

RESPONSE TO PETITION

Petition No. 4 of 2023 House of Assembly

The petitioners ask the House to:

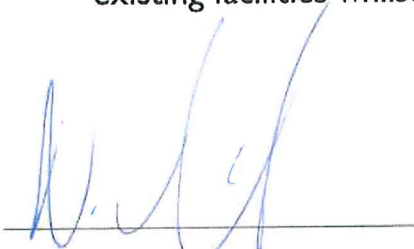
- confirm their commitment, including funding and timelines, for an additional six courts in Launceston; and
- invest in significant upgrades to increase court capacity at Elphin Sports Centre.

GOVERNMENT POSITION:

RESPONSE:

- The Tasmanian Government is a proud supporter of basketball in the State.
- We recognise the increasing popularity of basketball and are aware of the court shortage issues the sport across the State.
- As participation rates grow, there is demand for new or upgraded facilities and we need to plan for the future.
- While this includes building new sporting facilities, it also includes increasing access and better utilisation of existing facilities and the work on our Government's strategic directions is ongoing.
- In the North of State, we will ensure that the opportunities brought about by the Northern Suburbs Community Hub development in Mowbray are fully realised by committing \$27.5 million to the project over the next two years.
- This city-shaping facility will improve access to community, sport, and recreation infrastructure and programs in the northern suburbs as well as give locals a new facility they can be proud of.
- The Hub will include seven indoor courts, including three multi-use courts for Basketball, Volleyball and other sports, and four dedicated Netball courts.

- Early works on the Hub are expected to be underway in the coming months while work continues to finalise the design, with construction set to start in early 2024 and be finished by mid-2025.
- A new, indoor, multi-use sporting facility will also be developed as part of stage 3 of the UTAS Stadium redevelopment.
- In 2022, the Tasmania Government committed \$900,000 over two years to upgrade accessibility of the Elphin Sports Centre.
- Minister for Sport and Recreation, Nic Street, has instructed the Department of State Growth to investigate options at the Elphin Sports Centre with the aim of delivering more court usage.
- Minister Street has also met with the Launceston Basketball Association to discuss the need for additional courts in the Launceston area and will continue to work with them on finding ways to increase access to existing facilities whilst new infrastructure is being built.



Nic Street, MP
Minister for Sport and Recreation

Date: 8th August 2023