



# LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SESSION OF 2025 - 2026

(FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT)

## NOTICES OF MOTION AND ORDERS OF THE DAY

No. 31

Thursday 21 May 2026

The Council meets at 11.00 am

### Notices of Motion

**1 Office of the Custodial Inspector Annual Report 2023-24**

Given by: Ms *Webb*

Date: 19 August 2025

To be moved:

That the Office of the Custodial Inspector Annual Report 2023-24, and recent public statements of Custodial Inspector Richard Connock, be considered and noted.

**2 Tasmania's Forest Carbon 2025 Update Report**

Given by: Ms *O'Connor*

Date: 12 September 2025

To be moved:

That the Legislative Council:

- (1) Notes the release of the report 'Tasmania's Forest Carbon – 2025 Update', a co-sponsored project by the Tasmanian Climate Collective, the Tree Projects and the Wilderness Society, and authored by internationally respected scientist, Dr Jen Sanger.
- (2) Accepts the scientific fact that unlogged forests are the reason Tasmania can claim to be one of the first jurisdictions in the world to become net zero, evidenced by the State's greenhouse accounts from 2012 onwards.
- (3) Notes the report finds Tasmania's forests currently draw down an estimated 22 million tonnes of carbon each year, which would more than triple by 2050 if native forest logging ceases and forests are managed for climate, biodiversity, recreation and tourism.
- (4) Recognises the report finds that ongoing native forest logging and burning is also the State's single biggest emitter, with industrial scale forestry burns accounting for the emission of an estimated 1.6 million tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>e) each year.
- (5) Notes with concern federal and state government moves to facilitate the further burning of native forest for biomass, including at Goliath Cement in Railton.
- (6) Agrees that the single most effective step Tasmania can take to reduce emissions is to end native forest logging and burning – the necessary and ethical response to accelerating global heating which will impact on our communities, environment and economy with increasing intensity in the decades ahead.

### **3 Tasmanian Liquor and Gaming Commission Ministerial Direction**

Given by: Ms *Webb*

Date: 23 September 2025

To be moved:

- (1) That the Legislative Council notes:
  - a) The State Government's Tasmanian Liquor and Gaming Commission Ministerial Direction (No. 1) 2022 requiring a mandatory cashless card system for poker machines in Tasmanian hotels, clubs and casinos, including loss limits, breaks in play and optional commitment for time spent playing be developed and implemented;
  - b) The Tasmanian Liquor and Gaming Commission undertook extensive public consultation on the implementation of the proposed poker machine mandatory pre-commitment card;
  - c) The proposed mandatory pre-commitment card was originally scheduled to be implemented by the end of 2024, and intended to cap losses at \$100 per day, or \$5,000 per year;
  - d) The State government announced on the 16 October 2024, that the Department of State Growth had engaged Deloitte Access Economics to undertake an analysis of the social and economic impact of the Government's poker machine mandatory pre-commitment card policy; and
  - e) That the terms of reference or contract provided for the Deloitte Access Economic review have not been released publicly; and
- (2) That the Legislative Council further notes:
  - a) In November 2024, the Premier announced an indefinite pause on proceeding with the proposed mandatory pre-commitment card; and
  - b) In June this year, the Premier further stated a mandatory pre-commitment card will not be introduced in Tasmania unless there is a national approach on the issue;
- (3) That the Legislative Council also notes with concern the state annual poker machine losses for 2024-25 which totalled \$193,908,165, a decade high level of losses from the Tasmanian community; and
- (4) That the Legislative Council calls on the Tasmanian Government to release immediately the 2024 Deloitte Access Economics' social and economic impact review report of the poker machine pre-commitment card policy.

### **4 Tasmanian Planning Commission Final Integrated Assessment Report**

Given by: Ms *O'Connor*

Date: 24 September 2025

To be moved:

That the Tasmanian Planning Commission Final Integrated Assessment Report, released on 17 September 2025, into the proposed Macquarie Point Multipurpose Stadium Project of State Significance be considered and noted.

**5 Report of the Office of the Custodial Inspector: Custody – Reception to Release Inspection Report 2025**

Given by: Ms Armitage

Date: 4 November 2025

To be moved:

That the Office of the Custodial Inspector's Custody: Reception to Release Inspection Report 2025, be considered and noted.

**6 Independent Review into the actions taken in response to the information and concerns raised by the Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings**

Given by: Ms Webb

Date: 11 November 2025

To be moved:

That this House notes:

- (1) The independent review established in November 2023 and undertaken by former Australian Public Service Commissioner Peter Woolcott AO, known as the *Independent Review into the actions taken in response to the information and concerns raised by the Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings*; and
- (2) The Independent Review's findings and recommendations.

