

**TASMANIAN**  
**LABOR**  
**PLATFORM**  
**2026**



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# Tasmanian Labor Platform

The Platform is an enduring statement of the Tasmanian Labor's values and policy direction.

As determined by the Tasmanian Labor State Conference 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026

# Chapter 1.

# The Economy, Jobs and Employment

## Prosperity with Purpose

1. Labor believes good economic policy improves Tasmanians' quality of life and equality in life, by providing economic security and opportunity for as many Tasmanians as possible while reducing poverty and exploitation amongst as many Tasmanians as possible.
2. Labor believes good economic policy must leave future generations better placed than preceding generations. A Labor government will work to ensure that future generations inherit stronger public institutions, greater economic opportunity, and less inequality than those who came before.
3. Labor is optimistic about Tasmania's economic future. Our Party wants Tasmania's economy to grow using our unique natural environment, resources, climate and geography as genuine opportunities.
4. Labor believes the best way Tasmania can bridge the economic gap with mainland Australia is to improve education outcomes for Tasmanian students from early years learning through to post year-12 qualifications.

### **A fair economy for all Tasmanians**

5. Labor recognises that markets fail when economic power is unevenly distributed. Concentrated market power entrenches inequality, undermines fair wages and secure work, and distorts democratic decision-making. Labor is committed to addressing these failures through strong competition policy, fair industrial relations, active intervention to address inequality, and government that acts in the public interest.
6. Labor recognises the importance of reducing barriers to participation in the economy. No person, no matter their economic or cultural background, gender or enablement should be excluded from opportunities to maximise their potential.
7. Labor is committed to the long-term economic goal of Tasmanian workers being paid, on average, the same as those workers on mainland Australia. Closing this gap requires sustained productivity growth, stronger bargaining power for workers, and industry and skills policies that lift average wages and productivity across the Tasmanian economy.
8. Labor believes that a primary role of the Tasmanian government is to provide services to Tasmanians, including health, education, transportation, housing and other essentials. Where universal provision is not possible or undesirable, a Labor government will ensure these are allocated based on need.

### **Reducing Household Budget Pressures**

9. Labor recognises that government policies have an impact on household budgets, and that government has a core responsibility to reduce the pressures felt by

households, especially those which disproportionately and unfairly carry the burden of increased cost-of-living. Labor supports the development of clear strategies that address the causes and consequences of household budget pressures, and the implementation of economic policies that will protect or improve quality of life for future generations.

10. Labor is committed to creating an economy where families can raise happy, healthy and well-supported children. Labor acknowledges that giving children a good upbringing has significant long term economic benefits, but that this often places an enormous financial strain on parents. Labor believes that government has a critical role to play in reducing the financial impact of raising children.

## **Intergenerational Fairness and Economic Security**

11. Labor is committed to delivering intergenerational fairness and a Tasmania where workers can be sure of economic stability. The next generation will not be asked to accept a lower standard of security than the ones that built this State.
12. Labor recognises the right of all workers to be able to retire with dignity and supports a superannuation system that gives workers the best chance at doing so, backed by a fair and accessible system of retirement benefits.
13. Labor recognises that the Australian promise was once simple and powerful: if you worked hard, played by the rules and contributed to your community, you could afford a home, raise a family, and retire with dignity. For too many Tasmanians today, that promise has been broken. Housing prices have raced ahead of wages, employment has become less secure, and essential services have been strained – while wealth has concentrated in assets rather than being earned through work and built collectively. Labor will pursue policies that focus on making housing more available and affordable, so that home ownership is an achievable goal for every Tasmanian.
14. Labor rejects an economy where market speculation is rewarded more than productive effort, where workers compete unfairly against investors for homes, and where housing is treated primarily as a way to make profit, rather than a place to live.
15. Labor believes that prosperity should be achievable to all Tasmanians, not just those who inherit it. Intergenerational fairness cannot be achieved by blaming older Tasmanians and fostering economic animosity between generations. That's why a Labor government will seek to correct policy settings that have unfairly tilted our economy toward asset accumulation over productive contribution.
16. Labor aims to restore the right to housing security. A Labor Government will pursue housing policies that increase supply, prioritise owner-occupiers over speculative demand, and discourage excessive concentration of property ownership and prolonged vacancy where it undermines affordability and community stability.
17. A Labor Government will strengthen job security and wages so that economic growth flows to working people, not just to asset holders. Secure work must once again be a sure foundation of economic stability.
18. A Labor Government will ensure education and training function effectively as ladders of opportunity. Labor will support accessible, high-quality pathways through TAFE, apprenticeships and university so that skill and effort translate into secure employment.

## **Fair Pay, Better Conditions and Secure Employment**

19. Labor believes in ensuring Tasmanians receive a fair day's pay for a fair day's work.

20. Labor supports the right to secure, permanent employment and believes workers who provide their mental and physical labour to their employer should be able to expect job security from their employer.
21. Labor supports a living wage for workers. Every worker should be able to cover their basic costs and live with dignity, without falling into poverty.
22. Labor believes wages and employment conditions should be underpinned, protected and uplifted by a relevant and enforceable industrial relations framework.
23. Labor will protect statutory and award-mandated allowances and penalty rates, including fair remuneration when working public holidays.
24. Labor believes that workers in tenuous employment or transient industries should have the right to secure long service leave through a portability scheme.
25. Labor believes in improving gender equity by continuing to enhance access to flexible work arrangements. And recognises the right of all workers to be provided with flexibility to balance their work and personal needs, including the right to disconnect.
26. Labor will introduce reproductive health and wellbeing leave and workplace supports as important entitlements that provide time, flexibility and support for workers to address reproductive health matters that impact on their capacity to work or to take preventative health care measures.
27. Labor supports the provision of conditions that provide workers with the ability and encouragement to access training and development to further their skills for career advancement.
28. Labor believes workers benefit from the provision of relevant re-training, and support to those employees and businesses negatively impacted by economic and industrial adjustment.
29. Labor supports regulation of the labour hire industry to maintain fair working conditions and pay.

## **Making workplaces safe**

30. Labor supports the right of workers to be safe at work and to be fairly compensated for workplace injuries when they occur.
31. Labor believes in workplaces free from discrimination, bullying and harassment.
32. Labor supports legislation that provides for Industrial Manslaughter to ensure that an unscrupulous employer or entity found to have been negligent or culpable for causing serious injury or death are prosecuted to the full extent of the law.
33. Tasmanian Labor recognises that effective consultation, participation and representation of workers through their unions is crucial for healthy and safe workplaces.

## **Supporting the right to organise**

34. The existence of a strong, representative and responsible union movement is essential to the achievement of an efficient, just and equitable industrial relations system and a fairer society.
35. Labor will work closely with the union movement to give every Tasmanian the opportunity of a safe, secure job with a fair pay and the opportunity for advancement.

36. Labor believes it is vital to educate young people about their rights at work. Labor supports initiatives that provide students of working age the opportunity to learn about their rights, including through programs delivered through secondary schools, TAFEs and higher education institutions.
37. Labor recognises the right of all workers to be a member of, and represented by, a trade union, and to organise and act collectively. Labor will fight to ensure these rights are protected both nationally and in Tasmania.
38. Labor supports the right to strike, take stop-work action and undertake industrial action. And recognises these rights should meet international standards.
39. Tasmanian Labor recognises that effective consultation, participation and representation of workers through their unions is crucial for healthy and safe work.

## **Creating Opportunity, Jobs and Innovation**

40. Labor believes that economic policy should work to achieve full employment in Tasmania and the elimination of unemployment and underemployment.
41. Labor believes that a skilled workforce is critical to a strong economy and that government must provide clear directions and pathways for academic, technical and work skill development that meet local labour market demands.
42. Labor believes that government has a critical role to play in the provision of employment-based training and apprenticeship opportunities. The government also has a critical role to retrain displaced labour and understands that providing these opportunities is integral to creating a fair economy with opportunities for all Tasmanians.
43. Labor supports a strong culture of innovation in Tasmania. Labor will pursue an economy for Tasmania that exports the products of our intelligence, creativity and capability - not one based on the cheapest hourly rate for our labour.
44. Labor believes there is a role for government in pursuing innovation and research that delivers benefits to our State - both commercial and public good in nature. A Labor government will support the establishment of industries centred around innovation and the services economy that will deliver the jobs of the future and diversify Tasmania's economic base.
45. A Labor Government will foster links between science, education, government, business and industry to encourage innovation and deliver commercial outcomes that provide economic growth for our state. Where the government invests taxpayer money to encourage and support innovation in the private sector, Labor will ensure Tasmanians receive a fair return on such investment.

## **Protecting public assets through public ownership**

46. Labor recognises that Tasmania's natural resources, public services, and public assets must be managed in the public interest to deliver enduring benefits for the community, now and for future generations.
47. A Labor government will ensure this is achieved through environmentally responsible stewardship, financially sustainable management, and strong public ownership and governance underpinned by transparency, integrity and best practice.
48. Labor believes that public ownership of public assets is essential to safeguard Tasmania's strategic assets, ensure they are managed in the public interest, and secure long-term economic and social benefits for the community.

49. A Labor government will maintain public ownership of public assets to protect our state's key economic advantages and opportunities. Labor will oppose the privatisation of public assets in all its forms and rejects the Liberal Party's privatisation agenda, which aims to convert public money into corporate profits.

