

Routine Disclosure – Legal fees incurred by Ministers and Members of Parliament

Public Officers, including Ministers and Members of Government lawfully acting on behalf of the Crown, are involved in all types of work across a range of public services such as government administration, law, health, education, justice and the environment. From time to time, they may be the subject of legal proceedings or inquiries or investigations because of incidents and/or actions that arise in relation to their work.

Providing legal assistance and indemnity is essential to the protection of the Crown's interest and the fair treatment of public officers.

Public Officers should be supported where they are involved in legal proceedings, inquiries or investigations because of acts or omissions done in good faith in the course of public employment, office or official duties.

Decisions about the granting of indemnity and the payment of legal fees for Ministers or Members of Government lawfully acting on behalf of the Crown can be made by Cabinet, a panel as described in section 3.4 of the *Policy and Guidelines for the Grant of Indemnities and Legal Assistance to Public Officers of the State of Tasmania 2021* or in limited, minor matters, the Premier.

Different types of legal matters may be subject to the imposition of legal restrictions on the publication of information relating to a matter. This includes restrictions imposed by a Court such as suppression orders or non-publication orders or restrictions imposed by statute. Disclosure may be limited by reason of an order or other legal restriction.

Restrictions may be time-limited, allowing a disclosure to be updated if a restriction is lifted.

This disclosure includes all matters involving current Ministers and Members of the Government who have received approval for legal fees and indemnity from 1 July 2026 or where the matter has been approved prior to 1 July 2026 but remains ongoing. This disclosure is updated in real time, either following a payment or where a new approval has been determined.

Person Indemnified	Decision made by	Was the minister/ member absent for decision	Date indemnity granted	Amount indemnified for (additive)	Expenditure to date (excl GST)	Legal restrictions (Suppression, non-publication or confidentiality restriction)	Matter type (Legal proceeding, inquiries, investigations)	Status of matter (if known)	Date Table Last Updated
Ms Jane Howlett MP	Cabinet	Yes	01.08.2023	Reasonable costs	\$ 391 635	Yes	Legal proceedings	Ongoing	20.08.2026
			20.11.2023	Reasonable costs					
			09.06.2025	+\$200 000					
			15.6.2026	+\$63 000					
Ms Madeleine Ogilvie MP	Cabinet	Yes	23.01.2024	\$20 000	\$120 494	Yes	Legal proceedings	Ongoing	20.08.2026
			30.9.2024	-					
			09.06.2025	+\$100 000					
Mr Mark Shelton MP	Cabinet	Yes	23.01.2024	\$20 000	\$15 048	Yes	Legal advice	Ongoing	20.08.2026
			30.09.2024	-					