

Budget Estimates Briefing
Premier
Minister for Tourism
Minister for Trade



Subject: STADIUMS GOVERNANCE
Date prepared: 3 JUNE 2022
Output Group: 2 INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT SERVICES
Output: 2.1 INFRASTRUCTURE TASMANIA

KEY INFORMATION

- The Government is progressing the establishment of Stadiums Tasmania to manage stadium assets in a more integrated way together with a program of major stadium development work.
- Portfolio responsibility for major stadium development has been allocated to the Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing, supported by the Major Stadiums team in the Department of State Growth.
- Responsibility for Tasmania's bid to obtain a license for an AFL team remains with the Premier, supported by Events Tasmania within the Department of State Growth.
- Responsibility for administering the *Stadiums Tasmania Act 2022* and Stadiums Tasmania has been assigned to the Minister for Hospitality and Events, supported by Infrastructure Tasmania.

TALKING POINTS

- The Government is progressing the establishment of Stadiums Tasmania to manage stadium assets in a more integrated way together with a program of major stadium development work.
- The work required to progress the planning and development of the major stadium projects is being delivered by the Transport and Infrastructure Group within the Department of State Growth.

- Once established Stadiums Tasmania will manage the day to day activities of those stadiums for which it is responsible.
- In recent weeks the Premier approved the creation of a new SES position, Executive Director (Major Stadiums) within the Transport and Infrastructure Group of the Department of State Growth.
- Mr Andrew Finch has been transferred into the position.
- The position provides authoritative advice and strategic options on the development (design, construction and redevelopment) of the state's major sporting and entertainment infrastructure.
- The major stadium development work involves a high-profile program to provide significant economic, health, regional, and community benefits for the state.
- Immediate priorities for the Major Stadiums team include:
 - Preparing a feasibility study to be put to tender for a proposed Southern Stadium;
 - Developing options for a location suitable in Hobart for the development of a high-performance training facility for AFL and AFLW teams should a Tasmanian licence be granted;
 - Progressing design work for the redevelopment of UTAS Stadium in Launceston and establishing a commitment from the new Australian Government for their proposed share (\$65 million);
 - Working with Central Coast Council on the scope of the \$25m development of Dial Range; and
 - Finalising the master plan for Wilkinsons Point to enable the commencement of the Multi-Sport Facility and progressing further private development on the site by the LK Group.
- Portfolio responsibility for Major Stadium development has been allocated to the Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing as the work best aligns with this portfolio.
- Responsibility for Tasmania's bid to obtain an AFL license remains with the Premier, supported by Events Tasmania within the Department of State Growth, which has fulfilled this role since 2019.

- Responsibility for administering the *Stadiums Tasmania Act 2022* and Stadiums Tasmania has been assigned to the Minister for Hospitality and Events, supported by Infrastructure Tasmania.

Released under RTI

Background

- As part of the 2021 Election a commitment was made to establish a new statutory entity, Stadiums Tasmania. Stadiums Tasmania's establishment reflects the Government's desire to manage stadium assets in a more integrated way.
- Work associated with the establishment of Stadiums Tasmania is being managed within the Transport and Infrastructure Group of the Department of State Growth
- The *Stadiums Tasmania Act 2022* received Royal Assent on 5 April 2022. This means arrangements to recruit its inaugural Chairperson, Board and Chief Executive Officer via a nation-wide expression of interest processes can now be initiated and will be commenced shortly.
- The focus now is on preparing the *Stadiums Tasmania (Transfers) Bill 2022*, developing the governance provisions the Board will need as a new authority, and helping the Board assume responsibility for the initial stadiums expected to transfer to it.
- Stadiums Tasmania is expected initially to assume responsibility for up to five stadiums. MyState Bank Arena and the Silverdome are already owned by the Tasmanian Government and will transfer. The inclusion of Blundstone Arena, Dial Regional Sports Complex in Penguin and UTAS Stadium is yet to be confirmed and remains subject to negotiations with their owners.
- The Transport and Infrastructure Group within the Department of State Growth is also responsible for the major stadium development projects to which the Government has committed.
- The major stadium development projects include:
 - Proposed Southern Stadium, Hobart;
 - University of Tasmania Stadium, Launceston;
 - Dial Regional Sports Complex, Penguin;
 - MyState Bank Arena, Hobart (finalisation);
 - Wilkinsons Point Multi-Sport Facility, Hobart including training facilities for the JackJumpers NBL team;
 - A high-performance training centre in Hobart for the AFL teams should a Tasmanian licence be granted; and
 - Some small works associated with Blundstone Arena (screens and gates) and the Silverdome (netball facilities).