## **A Strong Public Service**

50. Labor will be fiscally responsible, understanding that a strong budget position protects public services in the long term.
51. Labor understands that good wages and conditions for public sector workers are critical and fundamental requirements that underpin a good, functioning public service that delivers the services Tasmanians need.
52. Labor knows that government is and should be the primary provider of reliable and affordable essential services such as health, education, emergency services and housing to the Tasmanian community.
53. Labor will seek to maximise direct public sector employment, as opposed to outsourcing, in the provision of government services. A Labor government will rebuild the capacity of the public sector to solve problems and provide services in-house.
54. Labor supports public sector jobs and recognises that the over-reliance on labour hire, locum staff and consultants across the state service diminishes working conditions and service delivery - ultimately costing the state budget more. A Labor Government will work to in-source current labour hire contracts and will prioritise direct, permanent and ongoing employment across the state service.
55. Labor values the role of an independent Tasmanian Industrial Commission as an expert specialist industrial arbiter for public sector workplaces.
56. Labor recognises the economic and social benefits of diversity in the public sector, including localised economic benefits from employment provided by the public sector. Labor is committed to ensuring that public sector jobs are promoted widely across the state, and to providing the infrastructure and flexible working arrangements needed to allow more Tasmanians employed in the public service to live and work in regional areas.

## **A smart, strong and diverse economy**

57. Labor supports the development of a diverse and resilient economy that meets the needs of people and communities, delivers secure jobs and fair wages, sustains communities across Tasmania, and attracts and retains skilled workers to live, work, and build their futures in the state.
58. Labor sees Tasmania's ageing population as a serious economic inhibitor which must be addressed through a greater focus on education, delivery of higher wages and supply of better housing options to keep and attract more young people to the state.
59. Labor will foster a business environment that promotes economic competitiveness, supports innovation and investment, and lifts productivity - creating the conditions for sustainable economic growth and shared prosperity.
60. A Labor government will undertake workforce planning to identify current and future areas of skills shortages and increases in demand. This planning will be used to inform the development and delivery of training programs, and investment in the infrastructure and incentives necessary to address the needs of Tasmania.

61. Labor believes that all members of our community deserve the opportunity to enjoy the benefits brought about by advancements in technology and new ways of working, including generative AI, and have the negatives mitigated.
62. The benefits of technological change must be shared. Labor will work to ensure that innovation strengthens Tasmania's economy, supports local enterprise, and delivers broad-based prosperity rather than concentrating power and profit in a small number of firms.
63. Technological change must lift living standards and create new opportunities — not entrench inequality or displace workers without support. Productivity gains driven by digital innovation and artificial intelligence should translate into better wages and conditions, more flexible work arrangements and greater work-life balance. Labor will support workers and businesses to adapt to emerging technologies through investment in skills, training and lifelong learning, ensuring Tasmanians are equipped to work alongside new tools rather than be replaced by them. No worker should be left behind by technological transition.
64. Work and the nature of workplaces continues to change, especially with evolving forms of technology. Labor believes that working people should be consulted once the development timeline has been established for a technological change driven by AI, to ensure the maximum skills uplift and training is available to affected or potentially affected employees when there is significant workplace change, such as the adoption of AI which could lead to job losses and/or changes in skills requirements or job design, and will ensure that workplace laws are up to date and relevant to today's economy.
65. Labor believes small business, innovation, entrepreneurship, and social enterprise can be supported through strong government leadership to ensure regulation does not inhibit changes that benefit the state.
66. Labor understands that the role of government may include the public incentives for and investment in industries where this matches the needs of Tasmanians, and does not create moral hazard or other unintended economic harm.

## **Manufacturing**

67. Labor believes manufacturing plays a critical role in Tasmania's economy and in strengthening Australia's sovereign manufacturing capability.

## **Primary Industries**

68. Labor recognises the importance of primary industries as key economic growth industries.
69. Labor supports a diverse and resilient economy built on the sustainable use of Tasmania's natural advantages, and recognises the importance of industries that rely on our land, water and resources.
70. Labor recognises the economic and social importance of both traditional and emerging primary industries.
71. Labor believes these industries must operate responsibly, with strong environmental standards, respect for communities, and a commitment to long-term sustainability.

## **Maritime Industry**

72. As an Island state Labor knows that a strong maritime industry is essential to the state's economic prosperity and future economic growth.

73. A Labor Government will keep public maritime assets in public hands to ensure that essential maritime infrastructure operates for the benefit of all Tasmanians.
74. A Labor Government is committed to supporting workers in the maritime industry by ensuring training opportunities are available and enforcing the highest possible safety standards.

## **Tourism Industry**

75. Labor recognises that the tourism industry is a large and growing sector of Tasmania's economy which provides employment to a significant number of Tasmanians.
76. Labor understands that tourism is an incredibly important employer in regional Tasmania and plays a unique role in its contribution to many regional communities.
77. Labor believes that Tasmania's economic future is dependent on the responsible use of our natural resources, including those impacted and relied upon by our tourism industry.
78. A Labor Government recognises the importance of strategically planning and investing in passenger services and access infrastructure - including by air, land and sea. Labor is committed to investing in new and existing tourism assets, as well as destination marketing funding, to ensure the continued growth of the tourism industry in Tasmania.
79. Labor recognises the importance of events in regional economic growth and is committed to supporting Tasmania's strong culture of regional events.

## **Arts and Heritage**

80. Labor believes the arts play a vital role in Tasmania's economy and cultural identity.
81. Labor believes Tasmania's rich heritage is an important part of our economy and community life, across both urban and regional areas.

## **Infrastructure to support our Economy**

82. Labor will ensure there is a steady and sensible pipeline of infrastructure projects that gives certainty to industry and workers. Projects will be timed and delivered to provide the greatest economic and social benefit to the community. Labor will focus additional investment in infrastructure when the economy slows to support jobs, and shift focus to additional savings when the economy is strong to improve Tasmania's budget position.
83. Labor knows that best practice infrastructure planning takes into consideration the wider economic and social effects. A Labor government will work to ensure its infrastructure projects are carefully planned, so that this activity does not lead to negative effects on residential housing by placing unnecessary strain on labour supply, or driving up other costs.

## **Tasmanian Energy for Tasmania's Economy**

84. Labor's historic investment in renewable energy delivered Tasmania's single greatest public asset. Labor is committed to maintaining public ownership of energy assets to ensure all Tasmanians receive the benefits of our state's natural renewable resources.
85. Labor believes that Tasmania must take advantage of our vast renewable energy resources and produce all our electricity on-island using renewable energy technologies. Labor will invest in new and additional renewable energy power

generation projects and increase Tasmania's energy generation to deliver more, affordable power to Tasmanian homes and businesses.

86. Labor will direct Hydro Tasmania, TasNetworks and Aurora Energy to act in the economic interests of Tasmania while maintaining strong balance sheets and ensuring Tasmanians pay Tasmanian prices for Tasmanian power. Labor will ensure that Tasmanians benefit fully from any connection to the national grid.
87. Labor will develop Tasmania's renewable energy expertise through training opportunities to ensure we have the technical skills necessary to deliver and maintain local projects, while also building a workforce capable of supporting off-island projects to deliver further economic growth for our state.
88. In addition to large-scale renewables, Labor supports the production and storage of energy on-island through community and household solar and batteries.

## **Modern transport to support the economy of a diverse and dispersed State**

89. Labor believes affordable, accessible, and sustainable public and active transport, tailored to the needs of community, is needed by Tasmanians. It is an essential ingredient in delivering a fair economy in which all Tasmanians can participate, and is a fundamental responsibility of government.
90. Modernisation of Tasmania's transport and logistics networks is an important part of reducing emissions, lowering costs, and strengthening our state's future economic resilience. A Labor government will encourage active uptake of electric vehicles and support the modernisation and electrification of our transport and logistics networks.
91. Tasmanian Labor understands the importance of the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme and recognises that, despite being part of the same country, Tasmanian shippers do not enjoy the same ease of trade that exists between mainland states. Labor supports the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme which provides local industries with more fair and equal opportunities to compete with mainland states by reducing the competitive disadvantage of sea transport.

# Chapter 2.

# Education and Training

## Making Learning a Skill for Life

### Putting Learners First

1. Labor believes every child has the right to free, fair, and high-quality education that supports lifelong learning and personal growth.
2. Labor sees education as a cornerstone of a democratic, inclusive, and prosperous society.
3. Labor believes all students deserve the opportunity to succeed and will ensure Tasmania delivers education that is inclusive of students with disability.
4. Labor is committed to student safety, wellbeing and mental health by ensuring students have appropriate access to professional support staff such as social workers, speech pathologists and psychologists, and by maintaining robust safeguarding measures that protect every child.
5. Labor recognises the importance of ensuring all students have access to safe and respectful learning environments.
6. Labor supports a balanced curriculum that values literacy and fosters academic, practical and personal growth, preparing students for lifelong learning, independence and the safe navigation of real-world risks and hazards. This includes supporting learning that helps young people develop the knowledge, judgement and practical skills needed to navigate major life transitions safely, including road use and early driver training as they move through key transitions into adulthood.
7. Labor is committed to ensuring evidence-based and expert advice underpins curriculum decisions to provide all students with the knowledge and skills to pursue their chosen paths.
8. Labor recognises the importance of the early years to a child's development and believes Tasmania deserves a world-class early childhood sector, guided by the Early Years Framework and integrated with community childhood services.
9. Labor will deliver five days of kindergarten for children in all Tasmanian public schools to lift educational outcomes, ease cost-of-living pressures for families, and support more parents to participate in the workforce.
10. Labor will provide universal access to early learning for three-year-olds, covering the cost of pre-school programs delivered through long day care centres.

### Recognising our Educators

11. Labor values the teaching profession and the right of educators to a safe workplace, secure employment, fair pay and manageable workloads.
12. Labor believes in an early childhood sector that meets Tasmania's regional needs and values our early years teachers through appropriate wages, conditions and professional development.

13. Labor is committed to equipping educators with the skills to meet diverse learning needs through robust professional development programs.
14. Labor supports initial teacher training programs that are diverse in delivery, focused on practice and reflect the sustained teacher shortage in Tasmania.
15. Labor believes in supporting early career teachers with robust induction programs that provide for appropriate teaching release-time, mentoring & professional development opportunities.
16. Labor values the contributions of education support staff, recognises their diverse roles in schools and believes they should be provided with appropriate pathways into teaching.
17. Labor will train and deliver more teachers and educators, through training, incentives, and clear career pathways to ensure these reforms can be delivered across the state.

