The Hodgman Liberal Government’s Tasmanian

JOBS AND ECONOMIC PLAN

UPDATE

September 2016
FOREWORD

The Liberal Government came to office in March 2014 after a long period of stagnant job and economic growth.

Our number one priority then, as it is now, is growing the economy and creating jobs.

While there are no silver bullets, our Plan is working.

Tasmania’s economy is growing the third fastest of all the states.

Growth in State Final Demand for the year to June 2016 was the best in five years, since 2010-11.

Gross State Product data shows Tasmania’s economy is growing at the fastest rate in six years.

And our export sector is the fastest growing in the nation.

Key economic indicators, including retail, business investment, housing finance, dwelling approvals, population and tourist numbers, are all heading in the right direction.

There are currently 1600 more Tasmanians in jobs, 1700 less in the unemployment queues, and the unemployment rate is stable at 6.7 per cent.

We have come a long way, but there is still a long way to go, particularly in Tasmania’s North.

My Government is determined to address this.

The Tasmanian Jobs and Economic Plan Update informs Tasmanians of progress under all elements of the Government’s long-term Plan for jobs and economic growth, what has been achieved, and what actions we have underway.

WILL HODGMAN MP
Premier of Tasmania
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OUR VISION

IS FOR A TASMANIA:

- that is more self-reliant and open for business, where everyone has the opportunity to enjoy our enviable lifestyle, get a job and raise a family;

- where we grow the economy and generate wealth so that we can create jobs and afford better essential services like health, education and public safety; and

- with a responsible Government that lives within its means, has the right priorities and can be trusted.
# KEY TARGETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JOBS</th>
<th>Status: The unemployment rate is 6.7 per cent, down 0.8 per cent from the election. We briefly matched the national rate in October 2015 and will continue to aim to reduce the unemployment queue.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JOB</td>
<td>To reduce the unemployment rate to at least the national average.</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BUDGET</td>
<td>Status: This was achieved last year, four years ahead of schedule.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Budget</td>
<td>To return the Budget to surplus within six years.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOURISTS</td>
<td>Status: In the year ending June 2016, tourist numbers were up to 1.17 million visitors, from 1.15 million in the previous year. Tourists are also staying longer and spending more. The average number of nights that visitors stay is 8.7 and a total of $2.05 billion tourist dollars were spent in the State over the last financial year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tourists</td>
<td>To attract 1.5 million visitors a year to Tasmania by 2020.</td>
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<tr>
<td>POPULATION</td>
<td>Status: Through our strategies our population is now growing at the fastest rate in four years.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>To increase our population to 650,000 by 2050.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AGRIUCLTURE</td>
<td>Status: The value of agricultural production in the 2014-15 financial year was up to $1.438 billion, growing from $1.353 billion in the previous year.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>To grow the value of the agriculture sector to $10 billion by 2050.</td>
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<tr>
<td>AQUACULUTURE</td>
<td>Status: In 2014-15, salmon increased in value by $89 million to $620 million.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aquaculture</td>
<td>Partner with the salmonid industry to sustainably develop a $1 billion per annum industry.</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDUCATION</td>
<td>Status: The 2016 NAPLAN results show Tasmanian students are improving and closer to the Australian mean scores on 15 of the 20 assessments. Our year 10-12 apparent retention rates have also improved significantly, now 73.8 per cent up from a low of 67.1 per cent in 2012.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>To be at or above the national standard in every single NAPLAN measurement and meet national benchmarks in reading, writing, maths and science at the end of six years in office.</td>
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</table>
THE PLAN FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

Economic growth and job creation are the Hodgman Liberal Government’s greatest priorities which is why we are supporting our competitive strengths to drive Tasmania’s economy and build confidence.

Tasmania is the third fastest growing State in the quarter to June 2016, and growth in State Final Demand for the year to June 2016 was the best result in five years, since 2010-11.

The most recent Gross State Product data shows that Tasmania’s economy is growing at the fastest rate in six years, our export sector is the fastest growing in the nation, retail trade has the strongest growth of any State, and business investment in new capital grew at the second fastest rate in the nation, increasing by 13 per cent. Business investment in building and structures is also up 53 per cent.

The number of housing finance commitments grew at three times the national rate, the number of dwelling approvals in the 12 months to July 2016 was 20 per cent higher than in 2013, and our population is growing at the fastest rate in four years.

WHAT’S BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED:

• Delivering a single, state-wide planning scheme which is vital for unlocking our economic potential and creating jobs.

• Opened up our National Parks and World Heritage areas to sensitive and appropriate tourism development. It is estimated this will generate up to $70 million in investment and 275 new jobs.

• Implementing an Asian engagement strategy, involving trade missions to China, India, Sri Lanka and Indonesia.

• Negotiated an expanded Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme which has turbo-charged Tasmania’s export sector, expanding the previous scheme’s coverage by $50 million annually, with the support of the Australian Government.

• Delivering on the jointly funded $500 million 10-year Midland Highway Action Plan to improve the safety of the highway. This is the largest single investment in Tasmania’s key north-south link.

• Put the Budget back on track and in surplus of over $60 million. This is the first Net Operating Surplus achieved since 2009-10 and the best result since 2005-06. It shows the Government’s efforts to rein in spending has been successful, achieving a surplus, four years ahead of the original schedule.

• Implementing the Tasmanian Energy Strategy which identifies ways in which energy can be used as a key economic driver for Tasmania.
THE PLAN FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

- Rescued the Royal Hobart Hospital redevelopment, the biggest public investment in our history.

- Established Infrastructure Tasmania, which coordinates a statewide approach to planning and delivery of critical infrastructure for economic growth and job creation.

- Delivering the Tasmanian Integrated Freight Strategy. For the first time Tasmania has an integrated framework to guide freight planning and investment across the State.

- Delivering investment certainty for all three Bass Strait shipping companies. The first of SeaRoad’s new ships, due to begin service in early 2017, will immediately lift total Bass Strait container capacity by 15 per cent. Toll’s new vessels will increase capacity by even more.

- Convened a special Ships Replacement Cabinet Sub-Committee to replace the Spirits with new, larger vessels by the years 2022-23.

- Port and Coastal Marine Services has been selected as the preferred proponent to introduce a new regular freight service for King Island.

- Legislated to facilitate construction of the $90 million Creative Industries and Performing Arts Development, adjacent to the Theatre Royal. The Tasmanian Government is providing $30 million in support to the project.

