

RESPONSE TO PETITION

Petition No. 18 of 2025 House of Assembly

The petitioners ask the House to:

- Honour its commitment agreed to by the House of Assembly on 18 October 2023;
- determine and announce a site for a new facility by 31 December 2025; and
- provide the necessary funding and begin the build in 2026.

GOVERNMENT POSITION:

- In November 2024 the Tasmanian Government, through Cushman & Wakefield (transaction and infrastructure advisors) conducted an on-market Pre-Registration of Interest (ROI) process to gauge market appetite for the potential future development and operation of an ice rink in Greater Hobart.
- The ROI was conducted to better understand market interest for the development, investment and potential delivery of a new ice rink.
- ROI is not the commencement of a formal market process, rather a common strategy to test market appetite for participating in complex or niche transaction processes.
- The ROI have been considered alongside the Tasmanian Ice Rink Feasibility Study.
- The details of the report have been shared with Ice Sports Tasmania, and the Tasmanian Government is continuing to liaise with the organisation.
- There is no funding allocated in the 2025-26 State Budget for the construction of an ice sports facility.
- The Tasmanian Government provided \$30,000 in 2023-24 and 2024-25 to Ice Sports Tasmania to support competitive athletes and officials travel interstate for training and competition.
- The current deed with Ice Sports Tasmania provides funding for activities from 1 July 2025 until 30 June 2026.

RESPONSE:

The Tasmanian Government recognises the importance of ice sports to the community and the role they play in providing recreational and competitive opportunities for Tasmanians. In November and December 2024, the government conducted a market Registration of Interest (ROI) process to better understand the level of interest from experienced parties in developing, investing in, and delivering a new ice sports facility in Tasmania.

The findings of this ROI have been considered alongside the Tasmanian Ice Rink Feasibility Study. The ROI report has been shared with Ice Sports Tasmania, and the government continues to liaise with the organisation as part of its ongoing engagement.

At this stage, no funding has been allocated in the 2025-26 State Budget for the construction of an ice sports facility.

The government has, however, provided support to Ice Sports Tasmania through funding of \$30,000 in both 2023-24 and 2024-25 to assist competitive athletes and officials with interstate travel for training and competition. The current funding deed with Ice Sports Tasmania provides for activities from 1 July 2025 until 30 June 2026.

The government remains committed to supporting ice sports in Tasmania and will continue to work with Ice Sports Tasmania to explore participation in a sustainable manner.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G Pearce'.

Hon Gavin Pearce MP

Acting for and on behalf of Minister for Sport

Date: 16/3/26