

Minister for Energy and Renewables
 Minister for Parks
 Minister for Sport



Level 1, 7-9 Franklin Wharf, HOBART TAS 7000 Australia
 GPO Box 123 HOBART TAS 7001 Australia
 Phone: +61 3 6165 7739
 Email: minister.duigan@dpac.tas.gov.au

24th November 2025

The Honourable Ruth Forrest MLC
 Chair
 Legislative Council
 Estimates Committee 'A'
jenny.mannering@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Chair

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1) 2025

Thank you for your letter dated 18 November 2025, requesting additional information following examination of my portfolio by the Legislative Council Select Budget Estimates Committee 'A'. Please find the requested information below for noting.

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE GROWTH
 Output Group 5 – Cultural and Tourism Development
 5.6 Sport and Recreation**

1. Can you provide a breakdown of the funding allocation by activity in the 5.6 line item?

Table 12.2: Revenue from Appropriation by Portfolio and Output in Budget Paper No.2 Volume 1 details the total revenue allocated under Output Group 5.6 Sport and Recreation.

In the 2025-26 State Budget, Output Group 5.6 Sport and Recreation includes the funding under the following categories:

**5.6 Sport and Recreation
 Funding Reconciliation to Budget Papers**

Item	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29
	Original Budget \$'000	Budget \$'000	Budget \$'000	Budget \$'000	Budget \$'000
Capital grants to other entities	46 734	71 000	40 500	
Major Sporting Partnerships		5 100	6 490		
2024-25 Election Commitments	33 253	2 040	1 950	700	
Tasmanian AFL Team Package	5 850	5 850	5 800	12 000	12 000
Other funding to sports organisations and operational funding	24 733	24 444	19 527	16 812	12 312

Table 12.2 - Revenue from Appropriation by Output	63 836	84 168	104 767	70 012	24 312
--	---------------	---------------	----------------	---------------	---------------

2. Can you provide a breakdown of the funding allocation by activity in the grants and subsidies line item?

Table 12.8: Administered Expenses in Budget Paper No.2 Volume 1 on page 274 details the funding allocation by activity for the grants and subsidies line item. The grants and subsidies funding for the Sport portfolio relates to funding for Stadiums Tasmania to oversee the use, management, operations, maintenance and investment in major public stadiums and related assets in Tasmania.

Can you provide a breakdown of the funding allocation by activity in the capital investment line item?

Table 12.4: Capital Investment Program in Budget Paper No.2 Volume 1 on page 266 details the funding allocation by activity for the capital line item separated by portfolio. Please note that funding in this table is inclusive of all funding sources.

3. Can you provide a list of funding amounts and agreed periods for highest participation sports, at each level (professional, elite, grassroots)?

The high participation sports that receive funding outside Active Tasmania's grant funding programs are Australian Rules, Basketball, Bowls, Cricket, Netball, and Hockey. The allocation between each level (professional, elite, grassroots) is not always specified but is provided where possible.

The amounts below reflect current grant agreements with high participation sports. Each agreement has a different period and payment schedule.

There is additional funding provided to high participation sports through Output 5.4 Events. These figures have not been included.

AFL Tasmania

Current agreement with AFL Tasmania:

- Period: 1 November 2024 – 31 October 2028
- Funding: \$2,000,000 in total - \$500,000 per annum
- Approved Purpose: To support grassroots football.

Netball

Current agreement with Netball Tasmania:

- Period: 1 January 2023 – 31 December 2025
- Funding: \$1.5 million total - \$500,000 per annum
- Approved Purpose: To support the administration, development and promotion of grass roots netball and the elite development of netball in Tasmania. Of the seven key focus areas only one is high performance.

Football (soccer)

Current agreement with Football Federation Tasmania:

- Period: 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2025
- Funding: \$1,850,000 - \$350,000 2021-22, \$500,000 per annum for remaining three years.
- Approved Purpose: to assist the Recipient to deliver grassroots football participation and development initiatives, and provide referee, coach, player and club development opportunities.

Cricket

Cricket Tasmania's 2024-25 agreement:

- Period: 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025
- Funding: \$3.56 million in total - \$500,000 participation, \$500,000 pathway and \$2.5 million elite
- Approved Purpose: To support the Recipient to deliver participation, pathway and elite performance outcomes.

Basketball

Basketball is funded across three different streams:

1. Participation Growth Officers
 - Period: June 2023 – 31 December 2025
 - Funding: \$510,00 in total - \$110,000 in 2023, \$200,000 in both 2024 and 2025.
 - Approved Purpose: to employ staff to deliver outcomes and detailed in the key performance indicators. KPIs relate to participation programs and strategies and referee development.
2. NBL1 (elite)
 - Period: 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2028
 - Funding: \$1,680,000 total - \$420,000 per annum.
 - Approved Purpose: To support the recipient to assist Tasmanian NBL1 clubs to field teams in the NBL1 South competition, provide pathway development opportunities to Tasmanian referee and match officials towards NBL1 participation, and provide cohesive basketball opportunities to Tasmanians.
3. Active Industry Fund (peak body funding program)
 - Period: 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2026
 - Funding: \$110,000 in total - \$55,000 per annum.
 - Approved Purpose: To support the Recipient to undertake a range of activities to meet the Key Performance Indicators. KPIs relate to participation, governance, coaches and officials, integrity and safeguarding and supporting member organisations.

Hockey

Hockey is funded across two different streams:

1. Hockey One (elite)
 - Period: 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2026
 - Funding: \$400,000 in total - \$200,000 per annum.
 - Approved Purpose: To support the Recipient to field the Tassie Tigers men's and women's teams in the Hockey One national league in 2025 and 2026.
2. Active Industry Fund (peak body funding program)
 - Period: 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2026
 - Funding: \$110,000 - \$55,000 per annum.
 - Approved Purpose: To support the Recipient to undertake a range of activities to meet the Key Performance Indicators. KPIs relate to participation, governance, coaches and officials, integrity and safeguarding and supporting member organisations.

