasmanian football and will work towards two primary goals: to grow grassroots football state-wide and to forge a pathway to a Tasmanian AFL and ALFW team.

The Board will represent the interests of all footballers and supporters in the State and will comprise representatives from the three regional leagues, the junior leagues, the Tasmanian State League, AFL Tasmania, umpires associations, as well as the regional associations.

Earlier this year the Government appointed the Hon. Jim Wilkinson MLC as the Board's first independent Executive Chair, and the Board will be fully operational on 1 July this year.

The Government is working to appoint an AFL Project Team, which will report to the Government and consult with the Board, to develop the business case for a Tasmanian license. The Government is providing administrative support to the Board and will consider any funding requirement for the Board and the Project Team in the upcoming Budget.

The Government intends to establish the Project Team in the near future, with the aim of presenting a business case later this year. I would anticipate that the Government and the Football Tasmania Board would engage with the Committee on the progress of the Project Team.

Realising and establishing an AFL team will take an extended period of time. It remains my Government's view that the work of the Committee complements the work that we and the Football Tasmania Board are currently undertaking.

I trust this letter addresses your questions and I look forward to continuing to engage with you and your colleagues in regards to football in Tasmania and the establishment of a Tasmanian AFL team.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Will Hodgman', with a stylized, cursive script.

Will Hodgman MP  
**Premier**