



Jeremy Rockliff

Liberal Member for **Braddon**
Premier of **Tasmania**



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Duncan Spender
Chief Executive Officer
Oysters Tasmania
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Dear Mr Spender

Thank you for the opportunity to reply to Oysters Tasmania's (OTs) election submission. I am pleased to respond on behalf of all Liberal Members and Candidates.

Firstly, I would like to thank you and OT for the important work you do in representing the interests of Tasmania's Oyster Industry. The industry is so important to our regional economies and our way of life, and the Liberals will always back it in.

Over the last ten years, the Tasmanian Liberal Governments has supported the industry through providing:

- Nearly \$8 million to support industry in managing the effects of Pacific Oyster Mortality Syndrome (POMS) on their business, providing fee relief, concessional loans and funding to assist important selective breeding research.
- Over \$1.8 million in additional funding to offset the costs of the ShellMAP program, support its implementation and assist in the establishment of a real time monitoring network.

We have also invested \$1.2 million in the establishment of a biotoxin testing laboratory to support shellfish growers and the broader seafood industry to uphold seafood safety and product integrity.

Under our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future, a re-elected majority Liberal Government will build on these commitments, by continuing to work with the whole seafood industry to assess options for implementation of an integrated biotoxin monitoring program and we will provide \$110,000 to offset sampling costs while this work is undertaken. We will:

- Provide \$200,000 over the next two years to fund the continued employment of an industry development officer to provide the important extension services needed to enhance delivery of ShellMAP.
- Extend funding for the Stay Afloat Program providing \$120,000 a year for a further two years beyond the existing budget allocation, to support the seafood industry, their families and our communities.

Another important part of our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future is to back our small businesses so they have the confidence to grow, invest and create jobs. This includes:

Jeremy Rockliff MP | Liberal Member for Braddon, Premier of Tasmania

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- Energy audits for up to \$1000 per small business with interest-free loans for upgrades through the Energy Saver Loan Scheme,
- Single form tendering for small business tenders under \$250,000.
- Small business grants up to \$10,000 for equipment and capital upgrades with a 30 per cent co-contribution from business.

A re-elected majority Liberal Government will also provide a Renewable Energy Dividend to deliver a one-off \$300 special dividend to Tasmanian small businesses.

Once again thank you for making a submission and I look forward to continuing to work with you and Oysters Tasmania after the election.

For more information on our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future and our Strong Plan for Health please visit <https://tas.liberal.org.au/our-plan>.

Yours sincerely



Jeremy Rockliff MP
Premier