

Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management  
Minister for Business, Industry and Resources  
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Mr Roger Jaensch MP  
Member for Braddon

Care of the Clerk of the House of Assembly  
Via email: [laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au)

Dear Mr Jaensch

Thank you for your constituency question asked in the House of Assembly on 4 March 2026 raising concerns on behalf of your constituents regarding their experiences of losses, damage and delays due to the theft of copper and other metals from their building sites.

As you note, copper theft is a serious issue impacting on Tasmanian businesses and communities.

The Tasmanian Government is currently working with the building industry, Tasmania Police and other stakeholders to develop a legislative model that will target those doing the wrong thing and toughen penalties for offenders. We will learn from other jurisdictions, such as South Australia, to ensure Tasmania Police has the powers it needs to crack down on this criminal activity.

Legislation is being developed as a priority for tabling this year. In the interim, the Government is considering what further measures can be taken under relevant Rules and Regulations to protect building sites and businesses from copper and other scrap metal theft.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Felix Ellis".

Hon Felix Ellis MP  
**Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management**

10/4/2026