**7 Security Contractor Transport of Young People in Custody: Safeguarding Review 2025**

Given by: Ms Webb

Date: 3 December 2025

To be moved:

That the *Security Contractor Transport of Young People in Custody: Safeguarding Review 2025* published by the Office of the Custodial Inspector Tasmania on 2 December 2025, be considered and noted.

**8 Commission of Inquiry – Susan Neill-Fraser Conviction**

Given by: Mr Gaffney

Date: 3 December 2025

To be moved:

That the Legislative Council:

- (1) Notes there is no Criminal Cases Review Commission in Australia to enable the independent review of convictions post appeal, as is the case in other countries including the United Kingdom, Canada and New Zealand;
- (2) Notes the cases of Lindy Chamberlain, Kathleen Folbigg, Andrew Mallard and Henry Keogh, all of whom had their convictions for murder quashed following significant concerns being raised by supporters regarding miscarriages of justice having occurred in their respective cases;
- (3) Notes the body of evidence and material that has emerged since the conviction of Sue

Neill-Fraser for the murder of Bob Chappell in 2010 that may raise doubt on the soundness of that conviction; and

- (4) Calls on the government to establish a Commission of Inquiry to enquire into and report on the correctness of the conviction of Susan Neill-Fraser for the murder of Bob Chappell.

## **9 Honouring the Willow Court Historic Site**

Given by: Mr *Gaffney*

Date: 10 December 2025

To be moved:

That the Paper 'Honouring the Willow Court Historic Site: Realising the Potential of a World-Class Tasmanian Asset' by Dr Richard Benjamin be considered and noted.

## **10 Tasmanian Human Rights Act**

Given by: Ms *Webb*

Date: 10 December 2025

To be moved:

- (1) That the Legislative Council notes the resolutions of this House passed on the 22 November 2022 and on the 26 November 2024 requesting the Tasmanian Government commence work on developing a Tasmanian Human Rights Act in accordance with the recommendations made by the 2007 Tasmanian Law Reform Institute's *A Charter for Human Rights for Tasmania Final Report*, and again in the TLRI's Update Report of 2024;
- (2) That the Legislative Council further notes that 10 December 2025 is the annual International Human Rights Day which commemorates the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948, and that the 2025 theme is "Our Everyday Essentials";
- (3) That the Legislative Council further notes that:
  - (a) Human Rights Acts have been enacted in the Australian Capital Territory for the last 21 years, Victoria for the last 19 years, and Queensland for the last 6 years;
  - (b) In April 2025 the South Australian Parliamentary Social Development Committee formally recommended the enactment of a Human Rights Act for that state;
  - (c) In October 2025 a Bill for a Human Rights Act and to also establish a NSW Human Rights Commission was tabled in the New South Wales State Parliament;
- (4) And that the Legislative Council also notes with disappointment that the Tasmanian government has still failed to heed the previous resolutions of this House to progress a Tasmanian Human Rights Act for the protection of the "Everyday Essentials" crucial for all Tasmanians.

**11 Banning the Use of Character References During Sentencing**

Given by: Mr *Edmunds*

Date: 6 March 2025

To be moved:

That the Legislative Council:

(1) Notes:

(a) Announcements and reforms in other states and territories to ban the use of character references during the sentencing of convicted criminals;

(b) The calls by advocates to follow the lead of other Australian jurisdictions such as Victoria, ACT and NSW; and

(c) The 'Your Reference Aint Relevant' campaign which has driven these changes; and

(2) Calls on the Tasmanian Government to introduce legislation in Tasmania to ban the use of character references in sentencing in this state.

**12 Report of the 2024-25 Independent Review of the Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008**

Given by: Ms *O'Connor*

Date: 26 March 2026

To be moved:

That the Report of the 2024-25 Independent Review of the *Climate Change (State Action) Act 2008*, be considered and noted.

**13 Time Limits Sessional Order**

Given by: Ms *Armitage*

Date: 19 May 2026

To be moved:

That the Legislative Council agree that, for the duration of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Parliament (or until further order), the following Sessional Order apply to proceedings in the Legislative Council:

(1) Application – this Sessional Order applies to:

(a) Second reading speeches on bills;

(b) Contributions during Committee stage consideration of a bill or matter (including multiple speaks);

(c) Third reading speeches on bills;

(d) Government or Private members' motions;

(e) Contributions in response to Government or Private members' motions;

(2) Second Reading Speeches – Time Limits

(a) The Member moving the Second Reading may speak for up to 60 minutes.

(b) The Member who moved the Second Reading may speak for up to 60 minutes in reply.

(c) Any other Member may speak for up to 60 minutes.

(3) Government or Private members' motions – Time Limits

(a) The Member moving the motion may speak for up to 60 minutes.

(b) Any other Member may speak for up to 60 minutes.

(4) Committee Stage – Time Limits

- (a) Each Member may speak up to three (3) times to the same question, in accordance with the Council's procedures.
- (b) Each contribution ("speak") by a Member is limited to 15 minutes.
- (5) Committee Stage - Amendments
  - (a) The Member moving an amendment may speak up to 15 minutes.
  - (b) Each Member may speak up to three (3) times to the same amendment in accordance with the Council's Standing Orders.
  - (c) Each contribution ("speak") by a Member is limited to 10 minutes.
- (6) Third Reading – Time Limits
  - (a) The Member moving the Third Reading may speak for up to 15 minutes.
  - (b) The Member who moved the Third Reading may speak for up to 15 minutes in reply.
  - (c) Any other Member may speak for up to 10 minutes.
- (7) Inaugural Speech Time Limits
  - (a) A Member shall be entitled to speak for an unlimited period of time.
- (8) Extensions and Flexibility
  - (a) The time limits in clauses 2-4 may be extended:
    - (i) By leave of the Council; or
    - (ii) On motion, without notice, moved at any time by any Member and determined without debate.
  - (b) A Motion under 5(a)(ii) must specify:
    - (i) The Member(s) to whom the extension applies;
    - (ii) The additional time proposed; and
    - (iii) The reason why an extension is requested.
  - (c) Where a Member is addressing the question and is near the expiry of time, the Chair may allow the Member to conclude their remarks, consistent with orderly conduct of business.
- (9) Effect
  - (a) This Sessional Order operates as a temporary Order of the Council for the purposes set out in Clause 1.

**14 Final Report of the House of Assembly Select Committee on Reproductive, Maternal and Paediatric Health Services in Tasmania**

Given by: Ms Lovell

Date: 20 May 2026

To be moved:

That the Final Report of the House of Assembly Select Committee on Reproductive, Maternal and Paediatric Health Services in Tasmania be considered and noted.

## Orders of the Day

### General Business

- 1 Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts (No. 9 of 2026) Follow-up of the Report of the Auditor-General ICT Strategy, Critical Systems and Investment (No. 4 of 2020-21)**  
Mover: Ms Forrest  
Date: Report tabled and made an Order of the Day on 26 March 2026  
Status: Report to be considered and noted
  
- [Statutory Holidays Amendment Bill 2026 \(14 of 2026\)](#)**  
Mover: Ms Lovell  
Date: Read a First time on 15 May 2026  
Status: Awaiting Second reading
  
- 3 Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts (No. 18 of 2026) Review of the Tasmanian Fiscal Sustainability Report 2026**  
Mover: Ms Forrest  
Date: Report tabled and made an Order of the Day on 19 May 2026  
Status: Report to be considered and noted

## Orders of the Day

### Government Business

- 1 [Help to Buy \(Commonwealth Powers\) Bill 2026 \(9 of 2026\)](#)**  
Mover: Mr Vincent  
Date: Reported without amendment by the Committee of the Whole Council on 20 May 2026  
Status: Awaiting Third reading
  
- 2 [Building Amendment Bill 2026 \(1 of 2026\)](#)**  
Mover: Mr Vincent  
Date: Reported with amendments by the Committee of the Whole Council on 20 May 2026  
Status: Consideration of Bill as amended in Committee of Whole Council
  
- 3 [Local Government Amendment \(Targeted Reform\) Bill 2026 \(10 of 2026\)](#)**  
Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Second reading debate adjourned on 20 May 2026 (Ms Rattray)  
Status: Awaiting Second reading  
Spoken: Mr Vincent, Ms Rattray

