



Community & Public Sector Union

(State Public Services Federation Tasmania) Inc.

Media Release

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Spending Decisions End Premier's GST Excuse.

The Community & Public Sector Union has today released a summary of the Tasmanian government's spending decisions since the 2009-10 Budget that shows the Premier's excuse that our budget crisis is caused by falling GST revenue alone just doesn't hold water.

Official Treasury documents show that in the 24 months since the government was aware that its 2008-09 predictions for GST revenue were wildly optimistic it has made \$774.3M worth of spending decisions. In the 2010 election alone the government made almost \$475M in promises. While some of these decision were reversed in the 2010-11 Mid-Year Financial Report (\$89.2M) a further \$85.6M in new commitments were made in the 2011-12 Budget.

"The Premier can no longer blame a reduction in GST revenue for the cuts she is making to basic services. The figures show clearly that new spending decisions taken since the GST shortfall was known exceed the savings she will make by cutting services by over \$200M across the forward estimates," said CPSU General Secretary Tom Lynch.

The table of spending decisions include cuts to land tax of \$177M, a reduction in tax rates for betting agency Betfair of \$24M, funding for the Three Peaks Track of \$12.8M and support for the Parliament Square development of \$24M. It also details hundreds of smaller spending decisions that together add up to millions.

"The government want Tasmanians to believe it had no choice other than to cut services like elective surgery but this information shows it had choices but was operating to a different set of priorities," said Mr. Lynch.

"We are not saying all of these decisions are without merit, in fact many are extremely worthwhile, but knowing now that funding sporting events and arts festivals would means there is no money left for basic services puts these decisions in a different light. It's time for the Premier to acknowledge she has taken the wrong path and find another way forward that avoids cuts to core services," said Mr. Lynch.

Tom Lynch will be available for comment at the CPSU, 157 Collins Street at 1:00pm or contact him 0418 412 766

**Government Spending Decisions After GST Revenue Forecasts
Were Reduced in 2009-10 Budget**

Government Expenditure Decision	Source	2010-11 (\$M)	2011-12 (\$M)	2012-13 (\$M)	2013-14 (\$M)
Land Tax Reform	Election promise	\$ 28.1	\$ 28.9	\$ 29.6	\$ 30.4
Agri-Business Support	Election promise	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0
Cycleway Development Fund	Election promise	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5
Edge Radio	Election promise	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Events Attraction Program*	Election promise	\$ 0.7	\$ 1.5	\$ 1.5	\$ 1.5
Football Development & Governing Bodies	Election promise		\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2
Gas to Ulverstone	Election promise	\$ 3.0			
Heritage Rail	Election promise	\$ 0.1			
Digital Pavilion Experience Centre*	Election promise	\$ 0.5			
Extended Wireless Waterfront Initiative*	Election promise	\$ 0.4			
SmartGrid Trial*	Election promise	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5		
Digital Futures Development Fund	Election promise	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5		
Imaginarium	Election promise	\$ 0.4			
International & National Arts Events Program	Election promise	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3
Kingston Twin Ovals	Election promise	\$ 1.6			
Latrobe Speedway	Election promise	\$ 0.1			
MONA FOMA	Election promise	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.4
Netball Boost	Election promise	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	
Renewable Energy Loan Fund*	Election promise	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0
Soundscape Festival	Election promise	\$ 0.1			
Sporting Infrastructure for Southern Tasmania	Election promise	\$ 1.2			
Strengthening the Economy	Election promise	\$ 1.4	\$ 1.9		
Surf Lifesaving Tasmania	Election promise	\$ 2.4			
TMAG Acquisition Fund	Election promise	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Tourism Destination Marketing	Election promise	\$ 5.0	\$ 5.0	\$ 5.0	\$ 5.0
Lake Margaret Tourism Feasibility Study	Election promise	\$ 0.3			
Rosebery Sports Stadium	Election promise	\$ 0.1			
Western Tasmania Industry Corridor Study	Election promise	\$ 0.3			
Aurora NBN Skills Centre	Election promise	\$ 0.5			
Bicheno Child Care Centre	Election promise	\$ 0.5			
Child and Family Centre Co-ordinators	Election promise	\$ 0.5	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0
Breakfast Program	Election promise	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
IT Connected Classrooms*	Election promise		\$ 1.0		
Innovative Education	Election promise	\$ 0.5	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.6
Raising the Bar & Closing the Gap	Election promise	\$ 1.0	\$ 3.0	\$ 3.0	\$ 3.0
Safe and Secure Schools	Election promise	\$ 0.5	\$ 1.5	\$ 2.0	\$ 2.0
School Sports Associations	Election promise	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Launceston Flood Protection	Election promise	\$ 5.8	\$ 5.8		
A-Team DHHS	Election promise	\$ 0.1			
Autism Specialist Expertise & Early Diagnosis	Election promise	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3
Child Health Checks	Election promise	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5
Community Equipment Fund	Election promise	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0
Disability Gateway	Election promise	\$ 2.6	\$ 2.0	\$ 2.0	\$ 2.0
Disability Reform Transition	Election promise	\$ 2.5	\$ 5.1		

