

FACT SHEET

University of Tasmania (Protection of Land) Bill 2025

The purpose of this Bill is to amend the *University of Tasmania Act 1992* (the Act) to require that the land at Sandy Bay currently held by the University of Tasmania (the University), and gifted to the University in 1951 for education, cannot be disposed of except with the explicit support of both Houses, preventing the University from unilaterally disposing it. Certain land is excluded from this requirement and rezoned by the Bill to give the University flexibility in relation to the development of a Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) precinct on the Sandy Bay campus.

The Bill contains the following key elements:

- A section requiring Parliamentary approval to dispose of certain University land including a schedule of the land, how the disposal motion takes place and is tabled and how the Act applies to agreements for disposal.
- A section allowing the Minister to protect the land with a caveat.
- A section which voids any transaction or agreement to dispose of land, other than in accordance with the Act, on or after the commencement day.
- A section providing for the automatic rezoning of land above Churchill Avenue from Particular Purpose Zone 3 (University of Tasmania Sandy Bay Campus) to Inner Residential.

The term 'dispose' is defined broadly in the Bill to include a wide range of transactions, including sale, barter, raffle, prize, gift, or long leases (99 years or more).

Administration of the Act is assigned to the Minister for Education and the Department responsible to the Minister is the Department for Education, Children and Young People.

The Bill also makes subsequent amendments to the *University of Tasmania Act 1992* that clarify:

- That the University's powers regarding the disposal of land require parliamentary approval for the disposal of the land.
- Confirms that, but for the requirement for parliamentary approval of disposal of specified land at the Sandy Bay Campus under the new Act, there are no restrictions on the use of the land.