- 4** [Education and Care Services National Law \(Application\) Amendment Bill 2026 \(7 of 2026\)](#)  
Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Read a First time on 14 April 2026  
Status: Awaiting Second reading
- 5** [Public Health Amendment \(Prohibited Tobacco and Other Products\) Bill 2026 \(8 of 2026\)](#)  
Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Read a First time on 15 May 2026  
Status: Awaiting Second reading
- 6** [Residential Parks Bill 2026 \(2 of 2026\)](#)  
Mover: Ms Rattray  
Status: Second reading debate adjourned on 16 April 2026 (Ms Webb)  
Spoken: Ms Rattray, Ms Palmer, Mr Gaffney, Mr Vincent, Mr Duigan, Ms Webb
- 7** [Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments \(Phasing Out Reform\) Bill 2025 \(66 of 2025\)](#)  
Mover: Mr Vincent  
Status: Second reading debate adjourned on 15 April 2026 (Mr Edmunds)  
Spoken: Mr Vincent, Ms Rattray, Mr Hiscutt, Ms Forrest, Mr Edmunds
- 8** [Police Offences Amendment \(Increased Penalties for Damage to Tasmanian War Memorials\) Bill 2026 \(5 of 2026\)](#)  
Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Read a First time on 19 March 2026  
Status: Awaiting Second reading
- 9** [Occupational Licensing Amendment Bill 2026 \(6 of 2026\)](#)  
Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Read a First time on 26 March 2026  
Status: Awaiting Second reading
- 10** [Charities and Associations Law \(Miscellaneous\) Amendment Bill 2025 \(65 of 2025\)](#)  
Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Read a First time on 26 March 2026  
Status: Awaiting Second reading
- 11** [Police Offences Amendment Bill 2025 \(50 of 2025\)](#)  
Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Read a First time on 15 May 2026  
Status: Awaiting Second reading
- 12** [Integrity Commission Amendment \(Mandatory Notifications\) Bill 2025 \(69 of 2025\)](#)  
Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Read a First time on 15 May 2026  
Status: Awaiting Second reading

**13** [Mt Lyell Acid Drainage Reduction \(Repeal\) Bill 2025 \(53 of 2025\)](#)

Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Read a First time on 15 May 2026  
Status: Awaiting Second reading

**14** [Short Stay Levy Bill 2026 \(13 of 2026\)](#)

Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Read a First time on 15 May 2026  
Status: Awaiting Second reading

**15** [Public Accounts Committee Amendment Bill 2025 \(49 of 2025\)](#)

Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Read a First time on 23 September 2025  
Status: Awaiting Second reading

**16** **Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence: Establishment of Joint Standing Committee**

Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Message received and made an Order of the Day on 12 September 2025  
Status: Message to be considered

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly having agreed to the following Resolution, begs now to transmit the same to the Legislative Council, and to request its concurrence therein—

*Resolved,*

- (1) That a Joint Standing Committee on Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence be appointed with the power to send for persons and papers, with leave to sit during any adjournment of either House and with leave to adjourn from place to place to inquire into and report upon –
  - (a) Any Bill referred to it by either House in order to examine family, domestic and sexual violence impacts, and any such Bill so referred shall be reported upon within 10 sitting days of its referral;
  - (b) Any matter related to family, domestic and sexual violence referred to it by either House; and
  - (c) Any matter related to family, domestic and sexual violence, initiated by its own motion.
- (2) That Notice of any Motion Inquiry shall be reported to both Houses within two (2) sitting days of the Committee's Resolution; and
- (3) That the number of Members to serve on the said Committee on the part of the House of Assembly be 3.

*House of Assembly, 9 September 2025*

JACQUIE PETRUSMA, *Speaker*

**Bill Pro forma (Pursuant to Standing Order 6)<sup>1</sup>**

**17** **Partition Amendment Bill 2025 (Bill No. 35)**

Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Introduced on 19 August 2025  
Status: Read a First time

## Orders of the Day

### Government Business

#### 18 [Justice and Related Legislation \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Bill \(No. 2\) \(39 of 2025\)](#)

Mover: Ms Rattray  
Date: Read a First time on 19 May 2026  
Status: Awaiting Second reading

### Awaiting Government Response

#### Questions on Notice

#### 29 Land Acquisition related to Marinus Link and North West Transmission Developments Projects

Asked by: Mr Gaffney  
To: Minister for Energy and Renewables  
Date: 14 April 2026

Question:

The March 2026 newsletter from TasNetworks states: "Of the 142 private landholders where a new easement is required, TasNetworks has achieved voluntary agreements with 97 per cent. The statutory easement acquisition process will be used for remaining landholders." Additionally, TasNetworks' [Land Access, Land and Easement Acquisition and Compensation Process](#) fact sheet states, "TasNetworks' position is that it will only exercise statutory powers as a last resort. This option will only be considered where all alternative options have been exhausted and it is necessary to allow the timely progress of transmission projects." The same fact sheet asserts, "TasNetworks will make all attempts to negotiate a voluntary acquisition of land or easement with a landholder prior to proceeding to statutory acquisition."