## **Schools as Learning Communities**

18. Labor believes education is a shared responsibility among students, educators, parents and carers, and the broader community.
19. Labor supports transparent school governance, prioritising local enrolments and encouraging partnerships across schools and with local organisations.
20. Labor believes schools excel when they have strong community connections that foster collaboration among students, families, educators, and support staff.
21. Labor recognises the importance of student voice and strong School Associations that reflect the community and support the priorities of their schools.
22. Labor recognises the vital role of parents, guardians, and carers in education and supports open, ongoing communication between families and schools.
23. Labor believes home education should meet robust standards and appropriate oversight of home-education programs is required so students are not disadvantaged.

## **Funding that Delivers for All**

24. Labor supports equitable and needs-based funding agreements for public schools to ensure Tasmania can meet the diverse needs of students, including students with disability.
25. Labor supports public investment in education that is guided by evidence and respects the professional judgement of educators.
26. Labor is committed to equipping schools with infrastructure that provides for future-ready classrooms, age-appropriate play areas as well as the provision of adequate space for Outside School Hours Care programs.
27. A Labor Government will make real investment in our public schools to deliver upgrades to public schools for enabling infrastructure such as additional classrooms, toilets, and out-of-school hours care.

## **Strong Post-School Pathways**

28. Labor believes schools should offer a diverse and flexible range of learning pathways that connect their education with diverse career opportunities.
29. Labor supports TasTAFE as the cornerstone public provider of vocational education and training, and will reverse policies that allow private RTOs to extract high-volume,

broad-based training at the expense of TasTAFE's economies of scale, economies that have historically enabled a comprehensive mix of courses, regional access, and emerging industry pathways. A strong publicly funded TAFE system is essential to ensuring training decisions are driven by workforce need and public value, not short-term profit.

30. Labor supports an affordable and accessible TAFE system as the cornerstone of vocational training in Tasmania, including for courses that support community services delivery.
31. Labor recognises the importance of attracting and retaining school leavers in Tasmania by offering best-practice vocational, tertiary and further education and training opportunities.
32. Labor recognises the need for a strong tertiary sector in Tasmania that delivers education opportunities that meet the needs of Tasmanians throughout their lives.

# Chapter 3.

# Health and Wellbeing

## Public Healthcare for All Tasmanians

### **Access to the Right Care, in the Right Place, at the Right Time**

1. Labor believes that all Tasmanians should have equitable access to the health care they need, when and where they need it.
2. Labor recognises that a strong health system addresses health needs from prevention through to acute care, and requires long-term strategic thinking and planning.
3. Labor recognises the importance of allied health services (including occupational therapists, physiotherapists, psychologists, dietitians, social workers, podiatrists and pharmacists) in the provision of comprehensive health care.
4. Labor believes that all Tasmanian mothers should have access to, and choice of a range of quality pre-natal, maternal, and post-natal care options, regardless of location, and that mothers should be empowered to make the right choice about their care, for themselves.
5. Labor believes that a strong health system works in collaboration, with regional facilities, tertiary hospitals and urban health care settings working together to support better access to care and health outcomes.
6. Labor values the role that nurses and nurse practitioners can play in acute health facilities.
7. Labor believes that multi-disciplinary care maximises access to continuous care and leads to better health outcomes.
8. Labor understands the devastating impact of being unable to access health care when it's needed, and will always prioritise this for Tasmania.
9. Labor will embrace technology and e-health solutions.
10. Labor recognises rising health inflation and the need for reform (smarter spending) to achieve better outcomes within budget pressures.

### **Workers Who Are Valued, Respected and Recognised**

11. Labor recognises that the health workforce has the ideas, intimate system knowledge and drive needed to fix the health system.
12. Labor understands that direct employment of clinicians will always be of greater benefit to Tasmania than costly contract and locum services.
13. Labor will consult with health service providers, unions, the workforce, consumers and local communities in the development and implementation of health policy.
14. Labor will invest in the workforce with measures like scholarships and incentives, and ongoing training opportunities, with a particular focus on producing a local health workforce in collaboration with the University of Tasmania and TasTAFE.

15. Labor is committed to a system-wide approach, involving clinicians, nurses, unions, the University of Tasmania, patients and the community to make improvements across the health system.
16. Labor believes all workers have a right to adequate workplace facilities and workplace rights need to be protected.
17. Labor understands that there is no true “front and back line” in health service provision and that all workers are critical to the ongoing delivery of quality health services, including clerks, policy staff, administrative workers, consultation organisers, legislative reform staff, medical secretaries, IT specialists, health information technicians, pathologists, lab scientists, supply managers, clinical coders, cleaners and orderlies, and others.

## **Healthy Communities Start Early**

18. Labor believes that a health system that prioritises early intervention and preventative health services delivers better health and economic outcomes.
19. Labor believes in equal access for all Tasmanians to high quality and affordable public preventative health care.
20. Labor believes that targeting the causes of ill health can relieve pressure on the acute care system.
21. Labor believes a quality public health system is fundamental for security, opportunity and equality.
22. Labor believes an effective health system that delivers good health outcomes requires long-term strategic thinking and planning.
23. Labor recognises the need to engage stakeholders to address youth alcohol and drug dependence.
24. Labor will support health promotion and preventative health measures in schools, the workplace and community.
25. Labor will support public health campaigns on issues like smoking, nutrition, alcohol and physical activity.
26. Labor will ensure breast screening services, including mobile services, are upgraded, maintained and available in urban and regional areas.
27. Labor believes in the effectiveness of vaccination/immunisation and will work to lift vaccination/immunisation rates in Tasmania, including countering anti-vaccination misinformation.

## **Oral Health and Wellbeing**

28. Labor recognises the importance of dental services for preventing pain, disease and associated health conditions.
29. Labor recognises the impact of poor oral health on employment, mental health and physical health (including nutrition, chronic pain and chronic disease) and believes all Tasmanians should have access to affordable dental and oral health services.
30. Labor will prioritise dental care for children as a prevention and early intervention measure that will improve overall health outcomes.
31. Labor will advocate for inclusion of specific essential dental services into Medicare.
32. Labor will review the availability of public dental services in regional areas, with a view to ensuring access for all.

## **Public Health for the Good of the Community**

33. Labor believes protecting children and workers from disease is a priority.
34. Labor recognises the precautionary principle in public health and the need for early action, including education of community.
35. Labor will support and strengthen public and environmental health measures and inter-agency cooperation.
36. Labor believes in evidence and will take steps to encourage research to improve health outcomes, especially preventative measures and chronic disease treatment and management (like Long COVID and Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome).
37. Labor supports the provision of clean drinking water and safe recreational water and will explore structures and or mechanisms to prevent water contamination and promote good water management.
38. Labor will advocate nationally for Parkinson's and Motor Neurone Disease to become notifiable diseases.
39. Labor will ensure sufficient staff are available to the Director of Public Health during pandemics without compromising other services.
40. Labor supports clean air measures to reduce smoke in affected towns, cities and rural areas, especially those affected by wood smoke. Labor believes healthy air standards should be adopted for shared indoor air, spaces, smoke-affected outdoor air and multiple tenant buildings with shared access such as lifts, foyers, corridors and stairs.
41. Labor will advocate nationally, and support research and improved services, for young people with Juvenile idiopathic arthritis (JIA) and other childhood rheumatic diseases (CRD).

## **Impact of Alcohol and Other Drugs – A Health Issue**

42. Labor recognises harm minimisation as the safest and most effective approach to alcohol and other drug use and addiction.
43. Labor recognises the need for comprehensive and effective evidence-based support and treatment for people seeking help for drug and/or alcohol dependency and believes that all Tasmanians should have access to such treatment options, regardless of where they live.
44. Labor believes that drug testing facilities (such as pill-testing) are safe and based in evidence and supports public access to such facilities.
45. Labor supports public education programs on the risks involved with consumption of alcohol and other drugs.
46. Labor believes a harm-minimisation and health-focused approach is safer and more effective than a criminal response to small-volume drug use and possession.
47. Labor recognises smoking and vape use causes major health problems and deaths, and understands that reducing smoking and vaping rates requires sustained anti-tobacco and anti-vape campaigns.
48. Labor supports restricting sale and supply of tobacco products with penalties for non-compliance, and recognises that enforcement requires adequate resourcing and appropriate legislation.

49. Labor recognises that cigarette filters and engineering changes have increased cancer risks and will advocate nationally to regulate the content and engineering of tobacco products.
50. Labor is aware of long-term harm caused by tobacco industry misconduct.
51. Labor will review research on birthdate laws as a potential tobacco endgame measure.
52. Labor will support publicly funded, evidence-based smoking and vape cessation programs.
53. Labor recognises alcohol is a carcinogen and major cause of harm and hospitalisation, and the potential harm to be caused by expanding alcohol outlets in low socio-economic areas or near schools.
54. Labor will ensure that alcohol and drug rehabilitation and treatment services are adequately resourced and staffed by appropriately qualified professionals.
55. Labor will ensure that alcohol and drug services are adequately resourced and staffed by trained, qualified personnel.
56. Labor supports the use of warning labels on alcohol products and will work with Commonwealth authorities on such labelling.

## **Compassion and Inclusion**

57. Labor believes in compassionate access to legally prescribed medicinal cannabis.
58. Labor believes all gender affirming surgeries should be publicly available and Medicare-funded.
59. Labor recognises the importance of information on stillbirth prevention and awareness.
60. Labor believes Tasmanians with life-limiting illness should have choice, including VAD and palliative care.
61. Labor believes in the right to access reproductive health services, including pregnancy termination, through the public health system.
62. Labor believes there is a need to develop a concussion policy for primary and secondary schools, and junior and youth sports clubs, in Tasmania to provide strategies to cultivate an awareness of the seriousness of concussion, outlining ways to identify concussion, how to respond to a suspected concussion, prevention of concussion and the ongoing management of school students suffering from concussion.
63. Labor recognises the contribution of volunteers and donors to research and health services.
64. Labor believes there is a need to develop a concussion policy for schools, and junior/youth sports clubs, to raise awareness of the seriousness of concussion and steps for prevention, outline ways to identify and respond to suspected concussion, and inform the ongoing management of children and young people suffering from concussion.

