

Minister for Housing and Planning
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
Minister for Local Government


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8 APR 2026

Ms Jen Butler MP
Member for Lyons

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


Dear Ms Butler

On 19 March 2026 you asked me the following constituent question in the House of Assembly:

My constituent question is in relation to the problematic and contentious Illawarra Road stages 2A and 2B upgrade. Adjoining landowners have advised that the main civil engineering firm have pulled out of the project due to frustration with State Growth and no confirmed road design, although this process started in 2020. We are also advised the Valuer-General is unable to provide valuations to landowners due to the road design being incomplete and still in the design phase some six years later. Is this true, minister? Why is the Illawarra Road upgrade process such a dog's breakfast?

In response to your question, construction is continuing on Stage 2b with contractor Fulton Hogan on site and progressing works in accordance with the construction program. Design Consultant, Burbury, is continuing to provide design advice on construction issues for Stage 2b as well as progressing the design for Stage 2a and Stage 3.

On completion of the concept design for Stage 2a, as presented at the 11 February meeting at TasFarmers in Longford, the design consultant, Burbury, and stakeholder engagement consultant, ERA, will be contacting landowners to discuss and resolve any property impacts. It is expected tender documentation for Stage 3 will be advertised in May 2026.

The Office of the Valuer-General has advised land acquisition settlements have been completed for all but one affected landowner. Note some payment of settlements may be awaiting internal approval and processing.

The Illawarra Road corridor was included in the National Highway Network by the Australian Government in March 2015. This status is confirmation of Illawarra Road's important function as a direct connection between the Midland Highway and the Bass Highway. Illawarra Road has for many years been used as a time-saving route

between these two highways and the staged upgrades will improve the safety, amenity and efficiency of this route to a standard appropriate for a section of the National Highway Network.

The Tasmanian and Australian Governments are committed to completing improvements to Illawarra Road to bring it to a category one standard and achieve a three-star AusRAP safety rating.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kerry Vincent', written in a cursive style.

Hon Kerry Vincent MLC
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport