

Minister for Infrastructure  
Minister for Local Government

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28 NOV 2024

Ms Janie Finlay MP  
Parliament House, Hobart, TAS 7000

c\ - Laura.Ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Finlay

In Parliament on 20 November 2024 you asked the following question:

*This question is a matter that has been raised with me by constituents from Flinders Island regarding the Safe Harbour project at Lady Barron.*

*The project has been described as important to the community. It is a great opportunity for a safe haven for vessels crossing Bass Strait. It supports increased visitation to Flinders Island and to the broader Furneaux group, and also makes a significant contribution to the local economy by triggering additional private investment on the island. The state government has seen fit to make a contribution of funds, as has, as I understand, the Australian Government.*

*There have been positive conversations between a group called the Safe Harbour Action Group and council, and they are keen to see that project delivered to the island.*

*I am wondering if you can provide an update to the House on details of all the funds at any time that have been committed to that project, and outline if the state is concerned that the project as described above is now not what is being proposed to be delivered to the people of the island?*

In response to your question, TasPorts has advised that it has agreed to a contribution of \$900,000 to the Safe Harbour Project for the construction and upgrade of assets within the new Safe Harbour Precinct at Port of Lady Baron.

The Flinders Island Council is progressing the project, that I understand has changed over time due to advice provided by independent consultants.

TasPorts is pleased to support the Council and community to deliver their project that will ultimately improve infrastructure and safety around the working port and public wharf, and further encourage marine tourism.

Yours sincerely

Hon Kerry Vincent MLC  
**Minister for Infrastructure**