## **Supporting Tasmanians with Good Mental Health**

65. Labor believes access to compassionate, dignified and culturally appropriate mental health care and treatment is a fundamental human right.
66. Labor recognises a whole of government approach is most effective in promoting mental health and wellbeing and preventing mental ill health.

67. Labor recognises adequate, long-term government funding is essential for mental health services, and the economic benefits of prevention and early intervention.
68. Labor believes addressing social and health inequalities improves mental health outcomes and is committed to work with governments at all levels to achieve national mental health reform.
69. Labor believes emergency departments are not the most suitable environment for mental health treatment and will prioritise effective, compassionate and clinically proven alternatives.
70. Labor recognises the cultural and social needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and will work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities to build social and emotional wellbeing.
71. Labor believes addressing social and health inequalities improves mental health outcomes.
72. Labor recognises the importance of the first 1,000 days for lifelong mental health.
73. Labor recognises the importance of lived experience and peer support in the provision of mental health services and treatment.
74. Labor recognises the impact of trauma and intergenerational poverty on mental health.
75. Labor recognises the NDIS helps people with complex mental health needs access appropriate services.
76. Labor will invest in evidence-based, trauma-informed mental health promotion, prevention and early intervention, including mental health literacy and suicide prevention.
77. Labor will invest in mental health research and evaluation.
78. Labor recognises the need for best-practice community mental health services and accommodation.
79. Labor is committed to supporting carers of people with mental ill health.
80. Labor will invest in evidence-based mental health and wellbeing measures in schools.
81. Labor recognises the importance of dedicated child and adolescent mental health services, including residential treatment facilities.

## **Social Determinants of Health**

82. Labor recognises that the social determinants of health have a significant impact on the Health and Wellbeing of an individual and a community.
83. Labor recognises focus on individual health outcomes fails to address the real causes of health inequity, removes government responsibility to address the causes, and further reinforces poverty and inequality.
84. Labor recognises that poverty and inequality disempower and deprive people of control over their lives. This has a direct impact on health.
85. Labor will take a systemic approach and develop policy that focuses on common risk factors and determinants, not just individual diseases.
86. Labor will use evidence-based action and continue to fund research in this area.
87. Labor will work to improve and address inequities in health outcomes.

88. Labor will participate in a national agenda to build commitment and innovation with local action to address the social determinants of health, including working with governments at all levels, and other stakeholders.
89. Labor will engage in responsible partnerships and avoid ceding policy influence to vested interests.

## **Commercial Determinants of Health**

90. Labor recognises that health is not just the responsibility of individuals, but also commercial interests.
91. Labor recognises the harm caused by problem gambling, specifically poker machines.
92. Labor believes that harmful products such as gambling, tobacco and alcohol should not be advertised, particularly in association with sporting events, on public broadcasters or buildings.
93. Labor recognises that corporations promoting unsafe, addictive or unhealthy products have a responsibility to the community.
94. Labor recognises that commercial organisations profiting from harmful, unsafe or unhealthy products should be properly regulated and those regulations enforced.
95. Labor recognises that individuals may not always be aware of the harm of commodity, and that clear labelling of those harms should be attached to products.
96. Labor supports research into the corporate determinants of health and actions that may be required to curb activities and products which harm consumers.
97. Labor believes there is a need to investigate and implement a strategy to address childhood obesity, particularly in relation to the provision, promotion, advertising and supply of unhealthy food.
98. Labor supports a mandatory enforceable food star rating system.
99. Labor will advocate for an examination of the benefits of a sugar tax, with an initial focus on sugary drinks commonly consumed by children.

## **Ambulance and Other Transport to Care**

100. Labor believes every Tasmanian has the right to an ambulance when and where they need one, and that the ambulance service should be resourced to meet demand.
101. Labor believes Tasmanians have a right to know that care will be provided within a reasonable time and by highly skilled health workers.
102. Labor recognises record workload demands are placing increasing pressure on paramedics. High levels of physical and psychological work-related injuries, stress and absences and lack of qualified staff have led to unacceptable levels of vacant shifts.
103. Labor recognises emergency services workers may suffer distress and post traumatic stress disorder and supports the mental health recommendations of the Senate inquiry into First Responders (2018).
104. Labor will ensure that resources are regularly reviewed to ensure they meet the needs of the community, and recognises that while the primary focus of the service should be emergency response other vital services are also provided and need appropriate resourcing.

105. Labor will develop initiatives designed to reduce ambulance response times for life threatening emergencies.
106. Labor recognises the need to invest in Paramedic training to ensure that the workforce is trained to the highest possible levels and provided with appropriate technology to ensure they achieve the best possible outcomes for patients.
107. Labor will implement strategies to reduce hospital waiting times in emergency departments to ensure that hospital ramping of ambulances is minimised.
108. Labor recognises the value of roles such as extended care paramedics to provide more timely and effective care to patients and reduce the number of hospital presentations.
109. Labor recognises the need to invest in non-urgent patient transport services to ensure patients can reach vital primary health services to reduce additional hospital presentations.
110. Labor will ensure all Tasmanians have access to health care either through the provision of local services where the required service can be provided safely and sustainably or through the provision of appropriate patient transport and accommodation support.
111. Labor recognises the need to invest in refurbishment, replacement and establishment of fit-for-purpose ambulance stations to ensure that workers are provided with adequate facilities to complete training, administration and recover from the pressure of working in high pressure emergency care settings.

## **Caring for Those Who Care for Others**

112. Labor recognises the value of people in the community that provide care for friends and family.
113. Labor understands that there are many children in informal care in Tasmania; therefore we recognise the importance of the role of kinship and grandparent carers that make huge sacrifices to enable them to care for these vulnerable children.
114. Labor will work with organisations to support all carers through appropriate support services including respite for carers.
115. Labor believes that the NDIS should value the role of carers and properly engage with families and friends to ensure they have appropriate opportunities to rest, work and have independence.

## **Ageing Well, Living Well**

116. Labor recognises Tasmania has a high proportion of older people living in our community and that this provides opportunities as well as challenges in caring for Tasmanians.
117. Labor respects and values the contribution and recognises the lived experience of older Tasmanians in our community.
118. Labor believes that older people have the right to make their own choices regarding their life, and to participate in their community.
119. Labor understands the challenges that older Tasmanians face, such as cost of living, health and remaining active.
120. Labor believes that a coordinated and multi-faceted approach is required to best support older people in Tasmania where and when they need it.

121. Labor will advocate for appropriate dementia support and improved aged care at a national level.
122. Labor recognises the need to combat elder abuse and will strengthen legislation to provide both economic and physical safety for older citizens.
123. Labor recognises concerns and issues regarding the aged care sector and will work with the relevant stakeholders, including the Commonwealth, to ensure recommendations from the Royal Commission are implemented.
124. Labor will advocate for equitable and comprehensive needs-based distribution of home care services, such as cleaning, meals, transport, and personal care to regional and remote areas.
125. Labor supports timely aged care assessments.
126. Labor recognises the valuable contribution made by workers, carers and families to care for older Tasmanians both in residential care and home care across the state.
127. Labor recognises the importance of addressing social isolation and loneliness, to support mental, physical and emotional health amongst older people.
128. Labor believes that older people are valued contributors to the workplace, and that age discrimination occurs in Tasmania. Labor will support actions to address this, including a review of provisions of anti-discrimination and workplace legislation.

## **Pharmacy Access to Support Wellbeing**

129. Labor will support Tasmanians with more options to access a greater range of medications, including vaccinations, especially in regional areas.
130. Labor recognises allowing pharmacists to practice their full scope of practice will help Tasmanians access the healthcare they need, when they need it, without the expense of a doctor's visit or going to an Emergency Department (such as supplying hormonal contraception to women and girls over the age of 16).
131. Labor understands the need for access to more health services, closer to home, from an appropriately trained community pharmacist, including everyday health conditions such as ear infections, reflux, skin conditions such as shingles and eczema, rhinitis and wound care.
132. Labor will seek to harmonise vaccination regulations with other states and territories to increase the types of vaccinations conveniently available through community pharmacies, including travel and other vaccinations.
133. Labor supports allowing prescriptions issued by interstate medical practitioners to be dispensed in Tasmania, to facilitate more equitable access to medications.

# Chapter 4.

# Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

Building a Tasmania Where People Can Thrive

## Housing Is A Right

1. Labor believes safe, affordable, appropriate and secure housing is the right of all Tasmanians and is key to Health and Wellbeing, employment opportunities and access to education and health services.
2. Labor believes sustained investment from all levels of government is essential to increase the supply of social and affordable housing.
3. Labor believes improving housing affordability must be a priority for government.
4. Labor believes addressing the housing crisis requires not just more homes, but the planning and services that make communities work.
5. Labor believes there is a need to invest in multifaceted affordable housing, not only by government but within the private sector as well.
6. Labor believes housing policy should put access to a home first, ensuring housing is treated primarily as a place to live rather than a vehicle for profit.

## Housing Is More Than Just Shelter

7. Labor recognises there is a need for increased investment in accessible housing to support people living with disability.
8. Labor recognises that in order to improve the energy efficiency and maintenance of public housing the re-instatement of a dedicated government workforce needs to be considered.
9. Labor recognises the urgent need to increase crisis and transitional accommodation state-wide.
10. Labor believes there are groups within the community who have special housing needs including women, Indigenous people, migrants and refugees, young people, older people, people living with disability, people experiencing family violence and people in crisis.
11. Labor recognises adequate housing is more than shelter. It features secure tenure, access to services, affordability, accessibility, location and cultural sensitivities.
12. Labor believes that access to safe and secure housing is an essential part in changing the trajectory of people's lives to improve health, education, community and family outcomes and reduced crime & mental health issues.
13. Labor recognises new public houses must be located close to public transport, services and employment opportunities.

