

Mental Health Council of Tasmania responds to the Tasmanian Greens' mental health policy announcement

The Mental Council of Tasmania [MHCT] has reviewed the mental health policy announcement released by the Tasmanian Greens.

MHCT welcomes several of the Tasmanian Greens' commitments outlined in, *'Caring for people, a pathway to recovery'*, noting the package is significantly geared towards supporting a community-focused, holistic and integrated mental health system for all Tasmanians.

MHCT acknowledges several key elements, including:

- a commitment to establish a body to integrate the mental health system encompassing primary, public, private and community mental health services across the state
- the funding of a stepped model of care to provide clear pathways within the community, clinical, public and private sectors
- a trial of a centralised repository for client records, accessible to appropriate clinical and non-clinical supports to ensure effective care plans and management for Tasmanians,
- a commitment to fund the development of a comprehensive mental health services guide to support Tasmanians as they navigate the system and decide what supports best fit their needs
- exploring, in collaboration with local councils and community organisations, potential models for community healing facilities
- funding a plan to develop a strong and well-resourced peer workforce to support people as they recover and a stated commitment to develop a practical guide to support carers and 'hidden carers' in our communities across the state

MHCT CEO, Connie Digolis, congratulated the Tasmanian Greens on their mental health policy.

"With polling day tomorrow here in Tasmania, we welcome the Greens' mental health announcement. MHCT recognises that the Greens package, 'Caring for people, a pathway to recovery' contains a number of initiatives that enshrine a cohesive system that includes both clinical and non-clinical supports for all Tasmanians. An integrated approach will provide currency to our Rethink mental health plan for our state. We encourage the Greens to continue their commitment to mental health and wellbeing for our communities."

*ENDS

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