- Hosted the inaugural TasInvest 2014 - to coincide with this historic visit of the Chinese President to showcase more than $2 billion of investment opportunities in our state to potential investors from across the world.

- Investing $10 million in our Population Growth Strategy as part of our ambitious target to increase Tasmania’s population to 650,000 by 2050. Our population is now growing at the fastest rate in four years.

- Ripped up the disastrous Tasmanian Forest Agreement, put Forestry Tasmania onto a sustainable footing and we are working with the sector to rebuild the forestry industry and confidence.

- Delivering the Macquarie Point site Masterplan. This site has the development potential to unlock more than $800 million in new investment while creating thousands of local jobs.

- Implemented a headworks holiday - which underpinned a massive increase of 83 per cent in new applications and brought forward investments like the $35 million Mac One hotel development.

- Delivering the Local Benefits Test. We have seen a 10 per cent increase in Tasmanian business participation with 95 per cent of all tenders received including a Tasmanian business. The value of tenders awarded to Tasmanian businesses has grown by 25 per cent.
THE PLAN FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

- Investing in the building and construction industry by doubling the First Home Builders Boost to $20,000.

- Investing in a $1.8 billion infrastructure program, including $73 million for the Affordable Housing Strategy, $90 million on the Northern Cities development and $113 million in school Infrastructure funding.

- Expanding high schools to Years 11 and 12 to create a job-ready generation and lift Tasmania’s economy.

- Investing more than $100 million each year in vocational education and training through Skills Tasmania, to ensure Tasmanians are trained with the right skills for our growing economy.

- Established AgriGrowth Tasmania, a specialist division charged with driving a whole-of-government approach to work with and support the industry to grow and create jobs.

- Delivered the Cultural and Creative Industries Strategy which provides a framework for growing investment and jobs in the state’s cultural and creative industries, which employs more than 9000 Tasmanians directly and indirectly.

- In partnership, invested in Tranche Two irrigation schemes to deliver high reliability irrigation water across the State as a key part of our AgriVision 2050 strategy.

- Implementing the Mineral Exploration Investment Attraction Plan to globally promote the great opportunities in Tasmania for mineral exploration and development. This will encourage a sound and healthy future for the industry.

- Implementing the Tasmanian Advanced Manufacturing Action Plan outlining 15 key actions against five initiatives, to help facilitate growth and jobs, and transition the sector to being more globally competitive.

- Delivering Our Fair Share of Defence Strategy to attract, enable and build defence industries in the State, providing jobs and promoting Tasmania as both a military supplier and a port for our Southern Ocean responsibilities.

- Implementing the Cultivating Prosperity in Agriculture Policy and investing more than $6.5 in a range of initiatives to achieve AgriVision 2050.

- Delivered nation-leading legislation for the building and construction industry to make gaining approvals fairer, faster, simpler and cheaper.

- Implementing the Data Centre Action Strategy which recognises Tasmania’s natural advantages, as well as areas where more work needs to be undertaken to attract and promote the state’s ICT sector, to create jobs.
THE PLAN FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH

• Implementing the Tasmanian Government’s Open Data Policy which encourages the release of public data sets by State Government agencies for reuse by the public. Open data makes data access easier and allows government information to be shared with the public for commercial and community benefit.

• Investing more than $2 million in the Getting Behind and Backing Small Business Policy which is helping small businesses, particularly retail, get digital ready. This is helping retailers participate in the ever growing digital economy.

• Implementing the T21 Tasmanian Visitor Economy Strategy which outlines our vision for Tasmania to be a world-leading destination of choice.

• Implementing the Access 2020 Strategy to increase air capacity to Tasmania. The Plan is working with air capacity increased by about 140,000 seats.

• Delivered a $31.5 million Refurbishment of the Spirits of Tasmania. In 2015-16, the Spirits delivered 418,831 passengers across Bass Strait, that’s a remarkable 34,330 more passengers than in the previous year or up 8.9 per cent. TT-Line has increased its day sailing with 138 scheduled in 2016-17, increasing opportunities for freight and passengers.

• Implementing the Tasmanian Government Events Strategy 2015-20 a blueprint to see Tasmania become Australia’s boutique events capital.

• Delivering the Future Irrigation Project to determine new opportunities for interconnectivity between existing irrigation schemes, renewable energy opportunities and to identify potential future Tranche 3 schemes.

• Investigating the feasibility of a second Bass Strait interconnector.

• Investing $1.4 million in the Geosciences Initiative Program.
THE PLAN FOR BUSINESS AND SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH

Tasmania’s economy is growing in confidence and business is responding by investing, expanding and creating jobs. The Hodgman Liberal Government understands that the private sector is the best driver of economic growth.

Tasmania’s economy is growing at the fastest rate in six years. Tasmania’s Gross State Product rose 1.6 per cent in 2014-15 to be $25.42 billion. This was the largest increase in six years.

Business investment in new capital grew at the second fastest rate in the nation.

Small business is the engine room of the Tasmanian economy, with over 36,000 small businesses operating in Tasmania employing more than 105,000 people or 44 per cent of the workforce.

WHAT’S BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED:

• Delivering the Local Benefits Test. We have seen a 10 per cent increase in Tasmanian business participation with 95 per cent of all tenders received including a Tasmanian business. The value of tenders awarded to Tasmanian businesses has grown by 25 per cent.

• Investing in a $100,000 ‘buy local’ campaign to encourage Tasmanians to buy locally and support Tasmanian businesses and industry before purchasing goods and services over the internet or interstate.

• Doubled the First Home Builders Boost to $20,000.

• Established the Caterpillar Transition Task force and invested $3 million into supporting its recommendations.

• Legislated to enable ride sharing app Uber to commence operating in Tasmania. The reform establishes Tasmania at the forefront of the sharing economy and provides the opportunity for jobs, consumer choice, competition and productivity benefits for the community.

• Implementing the $240,000 Tasmanian Retailer Development Program to assist businesses through a personalised business health check, workshops and one-on-one business coaching.

• Established the Office of the Coordinator General with responsibility to aggressively pursue investment and jobs in Tasmania.
THE PLAN FOR BUSINESS AND SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH

- Established an unsolicited bids framework to improve Government processes for bids involving at least $10 million in private investment and the creation of 100 jobs.

- Secured a deal for Qantas to consolidate its call centres in Tasmania, securing 246 local jobs and creating further opportunities for Tasmanians.