14. Labor recognises that past housing policies have contributed to the concentration of disadvantage and believes future policy should promote more inclusive, well-connected communities.
15. Labor recognises that when public housing programs are unable to meet the needs of Indigenous groups and the broader community it is necessary for government to develop relevant programs.
16. Labor believes safe, secure and affordable housing is a fundamental foundation for wellbeing, participation and opportunity.
17. Labor will strengthen tenants' rights and legislate inclusionary zoning to ensure new residential developments include a fair proportion of social and affordable homes.
18. Labor will grow public and community housing supply designed to universal design and climate ready standards and encourage mixed, inclusive and liveable communities.
19. Labor will give priority to the building of strong community-based neighbourhoods where long-term residents (renters and owners) can enjoy the amenities and existing infrastructure.

## **Making Housing a Priority when Providing Support**

20. Labor will adopt a Housing First approach that provides permanent housing with wrap around support to reduce homelessness.
21. Labor will support housing pathways for young people, people leaving care and those experiencing crisis by expanding supported tenancies and rent guarantee programs.

## **Government Role In Housing Is Essential**

22. Labor recognises government has a key role in ensuring access to safe, affordable and secure housing across the housing system, including public, private and community sectors.
23. Labor will encourage innovative land usage and investigate the feasibility of medium density housing and inclusionary zoning, particularly in the provisions of the 'General Housing' zone.
24. Labor will continue to expand Tasmania's social housing assets by working with Federal, State or other initiatives.
25. Labor will support the expansion of co-operatives, encourage participation models and support the formation of tenant groups.
26. Labor will promote and expand not-for-profit, community-based housing organisations.
27. Labor will ensure crisis and transitional housing accommodation is available in locations where it is needed.
28. Labor believes it is critical that government give young people at risk or in out-of-home care the support they need to succeed and is committed to giving vulnerable young people a safe place to live.
29. Labor recognises that for many young people in the out-of-home care system, moving from foster or kinship care to independent living can be extremely challenging, especially with the current housing affordability crisis in Tasmania.
30. Labor recognises that people exiting correctional services are at higher risk of homelessness.

31. Labor supports exploring innovative construction methods, including modern building techniques, to improve housing supply, efficiency and affordability.
32. Labor will build the workforce and delivery systems needed to expand housing supply sustainably. This includes coordinated government-led delivery capability, expanded training and apprenticeship pathways, opportunities for jobseekers to participate in construction training, and improved local supply chains to support timely, cost-effective housing development.
33. Labor will strengthen Tasmania's capacity to deliver additional housing quickly by improving the utilisation of existing assets and enabling modern, flexible forms of construction. This includes identifying buildings suitable for rapid adaptation, reducing delays in returning vacant homes to use, and supporting innovative, evidence-based housing design that can be deployed at speed where appropriate.

## **Planning Is The Key To Growth**

34. Labor recognises the important role of planning in driving economic growth, workforce planning, addressing the housing crisis and preserving the Tasmanian way of life.
35. Labor understands the important role of an independent Planning Commission.
36. Labor believes Tasmania's planning system should be integrated, strategic and fit for growth.

## **Planning Is The Key To Equity**

37. Labor recognises the importance of community involvement, through local government, in planning for Tasmania's future growth.
38. Labor recognises the importance of comprehensive strategic planning across Tasmania to guide development and plan for future growth across our state.
39. Labor supports higher density housing within our cities so that Tasmanians can be closely connected with the services they rely on.
40. Labor supports a planning system that builds community trust, balances progress with local impact, and ensures Tasmanians can participate meaningfully in decisions about their future.

## **Infrastructure Is Essential For Productive and Liveable Communities**

41. Labor believes infrastructure should unlock opportunity and strengthen Tasmania's economy, especially in regional communities where better transport, water, energy and digital networks support jobs and access to services.
42. Labor believes infrastructure should enhance quality of life by delivering safe roads, vibrant public spaces and parks, and infrastructure that reflects cultural heritage and connection to Country.

## **Infrastructure Must Ensure Resilient and Sustainable Solutions**

43. Labor values infrastructure that is resilient and adaptable to bushfire, flood, and supply chain disruption and that protects communities and essential services.
44. Labor is committed to infrastructure that respects the environment, reduces emissions, manages natural resources fairly and supports sustainable communities.

## **Infrastructure Creates Future Opportunities**

45. Labor will plan future-ready infrastructure systems that integrate smart transport and social infrastructure that support energy transition, enhances communities and enable digital connectivity, while ensuring privacy, security and fairness.

## **Infrastructure Enables Better Accountability and Governance**

46. Labor believes infrastructure should be guided by a clear vision for settlement and growth, with transparent investment decisions and programs that optimise opportunities and outcomes.

47. Labor believes critical infrastructure such as energy, water and transport must remain under public governance with openness, integrity and public confidence.

## **A Fairer Transport System**

48. Labor believes transport should connect people to opportunity, delivering an inclusive, affordable and accessible system for all Tasmanians, regardless of where they live.

49. Labor believes transport services and infrastructure should reflect local needs and support regional opportunity through community input.

50. Labor believes a strong transport system relies on skilled workers who are fairly paid, safe and respected.

51. Labor believes affordable, accessible and sustainable public and active transport is essential to a fair economy and a core responsibility of government.

52. Labor believes modern, efficient transport and logistics networks are essential to reducing emissions, lowering costs and strengthening economic resilience.

53. Labor believes Tasmania's freight disadvantage must be addressed to ensure local industries can compete on fair terms with the mainland.

## **Safer Journeys**

54. Labor believes safety is central to transport and that transport systems should be designed to reduce risk and support communities to thrive.

## **Journeys That Are Sustainable**

55. Labor believes Tasmania's future depends on low-emission, reliable, inclusive transport that provides real travel choices and strengthens public and active transport.

56. Labor will integrate transport services with land use and digital connectivity to create sustainable, connected communities with accessible opportunity and thriving innovation.

# Chapter 5. Government, Law and Safety

## Protecting Rights by Strengthening Institutions

### **A Charter of Rights and Equal Dignity for All Tasmanians**

1. Labor supports and will implement a Human Rights Act in Tasmania.
2. Labor supports the right to peaceful assembly and protest.
3. Labor is committed to eradicating discrimination, whether it be on the basis of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political activity, sexuality, gender, national or social origin, property, birth or any other protected attribute.
4. Labor recognises the right to seek asylum.
5. Labor recognises the importance that Australia adheres to international law, including state and national legislation to enact treaties Australia signs.
6. Labor is committed to the rights of LGBTIQ+ Tasmanians and will ensure that the needs of LGBTIQ+ communities are taken into account across every area of government policy and service delivery.
7. Labor will continue to strengthen Tasmania's laws and policy environments to protect and enhance the rights and lives of LGBTIQ+ Tasmanians.

### **A Strong and Inclusive Democracy**

8. Labor values the rights to parliamentary representation and participation as fundamental tenets of our democracy.
9. Labor is committed to ensuring that voting is accessible, free and fair at all levels of government.
10. Labor recognises the importance of an independent electoral commission and commissioner and will protect the role of the TEC in ensuring the integrity of the electoral system.
11. Labor supports the fair, open and transparent operation of our electoral system which ensures the democratic principle that every person should have the right to full participation in it.
12. Labor supports further improvements to our electoral system to enable full voting enfranchisement for people with impaired vision and other disabilities.
13. Labor will implement further reforms to the Electoral Donation and Funding Act to improve transparency, openness, accountability, truth in political advertising and limits on election related spending in Tasmanian politics.

### **Transparent, Accountable and Ethical Government**

14. Labor believes in active disclosure of government information and will protect and enhance Tasmania's Right to Information Act and its implementation.

15. Labor values truly transparent and accountable government. Labor in government will reform the Integrity Commission to ensure it has the jurisdiction and resourcing required to properly do the job Tasmanians expect of it.

## **Strong Public Governance that Values Workers**

16. Labor is committed to restoring workers' voices in representative and advisory bodies, boards and committees, and will engage with unions when government policy has implications for workers.
17. Labor believes that good governance and transparency require the membership of government boards to include people with knowledge, skills and expertise relevant to the board. As such, a Labor Government will ensure that:
  - a. boards of government businesses have members with industrial relations experience from the relevant industry to ensure that the government is a model employer, and
  - b. boards that oversee industry operations or professional standards have representatives of workers from the relevant registered industrial organisations.
18. Labor is committed to government procurement that is governed by probity, accountability and transparency. A Labor government will implement modern procurement policies which properly evaluate the full scope of economic and social benefits, including value for money, compliance with ethical standards, worker safety and employment practices, and local economic benefits.
19. Labor will ensure modern procurement policies are applied fairly and consistently to all government departments, agencies, businesses and statutory bodies, to deliver transparent and sustainable procurement across all of government and improved outcomes for Tasmanian communities.

## **A Professional and Independent Public Service**

20. Labor will support and protect the independence of all oversight bodies including (but not limited to) the Integrity Commission, Ombudsman, Health Complaints Commissioner, National Preventative Mechanism, Commissioner for Children and Young People, Anti-Discrimination Commissioner, Tasmanian Industrial Commission and others.
21. Labor will ensure all of Tasmania's statutory authorities that govern our community are properly funded and resourced to perform the roles Tasmanians expect of them.
22. Labor will work with the state service and unions to build an effective and independent public sector with fair and equitable employment conditions and job security.

## **An Independent and Accessible Justice System**

23. Labor supports access to justice and recognises the importance of a well-funded public and community legal sector.
24. Labor recognises the fundamental importance of an independent judiciary and magistracy.
25. Labor will support and establish a Judicial Commission to provide oversight to the conduct of Tasmania's Supreme Court justices.
26. Labor supports alternative sentencing courts, including drug and alcohol, family violence, youth, indigenous and restorative justice courts.

