

Out of scope



From: s 36 [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@musicaltheatrecrew.com](mailto:[redacted]@musicaltheatrecrew.com)>

Sent: Wednesday, 2 March 2022 3:39 PM

To: Peter.Gutwein@parliament.tas.gov.au

Cc: Out of scope [redacted]; s 36 [redacted] <[\[redacted\]@musicaltheatrecrew.com](mailto:[redacted]@musicaltheatrecrew.com)>

Subject: AFL Stadium development

Importance: High

The Honourable Peter Gutwein MP
Premier of Tasmania

Dear Premier,

We are writing to ask for a meeting as soon as possible to discuss the new AFL stadium development announced yesterday.

Musical Theatre Crew has occupied the John Colvin Stand rooms initially running one musical theatre class in 2011 to now offering screen acting, dancing, and singing lessons for young people aged 6-18 years, at what is now 7 days a week with 17 tutors and assistant tutors running classes and supporting the many performances we give to the Hobart community.

Our classes and private lessons develop students' performance skills, teamwork, self-management, creativity and confidence. Our students have as young adults entered the performing arts industry or applied many of the skills learnt at 'Crew' to pursue varied careers including medicine, economics, law, nursing, hospitality, teaching and more. Our training has also laid the foundations for our students to participate in what can be a lifelong 'hobby' in theatre, being an activity that all ages and physical and mental abilities can participate in and enjoy.

To date, the young performers at Musical Theatre Crew have presented 28 seasons of public shows and dozens more concerts and charity events to well-attended audiences at Hobart venues including Parliament House gardens, Mawson Place, the Elizabeth Mall, the Tasman Room, Henry Jones Art Hotel, the Peacock Theatre, The Playhouse Theatre, and the magnificent Theatre Royal Mainstage and Studio theatres.

In addition, our students have performed for free at many community events including Carols by Candlelight all around greater Hobart including with for the Royal Hobart Hospital Research Foundation events, Cancer Council of Tasmania fundraisers, Royal Hobart Regatta Association, Bravehearts, City of Hobart Christmas Pageants, various other City of Hobart events (most for free, a few paid), Festival of Voices and for the Taste of Tasmania (performing for free). We have also been contracted to perform for the City of Hobart at various Christmas city-centre activation events.

We have students who have gone onto undertake musical theatre and acting degrees, at UTAS Conservatorium, WAAPA, Victorian College of the Arts, Federation University of Australia and Griffith University Conservatorium and those Alumni who have now finished their degrees teach, work in arts management as well as perform professionally here or interstate.

Our principals and students are highly regarded and have won many awards, with Allan being a Tas Theatre Award-winning director and producer, Leiz being TTA Award-winning producer and Theatre Champion (due to her outstanding work during 2020 pandemic) as well as being nominated for Outstanding Choreography in Community Musical Theatre 2022 (with announcements this Saturday night at Wrest Pt Tasman Room, which Hon Elyse Archer MP will be attending). Allan was instrumental in the establishment of the Theatre Council of Tasmania as a founding Committee member and was the inaugural Chair for the Tas Theatre Awards Committee. Allan, as Vice President of the Australian Script Centre, facilitated the strategic planning for the Centre in 2006-07 which led to the e-digital strategy, securing of Australia Council funding and establishment of Australian Plays (now Australian Plays Transform). Allan was also a Board Member of Hobart Repertory Theatre Society for many years, and both Leiz and Allan have assisted many arts organisations and businesses. In addition to being Co-Principals at Musical Theatre Crew, they are two of the team of four Co-Producers of award-winning The

Show Company.

We have an excellent association with the John Colvin Stand's other principal tenants including the various Tasmanian Police Officers who have resided in the apartment and with the Royal Hobart Regatta Association. Over the last 12 years, the Hobart City Council and Regatta Association have repeatedly expressed their appreciation of Musical Theatre Crew being in the premises year-round (except for the 2 weeks at Regatta time), as it helps keep the buildings clean and secure. We have been encouraged to utilise the space on as many days as possible, and there is now a daily presence and regular cleaning and minor maintenance at the building, which was not the case in 2011.

The announcement of demolishing the premises in which Musical Theatre Crew operates, while exciting for many in Tasmania and the sporting community, was unexpected and a shock to us. The grandstand is 'home' for our 200+ Musical Theatre Crew families (and to the hundreds more students and their families over the last 12 years).

The last time we were consulted on the future of the area, we were informed by a Hobart City Council representative that the plan to make any substantive changes to the building would be at least 5 years away, would include upgrading road access and progressively restore and upgrade John Colvin Stand and that we along with other occupants would be consulted and considered. We were encouraged to expand our use of the building, have cleaned and undertaken minor maintenance for years, and have progressively and carefully increased the use of the building to the 7 days a week.

The prospect that the building will be demolished, resulting in the loss of the 'home' to all our Crew families, is of course a shocking surprise today. Further the fact that we have not been informed directly despite operating in John Colvin Stand for 12 years, let alone consulted or even recognised as one of three long-term principal occupants (along with the Regatta Association and Tasmania Police) is extremely upsetting.

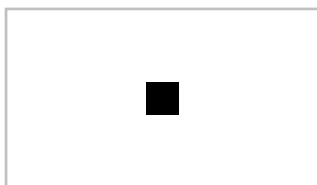
We understand the need to wisely develop Tasmania's fantastic resources for the benefit of our whole community, and that means all of us need to adapt to change, however we would appreciate the opportunity to at the least discuss the proposal so that the impact on Musical Theatre Crew and this vibrant part of Tasmania's performing arts community can also be factored into and thoughtfully considered in any plans and possible development.

Yours sincerely,

s 36

Co-Principals

Out of scope



MUSICAL THEATRE CREW

f: www.facebook.com/musicaltheatrecrew

w. www.musicaltheatrecrew.com

s 36 musicaltheatrecrew.com

e: team@musicaltheatrecrew.com

s 36

Released under RTI

From: [Street, Nic](#)
To: [Street, Minister](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed AFL Stadium
Date: Tuesday, 15 March 2022 2:05:14 PM

From: s 36 >

Sent: Tuesday, 15 March 2022 1:50 PM

To: Street, Nic <Nic.Street@dpac.tas.gov.au>

Subject: Proposed AFL Stadium

Dear Mr Street

I am writing to you to express my anger and disappointment in the liberal party and some of it's recent decisions.

Your recent announcement regarding the proposed AFL stadium at the regatta grounds is the last straw.

Firstly I fail to see the need for another stadium/arena, given that there is one up north and on the eastern shore there is the Blundstone arena that has cost many millions of dollars.

If it is the suggested opening and closing roof that is so appealing then adding such a roof to the Blundstone Arena at a fraction of the price of a new stadium.

I truly believe that the Liberal party has got it's priorities wrong. This state is experiencing a huge shortage of rental properties and there are hundreds of homeless people facing another winter sleeping rough on the streets.

I firmly believe that the \$750 million would be better spent on more affordable housing than the 10,000 homes planned for the next 10 years.

Tasmania also needs more money spent on public facilities for mental health and other hospital services.

There are so many more important things for that amount of money to be spent on than a stadium and an AFL team

All that aside, it is my opinion that the stadium would be an absolute eyesore in the position that has been suggested. The regatta grounds are part of a beautiful waterfront and if the artists impression drawings are true then the proposed stadium would be a blot on the landscape.

There would not be enough parking for 27,000 people and even if there were I hate to think of the traffic commotion that would be caused on the few match days in a year, on the one and only road through our beautiful city. Heaven help anyone how would need an ambulance from the eastern shore to the RHH on those days!!!

Perhaps more money and thought needs to be put on a more efficient road plan and infrastructure for the city

The Premier, Mr Gutwein, promoted such a lot of hype about the Ashes test match being played in the Blunstone Arena and now it seems he has grown tired of it and wants a shiny new toy.

We are a long term Liberal voting family and whilst I thought the Premier's handling of the pandemic was fantastic and he stood his ground against the federal bully boys, I am sad to say that this obsession with AFL and sport in general has changed my view and my vote completely.

I will be sending this email to several Liberal offices and I expect to receive a reply to it promptly.

Yours a disillusioned voter

s 36

Released under RTI

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

From: [Street, Nic](#)
To: [Street, Minister \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: FW: Sports stadium
Date: Tuesday, 14 June 2022 7:56:53 AM

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: Saturday, 11 June 2022 2:31 PM

To: nic.street@parliament.tas.gov.au

Subject: Sports stadium

Good afternoon Nic

A few comments on the sports stadium costing \$800 million or thereabouts.

I heard a QLD govt sports member commenting on the TAS stadium saying we are being taken for a ride by the AFL. It is just their way of making it so expensive as to cause Tas to lose interest. He mentioned that quite a few organisations contributed to the Gold Coast Suns stadium with only a small amount from their state govt. If Tas must have this grandiose stadium then at least minimise the contribution from state coffers similar to how it was done in QLD with AFL stumping a fair share too.

A much much better proposition for TAS is to spend a few Bob on upgrading the much larger facility at YorkPark which traditionally attracts more spectators.

It is a no-brainer really.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Released under RTI

From: s 36
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: FW: AFL Team and Stadium
Date: Monday, 13 June 2022 5:34:52 PM

From: s 36 >

Sent: Sunday, 12 June 2022 4:09 PM

To: jeremy.rockliff@parliament.tas.gov.au; simon.wood@parliament.tas.gov.au

Subject: AFL Team and Stadium

The continuing saga of the very limited desire for our state to have an AFL team and now an astronomically priced stadium is getting past being farcical. The sport of AFL is in rapid decline around our state, note the number of clubs folding each season, forfeiting matches due to player shortages and a growing number of new and exciting sports, eg, soccer and basketball.

It has been an ongoing battle to even fill the existing stadiums when visiting top teams play here, both for football and cricket.

This major distraction is just that, though the majority of Tasmanians can see past this ploy so what are you hoping to achieve by wasting a massive amount of money on feasibility studies, peoples patience and goodwill and continuing with non government core activities?

The AFL association is not backing the wish, it only seems to be in the minds of you politicians and a few die hard fans, how many of them turn out for the matches each season?

I will not even start to mention the amounts of money being banded around for white elephant number 2, Bellerive oval, is a money pit that will never be a winner for sport with our limited population. We all know that if that much money is available to the state by any means there are so many more needed and erstwhile projects that need to be tackled in a timely manner.

You do not pass the pub test on this one so can we please have you back on track and govern for the people in the things that are desperately needed and show some leadership and start making our lives more tolerable and meaningful. If sport for the people is in your agenda, some help with a new skate rink and maintaining the Launceston YMCA wouldn't have gone astray.

Before you proceed any further, I would suggest a referendum, you did not get my vote to lead us down this path. I would have great difficulty in voting for you again.

I expect very few of you will have the courtesy to reply apart from a computer generated acknowledgment of receipt.

Come on Liberals, acknowledge the proposal is dead in the water, and move on to health, housing and education where we really need your vision and tenacity.

Regards

s 36

Bellerive

From: [webmaster](#)
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: Contact Form
Date: Sunday, 12 June 2022 3:34:07 PM

s 36



To another Jeremy living in another world. I've never been a liberal supporter, but I've often wondered what a good liberal government could do for Tasmania. This proposed sports (read AFL) stadium will become a turning point in the success you have had as a political party. On an ethical level when our health system, housing availability (for vulnerable people) particularly are being forgotten again, to the advantage of public space being turned into a tax funded private venture. With cost to build sky rocketing this whole project isn't inline with Hobart's current needs, particularly when existing on scale infrastructure is existing. Please reconsider for the sake of your political objectives don't do it.

-- automatically generated from www.premier.tas.gov.au

Released under RTI

From: [R_Cassidy](#)
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: AFL boss Gill McLachlan
Date: Friday, 10 June 2022 5:34:42 PM
Attachments: **Out of**
[Screen Shot 2022-06-10 at 5.28.59 PM.png](#)
[Screen Shot 2022-06-10 at 5.30.28 PM.png](#)

Dear Honourable Premier Jeremy Rockliff,

Sir, as you know I have served as a councilman for Central Highlands municipality, since 2014. I was re-elected for a second term, though I did not campaign, did not spend \$1 campaigning.

That said, Ouse is in dire straights since it lost its GP and the Moreton Group are on the back burner.

You would be well placed to know that the Central Highlands municipality has its fair share or maybe more than its fair share of older and sicker Tasmanians, who need regular medical attention.

You courted AFL CEO, Gill McLachlan, offered \$10 million per year over the next ten years and promised to build a \$750 million stadium.

Just think what that kind of money would do toward securing a GP for every rural community in Tasmania. You could commit to a \$10 million scholarship fund for UTAS to train GP who must give five years to a rural Tasmania Health Clinic, before going after the big bucks as a Specialist, for example. I suggested our Council should consider setting up a scholarship fund toward that end. Just think what that kind of financial commitment would do toward fixing all of the problems that plague the Health Care System.

Of 533,000 Tasmanians, how do you reckon will attend a game at the stadium? Maybe 1%. That suggests that the rest must come from interstate. What will a stadium do to the already heavy traffic, approaching or fleeing Hobart. If you would like a clue, next time the Jack Jumpers have a game at DEC, during peak traffic times, see how far the traffic backs up in both directions on the Brooker Highway. The lack of intelligent Planning or anticipation of the gross inconvenience of motorists not attending the game, but trying get to work or get home from work, precluded building either an underpass or an over pass, so the Brooker Highway traffic would not be bottlenecked, every time the traffic light changes, turning into or exiting the DEC. Who was the genius Traffic Engineer who did not anticipate that situation? AND, that is just the wee DEC and Jack Jumpers. Try imagining what the nightmare traffic would be like with a waterfront stadium.