- Attracted One Atmosphere, a pioneering advanced manufacturing company, to relocate to Tasmania and invest $3.2 million to build a new facility creating nearly 30 jobs and adding to our growing reputation for high-end, niche manufacturing.

- Investing $200,000 in the Winning Government Business Program designed to teach tendering basics to Tasmanian businesses so more local businesses can secure Government contracts.

- Signed on to the National Business Simplification Initiative, to cut red-tape impacting on small business.

- Delivering $800,000 for the Getting Behind and Backing Small Business policy, including the Digital Ready for Business program which helps small business get online.

- In partnership with the Tasmanian Small Business Council supporting Small Business Mentoring and Support Seminars throughout the state.

- Investing $8 million in the Commonwealth’s $24 million Tasmanian Jobs and Investment Fund. This public-private fund is estimated to generate projects worth $92 million and 774 new jobs.

- Implementing a $13.9 million Community Infrastructure Fund to support private sector and community projects as well as assisting local government to generate economic development opportunities in their municipalities.

- Investing $900,000 per annum to support the Enterprise Centres Tasmania program which delivers business advisory services.
THE PLAN FOR BUSINESS AND SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH

- Established the $200,000 Advanced Manufacturing Market Expansion Program to encourage business expansion and job creation, by offering manufacturing enterprises a financial rebate to offset the costs of marketing in international and national markets.

- Established the Advanced Manufacturing Transition Fund, which leverages Government funding to create 117 new jobs and private investment worth nearly $3.5 million.

- Provided $150,000 towards an Innovation and Growth Voucher System to support manufacturing companies to create jobs by diversifying into more advanced manufacturing processes through accessing suitable expertise and support, on a 2-for-1 dollar basis.

- Provided $125,000 for the Ready to Bid for Defence initiative.

- Invested $31 million into delivering 100 new buses for Metro Tasmania.

- Implementing a $5.2 million road upgrade at Strahan to support the West Coast’s growing aquaculture industry and jobs in the region.

- Secured 600 direct jobs and 3500 indirect jobs at Nyrstar.

- Funding a $1.25 million Wood and Fibre Processing Innovation Program to help 41 projects with a value of $56 million, including biomass, bioenergy or similar initiatives.

- Funded $500,000 towards the establishment of leading edge Entrepreneurship and Incubation Hubs.

- Delivered on our commitment to attract a Tier-3 data centre to Tasmania.

- Provided up to $1.7 million for establishment support and payroll tax reimbursement to attract IT company UXC to Tasmania.

- Supported forest contractors who suffered under the job-destroying forest deal with $4 million in grants as part of our rebuilding of the industry.

- Investing in the $6.6 million pilot project at Norske Skog to build a commercial demonstration plant manufacturing bio-solvents.

- Investing $10 million in the Tasmanian Energy Efficiency Loan Scheme to help Tasmanians realise the benefits of energy efficiency and to support jobs.
THE PLAN FOR INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT, EXPORTS & TRADE

The eyes of the world are on Tasmania and the Hodgman Liberal Government is capitalising on the momentum to drive investment and create jobs by showing the world we are open for business.

Tasmania is now ranked among the most desirable places in the world to visit, and our fine produce is highly sought after across the globe, evidenced by our booming export growth, strong tourism sector, and increased business investment, particularly in the key markets like China where we have engaged strongly through international trade missions.

Our export sector is the fastest growing in the nation. Exports were up 8.4 per cent in the year to July.

WHAT’S BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED:

• Negotiated an expanded Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme which has turbo-charged Tasmania’s export sector, expanding the previous scheme’s coverage by $50 million annually, with the support of the Australian Government.

• Delivered the Tasmanian Integrated Freight Strategy. For the first time Tasmania has an integrated framework to guide freight planning and investment across the State.

• Delivering investment certainty for all three Bass Strait shipping companies. The first of SeaRoad’s new ships, due to begin service in early 2017, will immediately lift total Bass Strait container capacity by 15 per cent. Toll’s new vessels will increase capacity by even more.

• Convened a special Ships Replacement Cabinet Sub-Committee to replace the Spirits with new, larger vessels by 2022-23.

• Hosted the inaugural TasInvest 2014 - to coincide with this historic visit of the Chinese President to showcase more than $2 billion of investment opportunities in our state to potential investors from across the world.

• In partnership with the Commonwealth and the private sector funded the $12 million Burnie Port Optimisation Project. This has improved the productivity of our largest general cargo port.

• Delivering the joint Federal/State investment in the $119.6 million Tasmanian Freight Rail Revitalisation project which will upgrade track infrastructure to ensure the efficient operation of the Tasmanian rail network.
THE PLAN FOR INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT, EXPORTS & TRADE

- Implementing the new business plan for TT-Line resulting in the ships not only carrying record passenger numbers, but more freight as a result of increased sailings. This financial year alone 138 day sailings are scheduled, which is nearly double from three years ago.

- Opened our door to investors in key markets through trade missions to China, India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Singapore.

- Released the draft International Education Strategy which recognises international education is a significant pillar of Tasmania’s economy, contributing $164 million to the economy in 2014-15. It focuses on Tasmania’s engagement with our key export markets, helps to upskill our local workforce and enhance our cultural and linguistic diversity.

- Launched a new student partnership and cooperation agreement between universities in Tasmania and Indonesia to build on our growing partnership and deliver enhanced nursing capability in Indonesia.

- Implementing a new partnership which allows Indonesian students to receive flight training and experience in Tasmania by completing their qualifications with Par Avion.

- Facilitated an agreement between Shandong Chambroad and TasTAFE to work on developing a major new hospitality training school in Tasmania as part of the $65 million Kangaroo Bay development.
THE PLAN FOR INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT, EXPORTS & TRADE

- Secured an extension of the code-sharing agreement between American Airlines and Qantas, opening up direct Tasmanian itineraries to a whole new market – and that market is huge - nearly 100 million American Airlines frequent flyers alone are now able to see and book itineraries to Hobart.

- Secured a new code-sharing arrangement between Qantas and China Eastern making it easier for a growing number of Chinese travellers to visit Tasmania.

- Launched a private education and training business 'BSchool', a 5 day intensive executive management program designed to bring executives from India to Tasmania, exposing them to possible investment opportunities.

- Supported an agreement between the University of Tasmania and a prestigious research foundation in India in a joint effort to address global food security. UTAS will work with M S Swaminathan Research Foundation on a $2 million project to develop a variety of salt-tolerant rice.

