



TASMANIA

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SESSION OF 2024

(FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FIRST PARLIAMENT)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No. 27

TUESDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2024

- 1 **COUNCIL MEETS.**— The Council met at 11.00 o'clock a.m.
- 2 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL PEOPLE.**— The 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 President read Prayers.
- 4 **PAPERS.**— The Clerk of the Council laid upon the Table the following Papers:—
 - (1) TasRail: Annual Report 2023-2024.
 - (2) TasPorts: Annual Report 2023-2024.
 - (3) Brand Tasmania: Annual Report 2023-2024.
 - (4) *Access to Neighbouring Land Act 1992*: Statutory Rules 2024, No. 56, Access to Neighbouring Land Regulations 2024.
 - (5) *Administrative Review Tribunal (Consequential and Transitional Provisions No. 2) Act 2024* of the Commonwealth; and Administrative Review Tribunal Legislation Consequential Amendments (2024 Measures No. 1) Regulations 2024 of the Commonwealth.
- 5 **COMMITTEE REPORT: GOVERNMENT RESPONSE.**— Mrs *Hiscutt* laid upon the Table of the Council the Government Response to the Report of Government Administration Committee A on Workers Compensation Insurance within the Racing Industry.
- 6 **STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT – WELCOME TODD CRAWFORD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LEGISLATURE-GENERAL.**— The President said:—

“As some of you may know the position of an Executive Director was created and funded in the recent Budget to lead and oversight the Legislature-General – the joint services of Parliament. It is a new position that will report directly to the Clerk of each House, but have the autonomy to provide overall leadership and coordination across Legislature-General business units and managers, and make decisions in respect of the delivery of services that support Members and the running of the Parliament.

Following a competitive executive search process Mr Todd Crawford has been appointed to the role and commenced with the Parliament yesterday. Todd joins us from the Tasmanian State Senior Executive Service and brings with him leadership capabilities and a wealth of experience across the full range of corporate functions, strategic policy, business planning, service integration and digital transformation.

Both the Clerks are thrilled to have Todd on board to support them in contemporising the operations of parliamentary workplace and driving business improvement. On behalf of all Members, I welcome Todd to the Parliament.”

7 SPECIAL INTEREST MATTERS.— The President advised the Chamber of three Members who had indicated their desire to speak:—

- (1) Mr *Gaffney* – North West Junior Anglers Club;
- (2) Ms *Palmer* – Michael Allen; and
- (3) Ms *Forrest* – Daniel Edwards – Recipient of the Prime Minister’s Prize for Excellence in Science.

At the conclusion of Special Interest Matters the Council proceeded to Orders of the Day.

8 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE.— *Ordered*, That Ms *Forrest* have leave to move a Motion without Notice.

9 GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEES A AND B.— *Ordered*, That the following revised list of Ministerial Portfolios be allocated to the Legislative Council Government Administration Committees A and B as a result of Ministerial Portfolio changes, and further that:—

Committee A

- (1) The Deputy Premier
- (2) The Treasurer
- (3) The Attorney-General
- (4) The Minister for Justice
- (5) The Minister for Energy and Renewables
- (6) The Minister for Sports and Events
- (7) The Minister for Parks
- (8) The Minister for Health
- (9) The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs
- (10) The Minister for Veterans’ Affairs
- (11) The Minister for Innovation, Science and the Digital Economy
- (12) The Minister for Corrections and Rehabilitation
- (13) The Minister for the Environment
- (14) The Minister for the Arts and Heritage
- (15) The Minister for Business, Industry and Resources
- (16) The Minister for Transport
- (17) The Minister for Infrastructure
- (18) The Minister for Local Government

Committee B

- (1) The Premier
- (2) The Minister for Tourism
- (3) The Minister for Trade and Major Investment
- (4) The Minister for Children and Youth
- (5) The Minister for Mental Health and Wellbeing
- (6) The Minister for Community Services
- (7) The Minister for Finance

- (8) The Minister for Housing and Planning
- (9) The Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management
- (10) The Minister for Skills and Training
- (11) The Minister for Primary Industries and Water
- (12) The Minister for Small Business and Hospitality
- (13) The Minister for Racing
- (14) The Minister for Education
- (15) The Minister for Disability Services
- (16) The Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence

And further, I move that:—

Ms Forrest,
Mr Harriss,
Ms Lovell,
Ms O'Connor, and
Ms Thomas

be of Committee A

and

Ms Armitage,
Mr Edmunds,
Mr Gaffney,
Ms Rattray, and
Ms Webb

be of Committee B. (*Ms Forrest*)

10 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE.— *Ordered,* That *Ms Forrest* have leave to move a Motion without Notice.

