7 June 2026

The Hon. Jeremy Rockliff MP
Premier of Tasmania
Level 11, 10 Murray Street
HOBART TAS 7000

Dear Premier,

Re: Ministerial accountability — former Minister Ogilvie misleading

We write jointly, as members of the crossbench, regarding matters arising from the resignation of former Minister, Madeleine Ogilvie.

With Ms Ogilvie having been exposed for misleading Parliament and subsequently resigning as Minister, there are a number of critical questions you have been asked, but have not answered, about your involvement in, and knowledge of, this matter.

There is no satisfactory explanation for your repeated refusal to answer straightforward questions during Budget Estimates hearings in the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council this week. Your non-answers have shown profound disrespect to the Parliament, and the Tasmanian people.

Despite the determination you and your ministers have shown to stonewall questions, we have established some basic facts. These include:

- In a Budget Estimates hearing in November 2025, Ms Ogilvie stated she had not been a party to any Supreme Court matter. That statement was false. Ms Ogilvie has since conceded she was a party to an action she herself initiated.
- Approximately $120,000 in taxpayer funds was spent on Ms Ogilvie's legal fees between 2023 and 2025.
- The guidelines for the provision of taxpayer funds for legal fees require the public officer (in this case Ms Ogilvie) to notify the Relevant Responsible Officer (in this case you as Premier) of legal proceedings they are involved in.
- You have confirmed on multiple occasions that these guidelines were followed, meaning that Ms Ogilvie did notify you of her Supreme Court matter as required.
- The decision to approve expenditure on legal fees of this magnitude rests with Cabinet.

Given these facts, it is our contention that you and members of Cabinet were in a position to know that Ms Ogilvie had misled Parliament prior to the matter being raised in Parliament in May. This raises a serious question of integrity well beyond the actions of the former Minister herself.

Further, we contend that once this matter was raised in Question Time on 21 May, you – and likely your Cabinet colleagues – must have been aware that Ms Ogilvie had misled Parliament. Despite this, you did not act at that time. This is a clear failure of your duties under the Ministerial Code of Conduct, and of basic integrity standards.

Given the serious nature of these concerns, we cannot allow your refusals to answer questions on this matter in Budget Estimates to stand. As such, we have provided a list of questions that we ask that you answer.

To be clear, we are not asking you to disclose the substance of the legal proceedings, the parties to them, or any matter subject to the suppression order of the Court. We respect the Court's order.

We seek an account of process and knowledge — on matters not before the Court, and not suppressed by it.

The first five questions ask you to provide a date in response. The remaining questions request a clear “yes” or “no” answer. If you wish to provide any further accompanying statement, that would be welcome – however this should not be a substitute for providing direct and unambiguous answers to the questions.

We put these questions to you in the terms of the standard you yourself administer – the parliamentary Ministerial Code of Conduct. This provides, in your words, that:

> *"The Code reflects the expectation that Ministers, while in the service of the people of Tasmania, must uphold the highest standards of integrity and be honest, professional, and accountable in the performance of all their duties. The Code applies between me as Premier and each Minister. Ministers must observe the Code at all times and the consequences of any failure to do so is a matter between me and the Minister concerned and will depend on the merits of each case."*

The Code places the responsibility for ministerial integrity squarely with you as Premier.

You told Tasmanians honesty and accountability are the standards to which your Ministers are held, and that enforcing them is your duty. Accountability for whether Parliament was misled, and for what was known and when, rests with you — and is owed to the Parliament, and the people of Tasmania.

The outcome we seek is a functional parliament that is focused on Tasmanians' best interests. Central to this is integrity and accountability. We trust you share these priorities.

Accordingly, we ask that you respond to these questions prior to 9:00 am, Friday 12 June. Further, we ask that you provide a response in the House of Assembly, and table answers, ahead of Question Time on Tuesday, 16 June – the earliest parliamentary opportunity.