So, can you please give priority to securing a dedicated GP for Ouse Medical Clinic and fixing the Health Care crisis and Housing shortage for low income and homeless folks before spending big on an AFL team and stadium. I for one would not be bothered wasting my time even watch the game on television. I would think my time would be better spent appealing to you, in an email.

out of scope

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[REDACTED]

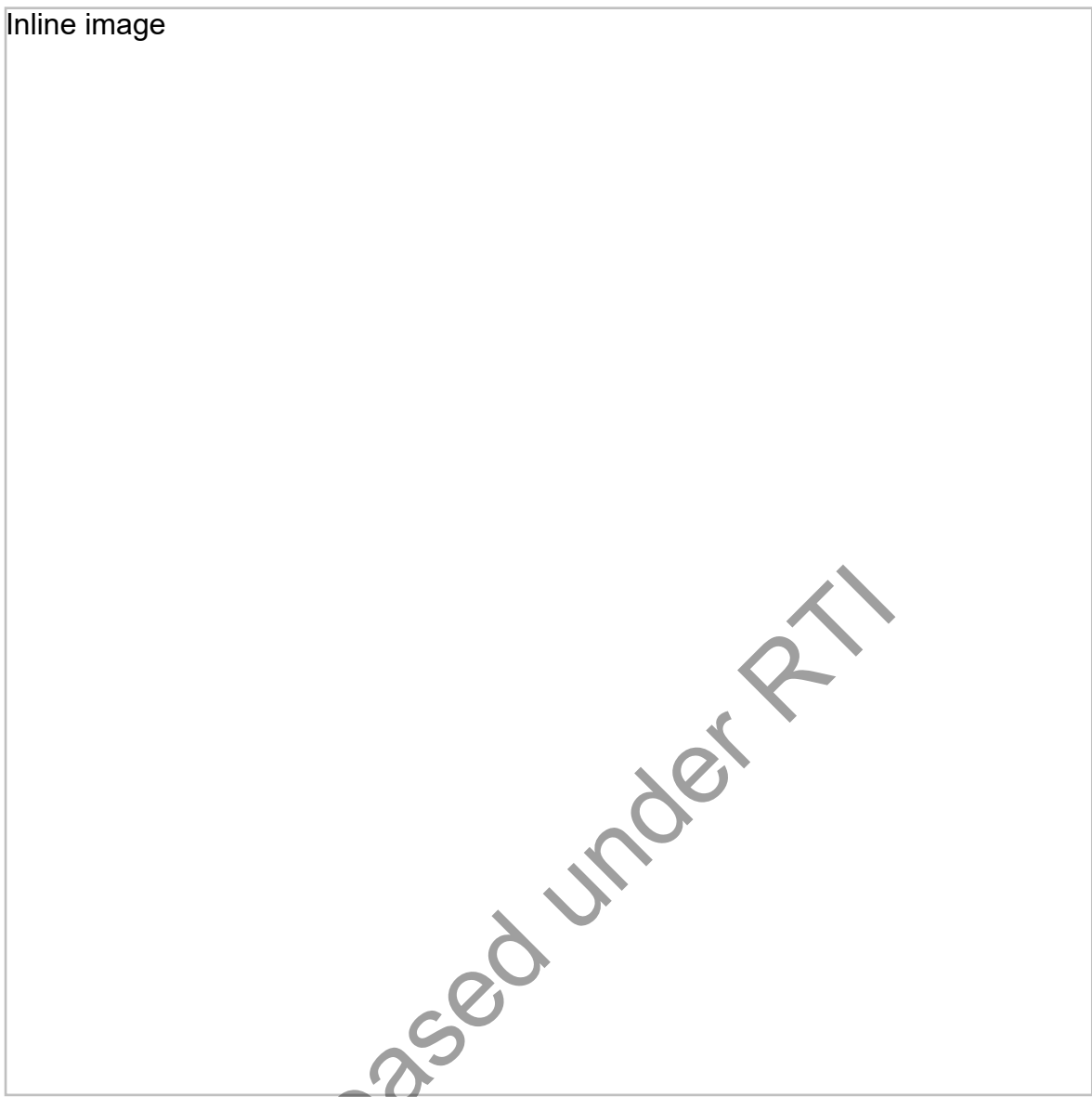
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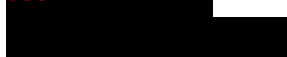
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Sincerely,
Robert Cassidy

s36



Released under RTI

Out of scope



From: s 36 >

Sent: Saturday, 18 June 2022 10:24 AM

To: rosemary.armitage@parliament.tas.gov.au; dean.harriss@parliament.tas.gov.au; nick.duigan@parliament.tas.gov.au; craig.farrell@parliament.tas.gov.au; jo.palmer@parliament.tas.gov.au; ruth.forrest@parliament.tas.gov.au; michael.gaffney@parliament.tas.gov.au; leonie.hiscutt@parliament.tas.gov.au; jane.howlett@parliament.tas.gov.au; sarah.lovell@parliament.tas.gov.au; rania.rattray@parliament.tas.gov.au; joanna.siejka@parliament.tas.gov.au; rob.valentine@parliament.tas.gov.au; meg.webb@parliament.tas.gov.au; lara.alexander@parliament.tas.gov.au; elise.archer@parliament.tas.gov.au; guy.barnett@parliament.tas.gov.au; shane.broad@parliament.tas.gov.au; jen.butler@parliament.tas.gov.au; anita.dow@parliament.tas.gov.au; felix.ellis@parliament.tas.gov.au; michael.ferguson@parliament.tas.gov.au; janie.finlay@parliament.tas.gov.au; ella.haddad@parliament.tas.gov.au; roger.jaensch@parliament.tas.gov.au; kristie.johnston@parliament.tas.gov.au; david.obyrne@parliament.tas.gov.au; michelle.obyrne@parliament.tas.gov.au; cassy.oconnor@parliament.tas.gov.au; madeleine.ogilvie@parliament.tas.gov.au; jacquie.petrusma@parliament.tas.gov.au; jeremy.rockliff@parliament.tas.gov.au; Mark Shelton (Parliament) <mark.shelton@parliament.tas.gov.au>; nic.street@parliament.tas.gov.au; john.tucker@parliament.tas.gov.au; rebecca.white@parliament.tas.gov.au; dean.winter@parliament.tas.gov.au; simon.wood@parliament.tas.gov.au;

rosalie.woodruff@parliament.tas.gov.au

Subject: A Request for No New stadium

Dear Members of Parliament,

Please do not approve the building of a new stadium, ostensibly for the possible formation of a new AFL team for Tasmania. The waste of a billion dollars of our money, which could be used for so many better things, will not be welcomed by the majority of right-minded citizens of Tasmania. Our health system is suffering enormously and can be saved only by funds being spent to bring it up to the standard required to operate efficiently in this twenty-first century.

As well, more funds need to be poured into education, police and the deplorable state of our roads. Take a drive anywhere in this state and experience just how much the once excellent road surfaces have been allowed to deteriorate. As well, there is a distinct lack of a visible police presence on these same roads so people seem to drive exactly as they feel, not within the road laws of the state.

If this ridiculous project proceeds, the government that approves it, and proceeds with construction, will become forever known as the biggest waster of money in the history of this state.

PLEASE DO NOT WASTE OUR MONEY ON A NEW STADIUM.

Kind regards,

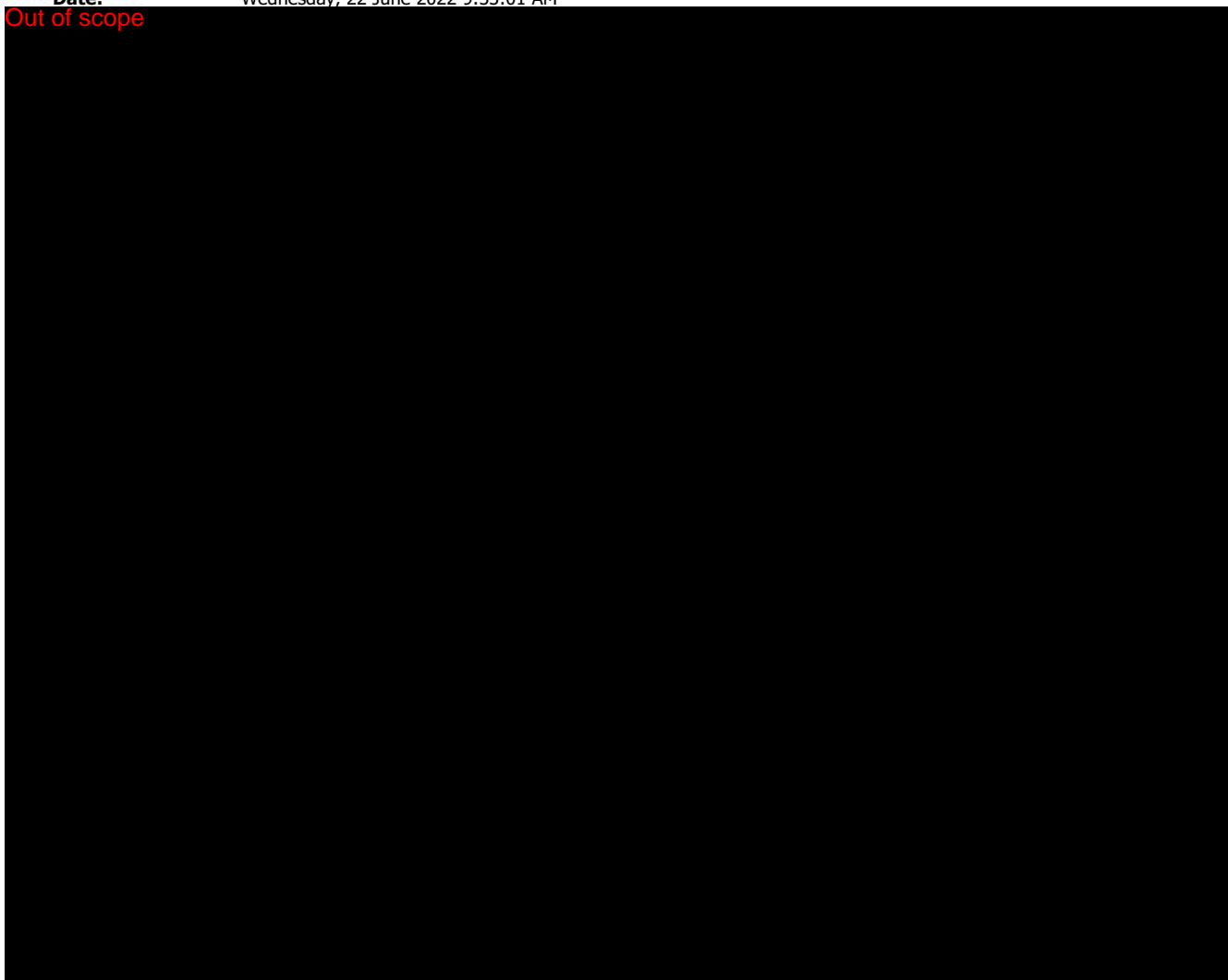
s 36

Swan Bay
Tasmania

Released under RTI

From: [Street, Nic](#)
To: [Street, Minister](#); [Cooper, Tom](#); [Taskunas, Vince](#)
Subject: Bass electorate Constituent Enquiry from s 36 from
Date: Wednesday, 22 June 2022 9:33:01 AM

Out of scope



Rele

From: Liberal Secretariat <secretariat@tas.liberal.org.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 22 June 2022 8:47 AM
To: Street, Nic <Nic.Street@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: Att Nic Street

Good morning

Please see email below from Liberal Party Member s 36 regarding the proposed new Football stadium for Hobart.

Kind regards

s 36

s 36

Administration & Member Support
THE LIBERAL PARTY SECRETARIAT
P: 03 6224 1015

Liberal Party of Australia (Tasmanian Division)
Suite 4C, Level 3/33 Salamanca Place, Hobart TAS 7000

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: s 36
Date: Tue, Jun 21, 2022 at 7:25 PM
Subject: Att Nic Street
To: <secretariat@tas.liberal.org.au>

Dear Nic,

As loyal Liberal member, I am very concerned about the proposed new football stadium for Hobart. Many of my friends think the same as I [do.as](#) Tasmania have a large debt that must be serviced, it is not logical to promise such a large amount for the new proposed stadium. Maybe a lesser amount could be spent on existing facilities to support football. We are seeing smaller crowds, even in Melbourne, so how in the world can we expect the expenditure to be worth it.

The present arrangements with the Hawthorn & North Melbourne (I think) seems to have worked quite well to now, although I never really approved of the Tas financial contribution.

I do not follow football, though have a little interest in Hawthorn as I live in Launceston.

There are other sports that interest Tasmanians e.g. cricket, basketball, golf, netball, athletics etc.

We certainly need to encourage healthy participation in any sport or physical activity but not at any cost.

Why was the skating rink in Hobart allowed to close & also the YMCA in Launceston? Both were healthy, active activities but lack of funding.

I hope you take my comments on board as I believe I speak for many other Tasmanians.

Kind regards,..... s 36

Sent from my Galaxy-Tab A 2017 on the Telstra Mobile Network

s 36

1st July 2022

RECEIVED

6/7/22 - TK.

Minister for Sport & Recreation,
Tasmanian Government House,
HOBART, Tas. 7001

Dear Mr Street,

I have voted for your party at the last three state elections, and have generally supported and agreed with the Liberal state government's conduct and operations during very trying circumstances over the past three years. Overall, I believe you all did a good job.

However, I have to say I am appalled at the prospect of millions of dollars being spent on a new football stadium when these funds would be so much better spent on housing, health and education.

I enjoy watching AFL football as much as anyone, but with a population of just 500 thousand people, this state just can't afford or justify the costs involved with an AFL team, let alone a new multimillion dollar stadium.

Many people in Tasmania are struggling more than usual at the moment with inflation starting to take off with interest rates, rentals, food, fuel and power, just to name a few items causing hardship. In this environment particularly, all governments must surely exercise responsible fiscal restraint, and where at all possible, support the public at large, not privileged self-interested commercial organisations.

We already have the Launceston and Hobart stadiums where interstate teams are happy to compete and Launceston generally attracts bigger supporting crowds anyway. If my memory serves me correctly, the original idea was that Launceston was to get the football and Hobart the cricket. Crowd support has generally vindicated this arrangement.

In closing, I just hope that common sense and a responsible and more caring governmental attitude will prevail, and these millions of dollars will be much more productively spent. By the way, everyone I speak to seem to agree with my opinion on this matter.

s 36

From: s 36 on behalf of [Rockliff, Jeremy](#)
To: [Office of the Premier](#)
Subject: FW: Why ?
Date: Monday, 4 July 2022 10:10:31 AM

From: s 36 >
Sent: Saturday, 2 July 2022 6:08 PM
To: jeremy.rockliff@parliament.tas.gov.au; Rebecca White
<rebecca.white@parliament.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Fwd: Why ?

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: s 36 >
Date: 2 July 2022 at 6:06:00 pm AEST
To: mercuryledletter@themercury.com.au
Subject: Why ?

Surely the unwanted record defeat of the once highly respected Glenorchy Football Club, is enough to wake up our glory hunting politicians, to the fact that it's grass roots football in Tasmania that needs the money they are desperately trying to throw at a highly contentious team in the AFL. Just a quick skip through the teams competing in the Statewide competition should reinforce this position. None from the northwest, two from the north, and five from the south. Of this number, it would be a struggle to make up four competitive teams for the competition. A combined side from this competition might possibly be able to compete at the lower end of the VFL. Importing players from other states to form a state side will never improve the standard for youngsters at the grass roots level, especially when you see the downward spiral of clubs in the lower competitions such as Claremont, who can't compete because of their financial position.