Considering that planning permits granted for the North West Transmission Developments (NWTd) and Marinus Link projects are both currently under appeal, and therefore the future of these proposed developments is subject to a degree of uncertainty at the present time:

- (1) At exactly which point in the NWTd project timeline does TasNetworks intend to use its powers under the *Land Acquisition Act*?
- (2) Is the Government in a position to ensure that TasNetworks will continue to negotiate in good faith with remaining landholders to attempt to achieve a voluntary agreement?
- (3) Will the Government ensure that the *Land Acquisition Act* will not be used to acquire land or easements until such time as all necessary permits in relation to the NWTd and Marinus Link have been granted, and all appeals have been resolved, and it is certain that 'Project Marinus' will continue as intended?

### 30 Exportation and Importation of Electricity

Asked by: Ms Forrest

To: Minister for Energy and Renewables

Date: 14 April 2026

Question:

- (1) With regard to the operations of the National Electricity Market and directional pools and allocation rules:
  - (a) Can the Minister confirm and/or explain:
    - (i) that inter-regional settlement residues are separated into two directional pools - one for flows from Victoria to Tasmania and one for flows from Tasmania to Victoria;
    - (ii) that according to National Electricity Rules, each directional pool is allocated between the two regions and is this a specific rule or a convention; and
    - (iii) that the importing region receives the majority share of each directional pool?
  - (b) For electricity flows from Tasmania into Victoria, can the Minister confirm the percentage of the pool allocated to the Victorian transmission network operator?
- (2) With regard to the treatment of Interregional Residue Revenue by TasNetworks, can the Minister confirm and/or explain:
  - (a) that any residue revenue allocated to TasNetworks, whether from the pool or from auction proceeds, must be treated as regulated revenue under the Australian Energy Regulator's (AER) Post-Tax Revenue Model;
  - (b) that the AER requires all such revenue to be credited against TasNetworks' allowed revenue, thereby reducing the amount recovered from Tasmanian customers; and
  - (c) that Hydro Tasmania does not receive any portion of the residue pool directly under the regulated model?
- (3) With regard to the auctions and pre-auction deductions, can the Minister confirm and/or explain:
  - (a) whether any deductions or allocations are made from each directional pool before the auctionable amount is determined; and
  - (b) if deductions occur, can the Minister list the categories of deductions applied prior to auction;
  - (c) which entity receives any pre-auction allocations from the residue pool; and
  - (d) that Hydro Tasmania can only obtain exposure to inter-regional residues by purchasing units at auction?
- (4) With regard to the future electricity export dynamics under Marinus Link, can the Minister confirm and/or explain:
  - (a) whether Tasmania is expected to become a net exporter of electricity once Marinus Link and the North West Transmission Developments are completed;
  - (b) if Tasmania becomes a net exporter, the dominant directional pool will be the Tasmania-to-Victoria pool;
  - (c) under current rules, the majority of the Tasmania-to-Victoria pool will be allocated to the Victorian transmission network operator;
  - (d) whether the Government has undertaken any modelling of the expected annual value of the Tasmania-to-Victoria pool under future export scenarios; and
    - (i) If so, will the Minister table that modelling?

- (5) With regard to the Whole of State Business Case and information provided to the Minister and Cabinet, can the Minister confirm and/or explain:
  - (a) whether the Whole of System Business Case provided to Cabinet included explicit analysis of how inter-regional residues would be allocated between Tasmania and Victoria under the regulated model;
  - (b) whether Cabinet was provided with modelling of the expected northward and southward pool values over the life of Marinus Link; and
  - (c) whether any analysis was provided to Cabinet on the risk that TasNetworks may receive little or no residue value in years where Tasmania is a net exporter?
- (6) With regard to the Post-Tax Revenue Model (PTRM), and related regulatory process, can the Minister confirm and/or explain:
  - (a) the commencement date, regulatory period and any transitional arrangements applying to Basslink under the Australian Energy Regulator’s revenue determination;
  - (b) whether the AER’s Post-Tax Revenue Model will apply to Basslink from the commencement of regulated operation;
  - (c) whether the AER has provided any guidance to TasNetworks or the Government regarding the treatment of inter-regional residue revenue in the revenue determination; and
  - (d) whether the AER’s revenue determination for Basslink assumed any inter-regional residue revenue in its modelling?
- (7) With regard to the building of new variable renewable energy generation and the role of Hydro Tasmania, can the Minister confirm and/or explain:
  - (a) whether new renewable projects enabled by the North West Transmission Developments are expected to require Hydro Tasmania to provide firming or system support through Power Purchase Agreements;
  - (b) whether the cost of such Power Purchase Agreements will be borne by Hydro Tasmania; and
  - (c) has the Government assessed the combined financial effect of:
    - (i) Hydro providing PPA support for new renewable projects; and
    - (ii) the majority of northward residue value flowing to Victoria?
- (8) With regard to the Hydro Tasmania’s export strategy, can the Minister confirm and/or explain:
  - (a) whether Hydro Tasmania has advised the Government that it has “no export-driven strategy”; and
  - (b) whether the Government’s energy policy continues to rely on export-driven revenue assumptions from Hydro Tasmania?

