

End of Year Report:

Progress on Election Commitments (First Year Deliverables)



Tasmanian
Government

November 2014

STATE GROWTH	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Establish the Department of State Growth.	✓	New Department of State Growth established on 1 July 2014 to aggressively pursue Government's growth agenda. New organisational design to establish a more responsive and streamlined Department being finalised.
Appoint, with appropriate terms of reference, the Coordinator-General and the Regulation Reduction Coordinator.	✓	Coordinator-General appointed. Recruitment for Regulation Reduction Coordinator is underway.
In conjunction with the Regulation Reduction Coordinator, undertake a comprehensive audit of all government regulations, with the target of reducing red and green tape by 20 per cent.	✓	Preliminary work has commenced on a high level regulation reduction report. Legislation for annual red and green tape audit will be introduced in 2015.
Develop and commence the implementation of a multi-faceted road safety program to target contemporary road safety challenges in an aggressive, effective and integrated manner, including support for Driver Mentoring Tasmania (DMT) and the Rotary Youth Driver Awareness program (RYDA).	✓	Consultation undertaken and process agreed with DMT and Rotary. Funding deed established with Rotary and first instalment provided. Agreement that DMT will support Learner Driver Mentor Programs (LDMP), program development workshop conducted and new grants round announced.
Working with the Treasurer, implement the job creation package, including small business jobs bonus, payroll tax rebate and headworks holiday, to significantly boost private sector investment.	✓	Small Business Jobs Bonus (SBJB) launched in June. Application forms available since 30 September 2014. First payment available from 1 January 2015.
Develop a business and skilled migration strategy, as part of our Big Tasmania population strategy.	✓	Preliminary work has commenced on the strategy.
Implement the Think Local First Campaign and Digital Ready for Retail program.	✓	Digital Ready for Retail launched. Think Local First Campaign tender being finalised. Campaign to be implemented early to mid-2015.
Working with relevant Ministers, progress youth employment strategies including the partnership with Whitelion.	✓	Funding provided in the 2014-15 Budget. Preliminary work has commenced with grant deeds to be finalised by the end of the year.

INFRASTRUCTURE	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Establish Infrastructure Tasmania.	✓	Infrastructure Tasmania established. The position of CEO has been advertised and an appointment will be made soon.
Ensure that Infrastructure Tasmania: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – completes a State Roads Audit (within nine months of the establishment of Infrastructure Tasmania); and 	✓	ITas will provide strategic oversight of the Roads Audit. Roads Audit to be completed in two stages by State Growth.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – commences development of an Integrated Freight Strategy. 	✓	State Growth has undertaken considerable work with a view to enabling the release of a draft strategy for public consultation shortly.
Establish a solution to the lack of an international shipping service from Tasmania.	✓	The market engagement process has been completed. An announcement will be made soon.
In consultation with the Minister for State Growth, manage the Regional Revival Fund of \$12 million to facilitate the construction of infrastructure required for major job creating private sector projects.	✓	Fully funded in the 2014-15 Budget.
TOURISM	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Action the Government's target of 1.5 million visitors by 2020.	✓	Tourism Tasmania now a separate entity. Additional marketing funding now being provided.
Enter into a memorandum of Understanding with the Tasmanian Hospitality Association	✓	MoU signed on 6 November 2014
TREASURY	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Develop a fiscal strategy to balance the budget and make the general Government net debt free, including the implementation of savings strategies identified prior to the 2014 election.	✓	2014-15 Budget set the path to a balanced Budget, implementing structural savings, including almost halving the operating deficit over four years, and reducing estimated net debt from \$400 million to less than \$50 million at the end of the Forward Estimates.
Support the job creation package through a two-year Headworks Holiday for developers.	✓	Deed signed by Treasurer and sent to TasWater 25 September 2014.
Support the job creation package through a payroll tax rebate.	✓	Employment Incentive Scheme (Payroll Tax Rebate) is implemented and in its fourth phase.