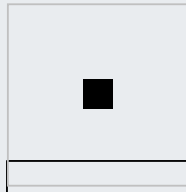
Just the money being wastefully thrown at Sydney head hunters for designers for the stadium, which will follow in the footsteps of the under-utilised Derwent Centre, would benefit our grass roots competitions. Like many decisions by politicians, reality seems to be the area that always misses out.

s 36
[Redacted]
Claremont 7011,
Tasmania.

s 36
[Redacted]
Sent from my iPad

From: s 36
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: FW: Form Submission Report
Date: Monday, 25 July 2022 4:52:49 PM
Attachments: ~WRD0000.jpg

From: Jeremy Rockliff MP <mail@jeremyrockliff.com.au>
Sent: Monday, 25 July 2022 9:21 AM
To: Rockliff, Jeremy <Jeremy.Rockliff@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Form Submission Report



Form Submission Report

Date/IP	25-07-2022 09:20:35 from 203.212.138.44
Site	Jeremy Rockliff MP (46 - Published)
Section	Contact Jeremy (1119)
Subject / Form ID	Website Enquiry (2)
Your Name	s 36
Your Email Address	s 36
Your Phone Number	s 36
Your Enquiry or Message	<p>Good morning, Hon. Rockliff.</p> <p>I am writing to you to express my extreme concern about the proposed building of an AFL stadium on or near Macquarie Point. It's not just the location of the said building that is of concern, but the enormous cost that could be far better spent on housing, health services and aged-care services. I am against this proposal and if there is a demonstration in the streets, I will participate as will many, many others.</p> <p>The proposal is a vote loser!</p> <p>Yours faithfully,</p> <p>s 36</p>

From: s 36
To: jeremy.rockliff@parliament.tas.gov.au; Office of the Premier; felix.ellis@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: s 36
Date: Sunday, 24 July 2022 7:07:48 PM

Dear Rainbow Warrior, the Premier of Tasmania

WHY THE SPORT STADIUM IN HOBART CANNOT BE BUILT

There are very good reasons why the proposed sports stadium to be constructed at Regatta Point, Hobart, cannot be built, rather than it should **not** be built.

The stadium appears to hang on the acceptance of a Tasmanian team into the AFL as stated by the Minister for Sport and Recreation, Nic Street. The proposal will cost \$750 million and will be funded by various government levels and investment from the private sector. The site is owned by the people of Tasmania and is managed by the Hobart City Council.

The site is near to the Hobart Cenotaph and the grounds of the Royal Hobart Regatta which includes the historic John Colville Pavilion. There are other recreational facilities which will be impacted and which are enjoyed by Tasmanians, it being so close to the CBD of the capital.

The impact will be considerable. The government has stated that it will be in continual dialogue with the RSL and the Regatta Association.

However, there are considerations not yet taken into account and are not stated on the government's website regarding the proposal.

I have had on good authority that if the stadium is built, it will block out any visual observance of the rising sun during the dawn service on ANZAC Day. This, alone, is why it should not be constructed at Regatta Point.

Near the proposed site exists the old Queen's Battery and is close to the Domain Cenotaph where the main military observances take place in the south. Built in 1864, the Queen's Battery served as protection from foreign invaders until the mid-1920s. It is also the site where the 12th battalion camped before going to WWI. The site was excavated some decades ago and by the request of the RSL in 1992, it was filled in. Another historic aspect, still there under the earth, are trenches of a zig-zag formation. These exist closer to the John Colville Pavilion and while their purpose has been forgotten, I surmise they were bomb shelters from WWII.

The question must be asked; what impact will such a huge stadium have on these historic structures? This also must include the John Colville Pavilion with its many plaques imbedded in its stand, such as those to the boatmen and rowers who served in both world wars. There are tablets also in memory of John and his brother Charles Colville who served with distinction in promoting and serving the regatta in past years.

Other questions must also be asked. Is the stadium needed? In the south for large entertainment productions we have the Deck near Elwick and in Clarence, Blundstone Stadium for sporting events, such as cricket and football, including AFL matches. Is the proposed new stadium warranted, even though it is a wonderful dream? It will be financed by government and private funds. We all

know that budgets blow out and the said \$750 million will probably be no exception. Governments will borrow to finance it and if the private investment does not eventuate as it is hoped, then we the tax payer will be paying more for its completion. Will it prove to be a white elephant?

Upon inquiry regarding parking for the stadium I have been informed that it is still being planned. If parking will be close to the site, then roads will have to be constructed to the venue and huge parking areas will be provided. Parking on the existing Queen's Domain is quite a distance away from Regatta Point and how it would be managed has not been suggested.

This does not even take into account the impact upon future regattas after the stadium is completed and ready for the 2027 football season. The Royal Hobart Regatta, dating from 1835, will see its 185th anniversary next year. It is the oldest continuous regatta in Australia.

Too many questions are still not answered and I would suggest they have not even been considered during the eagerness to plan the stadium and how much, already, has the government paid to the architects in drawing up plans? It has to be substantial.

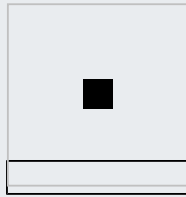
That the stadium will block out the sun during the dawn service on ANZAC Day is enough to say 'no' to the proposal while taking into account other questions regarding its construction.

s 36 [REDACTED] is a Tasmanian historian and author.

Released under RIA

From: s 36
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: FW: Form Submission Report
Date: Saturday, 23 July 2022 6:35:09 PM
Attachments: ~WRD0003.jpg

From: Jeremy Rockliff MP <mail@jeremyrockliff.com.au>
Sent: Saturday, 23 July 2022 6:17 PM
To: Rockliff, Jeremy <Jeremy.Rockliff@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Form Submission Report



Form Submission Report

Date/IP	23-07-2022 18:16:51 from 120.21.182.85
Site	Jeremy Rockliff MP (46 - Published)
Section	Contact Jeremy (1119)
Subject / Form ID	Website Enquiry (2)

Your Name	s 36
Your Email Address	s 36
Your Phone Number	s 36
Your Enquiry or Message	<p>Jeremy. Have touched on the AFL Stadium before. Not something tasmanian taxpayers really can afford. However if we have to have one Wilkinson's Point would be a good area. Access from all directions including by water. Other sporting facilities there already. Could move racing to Brighton. Glenorchy oval or Eady Street Oval could be turned into housing to offset some cost. Access from the south could be an underpass under Brooker Highway. To be fair to all fans that have to travel statewide it probably really should be situated south of Perth. Thanks.</p> <p>S.</p>

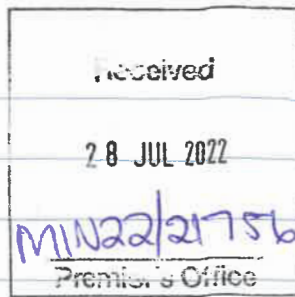
From: [webmaster](#)
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: Contact Form
Date: Sunday, 24 July 2022 10:10:31 AM

s 36

Dear Premier I was appalled to read the article in the MERCURY on 23 July 2022 “Its Stadium or Bust”. Where is the community consultation on this issue ? Who does this government represent ? Now we have interstate AFL representatives touring our city and discussing the use of our public land and dictating how Tasmanian tax payer funds should be used – it’s insulting at best. How can a footy stadium even get a look in when we have so many other urgent priorities such as the Health sector ? Please consult with your community.

-- automatically generated from www.premier.tas.gov.au

Released under RIA



s 36

Mr Rick Rockliff,
Premier,
Tasmanian Government.

21 July, 2022

Dear Premier,

re: Media Report, July 20, 2022

I refer to the "Mercury" article of July 20 (Copy enclosed).

Several matters of concern arise.

The article says that (AFL) "is working hand-in-hand with the Tasmanian government to find the best site ---". Clearly, the best site is not Hobart. Further, given that about 60% of Tasmanians live North, they will be contributing to any such facility at least 60%. Given the productivity of the north, taxes from the north are likely to be in excess of 60%.

How much contribution will the AFL make to the proposed \$1 billion roofed stadium? I suggest that is likely to be minimal.

The article states that "a combined AFL and Tasmanian Taskforce working group are (sic) currently working ---". Given that this proposed project is likely to be significantly ^{funded} by taxpayers, how many northern and ordinary members of the public are on this Taskforce? And how were the Tasmanians selected? Was there a public (advertised) selection process?

I enclose a copy of correspondence I have sent to AFL Club Presidents which outlines my (and I believe many Tasmanians') views.

out of scope

It is time to centralise services and facilities, not concentrate them in an extremity, where the majority of Tasmanians do not reside.

yours faithfully,

s 36

encl

(Tasmanian resident)



AFL chief executive Gillon McLachlan says the decision on a Tasmanian team is 'on track'.

AFL working closely on stadium deal

BRETT STUBBS

AFL chief executive Gillon McLachlan has confirmed the league is working hand-in-hand with the Tasmanian government to find the best site and the cost required for a new, roofed multipurpose stadium.

Speaking on FoxFooty on Tuesday night, McLachlan also confirmed that a final decision on Tasmania's bid to become the league's 19th AFL licence was on track to be made next month.

One of the biggest pieces of the push for a Tasmanian team in the AFL is a stadium on Hobart's waterfront.

The Tasmanian government this year unveiled a proposal for a 27,000-seat stadium at Regatta Point, at a cost of about \$750m.

When in Hobart last month to meet Premier Jeremy Rockliff for the first time, McLach-

“It will be in August some time ... I think it is on track, yes.”

GILLON MCLACHLAN

lan said a licence was contingent on a new stadium.

A combined AFL and Tasmanian Taskforce working group are currently working through the 11 work streams, including the stadium, to present to the league commission.

“The stadium is one of the biggest issues,” McLachlan said. “My team led by (the AFL's general manager property development) Matthew Chun is working with the Tasmanians on all the options.

“We are looking at possible sites, costs and doing a report to come back because it is a critical piece of it.

“That's the largest piece of the outstanding stuff. There's a spot for it, I know that.”

It is understood the state government's preferred position for a new stadium is at Regatta Point, while the AFL was leaning towards Macquarie Point.

To become the league's newest club, Tasmania first needs the support of the AFL commission and then from the majority of presidents of the 18 existing clubs.

Asked if the campaign was on track for a decision next month or if it was too soon, McLachlan replied: “It will be in August some time ... I think it is on track, yes.”

The Tasmanian government has put an offer on the table for \$10m a season for the first 10 years to help with operational costs, as well as \$50m for a high-performance centre. brett.stubbs@news.com.au

From: s 36
To: [Liberal Member for Lyons Guy Barnett MP](#)
Date: Friday, 5 August 2022 11:54:47 AM

Dear Sir,

I read that our premier is trying to spend millions of tax payers' dollars on a sports stadium.

I want you to oppose this ludicrous expenditure, we have an appalling health system that is in desperate need and that chap, a Mr. Rockliff, wants to spend my money on his vanity project.

You may be aware that the Launceston General Hospital has suspended its Ear Nose and Throat department because there is no doctor. These problems predate the present chaos inherent, which as you probably know is covid 19 related.

The prospect of having a sports stadium rather than properly functioning medical services is beyond the pale, please do as I ask.

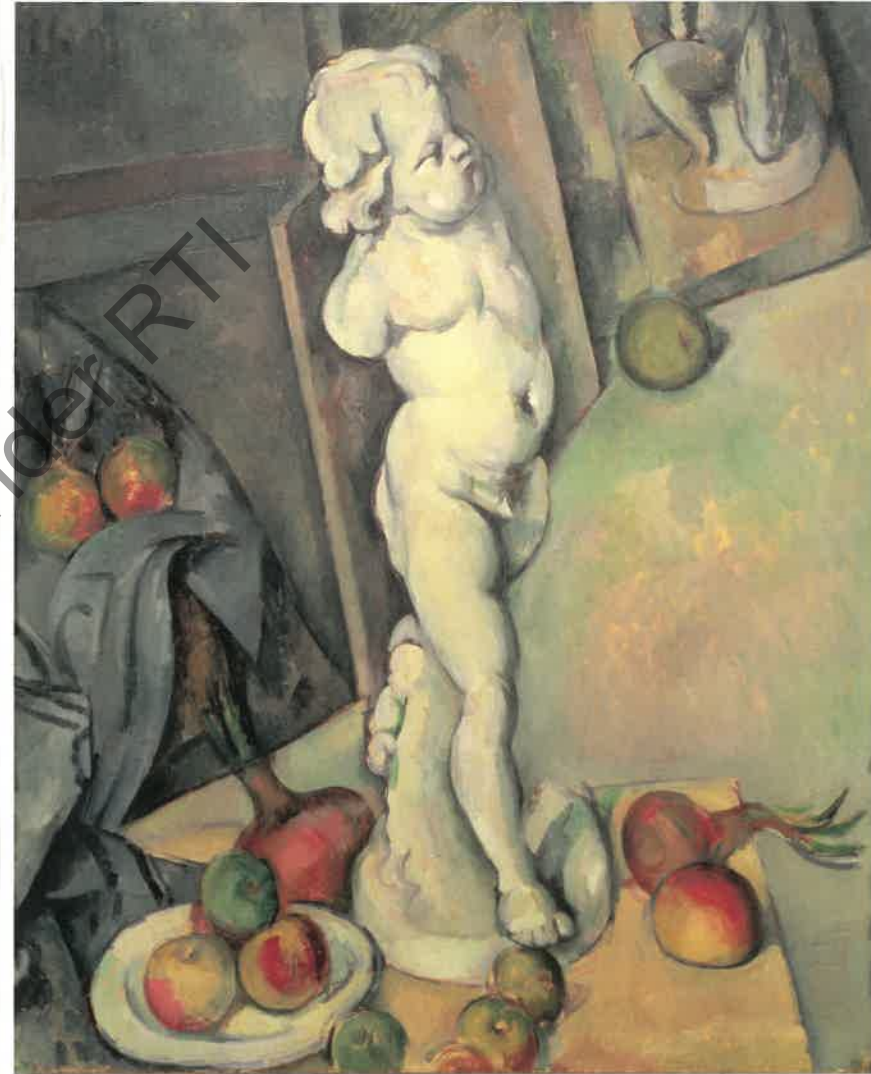
I look forward to your reply.

Yours Faithfully,

s 36



Released under RIA



The
GIFTED
Stationery Co Ltd

Still Life with Plaster Cast, By Paul Cezanne
© Samuel Courtauld Trust, Courtauld Institute of Art Gallery
courtesy of Courtauld Institute of Art Gallery/ The Bridgeman Art Library

DEAR MR ROCKLIFE.

MACQUARIE POINT DEVELOPMENT: FOOTBALL OVAL.

GIVEN THE CURRENT SOCIAL PROBLEM OF LACK OF ACCESS TO HOUSING + AFFORDABLE RENTAL ACCOMMODATION, THE IDEA OF BUILDING A \$1750+ SPORTS ARENA IS SO AMAZINGLY TONE DEAF IT DEFIES IMAGINATION.

MACQUARIE POINT HAS SO MUCH POTENTIAL AS A MULTIPURPOSE SITE: A DECENT STATE OF THE ART HOSPITAL, SOME RESIDENCES, RETAIL SITES, FOOD AND MARKET (THINK MADRID'S AMAZING MARKET) GREEN SPACE LINING THE DOMAIN, BOTANICAL GARDENS, RIVER.

