
Cabinet Minute

1. Purpose

1.1. To seek Cabinet approval for the implementation of the Tasmanian Youth Employment Initiative.

1.2. To outline the proposed actions, funding requirements and expected outcomes of the Initiative.

2. Recommendations

I recommend that Cabinet:

2.1. Approve the implementation of the Tasmanian Youth Employment Initiative;

2.2. Agree to allocate \$2 million over two years to support program delivery;

2.3. Note that the Department of State Growth will lead the implementation in partnership with local councils and industry groups; and

2.4. Agree that a progress report will be provided to Cabinet in 12 months.

3. Background

3.1. Youth unemployment in Tasmania is currently 2% higher than the national average, with regional areas most affected.

3.2. In 2024, the Government committed to improving employment outcomes for young Tasmanians through targeted training, job placement, and support services.

3.3. Consultation has been undertaken with industry stakeholders, local councils, and youth advocacy groups to identify local needs and opportunities.

4. Issues and supporting information

4.1. The Initiative will deliver training and job placements for up to 500 young Tasmanians aged 16–24.

4.2. Industry participation is critical — partnerships with local businesses will be formalised through Memoranda of Understanding.

4.3. Risks include low employer uptake and retention of participants; these will be mitigated by providing incentives to employers and wraparound support for participants

4.4. Monitoring and evaluation will be built into the program, with quarterly progress tracking and annual reporting.

5. Options

5.1. Proceed with the Tasmanian Youth Employment Initiative as proposed, with dedicated funding and a clear implementation plan.

5.2. Defer implementation and undertake further consultation with industry stakeholders, noting this would delay outcomes by up to 12 months.

5.3. Do not proceed — this would limit progress towards the Government's youth employment targets.

6. Annexe statements:

6.1. Financial impact statement:

6.1.1. Total cost: \$2 million over two years.

6.1.2. Funding to be absorbed within the Department of State Growth's existing forward estimates.

6.1.3. No additional staffing costs — existing resources will be reallocated where required.

6.1.4. See attachment 4 - Financial impact statement

6.2. Economic and employment impact statement:

6.2.1. Expected to reduce youth unemployment by up to 1% in participating regions.

6.2.2. Increased workforce participation will contribute to local economic growth.

6.2.3. Stronger regional economies through local job creation and retention.

6.3. Social/community impact statement:

6.3.1. Supports disengaged youth to transition into training and employment.

6.3.2. Contributes to improved mental health, wellbeing, and community cohesion.

6.3.3. Encourages young people to remain in, or return to, regional communities.

6.4. Legislative and regulatory impact statement:

6.4.1. There are no legislative or regulatory impacts.

6.5. Intergovernmental impact statement:

6.5.1. No direct intergovernmental impacts.

6.5.2. Initiative complements existing Commonwealth youth employment programs.

6.6. Community consultation and communications strategy:

6.6.1. Stakeholders consulted include industry groups, local councils, community organisations, and youth advocacy bodies.

6.6.2. Communications strategy to include promotion through schools, community centres, and social media.

6.6.3. Ongoing stakeholder engagement through a dedicated reference group.

6.7. Prior consultation statement:

6.7.1. The Departments of Education, Children and Young People (DECYP), State Growth (DSG), and Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) have been consulted during development.

6.7.2. Industry representatives and Local Government Association of Tasmania have been briefed and are supportive of the initiative.

6.8. Tasmanian brand statement:

6.8.1. Enhances Tasmania's reputation as a supportive place for young people to live, work and build a future.

6.8.2. Promotes local opportunities and community-driven economic development.

6.9. National agreement on closing the gap statement:

6.9.1. Supports Closing the Gap employment targets for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth.

6.9.2. Culturally appropriate pathways will be co-designed with Aboriginal community organisations.

7. Other attachments

Attachment 1 - Draft Implementation Plan

Attachment 2 - Stakeholder Consultation Summary

Attachment 3 - Risk Management Plan

Attachment 4 - Financial Impact Statement

John Smith

John Smith

Minister for Portfolio

Date signed: Tuesday, 16 April 2024

EXAMPLE