

Minister for Environment
Minister for Innovation, Science, and the Digital Economy
Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Arts and Heritage

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



Mr Carlo Di Falco MP
Shooters, Fishers and Farmers Party Member for Lyons
C/o- Laura.Ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

6 NOV 2025

Dear Mr Di Falco

Thank you for raising your concerns regarding Woolmers Estate.

The Tasmanian Government acknowledges the cultural and historical significance of this UNESCO World Heritage-listed convict site and affirms its dedication to protecting such heritage assets.

Of the historic heritage places on the UNESCO World Heritage Listing, Woolmers Estate and Brickendon Estate are two of only three not in a form of government ownership (Old Government House owned by the National Trust New South Wales being the third). For this reason, the *Australian Convicts Sites Strategic Management Framework 2018* signed by the relevant State and Australian Government Ministers, recognises Woolmers and Brickendon Estates as an exception, requiring ongoing assistance in terms of protection and conservation. The Framework recognises the joint responsibility of all tiers of government for this task.

Since February 2024, the Tasmanian Government has provided funding of \$474,000 to Woolmers Estate. Since 2016, the Tasmanian Government has provided Woolmers with total funding in excess of \$2.4 million. This assistance has included financial and in-kind support for heritage conservation, strategic planning, business advice, and operations.

As Minister for the Arts and Heritage, I wrote to the Australian Government seeking a commitment of ongoing funding assistance. A commitment was subsequently made by the Australian Government during the 2025 Federal election campaign. Funding of \$400,000 was each granted to Woolmers and Brickendon Estates, and the Tasmanian Government has assisted the Australian Government by managing the granting and payment of these funds, which has now been disbursed to the recipients.

The Tasmanian Government continues to work closely with the Woolmers Foundation and other stakeholders to identify sustainable funding pathways and operational solutions. As Woolmers Estate is privately owned, the Tasmanian Government has consistently supported its preservation through both direct investment and strategic engagement.

It is important to note that heritage protection is a shared responsibility. The Tasmanian Government remains actively engaged in fulfilling its obligations under the World Heritage Convention and the Australian Convict Sites Strategic Management Framework.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M Ogilvie', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Hon Madeleine Ogilvie MP
Minister for Arts and Heritage