27. Labor will increase the capability of the existing Court Mandated Drug Diversionary Program and use this as a model for further alternative sentencing courts.

## **Humane and Effective Prevention and Rehabilitation**

28. Labor is committed to genuine programs to allow for rehabilitation that prevents re-offending and reduces crime.
29. Labor supports programs that address the causes of offending.
30. Labor recognises the importance of a safe, well-resourced prison system that ensures the safety of inmates and prison workers.
31. Labor recognises the importance of the justice system in preventing family violence, including non-physical forms of family violence.
32. Labor recognises that the Tasmanian Aboriginal community is overrepresented in the justice and prison systems and will work with the Tasmanian Aboriginal community to develop culturally appropriate programs to support and improve outcomes.

## **Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence**

33. Labor believes all people have a right to safety and dignity in their home, workplace, community and health environments.
34. Labor stands firmly against all forms of family violence and recognises the drivers of family and intimate partner violence and seeks reform to address this across all policy settings.
35. Labor will continue to work with stakeholders, at all levels, to inform policy and action frameworks that seek to be victim/survivor focused and based on evidence and early intervention.
36. Labor will work to address barriers to safe access of support services and holds the ideal that front line services should predominantly be provided by resource-secure government agencies.
37. Labor understands that family violence rarely occurs in isolation and that addressing all contributing factors concurrently is essential to change behaviours.
38. Labor recognises that perpetrators of family violence must be immediately dealt with in crisis situations, and vulnerable family members protected.

## **Putting Victims at the Centre of Justice**

39. Labor is committed to a robust system of compensation for victims of crime in Tasmania, and for voices of victims of crime and families to be heard in the criminal justice system.
40. Labor will ensure that victims of crime are properly supported, through timely and appropriate responses to help victims of crime rebuild their lives.

## **Delivering Accountability for Workplace Crime**

41. Labor supports a regulatory framework that provides for civil and criminal penalties for acts or omissions that endanger or harm workers.
42. Labor supports industrial manslaughter legislation.
43. Labor opposes wage theft and supports strong protections to ensure workers are paid what they are owed.

## **Making our Community Safe and Addressing the Causes of Crime**

44. Labor recognises the important role our police, courts and correctional centres play in reducing crime. Labor also recognises poverty, inequality of opportunity and access to resources, unemployment and mental health also impact significantly on the level of crime in our communities.
45. Labor is committed to exploring and implementing innovative preventative measures to reduce crime. Labor believes in a democratic society, it is necessary for our Police Service to be effective, well resourced, non-partisan and apolitical.
46. Labor will support our Police Service to keep our communities safe.
47. Labor believes our Police Officers should be provided with ongoing support for, and adequate resources to access, professional development. This will include training and professional supervision in dealing with family and sexual violence, child abuse and vulnerable persons.
48. Labor will work with Tasmania Police to implement “well-being” rosters for Officers working in 24-hour stations, to ensure the health and safety of our front-line services is supported in their workplace.

## **Strong Emergency Services for a Prepared and Resilient Tasmania**

49. Labor acknowledges the vital work of emergency services including the Tasmanian Ambulance Service, Tasmania Police Service, Tasmania Fire Services, State Emergency Service, Volunteer Fire Brigade services, Marine Rescue organisations, and all the workers and volunteers who protect our State.
50. Labor believes that the purpose of an emergency services system is the protection of life, property and the environment. Labor also believes that emergency services must be appropriately resourced and geographically located to be able to respond to emergencies, with maximum speed and effectiveness, to preserve life and property and the environment, aid recovery from disasters and work towards disaster mitigation.
51. Labor recognises the effects of climate change and that natural disasters such as bushfires and floods are likely to increase in severity into the future. Labor acknowledges that it is likely this will create an increased need for emergency services as a result of the effects of climate change on a growing and changing population.

## **Recognising the Importance Effective Local Government**

52. Labor recognises the importance of local representation within our communities.
53. Labor acknowledges the importance of local government in providing services, and as major employers providing good quality, secure jobs for Tasmanians.
54. Labor will not support any form of compulsory amalgamation and will only support voluntary amalgamations where there is a tangible benefit to the communities involved.
55. Labor remains committed to working in partnership with local government, regional authorities and unions to enable all levels of government to build a shared vision and deliver better outcomes across employment, health and wellbeing, community development, infrastructure and education.

56. Labor recognises that workforce planning is crucial to ensuring that local governments are equipped with the people and skills necessary to provide high-quality services.
57. Labor understands the important role traineeships and apprenticeships of Local Government in future workforce development and will increase opportunities for these.
58. Labor recognises the importance of compliant work health and safety management systems in Local Government and is committed to improving work health and safety in Local Government.

# Chapter 6. Social Justice and Community

## A Fair and Inclusive Tasmania

### **Kindness, Fairness and Equal Opportunity for Every Tasmanian**

1. Labor will uphold dignity, fairness and opportunity for every Tasmanian by ensuring laws, decisions and public services are consistent with human rights and remove discrimination.
2. Labor supports strengthening human rights protections in Tasmania to ensure public authorities act fairly, transparently and accountably.
3. Labor believes laws and public institutions should actively prevent discrimination and challenge racism, extremism and structural barriers that exclude people based on culture, gender, sexuality, age, disability, faith or socio economic status.
4. Labor will strengthen public education on inclusion by supporting community initiatives that promote shared understanding, diversity and respectful relationships.
5. Labor will ensure government consultation actively includes regional, marginalised and multicultural communities and values the role of civil society, unions and community groups in strengthening democracy.
6. Labor will promote democratic participation through civic education, community organising and simple ways for Tasmanians to have a say in planning and budgeting.
7. Labor recognises digital access as essential to participation in modern society and supports efforts to improve digital inclusion, skills and access across the state.

### **Food, Connection and Community Support**

8. Labor will improve food security by supporting community kitchens, gardens, school breakfast programs and social enterprises that expand access to nutritious food.
9. Labor will strengthen local community infrastructure including libraries, neighbourhood houses and community hubs that support learning, connection and participation.

### **Supporting Creative Expression and Cultural Identity**

10. Labor recognises arts and culture as central to Tasmania's identity, wellbeing and economy and supports artists and creative workers to tell Tasmanian stories.
11. Labor supports regional and community arts to increase the unique identity for Tasmanian townships.
12. Labor supports community theatre to have affordable and accessible performing spaces.
13. Labor supports lifelong engagement with the arts in schools, community spaces and aged care settings.

14. Labor supports creators in the digital age by engaging with appropriate supports.
15. Labor supports First Nations and multicultural cultural expression to tell their stories and strengthen arts in Tasmania.
16. Labor supports cultural infrastructure, building up regionals through arts, public libraries and archives to ensure access and community connection.

## **Safe, Fair and Inclusive Community Sport**

17. Labor will promote participation in sport and recreation for health, wellbeing and equality by ensuring programs are accessible regardless of gender, income, ability or location.
18. Labor will expand community sport by supporting collaboration between clubs, schools and local government to grow participation, especially for women, girls, First Nations people, LGBTIQ people and people with disability.
19. Labor believes sporting organisations that receive public funding should promote gender equity, prevent discrimination and ensure fair access to facilities.
20. Labor will promote safe, inclusive and respectful sporting environments that reject violence, racism, homophobia and discrimination.
21. Labor will adopt safe sport codes in community clubs including child safety, member protection and complaint pathways.

## **Listening to Young People and Backing Their Future**

22. Labor believes young people should have a genuine voice in decisions that affect their lives and supports embedding meaningful mechanisms for youth participation in policy making and public decision making.
23. Labor will continue to advocate for access to free public health clinics for students in all schools that provide services such as:
  - a. support for sexual and reproductive health issues;
  - b. mental health issues.
24. Labor recognises the importance of mental health, wellbeing and early support, and is committed to reducing youth suicide by addressing the social, economic and health factors that place young people at risk.
25. Labor recognises the need to work with families, communities and service providers to address health challenges affecting young people, including alcohol and drug related harm.
26. Labor believes all young people should have fair and affordable access to education, training and employment, regardless of income, background or where they live.
27. Labor believes participation in sport, culture and community life plays an important role in supporting young people to build confidence, relationships and positive connections.
28. Labor believes youth justice policy should prioritise prevention, early intervention and diversion, recognising that early contact with the justice system can increase the risk of long term offending and intergenerational trauma.
29. Labor supports trauma informed and evidence based youth justice approaches that address the underlying causes of offending and support positive change.
30. Labor believes an effective youth justice system must balance accountability with rehabilitation, protect the rights of victims, and focus on repairing harm caused by offending.

31. Labor recognises that poor health, mental health and social outcomes can increase the risk of offending and re offending, and supports access to appropriate health and wellbeing supports for young people involved in the justice system.
32. Labor recognises the overrepresentation of Aboriginal children and young people in the youth justice system and is committed to working in partnership with Aboriginal communities to support culturally appropriate, community led responses that improve outcomes.
33. Labor supports a strong range of diversionary and therapeutic responses that deter offending early and keep children and young people out of custody wherever possible.
34. Labor supports a fair and evidence-based approach to youth justice that improves outcomes for young people and the community.
35. Labor recognises the need to engage with stakeholders to assist in addressing health problems, including alcohol and drug problems in youth.
36. Labor will create pathways for young people from all backgrounds to achieve their goals in education, training, and employment.

