

8 November 2024

Claire Hynes
Acting Executive Commissioner
Tasmanian Planning Commission
Level 3, 144 Macquarie Street
Hobart TAS 7001

Via email: tpc@planning.tas.gov.au

Dear Claire

The University of Tasmania (University) thanks the Tasmanian Planning Commission for the opportunity to review and comment on the second stage of the Macquarie Point Multipurpose Stadium Project of State Significance Integrated Assessment.

The University's Plan for our Southern Campus Sites

As the Northern Transformation project has been reaching its conclusion, the University has been continuing the work of mapping a future direction for our campuses in the South. Our Council has reflected over an extended period of time on important matters including the educational needs of Tasmania, staff and student requirements, community feedback, the major new policy and funding directions for higher education set by the Federal Government, the State Government's legislation and stated desire to see STEM remain at Sandy Bay, and the City of Hobart's planning directions. With those factors in mind, we have formed a plan for the South.

Our plan, which is contingent on securing support and significant government funding, is for a Hobart presence with four campus sites providing students with experiences built around the best the city has to offer. These sites would be a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Campus at Sandy Bay, a City Campus that incorporates our existing medical sciences and creative arts teaching, learning and research spaces, and the Forestry building for business and economics, and humanities and social sciences, a Historic Campus on the Domain, and a Waterfront Campus comprising the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies facilities at Salamanca and Taroona.

Collaborative Success in Higher Education

The Northern Transformation Project has been recognised by all levels of government as a significant success and a driver of economic growth and improved educational

outcomes in North and Northwestern Tasmania. The opening of The Shed on our Inveresk Campus marked the culmination of a decade of collaboration, planning and investment in higher education, delivered in partnership with all levels of government. Thanks to this partnership and the hard work of an enormous number of people, the North and North-West of Tasmania can now access some of the best university facilities in the country.

Our University has gained valuable insights from the Northern Transformation Project, and the redevelopment of the Phillip Smith Building and ongoing redevelopment of the Forestry Building. These include community engagement, stakeholder management, urban integration of development into cities, sustainability, industry collaboration and project management.

Response to Integrated Assessment Consultation Request

As outlined in the University's letter to the Tasmanian Planning Commission on 12 December 2023, given the close proximity of the proposed stadium to University buildings including the Hedberg, the Arts precinct at Hunter Street and the Medical Sciences Precinct, the University would appreciate the opportunity to be consulted throughout the project on matters related to the impact of any works, including pile driving, on our nearby buildings and equipment, what mitigation measures will be implemented to ensure that airborne contaminants are managed in a safe way given the site's proximity to other buildings, the impact of noise and construction for the delivery of education in the vicinity, and traffic management during construction.

The findings of the proponent's reports detail impacts to the University owing primarily to the University's proximity to the development, and the scale of the development. These impacts, if unmanaged, may interrupt the University's operations and impact student and staff experience. With the insights the University has accrued from its recent projects, there is a productive opportunity for the University to work with the proponent and future operator to strategically timetable University activities to mitigate the impact of these findings. For example:

- **Appendix Q "Noise and Vibration Assessment"** shows the University of Tasmania School of Creative Arts and Media has the highest potential predicted noise level for mid-intensity and potential worst case scenario concerts, the PA system, game sirens and crowd noise. The University manages its campus at Inveresk which shares a precinct with UTAS stadium where AFL and Big Bash cricket events are featured, and other concert events have been held in the precinct. With appropriate working groups, communication and structures in place, the University can plan its timetabling and communications with students and staff to minimise disruption around these events.
- **Appendix AA "Construction Management Plan"** describes construction site routes that show the proposed ingress and egress to the site, and traffic control systems, which will certainly impact and change patterns of University community

member's use of both the School of Creative Arts and the University's Historic Capus at the Domain. The University has experience with communication management plans for site access points and road closures to minimise disruption and help the community and students plan accordingly.

The University views itself as a key stakeholder in the proposed development and wishes to be a close part of the process throughout the approvals and, if the development is approved, for it to be included in any stakeholder working groups and other forums during the development itself in order to work cooperatively with the developer and all other stakeholders to achieve the best possible outcomes for the Tasmanian community, which includes University students and staff.

We look forward to hearing if the Tasmanian Planning Commission wish to request the University participate further in the integrated assessment including during the Section 22 consultation.

Kind regards



Professor Nicholas Farrelly
Pro Vice-Chancellor - Campus Life (Southern Tasmania)