

Minister for Energy and Renewables
Minister for Parks and Heritage
Minister for Sport



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11th September 2026

Mr Mark Shelton MP
Liberal Member for Lyons
Via Clerk of the House of Assembly
haprocedure@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Mr Shelton

Thank you for your question in the Parliament on 2 September 2026 on behalf of your Coles Bay constituents regarding the future of Freycinet National Park and the plans to improve infrastructure and visitor management in the region.

The Tasmanian Government remains committed to protecting the unique environmental values of the Freycinet Peninsula while ensuring the park can accommodate increasing visitor demand into the future.

Following extensive consultation with the Coles Bay community, local businesses, tourism operators and other stakeholders, the Government has updated its approach to the Freycinet National Park revitalisation project.

Community feedback made it clear, priority should be given to improving visitor experiences and facilities within the national park itself. As a result, \$8.9 million of the previously allocated funding will be invested directly into Freycinet National Park.

Planned works will include upgrades to car parking areas, traffic management measures, improved signage and visitor information, upgraded amenities and service areas. We are also focused on enhancing interpretation of the park's natural and cultural values, and improvements to shared-use tracks, pathways, wayfinding and connections that support sustainable access.

These upgrades are designed to better manage visitation, improve safety and visitor experiences, and address pressures on the park's important environmental values in the short to medium term.

The remaining \$5 million of our commitment will support other key tourism and recreation projects on the East Coast and in southern Tasmania, including priority initiatives identified through the Bay of Fires Master Plan, improvements to the Burns Bay boat ramp at Stieglitz, and support for the revitalisation of the Hastings Pools complex at Hastings Caves.

Work is now progressing on the detailed planning and delivery of these initiatives. The community can expect to see projects commence as approvals, design work and procurement processes are completed.

A key part of our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future is delivering meaningful and sustainable experiences within our national parks and reserves.

Once again thank you again for your interest and advocacy in this area.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'N' followed by a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Hon Nick Duigan MLC
Minister for Parks and Heritage