- Unveiled a new promotional film endorsing Tasmania’s manufacturing capability, from design to manufacture and product support, for local, interstate and international markets.

- Delivering the Business Migrants Assistance Program to focus on providing expert support and advice to business migrants to assist them to successfully operate a business in Tasmania.
ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND DEFENCE

Tasmania has a long history of manufacturing innovation and achievement. The Government recognises the significance of the advanced manufacturing sector to the Tasmanian economy and its future potential. In 2016, manufacturing represented 7.6 per cent of Tasmania’s total employment.

Australia spends over $30 billion on defence annually. Tasmania’s share is currently less than 0.03 per cent.

WHAT’S BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED:

• Established the Caterpillar Transition Task force and invested $3 million into supporting its recommendations.

• Delivering the Tasmanian Advanced Manufacturing Action Plan outlining 15 key actions against five initiatives, to help facilitate growth and jobs, and transition the sector to being more globally competitive.

• Implementing Our Fair Share of Defence Strategy to attract, enable and build defence industries in the State, providing jobs and promoting Tasmania as both a military supplier and a port for our Southern Ocean responsibilities.

• Established the $200,000 Advanced Manufacturing Market Expansion Program to encourage business expansion and job creation, by offering manufacturing enterprises a financial rebate to offset the costs of marketing in international and national markets.

• Established the Tasmanian Manufacturing Centre of Excellence in Burnie an industry-led initiative focused on innovation, research, collaboration and continuous improvement to support the sector on a path to global competitiveness in advanced manufacturing and long-term sustainable jobs.

• Established the Advanced Manufacturing Transition Fund, which leverages Government funding to create 117 new jobs and private investment worth nearly $3.5 million.

• Hosted the Advanced Manufacturing Summit in Burnie in May 2015.

• Matched $2 million in Australian Government funding for a National Institute for Forest Products Innovation research hub to be located at Launceston UTAS campus, to grow forest and forest products, processing, wood fibre recovery, advanced manufacturing and the bio-economy.
ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND DEFENCE

- Provided $400,000 to support the establishment of a State-wide advanced manufacturing industry association to be administered through the Tasmanian Minerals and Energy Council.

- Provided $19,000 to conduct an Insights into Excellence advanced manufacturing tour in partnership with CSIRO and the Australian Department of Industry, to grow the sector and create jobs.

- Provided $90,000 for a University of Tasmania project that will deliver, in partnership with industry, a transition training and skills development program in industry design and technology.

- Provided $150,000 towards an Innovation and Growth Voucher System to support manufacturing companies to create jobs by diversifying into more advanced manufacturing processes through accessing suitable expertise and support, on a 2-for-1 dollar basis.

- Provided $125,000 for the Ready to Bid for Defence initiative to assist Tasmanian firms to develop skills to promote defence capabilities and attract defence investment, as well as leverage off Tasmania’s Antarctic status.

- Unveiled new promotional film endorsing Tasmania’s manufacturing capability, from design to manufacture and product support, for local, interstate and international markets.

- Invested $31 million into delivering 100 new buses for Metro Tasmania, to replace the ageing fleet. EOI seeks to have buses built in Tasmania, creating jobs in advanced manufacturing.

- Opened the door for Tasmania’s advanced manufacturing expertise, through the inclusion of the sector in trade missions to China, India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Singapore.

- Through a Government investment attraction package, secured pioneering advanced manufacturing company, One Atmosphere’s relocation to Tasmania including $3.2 million investment in a new facility, creating nearly 30 jobs. One Atmosphere makes highly specialised safety equipment for helicopters and will establish its headquarters and production facilities in Tasmania.
AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

Agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture are key pillars of the Tasmanian economy, with more than 8500 Tasmanians directly employed, mostly in regional areas.

Tasmania has developed an international reputation for producing premium, safe and world-class produce.

The strength of the Tasmanian brand is continuing to open doors, with significant growth in international exports increasing in value by $35 million to $612 million in 2014-15, and national trade increasing by $252 million to $2.417 billion.

The latest Agri-Food Scorecard found the value of agricultural production in the 2014-15 financial year was up to $1.438 billion, growing from $1.353 billion the previous year.

Tasmania’s agri-tourism market is also becoming increasingly popular with more than 348,000 tourists visiting a local producer in 2015 – up 13 per cent on the previous year.

Seafood production in 2014-15 was $825 million up 12 per cent from $736 million the year before, and salmon production increased in value by $89 million to $620 million. Overseas seafood exports were valued at $147.8 million in 2014-15.

WHAT’S BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED:

• Established AgriGrowth Tasmania, a specialist division charged with driving a whole-of-government approach to work with and support the industry to grow and create jobs.

• Implementing the Cultivating Prosperity in Agriculture Policy.

• Secured $60 million in Federal funding, together with $30 million from the Tasmanian Government, matched by farmers, for five proposed Tranche Two irrigation schemes, including the Swan River and Southern Highlands already under construction, creating jobs.

• Delivering the Future Irrigation Project to determine new opportunities for interconnectivity between existing irrigation schemes, renewable energy opportunities and to identify potential future Tranche 3 schemes.

• By working with the Commonwealth secured a significantly expanded Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme (TFES) with an investment of $203 million. This has been a game-changer for Tasmania, creating jobs in our exporting industries.
AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

• Delivered Biosecurity Tasmania to strengthen our biosecurity frontline to protect our relative disease and pest-free status and invested an additional $6.9 million in frontline biosecurity and infrastructure.

• Funded the $10 million pilot AgriGrowth Concessional Loans Scheme to assist farm and agri-food businesses with irrigation infrastructure, productivity improvements and other long-term developments to grow jobs in the sector.

• Delivered special purpose industrial hemp legislation to help this fledgling industry to grow.

• Developed the Good Neighbour Charter together with the TFGA, the Tasmanian Fire Service, the Local Government Association and government departments. It outlines the commitment of the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, as primary land management agency in Tasmania, to cooperate with its many adjacent landholders, particularly farmers.

• Simplified and streamlined the dam works approval process.

• Investing an additional $1.4 million into research that better aligns with the goals of farmers and industry to help farms improve their on-farm productivity, including projects in wine productivity, poppy mildew and precision agriculture in partnership with farmers and the private sector.

