

Minister for Small Business and Consumer Affairs
Minister for Corrections and Rehabilitation
Minister for the Arts
Minister for Women and the Prevention of Family Violence

Level 5, 4 Salamanca Place HOBART TAS 7000 Australia
GPO Box 123 HOBART TAS 7001 Australia
Ph: +61 3 6165 7686
Email: minister.ogilvie@dpac.tas.gov.au



Mark Shelton MP
Liberal Member for Lyons
mark.shelton@dpac.tas.gov.au

Dear Mr Shelton

Thank you for your question about the Tasmanian Government's \$1 million Island Screen Incentive program and the benefits for the broader economy external to the arts sector. An important part of our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future is about developing strong communities and delivering creative sector opportunities across our state. Not only are the arts, cultural, and creative sectors important to Tasmania, they encourage innovation, enrich local and visitor experience, and enhance well-being.

The Island Screen Incentive program ensures our unique Tasmanian stories, landscapes, people, and wildlife continue to intrigue, engage, and entertain audiences around the world.

This investment is anticipated to deliver at least \$10 million in expenditure on Tasmanian goods and services. With countless businesses involved in productions, this expenditure is welcome news to those already in the market and for others who are yet to capitalise on these opportunities.

In total, our \$1 million investment in this program is designed to draw total production budgets of around \$40 million – certainly no small figure. As we know, this investment is not just about facilitating the purchase of goods and services, it also means jobs. We expect employment of 200 cast and crew, plus significant numbers of extras once productions are underway.

Not only do these jobs provide opportunities for Tasmanians to put a roof over their head and food on the table, but they also provide for on-the-job experiences and training, which may have otherwise not been available. For example, Tasmanian film industry professionals will be moving from Netflix's *The Survivors* onto ABC's *Bay of Fires* season 2 with crews and actors developing skills and experience on larger and more complex projects. This creates a pipeline which supports their next stage of growth. By having these trained professionals, it attracts more and larger productions that see Tasmania as a viable option in which to do business.

Importantly, productions utilising the incentive will have to demonstrate a commitment to training Tasmanian crew, but how this is done is flexible and will be negotiated between government and the applicant. Whether this is through traineeships on the set, paying for delivery of short-courses, or the donation of gear to TasTAFE, we are excited to see what ideas applicants will have.

The Island Screen Incentive Program will enhance opportunities for Tasmania and Tasmanians in the short-term and it will also set up the production pipeline through 2024-25 onwards. The goal is to have year-round work in the state, which in turn provides opportunities for the local businesses that support such productions.

I am pleased to report that industry's response to this incentive program's design is seen as extremely positive by local, national, and even international stakeholders. Production companies are already indicating they have projects that could work well for Tasmania now that we have the production incentive in place.

The Tasmanian Liberal Government is committed to growing the capacity, talent, and creative skills of the Tasmanian screen industry, as well as the associated benefits for business and industries involved more broadly.

Mr Shelton, thank you again for your question, and I trust that the many businesses, and participants in our creative sector throughout Lyons will welcome the benefits our Island Screen Incentive program will bring.

Yours sincerely



Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP
Minister for the Arts