### **35 Sale of Knives to Children and Young People**

Asked by: *Ms Thomas*

To: Leader for the Government

Date: 19 May 2026

Question:

On 2 December 2025, I asked the Government a series of questions in this place regarding its response to youth offending and community safety. Among those questions were matters

relating to minimum packaging standards for knives and other sharp objects, and the potential banning of the importation or sale of such items to minors.

In response, the Government advised that it was progressing legislation to prohibit the sale of knives to children and young people, and that the proposed legislation would be subject to the usual public consultation process.

- (1) What are the timeframes for developing this proposed legislation?
- (2) When will the draft amendment bill be released for public consultation?
- (3) Will changes to the minimum standards for the packaging of knives and other sharp objects be considered in the legislation?
- (4) Will the proposed legislation include offences or penalties for adults who knowingly purchase knives on behalf of minors?
- (5) What evidence or data will the Government reply upon to conclude that legislative reform relating to the sale of knives and sharp objects is necessary or likely to improve community safety outcomes?
- (6) Has the Government undertaken consultation with Tasmania Police, retailers, shopping centres, school communities or youth service providers in relation to the proposed reforms, and if so, what feedback has been received?
- (7) Has the Government undertaken an analysis of similar legislative provisions in other Australian States and Territories?
  - (a) If so, how many other jurisdictions already have such laws in place?
  - (b) If not, will it undertake this analysis?

### 36 Chemicals Use in Schools

Asked by: Ms Thomas

To: Minister for Education, Children and Youth

Date: 20 May 2026

Question:

Noting the public interest in the use of herbicides, pesticides and fungicides on school grounds and the practice in other Australian jurisdictions to make such information readily accessible, can the Minister please outline the Department for Education, Children and Young People's approach to transparency on this issue, specifically:

- (1) Why does the Department for Education, Children and Young People not make publicly available information identifying the herbicides, pesticides and fungicides used on school grounds in Tasmania, noting that comparable information is publicly accessible in other Australian jurisdictions?
- (2) Why are the documents titled "*Chemical Spraying on Ovals and Grounds – Infosheet*" and "*Chemical and Hazardous Substances*" not available on the Department's public website, and why is the latter currently restricted to the departmental intranet?
- (3) What is the rationale for treating these documents as internal operational guidance rather than information suitable for public access, given the clear community interest in chemical use on school grounds?
- (4) Why are members of the public required to make a Right to Information request to obtain this information?

- (5) Has the Department considered proactively publishing information on the use of herbicides, pesticides and fungicides on school grounds, or a public summary outlining chemical use and associated safety standards? If so, what was the outcome of that consideration?
- (6) If the Department has not considered or progressed proactive publication of on the use of herbicides, pesticides and fungicides on school grounds, why has Tasmania adopted a different approach to transparency in this area compared to other Australian jurisdictions?

### 37 Right to Information Timeframes

Asked by: Ms Thomas

To: Minister for Education, Children and Youth

Date: 20 May 2026

Question:

Minister, in correspondence to my office dated 15 April 2026, you confirmed that the Department for Education, Children and Young People is currently managing approximately 537 personal information applications, with indicative processing timeframes of 12 to 15 months, due to what is described as a significant backlog.

- (1) What specific measures are currently being implemented to reduce this backlog, and what timeframe does the Government expect for bringing processing times back to an acceptable standard?
- (2) Does the Minister consider that delays of 12 to 15 months in processing Right to Information applications are consistent with the requirements and intent of the *Right to Information Act 2009* and the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004*?
- (3) Has the Government received any advice as to whether these delays constitute a breach of statutory obligations under those Acts?
- (4) If not, will the Minister seek such advice?
- (5) Does the Minister agree that it is unacceptable for individuals, particularly those seeking records relating to childhood care and potential redress, to face delays of this magnitude?