• Established the industry-led Dairy Taskforce to provide a coordinated response and improved support to dairy farmers facing challenges confronting the sector. Tasmania’s dairy industry is worth $440 million, with 430 farms and 1400 jobs. Additional Government funding support includes $135,000 for the Rural Financial Counselling service, as well as funding of $569,000 to Rural Alive and Well in 2016-17.

• Provided in partnership with the Commonwealth, funding and support for farmers impacted by unseasonable dry conditions and then floods through a variety of schemes including a $10 million Drought Concessional Loan Scheme, and a flood recovery and a drought recovery scheme.

• Funding the TFGA’s Fodder Register, Rural Relief Fund and counselling services as well as jointly funded a range of grant programs through the Commonwealth’s National Disaster Relief and Recovery arrangements.

• Investing $28.5 million to significantly increase fuel reduction burning through a cross-tenure, risk-based approach to managing vegetation fuel loads.

• Supported a $7.6m research agreement between the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture and Dairy Australia to support our dairy industry and build on its growth through innovative research.
AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

• Continue to open the door for Tasmania’s agricultural exporters through the inclusion of the sector in trade missions to China, India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Singapore, including strong international engagement with other important trading partners, including the US, to grow markets and jobs.

• Continued support and advocacy for low THC hemp as an economic opportunity for farmers, following agreement to a Tasmanian proposal at the Ministerial Forum on Food Regulation to formally task Food Standards Australia to begin work on a draft proposal on how low THC hemp could be legally designated as food.

• Implementing a five-year moratorium on genetically modified organisms (GMO).

• Supported 90 local jobs through a $783,000 grant agreement from the Regional Revival Fund to JBS Australia to secure an upgrade of the State’s largest service processing facility, the Devonport Abattoir, and its continued operation and jobs.

• Introduced the Ministerial Policy on Water Resource Management during Extreme Dry Conditions, which modernises our water management framework and unashamedly puts farming families and rural communities first by providing additional water for irrigation from our water catchments.
AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

• Working with the TFGA on the $450,000 Agricultural Skills Plan to grow the annual farm gate value of produce and invest in the future workforce. The Plan directly involves the industry in setting the training and skills priorities to ensure a job-ready workforce to meet growing demand.

• Imposed a moratorium on any new Marine Protected Areas in the State’s waters.

• Delivered a comprehensive support package for growers impacted by Pacific Oyster Mortality syndrome (POMs) including partnering with the private sector on The Yield oyster sensor technology.

• Implementing a $5.2 million road upgrade at Strahan to support the West Coast’s growing aquaculture industry and jobs in the region.

• Hosted TasInvest to showcase aquaculture, among other key sectors ready for major investment.

• In partnership with the Commonwealth and industry invested $1.6 million in a fish health facility at Mt Pleasant and a further $500,000 to the University of Tasmania’s Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies for salmon industry research.

• Delivering an extra $200,000 a year over three years to the Tasmanian Shellfish Quality Assurance Program which plays a critical role in managing risks to the shellfish industry.

• Implemented a $300,000 Rock Lobster translocation project to secure the long-term future and jobs in the commercial and recreational rock lobster industry on the east coast of Tasmania.

• Supported the development of new sustainable fisheries with the release of a developmental fisheries framework which gives licensed commercial fishers the opportunity to explore value-adding to low-value species.

• Invested $1 million in specific training to the sector through Seafood Training Tasmania (STT).

• In partnership with the Commonwealth invested $24 million to create a new jobs and investment fund. The fund supports private investment on a $2 to $1 basis, and could leverage up to $72 million in job creating projects for Tasmania. The fund is targeting our key competitive strengths in tourism, agriculture and aquaculture, and advanced manufacturing.

• Established an independent assessment by the Marine Farming Planning Review Panel for the environmental management of salmon farming at Okehampton Bay.

• Legislated to further strengthen environmental management of Tasmania’s salmon industry, to support the industry to continue to grow with confidence and create more jobs, while maintaining community and market confidence.
BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND HOUSING

The building, construction and housing sectors are a key strength of the Tasmanian economy, with approximately 20,000 Tasmanians employed.

A confident sector is essential to help drive Tasmania’s economy, and since coming to Government, total construction work done is up 8 per cent, the value of engineering work commenced is up 39 per cent, and both the number and value of home loans has soared, outperforming the national average.

WHAT’S BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED:

• Implemented the headworks holiday - which underpinned a massive increase of 83 per cent in new applications and brought forward investments like the $35 million Mac One hotel development, creating jobs.

• Delivered a single State-wide planning scheme to make gaining approvals to build in Tasmania fairer, faster, simpler and cheaper.

• Delivering the Local Benefits Test. We have seen a 10 per cent increase in Tasmanian business participation with 95 per cent of all tenders received including a Tasmanian business. The value of tenders awarded to Tasmanian businesses has grown by 25 per cent.

• Funded $1.8 billion in infrastructure across Tasmania, including:
  • $113 million to revitalise our schools, the largest State investment in School infrastructure in 20 years;
  • $73 million Affordable Housing Action Plan to deliver 900 homes and provide housing options for 1600 households; and

• $500 million for the joint Tasmanian and Commonwealth Government, 10-year Midland Highway Action Plan.

• Rescued the $689 million Royal Hobart Hospital redevelopment – the biggest public sector project ever, delivering hundreds of construction jobs.

• Doubled the First Home Builders Grant to $20,000 to help hundreds more Tasmanians build their first home. This initiative is expected to generate around $175 million worth of building activity in Tasmania.

• Delivered a package of reforms aimed at cutting red tape in the building and construction industry, and making gaining approvals fairer, faster, simpler and cheaper. The new legislation has been described as nation-leading by the sector, and removes the need for building permits for many projects.
BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND HOUSING

• Delivering $600,000 to support apprenticeships and traineeships through Group Training Organisations.

• Investing $900,000 to support growth industries to give young Tasmanians an opportunity to develop technical and work-ready skills.

• Investing $90 million to the Northern Cities Development, directly investing in major construction projects, including Devonport’s Living City, the relocation of the University of Tasmania campus in Launceston, and enhancing the University’s presence at West Park in Burnie.

• Invested $7.9 million to upgrade the 4K children’s ward at the Launceston General Hospital.

• Committed to $12 million for the St Helens Hospital upgrade.

• Implementing a $5 million program to refurbish residential housing for police officers and their families stationed in remote and regional areas of Tasmania.

