



Australian
Institute of
Architects

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24 April 2025

Hon. Jeremy Rockliff MP
Premier
Hon. Guy Barnett MP
Deputy Premier and Treasurer
Shareholder Policy and Markets Branch
Department of Treasury and Finance
GPO Box 147
Hobart TAS 7001

By email to: governmentbusinesses@treasury.tas.gov.au

Re: Government Business Governance Reform

Dear Premier and Deputy Premier,

On behalf of the members of the Tasmanian Chapter of the Australian Institute of Architects (the Institute), we would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft Government Business Governance Reforms Bill 2025 (the Bill).

The Tasmanian Chapter has reviewed the draft Bill and the accompanying Fact Sheet and Notes on Clauses documents and is supportive of the draft Bill in accordance with the intent to improve the effectiveness and transparency of Tasmanian Government Business Enterprises (GBEs) and State-owned Companies (SOCs), and its incorporation of previously supplied industry feedback.

The Institute is appreciative of the clarity provided around the term limits for directors and suggests that there should be a mechanism by where the two-year terms are staggered to ensure continuity, i.e. to ensure that all appointments don't expire at the same time.

The Institute notes that the Bill includes the following reforms, as indicated in the Legislation Fact Sheet provided:

- Continuous disclosure obligations for SOC's and expanded continuous disclosure expectations for GBEs to include delivery of directions.
- A requirement for all Government businesses to publicly release a half-year progress report.

As such, the Institute would also like to comment on governance frameworks for GBEs and SOC. A framework for performance measures or key performance indicators should be required to be maintained on an ongoing basis, for the boards' own performance monitoring, and for reporting to the Government. While the Institute does recognise that processes are underway regarding reforms related to board performance, examples of these measures could include:

- attendance
- board composition including gender equity and diversity
- governance training and professional development
- annual board skills matrix reviews
- time taken to fill vacancies
- agenda planning
- declarations and conflicts requiring absents etc.
- board review of strategic plans
- board receiving report on performance against strategic plan
- board review of the risk register
- board requisitioned culture audits

The Tasmanian Chapter would like to thank you for inclusion in this important discussion and reform, that will provide benefits to all Tasmanians, ensuring that we have considered and efficient infrastructure and services well into the future. We look forward to continuing to work together to create a positive future for our state. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you would like to discuss this further.

Kind regards,



Daniel Lane
President, Tasmanian Chapter
Australian Institute of Architects



Jennifer Nichols
Executive Director, Tasmanian Chapter
Australian Institute of Architects

The Australian Institute of Architects (Institute) is the peak body for the architectural profession in Australia. It is an independent, national member organisation with over 13,500 members across Australia and overseas. The Institute exists to advance the interests of members, their professional standards and contemporary practice, and expand and advocate the value of architects and architecture to the sustainable growth of our communities, economy and culture. The Institute actively works to maintain and improve the quality of our built environment by promoting better, responsible and environmental design. To learn more about the Institute, log on to www.architecture.com.au.