

From: [Alex Jensen](#)
To: [governmentbusinesses](#)
Subject: GB Governance Review Draft Plan
Date: Thursday, 28 November 2024 1:58:04 PM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi,

I wish to make the following Submission on "Government Business Governance Reform Draft Plan NOVEMBER 2024":

Section 1 to 4 of the plan are solid and will enable the GBEs providing essential services to serve the Tasmanian public as well as possible. These sections correctly identify lack of oversight and accountability, as well as lack of long-term planning in favour of short-term financial gain, as being problems which have caused issues with GBEs and SOCs in recent times.

However, Section 5 seems to hint at privatisation of some businesses. This completely contradicts the previous four sections of the plan - all the important governance controls proposed in the plan would not apply to a private business and all the problems identified would be worse in private businesses. GBEs and SOCs in Tasmania provide essential services - it has been proven time and again that private industry is not capable of providing reliable essential services, and furthermore where private businesses gain a monopoly over an essential service (as any privatised GBE will effectively have in Tasmania) they use that enormous imbalance of power to negotiate unfair contracts and decrease service quality without accountability.

The only restructuring or divestment of GBEs and SOCs in Tasmania that would be in line with parts 1-4 of the draft plan would be to either merge some businesses into a single GBE or SOC, or to return them to being part of the State Service - both options would increase oversight and accountability and reduce the current wasted efforts where each GBE, for example, spends tens of millions of dollars on their own payroll systems instead of sharing the one system.

End of Submission.

Thank you,
Alex Jensen