Petition <sup>1</sup>	Member	Date Tabled	Response Due
<a href="#">Legislative reform to section 9A of the Family Violence Act 2004 (Tas)</a>	Ms Forrest	17 March 2026	28 May 2026

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<sup>1</sup> Standing Order 44(8) provides that the Leader of the Government table the Government's response to a petition within 15 sitting days.

## Summary of Bills

### Read First Time

No. 35 of 2025	Partition Amendment Bill ( <i>pro forma</i> )
No. 39 of 2025	Justice and Related Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill (No. 2)
No. 49 of 2025	Public Accounts Committee Amendment Bill
No. 50 of 2025	Police Offences Amendment Bill
No. 53 of 2025	Mt Lyell Acid Drainage Reduction (Repeal) Bill
No. 65 of 2025	Charities and Associations Law (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill
No. 69 of 2025	Integrity Commission Amendment (Mandatory Notifications) Bill
No. 5	Police Offences Amendment (Increased Penalties for Damage to Tasmanian War Memorials) Bill
No. 6	Occupational Licensing Amendment Bill
No. 7	Education and Care Services National Law (Application) Amendment Bill
No. 8	Public Health Amendment (Prohibited Tobacco and Other Products) Bill
No. 13	Short Stay Levy Bill
No. 14	Statutory Holidays Amendment Bill

### Second Reading Adjourned

No. 66 of 2025	Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill
No. 2	Residential Parks Bill
No. 10	Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Bill

### Second Reading Negatived

No. 57 of 2025	Budget Accountability and Oversight Committee Bill
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### Consideration of Bill as amended in Committee of Whole Council

No. 1	Building Amendment Bill
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### Awaiting Third Reading

No. 9	Help to Buy (Commonwealth Powers) Bill
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### Agreed to by Both Houses

No. 36 of 2025	Government Business Governance Reforms Bill	Act No. 18 of 2025
No. 37 of 2025	Commissions of Inquiry Amendment (Private Sessions Information) Bill	Act No. 19 of 2025
No. 38 of 2025	Justice and Related Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill	Act No. 17 of 2025
No. 40 of 2025	Residential Tenancy Amendment (Pets) Bill	Act No. 22 of 2025
No. 41 of 2025	Sentencing Amendment (Aggravating Factors) Bill	Act No. 33 of 2025
No. 42 of 2025	Government Business (Sale Reforms) Bill	Act No. 20 of 2025
No. 43 of 2025	Taxation and Related Legislation (First Home Owner and Payroll Relief) Bill	Act No. 31 of 2025
No. 44 of 2025	Custodial Inspector Amendment (Protection from Reprisal) Bill	Act No. 27 of 2025
No. 45 of 2025	Poisons Amendment (Interstate Prescriptions) Bill	Act No. 26 of 2025
No. 46 of 2025	Dangerous Criminals and High Risk Offenders Amendment Bill	Act No. 23 of 2025
No. 47 of 2025	Justice Miscellaneous (Explosives Offences) Bill	Act No. 32 of 2025
No. 51 of 2025	Expungement of Historical Offences Amendment Bill	Act No. 21 of 2025
No. 52 of 2025	Terrorism Legislation (Extension) Bill	Act No. 25 of 2025
No. 54 of 2025	Commission for Children and Young People Bill	Act No. 30 of 2025
No. 58 of 2025	University of Tasmania (Protection of Land) Bill	Act No. 2 of 2026
No. 60 of 2025	Registration to Work with Vulnerable People Amendment Bill	Act No. 24 of 2025
No. 63 of 2025	Appropriation Bill (No. 1)	Act No. 28 of 2025
No. 64 of 2025	Appropriation Bill (No. 2)	Act No. 29 of 2025
No. 3	Grange Resources (Tasmania) Pty Ltd (Alternative Application Period) Bill	
No. 11	Petroleum Reporting (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill	Act No. 1 of 2026

## Current Committees and Membership

### Standing Committees

[Committee of Privileges](#): Mr Farrell, Ms Forrest, Ms Armitage, Mr Gaffney and Ms Rattray

[Standing Orders Committee](#): Mr Farrell (The President), Ms Forrest (The Chair of Committees), Ms Armitage, Ms Rattray and Ms Thomas

[Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works \(Joint\)](#)<sup>1</sup>: Ms Rattray and Vacant

[Parliamentary Standing Committee on Subordinate Legislation \(Joint\)](#): Ms Forrest, Mr Hiscutt and Vacant

