

**From:** [Kevin Odea](#)  
**To:** [PAC](#)  
**Subject:** My submission  
**Date:** Friday, 16 December 2022 5:25:53 PM

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Dear Committee Secretary,

I have lived in Launceston since 2005, after a period of work and life in Sydney. I watched the Sydney Swans grow from ugly ducklings to the powerful club that they have become in that part of Australia. I do understand what AFL football can do for a community, and I would be delighted to see Tasmania enter the national competition. I grew up here and worked here before moving to the mainland for work.

I am very concerned about the AFL's condition and demand for a roofed stadium at Macquarie Point in Hobart. \$750 million is a massive amount of money to gamble on a fickle game like this, at a time when people are dying for want of a bed in the state hospital system, and ambulance ramping is frequently in the news. The huge issue of homeless people requires urgent attention from government authorities. I do understand the tourism spinoff benefits for the state tourist industry from interstate teams playing in Tasmania. But the State Government has legal obligations to care for the people first. There are two stadiums at York Park and Bellerive that have been used for AFL matches for many years now, and they could be used more wisely.

Stadium facilities in Adelaide and Perth WA are shared by two teams each, which helps to make them viable. The proposed stadium in Hobart would be home to one team, which makes it more of a gamble. Assumptions of crowds of over 20,000 at most matches in Hobart are somewhat heroic in these circumstances. People from Northwest Tasmania are unlikely to make the three or four hour journey to Hobart for a match which they can see on television.

In summary, this is a harebrained proposal which could become a massive white elephant and cost the state very dearly.

Yours faithfully

Kevin O'Dea