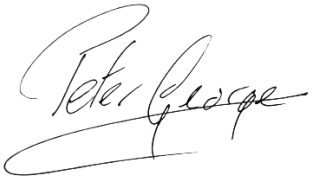
Should direct and exact answers to all these questions not be forthcoming, we reserve the right to use the parliamentary options available to us to pursue the required accountability owed to Tasmanians.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Rosalie Woodruff MP
Leader of the Greens
Greens Member for Franklin

Kristie Johnston MP
Independent Member for Clark

Vica Bayley MP
Deputy Leader of the Greens
Greens Member for Clark



Peter George MP
Independent Member for Franklin

Tabatha Badger MP
Greens Member for Lyons

Helen Burnet MP
Independent Member for Clark

Cecily Rosol MP
Greens Member for Bass

Questions requiring response

Dates

1. On what date did you first become aware of the fact Ms Ogilvie had told November 2025 Budget Estimates she was not party to a Supreme Court matter?

2. On what date did you first become aware of the fact that the statement Ms Ogilvie made during November 2025 Budget Estimates about her involvement in Supreme Court matters was false?

3. On what date did you first become aware Ms Ogilvie had tabled a "clarification" statement in House of Assembly Estimates Committee B?

4. On what date did you first become aware of the contents of the "clarification" statement Ms Ogilvie tabled in Estimates Committee B?

5. On what date did you first become aware of Ms Ogilvie's intention to tell Parliament on 28 May that she was party to a Supreme Court matter she initiated?

Yes or No

1. Prior to 17 November 2025, were you aware Ms Ogilvie was involved in a Supreme Court proceeding?

2. Prior to 21 May 2026, were you aware Ms Ogilvie was involved in a Supreme Court proceeding?

3. Prior to 28 May 2026, were you aware Ms Ogilvie was involved in a Supreme Court proceeding?

4. Did you or anyone in your office discuss with Ms Ogilvie or anyone in her office her move to make a further "clarification" statement about legal proceedings in the week of 2025 Budget Estimates?

5. Were you or anyone in your office advised the former Minister would table the "clarification" statement about legal proceedings in the week of 2025 Budget Estimates?

6. Did you or anyone in your office see the "clarification" statement made by Ms Ogilvie before it was tabled in the 2025 Budget Estimates?

7. Prior to this matter being raised in Parliament on 21 May, were you aware the statement about Supreme Court matters the Minister made to Estimates was false?

8. When Ms Ogilvie responded to a question about Supreme Court matters in Parliament on 28 May, she read a written statement indicating she had initiated a Supreme Court matter. Were you aware she intended to provide this information to the House?

9. Did you or anyone in your office see any version of the 28 May statement before it was delivered?

10. Did you or anyone in your office provide any input or feedback about the statement Ms Ogilvie read in Parliament on 28 May?

11. Prior to 21 May 2026, did any Liberal Minister, Liberal MP or staff employed in the Ministerial Offices unit of DPAC discuss with you the potential that Ms Ogilvie may have misled Parliament in relation to legal proceedings?

12. Prior to the Greens tabling a letter to Ms Ogilvie in the House of Assembly on 27 May 2026, did any Liberal Minister, Liberal MP or staff employed in the Ministerial Offices unit of DPAC discuss with you the potential that Ms Ogilvie may have misled Parliament in relation to legal proceedings?

13. Prior to your appearance at 2026 Budget Estimates did you seek legal advice about what matters you could and could not discuss in relation to Ms Ogilvie's legal proceedings?

14. Prior to your appearance at 2026 Budget Estimates did you seek legal advice about what matters you could and could not discuss in relation to Ms Ogilvie misleading Parliament?

15. If prior to 2026 Budget Estimates you received legal advice about what you could and could not discuss in relation to Ms Ogilvie misleading Parliament, did this advice recommend that you should refuse to answer all questions about this matter even if they did not relate to the details of the Supreme Court Case?