Implement changes to ensure Tasmanian businesses are given a fair go, including payment of invoices by Government within 30 days, Local Benefits test, Industry participation plans and disaggregating Government contracts.	✓	Treasurer's instruction to pay invoices within 30 days issued. Buy Local policy (including Local Benefits Test, Industry participation plans and disaggregation of Government contracts) implemented 8 May 2014. Compliance monitoring underway.
Initiate the centralisation of property and facilities management roles across Government.	✓	First phase – central management of major Hobart CBD office accommodation leases by Treasury – approved by Cabinet on 15 September 2014. Long-term strategy being prepared.
Reduce red and green tape to support local businesses and create jobs.	✓	Work is underway with the appointment of Coordinator-General. A national review of work health and safety is underway, and a State review of red tape in the building sector.
Implement the outcomes of the audit of the Government's 130-plus boards and committees.	✓	To date, there has been a 20 per cent reduction in spending on Boards and Committees, saving \$7 million.
ENERGY	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Deliver full electricity retail contestability for Tasmanian households and businesses.	✓	Market opened to full retail competition on 1 July 2014. Electricity prices decreased by 7.8 per cent on 1 July 2014 following the repeal of the Carbon Tax.
Establish an Energy Working Group to assist the Government to develop a comprehensive State Energy Strategy to deliver to Tasmania the most competitive power prices in Australia.	✓	Energy Working Group (EWG) established on 8 May 2014. EWG has met six times and held two workshops with the electricity businesses. Issues paper released on 12 August 2014 and submissions closed 8 September 2014. Draft State energy Strategy to be released for public consultation shortly.
Advance the case for a second interconnector across Bass Strait and the expansion of Hydro Tasmania's generation output by 10 per cent.	✓	Budget allocation provided and resourcing support being progressed. Working with Hydro Tasmania and TasNetworks to develop project options.

PLANNING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
In conjunction with the Planning Reform Taskforce, produce draft legislation for a Single Statewide Planning Scheme that will deliver a faster, cheaper, simpler and fairer planning system and includes a crackdown on third party appeals by requiring that only directly affected parties can appeal.	✓	Phase 1 legislative reforms passed Parliament in November 2014. Consultations to be undertaken on Phase 2 reforms in the next few months.
RESOURCES	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Progress the relocation of Mineral Resources Tasmania (MRT) to Burnie.	✓	An implementation plan is currently being developed.
Develop a Mineral Exploration Investment Attraction Plan to globally promote the opportunities for mineral exploration and sustainable mining investment in Tasmania.	✓	Review of promotional activities in recent years undertaken. A promotional package has been developed to be implemented through the year.
Repeal the <i>Tasmanian Forests Agreement Act 2013</i> .	✓	The <i>Forestry (Rebuilding the Forest Industry) Bill 2014</i> was passed on 2 September 2014 and the new Act commenced on 22 October 2014. Ministerial Advisory Council established to advise on a strategy to grow the forest industry.
Implement the plan to rebuild the forest industry by encouraging and supporting investment in innovation and new uses for our timber, such as engineered timbers, biofuels and bioenergy.	✓	Stage 1 – Draft Residues Solutions Study Report completed and circulated to advisory group for comment.
Working with the Attorney-General, introduce legislation to crack down on illegal protestors.	✓	The <i>Workplaces (Protection from Protestors) Bill</i> was passed by Parliament on 25 November 2014.
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Work cooperatively with the Federal Government to facilitate the NBN rollout of fibre-to-the-premises in Tasmania, including the trial using aerial infrastructure.	✓	Ongoing liaison with stakeholders. Optimised aerial deployment utilising approximately 4 000 poles.
Begin the rollout of free public WiFi services in key tourism locations around the State, through partnerships with local organisations.	✓	Submissions have been received on a pre-tender consultation paper, and are being collated and assessed ahead of a formal tender process.