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Elder Abuse Strategy	Election promise	\$ 0.7	\$ 0.7	\$ 0.7	\$ 0.7
Electricity Price Concession	Election promise	\$ 7.9			
Helicopter Emergency Medical Services*	Election promise	\$ 1.1	\$ 6.8	\$ 11.4	\$ 11.7
Virtual In-home Health Demonstration*	Election promise	\$ 1.0			
Palliative Care	Election promise	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.8	\$ 1.0
Additional Staffing LGH	Election promise	\$ 5.0	\$ 10.0	\$ 20.0	\$ 26.0
Strengthening Community Services	Election promise	\$ 0.9	\$ 0.8	\$ 0.8	\$ 0.8
West Coast Health Initiatives	Election promise	\$ 0.7	\$ 0.7	\$ 0.7	\$ 0.3
Alcohol Interlocks	Election promise	\$ 0.4			
Business Case for Light Rail	Election promise	\$ 0.4			
Flinders Island Port	Election promise	\$ 0.6	\$ 1.0		
Forestry Industry Plan	Election promise	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0		
Oil Price Vulnerability Study	Election promise	\$ 0.3			
Passenger Transport Innovation Program	Election promise	\$ 3.5	\$ 3.5		
Promoting Tasmanian Timber	Election promise	\$ 1.8	\$ 1.8		
Renewable Energy - King & Flinders Islands	Election promise	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3
Mine Marketing	Election promise	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Geosciences Project	Election promise		\$ 0.3	\$ 0.6	\$ 0.6
Carp Eradication	Election promise	\$ 0.4			
Asbestos Unit	Election promise	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2
Legal Aid	Election promise	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2
Bicheno Jetty	Election promise	\$ 0.5			
Swansea Jetty	Election promise	\$ 0.1			
Police Connectivity	Election promise	\$ 2.2	\$ 2.0	\$ 1.4	\$ 0.9
Unions Tasmania	Election promise	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Cost of Living Strategy	Election promise	\$ 0.1			
Forest Carbon strategy	Election promise	\$ 0.3			
Graduate Program for People With Disabilities	Election promise	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1		
Korean Church	Election promise	\$ 0.2			
Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, TG & Intersex Tas.	Election promise	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	
Men's Sheds	Election promise	\$ 0.1			
Migrant Resource Centre	Election promise	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Premier's Sundry Grants	Election promise	\$ 1.1			
Railton Streetscape	Election promise	\$ 0.3			
Recognising the Contribution of Veterans	Election promise	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Smithton Christian Fellowship Drop-in Centre	Election promise	\$ 0.1			
Supporting Multicultural Tasmania	Election promise	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Detention River Erosion	Election promise	\$ 0.1			
Water Monitoring - EPA	Election promise	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Ida Bay Railway	Election promise	\$ 0.2			
Leven Canyon Observation Deck	Election promise	\$ 0.1			
Parks and Wildlife Service	Election promise	\$ 4.0	\$ 4.0	\$ 4.0	\$ 4.0
Tamar Estuary & Esk River Program	Election promise	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.4
Tamar River Catchment Study	Election promise	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3		

