Hodgman Liberal Government

Plan for a Brighter Future:

AGENDA 2016

March 2016
Message from the Premier

Tasmania is a great place to live, work and raise a family. We want to build on our state’s great potential.

Under our long-term Plan, Tasmanian is now heading in the right direction.

Confidence has returned, our economy is growing again, nearly 4,000 new jobs have been created, and the Budget is returning to surplus.

With the economy growing and the Budget coming back under control, we can now invest the dividends of this into the core business of government - health, education, and looking after our most vulnerable.

Today, I’m even more optimistic about Tasmania’s future. Over the last two years we’ve come a long way, but there’s still a lot more to do.

My commitment to you is that the Government will continue to work hard to capitalise on Tasmania’s potential, and deliver an even brighter future.

Will Hodgman MP
Premier of Tasmania
AGENDA 2016: Future-Proofing our State

As a government with a firm eye to the future we will continue to work to ensure Tasmania is well placed to address long-term challenges such as energy and water security, freight, climate change, and budget sustainability, while focusing on the long-term growth of our economy.

Quarter One (March to June 2016)
› Update the Tasmanian Energy Strategy to address further government actions on maintaining energy security for Tasmania.
› Announce successful applicants under Round 2 of Advanced Manufacturing Transition Fund, and release Advanced Manufacturing Strategy.
› Release the Tasmanian Integrated Freight Strategy.
› Finalise the Pre-conditions study for the Second Bass Strait Interconnector.
› Publish a report on the State finances ensuring long-term Budget sustainability and economic confidence.
› Complete analysis of Tasmania’s Mineral New Investment Attraction potential and launch the new, higher precision 3D geological models of Western Tasmania.
› Receive Tasmanian Future Irrigation Project final report.
› Provide a clear process and transparent way forward for the future of the gaming machine licence from 2023.
› Release “A Sustainable Agri-Food System for Tasmania” to advance next stage of Agrivision 2050 Policy.
› Commence tender for the management of Defined Benefit Superannuation Schemes.
› Undertake an inaugural Trade Mission to India to harness emerging tourism and trade opportunities for Tasmania.
› Finalise and release the Climate Change Action Plan.
› Government response to the Parliamentary Inquiry into the State Fire Commission.
› Commence year 3 of the $28.5 million statewide cross-tenure fuel reduction program.

Quarter Two (July to September 2016)
› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
› Release first annual update under the Tasmanian Access2020 Strategy, to grow air and sea capacity for freight and passengers.
› Commence implementation of recommendations from the Emergency Management Review.
› Launch Round 2 of EOI for sensitive tourism development in Tasmanian national parks and reserves.
› Finalise the new management plan for the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA).
› Release of Future Directions for a new contemporary Biosecurity legislation framework for public consultation.
› Continued roll-out of Midland Highway 10 Year Action Plan, with commencement of next stage of new projects under the Plan.
› Host the inaugural Antarctic Industries and Business forum to coincide with CCAMLR meetings.

Quarter Three (October to December 2016)
› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
› New $6.5 billion Tasmanian superfund expected to be operational.
› Commence work on the Cape Raoul Stage of the successful Three Capes Track.
› Begin work on the Southern Highlands Irrigation Scheme, as part of five new proposed schemes in Tranche 2.
› Begin work on the Swan Valley Irrigation Scheme, as part of five new proposed schemes in Tranche 2.
› Receive report into review of post border biosecurity and agriculture hygiene infrastructure requirements.
› Release the draft Agri-Tourism position paper for consultation, to grow the valuable paddock-to-plate sector.
› Release the Tasmanian Visitor Engagement Strategy.
› Announce Round three funding agreements signed and first instalment payments under the Regional Tourism Infrastructure and Innovation Fund (TDDI).

Quarter Four (January to March 2017)
› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
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› Commence work on the Cape Raoul Stage of the successful Three Capes Track.
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AGENDA 2016: Jobs and Skills

Jobs remain our number one priority. This year we’ll be focussing on upskilling Tasmanians to match them with the jobs needed in areas such as our growing tourism, agriculture and construction industries.

Quarter One (March to June 2016)

› Release first public competitive round of Regional Revival Fund.
› Introduce suite of building reforms to cut red tape, grow the industry, create jobs.
› Commence construction of Stage 1 of Living City project, including new LINC, Service Tasmania, with significant State contribution.
› Introduce legislation to appropriately regulate ridesourcing services (e.g. Uber-X)
› Launch new Business and Skilled Migrant website to attract new arrivals and investment to Tasmania.
› Release draft good Neighbourhood Charter articulating rights and responsibilities of rural landholders for management and spread of fire, wildlife and weeds across boundaries.
› Announcement of the first round of successful applications to the $24 million Tasmanian Jobs and Investment Fund.
› Introduce legislation to enable the Creative Industries and Performing Arts Development to proceed.
› Release revised Permanent Native Forest Estate policy.
› Launch of Small Business Innovation Program for agricultural and forest residues.
› Release of preliminary tourism and hospitality workforce audit report.
› Legislate to amend the Primary Industry Activities Protection Act to strengthen legal position of farmers.
› Commence full roll-out of the Great Customer Experience program (GCE) to encourage hospitality workforce development.