OUR CURRENT HOSPITAL WOULD BE REPURPOSED AS A GP 24HR BULK BILLING CLINIC, TRAINING/EDUCATION AFTER CARE, PHARMACEUTICALS.

MACQUARIE POINT ^{COULD} BE SUCH A BIJOU AREA, A BEAUTIFUL ADDITION TO THE CITY ENTRY.

A FOOTBALL ARENA IS JUST MORE BREAD + CIRCUSES, MORE MONEY \$ TO DEVELOPERS + THE FOOTBALL INDUSTRY.

BEST REGARDS

s 36

Received

5 SEP 2022

MIN22/26732

Premier's Office

From: s 36
To: [Guy Barnett](#)
Subject: Please do not build new stadium
Date: Monday, 19 September 2022 8:43:13 AM
Importance: High

Dear Guy,

I am very concerned about the proposed new stadium at Macquarie Point.

This project is totally unnecessary as we already have two other stadia. In fact, York Park has been declared one of the best playing surfaces in the country. Will York Park and Blundstone Arena become expensive white elephants? The Derwent Entertainment Centre already provides a venue for large gatherings; will it lose income if the new stadium is built?

It seems to me that the AFL are blackmailing us into erecting a new facility in order to get the licence.

Apart from this how can you justify millions of dollars both initially for the building and then for the running costs when we are so desperately short of money to fund our languishing hospitals and other medical facilities.

We have neither the money nor the population to justify a team of our own.

I earnestly ask you to reconsider this whole development and refrain from going ahead with it.

Kind regards

s 36



Released under RTI

From: [Street, Nic](#)
To: [Street, Minister](#)
Subject: Please do not waste money on new stadium
Date: Monday, 19 September 2022 9:13:40 AM
Importance: High

From: s 36 >
Sent: Monday, 19 September 2022 8:48 AM
To: nic.street@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: Please do not waste money on new stadium
Importance: High

Dear Nic

I am very concerned about the proposed new stadium at Macquarie Point.

This project is totally unnecessary as we already have two other stadia. In fact, York Park has been declared one of the best playing surfaces in the country. Will York Park and Blundstone Arena become expensive white elephants? The Derwent Entertainment Centre already provides a venue for large gatherings; will it lose income if the new stadium is built?

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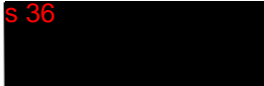
Kind regards

s 36
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

s 36
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Released under RTI

s 36



21/9/22

Jeremy Rockliff
Premier of Tasmania
11th Floor, Executive Bldg
15 Murray St
Hobart TAS 7000



RECEIVED

28-09-22 CH

Dear Premier

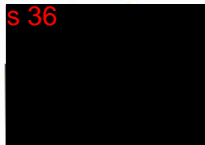
I am appalled, angry and distressed that you think money spent on a football team and stadium is "money well spent". How dare you?

Can you explain how that money is well spent to health care staff at the RHH who are overworked and under so much pressure in a facility and with staff numbers that are absolutely insufficient? Can you explain to someone face to face, that this project is more important than the fact that they are about to be made homeless? Would you be able to tell someone in chronic pain, anticipating a wait of at least another 12 months to see a specialist, that a football team is good for us all? If you can then I am ashamed to have you as Premier.

Did you just magic this money out of a hat or are other areas going to be cut back again in future budgets, increasing the hardships so many are facing?

Spending such huge sums of money on this is stealing from the potential well-being of Tasmanians. It is a staggering repudiation of your responsibility.

s 36



*Mr Street,
This is a copy of a letter I sent
to the Premier regarding an AFL
team and stadium for Tasmania.
At a time of great need in other
sectors, in critical sectors, it
seems unfathomable to spend
huge amounts of money on this
project. Tasmanians deserve
better.*

s 36



From: s 36
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: Tassies AFL Bid
Date: Friday, 9 September 2022 2:55:31 PM

Dear Premier ,

It won't be long now – hopefully !

I may have mentioned to you , or perhaps it was to Peter Gutwein before you , that after reading ' The Boys Club ' , a warts and all expose of the many controversies and scandals that had enveloped the AFL since it's inception in 1998 , I wrote to the author , Michael Warner , to congratulate him on his work . I informed him my only criticism was that he had said very little about the way in which Tasmania had been treated over many years in respect of it's many submissions for inclusion in to the National competition , which in my view , had been the worst of all of the many dark chapters he had referred to in his book .

In his reply Mr Warner said ' he agreed with me , he should have said more , because the way Tasmania had been treated was a disgrace . '

And that mode of operation by the AFL has continued . They have evolved to be a Juggernaut . In fact , seemingly , a one person Juggernaut . And insofar as Tasmania's latest bid is concerned , that means the Government has had to commit to a stadium , or Tasmania will never get a jumper in the Big League .

In 1979 , the late Ken Pinchin , wrote a journal on the first 100 years of Tasmanian football . That was a good read , and reflected the proud achievements of the State over that journey . As you know , Tasmania is a founding State of Aussie Rules football , and as was the case with all other States , it's game development was supported by the ANFC [Australian National Football Council] . All States had representation on that Council , the motto of which was ' the game of the people , by the people , for the people ' .

After the AFL replaced the ANFC as the controlling body for the sport in this country , their ' purpose ' was stated to be ' to progress the game , so that everyone can share in it's heritage and possibilities ' . That is not all that different to what the ANFC had as their motto .

However , what the AFL has demonstrated their purpose to be , is ' the game for overpaid players , coaches and administrators , for the benefit of television channels and other corporate bodies ' .

I am hoping before I move on , that around the end of this decade , ' someone ' will write an update on the last 50 years of Tasmanian football . That will not make good reading for the AFL . The fact that they have taken the stance they have in respect of a stadium is , in my view , shameful . They have not even explained why there has to be a new stadium . Just because Eddie said so , is not a good enough reason .

Some would say we have been discriminated against in comparison to what the AFL has done in respect of other expansions of the competition . There is absolutely no doubt about that .

When Mr McLachlan came to Hobart in June and told you it had to be a stadium or nothing , he also said that the people of Tasmania would not want a team without a new stadium . That was a very strange statement . The reality is , for the overwhelming majority of Tasmanians , the Government's focus should be on the three 'H's , Health , Housing and Homelessness . Not a new stadium . One has only to read the Opinion papers of our daily newspapers to understand that . However , having said that , I noted from an article[s] in the Mercury this week that you have a team looking at possible sites for a stadium , and that Macquarie Point is your personal preferred location . This means that you have ' succumbed ' to the gun at the head demand of the AFL . And it looks like we will be having a new stadium , whether we ' need ' it or not . I only hope that decision does not cost you Government at the next election .

I don't believe Australians , including Tasmanians , take kindly to being bullied in to making decisions , particularly without good reason . If the AFL have provided you with that reason , with respect , I think you should , now that you have agreed to doing what they have demanded , let the people in on the secret . ASAP .

For what its worth , if we do have to have a new stadium , I agree with you , Macquarie Point would seem to be a pretty good location , if not the best , provided there is in fact room for it having regard for all the other things currently on the drawing board for that site .

It goes without saying , Macquarie Point is mystery to most . Does anybody in Government actually know what is going to happen there ? I recall early this year there was great controversy to the news that a contract had been let for the building of a block of luxury apartments . Was that the best we could do with part of this prime site was the question that was asked .

Also in the Mercury this week Rebecca White expressed her concern on your reference to a stadium at MP , and asked what about the hundreds of homes that were earmarked for that area ?

That sounds like another recipe for public condemnation . No question we need more housing , but at Macquarie Point ? I would be surprised if the public knew that was on the drawing board ? Expect the same reaction as for the block of apartments if that goes ahead .

In conclusion , because I think it important that the AFL are aware of what the people of Tasmania really do think about their unqualified demand for a new stadium , and what I believe overwhelmingly the people think of the way Tasmania has been treated by the AFL over this matter , a copy of this letter has been forwarded to them for the attention of Mr McLachlan .

Yours faithfully ,

s 36
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Released under RTI

From: [Street, Nic](#)
To: [Street, Minister](#)
Subject: Football stadium
Date: Friday, 7 October 2022 8:12:21 AM

From: s 36
Sent: Thursday, 6 October 2022 7:39 PM
To: nic.street@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: Football stadium

Dear Mr Street

This is the first time I have ever written to an MP. The fact that I am doing so now is an indication of how strongly I feel about this issue.

I am writing to you about the proposed stadium on Macquarie Point. In my opinion building such a thing on that site would be a criminal waste of a very special location.

I have recently visited Perth, W.A. and seen Kings Park. There can be no doubt it is a huge asset to the city of Perth and it struck me that it is on a site not dissimilar to Macquarie point. It not only takes full advantage of the water views but also draws large numbers of visitors every day.

A sports stadium, apart from being downright ugly, would spend most of its time empty and would not benefit from the water views at all.

Quite apart from all of the above, I have yet to meet anyone who approves of the project. In fact it is usually condemned as a terrible idea. I would doubt very much if the majority of the population of Hobart think it is a good idea.

I for one think it is outrageous that so much tax payers money would be spent on a facility like this , just so that the state can have its own AFL team. You may be surprised to know that not everyone is a footy fanatic!

I trust you will not ignore this letter and should the proposal go ahead, be prepared for strong objections from a large number of people who feel as I do.

KInd Regards

s 36

Released under RTI

From: s 36
To: [Liberal Member for Lyons Guy Barnett MP](#); [Barnett, Guy \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: AFL Team + Stadium
Date: Saturday, 8 October 2022 6:53:00 PM

Dear Honourable Minister Guy Barnett,

RE: Tassie AFL Team and \$750 million Stadium

I saw you on the evening news stating this is what Tasmanians want.

Why not hold a statewide referendum? See what the Tasmanian people really want -or more correctly, really need.

I am confident Tasmanians, statewide, prefer a better Public Health System, improved roads, a pay increase for Tasmania Police with fully staffed 24/7 Police Stations, a pay increase for Firefighters, a pay increase for Nurses (on par with those on the mainland), provide incentives to attract rural GPs -or do you really think they would sacrifice all that for AFL Team and covered Stadium. The choice(s) should be obvious, except to those who have a pecuniary interest, those expecting expect campaign donations.

Here are some statistics:

The 2021 AFL Grand Final broadcast broke the record with 4.11 million viewers. Wow! Whoopee! And, there are 25.69 million Australians. That is 16% of the population.

That suggests that 86,562 Tasmanians would be sufficiently interested to watch the Grand Final.

I would never spend \$1 to go see an AFL game if the stadium is built, nor even go see the Jack Jumpers at MyState Bank Arena. I have no spare time, no spare cash, nor the luxury of nothing better to do with my time, when I have time off. Imagine spending \$307 per member (Concession), plus \$26.27 petrol at current \$2.029/L. There are better ways to spend that kind of money.

How many Tasmanians are in the same situation?

Thus, there is no social licence and no real business case to build a stadium and spend nearly a billion dollars of taxpayer money to achieve your dream. The Liberal government's priorities are wrong.

Sincerely,

s 36
[Redacted signature block]

From: s 36
To: guy.barnett@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: AFL Bid
Date: Sunday, 9 October 2022 8:19:35 PM

Good evening Guy.

This is a copy of correspondence I sent to you through Messenger & is now being forwarded via email, as was suggested in your auto directed reply.

>

>

> Guy, I'm sorry but you & your Liberal Government colleagues are very much ill informed. NO, all Tasmanians are NOT in favour of spending hundreds of millions of dollars on a Tasmanian AFL team & purpose built stadium. Infact, from my interactions I would suggest that the majority are dead set against it!

> The general consensus of opinion is that our healthcare, education, housing & transport systems are in a shambles & these are services utilised by EVERY Tasmanian, regardless of age, gender, nationality, personal characteristics & interests. This is where people want their monies spent. AFL is relevant to only a small sector of our population.

> Has the government canvassed Tasmanians to gauge their thoughts & opinions? I think not, because if so you would not be pursuing such a foolhardy project.

> BE WARNED ... proceed at your own peril. If this AFL bid goes ahead in the near future, you will definitely NOT be in government as the ruling party, after the next state election!

> Regards, s 36

>

> Please acknowledge receipt of this correspondence & a reply would be appreciated.

Sent from my iPhone

Released under RTI

From: s 36
To: [Office of the Premier](#)
Subject: FW: Message from website
Date: Thursday, 20 October 2022 3:18:31 PM

Good Afternoon

Could you please add s 36 to response to the purposed building of the AFL Stadium. Acting Premier Michael Ferguson is aware of the email correspondence below. Plus I have spoken to s 36

Thanks for your assistance.

Kindest regards

s 36

Electorate Officer

Office of the Hon Michael Ferguson MP

Deputy Premier

Treasurer

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

Minister for Planning

Liberal Member for Bass

53 St John Street,

Launceston Tasmania 7250

s 36

[@dpac.tas.gov.au](#)

Your name

s 36

Email

s 36

Subscribe to newsletter?

Yes

Your postcode

7,250

Contact phone number

s 36

Message

out of scope

Also we are very worried about the mooted stadium in Hobart . Most rules football is played in the North, if anything is done then it must be at York Park with a roof over.

Launceston is more easily reached for mainland fans & the traffic movements are tolerable vs Hobart.

I look forward to receiving your thoughts.

Hidden Field

2001:8003:155c:9c00:b1e3:611:da09:3c7b18/10/2022Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_15_6) AppleWebKit/605.1.15 (KHTML, like Gecko) Version/15.6 Safari/605.1.15

Submitted from website

Website

From: [MCU - MinCorro](#)
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Cc: [MCU - MinCorro](#)
Subject: Referred record from Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Monday, 31 October 2022 12:50:25 PM
Attachments: s 36
[Ext-Corro-MC22-078380.pdf](#)

OFFICIAL

Please find attached correspondence sent to the Prime Minister.

As this matter falls within your responsibilities, it is being referred to you for any necessary action.

Should you require further information regarding the attached correspondence, please contact the Ministerial Correspondence and Briefs Section at mincorro@pmc.gov.au or 02 6271 5566 (Option 1).

Thank you for your assistance.

Ministerial Correspondence and Briefs
 Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

TASK DETAILS

PDRId: MC22-078380

Subject: Proposed Hobart Stadium

Correspondence date: 29/10/2022 2:28:02 AM

Correspondence method: Email

INITIATOR(S) DETAILS

Formal Title: Mr

Title: Mr

First Name: Greg

Last Name: Hall

Address Line 1: s 36

Suburb or City: Deloraine

State: TAS

Post Code: 7304

Phone: s 36

Email: s 36

IMPORTANT: This message, and any attachments to it, contains information that is confidential and may also be the subject of legal professional or other privilege. If you are not the intended recipient of this message, you must not review, copy, disseminate or disclose its contents to any other party or take action in reliance of any material contained within it. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by return email informing them of the mistake and delete all copies of the message from your computer system.

