

18 November 2025

Hon Ruth Forrest MLC
Chair
Legislative Council Select Committee ESTIMATES A
HOBART TAS 7000

Issued by email only

The Hon Ruth Forrest

Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2025

Responses to question taken on notice – Tasmanian Audit Office

What date did you advise the shareholder Ministers that you had reported TT Line insolvency to ASIC?

- A. To clarify, I did not directly advise the shareholder ministers. The Government was subject to caretaker conventions during the relevant period from 18 June 2025 to 19 August 2025.

On 11 July I formed the opinion that I had reasonable grounds to suspect that the Company would not be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due. This triggered a 28-day timeframe within which, as Company Auditor, I must notify ASIC under S311 of the Corporations Act.

I notified the Company on 22 July and after granting a period to provide any other relevant information I notified the Secretaries of the Departments of Treasury and Finance and Department of Premier and Cabinet by email on 31 July 2025. I am unaware of whether the shareholding Ministers were advised.

Clarification to answer to the Q from the Hon Cassy O'Connor MLC: Have you formally advised the government of the impact of reduced funding of the Tasmanian Audit Office?

- A. Yes – through:
- publishing and presenting my Annual Plan on 5 June 2025, I brought this to the attention of the Public Accounts Committee, the Treasurer and the Parliament.
 - regular reporting to the Department of Treasury and Finance I have submitted budget efficiency dividend savings strategies noting the reduction in staffing of the Performance Audit Services unit, and
 - attendance on 12 February 2025, I advised the Budget Committee of Cabinet.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Thompson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Martin Thompson
Auditor-General

Copy for:

Jenny Mannering - Committee Secretary, Legislative Council