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Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers	Election promise	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1		
Water Initiative	Election promise	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0
Bridgewater Learn to Swim Pool	Election promise		\$ 3.0		
Campbelltown Child Care Centre	Election promise	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.8		
Cosgrove Specialist Sports School*	Election promise	\$ 1.0	\$ 9.0	\$ 8.0	
Triabunna District High School	Election promise	\$ 0.1			
Port Sorell Primary School	Election promise	\$ 0.5	\$ 2.5	\$ 7.0	\$ 3.0
Car Parking NWRH	Election promise	\$ 1.0	\$ 4.5		
State-wide Cancer Services	Election promise	\$ 0.8	\$ 6.3	\$ 7.3	\$ 4.4
Three Capes Track	Election promise	\$ 0.4	\$ 2.2	\$ 8.1	\$ 2.1
Betfair Memorandum of Understanding	2010-11 Budget	\$ 5.3	\$ 5.1	\$ 6.7	\$ 7.0
Shack Sites - Lease Fee Reduction	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3
Disability Arts funding	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3
Excelior Call Centre	2010-11 Budget	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.1	\$ 0.5	
Falls Music & Arts Festival	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1		
Vodafone - Industry Assistance	2010-11 Budget	\$ 1.1	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5
McCain Community Taskforce Priorities	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1		
North-West Assistance Package	2010-11 Budget	\$ 2.2			
Sports Carnival Association of Tasmania	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2
Sports Grants Funding	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3
Road Safety Initiative - Education	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Adult Literacy Action Plan	2010-11 Budget	\$ 2.4	\$ 2.8	\$ 2.9	\$ 2.9
Capital for Tasmanian Racing	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.8	\$ 2.1	\$ 2.5
First Home Buyers Land Tax Rebate	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.6	\$ 0.6	\$ 0.6	\$ 0.6
Infrastructure Investment Project Planning	2010-11 Budget	\$ 1.0	\$ 1.5	\$ 2.0	\$ 2.0
Land Tax Reform Rebate	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.7			
Parliament Square Project Costs	2010-11 Budget	\$ -	\$ 3.0	\$ 19.0	\$ 2.0
SFC - Community Protection Plans	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.3	
Water & Sewerage CSO	2010-11 Budget	\$ 6.5	\$ 6.8	\$ 7.2	\$ 7.5
Water and Sewerage Corporations 5% Cap*	2010-11 Budget	\$ 19.0	\$ 31.3		
Aurora CSO	2010-11 Budget	\$ 2.1	\$ 2.7	\$ 3.4	\$ 3.7
Birralee Main Road	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.5			
Formby Road Redevelopment	2010-11 Budget	\$ 2.0			
Metro Park and Ride	2010-11 Budget	\$ 4.0	\$ 4.0	\$ 4.0	\$ 4.0
Road Planning Allocation	2010-11 Budget	\$ 1.5	\$ 1.5	\$ 1.5	\$ 1.5
Road Safety Initiative - DIER	2010-11 Budget	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.2	\$ 1.2	\$ 1.2
Integrity Commission Establishment	2010-11 Budget	\$ 2.8	\$ 2.8	\$ 2.8	\$ 2.8
Community Corrections	2010-11 Budget	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.1	\$ 1.1
New Magistrate NW	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.5
Road Safety Initiative - Justice	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.6	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5
Additional Funding for Ministerial Resources*	2010-11 Budget	\$ 1.5	\$ 1.5	\$ 1.5	\$ 1.5
Director of Public Prosecutions	2010-11 Budget	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.6
Ombudsman	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.3
Police Equipment Upgrades	2010-11 Budget	\$ 2.1	\$ 0.8	\$ 1.2	\$ 0.4