TASK DETAILS

PDRId: MC22-078380

Subject: Proposed Hobart Stadium

Correspondence date: 29/10/2022 2:28:02 AM

Correspondence method: Email

INITIATOR(S) DETAILS

Formal Title: Mr

Title: Mr

First Name: Greg

Last Name: Hall

Address Line 1: s 36

Suburb or City: Deloraine

State: TAS

Post Code: 7304

Phone: s 36

Email: s 36

Released under RTI

29/10/2022 01:28:02 PM

Mr Greg Hall

s36

Deloraine
TAS 7304
AU

s 36

PM Correspondence - Proposed Hobart Stadium

Dear Prime Minister,

We write to raise serious concerns about the proposal for development of a \$1 billion waterfront stadium in Hobart as part of the bid for a Tasmanian team in the AFL, and to suggest that any application for Commonwealth funding assistance be scrutinised carefully. We note that our concerns align closely with those of the Tasmanian Labor Party and many serving Tasmanian MPs.

We are recently retired long serving independent members of the Tasmanian Parliament. After leaving Parliament, we were part of a small working group which examined and had a strong passion for a long overdue Tasmanian team in the AFL. The arguments for that proposition have been well documented and we do not wish to trawl through those matters again.

Whilst our working group supported a Tasmanian team being based in Hobart along with a high performance training centre, the matter of potentially a \$1 billion waterfront stadium being part of the deal was not discussed. We thoroughly support former Geelong President and AFL consultant Colin Carter's public statement that: "I don't think a licence should be contingent on a new stadium, which is why in my report I didn't actually say that it was".

It was, therefore, somewhat of a shock when AFL CEO Gillon McLachlan on a flying visit down here announced that a licence for a Tasmanian team was in fact contingent on building a new enclosed stadium plus other recurrent costs over many years.

That decision appears both discriminatory and unnecessary. A covered stadium has not been a requirement for an AFL licence anywhere else in the country. Tasmania already has two AFL standard football grounds - Blundstone Arena in Hobart and UTAS Stadium in Launceston. They each have a seated capacity for around 20,000 spectators and AFL crowds in both Hobart and Launceston in recent years have been nowhere near capacity. Finals were played at UTAS, which has one of the best playing surfaces in the AFL, as recently as last year.

If further upgrading can be demonstrated to be required at either venue, surely it can be achieved at a much more realistic cost than the billion dollar waterfront extravaganza currently proposed. And when Tasmanians read almost daily about the severe budgetary challenges facing the Federal Government, surely there are greater spending priorities.

As it is, the Rolls Royce proposal to duplicate Hobart's existing AFL venue just across the river has had a very negative reaction in many parts of the Tasmanian media and wider community - apart from some vested interests in the capital. In fact much of the original support for a Tasmanian team is evaporating because of this matter.

We know you are aware that Tasmania is the most decentralised state in the nation, with Hobart home to much less than half of the state's population. This compares with cities like Adelaide and Perth, where the capital share is up around 85%. It is

also a fact that the northern part of Tasmania has a greater passion for football than the south, demonstrated by consistently stronger crowds over many years. This was recognised by the Bacon Labor Government when it designated Launceston as the home of football more than 20 years ago.

Comfort would be given to Tasmanian taxpayers if some relatively appropriate capex could be expended at UTAS and Blundstone and forget the Hobart stadium with its covered roof, in the short term at least. It is a nonsense to suggest that we need to emulate the only other covered football stadium in the nation - Docklands in Melbourne. Even in the far colder climate of the U.K. the only stadium in that mould is at Cardiff. Incidentally the Premier League have elected to protect as best as possible the spectators, whilst all the playing surfaces remain uncovered so as to expose the players to the prevailing elements.

Tasmanians believe it would be fair if, in the event that an AFL licence is granted, games were to be shared equally north and south. However we know that the AFL under their constitution retain total control over match fixtures including venues. Premiers and Governments don't get a say unless they are prepared to pay for the privilege. If in fact a hugely expensive new stadium is built in Hobart, it therefore follows that games will be centralised in Hobart to help pay the bills.

We would strongly suggest that would be a huge mistake going forward, and for many Tasmanians, particularly those in the North and North West, would make the whole proposition untenable. Many people who support a Tasmanian team will be either unable or unwilling to travel constantly to Hobart for home matches.

We are among the many who passionately want to see a Tasmanian team take the field in the AFL. It grieves us to feel it necessary to express these concerns to you. However, we have, along with many others, expressed these same views, in the media and to Premier Rockliff without result. It appears the State Government has stopped listening.

We feel disenfranchised and aggrieved at the manner in which a founding football state such as Tasmania has been treated, particularly when the AFL has distributed enormous largesse to other AFL clubs, and particularly to newly licenced clubs.

Without sounding hubristic, we both have considerable life experience in a number of fields, are great supporters of our great game, and as former long serving members, as Independents in the Legislative Council of Tasmania we are keen to ensure that public funds (taxpayers' money) are spent wisely with regard to the wide array of competing priorities.

We wish you well in your deliberations in this matter.

Yours sincerely
Ivan Dean AM
Greg Hall AM

From: s 36
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: RE: Letter form the Premier, the Hon Jeremy Rockliff MP
Date: Saturday, 12 November 2022 4:34:23 PM

Hello to the Office of the Premier ,

Could you please pass on the following reply to the Premier before he meets with the President of the Hawthorn Football Club next week .

Dear Premier ,

Thank you for your letter of 9 November . I believe it fair to say , most sensible fair minded citizens understand , and appreciate the intention of all Governments is to advance the economy , and generally improve the lives of its citizens . You would not be in politics , if you did not share that broad objective .

At the moment , as I see it , your problem will be to convince the Tasmanian people , that the existing critical problems in Health , Housing and Homelessness , will not be prejudiced by your commitment to build a new stadium . And that you are in fact doing that for the right reasons – not just ‘ because Eddie said so ‘ .

There is no doubt in my mind , that the public perception is that the stadium is being built essentially because the AFL have told you ‘ no stadium , no license ‘ . Which was , in my opinion , and that of many others , a shameful thing for them to have decided . Particularly as they have never said why . If you have asked them that question , you have not shared the answer with the public . The buzz words these days are ‘ open and transparent ‘ . I know nothing , but I think if any politician were to do that , or attempt to do it as best they could , then I believe a lot of ‘disquiet ‘ from the public , would be avoided .eg. it was announced recently that the Govt/ AFL had been investigating five possible sites for a stadium . We know one was the Regatta Grounds , another Macquarie , and I guess possibly the TCA Ground , but why not tell the mushrooms what you / they have been looking at ? It’s not a big deal , but I think people like to be kept in the loop . Why ? Because , they are interested , and might even think they could contribute something worthwhile to the discussion if given the opportunity . And even if not having been given the opportunity in a formal way , the public have made numerous suggestions thru’ the media . I think we could discount the suggested sites in the Midlands , but why not tell the people what has been considered and discounted ? . Likewise , there was a comment that the future Macquarie Stadium , had been identified as possibly hosting , I think it was 44 events during a year . It would be interesting to know how many of those were expected to be for AFL , International cricket , other sports , entertainment , and whatever else to justify the stadium’s cost and maintenance . Obviously you don’t have to do that – but why not – it is also in the public interest ? The PM has made it clear he expects to have specific information before the Commonwealth will get involved , and he is clearly correct in saying that .

Mr McLachlan upset many of us when he flew in earlier this year to deliver the demand for a new stadium , saying that ‘ he knew ‘ that the Tasmanian people would expect there be a new stadium . What a lot of rubbish that was . I have no doubt that if in the recent Local Government elections someone had thought to include a simple Yes / No question on the stadium , [as had been done for the controversial UTAS move] , what the overwhelming response to that would

have been . Not that that would have mattered one iota to the AFL . They will never admit that they ever got anything wrong .

However , I may have it wrong . But it appears to me what you are trying to convince the public of in respect of the three major areas of concern , is that the Government are doing all they can to alleviate those problems . And there are record amounts of money being spent in those sectors . No doubt there is , but as many people keep pointing out , if you were one of the ones waiting years for elective surgery , or to get an outpatients appointment , or to get a roof over your head , I reckon you would like to see evidence that you were at least advancing in the queue . And that , as mentioned , your wait will not be prolonged by money being spent on a stadium . How you get the public on side with that , I really don't know , but that , I think , will be your challenge .

I agree with your comments on the potential benefits flowing from the development of Macquarie Point . That had been agreed many years ago . The problem is , as has been referred to by so many people , so many times , in the Opinion pages of the Mercury , when are we going to see something actually happen , or even see a plan of what is to happen ? . The former Mac Point CEO has borne the criticism of what the public perceive to be a total lack of any meaningful progress , apart from remediation of the ground . But as I understand it , there is a Board that is responsible for that site , not just the CEO , and there is a Government Minister who should have been keeping an oversight of the Board on what was happening / not happening . Neither of those parties would seem to have done a very good job . In fact , most would probably say , they have done nothing .

In your letter you make reference that ' the new stadium could co-exist with ' . The word ' could ' worries me . In one of my earlier emails to you , I made the point that if we had to have a new stadium , I agreed that Macquarie would be a good site , PROVIDED it fitted in with the other things that were planned for that area . The footprint for an AFL stadium , and adjacent open space , will involve a significant area of land . I asked the question , ' had anybody actually worked out what would fit , and what wouldn't ? . The former Macquarie CEO has since gone on record as saying a stadium would be a mistake . That is not to say she is right of course , but she was there for a long time , and paid a lot of money to be there , so her thoughts should at least be considered .

I also agree with your comment re Blundstone Arena . That was a wonderful development . But it is in the wrong place . Probably only Denis Rogers would know whether it was ever envisaged to be a venue for AFL football . I suspect not .

But not even the AFL would be silly enough to argue that it has not done the job required of it by them and NM . And likewise , they should have told you , and you , us , why it would not be suitable to host games for a Tasmanian AFL team ? . At least in the short term . All simple basic questions , which if they have been put , the answers , again , have not been provided to the public . Colin Carter addressed the capacity issue at Blundstone in his Report . Which has , in effect , been ignored . And it took the AFL a long time to even do that .

And that draws attention to another ' problem ' you may have very shortly . I was pleased to read that you have reaffirmed to the AFL that there will be no extensions to the Hawthorn and NM contracts until there is finality on our admission . Which in my opinion should see a

Tasmanian team playing out of Blundstone and UTAS no later than 2026 . The original Task Force submission advocated 2025 , but the AFL has been so slow [disrespectful] , in dealing with the submission , that date would no longer be possible . But 2026 would be , IF the AFL genuinely wanted to actually DO SOMETHING . Instead of just continuing to avoid the issue .

I have used the word ' problem ' , because I suspect the AFL will again pressure you to make a decision on Hawthorn and NM , before they have provided an answer on our admission . Because there will be a need for them to get the 2023 fixtures settled ASAP . Please do not give in on that . As Peter Gutwein obviously realised , that is just about the only thing we have to argue with ie we need the interim support of Hawthorn and NM [who want our money] , but should not get it , until we have an acceptable decision on our admission .

Mr Gutwein made it clear in 2019 , that he had had a gutful of the disrespect shown by the AFL towards Tasmania . He repeated the dose in a story in the Mercury 14/8/21 under the heading ' Give us a team , or get out ' . We still haven't got a team , even though Gil McLachlan has said many times , the matter would be resolved by end of August 2022 .

On 6/3/22 , the Mercury reported that McLachlan had said while attending that charity game in Devonport under the banner ' Healing for Hillcrest ' , ' a Tasmanian team has always been taken seriously , but I think we now have the balance sheet and resources . We are in a position where we can make the decision in a way where we've got the investment capabilities to do it . It hasn't been in that position before and [here's those words again] , I think Tasmanians have understood that ' .

What this Tasmanian understands Gil , is that you will say pretty much anything at any time when it suits you . A few years ago , when Mike Fitzpatrick retired as chairman of the AFL Commission , he said that ' Tasmania's many submissions for entry in to the competition had not been taken seriously , because this State was racked by a North – South divide ' . [That dirty word ' parochialism] . But no mention of a shortage of money . And whilst I thought I had heard all of their excuses , that was an original .

As I understand it , what has happened so far in the areas of negotiations , is that you have given in to their demands for a stadium , given in on their demands for an increase in the annual monetary support from 10x\$10M , to 12x \$12M [what's an extra \$44M over 12 years ?] , and given in to their demands for a \$50M ' High Performance Centre ' . What are they giving to help get our team off the ground ?

And before I move on , just a couple of thoughts on the stadium . Eddie said it needed to have a retractable roof . At one point the AFL were talking about a fixed perspex type roof , which they believed would save a lot of money . Obviously I don't know anything about that , but all I would say is , if we're going to have to do it , do it properly . I don't think we want a giant hot-house at MacQuarie Point .

If it has to have a roof , it needs to be retractable . Which would obviously allow for control of the elements , which should then allow the ground to be used as a training venue . In addition to the Club's administration . The ground will have minimal use as an AFL game day venue , and therefore with a roof to control nature , there should not be a problem in keeping it in good [' pristine ' for AFL] condition . That would mean that all that would be required to meet the

demand for a ' high performance centre ' would be a high class gymnasium . The cost of which should not be anywhere near \$50M ? Put the saving towards the roof .

In conclusion ,in one of my earlier emails I suggested before you , or your team , started negotiating with the AFL , you / they should read the book by HeraldSun journalist Michael Warner ' The Boys Club ' .

If you think I have a low regard for the AFL , you are absolutely right . I'm an Aussie Rules man , but not an AFL Rules man . Because I agree with Mr Warner , ' the way Tasmania has been treated by the AFL has been a disgrace ' . And it's still happening .

If you have taken the time to read this , thank you , and good luck in your future efforts to bring this unhappy period in Tasmania's sporting history to a best possible conclusion .

s 36 [redacted]

[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

der RTI

Out of scope [redacted]

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Released under RTI

From: [Rockliff, Jeremy](#)
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: FW: AFLTeam for Tasmania
Date: Friday, 18 November 2022 8:20:18 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: **S 36**
Sent: Thursday, 17 November 2022 5:49 PM
To: jeremy.rockliff@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: AFLTeam for Tasmania

Dear Jeremy,

Now that it appears the decision on an AFL team for Tasmania is imminent I wish to let you know that I am strongly against the construction of a new stadium in Hobart at which to base the team. Should such a stadium be proposed as part of the "package" for Tasmania to be part of the AFL then I would rather Tasmania not join the AFL. Any monies that are proposed for a stadium dream should be expended where it is more urgently needed by Tasmanians for improvements in health services, housing services and many other areas. Please note I will do all within my power, as no doubt will many others, to prevent this stadium farce from taking place. This including using my vote in future elections as appropriate.

I am not against appropriate investment in improvements to the two existing north and south venues.

I am very surprised that a simple yes / no statewide referendum has not been held in relation to a new stadium and would urge you to talk to your colleagues about holding such a review.