11 ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS SCRUTINY COMMITTEES.— *Ordered,* That two Government Businesses Scrutiny Committees be established to inquire into Government Businesses in accordance with the schedule detailed below and rules as set out in the Standing Orders at Part 22.

That the Committees have leave to sit on Tuesday, 3 December and Wednesday, 4 December 2024 between the hours of 9.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. or such other time as varied by the Chair and as necessary for the purpose of relevant stakeholder and deliberative meetings.

For 2024 Government Businesses are allocated to the Committees as follows:—

Committee A

Tuesday, 3 December

- Tasmanian Public Finance Corporation
- Tasmanian Water and Sewerage Corporation Pty Ltd
- Metro Tasmania Pty Ltd
- Aurora Energy Pty Ltd

Committee B

Wednesday, 4 December 2024

- Tasmanian Railways Pty Ltd
- TasRacing Pty Ltd
- Tasmanian Irrigation Pty Ltd
- Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority

And that:—

Ms Forrest,
Mr Harriss,
Ms Lovell,
Ms O'Connor, and
Ms Thomas

be of Committee A

and

Ms Armitage,
Mr Edmunds,
Mr Gaffney,
Ms Rattray, and
Ms Webb

be of Committee B.

And that the Committees report on the Government Businesses by no later than 20 December 2024.

If the Legislative Council is not sitting when the Government Businesses Scrutiny Committees complete their reports, those reports may be presented to the President or if the President is unable to act, to the Deputy President or other Office holder and in that event:—

- (a) the reports shall be deemed to have been presented to the Council;
- (b) the publication of the reports is authorised by this Resolution;
- (c) the President, Deputy President or other Office holder, as the case may be, may give directions for the printing and circulation of the reports; and
- (d) the President, Deputy President or other Office holder, as the case may be, shall direct the Clerk to lay the reports upon the Table at the next sitting of the Council. (*Ms Forrest*)

12 FINANCIAL WELLBEING IN TASMANIA.— A Motion was made (*Mr Edmunds*) and the Question was proposed, That the Colony 47 and MyState Bank Financial Wellbeing in Tasmania June 2024 Report be considered and noted.

A Debate arose thereupon.

Ordered, That *Mr Edmunds*, have leave to Table the Colony 47 and MyState Bank Financial Wellbeing in Tasmania June 2024 Report.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative

13 TEEN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE IN TASMANIA.— A Motion was made (*Ms Forrest*) and the Question was proposed, That the Legislative Council:—

- (1) Notes the Research brief by Dr Carmel Hobbs, published in November 2022 titled *Young, in love and in danger – Teen domestic violence and abuse in Tasmania*;
- (2) Notes the seven (7) recommendations in the research brief; and
- (3) Calls on the Government to provide a formal response to each of the recommendations that includes actions the Government will take in response to each recommendation.

A Debate arose thereupon.

14 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.

15 QUESTION TIME.— The President called for Questions without Notice. There were ten Questions asked.

16 SUPPLEMENTARY PAPER.— The Clerk of the Council laid upon the Table the *Archives Act 1983*: Statutory Rules 2024, No. 48, Archives Regulations 2024.

17 TEEN DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE IN TASMANIA.— The Council resumed the Debate on the Question, That the Legislative Council:—

- (1) Notes the Research brief by Dr Carmel Hobbs, published in November 2022 titled *Young, in love and in danger – Teen domestic violence and abuse in Tasmania*;
- (2) Notes the seven (7) recommendations in the research brief; and
- (3) Calls on the Government to provide a formal response to each of the recommendations that includes actions the Government will take in response to each recommendation.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

18 DOMESTIC, FAMILY AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE COMMISSION'S YEARLY REPORT.— A Motion was made (Mr *Gaffney*) and the Question was proposed, That the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commission's Yearly Report on the progress of the National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032 be considered and noted.