• Legislated to facilitate construction of the $90 million Creative Industries and Performing Arts Development, adjacent to the Theatre Royal. The Tasmanian Government also provided $30 million in support to the project.
ENERGY

The Hodgman Liberal Government believes Tasmania can make energy a competitive advantage and we are using it to facilitate economic growth by retaining and attracting industries and businesses in Tasmania.

The Government supports the renewable energy sector, which employs around 1500 Tasmanians, and is a key to our State being able to leverage its competitive advantage in the national energy market.

WHAT’S BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED:

• Delivering the Tasmanian Energy Strategy which identifies ways in which energy can be used as a key economic driver for Tasmania. A recent update has seen good progress on actions under the Strategy.

• Progressing a joint study with the Commonwealth into the feasibility of a second Bass Strait interconnector. The interim report showed this can help promote renewable growth and activity in the order of $3 billion while also providing energy security.

• Advanced Tasmania’s renewable energy expertise during trade missions to China, India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Singapore.

• Established the Tasmanian Energy Security Taskforce to conduct an independent energy security risk assessment for Tasmania, and future strategies for growth.

• Secured 600 direct jobs and 3500 indirect jobs at Nyrstar with an agreement to unlock $52 million investment to expand capacity, create an additional 125 jobs during construction and up to 20 new jobs at the smelter once the upgrades are complete.

• Funding a $1.25 million Wood and Fibre Processing Innovation Program to help 41 projects with a value of $56 million, including biomass, bioenergy or similar initiatives, building on the funding provided in the Dorset and Huon municipalities to facilitate commercial utilisation of plant biomass from forestry and agriculture.

• Continued to roll out infrastructure technology on Flinders Island with a $12.88 million program to reduce diesel fuel used on the island by up to 60% in two years, creating jobs in Tasmania with new, sophisticated systems in demand around the world.

• Progressing gas market reforms through COAG to help ensure gas continues to be an affordable and viable alternative for Tasmanian customers.
FORESTRY AND MINING

Our resources sector is one of Tasmania’s key competitive advantages contributing millions annually to the state’s gross state product and directly employing thousands.

Tasmania’s mining and mineral processing industry employs more than 2000 Tasmanians and is worth just under $1.5 billion to our economy. With mineral exploration up 6.1 per cent in the June 2016 quarter, defying the national results, future growth in the sector is promising.

The Government is rebuilding the forest industry, after 4300 jobs were lost between August 2008 and November 2013. Wood and woodchip exports increased more than 21 per cent in 2015, and have passed three million tonnes for the first time in five years.

WHAT’S BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED:

• Ripped up the disastrous Tasmanian Forest Agreement, putting an end to thousands of job losses in regional communities across Tasmania, and began rebuilding the industry to create jobs.

• Ended the subsidy to Forestry Tasmania and put it on a sustainable path.

• Delivered strong legal protection for workers in the forestry and mining industries, so they are protected from protesters trying to stop them doing their jobs.

• Supported forest contractors who suffered under the job-destroying forest deal with $4 million in grants.

• Delivering certainty to the mining industry by guaranteeing that there will be no more lock ups under the Liberals. Mineral exploration is now growing.

• Investing $1.25 million in the Wood and Fibre Processing Innovation Program to support the development of projects that use wood residues and/or agricultural plant residues to create value-added products and more jobs. More than 40 projects are proposed with a total value of $56 million.

• Investing $150,000 in the ARBRE Hub to train the next generation of forestry workers.

• Investing in the $6.6 million pilot project at Norske Skog to build a commercial demonstration plant manufacturing bio-solvents.
FORESTRY AND MINING

• Working with the special species timber industry to secure supply and jobs.

• Finalised contracts for 330,000 tonnes of southern residue waste as part of our residue solution, which will result in a positive return to Forestry Tasmania, improving its bottom-line.

• Promoting our State’s many competitive strengths, including forestry and mining during Asian trade missions.

• Pybar Mining Services – a wholly Australian-owned company – recently purchased the Henty gold mine near Queenstown, and hopes to create 60 new jobs at the mine by Christmas. That will give the mine a workforce of 90.

• Investing $1.4 million in the Geosciences Initiative Program, to lead the way in providing geoscience datasets and geological mapping to potential explorers.

• Relocating Mineral Resources Tasmania to Burnie.

• Provided a $25 million assistance package to Copper Mines of Tasmania (CMT) to ensure the mine remains in care and maintenance and is given every opportunity to reopen when the world copper price improves. The assistance would only be provided if the mine reopens, securing hundreds of jobs on the West Coast.

• Implementing the Mineral Exploration Investment Attraction Plan to globally promote the great opportunities in Tasmania for mineral exploration and development.

• Rebuilding the forestry sector, as evidenced by Forico’s $9.5 million redevelopment of the Surrey Hills Mill, near Burnie, supporting about 100 direct and indirect jobs in the North-West, and Neville Smith Forest Products’ decision to buy back and operate a green mill at Southwood, with total employment of 100 Tasmanians.

• Matched $2 million in Australian Government funding for a National Institute for Forest Products Innovation research hub to be located at Launceston UTAS campus, to grow forest and forest products, processing, wood fibre recovery, advanced manufacturing and the bio-economy.
INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Advanced Information and Communication Technology (ICT) means Tasmania is more connected and more empowered than ever before. The tyranny of distance has been turned on its head with Tasmania’s cool climate, clean hydro power and growing ICT sector giving the state a natural advantage.

More than 4000 Tasmanians are employed in Tasmania’s ICT industry, worth an estimated $1 billion to the State.

WHAT’S BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED:

• Delivered the Data Centre Action Strategy which recognises Tasmania’s natural advantages, as well as areas where more work needs to be undertaken to attract and promote the state’s ICT sector, to create jobs.

• Funded the $800,000 Digital Ready for Business which supports small businesses get online and participate in the digital economy.

• Funded $500,000 towards the establishment of leading edge Entrepreneurship and Incubation Hubs to help great ideas become viable, job creating businesses. The hubs will provide workspace, training and hands-on mentoring to develop, evaluate and implement, pre-startup and early stage business opportunities.

• Sponsored GovHack an annual event which brings people together to innovate with open government data to create new ideas and applications to help the community.

• Delivering the Tasmanian Government’s Open Data Policy which encourages the release of public data sets by State Government agencies for reuse by the public. Open data makes data access easier and allows government information to be shared with the public for commercial and community benefit.