Yours **S 36** - concerned Tasmanian.

Sent from my iPad

Released under RTI

From: [Street, Nic](#)
To: [Street, Minister](#)
Subject: FW: AFLTeam for Tasmania
Date: Friday, 18 November 2022 10:31:21 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: **S 36**
Sent: Thursday, 17 November 2022 5:51 PM
To: nic.street@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: AFLTeam for Tasmania

Dear Nic,

Now that it appears the decision on an AFL team for Tasmania is imminent I wish to let you know that I am strongly against the construction of a new stadium in Hobart at which to base the team. Should such a stadium be proposed as part of the “package” for Tasmania to be part of the AFL then I would rather Tasmania not join the AFL. Any monies that are proposed for a stadium dream should be expended where it is more urgently needed by Tasmanians for improvements in health services, housing services and many other areas. Please note I will do all within my power, as no doubt will many others, to prevent this stadium farce from taking place. This including using my vote in future elections as appropriate.

I am not against appropriate investment in improvements to the two existing north and south venues.

I am very surprised that a simple yes / no statewide referendum has not been held in relation to a new stadium and would urge you to talk to your colleagues about holding such a review.

Yours **S 36** - concerned Tasmanian.

Sent from my iPad

Released under RTI

From: [Street, Nic](#)
To: [Street, Minister](#)
Subject: FW: Macquarie Point Proposed Stadium
Date: Friday, 18 November 2022 3:04:39 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 18 November 2022 1:31 PM
To: Nic.street@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: Macquarie Point Proposed Stadium

Dear Minister

i wish to register my dismay at the prospect of one of Hobart's few remaining areas of vacant public waterfront land being considered for a football stadium.

I am opposed to the locking up of this prime land for the use of a minority of Hobartians . I acknowledge that AFL is a popular sport but a lot of electors, including me and my circle of friends, have zero interest in it. I cannot understand why it would be necessary to place a stadium on that site when other existing venues could be upgraded or, if a new stadium were deemed necessary, why it could not be built in a less obvious spot.

There is an opportunity to build something for all of the people at Macquarie Point - something unique, beautiful and distinctive. Open it up to the architects of the world through a competition and we would find Hobart would have a landmark for all local people and visitors to enjoy and the whole world to admire.

Kind regards

s 36
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Released under RTI

From: [webmaster](#)
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: Contact Form
Date: Thursday, 17 November 2022 1:49:14 PM

s 36



Dear Mr Rockcliff, I am writing to say no no no no no p, please, to the proposal for a wasteful stadium that will mean free money for the AFL Men in Suits clique. These big boys ignore and deny Tasmania's right to have an AFL team unless it means free billions for their prestige. Further more I am astonished that several years of public money has gone into salaries for those working on plans for the Macquarie Point site. Those plans, for what they were, have now been dropped by your government that appears to be wetting itself to be acceptable to the Gillan McLachlan Boys Club. Please. A Tasmanian AFL team has two ready stadiums for it...one at Bellrive and the other un Launceston. Thank you for considering my views, Sincerely s 36

-- automatically generated from www.premier.tas.gov.au

Released under RTI

From: [Rockliff, Jeremy](#)
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: FW: Re Performance of the Tasmanian Government
Date: Tuesday, 15 November 2022 11:02:14 AM

From: s 36
Sent: Tuesday, 15 November 2022 11:00 AM
To: jeremy.rockliff@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: Re Performance of the Tasmanian Government

Premier Mr Jeremy Rockliff MP,

Dear Premier,

As a member of the Tasmanian community, I am writing to express my serious concern on a number of disparate issues about the performance of the government that you lead.

In summary, I am offering you and your government feedback on a number of subjects that while it may be unpalatable, is intended to alert you to widely held concerns among my friends in the Tasmanian community.

s36

out of scope

2 Construction of a Macquarie Point stadium to acquire an AFL Tasmanian Team Licence

Your government has become addicted to the promotion of high visibility sporting events, spending vast amounts of public money on supporting sporting promoters.

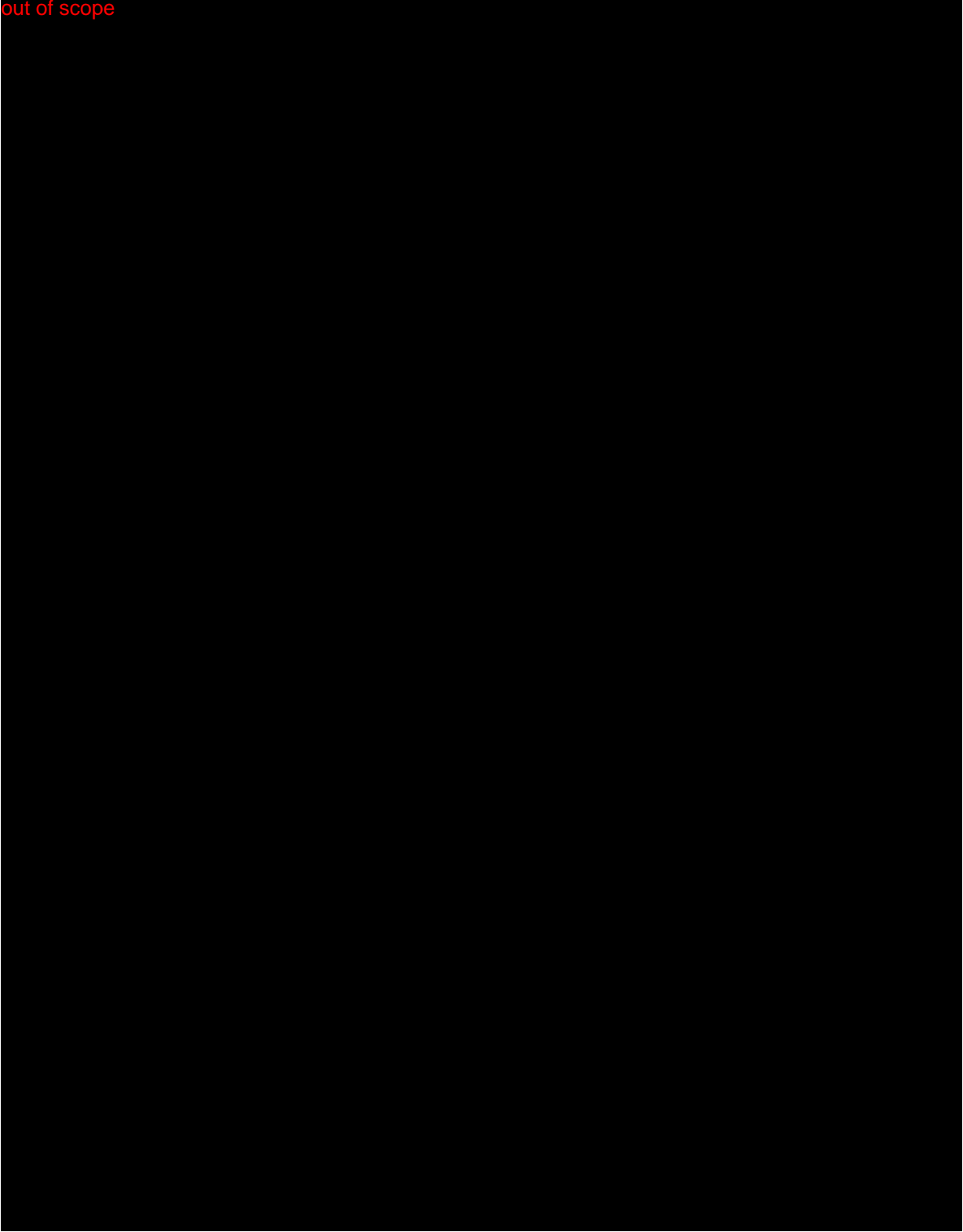
Recently, Larry Kestelman, Owner, and Executive Chairman of the National Basketball League, accepted inclusion of the Tasmanian Jackjumpers basketball team into a national competition at a Tasmanian community cost of around 56 million dollars of funding to upgrade the MyState arena, along with the transfer to the developer of valuable property suitable for profitable residential development. Have you considered what the benefit or cost balance this has been to the Tasmanian community?

Currently, you are in secret negotiations with the Australian Football League over the reported \$350 million massive contribution the Tasmanian taxpayer is expected to provide for the construction of a covered football stadium, a facility which has not been required

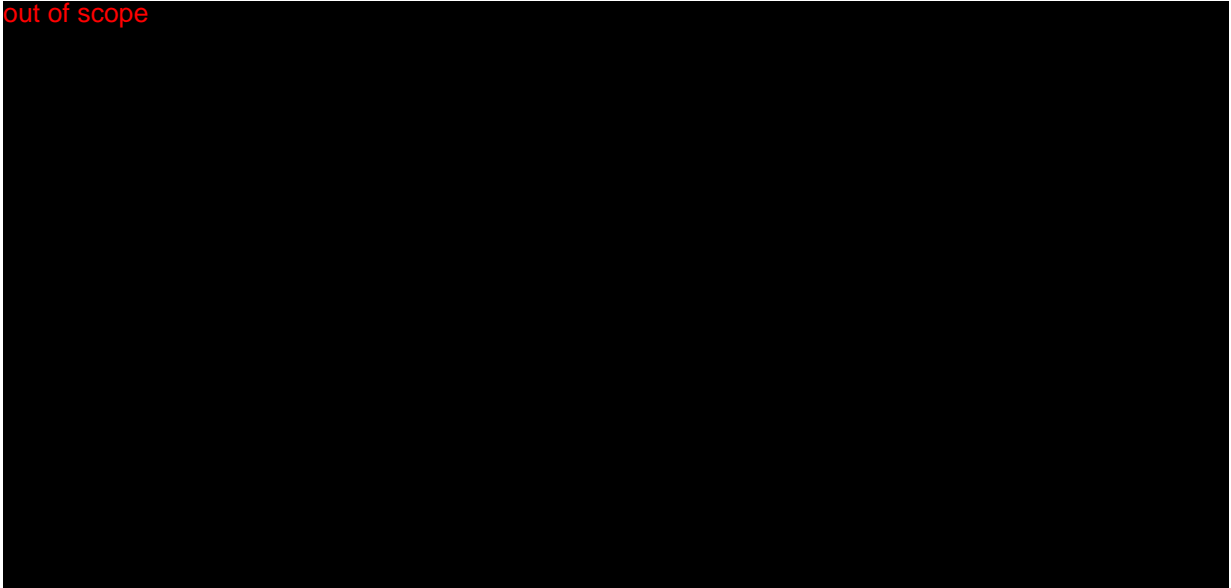
of any of the current AFL clubs. It seems, you and your colleagues are “being played for suckers” by the AFL leadership that do not want the complication from the introduction of a Tasmanian AFL team. Currently 18 teams mean 9 games played most weekends, where 19 teams become a programming nightmare that require team having byes each week to accommodate a 19-team competition. Meanwhile , the AFL continue to find reasons to impose more requirements on the Tasmanian proposal, while massive stadium construction funding issues with state and federal governments remains unresolved.

When are you going to announce to the AFL a termination of negotiations and that sponsorship of Hawthorn and North Melbourne football clubs will cease, with Tasmanian taxpayer funds devoted to more urgent needs such as the failing Tasmanian health system?

out of scope



out of scope



I invite and welcome your response.

Yours faithfully

s 36

Released under RTI



**VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA.
TASMANIA BRANCH Inc.**
5 Bisdee Street,
South Arm, Tasmania 7022

PATRON HON. Brian Harper OAM

ABN: 95 350 487 511

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Terry Roe JP
Email: troey1@bigpond.com
Mob: 0400 140 870

STATE SECRETARY
Malcolm Cash
Email: malann@bigpond.com
Mob: 0408 763 138

7th December 2022

The Hon Jeremy Rockliff MP
Premier of Tasmania
Level 10, 15 Murray Street
Hobart Tasmania 7000
jeremy.rockliff@dpac.tas.gov.au

Queen's Domain Hobart Cenotaph/Proposed AFL Stadium at Macquarie Point

Dear Premier,

I am writing to express our deep concern over the Tasmanian Government's proposal to build an approved AFL Stadium at Macquarie Point (Mac Point). Our association is concerned that should a stadium of the size and height being proposed for Mac Point be built, it would have a direct impact on the ambience of the Cenotaph, notably during important commemorative services.

The Vietnam Veterans Association of Australia – Tasmania Branch (VVAA-TAS) does not support the building of a stadium at Mac Point.

Background.

The Hobart Cenotaph was erected on the site of the former Queen's Battery, Hot Shot Oven and Hobart Rivulet Domain Diversion Tunnel in 1925. The site of the Hobart War Memorial was chosen specifically for its clear and obvious location, which would make it a focal point for the city and constantly remind its citizens of the debt it owed to war veterans. The Mercury reported that it occupied –

“a conspicuous position on the Queen's Domain, almost in line with Macquarie Street, and visible from most parts of the city. The memorial is particularly conspicuous from the harbour, from any part of which it is clearly visible”.

The Hobart Cenotaph is of historical heritage significance as it has special symbolic, spiritual, cultural and social meaning for the entire Tasmanian community, in particular for the Returned Service men and women and their families. The Cenotaph continues to be a highly important and symbolic site for Tasmanians with numerous commemorative services held there every year.

The Cenotaph offers uninterrupted views from the site down the River Derwent, to the city of Hobart and to Mount Wellington. Original guidelines for the siting and erection of

the Cenotaph, held by the Hobart City Council are supported in the Hobart Cenotaph Conservation Assessment: January 2001, which states that -

“No development of structures or plantings, which detracts from the open setting or obscures the Cenotaph from any currently visible part of Hobart (including the eastern shore) should be permitted”.

These views offer peaceful solemnity for Tasmanians and veterans and their families when they gather at the cenotaph, in reflection, to remember lost loved ones and the sacrifice of so many. The building of a large concrete stadium at Mac Point will take away those views, and, in doing so, will diminish the spiritual serenity of the Cenotaph, which was the intent of our City forefathers. Tasmanians, veterans and visitors will instead be looking directly at a concrete structure in very close proximity to the Cenotaph.

Even visiting cruise ships, when docked alongside Macquarie Wharf, block out the views from the Cenotaph down the Derwent River and the Hobart docks area. A stadium of the size being proposed, built much closer to the Cenotaph and on higher ground than the wharf, will have a direct, disturbing impact on all those visiting the Cenotaph to reflect in peaceful surroundings in solemn contemplation and remembrance.

Parking.

With no vehicle parking facilities included in the proposed Stadium plans, we assume that many cars will use the Domain for parking, adjacent to the Cenotaph. This will lead to hundreds, if not thousands, of people accessing the stadium via the Cenotaph War Memorial precinct. The possibility of intoxicated and rowdy people returning to their vehicles after a game or event, through the sacred grounds of the Cenotaph, poses a real threat to the integrity of the Cenotaph, the Eternal Flame of Remembrance and to the Victoria Cross memorials.

