

Minister for Environment
Minister for Innovation, Science, and the Digital Economy
Minister for Community and Multicultural Affairs
Minister for Arts and Heritage

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Ms Meg Brown MP
Labor Member for Franklin
C/o- Laura.Ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Brown

Thank you for your constituency question on behalf of Andrew about the National Trust Tasmania.

The government understands the importance of the National Trust in promoting and conserving heritage listed places in Tasmania. My office and Heritage Tasmania continue to engage closely with the National Trust Board to provide advice and assistance where appropriate.

While independent of government, the National Trust has received significant funding support from the Tasmanian Government over the past few years, which includes base funding of more than \$310,000 per year under a grant deed.

In 2023-24 the National Trust was allocated \$200,000 towards priority maintenance of National Trust owned and managed properties. In addition, \$176,400 was allocated in 2024-25 under Round 2 of the Built Heritage Grants Scheme for conservation works to the stables at Franklin House, to increase community access to the site. Through Round 3 of the Built Heritage Grants Scheme, the Trust was allocated \$42,000 for conservation works to Oak Lodge, to support activation of the site.

Government has also financially supported the Trust through approximately \$1.25 million for the development of an immersive digital experience within the Hobart Penitentiary Chapel. This exhibit has proved very successful and was rated "Best of the Best" on TripAdvisor. A 'travelling' version of the exhibition is now featured at Woolmers Estate. I would encourage you and your constituents to visit if you have not done so already.

In 2023, the National Trust completed the development of a three-year strategic plan focused on improving financial self-sustainability, including the activation of several properties. Heritage Tasmania continues to liaise closely with the National Trust as it pursues its strategic priorities. This includes reviewing annually its progress and understanding emerging issues and opportunities.

The promotion and preservation of Tasmania's heritage is important, and government will always consider the most appropriate ways in which assistance can be provided.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Ogilvie".

Hon. Madeleine Ogilvie MP
Minister for Arts and Heritage