Quarter Two (July to September 2016)

› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
› Second stage of Mineral Resources Tasmania move to Burnie, with relocation including Inspectors and client service staff.
› Completion of feasibility studies into local government resource-sharing and amalgamations.
› Consultation on further reform of the planning system, including on third party appeals, associated fees and legislative processes.
› Release draft of first Tasmanian Cycling Tourism Strategy.
› Commence the drafting of legislative changes resulting from the governance and legislative review in the arts sector.
› Completion of the free Wi-fi roll-out in Tasmanian tourism hotspots, to give tourists opportunity to share their experiences, and businesses the chance to promote to tourists.
› Commence new Digital Ready programs including East Coast, Flinders Island and King Island – helping small business to operate online.
› Commencement of next phase in reducing red tape in Tasmania’s workers compensation scheme, through Worksafe Tasmania.
› State Planning provisions declared.
› Roll-out workforce development initiatives for the Tasmanian Hospitality Industry.
› Commence implementation of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery’s Strategic Plan.
› Amendments to Stamp Duty legislation introduced to reduce red tape and address corporate restructuring.

Quarter Three (October to December 2016)

› Begin negotiations on a 20 year rolling extension to the Regional Forest Agreement.
› Complete certification project for Private Forests in Tasmania.
› Release second Tasmanian Red Tape Report.
› Commencement of further signage and marketing activities under the Great Eastern Drive marketing strategy.
› Announcement of long-term commercially sustainable shipping services for King Island.
› Update on the Data Centre Action Strategy.
› Deliver next stage of IT@Work program under the ICT Industries Workforce Development Plan to provide real world experienced in the ICT sector to UTAS and TAFE students.
› Completion of new mooring dolphin at Port of Burnie in readiness for 2016-17 cruise ship season.
› Roll-out of Masterclass (TasTAFE) training opportunities.

Quarter Four (January to March 2017)

› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
› Construction underway for key job-creating infrastructure projects, including $21.5 million Huon Highway/Summerleas Road interchange upgrade.
› Preparation for 2017 Masters Games to be held in Tasmania for the first time in 30 years.
› Completion of the new State-wide planning system a year ahead of schedule, with Council “local provision” schedules submitted to the Tasmanian Planning Commission.
AGENDA 2016: Improving Health Results
This year we’ll further implement our One State health system changes, to help shorten waiting lists, and we’ll have a major focus on preventative health, as part of our goal to make Tasmania the healthiest state in the country by 2025.

Quarter One (March to June 2016)
› Commence delivering radiation oncology services for the first time on the North-West, backed by a new Northern Cancer Service.
› Release the Healthy Tasmania Five-year strategic plan to help make Tasmania the healthiest State in Australia by 2025.
› Award tender for construction of the Glenorchy Health Centre, for improved primary health services in the northern suburbs.
› Recruit and induct additional paramedics for the North-West, as part of One Health System reforms.
› Open the Royal Hobart Hospital temporary forecourt building and commence demolition of B-block to make way for new 10-storey inpatient precinct.
› Commence the Community Rapid Response service in Launceston to provide out-of-hospital coordinated care for people with chronic illness.
› Introduce legislation to modernise regulation of the pharmacy industry.
› Completion and opening of new $8.8m Burnie Aquatic Centre.
› Release of Northern Hospice Feasibility Study and Tasmanian Palliative Care Policy Framework.

Quarter Two (July to September 2016)
› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
› Commence consolidated North-West birthing services in Burnie under the One Health System reforms to provide a better and safer service for mothers and babies.
› Commence 23 hour elective surgery service at the Mersey Community Hospital under One Health System reforms, to ensure Tasmanians can get their operations sooner.
› Commence Extended Care Paramedic and First Intervention Vehicle in Launceston as part of One Health System reforms.
› Undertake cost-benefit audit of preventive health programs.
› Commence new low-cost bus service for patients and families between the LGH, MCH and NWRH, and roll-out additional non-emergency patient transport services on North-West.
› Introduce amendments to Mental Health Act to rectify inconsistencies and stakeholder concerns about the operations of the new legislation.
› Introduce new laws to provide for drug treatment orders and enhanced police and legislative responses for dealing with ice.
› Begin six-month review of reduction of nursing double shifts and overtime following new policy.
› Scoping and commencement of Trial project to give priority access to oral health services for pregnant women in the North-West.
› Commence construction of the Glenorchy Health Centre, for improved primary health services in the northern suburbs.