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Assault Prevention	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.1			
Road Safety Initiatives - Police	2010-11 Budget	\$ 1.7	\$ 1.4	\$ 1.4	\$ 1.4
Parliamentary Counsel	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3
Climate Adaption Unit	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.5
Food Security Council	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.5			
IT Transformation	2010-11 Budget	\$ 2.3	\$ 3.8	\$ 2.3	
Ministerial Network	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2
Senior Executive Leadership Program	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 0.2
Social Inclusion	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.5			
Government Concessions Guide	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Government Presence at Agricultural Shows	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Tasmania Together 10yr Review	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.2			
Bushfire Preparedness	2010-11 Budget	\$ 1.4	\$ 1.4	\$ 1.4	\$ 1.4
Community Protection Plans	2010-11 Budget	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Valuer-General Land Tax Reform	2010-11 Budget	\$ 1.5	\$ 1.5	\$ 4.0	\$ 4.0
School Amalgamations	2010-11 Budget	\$ 20.1			
Sullivan's Cove Master Plan	2010-11 MYFR	\$ 0.7	\$ 1.4	\$ 0.2	
Additional House of Assembly Members	2010-11 MYFR				\$ 1.0
Water and Sewerage Corporations 5% Cap*	2010-11 MYFR		-\$ 31.3		
Cosgrove Specialist Sports School*	2010-11 MYFR	-\$ 1.0	-\$ 9.0	-\$ 8.0	
Digital Pavilion Experience Centre*	2010-11 MYFR	-\$ 0.5			
Events Attraction Program*	2010-11 MYFR		-\$ 0.8	-\$ 1.5	-\$ 1.5
Extended Wireless Waterfront Initiative*	2010-11 MYFR	-\$ 0.4			
Renewable Energy Load Fund*	2010-11 MYFR	-\$ 0.5	-\$ 0.5	-\$ 0.5	-\$ 0.5
SmartGrid Trial*	2010-11 MYFR	-\$ 0.5	-\$ 0.5		
Connected Classrooms*	2010-11 MYFR		-\$ 1.0		
Helicopter Emergency Medical Services*	2010-11 MYFR	-\$ 1.1	-\$ 6.8	-\$ 11.4	-\$ 11.7
Virtual In-home Health Demonstration*	2010-11 MYFR	-\$ 1.0			
Ministerial Restructure*	2010-11 MYFR		-\$ 0.5	-\$ 1.0	-\$ 1.0
Bass Strait Interconnector Feasibility Study	2011-12 Budget	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3		
Hospitality Industry Training Program	2011-12 Budget		\$ 0.1		
Longford Bowls Club	2011-12 Budget		\$ 0.1		
Menzies Centre Redevelopment	2011-12 Budget		\$ 5.0	\$ 10.0	
Mersey Aquatic Centre	2011-12 Budget		\$ 2.5	\$ 2.5	
Hawthorn Football Deal	2011-12 Budget		\$ 3.1	\$ 4.0	\$ 4.2
Tasmanian ICT Centre	2011-12 Budget		\$ 0.6	\$ 0.6	
Payroll Tax Rebate	2011-12 Budget		\$ 1.6	\$ 2.7	\$ 1.2
Strategic Review of Forestry Tasmania	2011-12 Budget		\$ 0.5		
Water and Sewerage Corporations Payment	2011-12 Budget		\$ 4.9	\$ 3.4	\$ 1.9
Energy Efficiency DHHS	2011-12 Budget		\$ 1.0	\$ 2.5	\$ 2.5
Neighbourhood Houses	2011-12 Budget		\$ 0.8	\$ 0.8	\$ 0.8
Joint Standing Committee on Integrity	2011-12 Budget	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Georail Feasibility Study	2011-12 Budget		\$ 0.1		
Intelligent Access Project	2011-12 Budget	\$ 0.8			

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Midland Highway Improvement Project	2011-12 Budget		\$ 1.2		
Road Safety Initiative	2011-12 Budget		\$ 1.3	\$ 3.9	\$ 5.1
Planning Reform Initiative	2011-12 Budget		\$ 1.5	\$ 1.6	\$ 1.5
Worker Assist Initiative	2011-12 Budget		\$ 0.1		
Support for Legislative Council Committees	2011-12 Budget		\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3	\$ 0.3
Electricity Supply Expert Panel Review	2011-12 Budget	\$ 1.0	\$ 2.0		
Emergency Relief & Lower Cost of Living	2011-12 Budget		\$ 1.0	\$ 1.0	
Risdon Prison Inquiry	2011-12 Budget	\$ 0.5			
Mersey-Leven Aboriginal Corporation Grant	2011-12 Budget	\$ 1.0			
Queensland Flood Appeal	2011-12 Budget	\$ 0.3			
Aboriginal Heritage Legislation Review project	2011-12 Budget		\$ 0.1		
World Heritage Feasibility Study	2011-12 Budget		\$ 0.2		
Cascade Female Factory	2011-12 Budget	\$ 0.6	\$ 0.5	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.4
Support for LandCare	2011-12 Budget		\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.1
Annual Government Spending Decisions		\$ 203.2	\$ 193.0	\$ 209.8	\$ 168.3
Annual Agency Budget Cuts (2011-12 Budget)		\$ -	\$ 152.5	\$ 194.7	\$ 221.3
Total Government Spending Decisions 2010 - 14	\$	774.3			
Total Agency Budget Cuts 2010 - 14	\$	568.5			

References:

Election Promise - Table 4.10 2010-11 Tasmanian Budget, page 4.30

2010-11 Budget - Table 4.10 2010-11 Tasmanian Budget, page 4.30

2010-11 MYFR - Table 3.2 Mid-Year Financial Report, page 268

2011-12 Budget - Table 6.5 2010-11 Tasmanian Budget, page 6.8