

ABC MORNINGS RADIO TRANSCRIPT

Thursday, 8 MAY 2025

Re: MACQUARIE POINT STADIUM

PRESENTER: LEON COMPTON

SPEAKER: MEG WEBB MLC Independent Member for Nelson

L. COMPTON: Lots of people texting in this morning on *Mornings* around Tasmania. Meg Webb's the Independent Member for Nelson. Meg Webb, good morning to you.

M. WEBB: Good morning, Leon, and good morning, listeners.

L. COMPTON: Was it clear to you that \$375 million and not a red cent more also meant at the same time not including borrowings to the state?

M. WEBB: I think we're all finding that to be a very disingenuous position for the government to take now. What an extraordinary claim to think that we didn't understand that to mean \$375 million and not a red cent more. Of course, they didn't make it clear that there were borrowings involved in that. So it's just another unfortunate, misleading position for the government to take, where they're just stumbling from one awkward kind of position to the next, trying to cover their tracks from what was originally an absolutely misguided decision by the Premier.

L. COMPTON: On *Mornings* around Tasmania, Meg Webb, assuming you're returned in the upcoming Legislative Council elections, what do you want to see in enabling legislation? What will you need to see in enabling legislation for the stadium?

M. WEBB: We absolutely should be sticking with the POSS process, Leon. We shouldn't be having enabling legislation because to cut the POSS process off now means we won't have the expert advice of the Planning Commission's panel. And that's what's needed to inform a responsible decision. So I'm fascinated to see what the government proposes to bring in legislation that

somehow will mean that we as parliamentarians don't need to have expert advice provided to us. How ridiculous. What a silly position to put us in, an irresponsible position. This is the government's problem, Leon. It's the Premier's problem. He signed us up to a problematic deal that should never have gone through without being consulted with the Tasmanian people, let alone the parliament. And if we lose the team because of this, it is squarely on the Premier that that responsibility will lie. And, if the High Performance Centre is put in jeopardy because the Premier signed us up to an unrealistic deal, that's on his head. I absolutely support a High Performance Centre in Kingston. I've welcomed it from the start when it was announced. And I absolutely want to see that go ahead as well as our team. The team is a fantastic outcome. The Premier has put it in doubt, and it would be a reputational risk for the AFL to take it away from us at this point.

L. COMPTON: Meg Webb, I look forward to having you back on *Mornings* and I am mindful of the fact that we are in the throes of a Legislative Council election campaign. I look forward to having you back along with Marcus Vermey and the Greens candidate in the lead up to the Legislative Council election, so we can understand it, our audience in Nelson can understand your perspectives on this, compare them, contrast them, and think about how they'll vote in one of the 15 Legislative Council seats, or rather one of the three of the 15 Legislative Council seats that are up for election in a couple of weeks' time. Thanks for talking with us this morning. Meg Webb, Independent MLC for Nelson.

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