



Tuesday, 19 May 2026

11.00 am

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

New Member for Huon will be seated beyond the Bar of the Council

Acknowledgement of Traditional People

Prayers and Reflection

Tabling of Writs

Newly Elected Member sworn

Statement by the President: Welcome returned and newly elected Members

Petitions

Notice of Question

Notice of Motion

Answers to Questions

Tabling of Papers

Estimates Committees Establishment

Special Interest Matters

Notices of Motion Nos. 12, 14 & 15 and Orders of the Day Nos. 1 & 2

Notices of Motion

12 Climate Council and Emergency Leaders for Climate Action Report: When Cities Burn

Given by: Ms O'Connor

Date: 18 March 2026

To be moved:

That the Legislative Council:

- (1) Notes the release of the report '*When Cities Burn: could the Los Angeles fires happen here?*' in January 2026 by the Climate Council and Emergency Leaders for Climate Action;
- (2) Notes the report finds that climate pollution - caused by the increased burning of coal, oil and gas - has made dangerous fire conditions more likely, including extreme dryness, heat and winds, alongside greater frequency of 'climate whiplash', the experience of a rapid switch between very wet and very dry weather;
- (3) Recognises that Australia - and Tasmania - share many of the same characteristics that led to the destructive fires that swept through Los Angeles in 2025, including long-term drying trends, episodic drought, more extreme winds, large areas of bushland adjacent to homes, steep slopes that accelerate fires and increasingly common pyroCb (fire-generated thunderstorms);

- (4) Accepts that Hobart is one of Australia's most fire-exposed capitals, hosting steep terrain, strong winds and heavy fuels, hemmed in by wet and dry forests on Kunanyi/Mount Wellington;
- (5) Notes with concern that there is a growing number of people living closer to flammable bush and grassland, with a 33% increase of people living in Hobart's urban fringe danger zones over the past 2.5 decades, and 90% of homes in bushfire prone areas having been constructed before modern, bushfire-resilient standards were introduced;
- (6) Calls upon the Tasmanian Government to cut climate pollution, take action now to invest in disaster preparation and community resilience, including hazard reduction, education and retrofitting existing homes to bushfire standards; and
- (7) Calls upon the Tasmanian Government to prioritise an evacuation plan for Greater Hobart, and to work with emergency services to ensure that they are properly resourced.

14 Tasmania Arts Funding

Given by: Ms Forrest

Date: 15 May 2026

To be moved:

That the Legislative Council notes that:

- (1) Tasmania has the lowest per capita arts expenditure of any Australian state or territory, at \$48.93 per capita against a national average of \$78.71;
- (2) The number of arts organisations receiving annual funding from Arts Tasmania has fallen from 28 in 2021-22 to 18 in 2025-26 - a 35% reduction;
- (3) The 2025-26 Budget removed \$900,000 in funding that the Government had itself introduced in the previous year specifically to prevent sector damage, including four \$150,000 initiatives for music, theatre, regional arts, and writing, none of which were renewed;
- (4) Forward budget estimates show Arts Industry Development grants funding continuing to decline in 2026-27 and 2027-28, while the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, Ten Days on the Island, and Theatre Royal are funded outside the competitive grants program and receive automatic annual increases;
- (5) The arts organisations competitive grants pool has never been CPI-indexed, meaning its real value erodes each year, and had indexation applied since 2021-22, approximately \$1.3 million additional funding would currently be available;
- (6) Defunding routinely causes permanent closure, noting the Tasmanian Theatre Company, Blue Cow Theatre, and others have closed following loss of funding, representing irreversible loss of employment, institutional knowledge, and community benefit;
- (7) The limited availability of multi-year funding arrangements has resulted in administrative inefficiency for both government and arts organisations, reduced sustainability, constrained forward planning, and persistent job insecurity for arts workers; and
- (8) While the Government has committed a maximum of \$875 million in state capital funding to a new stadium and provides substantial investment in sport programs including professional sport and other infrastructure, it has simultaneously cut arts grants funding and allowed emergency arts funding it had itself introduced to lapse - despite advancing identical arguments for both sectors in relation to health and wellbeing, community cohesion, tourism, and economic activity.

And calls on the Government to:

- (1) Restore arts grants funding to at least 2021-22 levels in real terms;
- (2) Apply annual CPI indexation to the arts organisations funding pool;
- (3) Establish adequate, stable and predictable recurrent funding for arts organisations in place of ad hoc one-off grants;
- (4) Reinstate the Tasmanian Strategic Touring Fund at \$220,000 per annum;
- (5) Commit to forward funding that responds to the Tasmanian Live Performance Exchange recommendations, including in the 2026-27 Budget;
- (6) Establish expanded multi-year funding programs for established arts organisations that have demonstrated consistent delivery, strong governance, and measurable community benefit;

- (7) Apply to arts grants funding principles that will bring the scale of arts investment into reasonable proportion with the Government's stated policy objectives for the sector.

15 Rodda Museum of Pathology Apology

Given by: Ms Webb

Date: 15 May 2026

To be moved:

- (1) The Legislative Council:
- (a) Notes the unacceptable and unlawful practices which occurred between 1966 and 1991 which saw 177 specimens of human remains stolen from coronial autopsies and sent to the R.A. Rodda Museum of Pathology, without consent of the individuals or families involved, and in contravention of the *Coroners Act 1957*, as reported upon by Coroner Simon Cooper in the *Coronial Project – Museum Cases Finding Report*, 8 September 2025;
 - (b) Acknowledges the hurt and trauma endured by current family members upon the discovery their loved ones were subjected to these unacceptable and unlawful practices, and also acknowledges the additional hurt caused for many by the manner in which they discovered remains of their loved one had been taken, and in some instances, displayed, without their knowledge or consent; and
- (2) The Legislative Council notes the formal apology to those individuals and family members affected by these practices, to be delivered by the Minister for Health on Tuesday 19 May on behalf of the State.

Orders of the Day

1 Attendance of Legislative Council Members for Budget proceedings

Mover: Ms Rattray

Date: Message received and made an Order of the Day on 15 May 2026

Status: Message to be considered

MR PRESIDENT,

The House of Assembly having passed the following Resolution, begs now to transmit the same to the Legislative Council and to request its concurrence therein:—

That the House of Assembly requests that:—

- (1) All Members of the Legislative Council attend in the House of Assembly Chamber following the First reading of the Appropriation Bills (No. 1 and No. 2) 2026 for the purpose of listening to the speech by the Treasurer in relation to the Tasmanian Budget 2026-27.
- (2) The Legislative Council give leave to the Honourable the Minister for Energy and Renewables, Minister for Parks and Minister for Sport, the Honourable the Minister for Education, Minister for Children and Youth and Minister for Disability Services, and the Honourable the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Local Government and Minister for Housing and Planning, to appear before and give evidence to, the relevant Estimates Committee of the House of Assembly in relation to the Budget Estimates and related documents.

House of Assembly, 7 May 2026

JACQUIE PETRUSMA, *Speaker*

2 Second Interim Report (Part One) of the Joint Sessional Committee inquiring into matters related to the recommendations made in the final report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's response to child sexual abuse in institutional settings

Mover: Ms *Webb*

Date: Report tabled and made an Order of the Day on 14 April 2026

Status: Report to be considered and noted

Question Time 2.30 pm

Notices of Motion and Order of the Day continued

Adjournment

C L VICKERS
Clerk of the Council