Quarter Three (October to December 2016)
› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
› Completion of State-wide models of care for the majority of clinical services under the One Health System reforms.
› Continue roll-out of prevention programs from Tasmanian Suicide Prevention Strategy, Tasmanian Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy and Tasmanian Suicide Prevention Workforce Development and Training Plan (released March 2016).
› Commence a single State-wide Mental Health system to align with One Health System reforms as part of long-term Rethink Mental Health plan.
› Review the progress and impact of service improvements in North West drug services.
› Establish Tele-health clinics to make it easier for patients to access specialists under One Health System reforms.

Quarter Four (January to March 2017)
› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
› Next stage of increase in graduate nurse positions in Tasmanian hospital and health facilities.
› Implementation and roll-out of key initiatives under the Healthy Tasmania five-year strategic plan.
› Review the impact of one-year of increased BreastScreen services in the North West.
› Consider findings of cost-benefit audit of preventive health programs and announce agreed initiatives.
› 12 month review of reduction of nursing double shifts and overtime following new policy.
AGENDA 2016: Better Education for our Young People

Our young people are our most important asset. This year, we’ll speed up the roll-out of the very successful extension of high schools to Years 11 and 12, and we’ll also be making other significant changes to improve education in Tasmania, including lowering the starting age and increasing the leaving age, to help give our children a better education.

Quarter One (March to June 2016)
› Release details of the proposed changes to the Education Act for public consultation.
› Provide My Education online career planning tools in all 7-12 Government schools.
› Six new psychologists and social workers commence work in Tasmanian Government schools as part of Tasmania’s Family Violence Action Plan.
› Commence Family Partnership Training in school communities.
› Extend Beacon partnership to include two industry liaison officers working in the north and south.
› Release of International Education Project Plan discussion paper and draft Strategy, to encourage more international students to study and stay in Tasmania.
› LIFT program commences in 80 primary schools.
› Roll out of additional teacher training initiatives for specialist maths and science teacher graduates.
› Inclusion Working Group announced to oversee implementation of the recommendations of the Disability Taskforce on inclusive schools for students living with a disability.
› Drysdale College refurbishment completed.
› Completion of capital works at Taroona High School as part of $94.9 million capital investment program.
› Big Picture School operating in Launceston.
› In partnership with the Aboriginal community, introduce the first stage of initiatives to embed Aboriginal history and culture across the school curriculum.

Quarter Two (July to September 2016)
› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
› Completion of capital works at New Town High School as part of $94.9 million capital investment program.
› New Education Act introduced to Parliament.
› Stage two roll-out of school nurses in Government primary and secondary schools across Tasmania, with a further five FTE school nurses commencing from July 2016.
› Commence training of frontline Department of Education and TasTAFE staff in family violence.
› Develop pilot speciality agriculture course for Year 11-12 students, with partners, TasTAFE, UTAS and Department of Education farm schools.

Quarter Three (October to December 2016)
› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
› Introduce cyber bullying programs into Government primary schools across Tasmania.
› Call for Expressions of Interest for high schools wanting to extend to Year 12 in 2018.
› Provide first annual statement of outcomes arising from the Making the Future partnership 2015-2025 between the Government and UTAS, focusing on increasing tertiary education.
› Commence independent review of VET in schools to ensure more students achieve meaningful qualifications.
› Commence professional learning for teachers and principals for the Respectful Relationships program under the Family Violence Action Plan.
› Completion of capital works at the School of Special Education North West.
› Commence delivery of stage 2 curriculum resources reflecting Tasmanian Aboriginal history and culture, available to all Government schools from Term 4, 2016.

Quarter Four (January to March 2017)
› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
› Commence roll-out of Respectful Relationships program in all Tasmanian schools from K-12, as part of the Tasmanian Family Violence Action Plan.
› Commence roll-out of Round 3 schools extending to Year 11 and 12.
› Completion of capital works at Kings Meadows High as part of $94.9 million capital investment program.
› Complete evaluation of the first year outcomes of the piloted autism-specific unit at Lindisfarne North Primary School.
› Release annual update of the 26TEN Strategy for Adult Literacy and Numeracy 2016-2025.
AGENDA 2016: Protecting our Most Vulnerable

A priority of the Government is to provide more support and protection for the vulnerable in our community. We are redesigning the child protection system, we are implementing our action plan to prevent family violence, and we are providing more housing for people in need through our innovative Affordable Housing Strategy.