A Debate arose thereupon.

19 SITTING SUSPENDED.— It being 4.00 o'clock p.m. the Sitting of the Council was suspended.

The Council resumed the Sitting at 4.30 o'clock p.m.

20 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE.— *Ordered*, That Ms *Forrest* have leave to move a Motion without Notice.

21 AMENDMENT OF RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING GOVERNMENT BUSINESS SCRUTINY COMMITTEES.— *Ordered*, That the Resolution of the Council of today's date establishing Government Business Scrutiny Committees be amended by including Motor Accidents Insurance Board in the Government Businesses to be scrutinised by Committee B on Wednesday, 4 December 2024. (Ms *Forrest*)

22 DOMESTIC, FAMILY AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE COMMISSION'S YEARLY REPORT.— The Council resumed the Debate on the Question, That the Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commission's Yearly Report on the progress of the National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032 be considered and noted.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

23 STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT 2024.— A Motion was made (Ms *O'Connor*) and the Question was proposed, That the Legislative Council:—

- (1) Notes the long-delayed State of the Environment Report 2024 prepared by the Tasmanian Planning Commission and tabled in the Council on 17 September 2024.
- (2) Further notes the findings in the Report that of the 29 indicators:
 - (a) 16 (55%) are deteriorating, including: Sea surface temperature, kelp, threatened marine fish, beach change, saltmarshes, migratory shorebirds, pests, soil diversity and condition, land use intensification, native vegetation extent and fragmentation, native vegetation, threatened flora, threatened fauna;

- (b) six (21%) are stable, including: fisheries, the extent of marram grass, Macquarie Island Albatrosses, Gulls, resident shorebirds, and greenhouse gas emissions;
 - (c) five (17%) are unknown, including: Soil stability, wetlands, water quality, liquid waste, and solid waste; and
 - (d) only two (7%) are improving, including the extent of rice grass, and particulate matter in the air.
- (3) Recognises the Report paints a dismal and challenging picture of decline that must be arrested.
- (4) Further notes the 16 Report recommendations including:
- (a) Development of a long-term vision and strategy for Tasmania's environment;
 - (b) Exploring opportunities for the government to collaborate with the Aboriginal community in ways that continue to incorporate Aboriginal knowledge and values into better care of the environment;
 - (c) Development of an environmental data strategy;
 - (d) Contemporising the Resource Management and Planning System objectives and legislation;
 - (e) Establishing more marine protected areas;
 - (f) Undertaking a review of Tasmania's coastal policy;
 - (g) Supporting the collection and analysis of fisheries-independent data;
 - (h) Improving native vegetation mapping and information;
 - (i) Implementing measures to end illegal vegetation clearance;
 - (j) Continued investment in Tasmania's terrestrial reserve system in order to maintain the integrity of the current reserve estate;
 - (k) Implementation of a state-wide soil monitoring program;
 - (l) Strengthening fire management activities;
 - (m) Regular review of programs dealing with biosecurity matters and invasive species to ensure these programs are properly resourced, strengthened and prioritised;
 - (n) Development of a broader water policy, monitoring and reporting approach;
 - (o) Air quality monitoring and emissions reduction across all sectors; and
 - (p) Implementation of the Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy.
- (5) Calls on the Government to implement all of the recommendations in the report for the health of our environment, the health of our people, the health of our economy and the future of *Lutruwita* / Tasmania.

A Debate arose thereupon.

24 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 6.39 o'clock p.m. and resumed at 7.34 o'clock p.m.