[Parliamentary Standing Committee of Public Accounts \(Joint\)](#): Mr Edmunds, Ms Forrest and Ms Thomas

[Parliamentary Standing Committee on Integrity \(Joint\)](#): Ms Armitage, Ms O'Connor and Ms Webb

[Parliamentary Standing Committee on Electoral Matters \(Joint\)](#): Mr Gaffney, Ms O'Connor, Ms Thomas and Ms Webb

[Greyhound Racing Transition \(Joint\)](#): Ms O'Connor, Ms Webb and Ms Rattray

### Sessional Committees

[House Committee \(Joint\)](#): Mr Farrell (The President), Ms Forrest and Ms Rattray

[Library Committee \(Joint\)](#): Ms Armitage, Mr Farrell, Ms Forrest, Mr Gaffney, Mr Hiscutt and Ms Rattray

[Final Report of Commission of Inquiry \(Joint\)](#): Ms Lovell, Ms O'Connor and Ms Webb

[Workplace Culture Oversight \(Joint\)](#): Mr Farrell, Ms Forrest, Ms Lovell and Ms Rattray

[Gender and Equality \(Joint\)](#): Mr Edmunds, Ms Forrest, Ms Thomas and Vacant

[Government Administration A](#): Ms Forrest, Ms Lovell, Ms O'Connor, Ms Thomas and Vacant

[Government Administration B](#): Ms Armitage, Mr Edmunds, Mr Gaffney, Mr Hiscutt and Ms Webb

### Select Committees

[Energy Matters \(Joint\)](#): Mr Edmunds, Ms Forrest, Ms Lovell and Vacant

[Estimates Committee A](#): Ms Forrest, Ms Glade-Wright, Ms Lovell, Ms O'Connor and Ms Thomas

[Estimates Committee B](#): Ms Armitage, Mr Edmunds, Mr Gaffney, Mr Hiscutt and Ms Webb

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<sup>1</sup> Joint Committees are made up of Members from both Houses. For House of Assembly Members of these Committees please see the House of Assembly Notice Paper.

## Dates of Meetings of the Legislative Council

The following are the Council's proposed sitting dates for 2026. These dates are indicative only and subject to change.

<b>March</b>	6 (QC), 17, 18, 19, 20 (QC), 24, 25, 26, 27 (QC)
<b>April</b>	14, 15, 16, 17 (QC)
<b>May</b>	15 (QC), 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28
<b>June</b>	19 (QC), 23, 24, 25
<b>August</b>	11, 12, 13, 14 (QC), 18, 19, 20, 21 (QC)
<b>September</b>	1, 2, 3, 4 (QC), 8, 9, 10, 11 (QC)
<b>October</b>	27, 28, 29, 30 (QC)
<b>November</b>	17, 18, 19, 20 (QC), 24, 25, 26, 27 (QC)
<b>December</b>	1, 2, 3

The sitting schedule is available at:

[https://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0037/98569/52nd-Parliament\\_Combined-sitting-schedule-2026-FINAL.pdf](https://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0037/98569/52nd-Parliament_Combined-sitting-schedule-2026-FINAL.pdf)

## Meetings of the Legislative Council (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays)

<b>11.00 am</b>	Acknowledgement of Country and Prayers Presentation of Petitions Notices of Questions Notices of Motions Answers to Questions on Notice Tabling of Papers Messages Special Interest Matters [ <i>Tuesdays only</i> ] Motions and Orders of the Day [ <i>Government Business takes precedence on Wednesdays and Thursdays</i> ]
<b>1.00 pm</b>	Break
<b>2.30 pm</b>	Question Time
<b>3.00 pm</b>	Resumption of Motions and Orders of the Day
<b>4.00 pm</b>	Break [ <i>Tuesdays and Wednesdays only</i> ]
<b>4.30 pm</b>	Resumption of Motions and Orders of the Day Adjournment

## Quorum Calls of the Legislative Council (Fridays)

When the Legislative Council sits on a Friday it is called a Quorum Call. This sitting is primarily for the purpose of receiving Messages from the House of Assembly, and the Council does not conduct any substantive business.

<b>9.30 am</b>	Acknowledgement of Country and Prayers Presentation of Petitions Notices of Questions Notices of Motions Answers to Questions on Notice Tabling of Papers Messages Adjournment
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## Standing and Sessional Orders of the Legislative Council

The work of the Legislative Council is governed by its Standing and Sessional Orders, as agreed by the Council. The Council's Standing Orders are available at:

<https://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/legislative-council/lcstandingorders>