



# LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SESSION OF 2025 – 2026

(FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT)

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

UNCORRECTED PROOF

No. 39

THURSDAY, 25 JUNE 2026

- 1 **COUNCIL MEETS.**— The Council met at 11.00 o'clock a.m.
- 2 **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL PEOPLE.**— The President said:  
“We meet today on Tasmanian Aboriginal land. We acknowledge and pay respect to the Tasmanian Aboriginal people and elders, past and present. We recognise them as the first inhabitants and the continuing custodians of this land.”
- 3 **PRAYERS AND REFLECTION.**— The President read Prayers.
- 4 **PUBLIC FUNDING FOR GREYHOUND RACING.**— Ms *Thomas* asked the Honourable the Leader of the Government — Regarding the Premier’s announcement that the Government will cease public funding for greyhound racing in 2029:
  - (1) Which of the following costs associated with greyhound racing does the Government intend to cease funding in 2029:
    - (a) Industry operations, i.e. prize money, race meeting operations, administration, broadcasting?
    - (b) Infrastructure and asset management, i.e. track maintenance, on track kennel infrastructure, safety infrastructure, capital works?
    - (c) Integrity and regulatory functions, i.e. integrity investigations, drug testing, stewards, compliance inspectors, licensing functions, oversight and enforcement functions of Tasracing and the Racing integrity Commissioner?
    - (d) Animal welfare functions, ie. welfare and kennel inspections, preparation and enforcement of animal welfare standards, welfare investigations, rehoming programs, data collection and reporting?
  - (2) If greyhound racing continues to be a lawful activity and government funding ceases, how does the Government intend to fulfil its existing statutory obligations under the *Racing Regulation and Integrity Act 2024* and any other relevant legislation, including obligations relating to integrity, regulation, licensing, animal welfare, enforcement and oversight?
  - (3) Has the Government obtained legal and/or Treasury advice regarding its ability to withdraw funding while continuing to meet those statutory obligations and, if so, will it release that advice or a summary of that advice?

The Leader answered:

- (1) It remains the Government’s policy that greyhound racing in Tasmania will be phased out by 30 June 2029. The Tasmanian Racing Integrity Commissioner will prepare a phaseout plan for the greyhound racing industry to be tabled in Parliament.

This phaseout plan will serve as a strategic and operational guidance document in the management of the phase out of greyhound racing including financial requirements and funding to

30 June 2029, and any industry funding, animal welfare and rehoming requirements after that date.

- (2) The Government remains committed to the passage of the *Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill*.

The Government's position is that the legislation delivers an orderly transition, strong animal welfare protections, and certainty for participants.

The legislation will provide a balanced and practical pathway to 30 June 2029, safeguarding animal welfare while allowing industry participants time to transition. The Government's focus remains on the passage of this legislation.

- (3) The Government reiterates its commitment to the passage of the *Greyhound Racing Legislation Amendments (Phasing Out Reform) Bill*.

Work has started on a new racing industry funding deed to ensure the financial sustainability of the Tasmanian racing industry.

This is especially important to provide certainty to the industry following the Government's announcement of a phase out of greyhound racing by June 30, 2029.

A project to assess options for the next deed has commenced, being conducted by a working group overseen by the Department of Treasury and Finance and the Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

Importantly, this is not a review into whether there will be funding, it is a review of what that funding model looks like beyond 2029 for the thoroughbred and harness racing codes.

This is a complex matter and is subject to the usual budgetary process. The Joint Standing Committee on Greyhound Racing Transition resolved on 25 May 2026 to pursue the following workplan over the coming months in line with its Terms of Reference:

- An examination of other jurisdictions, including any parliamentary or statutory inquiries, decisions to phase out the industry, transition frameworks implemented, animal welfare issues, support for participants, compensation arrangements, timelines followed and social and economic impacts;
- Financial, economic and animal welfare impacts of the proposed phase out of greyhound racing in Tasmania; and
- The future of the Tasmanian racing Deed.

The Government will engage with the Committee in providing clarity on these important matters.

**5 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO 1) 2026: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—**

Mr *Duigan*, by leave, laid upon the Table of the Council a breakdown of the expenses for the 2026-27 Budget, and Forward Estimates, for Output Group 7 Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania.

