

Media Release

29 March 2026

Fair Go for Bruny

Member for Huon, Dean Harriss, today urged the government to correct a glaring inequity in its free public transport policy.

Mr Harriss said that while the announcement would ease cost-of-living pressures for many Tasmanian households, he said the Bruny Island residents who needed to use the Channel ferry for work or family reasons had been effectively excluded from the scheme.

"Quite simply, it's unfair," Mr Harriss said.

"The transport disadvantage for people living on Bruny has long been recognised by the discount they receive on the full ticket price. Even with the existing discount it leaves them paying a considerable amount each day.

"The Government says Dodges Ferry residents will save up to \$88 a week under the new free bus policy.

"For people travelling similar distances from Bruny, the weekly out-of-pocket expense remains significant.

"While you can get a free ride on the ferry if you leave your car at home, for most people that is not a practical proposition. Their car is essential and they have to pay.

"In a cost-of-living crisis the free transport policy is a good thing, but it needs to be fair to everyone."

Dean Harriss MLC is the independent Member for Huon
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