Department of State Growth

Budget Estimates Briefing
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Subject: SOUTHERN STADIUM
Date prepared: 01 JUNE 2022
Output Group: 2 INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT SERVICES
Output: 2.1 INFRASTRUCTURE TASMANIA

KEY INFORMATION (MINISTER BARNETT - LEAD)

- The Tasmanian Government is planning to develop a new Hobart multi-purpose sporting and event stadium at Regatta Point subject to an AFL Tasmanian team licence being granted.
- The Stadium will be the home of a Tasmanian AFL team with seating for 25 000 people and up to 30 000 people for concerts.
- Announced in the 2022 State of the State Address, it supports the Tasmanian bid for an AFL licence.
- The 2022-23 State Budget includes provision for \$1.25 million for the AFL taskforce and for a stadium feasibility work to be undertaken. Preliminary feasibility work will inform more detailed advice about a programme for the planning and delivery phases of the project as well as updated cost estimates that reflect the additional information to be collected and assessments undertaken.
- It is proposed that the feasibility analysis work will be commenced early in the 2022-23 financial year.

TALKING POINTS

- A new southern stadium was first proposed by the AFL Taskforce in 2019, as a not immediate, but necessary part of our AFL license bid, and forms a key part of our long-term vision for sporting and entertainment infrastructure across Tasmania.
- A southern stadium supports the aspirations for Tasmania securing its own AFL team which would be based in Hobart and would also support ongoing discussions about an A-League Football team.
- Planning for the new stadium will consider:
 - Functionality for rectangular sporting codes, including soccer and rugby.
 - Modern state-of-the-art media facilities, corporate boxes, and function facilities.
 - Design for a concert venue to attract audiences of 30 000.
 - Potential for a retractable roof for all-weather playing and performances, making it one of only two such AFL venues in the country.
- A new southern stadium would be much more than an AFL stadium. A new stadium would be an important multi-purpose entertainment venue which would provide significant economic, health, social and community benefits not just for Hobart but for the whole state.
- A new stadium will boost Tasmania's capacity to host world-class sporting and cultural events. A roof has the potential to strengthen the viability of and enable numerous world class events to proceed indoors.
- The stadium will put Tasmania on the national and international stage for both sporting and entertainment events on a scale that hasn't been possible in the past. Similar new stadiums in other states and across the world have transformed and reinvigorated cities and created a vibrant precinct for locals and visitors
- A preliminary options analysis considered several site possibilities within easy walking distance of central Hobart.
- The Regatta Point site is the current preferred location due to its accessibility for pedestrians and public transport, and relatively low level of community, heritage, and environmental impacts for an inner-city site.

- The Tasmanian Government's goal is to develop a multi-purpose stadium that takes the best of today's stadia design standards and trends and has a flexible design that allows for future evolution of the facilities and infrastructure.
- The project is subject to stakeholder consultation, planning approval, and achievement of an AFL licence, the outcome of which is expected to be known later this year.
- This part of the city holds great significance for Tasmanian soldiers that have served their country, and the Tasmanian Government will work closely with the RSL on how such a stadium could enhance the Cenotaph area and invite people to remember and celebrate our servicemen and women, year-round.
- The area is also important for the Royal Hobart Regatta, which is one of Australia's oldest continuous aquatic events, and the Tasmanian Government will work with the Regatta Association to incorporate their needs into the development and explore opportunities that could shore up the longevity of the event into the future.
- The area is significant for many people, including those with a connection to the Cenotaph, the Royal Hobart Regatta, the Musical Theatre Crew, users of the Regatta Ground facilities and waterfront, and current and future users of the Hobart Port and Macquarie Point.
- The project is in the preliminary stages with a significant amount of planning, scoping and design work to be undertaken. This work, including stakeholder engagement, has commenced.
- The 2022-23 State Budget includes provision for \$1.25 million for the AFL taskforce and for a stadium feasibility work to be undertaken. Initial work will have a technical focus, including the collection of information about the site through geotechnical, indigenous, heritage, cultural, and surveying assessments for example. A scope for these works would be released to the market early in the 2022-23 financial year.
- This preliminary feasibility work will also inform more detailed advice about a programme for the planning and delivery phases of the project as well as updated cost estimates that reflect the additional information to be collected and assessments undertaken.

