

Anglican clergy sex abuse survivor Steve Fisher has opened a second service office here in Hobart for others like him trying to navigate the legal complication involved in finalising much needed compensation.

Mr Fisher, who was just 12 years old when he was preyed upon by a Devonport paedophile priest in the 1980's is still seeking compensation for the ongoing, daily impacts the traumatic abuse has caused him - and in 2003 opened Beyond Abuse, a service that provides the legal, financial and mental health services for survivors of sexual abuse.

Earlier this week, Beyond Abuse opened its doors in Hobart, and is run exclusively by volunteers, who themselves are survivors of traumatic sexual abuse, which Mr Fisher mentions is an advantage, as they've all been through the system in some propensity, and they know just how it works.

He went on to say quote "Anything like this is a minefield. We can step them through the whole process because we've been there and we're still going through it."

Following the royal commission into institutional child sex abuse, Mr Fisher outlines how the heinous crimes had been swept under the carpet, and after the National Redress Scheme introduced a capped compensation payout, it's support services like Beyond Abuse that allow victims to come together and seek what they are owed.

Expressions of interest are now open for developers to decide what is to become of Hobart's iconic Treasury buildings.

The State Government previously undertook a registration-of-interest process, which saw a total of nine responses, indicating an interest to develop and/or maintain the historic landmarks.

Finance Minister Michael Ferguson said the prospective investors would first need to outline the socio-economic and environmental contributions their proposal would provide for the state, which include

such things as allowing for public access to the site, job creation, and conservation of the heritage elements.

There is a developing story coming out of the states north-west, where Australia's largest producer of fruit and berries, Costa Group, seemingly allowed around 70 of its migrant workers to be housed in the same residence.

The Port Sorell property was used to accommodate seasonal workers, until the union group The Retail Supply Chain Alliance were made aware of the harsh living standards of the workers after a neighbour complained to the Latrobe Council about an overflowing septic tank.

All paying upwards of \$100 each a week in rent - where similar houses in the region require around \$600 - the large amount of mostly Tongan migrants have now been moved to temporary accommodation, and the Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business is now in Tasmania to conduct an investigation into the Costa Group.

And just finally, King Island Dairy have just won an award for its cheese at the 2020 Australian Grand Dairy Awards in Melbourne overnight.

The product known as Stormy Cheese took first place in the washed/mixed rind cheese category, and was praised for its balance of smooth and creamy textures, and subtle earthy aromas.

To sports news now, and according to AFL's Chief Executive Gillon McLachlan, Tasmania won't be set to debut its own team for at least another five years, to which the state Premier Peter Gutwein agrees.

McLachlan spoke on Melbourne radio on Wednesday saying he couldn't see a Tasmanian team in the AFL within the next five years, which inevitably, gives Tasmania time to establish itself as a formidable side, construct suitable facilities and playing

grounds and draft up the necessary deals with the AFL themselves.

Details have also emerged about what AFL football may look like in Tasmania when a side does eventually enter the league, namely, the team would be based out of Hobart, but initially play matches against sides such as Collingwood, Richmond and Essendon in the states north.

This would see major upgrades at UTAS stadium, raising its capacity and allowing for around 11 home games a year, but essentially, the entire business deal all comes down the premise of a 19<sup>th</sup> AFL licence, hence the emphasis on a most foreseeable future for the team.

And that's what's making news headlines on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February