Commence work on a <i>Data Centre Action Strategy for Tasmania</i> , with the goal of storing all public sector data in Tasmanian data centres.	✓	Work is underway for a phased migration from government-owned data centres to an outsourced panel of service providers over three years, with strategies to be progressed by the Coordinator-General. Tasmanian Data Centre Feasibility Report finalised within the next six months.
Promote and develop the ICT sector through stronger links with industry organisations and action plans such as the <i>Employment and Home Business Remote Working Hub Action Strategy</i> , the <i>Digital Ready for Retail</i> program and the Go-to-Market Incubator.	✓	Continued financial support for Tas ICT to: employ a full-time executive officer; continue the ITs Your Career project; and prepare the Digital Infrastructure Capability paper.
Redefine and relaunch the Digital Futures Advisory Council (DFAC) to identify and advise on medium and long-term IT and innovation-related opportunities.	✓	Meetings have been held with the chair of DFAC, Prof Paddy Nixon. The structure is nearing finalisation with short and medium-term objectives.
PRIMARY INDUSTRIES and FISHERIES	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Establish a specialised division to help deliver our Agrivision 2050 plan and ensure a strategic and long-term approach to developing Tasmania's food and agriculture sector.	✓	The new Division AgriGrowth Tasmania (AT) was established within DPIPWE on 1 July 2014. All budget and non-budget Agrivision 2050 election commitments funded and underway.
Continue to invest in vital irrigation infrastructure, including obtaining comprehensive advice on the potential for inter-connectivity between existing irrigation schemes and proposals for enhancement and modernisation of existing irrigation schemes.	✓	Business Case (BC) for Scottsdale Scheme approved. The Swan Valley Scheme was launched and the preferred option for the Circular Head Scheme was launched on 12 September. Announcement on the preferred option for North-Esk Scheme anticipated made 12 November. Minister has met Commonwealth to seek support for Federal funding for Tranche 2 of the Irrigation Schemes.
Start implementing the Agricultural Skills Plan to revitalise employment in agriculture by better aligning the skills required in the farming sector with education and training.	✓	Project Plan and contract with TFGA underway, with Skills Tasmania to establish new Rural Industry Training Board.
With the establishment of Biosecurity Tasmania, continue to strengthen the biosecurity frontline to protect Tasmania from all invasive species.	✓	Biosecurity Tasmania established on 1 May 2014, integrating the Biosecurity and Product Integrity Divisions with the Invasive Species Branch in DPIPWE. Review of Biosecurity legislation commenced. New TT-Line quarantine arrangements trial announced.

Complete the review of the <i>Primary Industry Activities Protection Act 1955</i> .	✓	Review commenced 19 June 2014. Submissions are now closed. Findings currently being prepared. Policy decisions expected in early 2015.
Secure the future of the rock lobster industry through support of the Rock Lobster translocation project.	✓	DPIPWE working with key fishing stakeholder groups to get this work underway when the weather is appropriate in summer 2015.
RACING	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Establish a working group to develop a long-term strategic plan to grow the racing industry to be self-sustaining and quarantine any unclaimed dividends to re-invest in prize money across the three racing codes.	✓	Racing industry working group has prepared a report for the Minister to consider.
HEALTH	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Improve elective surgery and access to health services for Tasmanians.	✓	\$76 million in additional funding was provided in the 2014-15 Budget and across the Forward Estimates. The first tranche of funding was provided from 1 July 2014, and included a focus on all over-boundary children.
Establish the independent review into Mental Health Services.	✓	The Rethink Mental Health Project has commenced as a collaborative partnership between the Mental Health Council of Tasmania and DHHS. Consultation paper released October 2014, with consumer and community sector organisation consultation forums in December 2014.
Progressively implement the plan to increase the number of nurse graduate placements.	✓	\$5.4 million allocated in the 2014-15 Budget to provide up to 85 additional places. An additional 10 positions will be available during recruitment in early 2015.
Deliver new out of hospital health care programs in the community/home.	✓	\$3 million allocated in the 2014-15 Budget. Work is underway to develop options for the implementation of this commitment, including providing hospital in the home services in Launceston.
Implement suicide prevention strategies including developing a targeted Youth Suicide Strategy for Tasmania and assisting local communities with the implementation of Community Suicide Prevention Plans.	✓	\$3 million over three years allocated in the 2014-15 Budget. Implementation Plan being finalised for commencement of grant disbursement to community organisations.