**6 BILL NO. 18.—** The Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2026 was read the Third time and passed.

**7 BILL NO. 18.—** A Message to the House of Assembly:—

HONOURABLE SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council has this day agreed, without Request and without Amendment, to a Bill intitled:—

‘A Bill for an Act for the appropriation of \$9 104 688 000 out of the Public Account for the services of the Government for the financial year ending on 30 June 2027’,

now returns the same to the House of Assembly.

*Legislative Council, 25 June 2026*

C.M. FARRELL, *President*

**8 BILL NO. 19.—** The Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 2026 was read the Third time and passed.

**9 BILL NO. 19.**— A Message to the House of Assembly:—

HONOURABLE SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council has this day agreed, without Request and without Amendment, to a Bill intituled:—

‘A Bill for an Act for the appropriation of \$62 913 000 out of the Public Account for the services of the Government in respect of Parliament and Statutory Offices for the financial year ending on 30 June 2027’,

now returns the same to the House of Assembly.

*Legislative Council, 25 June 2026*

*C.M. FARRELL, President*

**10 BILL NO. 20.**— The First Home Owner Grant Amendment Bill 2026 was read the Third time and passed.

**11 BILL NO. 20.**— A Message to the House of Assembly:—

HONOURABLE SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council has this day agreed, without Amendment, to a Bill intituled, ‘A Bill for an Act to amend the *First Home Owner Grant Act 2000*’.

*Legislative Council, 25 June 2026*

*C.M. FARRELL, President*

**12 BILL NO. 10.**— The Order of the Day was read for the consideration of the Local Government Amendment (Targeted Reform) Bill 2026 as amended in Committee of the Whole Council.

*Ordered,* That the Bill, as amended in the Committee, be now taken into consideration. (Mr Vincent)

The Council, accordingly, proceeded to take the same into consideration.

The Amendments were read the First time.

The said Amendments, being read the Second time, were agreed to.

A Motion was made, and the Question was proposed, That the Bill as amended in the Committee be now read the Third time. (Mr Vincent)

And the Question being put,

The Council divided.

AYES 10

NOES 3

*Ms Armitage*

*Mr Gaffney* (Teller)

*Mr Duigan*

*Ms O’Connor*

*Mr Edmunds*

*Ms Webb*

*Mr Gaffney*

*Mr Hiscutt*

*Ms Lovell* (Teller)

*Ms Palmer*

*Ms Rattray*

*Ms Thomas*

*Mr Vincent*

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

Accordingly, the Bill was read the Third time and passed.

**13 BILL NO. 10.**— A Message to the House of Assembly:—

HONOURABLE SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed, with Amendments, to a Bill intituled —

‘A Bill for an Act to amend the *Local Government Act 1993*, the *Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2020*, the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2025* and the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2025*’,

now returns the same to the House of Assembly, and requests its concurrence therein.

*Legislative Council, 25 June 2026*

C.M. FARRELL, *President*

**14 BILL NO. 8.**— The Order of the Day was read for the Second reading of the Public Health Amendment (Prohibited Tobacco and Other Products) Bill 2026.

A Motion was made (*Ms Rattray*), and the Question was proposed, That the Bill be now read the Second time.

A Debate arose thereupon.

**15 SITTING SUSPENDED.**— It being 1.00 o'clock p.m. the Sitting of the Council was suspended.

The Council resumed the Sitting at 2.30 o'clock p.m.

**16 LEAVE OF ABSENCE FORFEITED.**— *Ms Forrest* having attended the service of the Council before the expiration of her leave, forfeited the balance of such leave.

**17 QUESTION TIME.**— The President called for Questions without Notice. There were nine Questions asked.

**18 BILL NO. 8.**— The Council resumed the Debate on the Question, That the Public Health Amendment (Prohibited Tobacco and Other Products) Bill 2026 be now read the Second time.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

And the Bill was, accordingly, read the Second time and committed to a Committee of the Whole Council.

And the President having left the Chair, the Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

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(In the Committee)

*Ms Forrest* in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 16 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without Amendment.

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The Council being resumed, *Ms Forrest* reported that the Committee had gone through the Bill, and directed her to report the same to the Council without Amendment.

*Ordered*, That *Ms Rattray* have leave to move a Motion without Notice.