• Delivered free Wi-Fi across Tasmania including to regional areas. As part of stage one of the Wi-Fi network, there are now 52 live locations across Tasmania in popular tourist destinations, helping visitors to market the State online.

• Delivered on our commitment to attract a Tier-3 data centre to Tasmania. The Perth-based data centre operator Red Cloud is proceeding with plans for a $40 million data centre, creating 80 local jobs during construction and an additional 17 when operational.
INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

- Investing $15.2 million for the Emergency Services Computer Aided Dispatch System, $7.5 million to replace the Department of Treasury and Finance’s Budget Management System, and $555,000 for the Integrated Tasmanian Government Contact Centre – helping to grow our ICT sector and create jobs.

- Provided up to $1.7 million for establishment support and payroll tax reimbursement to attract UXC, Australia’s largest publicly owned IT services company, to Tasmania. The Hobart-based Centre now employs 46 people and this is expected to grow to 55.

- Working in partnership with TasTAFE and UXC to enable ICT Certificate 4 and Diploma students to undertake practical training at the UXC Centre of Excellence.

- Supporting the rollout of Code Club across primary schools in Tasmania, which is giving our students the chance to gain real skills for real jobs in our ICT sector.

- Funding $500,000 for a major upgrade of the Magistrate Courts’ digital audio recording system and $483,000 for the development of supporting IT systems for cancer centres across the State, creating jobs in Tasmania.

- Undertaking a rigorous cost-benefit assessment of investment in the proposed SubPartners APX-Central undersea telecommunication cable spur to Tasmania.
Tasmania’s retail sector, predominantly comprised of small businesses, is booming and breaking records. Tasmanian retailers employ tens of thousands of employees, making up more than 11 per cent of the workforce.

For the first time in our history, retail trade for July this year broke through the half a billion dollar mark, following 12 months of record breaking trade with retail growing by 4.9 per cent in the 12 months to July, the strongest growth rate of any state and well above the national rate of 2.7 per cent.

When Tasmanians are feeling confident they spend and these indicators show they are spending locally and creating jobs.

WHAT’S BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED:

- Doubled the First Home Builders Boost to $20,000 which is enabling more and more Tasmanians to achieve the dream of owning their own home, creating business not just in the building and construction sector, but retail services as well.

- Delivering the Local Benefits Test. We have seen a 10 per cent increase in Tasmanian business participation with 95 per cent of all tenders received including a Tasmanian business. The value of tenders awarded to Tasmanian businesses has grown by 25 per cent.

- Investing $425 million in a job creation package which is providing opportunities for local businesses particularly in regional areas. This package includes schools construction and affordable housing which will rely on the retail sector for fitouts, creating jobs.

- Investing $800,000 in the Getting Behind and Backing Small Business Policy which is helping small businesses, particularly retail get digital ready and participate in the ever growing digital economy.

- Investing $10 million in the Tasmanian Energy Efficiency Loan Scheme to help Tasmanians realise the benefits of energy efficiency and to support jobs. The Scheme will be focussed on households and small businesses, with loans for up to five years and completely interest free.

- After seven years of inaction following the devastating fire that destroyed the Myer store in 2007, the Government acted within its first 100 days to get the $100 million project off the ground with a $15 million commercial loan offer, reinvigorating the Hobart CBD retail sector.

- Implementing the $1.2 million Business District Revitalisation Fund for the Hobart and Glenorchy city councils to invest in improving public spaces to attract increased visitor numbers to business districts.
TOURISM, HOSPITALITY AND EVENTS

The Government’s plan to grow tourism is working. Tasmania’s tourism sector is booming like never before. The number of tourists is up to 1.17 million visitors a year and they are staying longer and spending more. A total of $2.05 billion tourist dollars were spent in the State over the last financial year. Importantly, there has been growth in visitors in all regions: six per cent in the South, 11 per cent on the East Coast, four per cent in the North and five per cent on the Cradle Coast.

The 2016 Tourism Investment Monitor shows there was $509 million in Tasmania’s tourism investment pipeline for 2015 - a remarkable 47 per cent increase on 2014 levels. This compares exceptionally well against the national tourism investment increase of just 12 per cent.

There are 36,700 direct and indirect jobs linked to tourism in Tasmania.

Our hospitality industry is a mainstay of Tasmania’s visitor economy, directly employing more than 20,000 people in over 2000 cafes, restaurants, hotels, B&Bs and accommodation venues across the State.

Events supported by the Government return around $100 million to the economy each year, and encourage people from around the country and world to visit the State.

WHAT’S BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED:

• Delivering the T21 Tasmanian Visitor Economy Strategy which outlines our vision for Tasmania to be a world-leading destination of choice.

• Delivering the Access 2020 Strategy to increase air capacity to Tasmania. The Plan is working with air capacity increased by 173,658 new seats.

• Delivered the $31.5 million refurbishment of the Spirits of Tasmania. In 2015-16, the Spirits delivered 418,831 passengers across Bass Strait, that’s a remarkable 34,330 more passengers than in the previous year, or up 8.9 per cent. TT-Line has increased its day sailing with 138 scheduled in 2016-17, increasing opportunities for freight and passengers.

• Investing $300,000 for the start of the roll-out of the Great Customer Experience training for our hospitality industry.

• Invested $5.8 million in two major domestic marketing campaigns, and joined an international promotion of Australia’s Aquatic and Coastal attractions.

• Signed the Fujian-Tasmania Tourism Exchange MOU during our trade mission to China.
TOURISM, HOSPITALITY AND EVENTS

- Invested $100,000 in the Join the Industry pilot program. This is to assist employers in the hospitality industry to fill critical cookery skill shortages by making it easier to employ international student graduates of commercial cookery from TasTAFE.

- Delivering $9 million annually in tourism and hospitality training for Tasmanians.

- Boosted Tasmania’s tourism marketing budget by $16 million.

- Separated Tourism Tasmania from the bureaucracy so it can be a stand-alone and responsive authority.

- Signed a $45 million Chambroad-TasTAFE Kangaroo Bay training agreement which will see the establishment of a major hotel and hospitality training facility, as part of $65 million Kangaroo Bay development.

- Delivering the Tasmanian Government Events Strategy 2015-20 a blueprint to see Tasmania become Australia’s boutique events capital.

- Implementing a new $610,000 Regional Events Start-up program to inject more than $10 million into new regional events from 2016.
TOURISM, HOSPITALITY AND EVENTS

- Providing additional funding of $400,000 to increase Tasmania’s share of the Business Events market.