Rescue the Royal Hobart Hospital redevelopment and begin the process of rebuilding and redesigning Tasmania's health system.	✓	The RHH Redevelopment Taskforce will report at the end of November 2014. The <i>One State, One Health System, Better Outcomes</i> reforms were announced in July 2014 including move to one Tasmanian Health Service from 1 July 2015. Progress to date includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Release of Rebuilding Tasmania's Health System Issues Paper; - Formation of Health Council of Tasmania, inaugural meeting held. - Green Paper to be released for consultation in December 2014. - Departmental reform process underway. - White paper to be completed by March 2015.
HUMAN SERVICES	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Establish a partnership with the community sector, including TasCOSS, to develop and deliver a joined-up support system that provides a 'hand-up' for vulnerable Tasmanians. This will begin the long-term plan to implement a seamless support system that is easier for clients to navigate and is focused on outcomes.	✓	Roundtable consultation between Minister and community sector held in June. Working in partnership with the sector and Agencies on vision, principles and outcomes for a joined-up, integrated and person-centred Human Services Support System in Tasmania. Project proposal developed and supported by Cabinet. State-wide focus group held with the sector and clients.
Develop an Affordable Housing strategy to drive innovation and supply over the next decade.	✓	Introductory session held and survey conducted and collated. Research and regional workshops/focus groups commenced. Strategy to be developed by mid-2015.
Reduce red tape and administrative burden for the Tasmanian community sector through the elimination of duplication, simplification of contracts and streamlining the reporting and acquittal process.	✓	Working Group of the Peaks Network and Government Forum established to undertake a data and reporting audit to identify areas for reduction, including development and distribution of a survey. Development of an options paper by early 2015.
Implement the Liberal Plan for Children, Young People and their Families through investing in short-term, preventative support to help keep families together and a new pre placement process for children coming into care, while introducing a new best practice model of child protection.	✓	A new out-of-home continuum of care (OOHC) is being developed, with placement options and support services matched to the specific needs of each child. Discussions are underway with Gateway providers to determine best model for implementing preventative support for parents. Also under development is a Vulnerable Babies Strategy, implementation of complaints in care process, and support for staff.

Progress the plan for Neighbourhood Houses and work with the Minister for Health on implementing outreach mental health services to the House network.	✓	Funding has been provided in the 2014-15 Budget for the Neighbourhood House Network. This includes \$1.7 million over two years and \$100,000 to be provided in 2015-16 to start 15-20 food cooperatives to help families access low cost, healthy, fresh and nutritious food. Work will commence in 2015 with Neighbourhood Houses.
Implement the plan to provide more support for Tasmanians living with a disability, including additional transitional support until the full roll-out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme is complete, and work with the Minister for Education and Training on an independent review of students with disability, and an advisory expert panel for an autism continuum of care.	✓	Multiple meetings held with National Disability Insurance Agency. \$2M allocated in 2014-15 Budget. Autism Advisory Panel established. Consideration of trial sites for the introduction of Rethink Autism and the establishment of an autism satellite unit.
EDUCATION	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Implement the Plan for extending High Schools to Year 12, including ensuring that the four first-round schools are ready to begin years 11 and 12 in 2015.	✓	Six schools to commence years 11 and 12 in Term 1, 2015 – Dover, Huonville, Scottsdale, Smithton, St Helens, and St Marys. A second round of EOIs has been sent to all rural and regional schools and closes in December 2014.
Complete the recruitment process for the first intake of literacy and numeracy specialists ready for Term 3, 2014.	✓	25 specialist teachers have been recruited, undertaken training and commenced work (with year 6 and 8 students) at the start of Term 3, 21 July. Specialist teachers to begin work with year 7 and 9 students in February 2015.
Commence the development of a strategy for Tasmania to lead the nation in education by being at, or above, the national standard in every single NAPLAN measurement, and meet national benchmarks in reading, writing, maths and science.	✓	Work commenced on the strategy <i>Lift Education, Lift Tasmania</i> . The strategy includes: a review of the Education Act and new approaches to career education in schools and senior secondary course development. My Education to be introduced for year 10 students in Term 1, 2015. Legislation to amend the TQA Act by June 2015. Partnership with UTAS under negotiation in relation to lifting education outcomes in Tasmania using an evidence-based approach.
Ensure that from 2015, Tasmanian Teacher Assistants and school support staff have access to one week of extra hours during the school term.	✓	New arrangements to commence in 2015.

