

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



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Mr Marcus Vermey MP  
Liberal Member for Clark

Email: [haprocedure@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:haprocedure@parliament.tas.gov.au)

Dear Mr Vermey

Thank you for your recent question in Parliament on behalf of your constituent Margaret from the Hobart Garden Club. It is always pleasing to hear from those who enjoy visiting the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens.

We are indeed honoured to be home to the second-oldest Botanical Gardens in Australia. Our significant investment of \$7.6 million is enabling a range of important upgrades designed to enhance both the amenity and accessibility of the Gardens, ensuring they can be enjoyed by all visitors for generations to come.

A key focus of the works has been improving safety and accessibility throughout the site. At the main entrance, upgrades have delivered a new raised pedestrian pathway and crosswalk, safer arrangements for accessible parking, and improved lighting along pathways. These changes are already making a real difference to how visitors enter and move through the Gardens.

The Visitor Centre has also undergone major renovations, including upgrades to the atrium, bathrooms, function spaces, deck and roof. These improvements set the stage for our restaurant leaseholder, Bird in Hand, to undertake its full renovation and creating another drawcard.

We have also completed significant heritage and restoration work, including the major conservation of the historic 1845 Gatekeeper's Cottage, which involved important structural upgrades to preserve this much-loved feature of the Gardens.

Regarding landscapes and collections, we have recently established a new Tasmanian rainforest flora collection near the Visitor Centre, showcasing the richness of our state's unique plant life. At the same time, improvements to the All-Access Pathway Loop are underway, further enhancing safety and ensuring more visitors can comfortably experience the Gardens.

Looking ahead, the program will deliver further restoration works to the Conservatory, additional improvements around the Visitor Centre, and new seating in the Main Lawn area to create even more inviting spaces for rest and enjoyment.

Importantly, these works are being delivered in close consultation with key stakeholders, including Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania, Heritage Tasmania and the City of Hobart, ensuring the cultural, historical and environmental values are respected and strengthened.

This project and our Government's investment represents a significant time in one of Tasmania's most beloved and valued tourism and community assets which we proudly promote to locals and tourists.

Once again thank you for raising this matter with me. I trust this information is helpful for both you and your constituent Margaret.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Duigan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Hon Nick Duigan MLC  
**Minister for Parks and Heritage**