- Delivering funding for major events including Dark Mofo, V8 Supercars, Targa Tasmania, and many others to increase international and national visitors to Tasmania.

- Delivered agreements with the Hawthorn Football Club and the North Melbourne Football Club to play roster games in Hobart and Launceston between 2017 and 2021, boosting the economy, bringing visitors and creating jobs.

- Opened the door to more visitors to come to Tasmania through trade missions to China, India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Singapore.

- Hosted the highly successful TasInvest which matched investors and proponents at a showcase of opportunities for several sectors including tourism.

- Investing, in partnership with industry, in the “China ready” workshops.

- Delivering an expression of interest process to attract private investment in projects which sensitively and appropriately showcase our spectacular national parks. The EOI process represents an opportunity to attract up to $70 million worth of investment and up to 275 jobs.

- Investing $13 million in the relaunched award-winning West Coast Wilderness Railway which now attracts tens of thousands of tourists to the region each year.

- Invested $650,000 in Tasmanian brand enhancement.

- Delivering $6.3 million for the Great Eastern Drive.

- Investing $8 million in National Parks infrastructure.

- Committed $220 000 to develop a preferred management model and strategy for Maria Island to ensure its full potential as a tourism asset for the East Coast region and Tasmania is realised.

- Delivering the final stage of the Three Capes Track, with bookings for this spectacular walk exceeding 10,000.

- Delivering on improvements to the South Coast Track as the second part of a four-year, $2 million project to ensure we can continue to provide a world class walking experience in the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area.
THE PLAN FOR SKILLS AND INCREASED PARTICIPATION

The Tasmanian economy needs a skilled workforce to underpin economic growth and that is why we are investing record amounts into education and training.

Skills training is vital to ensuring Tasmania has an efficient and adaptive workforce with the highest possible participation.

Increasing participation in education and training is an essential part of our Plan to create jobs, economic growth and opportunity for all Tasmanians.

WHAT’S BEEN DONE AND WHAT IS BEING DELIVERED:

• Investing $100 million each year into the skills training sector, which assists one in 10 working Tasmanians to upskill by subsidising their vocational education.

• Delivering Workforce Development Grants to allow industry, employer, and community organisations to own, design and implement workforce planning and development projects.

• Investing $300,000 to assist the tourism and hospitality sector to achieve further excellence in customer service through the Great Customer Experience program.

• Committing to a full six years of Gonski education funding, investing the full $134 million over six years.

• Accelerating the roll-out of the successful $45.5 million Year 11 and 12 high school extension program and extending it to urban high schools from 2017, because of demand.

• Investing $1.6 million in partnership with The Smith Family to expand the Learning for Life program and support more children to complete Year 12 through the School Community Hubs within the Burnie, Wynyard and Launceston communities, helping disadvantaged students become job-ready.

• In partnership with the University of Tasmania we established the Peter Underwood Centre for Educational Attainment. The Centre is investigating the best ways to keep children in school longer, methods to improve the way children learn and teachers are trained, reasons for the existing impediments to education aspiration and attainment, and offering rigorous, evidence based advice which can inform public policy.

• Facilitated a partnership between Shandong Chambroad and TasTAFE for a major new hospitality training school at Kangaroo Bay in Tasmania.
THE PLAN FOR SKILLS AND INCREASED PARTICIPATION

- Implementing Tasmania’s Strategy for Adult Literacy and Numeracy 2016-2025 to help more Tasmanians participate in the labour force, backed with $4.5 million in funding to support adults through LINC Tasmania and a 26TEN grants program.

- Providing new jobs for 25 Literacy and Numeracy Specialist teachers to work with students in Year 7 and 9.

- Partnered with the Beacon Foundation and the Paul Ramsay Foundation in a new $15 million investment in Tasmanian education to improve educational outcomes, and create job-ready young Tasmanians.

- Supporting the full roll-out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme in Tasmania, which is expected to create up to 2500 jobs beyond 2020, with 1750 full time jobs created over the next three years.

- Funding a workforce development plan and supporting more than $12 million worth of training in the disability and aged services sector, resulting in 2600 training positions.

- Implementing a $4.2 million Developing Our Workforce Strategy to help teachers boost their skills and better support students.

- Delivering the Business Migrants Assistance Program to focus on providing expert support and advice to business migrants to assist them to successfully operate a business in Tasmania.

- Committed to the $1.2 million Safe Haven Hub, to link refugees and asylum seekers with employers.
THE PLAN FOR SKILLS AND INCREASED PARTICIPATION

- Delivering the $526,000 pilot program to develop core and essential skills for Tasmania’s vocational students. This program will see 3,000 students improve their core skills in essential areas like reading, writing, numeracy and problem solving, along with technical skills.

- Investing $2.38 million in funding to support 27 innovative projects from across the state to improve the skills, employment opportunities and social inclusion of young and disadvantaged Tasmanians.

- Investing $450,000 for five projects focusing on literacy and numeracy support for Tasmanian apprentices and trainees.

- Targeted support for Tasmanians with an acquired brain injury or disability to help their re-entry into the workforce.

- Support for TasTAFE to offer specialist training in the areas of construction, hospitality and retail for youths at risk.

- Working with Neighbourhood Houses to provide training support for people in Beaconsfield, Ulverstone, and Hobart’s Northern Suburbs; and a work experience and training program in hospitality for school leavers in the Kingborough area.

- Committed $900,000 to support growth industries to give young Tasmanians an opportunity to develop technical and work-ready skills.

- Working with the TFGA on the $450,000 Agricultural Skills Plan to grow the annual farm gate value of produce and invest in the future workforce.

- Investing $600,000 to support apprenticeships and traineeships through Group Training Organisations.

- Working in partnership with TasTAFE and UXC to enable ICT Certificate 4 and Diploma students to undertake practical training at the UXC Centre of Excellence.

- Investing $150,000 in the ARBRE Hub to train the next generation of forestry workers.

- Signed the Fujian-Tasmania Tourism Exchange MOU during our trade mission to China.

- Investing $100,000 in the “Join the Industry” pilot program. This is to assist employers in the hospitality industry to fill critical cookery skill shortages by making it easier to employ international student graduates of commercial cookery from TasTAFE.

- Delivering more than $100 million each year in vocational education and training through Skills Tasmania, to ensure Tasmanians are trained with the right skills for our growing economy.