Can you assure our association and the veteran community that your Government will preserve this important historic precinct and its aspect, and give our association and veterans a guarantee that any stadium built on any part of Mac Point will not impede the views for which the site was originally chosen?

I look forward to receiving the Tasmanian Government's response.

s36



Terry Roe
State President
VVAA-TAS

Cc. The Hon Guy Barnett MP – Veterans Affairs Minister
The Hon Rebecca White MP – Opposition Labor Leader
Cassy O'Connor MP – Leader of the Greens Party
The Hon Julie Collins MP – Federal Labor Member for Franklin
Andrew Wilkie MP – Federal Independent Member for Clarke
Jacqui Lambie – Senator for Tasmania
Anna Reynolds – Lord Mayor, Hobart City

12 December 2022.

I write to express an opinion on the current Liberal Party led government focus on providing a facility for spectating at various sporting/business activities in Hobart. This facility is specifically promoted for The Australian Football League; an Australian public company, first registered in 1929 and doing business under the current name since 1990, ACN 004155211.

The Liberal Party in Tasmania is in its policy documents stated to be interested in 'Helping all Tasmanians Participate in Sport and Physical Activity', and has proposed a vision for encouragement in sport and active recreation to 2030.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics in 2014 published a NCCRS paper titled 'Perspectives on Sport'; notably, Tasmanians then had the highest participation in sport and physical recreation in Australia.

The proposed stadium can only be argued to contribute in a minuscule way to actual participation in sport and may inspire a small number of hopeful players of football to aim for the business end.

The ABS surveyed 1900 Tasmanians in October 1994 on a comprehensive list of sports participated in and although the sample was tiny, overwhelmingly Tasmanians were participants.

I am of the opinion that Tasmanians are still participants rather than spectators and this is the case in both my private and professional experience.

I am incensed that the Tasmanian government could funnel so much in the way of funds into a business that should stand on its own merit, to simply get Tasmanians to sit down.

I note that 3 bridges to access beyond the Walls of Jerusalem car park turn are to be condemned, limiting access of those who explore this beautiful area. This is one of numerous small problems with a solution that would contribute to the extraordinary diverse ways that Tasmanians are actually getting off their otherwise broadening backsides.

Yours in concern,

From: [Street, Nic](#)
To: [Street, Minister \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: Tasmanian football stadium
Date: Monday, 19 December 2022 8:19:12 AM

From: s 36
Sent: Sunday, 18 December 2022 2:47 PM
To: nic.street@parliament.tas.gov.au
Cc: The Premier <premier@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Tasmanian football stadium

Dear Minister

Especially after reading <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-12-18/afl-stadium-sports-minster-wells-funding-questions/101785934> and noting from media reports that more than 80% of Tasmanians OPPOSE the notion of your Government succumbing to the overt blackmail of the AFL CEO - tying allocation of an extra AFL club licence to Tasmania to the construction of a vast stadium having greater seating capacity than that needed for any AFL game yet played - I simply cannot understand why you and Premier Rockliff continue to blunder ahead with your insistence on imposing on Tasmanians a facility that the vast majority (reportedly 80%+) - including **huge** numbers of AFL devotees - simply do not want.

Use all the glitzy forecasts of economic benefits from your trusted and probably paid experts as much as you want: it simply makes no sense to waste \$750-\$875K duplicating existing facilities which have no problem housing the 15K maximum crowds who have attended previous AFL fixtures in Launceston and Hobart. Just what nefarious influence does Gillon McLachlan exercise over the running of this State's delicate finances? And just what undeclared dirty deals has the Premier and/or you committed in order to secure support for the stadium?

With this Government already well-advanced down a path of arrogance and dismissiveness of public opinion, the next test of such bone-headed wastefulness of public money will be at the ballot box.

Regards, s 36

From: s 36
To: Lara.alexander@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: Please do not support the proposed Football Stadium
Date: Thursday, 15 December 2022 1:07:52 PM
Importance: High

Dear member of the Liberal Party in the Tasmanian government

I am writing to you because I am extremely concerned about your plans for a new football stadium in Hobart.

To begin with you should not have been blackmailed by the AFL into insisting on a new stadium as part of the licence for a Tasmanian AFL team. No other state or Territory was subjected to this.

I have read many times that the Launceston York Park stadium has one of the best playing surfaces in Australia. We also have the football ground in Hobart. So, it seems to be extremely foolish to waste Tasmania's taxpayers' money on building what could turn out to be a very expensive white elephant.

In a recent letter from Nic Street to me he stated and I quote "I can assure you that not one cent will be taken from essential services to pay for this facility".

If that is the case, then from where can you expect to obtain the massive sum required for its construction?

If it is from borrowings, Tasmania will be saddled with a millstone of debt for years to come for a stadium which we do not need.

Recent polls have declared that there is massive community opposition, so I urge you therefore to reconsider this project, listen to the people you are supposed to represent and instead focus on more important matters, health, education, highway maintenance, construction of desperately needed low-income housing etc.

Yours sincerely

s 36

s 36

Released under RTI

From: [Street, Nic](#)
To: [Street, Minister](#)
Subject: Opposition to Hobart Stadium
Date: Tuesday, 20 December 2022 9:16:51 AM

From: s 36
Sent: Monday, 19 December 2022 12:17 PM
To: josh.willie@parliament.tas.gov.au; nic.street@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: Opposition to Hobart Stadium

Dear Sirs

As a resident and Tasmanian taxpayer, this brief email is to record my intense opposition to the Government's proposal to financially contribute to the building of a new stadium in Hobart.

Yours sincerely

s 36
[Redacted signature]

Released under RTI

From: [Street, Nic](#)
To: [Street, Minister \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: Gillon McLaughlan stadium?
Date: Wednesday, 21 December 2022 8:34:51 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: s 36
Sent: Tuesday, 20 December 2022 7:37 PM
To: nic.street@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: Gillon McLaughlan stadium?

Hi there fellow Tasmania - Sports Minister

Do most Tasmanians really want an AFL team - don't think so as most already have their own team and just because there is a team called Tasmanian does not equate to a mass exodus of their own team. Dream on. Add to that the building of an AFL Stadium (I think it is not unrealistic to call it the Gillon McLaughlin Stadium) at an exorbitant cost to taxpayers for AFL is unbelievable. The AFL blackmailing the state and the government falling at their feet to accept whatever they are told is just mind blowing.

If the AFL want to put a team here why the provision of a grandiose stadium built in Hobart? Why do they need a stadium. Surely a simple upgrade of a venue in Hobart and another in Launceston should suffice to satisfy ALL Tasmanians not just those in the south of the state.

Why are we asking to not only put a high debt on Tasmanians but also all Australians with the Federal Government to foot the greater part of the bill. It is interesting to note the AFL is the lowest contributor to their own demands.

I hear that this a dream but I dream of owning a Porsche all electric car but know it's not going to happen. I believe this is a pipe dream for our state but not realistic.

Shame that the core responsibilities for this state - education, roads, health, housing and law and order are all very low on the governments agenda- much more important to put Tasmania in great debt and have an AFL stadium (forget other sport codes) Shame on this government - why did I vote for it

s 36

Braddon voter

Sent from my iPad

Released under RTI

From: [Rockliff, Jeremy](#)
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: FW: Form Submission Report
Date: Tuesday, 22 November 2022 10:42:08 AM

From: Jeremy Rockliff MP <mail@jeremyrockliff.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 22 November 2022 10:26 AM
To: Rockliff, Jeremy <Jeremy.Rockliff@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Form Submission Report

Form Submission Report

Date/IP	22-11-2022 10:26:07 from 124.169.159.217
Site	Jeremy Rockliff MP (46 - Published)
Section	Contact Jeremy (1119)
Subject / Form ID	Website Enquiry (2)

Your Name	§ 36
Your Email Address	§ 36
Your Phone Number	§ 36
Your Enquiry or Message	AFL Stadium 'untruths'... perhaps i missed this response in the paper. I don't mind if there's a stadium (new economic activity etc all makes sense), but the biggest issue seems to me (and one that would shift a lot of people in favour), is why stick it at Mac Point? (such a great site; but a stadium that is used 10, or 20 times a year (even if its used 50 times a year) means the rest of the time its such a waste of space... a ghost town. shift it out to the site of the DEC or something and shift some of that economic activity to the suburbs. good luck!

From: [webmaster](#)
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: Contact Form
Date: Wednesday, 30 November 2022 9:54:08 PM

s 36



Hello Premier Rockliff, I would like to bring your attention to the proposed stadium, earmarked for construction at Macquarie Point. If you have watched any cricket today at Optus Stadium in Perth, W.A, you will see that it is built just outside the city in a stand alone position and looks spectacular. I urge and implore you and your government/ planner to exercise vision and look at these logistics, in regard to multiple exits for cars, buses, ubers, taxis, ferries, etc. The Macquarie Point location is nice, but is going to be a bottleneck and severely smother the city traffic even more so. My suggestion is at Glenorchy, My State Arena location with multiple 360° exits and plenty of room. The city of Hobart will still thrive with meals/ accomodation etc. with the arena built at Glenorchy. This is a huge decision for Tasmania, AFL and Hobart and we need to get it right. We will probably never get another opportunity in our life times. Please feel free to contact me. Thank you, s 36

-- automatically generated from www.premier.tas.gov.au

Released under OIA

From: [Rockliff, Jeremy](#)
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: FW: Form Submission Report
Date: Tuesday, 22 November 2022 10:20:14 AM

From: Jeremy Rockliff MP <mail@jeremyrockliff.com.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 22 November 2022 9:54 AM
To: Rockliff, Jeremy <Jeremy.Rockliff@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Form Submission Report

Form Submission Report

Date/IP	22-11-2022 09:54:10 from 14.202.184.166
Site	Jeremy Rockliff MP (46 - Published)
Section	Contact Jeremy (1119)
Subject / Form ID	Website Enquiry (2)

Your Name	§ 36
Your Email Address	§ 36
Your Phone Number	§ 36
Your Enquiry or Message	<p>Dear Premier, as a Greens voter for whom social and environmental concerns are very important, I wish to express my incredible disappointment at the words used in your Facebook post about the stadium which somehow popped up in my feed.</p> <p>I find it extremely offensive that certain parts of the media and the community - and now you, apparently - label those of us who have legitimate concerns as the 'anti-everything' brigade. I support a Tasmanian football team. I absolutely do not support a football stadium in the prime Hobart location on the waterfront. That site should be created into a park precinct which everyone should enjoy and not be a visual monolith.</p> <p>I cannot support the spending of massive sums of money on a new stadium when Bellerive could be upgraded and there are so many more important spending priorities affecting our</p>

state. Imagine if this money could be put in to addressing health and homelessness.

I am so deeply disappointed in the comments in your post - I really thought you were better than that.

Yours sincerely,

s 36
South Hobart

Released under RTI



Royal Australian Air Force Association

(Tasmania Division) INC.

ABN: 31 872 637 934

Patron: Her Excellency the Hon Barbara Baker AC, Governor of Tasmania

State President: SQNLDR A.W. Robertson OAM, CSM, RFD, RAAF (Ret)

RAAF Memorial Centre, 61 Davey Street, HOBART TAS 7000

The Hon Jeremy Rockliffe
Premier of Tasmania
Parliament House
HOBART TAS 7000

Received

16 DEC 2022

MUNJA/39192
Premier's Office

Dear Premier,

PROPOSED AFL STADIUM – CENOTAPH IMPACT

Whilst not holding a view on the viability or otherwise of the proposed Football Stadium, we do have a concern regarding any possible adverse impact of the site on the Hobart Cenotaph precincts.

The Cenotaph, as you are aware, has been and is, the focal point of remembrance for our fallen in all wars and peacekeeping operations to date. With the presence of the proposed Stadium so close to the Cenotaph, the resultant pedestrian traffic may well have an adverse impact on the sanctity of the Cenotaph site unless there is some planning to prevent a multitude of people transiting the area and thereby disturbing the sanctity of the site.

Whether or not it would be feasible to 'fence off' the Cenotaph site may be for a planning committee to consider but this Association is concerned that unless careful planning of public access to the Stadium is implemented, there is the ever present danger of the Cenotaph site being invaded by Stadium patrons to the detriment of the sanctity and solemnity of area.

Yours sincerely

s36

A.W. ROBERTSON OAM, CSM, RFD
Squadron Leader RAAF (Ret)
State President

12 December 2022

Telephone: 0418 545 207 - Email: awrobertson@bigpond.com

From: s 36
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: Re Stadium
Date: Tuesday, 20 December 2022 8:56:13 PM

Dear Premier,
 You are intent on building this football stadium.

What I think is obviously of no interest to you or the Liberal members.

The current Government is determined to spend 1.1 billion dollars to build another Stadium and then we may well have 2 white elephants down South,

Surely, regardless what the AFL may tell you, and to be realistic, just how many home games do you think Tasmania might receive?

If we are lucky, probably 4 a year and these games should be shared between the North and the South.

Football operates for approximately 6 months each year, and the next 6 months, of the year ?

If the Government is so keen to pursue this, my suggestion is, Hold A Referendum.
 Yes that will cost money, but it will not be 1.1 Billion , and for once listen the people this will inevitably create problems for,

On the off chance, you may have forgotten the contents of my previous email,

1. If the building contract is won by an interstate company, where will the Tradesmen and Labourers live during the building process? I guess they could move into the already established Tent City.
2. Compare the total population here in Tasmania with Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia and the Territories..
 Tasmania and the territories have around 550,000, Victoria 8,000,000. New South Wales 6,000,000. The other states not quite as high, but a lot more than Tasmania,
 Remembering not every person is interested in AFL football,

If Tasmania actually has a large influx from both interstate and from the North, where do you suppose those people may stay for the 2/3 days they come to watch an AFL game, without putting the Tasmanian Tourist Trade in jeopardy.?

A Tourist Trade that is a 1.2 billion dollar asset to Tasmania .

The Medical system is at a dangerous level, the Hospitals and staff are struggling. Plus people are dying whilst the ambulance's are ramping, through no fault of the Tasmanian Ambulance Service,

Aged Care is not coping and has major problems.

Public Housing is definitely not coping and this is why there are people still living in cars and tent cities .
 Or paying Exorbitant rents . And these people will NEVER realise their dream and have the resources to buy their own home, because they struggle to save after large rents and living expenses,

Consider this very seriously, because to spend so much money on entertainment, will not be acceptable when people are suffering.

One more thing....

After speaking with people on all levels, the feeling I receive from these people is .that they would like a referendum and they also hope you are not planning a snap election, whilst we are living in these uncertain times,

I can honestly say to you, when I approach this subject, with people I meet, the majority say, “ don't get me started on that”, etc etc.

A very concerned Tasmanian

s 36

Sent from my iPhone

Released under RTI

Dear Members of the State Liberal Party

Proposed Hobart Stadium

I write to raise my concerns and objection to the Tasmanian State Government proposing the need for an undercover stadium in Hobart as part of the deal to get a Tasmanian AFL team in the national football league.