Quarter One (March to June 2016)

› Release the Child Protection Redesign model for Tasmania.
› Ongoing roll-out of the Rapid Re-housing initiative under the Family Violence Action Plan, with pool of 50 homes established for those needing accommodation due to family violence.
› Introduce new contemporary legislation to modernise the outdated 1935 Homes Act, to allow for innovative practices, including head-leasing for vulnerable people (e.g. youth).
› Introduce Youth Justice amendments.
› Progress amendments to the Corrections Act 1997 through the Legislative Council to give effect to the first tranche of the Government’s policy commitment to ensure that all sex offenders in prison participate in appropriate treatment.
› Commence new $8m flagship Safe Families Tasmania to provide an integrated Multi-Agency response to family violence, including new family violence police officers.
› Release for public consultation the draft Transport Access Strategy to better integrate and coordinate transport services for disadvantaged Tasmanians.
› Open the Safe Haven Hub to support the arrival of Syrian refugees and asylum seekers who may wish to relocate to Tasmania under SHEV agreement.
› Receive the Sentencing Advisory Council’s final report on phasing out suspended sentences in Tasmania and introducing alternative sentencing options.
› Release draft legislation for public consultation to expunge historic homosexual criminal convictions.
› Continued implementation of the five separate initiatives under the Joined Up Human Services project, including the commencement of procured services for the Place Based initiatives.
› Model legislation as agreed to by all states and territories to support the implementation of the National Domestic Violence Order Scheme to be introduced into Parliament.
› Release draft legislation for public consultation to modernise the operations of the Legal Aid Commission.
› Release of inaugural $200,000 Multicultural grants funding under Population Grant Funding.
› Complete one year review into minimum mandatory sentencing legislation for assaults against police officers.
› Finalisation of consultation on Resetting the Relationship with Tasmanian Aboriginal people.
› Ongoing rollout of Year one initiatives under the 2015-2019 Tasmanian Affordable Housing Action Plan.
› Commence improvement works for Police housing on the West Coast.

Quarter Two (July to September 2016)

› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
› Begin transition to full NDIS scheme to progressively support around 10,600 Tasmanians living with a disability by 2019. In 2016-17 another 1,100 new people are expected to enter the NDIS with services being available to children aged 12 to 14 from 1 July 2016.
› Provide the first annual update under the 2015-2020 Women on Boards Strategy.
› Establish a custodial inspectorate position at Risdon Prison to strengthen independent oversight of prison operations.
› Release draft legislation to progress the next tranche of the Government’s commitment to provide for mandatory minimum sentences for assaults on emergency services to other occupational groups.
› Commence new perpetrator programs for low to medium risk offenders under the Family Violence Action Plan.
› Final report relating to the Review of the Purchasing Framework for Outsourced services completed.
› Third instalment of additional funding ($9 million over four years) to the community sector to be provided.
› Begin construction of new Youth Homeless facility on the North-West Coast.
› Finalisation of the Breaking the Cycle through care corrections strategy.
› Government to release its response to the Tasmanian Law Reform Institute’s report into bullying and cyber-bullying.
› Neighbourhood House Food Co-ops operational.
› Second stage of Key Initiatives under the 2015-2019 Tasmanian Affordable Housing Action Plan commence.
› Introduce eligibility criteria for Aboriginal-specific Tasmanian Government programs and services that align with the Commonwealth approach.
Quarter Three (October to December 2016)
› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
› Commence construction of new crisis accommodation in Hobart as part of the Tasmanian Family Violence Action Plan.
› Continue to progress the next tranche of amendments to give effect to the recommendations of the Sentencing Advisory Council on sex offence sentencing and the Government’s commitment to mandatory sentences for serious child sexual offences.
› Launch of new 10 year road Tasmanian Road Safety Strategy 2017-2026 and new road safety initiatives after significant public consultation.
› Launch second round of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) scholarships, to encourage greater Board diversity and increased representation of women on Boards.
› Completion and review of one year trial of duty lawyer services, providing assistance to clients in the Magistrates Court who would otherwise not be represented.
› Introduce legislation to provide Constitutional recognition for the Tasmanian Aboriginal community as our first peoples.
› Progress Emergency Services Computer Aided Dispatch (ESCAD) project to improve the safety of all emergency workers including firefighters.

Quarter Four (January to March 2017)
› Implement 2016-17 Budget Initiatives.
› Out of Home Care reform initiatives continue to be embedded and progressed including implementation of a new foster care (accreditation) system.
› Completion of three year roll-out of working with vulnerable people checks across Tasmania.
› Completion of the Youth at Risk Strategy including Youth Justice reform, to deliver a more streamlined, therapeutic service system for young people at risk.
› Second phase of 2016-17 NDIS transition to full scheme to begin 1 January with services becoming available to adults aged 25 to 28.
› Commence construction of Northern Suburbs Neighbourhood House.
› Analysis of West Coast bus trial project.
› Open the 2016-17 Multicultural Grants Fund.
› Evaluation of Rethink Autism.

This non-exhaustive list of initiatives outlined in AGENDA 2016 provides a snapshot of the Government’s planned achievements in the coming year.