Bowls

Bowls is funded across two different streams:

1. Bowls Premier League (elite)
 - Period: 11 November 2024 – 30 June 2028
 - Funding: \$160,000 in total - \$40,000 per annum.
 - Approved Purpose: To support the Recipient to continue the Tasmanian Tridents participation in the Bowls Premier League in 2024-25, 2025-26, 2026-27 and 2027-28
2. Active Industry Fund (peak body funding program)
 - Period: 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2026
 - Funding: \$110,000 - \$55,000 per annum.
 - Approved Purpose: To support the Recipient to undertake a range of activities to meet the Key Performance Indicators. KPIs relate to participation, governance, coaches and officials, integrity and safeguarding and supporting member organisations.

4. Can you provide a breakdown of the change in funding allocation for SSO and peak body funding over the past five years?

Active Industry Fund (formerly State Grants Program) is for peak sport and active recreation providers to support increased participation in safe, fun, and inclusive sport and active recreation.

Funding over the last five years through the Active Industry Fund/State Grants Program is outlined below:

Year	Funding pool	Recipients
2020-21	\$1,150,000	37
2021-22	\$1,150,000	36
2022-23	\$1,190,000	34
2023-24	\$1,622,000 (includes additional one-off funding through the Community Support Fund)	38
2024-25	\$1,220,000	37

Organisations that have received funding over the five years include:

Athletics Tasmania	Hockey Tasmania	Rowing Tasmania	Tenpin Bowling Tasmania
AusCycling	Karate Tasmania	Scouts Australia - Tasmania	Touch Football Australia
AusTriathlon	Kung Fu Wushu Tasmania Ltd	Softball Tasmania	Volleyball Tasmania
Australian Sailing	Little Athletics Tasmania	Special Olympics Australia	Water Polo Tasmania
Badminton Tasmania	Motorcycling Tasmania	Squash Tasmania	Alcohol and Drug Foundation
Basketball Tasmania	Motorsport Australia	Surfing Tasmania	Australian Sports Medicine Fed.
Bowls Tasmania	Orienteering Tasmania	Swimming Tasmania	New Horizons Tasmania
Equestrian Tasmania	Paddle Tasmania	Table Tennis Tasmania	Royal Life Saving Soc. Of Tasmania

Golf Australia	Pickleball Tasmania	Tasmanian Rugby Union	Working It Out
Gymnastics Tasmania	Pony Club Assoc. of Tas	Tennis Australia	Womensport Recreation Tasmania

Other peak organisation funding

There are a number of peak organisations who receive funding outside of this program. The majority are noted in the response to question 4. However, Surf Life Saving Tasmania and Paraquad Association of Tasmania are funded outside this program as well.

Surf Life Saving Tasmania

- Surf Life Saving Tasmania does not have a current funding agreement due to the delayed State Budget. Annual funding for Surf Life Saving Tasmania was \$650,000 over four years from 2021-22 to 2024-25. Noting that in 2020-21 an additional \$150,000 was paid.
- This funding was extended for an additional year to 2025-26 in the 2023-24 State Budget.
- Surf Life Saving Tasmania received a 2024 election commitment of \$700,000 per annum, commencing in 2025-26. This will take its annual funding to \$850,000 a payment of \$1.35 million in 2025-26.
- Surf Life Saving Tasmania provides a broad community role so it is noted that only a small amount of this funding is used towards the sport development component of its activities.

Paraquad Tasmania

- The current agreement 2024-25 to 2027-28 provides \$65,000 per annum to support the Recipient to provide a comprehensive statewide disability sports program for Tasmanians of all ages with spinal cord injury and physical disability.

Stadiums Tasmania

It seems Stadiums Tasmania will likely be required to undertake borrowings during 2027-28; is that true? If so, what is the expected quantum; and why do the presented statements not include any interest cost?

Budget forecasts for stadium operating revenue and expenditure are based on KPMG modelling commissioned by the Department of State Growth in March 2021. These were updated in 2023 using the latest available actuals and adjusted for CPI escalation.

While the modelling was comprehensive and informed by the former venue operators, it does not reflect the operational efficiencies and commercial opportunities expected under the new Stadiums Tasmania model.

As is common among similar statutory bodies across Australia, consolidating Tasmania's major venues under a single state-owned entity presents a unique opportunity to:

- Enhance event attraction: Centralised management strengthens Tasmania's ability to attract high-profile sporting, entertainment, and cultural events.
- Streamline operations: A unified, agile authority can reduce duplication, mitigate operational risks, and implement best-practice standards across all venues.
- Optimise asset management: Economies of scale, data-driven investment decisions, and modernised systems will improve maintenance efficiency and venue quality.
- Align with policy objectives: Centralised oversight enables better alignment with broader state goals, including tourism, economic development, and community engagement.

- Build workforce capability: A connected venue network supports staff development and knowledge-sharing across the state.

Given that Stadiums Tasmania has only recently assumed operational responsibility, grant funding forward estimates beyond 2026–27 have not yet been included in the budget. This is a deliberate and prudent approach.

Over the next two years, we will evaluate the financial impact of increased event activity, commercialisation of assets, and cost savings from integrated operations. This will allow us to make a more informed assessment of future revenue potential, expenditure requirements, and any additional funding needs as part of the 2027–28 budget cycle. There is no intention to borrow funds and therefore no interest has been shown in the forward estimates.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'N' followed by a large loop and a trailing line.

Hon Nick Duigan MLC
Minister for Sport