

Single Start-Up Permit Consultation

Department of State Growth

Via email: singlestartuppermit@stategrowth.tas.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Single Start-Up Permit (SSUP) – Discussion Paper feedback

COTA Tasmania supports efforts to simplify and streamline approvals for new businesses, and we recognise the Government’s aim to reduce duplication while maintaining strong safeguards for public health, safety, and community amenity.

We understand one model under consideration would allow approved “low risk” businesses to commence operating without securing all usual permits immediately, while working towards full approvals over a period of up to 12 months.

COTA sees potential benefits in this approach, provided the following safeguards are built into design and implementation.

1. Safety and amenity guardrails must be clear and enforceable

The discussion paper notes the need to manage risks to the public and regulators of businesses operating for up to 12 months “without the normal safeguards in place”.

COTA recommends that SSUP conditions clearly specify non-negotiable baseline standards and the circumstances in which a permit can be suspended or revoked quickly (including where there are substantiated safety or amenity impacts).

We also note the paper’s question about whether there are circumstances where a business could safely commence prior to planning/building approvals.

COTA’s view is that any deferral of planning/building approvals should be tightly limited and explicitly exclude scenarios where there is a reasonable likelihood of material impacts on neighbours, accessibility, safety, or community amenity.

2. Accessibility and “assisted digital” should be designed in from day one

We support development of a single, digitised entry point for business approvals, and encourage the Government to design the portal and associated guidance so it is accessible and inclusive.

This should include plain language, clear navigation, and strong assisted-digital options (phone and in-person support) to ensure the system is workable for all prospective operators.

3. Success measures should include safety and community outcomes

As the Government develops an evaluation framework, we encourage inclusion of measures beyond speed and satisfaction - such as safety outcomes, complaint volumes/resolution timeframes, and evidence that community amenity is being protected.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

COTA would welcome involvement in further co-design, particularly around risk thresholds, permit conditions, and user-centred portal design.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brigid Wilkinson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Brigid Wilkinson

Chief Executive Officer

10 February 2026