



Senator the Hon Carol Brown
Assistant Minister for Infrastructure and Transport
Senator for Tasmania

Senator Anne Urquhart
Senator for Tasmania

ALBANESE GOVERNMENT DELIVERING MORE FEED FOR KING ISLAND FARMERS

The Albanese Labor Government is expanding sea-freight assistance for King Island farmers under the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme (TFES).

The move is in recognition of the serious issues facing King Island farmers, and is aimed at supporting charities such as Need for Feed currently donating fodder and other stockfeed to drought-affected farmers and producers.

The change means charitable organisations shipping fodder from the mainland to King Island will now be eligible to claim assistance under TFES.

These amendments will be in place for shipments made retrospectively from 1 May 2024 to 30 June 2025 and will be assessed in early 2025 to ensure they are achieving the intended purpose.

The Government is continuing to provide hundreds of millions of dollars in support through the TFES. Last year we delivered over \$180 million in assistance, backing in eligible shippers of non-bulk goods moving across Bass Strait.

For more information on TFES, visit www.infrastructure.gov.au/infrastructure-transport-vehicles/maritime/tasmanian-freight-equalisation-scheme.

Quotes attributable to Assistant Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, and Senator for Tasmania Carol Brown:

“The Albanese Labor Government is backing in our farmers who are doing it tough right now by providing assistance through TFES.

“This ministerial direction will mean charities can ship fodder and goods to King Island farmers from the mainland and receiving TFES assistance.

“This strong support will mean more food for animals on King Island, and more relief for farmers.

“The Government recognises that Tasmania is the only state in Australia that is heavily dependent on inter-state sea transport links for its economic prosperity, which is why we provide financial assistance via TFES.

Quotes attributable to Tasmanian Senator Anne Urquhart:

“The Albanese Government is committed to continuing our assistance for non-bulk freight movements and sea passenger travel across the Bass Strait via TFES and the Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme, both of which are ongoing and demand-driven programs.

“We will work with Services Australia to deliver support for charities to submit a TFES claim where they have borne the cost of shipping donated fodder to King Island.”

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