

## Budget – TasTAFE Cuts

### **Ms FINLAY question to MINISTER for SKILLS and JOBS**

My question is from my constituent, Malcolm Levitt from Bent Eared Records, who writes: my concern is with cuts to TAFE eroding the level of qualifications that are achievable to retain in Tasmania for future videographers and audio engineers. Every year since I completed my sound diploma course in 2016, the qualification level that could be obtained has been dropped.

Now your Tasmania Liberal Government has cut funding to the point where TasTAFE has had to abandon those courses. There is no longer an avenue for Tasmanians to become qualified in these industries. There is already a shortage of workers, and this will only become worse as lead engineers retire and our youth look interstate for opportunities. Furthermore, I predict that by the time the Macquarie Point stadium is built - if it ever goes ahead - there won't be enough local technicians, engineers and videographers to do the work at events held there. Will the Minister explain why the Government has allowed the erosion of TAFE qualifications in audio and visual production to the point where Tasmanians can no longer train in these fields locally, and what urgent steps will be taken to restore full diploma level training for critical work shortages get worse?