## **Safety, Equality and Opportunity for Women**

37. Labor will champion gender equality and ensure women and girls have access to safety, health and economic security across all regions.
38. Labor will ensure access to contraception, reproductive health and termination services through the public system and expand maternal, perinatal and menopause support.
39. Labor will ensure women have access to shelters and safe housing options including rural responses and programs that allow survivors to remain safely at home with security upgrades and legal support.
40. Labor will improve responses to family and sexual violence by strengthening integrated service systems, improving financial safety and addressing coercive control.
41. Labor will close gender pay gaps in the state public service through pay transparency, leadership targets, and practical measures that lift participation and job security.
42. Labor will improve paid parental leave settings, superannuation outcomes, and access to flexible, secure jobs in the state public service, including across the care economy.
43. Labor will support respectful relationships education from childhood and challenge harmful gender stereotypes.
44. Labor will ensure women's voices are represented in all areas of government decision making.

## **Strong Support for People When They Need It Most**

45. Labor supports a strong and sustainable community services sector, recognising the importance of stable funding, fair indexation and workforce development.
46. Labor will co design flexible and culturally appropriate services with community organisations, unions and people with lived experience.
47. Labor supports accessible education and training pathways in community services that build skills, strengthen the workforce and improve service quality.

48. Labor will reduce poverty through a fair safety net and policies that support secure work and adequate income.

## **Removing Barriers so Everyone Can Participate**

49. Labor believes people with disability have the right to dignity, respect, safety and freedom from discrimination and exploitation, and supports full participation in all aspects of community life.

50. Labor believes people with disability should be supported to exercise choice and control over their lives, achieve a good quality of life, and receive support when and where they need it.

51. Labor supports the removal of barriers to participation by improving accessibility across education, employment, civic life, public buildings, transport, housing and digital services, guided by universal design principles.

52. Labor believes people with disability should have the same opportunities for employment as other Tasmanians and supports inclusive employment pathways, including public sector leadership and partnerships with employers.

53. Labor recognises that people with disability face persistent disadvantage in the labour market and supports measures that actively address barriers to employment and job security.

54. Labor supports accessible communication as essential to inclusion and participation, including ensuring party and government communications are available in formats such as Easy Read, large print, captions, Auslan and other appropriate supports.

55. Labor recognises the National Disability Insurance Scheme plays a critical role in providing long term support for people with disability and supports its effective operation, sustainability and adequate funding.

56. Labor recognises that not all people with disability are eligible for the NDIS and supports access to appropriate services and continuity of care outside the scheme.

57. Labor supports independent advocacy, safeguarding and accountability to protect the rights of people with disability and ensure services are delivered with respect, dignity and transparency.

58. Labor recognises that a skilled, supported and fairly paid workforce is essential to high quality disability support and supports strong training pathways, secure work and career development in the care and support sector.

59. Labor supports disability inclusive emergency planning and disaster response, including clear responsibilities, strong safeguarding and continuity of supports before, during and after emergencies.

60. Labor supports the inclusion of people with disability and their representative organisations in policy development, service design and reform processes, recognising lived experience as central to good policy.

61. Labor recognises the overrepresentation of autistic and neurodivergent people in systems that are not designed to meet their needs and supports neurodiversity informed approaches across services and supports.

62. Labor supports the development and implementation of a Tasmanian Neurodiversity Strategy led by autistic and neurodivergent people and their families.

63. Labor recognises the importance of foundational supports and early intervention, and supports working with the Commonwealth and community to strengthen supports that sit alongside and outside the NDIS.

64. Labor supports fair and sustainable NDIS pricing arrangements that reflect the real costs of delivering services in regional and rural Tasmania.
65. Labor supports strong governance, consultation and accountability structures to promote disability inclusion across government and public services.

## **Self Determination, Truth and Justice for First Nations Peoples**

66. Labor will work in genuine partnership with Aboriginal Tasmanians to advance self determination, close the gap and ensure First Peoples cultures, rights and voices are respected.
67. Labor will support truth telling about Tasmania's history and progress pathways to Treaty and agreement making in partnership with Aboriginal communities.
68. Labor will strengthen protection of Aboriginal land, waters and heritage and support Aboriginal led management of natural and cultural sites.
69. Labor will work towards identifying opportunities to return significant Crown land to Aboriginal ownership and support long term Aboriginal community controlled land and sea management.
70. Labor will support Aboriginal economic and social development including training, health, cultural tourism and sustainable industries.
71. Labor will promote and protect Aboriginal languages, cultural practices and community led education.
72. Labor will expand justice reinvestment, cultural fire programs and ranger programs with long term funding.

## **A Tasmania Where LGBTIQ+ People Are Safe and Respected**

73. Labor recognises LGBTIQ+ rights are human rights. Labor supports the LGBTIQ+ community including their dignity, equality, respect and safety.
74. Labor will work closely with LGBTIQ+ Tasmanians, advocates and the diversity of organisations that represent their interests to develop policies that meet their specific needs, and to ensure equality with broader Tasmanian society. This will include the development of a social and wellbeing plan for LGBTIQ+ Tasmanians.
75. In Government, Labor will appoint a state minister for Equality.
76. Labor will remove any remaining legal and administrative discrimination and ensure that laws and policies are inclusive of diverse sexualities, genders, and sex characteristics.
77. Labor will promote understanding and acceptance of LGBTIQ+ people through education, community engagement, and public leadership.
78. Labor will ensure schools are positive environments for all. We will support initiatives, as selected by schools, that promote understanding, inclusion, and respect.
79. Labor will ensure that health, mental health, and social services are inclusive, culturally competent, and accessible to LGBTIQ+ people across the state. This will include the provision of continued professional development and education to the health and community sectors to ensure safe and culturally appropriate care.
80. Labor opposes all forms of conversion and suppression practices. Labor will work with survivors, advocates, and organisations, including professional bodies, to ensure that these discredited and damaging pseudo-science practices are both prevented and prohibited, and to promote justice and specialised support for those that have been harmed.

81. Labor will work with workers, employers, workplaces, community service organisations and unions to prevent bullying, harassment, and violence based on sexuality, gender identity, or intersex status.
82. Labor will support the development of strong, independent LGBTIQ+ community organisations and encourage their participation in policy making.
83. Labor recognises the specific needs of LGBTIQ+ people as they age and will respond accordingly, including through safe aged care and housing provision.
84. Labor recognises the specific needs of LGBTIQ+ youth, especially as they seek support and housing.
85. Labor will stand with LGBTIQ+ Tasmanians in advocating for equality at local, state and national forums and in international human rights forums.
86. Labor will adopt protections for people with variations of sex characteristics consistent with community-led principles, limiting non-urgent medical interventions without consent.
87. Labor will ensure trans and gender diverse people have access to safe, timely health care and clear administrative processes for identity documents.
88. Labor believes all Tasmanians should have the opportunity to be involved in sport and physical activity. Labor will support inclusive sport guidelines that encourage and support participation by all people, including transgender and gender diverse participants.
89. Labor supports the introduction of individual risk assessments for blood donations regardless of gender, and gender of partner.

## **Belonging, Safety and Respect for Multicultural Communities**

90. Labor is committed to working in partnership with multicultural and migrant community organisations to inform policy development and service delivery.
91. Labor supports culturally safe and language-accessible public services, including the provision of interpreting and translation services.
92. Labor supports targeted anti racism measures that address discrimination, vilification and hate experienced by migrants and refugees.
93. Labor supports policies that improve access to stable, secure, and fairly paid work for migrants and refugees, including stronger protections against workplace exploitation.
94. Labor will work to remove systemic, language and administrative barriers that limit migrants' and refugees' access to healthcare, education, housing, and employment support.
95. Labor supports increased access to English language education and adult learning programs to support settlement, employment, and civic participation.
96. Labor supports community-led initiatives that strengthen social cohesion and promote cross-cultural understanding.
97. Labor supports a welcoming Tasmania that respects cultural difference and protects the right of people to practise their culture and religion free from discrimination.

## **Supporting Veterans in Civilian Life**

98. Labor recognises the service to Australia of Tasmanians who have served, or continue to serve, in the Australian Defence Force, including veterans, reservists, Defence cadets, and those serving full-time interstate or internationally. Labor

acknowledges their ongoing contribution to Australia, their connection to Tasmania, and the skills, leadership and civic values they bring to community life during and after their service.

99. Labor will ensure that veterans are supported through assistance to find work, community and the necessary supports as they accommodate themselves back into civilian life.

# Chapter 7.

# The Environment and Climate Change

## Valuing What Makes Tasmania Special

### Valuing Nature, Heritage and Country

1. Labor believes that every Tasmanian has a right to a healthy and safe environment.
2. Labor believes that our natural and cultural heritage must be fostered and our landscapes appropriately managed for environmental, social, cultural, economic, educational and scientific purposes, as well as for Tasmania's future.
3. Labor understands that Tasmanians care about and cherish their natural environment.
4. Labor understands that many Tasmanians directly rely on the natural environment to maintain quality of life.
5. Labor is committed to working with the community to achieve environmental outcomes that are consistent with our state's internationally recognised environmentally-responsible reputation.
6. Labor believes in the protection of Tasmania's natural beauty and the cultural significance of our natural heritage.
7. Labor recognises that nature has an intrinsic value, our catchments, landscapes and all land systems play a vital role in protecting biodiversity and in mitigating the effects of climate change.
8. Labor believes in the intrinsic value of national parks and reserves to the environment, public health and community welfare.
9. Labor affirms that Tasmania's National Parks, reserves and protected areas are public assets held in trust for the whole community, and must be managed for public benefit, environmental protection, and equitable access. Labor opposes the privatisation, exclusivity, or commercialisation of public parks where this undermines community access, environmental values, or public confidence in park management.
10. Labor's core objectives in establishing national parks and reserve areas is to protect flora, fauna, cultural heritage, biodiversity, and water catchments while allowing safe recreation, scientific research and educational use.
11. Labor recognises and respects Aboriginal people's inherent connection to country and deep knowledge of its ecology.
12. Labor supports initiatives that protect natural environments and allow for sustainable nature-based tourism opportunities, including "Dark Sky" parks and reserves.

### Strengthening the Antarctic/Tasmania Bond

13. Labor believes Tasmania's role as an Antarctic gateway supports scientific leadership, international cooperation and economic opportunity.