25 STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT 2024.— The Council resumed the Debate on the Question, That the Legislative Council:—

- (1) Notes the long-delayed State of the Environment Report 2024 prepared by the Tasmanian Planning Commission and tabled in the Council on 17 September 2024.
- (2) Further notes the findings in the Report that of the 29 indicators:
 - (a) 16 (55%) are deteriorating, including: Sea surface temperature, kelp, threatened marine fish, beach change, saltmarshes, migratory shorebirds, pests, soil diversity and condition, land use intensification, native vegetation extent and fragmentation, native vegetation, threatened flora, threatened fauna;

- (b) six (21%) are stable, including: fisheries, the extent of marram grass, Macquarie Island Albatrosses, Gulls, resident shorebirds, and greenhouse gas emissions;
 - (c) five (17%) are unknown, including: Soil stability, wetlands, water quality, liquid waste, and solid waste; and
 - (d) only two (7%) are improving, including the extent of rice grass, and particulate matter in the air.
- (3) Recognises the Report paints a dismal and challenging picture of decline that must be arrested.
- (4) Further notes the 16 Report recommendations including:
- (a) Development of a long-term vision and strategy for Tasmania's environment;
 - (b) Exploring opportunities for the government to collaborate with the Aboriginal community in ways that continue to incorporate Aboriginal knowledge and values into better care of the environment;
 - (c) Development of an environmental data strategy;
 - (d) Contemporising the Resource Management and Planning System objectives and legislation;
 - (e) Establishing more marine protected areas;
 - (f) Undertaking a review of Tasmania's coastal policy;
 - (g) Supporting the collection and analysis of fisheries-independent data;
 - (h) Improving native vegetation mapping and information;
 - (i) Implementing measures to end illegal vegetation clearance;
 - (j) Continued investment in Tasmania's terrestrial reserve system in order to maintain the integrity of the current reserve estate;
 - (k) Implementation of a state-wide soil monitoring program;
 - (l) Strengthening fire management activities;
 - (m) Regular review of programs dealing with biosecurity matters and invasive species to ensure these programs are properly resourced, strengthened and prioritised;
 - (n) Development of a broader water policy, monitoring and reporting approach;
 - (o) Air quality monitoring and emissions reduction across all sectors; and
 - (p) Implementation of the Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy.
- (5) Calls on the Government to implement all of the recommendations in the report for the health of our environment, the health of our people, the health of our economy and the future of *lutruwita*/Tasmania.

Ordered, That Mrs *Hiscutt* have leave to Table a document titled 'Tasmanian Government Work Underway: State of the Environment Report Recommendations' and have it incorporated into the Hansard record.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

26 MANDATORY CASHLESS CARD SYSTEM FOR POKER MACHINES.—

A Motion was made (Ms *Webb*) and the Question was proposed, That the Legislative Council —

- (1) Notes the State Government's Tasmanian Liquor and Gaming Commission Ministerial Direction (No. 1) 2022 requiring the implementation of a mandatory cashless card system for poker machines in Tasmanian hotels, clubs and casinos, including loss limits, breaks in play and optional commitment for time spent playing;
- (2) Acknowledges the Tasmanian Liquor and Gaming Commission's public consultation process on the implementation of the poker machine mandatory card, which closed on the 18th of October this year;

- (3) Notes the statement provided on the Adjournment debate by the Leader of Government Business in the House of Assembly, on Wednesday the 16th of October this year, that the Department of State Growth has engaged Deloitte Access Economics to undertake an analysis of the social and economic impact of the Government's poker machine pre-commitment card policy;
- (4) Further notes that the Premier has not released publicly the terms of reference or contract provided for the Deloitte Access Economic review; and
- (5) Calls on the Government to release immediately the terms of reference for the Deloitte Access Economics' social and economic impact review of the poker machine pre-commitment card policy, as commissioned by the Department of State Growth.

A Debate arose thereupon.

Ordered, That Mrs *Hiscutt* have leave to Table a document titled 'Phases of Deloitte Access Economics' social and economic impact review of Government's poker machine pre-commitment card policy as commissioned by the Department of State Growth' and have it incorporated into the Hansard record.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

27 ADJOURNMENT.— *Resolved*, That the Council will, at its rising, adjourn until 11.00 o'clock a.m. on Wednesday, 30 October 2024. (Mrs *Hiscutt*)

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

The Council adjourned at 10.00 o'clock p.m.

C.L. VICKERS, *Clerk of the Council*.