Background

- The AFL Taskforce is progressing its next program of works aimed at securing an AFL licence for Tasmania. A key component of that program of works relates to infrastructure, including a southern stadium and a best-of-breed high-performance facility as an immediate priority.
- MCS Management & Consulting was engaged by Infrastructure Tasmania in late October 2021, to undertake a preliminary feasibility assessment of possible sites that could accommodate the footprint of a contemporary Tier 2 sporting and event stadium.
- The MCS assessment included initial briefings, development and analysis of assessment criteria, high level schematic concept design and compilation of a report and presentations. A preliminary report was presented to ITas on 4 February 2022, with the final report provided on 25 February 2022.
- Six sites were considered in the analysis, with a relative ranking based on the following key considerations:
 - Has an acceptable commuting/walking distance from the CBD to maximise patron utilisation of existing CBD parking, passenger transport, accommodation, and hospitality.
 - Maximise the promotional benefit of the venue to the State.
 - Minimise environmental, cultural and heritage impacts.
 - Minimise impact on residential areas.
- Initial stakeholder communication has been undertaken with meetings held with:
 - the State President of RSL Tasmania
 - the State President of the Royal Hobart Regatta Association
 - the Musical Theatre Crew
 - Football Federation Tasmania
 - Macquarie Point Development Corporation
 - the CEO of AFL
 - the Lord Mayor of Hobart
 - the Mayor of Clarence
 - the Mayor of Launceston.
- Former Premier Gutwein had also written to Prime Minister Scott Morrison seeking support and initial funding for early works.
- The new stadium will form a key part of the 10-year strategic stadium plan that Stadiums Tasmania will be tasked to develop.
- The initial, high-level estimated cost, that does not take into account some of the site specific aspects of construction, is in the order of \$750 million and will require funding from all levels of Government, as well as private sector investment. Subject to achieving an AFL licence later this year and the timing of that being made available it is envisaged that the new Stadium could be ready for the 2027 season.
- Preliminary feasibility work will inform more detailed advice about a programme for the planning and delivery phases of the project as well as updated cost estimates that reflect the additional information to be collected and assessments undertaken.

Released under RTI

Department of State Growth

Budget Estimates Briefing
Premier
Minister for Tourism
Minister for Trade



Subject: HIGH PERFORMANCE CENTRE
Date prepared: 3 MAY 2022
Output Group: 2 INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT SERVICES
Output: 2.1 INFRASTRUCTURE TASMANIA

KEY INFORMATION

- A high performance training and administration facility has been identified by the AFL Taskforce as a key requirement to support a Tasmanian AFL licence
- A site options analysis and preliminary masterplanning exercise for a high performance facility is currently underway.

TALKING POINTS

- A high performance training and administration facility has been identified by the AFL Taskforce as a key requirement to support a Tasmanian AFL licence being granted and to underpin future player retention.
- The Tasmanian Government is working closely with the Taskforce to undertake a critical analysis of potential sites in the Greater Hobart area and develop a preliminary masterplan, including concept sketches, based on the preferred site.
- While the primary focus of the facility will be to support a Tasmanian AFL team, careful consideration is also being given to the potential for co-location with and/or sharing of facilities by other sporting codes and users, including the Tasmanian Institute of Sport.

- The vision for the facility will be to provide the players (mens and womens), coaches and administrators with every opportunity to be successful, both on and off the field.
- Some inclusions being considered for the facility from an AFL perspective include:
 - Full sized, MCG dimension oval;
 - Additional grassed training areas;
 - An indoor training area/s;
 - High performance training areas;
 - Office spaces/facilities for football and administrative staff;
 - Player/staff breakout and lounge facilities;
 - Treatment facilities;
 - Gymnasium;
 - Wet recovery facilities;
 - Changing rooms;
 - Media and video preparation areas; and
 - Complimentary commercial facilities that support/align with the facilities' core purpose.
- Leading sports infrastructure advisory firm Waypoint has been engaged to support the initial scoping and analysis required to progress the planning and development of a high performance training facility.
- Waypoint is highly experienced in the development of similar facilities and brings extensive intellectual property and knowledge based on their experience and research into best practice facilities.
- In providing advice to Government about this project, consideration is being given to research into elite training and administration facilities for major sporting codes (including AFL, NFL, NBA, football/soccer and the US College sports sector, as well as extensive benchmarking information across many different sports facilities.

Background

- The AFL Taskforce is progressing its next program of works aimed at securing an AFL licence for Tasmania. A key component of that program of works relates to infrastructure, including a southern stadium and a best-of-breed high-performance facility as an immediate priority.
- Waypoint, working with experienced sporting architecture firm Populous, has been engaged to undertake a siting analysis and prepare a preliminary masterplan.
- The value of the Waypoint engagement is \$60 000 (ex GST) ^{s37} [REDACTED]
- There is considerable variation in the investment in these types of facilities for other AFL clubs depending on the level of design and specification that is targeted. The AFL Taskforce is providing input into this project to inform further advice to the Tasmanian Government.
- The Department of Communities has recently been working on a business case for the development of a stand alone high performance facility for the Tasmanian Institute of Sport, particularly with a view to maximising opportunities for Tasmanian athletes in the lead up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic Games. Information about the scope and status of each project has been shared, noting the Department of State Growth has tasked Waypoint with exploring opportunities for co-location and/or sharing facilities.