I feel for what is perhaps a dilemma for you as I realise you are part of the government that has brought about this very divisive issue and that you are probably not in a position to disagree all that much. However you must be aware of the massive amount of public angst around this proposal. Through all forms of media many have expressed their concerns over a range of issues relating to the proposal .

If your role is to represent your community, please do so and listen to what they are saying which is a resounding NO to this idea.

You will no doubt dismiss a recent poll that showed that almost 70% of people do not want a stadium as it was commissioned by one of the opposition parties. However, even allowing for some bias, the numbers cannot be ignored.

It seems as more detail is found out the whole concept seems ill considered, based on a hotch potch of different opinions, desk top exercises carried out by consultants who judging by some of the comments are just putting planning principles into a one size fits all concept without really knowing much about Tasmania. Did they really say UTAS is unsuitable because it is between a road and a river. (MacQuarie Point, situated between the Derwent River and Tasman Highway comes to mind.) Did they really say development of stadia of this type should not be built in the suburbs. Do they realise how close UTAS is to the CBD of Launceston? (approx. 1.2km from the Brisbane St Mall. It is approx. 1.1 km from the Elizabeth St Mall in Hobart to MacQuarie Point) Hmmm.

Benefits?

There is so much spin about this proposal, and I do not believe most of it.

How many of the thousands of jobs that are to be created are new and permanent and how many are simply using the existing workforce to make the numbers look good. If they are all new jobs where are the people coming from. Have you tried to get a tradie to do some work lately?

Allegedly over 130,000 additional visitors annually will arrive at our shores once this is built and not only that they will visit all parts of the state not just Hobart. Really? Oh for the crystal ball of the person who dreamt that up.

Cost.

The proposed Hobart Stadium is estimated to cost over \$700 million. This figure changes a bit depending on what fancy accounting jargon is used, all the same it is a big number for Tasmania. This figure is already 12 months old, who knows what it will be in 4 or 5 years time when actual design plans are in place and tenders are let. Who is going to fund what in all likelihood will be a significant increase in the cost currently bandied about?

I would like to know if this figure includes all the additional development of the site for cultural and community use that has been espoused.

On top of this of course the government is spending over \$200 million on upgrading the UTAS stadium in Launceston. Add in the tens of million in annual running costs of both and the money promised for the proposed Tasmanian AFL Team and Hawthorn / North Melbourne, each year, you would be forgiven for thinking we are awash with cash and everything is fine in Camelot.

IT'S NOT, People are far more concerned about a stressed health system, education and housing shortcomings and other infrastructure needs in the state. This proposal is an unaffordable luxury for a state the size of Tasmania.

UTAS Upgrade

From what I read this is a (very short term) fix to allow so called marquis teams in the AFL to play in Tas until the Hobart stadium is built. Once built, these games will be played in Hobart, even though it is a smaller stadium. I assume this is to make sure it will be full because it won't be when the not so trendy teams play. This is a well proven fact.

If an upgraded UTAS can cope with the biggest crowds that can be expected, why not just make that facility the playing ground for the team. They can still have Hobart as their training and living base.

Apparently one of the aims is to replicate an Adelaide Oval like precinct.

You already have exactly what Adelaide has at UTAS. An existing stadium with a long history of catering for football and cricket (100 years for football, 140 odd for cricket) that gives the ground a real vibe. It is located a short distance from the city centre, adjacent to University campuses, parklands, walking and cycling trails that access not only the city but outer suburbs north and east of the city, a museum, secondary sports grounds, café and convention facilities. It's all there, established, well supported and entrenched in the psyche of Tasmanian sports goers.

The AFL.

Why is your party so besotted with the AFL?

This is a ruthless organisation that has a long history of either ignoring Tasmania or dishing up only the dregs of games they would rather not have at other major stadiums.

The actions of the previous premier to offer up this proposal is astounding. It was not needed. To use a football analogy, it is akin to someone at the start of the game giving away not only a free kick but 2 x 50m penalties to the opposition, ensuring a certain goal. That person rightly is replaced but that the replacement person doesn't learn from this mistake is just as incredible.

Not only has the AFL jumped on the stadium plan, it has the gall to insist it be on the most prime piece of real estate in Hobart. Good work if you can sucker some poor soul into agreeing with this.

Sadly it seems they have with your party.

And just to rub salt into the wounds, they will contribute about 2% of the cost, barely enough to run the facility for a year, let alone the massive capital cost and what, 50-100 years? of ongoing use, upgrades etc.

We are being shafted big time, your party is facilitating this at the cost of those you represent.

All this on a wing and a prayer that the AFL will admit a Tasmanian team to its fold. This is still not guaranteed by the way and given it was supposed to be announced last August I suspect support for the team is not as strong as many would like.

Conclusion.

Surely Tasmania (population a little over 500,000) does not need or can afford 2 such stadiums as these . They are of course on top of the Bellerive complex that no one talks about any more because it is an embarrassment. Another monumental (previous) government stuff up, in terms of location at least.

I fear the stadium issue is a fait accompli and is becoming a matter of saving face for those with much more influence and power than me or other ordinary people. They will simply ride out the storm of protest and carry on regardless.

It is up to ordinary people to tell those in power as strongly as possible that the proposal for a new Hobart based Stadium is ill conceived, unnecessary and comes at a cost that will benefit few at the cost of many and should not be built.

Enough is enough. There are other priorities.

Sincerely

s 36
[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Released under RTI

From: s 36
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: FW: shape of Hobart
Date: Wednesday, 25 January 2023 8:08:32 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: s 36 >
Sent: Tuesday, 24 January 2023 6:47 PM
To: jeremy.rockliff@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: shape of Hobart

Dear Jeremy

A new year and time to realise that Hobart is not in great shape with its major projects....still

The Stadium is in The Mercury for all the wrong reasons, and that is why I feel compelled to write to you.

I am curious why independent reports say the stadium will be a loss maker?

Why is the government backing a loss leader? What is the accurate spend?

The AFL application was never based on a new stadium. So why do we need another stadium when AFL is currently played in Launceston? What is the government's WHY on this issue, given it governs for all Tasmania.

Tasmania is not Victoria or NSW. Spend tax payers money for Tasmanians. Please address the issues the community are raising, rather than saying you are sick of the negativity.

I am all for clever design and appropriate development for Tasmania with consultation and a government that follows due process and can step in to ensure due process is followed? (Hopefully you twigged that with the cable car and ongoing UTAS debacle)

So what else could the government do with 750 Million?

Getting into a GP? Having somewhere to live? Getting kids educated? Hospital waiting lists. Poverty. Public transport versus another stadium another highway.

In all consciousness, Tasmania needs good governance, leadership and logic, so construction and property developers are held accountable...and good opposition.

thank you

s 36

From: s 36
To: [The Premier \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: FW: Macquarie Point
Date: Monday, 30 January 2023 8:20:23 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Cr Ryan Posselt <Cr.Posselt@hobartcity.com.au>
Sent: Sunday, 29 January 2023 8:51 AM
To: Rockliff, Jeremy <Jeremy.Rockliff@dpac.tas.gov.au>
Subject: Macquarie Point

Dear Premier Rockliff,

I wanted to write to you briefly about the proposed use of Macquarie Point.

Some Hobart City councillors are using the stadium as a political tool to gain popularity ahead of State elections and have come out strongly against the proposal.

I wanted to reassure you that there are councillors who are largely supportive of the precinct, even those who are affiliated with other parties! I'll continue to work with councillors and encourage HCC not to take a formal position on the proposal.

I think it's very important we are in the room, working proactively with The State to ensure the needs of the city are met, and to ensure we are providing the urban infrastructure in the surrounding areas to support the stadium precinct.

On that note, I wanted to encourage proper blue sky thinking for the approach taken around design of Macquarie point. MONA has shown what you can do when you consider using underground spaces as a major component of a development. With similar topography, it's worthwhile to consider what could be achieved under the cenotaph to make the best use of the constrained Macquarie Point site. This may enable the precinct to bed down better into its historic surrounds. Uses could include:

- bus mall/light rail tunnel from northern suburbs corridor
- ferry terminal
- back of house operations for stadium, conference centre or hospitality
- car parking with tunnel link direct to Tasman Hwy

The cliff face itself should also be considered for use:

- Build the stadium right up to the cliff face and have corporate boxes embedded in the rock itself. Imagine players running out from a tunnel in a cliff face - that would be iconic!
- a multi-storey golf driving range (eg moore park)

I'm sure there are many other options.

Creative thinking such as above may enable the entirety of MacPoint and the Regatta grounds to be successfully linked and co-developed into an incredible tourism, hospitality, arts precinct and transport hub.

Kind regards

Cr Ryan Posselt
City of Hobart
s 36



State Patron

VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA

GREATER HOBART SUB BRANCH Inc.

ABN 74 251 867 940

PRESIDENT**Robert Woolley**

PHONE: 03 62641485:

rob05woolley@yahoo.com.au**SECRETARY****John Thompson**

PHONE: 03 6273 0228

jat4411@bigpond.net.au**TREASURER****Byron Nicol**

MOBILE: 0438 677 619

byron167@bigpond.comE-MAIL: jat4411@bigpond.net.au

All Correspondence: SECRETARY – 84 Leonard Avenue, West Moonah, Tasmania 7009

The Hon. Jeremy Rockliff MP

Premier of Tasmania

Level 10, 15 Murray Street

Hobart Tasmania 7000

Received

16 FEB 2023

mw23/3672
Premier's Office

Hobart Cenotaph/Proposed Stadium at Macquarie Point

Dear Premier,

I am writing on behalf of the Greater Hobart Branch of the VVAA. At our meeting on the 4th February 2023, a discussion on the proposed stadium was held and many views were expressed. I am forwarding to you our main points of concern.

- 1) No parking within 100 metres of the Cenotaph.
- 2) No part of the stadium is to be above the base of the Cenotaph, including light poles, flag or banner poles or aerials.
- 3) That no events be held on days that the Cenotaph is use. **This means ALL Day - no exceptions.**
- 4) On the days of stadium events security must be in place, to protect and show respect for the area surrounding the Cenotaph.
- 5) That no damage will be done to the cenotaph during construction, including undermining of the hill.

If the stadium is constructed, then we sincerely hope that the government of the day will respect the wishes of the veteran community.

WE HAVE TWO MOTTOS

HONOUR THE DEAD BUT FIGHT LIKE HELL FOR THE LIVING

LEST WE FORGET

Thank you for your time.

John A Thompson

Secretary

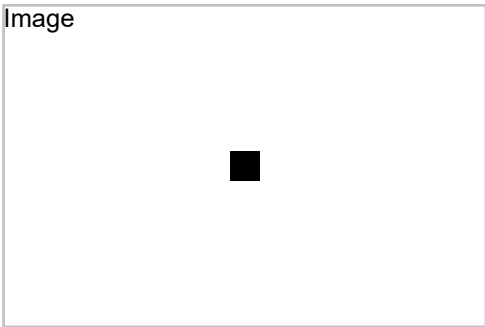
s36

HONOUR THE DEAD BUT FIGHT LIKE HELL FOR THE LIVING

From: [Street, Nic](#)
To: [Street, Minister \(DPaC\)](#)
Subject: RSL Tasmania's Position of Proposed Stadium by Hobart Cenotaph
Date: Wednesday, 1 March 2023 8:57:41 AM

From: RSL Tasmania <admin@rsltas.org.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 1 March 2023 6:00 AM
To: nic.street@parliament.tas.gov.au
Subject: RSL Tasmania's Position of Proposed Stadium by Hobart Cenotaph

Dear The Hon N A Street MP, please find below our update regarding our position the Hobart Cenotaph.

<p>Image</p> 	<h3>RSL Tasmania's Position on Proposed Stadium Near Hobart Cenotaph</h3>
<p>RSL Tasmania Informed the Premier of Tasmania on Monday 27th February 2023 that it does not support the proposed Stadium at the location near the Hobart Cenotaph.</p>	
<p>Read Letter >></p>	



This email was sent by RSL Tasmania, "ANZAC House", 206 New Town Road, New Town 7008, e: admin@rsltas.org.au, ph: (03) 6242 8900 to nic.street@parliament.tas.gov.au

[Unsubscribe](#)



The Honourable Jeremy Rockliff MP
Premier of Tasmania
Level 10, 15 Murray Street
HOBART, TAS 7000

27th February 2023

Dear Premier,

For nearly 100 years, the Hobart Cenotaph has stood to commemorate what our great Island state has given in the never-ending fight for freedom and justice.

The Cenotaph is a place to reflect, a chance to stop and think in this ever-increasing tempo of the world we live in. It stands as a gatekeeper to our beautiful city. It tells the world that we Tasmanians will always be diligent, and we will always do our part. It says that we understand the struggles that we all have and reminds us that nothing is free, and everything has a cost.

The forefathers understood this cost, as do all the Veterans of our beautiful Island; they know some things will be paid for in blood, sweat and tears. All they and their families have ever asked is that we remember them, whether in wellbeing support for our living Veterans or a place to gather to remember, to commemorate in recognition of their service. For RSL Tasmania, there must never be anything more sacred, more sacrosanct than this.

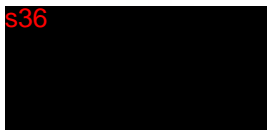
Over the last three months, RSL Tasmania has engaged with State Government and Sub-Branches regarding the Stadium proposed for Macquarie Point. We have discussed all the views and evidence that has been presented. We have conducted ourselves in an Apolitical way to ensure that we only ever concerned ourselves with the Cenotaph and the environmental impact of the proposed stadium. All information received was disseminated, discussed and considered.

Premier, Sir, I must inform you as the CEO of RSL Tasmania State Branch that I have been instructed by the President, Board Directors, and Sub-Branches that we are opposed to the Stadium at Macquarie Point due to the environmental and cultural impact on our World-class Cenotaph. We believe that the Tasmanians that erected this obelisk as an out pouring of unmeasurable grief after their loved ones made the ultimate sacrifice, would stand beside us shoulder to shoulder.

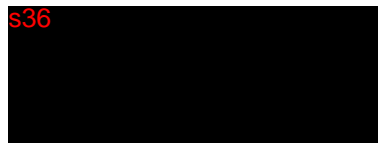
RSL Tasmania is supportive of the AFL, and of a stadium or stadiums in Tasmania, but not at such a site of such cultural impact, Lest We Forget. The AFL has always supported Veterans, it is a working persons game, and I believe the AFL will understand our issue. The Veterans of this Island know that we must prosper, and that far too often Tasmanian representation is neglected on a national stage. But more than most, we also understand that some things are worth fighting for, and we must be forever vigilant.

RSL Tasmania values our positive productive relationship with State Government and looks forward to continuing this into the future. For the sake of transparency, this communication will be shared with all our members.

Your humble servant,

s36


John Hardy
CEO, RSL Tasmania

s36


Barry Quinn
President, RSL Tasmania