A Motion was made (*Ms Rattray*), and the Question was proposed, That so much of Standing Orders be suspended in respect of this Bill, in order that the Bill may be now read the Third time. (*Ms Rattray*)

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question was being put,

The Council divided.

AYES 9

NOES 5

Ms Armitage  
Mr Duigan (Teller)  
Mr Edmunds  
Ms Glade-Wright  
Ms Lovell  
Ms O'Connor  
Ms Palmer  
Ms Rattray  
Mr Vincent

Ms Forrest  
Mr Gaffney  
Mr Hiscutt  
Ms Thomas  
Ms Webb (Teller)

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

*Ordered*, That the Bill be now read the Third time. (Ms Rattray)

The Bill was read the Third time and passed.

**19 BILL NO. 8.**— A Message to the House of Assembly:—

HONOURABLE SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council has this day agreed, without Amendment, to a Bill intituled, 'A Bill for an Act to amend the *Public Health Act 1997*'.

*Legislative Council, 25 June 2026*

C.M. FARRELL, *President*

**20 BILL NO. 2.**— The Order of the Day was read for resuming the Debate on the Question, That the Residential Parks Bill 2026 be now read the Second time.

The Question was again proposed, and the Council resumed the Debate.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

And the Bill was, accordingly, read the Second time and committed to a Committee of the Whole Council.

And the President having left the Chair, the Council resolved itself into the said Committee.

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(In the Committee)

Ms Forrest in the Chair.

Clauses 1 agreed to.

Clause 2, Amendment made. (Ms Rattray)

Page 7.

*Leave out* "This Act commences on a day".

*Insert instead* "The provisions of this Act commence on a day or days".

Clause 2 as amended agreed to.

Clauses 3 to 18 agreed to.

Clause 19, Amendment proposed. (Ms Lovell)

Page 33, subclause (4), paragraph (c), after "the period of".

*Leave out* "14 days".

*Insert instead* "7 days".

Question put, That the Amendment be agreed to.

It passed in the Negative.

Clause 19 as read agreed to.

Clauses 20 to 26 agreed to.

Clause 27, Amendments made. (Mr *Gaffney*)

**First amendment**

Page 42, subclause (1), paragraph (b), subparagraph (ii), after “fail to respond to a”.

*Insert* “written”.

**Second amendment**

Same page, same subclause, same paragraph, same subparagraph, after “resident has made the”.

*Insert* “written”.

Clause 27 as amended agreed to.

Clauses 28 to 60 agreed to.

Clause 61, Amendment made. (Mr *Gaffney*)

Page 79, subclause (7), after “residential park makes”.

*Insert* “written”.

Clause 61 as amended agreed to.

Clauses 62 to 65 agreed to.

Clause 66, Amendment proposed. (Ms *Lovell*)

Page 83, subclause (3), after “the period of”.

*Leave out* “28 days”.

*Insert instead* “7 days”.

Question put, That the Amendment be agreed to.

It passed in the Negative.

Clause 66 as read agreed to.

Clause 67 agreed to.

Clause 68, Amendment made. (Ms *Rattray*)

Page 85, after “the commencement of this”.

*Leave out* “Act”.

*Insert instead* “section”.

Clause 68 as amended agreed to.

Clauses 69 considered.

To report progress and seek leave to sit again.

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The Council being resumed, Ms *Forrest* reported that the Committee had made progress in the Bill, and that she was directed to move that the Committee may have leave to sit again.

*Resolved*, That the Council will, tomorrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

**21 ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE DURING BUDGET ESTIMATES.**— Ms *Rattray*, by leave, laid upon the Table of the Council answers to questions taken on notice during the Budget Estimates process.

**22 ADJOURNMENT.**— *Resolved*, That the Council will, at its rising adjourn until 11.00 o'clock a.m. on Tuesday, 11 August 2026. (Ms *Ratray*)

A Motion was made (Ms *Ratray*) and the Question was proposed, That the Council do now adjourn.

A Debate arose thereupon.

And the Question being put,

It was resolved in the Affirmative.

The Council adjourned at 6.03 o'clock p.m.

C.L. VICKERS, *Clerk of the Council.*

*Briefing:*

- *Mt Lyell Acid Drainage Reduction (Repeal) Bill 2025*