Working with the Minister for State Growth, progress a partnership with the Beacon Foundation to assist 1 500 extra students to continue on in education and training, or become job-ready.	✓	Deeds being finalised, for implementation in Term 1, 2015. Beacon working with each school as they extend to year 11/12 and contributing to the strategy to implement My Education.
Complete the interim report of the independent review of students with disabilities by June 2015, ready to inform service delivery by January 2016.	✓	Ministerial Taskforce formed and public consultation process underway. Public submissions called for, closing 19 December 2014.
Working with the Minister for Health, support the implementation of the new school nursing model.	✓	Project officer commenced on 1 July and is scoping the project and developing an implementation plan - 10 FTE nurses to start working in schools in 2015.
POLICE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Rebuild the police service through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recruiting 108 new police officers; - establishing a Serious and Organised Crime Squad (SOCS); and - establishing the Public Order Response Team. 	✓	A plan is in place to employ 108 new police officers and address the attrition rate over the forward estimates. 355 EOIs received since 8 September 2014 for positions in future courses. Three members have been appointed to SOCS. Two Police Academy trainee courses due to graduate in December 2014 and February 2015. Next course is due to commence March 2015.
Work with the Minister for Resources and the Minister for Environment, Parks and Heritage to deliver a fuel reduction strategy.	✓	Statewide bushfire risk assessment work completed and publically available. Fire Management Area Committees (FMAC) established and fire protection plans completed and being assessed by the State Fire Management Council (SFMC). DPIPWE and TFS preparing a project business plan. New Chair of SFMC appointed.
JUSTICE / CORRECTIONS	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Amend the <i>Corrections Act 1997</i> to provide for a Victims of Crime Representative on the Parole Board	✓	Amendments to the Act have been drafted and consultation will begin shortly.
Working with the Attorney-General, introduce legislation to establish mandatory sentences for assaults against police officers.	✓	The Bill is currently being debated in the Legislative Council.

Create a crime of 'Desecration of a War Memorial'	✓	<i>Criminal Code Amendment (Interference with War Memorials) Bill 2014</i> received Royal Assent on 11 September 2014.
Strengthen provisions that deal with the crime of bullying and cyber bullying.	✓	Issue has been referred to Tasmanian Law Reform Institute (TLRI). Awaiting report.
Establish a plan for the abolition of suspended sentences and their replacement by best-practice sentencing options, potentially including home or periodic detention, intensive supervision and therapeutic alternatives.	✓	Terms of Reference have been provided to the Sentencing Advisory Council (SAC). SAC to report by July 2015.
Implement an appropriate compulsory treatment program for sex offenders.	✓	Discussions with interested stakeholders has commenced on the implementation of the policy.
Work collaboratively with the Minister for Human Services, the Minister for Police and Emergency Management and the Minister for Education and Training on a statewide network of youth justice programs to break the cycle of youth crime.	✓	Funded in the Budget. Consultation with stakeholders is underway.
THE ARTS	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Establish a Memorandum of Understanding between the Tasmanian Creative Industries Council and the Tasmanian Government to support the development of a strategic plan for jobs growth in the creative industries.	✓	\$50,000 in 2014-15 Budget. The Tasmanian Creative Industries Council organisational structure is close to finalisation with an MOU to be negotiated.
Support the development of a Master Plan for the former Mercury building to be transformed into a Creative Industries Hub.	✓	Proponent no longer requires funding, the Government will continue to support the project wherever possible.
ENVIRONMENT, PARKS AND HERITAGE	Status	Milestones Achieved to date
Commence implementation of initiatives to make Tasmania's parks and reserves more inviting and more accessible, including upgrading the South Coast Track and completing the iconic Three Capes Track.	✓	\$2 million for South Coast track upgrade, \$70 000 to improve access to Dip Falls, and \$500 000 to repair bridges and reinstate vehicle access to Meander Falls provided in Budget. Stage 1 of the Three Capes track is completed (previous Government). Stage 2 (Cape Hauy to Port Arthur) is under development. EOI open for private investment in boat experience and public tender currently open for construction of remaining segments of Stage 2. EOI for private investment in fully guided walking tour has closed.

<p>Manage the expressions of interest process for development in the State's National Parks, including identifying qualified applicants to be invited to tender in stage two.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Full implementation documentation developed and launched 21 June 2014. EOI process closed, with 37 Expressions of Interest submitted. Assessment Panel to be established and high-level assessment of applications, with invitation to selected applicants to proceed to Stage 2</p>
<p>Reopening of tracks in the Arthur-Pieman Conservation Area.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Reinstated access for recreational vehicle use from Arthur River to Pieman River in a way that avoids significantly impacting on Aboriginal heritage. Provided \$300,000 to ensure sustainable and ongoing access and committed to further consultation as tracks are progressively reopened</p>
<p>Work with the Minister for Police and Emergency Management and the Minister for Resources to deliver a fuel reduction strategy.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Fuel reduction program underway for spring season with successful burns completed on public and private tenures ahead of the peak bushfire season. Work commenced on Fuel Reduction Plan which will underpin the Program and associated communications strategy. Fuel Reduction Unit established.</p>