Department of State Growth

Budget Estimates Briefing Minister for Hospitality and Events



Subject: AFL Licence Taskforce
Date prepared: 29 April 2022
Output Group: Cultural and Tourism Development
Output: 5.4 Hospitality and Events

Speaking points

- The AFL Licence Taskforce was established in 2019 to develop a business case to support the attainment of a Tasmanian licence in the AFL and AFLW.
- The Taskforce, in conjunction with the Tasmanian Government through the Department of State Growth, are currently focussing on:
 - Club governance and membership model
 - Stadium and team infrastructure requirements
 - Tasmanian football talent pathways recommendations
 - Community engagement
 - Communicating with the AFL
- In May 2022 the Taskforce launched the “Believe” campaign, encouraging Tasmanians (and others) to add their name to show their support for a Tasmanian team in the AFL and AFLW.
- The three main issues the AFL will consider in the decision on whether to grant a Tasmanian licence are likely to be establishment and ongoing funding of a Tasmanian club; football development pathways in Tasmania; and infrastructure investment.

Funding

- The AFL Taskforce estimated that an established Tasmanian team would require government funding of between \$7 - \$11 million per year in order to be financially viable.
- The Department are developing a recommended contract and funding model for the establishment of a Tasmanian club. This is likely to be similar to the contract and funding mechanism drawn up to support the Jackjumpers NBL club.
- The Department, through Events Tasmania, is currently formulating the basis for an initial contract with a Tasmanian AFL team entity in conjunction with Crown Law, which will incorporate payments linked to key milestones in the establishment of a club, formation of a team and ongoing content.

- This agreement would link payment of contract amounts to deliverable milestones at different stages, including (but not limited to)
- During the establishment phase:
 - Proof of team licence
 - Public launch of the club
 - Provision of membership and marketing strategy
 - Details on operational management of the Tasmanian club
 - Signed Memorandum of Understanding with state sporting organisation (AFL Tasmania) outlining elite pathway for Tasmanian players and how the club will support and augment the local AFL community
- Ongoing:
 - Full team list for upcoming season
 - Sponsorship and marketing strategy
 - Media strategy
 - Community engagement plan
 - Membership data
 - End of Season report

Pathways

- The former coach of Hawthorn, Alastair Clarkson, has been appointed to join the Taskforce for six months from February 2022.
- Mr Clarkson is providing insights on stadium and high-performance facilities, a best-practice club model, and engagement of the Tasmanian football community.
- Mr Clarkson will also provide advice and recommendations on Tasmanian football talent identification and development pathways, including the impact a Tasmanian team would have on the current state competition.
- This work is ongoing and a summary of his recommendations will be provided by the Department in due course.
- It is likely that a project around Tasmanian football pathways will unfold as a project that will be run by the AFL and AFL Tasmania with Tasmanian Government input.

Infrastructure

- The Department, through Infrastructure Tasmania are currently working on projects tied to the Tasmanian AFL licence. These are:
 - High performance centre in Hobart
 - Upgrades to University of Tasmania Stadium in Launceston in line with tier two stadium criteria
 - Preliminary stages of a proposed 27,000 capacity stadium in Hobart

Economic Impact of a Tasmanian Team

- Independent modelling of the direct economic impact of 11 home games in Tasmania played by a Tasmanian AFL team indicates a direct contribution to the State of more than \$110M p.a. and more than 360 jobs. These numbers are comprised of a mid-point level of direct annual spend of \$72M, and 250 permanent football tourism-related jobs.
- Additionally, the AFL club itself would add a further direct 116 FTEs, providing an additional \$27M in salaries and on-costs, plus other direct expenditure of \$13M to the State economy.

Unit/Program Budget:

2021-22 Budget	2021-22 Actual	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
\$500,000	\$430,492	\$250,000	\$-	\$-	\$-

Background

- The Tasmanian AFL licence Taskforce was established in June 2019 to develop a business case to support the attainment of a Tasmanian licence in the AFL and AFLW.
- The Tasmanian AFL Licence Taskforce Business Plan, delivered to Government on 20 December 2019, sought to demonstrate to Tasmanians and to the AFL commission that the inclusion of a Tasmanian team not only stacks up financially, but can strengthen the AFL by making it a truly national competition.
- The AFL commissioned Colin Carter, former Geelong president and AFL Commissioner, to undertake a detailed review of the Business Plan to examine all financial, fixturing, talent and other relevant considerations.
- Mr Carter visited Tasmania between 19 and 21 May 2021 and met the Premier, members of the Taskforce, the Mayors of Hobart and Launceston and other key stakeholders. The Carter report concluded that Tasmania had a strong case for inclusion in the AFL and presented three options for how this could be achieved: a relocated Victorian team, 19th licence or joint venture with a Victorian club.
- The AFL has agreed that a decision on whether a standalone team from Tasmania will enter the league will be made in 2022, expected by the August meeting of AFL Presidents, although a decision could be made potentially as early as June.