Minister for Energy and Renewables Minister for Sports and Events Minister for Parks

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Mr Simon Behrakis Member for Clerk Via Clerk of the House of Assembly

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Dear Mr Behrakis

I write in response to a question raised in Parliament on behalf of your constituents on 27 November 2024. I am pleased that on November 25 the Government opened a process to test investor interest in developing a new ice rink in Hobart.

The Government wants to hear from developers with experience in delivering similar facilities who have the capacity to take on this significant project. I have met with Ice Sports Tasmania to discuss the matter and heard firsthand about the importance of this facility for those involved in ice sports. I understand the impact the ice rink closure has had on the local community and recognise the work that has been going on behind the scenes with our sporting sector bodies.

Since the privately-operated Glenorchy rink closed in mid-2022, the Tasmanian Government has been working to identify opportunities for a new venue that can host ice sports practice, competitions and recreational skating. We've been working hard behind the scenes with our sporting sector bodies and we're now seeking interest from potential investors to build a new facility.

We are now inviting private operators, developers and investors to lodge their credentials so the Government can actively sound out market interest and capacity and identify potential delivery partners. The feasibility study found there was demand for around 75,000 visits to an ice rink each year, demonstrating ongoing viability of the facility.

We encourage interested parties to register their interest now ahead of a formal Expressions of Interest process, subject to demand, to be released in early 2025. For more information and to register interest visit www.infrastructure.tas.gov.au or contact icerinktas@cushwake.com

Once again thank you for raising this important issue with me. I trust this information is helpful for your constituents.

Yours sincerely

Hon Nick Duigan MLC

Minister for Sports and Events