14. Labor continues to support Tasmania as the home of Antarctic expeditions, science and policy-making and will work to protect that relationship.

## **Respecting Science, Governance and Environmental Responsibility**

15. Labor will prioritise a science-based approach to all aspects of environmental management.
16. Labor acknowledges that the Tasmanian State of the Environment Report 2024 provided clear evidence of significant gaps and failings in data-sets regarding the Tasmanian Environment and the accessibility and usability of that data, and will ensure these datasets are developed and maintained and that there is regular public reporting on the state of the Tasmanian Environment.
17. Labor supports a strong, independent and well-resourced environmental regulator with effective enforcement powers.

## **Adapting to Climate Change and Preparing for a Resilient Future**

18. Labor believes that climate change poses one of the most significant risks to land systems, land uses and the lifestyle Tasmanians enjoy and treasure.
19. Labor believes that Governments at all levels—local, state and national—have a role in tackling climate change and must take urgent action to do so.
20. Labor will develop and implement management programs and initiatives that will reduce, over time, the greenhouse gas emissions from all areas of the economy.
21. Labor will take broad comprehensive scientific and economic advice when consulting and deciding on actions to tackle climate change.
22. Labor acknowledges the importance of management programs that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from all sectors of economic activity.
23. Labor believes that effective urban environment policies create resilient cities capable of adapting to future changes and will support their development and implementation.
24. Labor believes government operations should be sustainable and work towards carbon positivity.

## **Valuing Sound Environmental Management Practices**

25. Labor believes that ecological protection through environmental and land management services is vital.
26. Labor recognises that Tasmania has a unique and diverse range of species, habitats and ecosystems and that governments must play an important role in identifying and managing threats to these systems.
27. Labor will continue to be committed to assess all values, including natural, traditional, cultural and heritage and economic, in land management planning.
28. Labor recognises the vital role of the staff who work to care for and manage our national parks, reserves and World Heritage Areas and will ensure they have the skills and resources they need to do so.
29. Labor believes parks, reserves and World Heritage areas should be accessible to all Tasmanians, including people with disability, and managed for equitable, shared use.
30. Labor believes that any development in National Parks or reserves should represent an overall win for the environment.

31. Labor believes that water, coastal regions and marine ecosystems are integral to the Australian culture and environment and should be managed in a way that appropriately reflects their value.
32. Labor recognises that habitat fragmentation threatens ecosystems and biodiversity and supports efforts to reconnect and restore landscapes.
33. Labor recognises coastal areas are fragile and vulnerable to environmental change and development, and supports their protection through sensible management and community engagement.
34. Labor recognises the importance of the early detection and suppression of fires and best practice fuel reduction burns to reduce the severity of wildfires and their effects on the environment and people.
35. Labor acknowledges there is still much to rediscover about Palawa use of fire and the value of “cool burns” in the landscape for environmental management including fire management and will encourage research and training in this area.
36. Labor acknowledges the importance of applying best practice pollution control in primary and secondary industries.

## **Caring for Marine Ecosystems**

37. Labor recognises that Tasmania's marine ecosystem is both a unique ecological and economic resource. It underpins our island lifestyle.
38. Labor believes in the need to protect and maintain marine species and ecosystems informed by a strong scientific basis.
39. Labor notes with concern that these systems are already showing strong signs of impact by climate change, particularly warming waters.

## **Protecting Freshwater and Catchments**

40. Labor recognises Tasmania's freshwater systems are under increasing pressure from growing and competing demands.
41. Labor believes the State Government has a vital role in protecting the health of our lakes and rivers through responsible, science-based management.
42. Labor recognises climate change poses a significant and growing risk to Tasmania's freshwater systems and the communities and industries that rely on them.
43. Labor will take steps to ensure there is clear and transparent management of our freshwater resources which prioritises health and the environment.
44. Labor recognises the value of the Derwent Estuary Program and the Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce and supports coordinated, catchment-based management of rivers and estuaries to protect water quality and ecosystems.
45. Labor recognises that nature has an intrinsic value, our catchments, landscapes and all land systems play a vital role in protecting biodiversity, maintaining human health and in mitigating the effects of climate change.
46. Labor believes that water, coastal regions and marine ecosystems are integral and vital to the Australian environment and culture and should be managed in a way that appropriately reflects their value.
47. Labor recognises the statewide inventory of wetlands and its qualification of typical, unique, and sensitive wetland habitats and their communities.
48. Labor recognises the provisions of the Ramsar convention in relation to Ramsar-listed wetlands.

49. Labor acknowledges the importance of the protection and proper care of all wetland systems in Tasmania.

## **Valuing and Maintaining Biodiversity**

- 50. Labor recognises that Tasmania has a unique, rich and diverse range of species, habitats and ecosystems and that governments must play an important role in identifying and managing threats to these systems.
- 51. Labor will ensure the maintenance of rigorous and scientifically based classification of rare, threatened and endangered native species.
- 52. Labor recognises the importance of assessing the status of flora and fauna and monitoring the populations of rare, threatened and endangered species, and managing for their ongoing recovery.
- 53. Labor supports a comprehensive approach to protecting rare, threatened and endangered species and habitats, including community-based efforts to support conservation and restoration.

## **Diligently Managing Weeds, Pests and Diseases**

- 54. Labor acknowledges the importance of effective management programs to reduce threats from weeds, pests and diseases.
- 55. Labor recognises invasive species cause significant environmental and economic impact and supports responsible management that considers both ecological and community need.
- 56. Labor supports ongoing monitoring for the presence of invasive pest species and their eradication where possible, recognising that many such threats do not make their presence obvious until eradication is impossible.
- 57. Labor will ensure that stringent biosecurity is maintained to preserve Tasmania's relative freedom from pests and diseases.
- 58. Labor supports research and effective management of invasive species, including pests, weeds and feral animals.
- 59. Labor supports coordinated responses to biosecurity threats, including community involvement and ensuring there is capacity for rapid action.
- 60. Labor supports humane and effective approaches to pest management that minimise harm and reduce secondary poisoning while protecting the environment, and recognises the achievements of previous Labor governments, particularly those resulting in the significant reduction in the use of 1080 poison.

## **Minimising Waste and Pollution and Maximising Resource Recovery**

- 61. Labor believes that wastage must be minimised and re-use maximised.
- 62. Labor believes in an effective waste management strategy based on principles of sustainability and protection of the environment including water sources.
- 63. Labor is committed to extending and improving resource recovery from all solid waste generated in Tasmania, including the establishment of resource recovery industries.
- 64. Labor supports the principle of new and existing mining, industrial, waste management, and development sites utilising closed-loop systems to contain polluting contaminants based on best-practice scientific and technological advice.

## **Ensuring Industry and The Environment Have a Well Managed Co-Existence**

65. Labor understands the importance of ensuring that government policy and economic activity remains within ecological limits, mindful of impacts of the climate and biodiversity.
66. Labor believes that Tasmanians should receive a fairer return from their natural resources, to help support quality public services and achieve the state's social, economic and environmental objectives.
67. Labor believes that industries should be legally required and are morally required to take responsibility for rehabilitation of industrial sites at end of use.
68. Labor believes industrial operations should not be permitted to use chemicals which endanger the environment or human health in ways that they are likely to do so.
69. Labor acknowledges the value of the timber industry and industries based on forest products. Labor supports these industries achieving the highest standards of environmental conservation, innovation and sustainability.
70. Labor recognises that habitat loss can increase risks to vulnerable species and supports forestry practices that protect biodiversity and avoid exacerbating species decline.
71. Labor acknowledges the value of other resource-based industries and will be informed by science on environmental impacts when considering their development or expansion.
72. Labor believes industries that use Tasmania's natural resources should leave the environment in a better state than they found it.

## **Ensuring Fairness, Taking Responsibility and Understanding Risk**

73. Labor believes in appropriately compensating landowners and businesses prevented from developing or utilising their properties because of government environmental or cultural decisions.
74. Labor believes nuclear technologies should be approached with extreme caution, prioritising safety, environmental protection and long-term responsibility.
75. Labor believes that radioactive waste is an obvious by-product of the nuclear age and should only be stored in Tasmania in sites where it can have no impact on ground, water and air.
76. Labor believes we have a moral responsibility to future generations to care for our environment.

# General Resolutions

General Resolutions express Conferences will at a specific point in time. These are separate to the Platform, and often more specific, topical and responsive in nature.

As determined by the Tasmanian Labor State Conference 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026

<b>Title</b>	<b>Albanese Labor Government's Delivery on Cost of Living and Budget Management</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

This Conference:

1. Notes the Albanese Labor Government is easing cost of living pressures, tackling inflation, delivering on key election commitments while also responsibly managing the budget. We have delivered the first back-to-back surpluses in almost two decades. The federal budget is more than \$200 billion stronger than what we inherited. The Albanese Labor Government's priority remains to build on our cost-of-living delivery and productivity.

2. Notes the Albanese Labor Government is:

- a. Delivering tax cuts for every taxpayer.
- b. Delivering a pay rise for all minimum and award wage workers.
- c. Expanding paid parental leave to 24 weeks with super also now being paid on all Government PPL.
- d. Delivering 30 per cent off home batteries to permanently cut power bills.
- e. Expanding 5 per cent deposits to all first home buyers.
- f. Delivering on a \$45 billion plan to build more homes.
- g. Cutting student debt by 20 per cent and delivering paid prac.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Inquiry into State Financial Management</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor will support and/or initiate an inquiry into the financial management of all fiscal arrangements of the State, including all State Government Departments, State owned companies or business enterprises, with a view to establishing efficacy, transparency and demonstrable fiscal outcomes in the public interest and where appropriate or deemed necessary to establish a commission of inquiry to ventilate (if found or established) issues of financial mismanagement or ineptitude, corruption relating to elite cartels, accountability, transparency and value for money and any coercive relationships which are likely to cause diminution of the financial benefits available to the public.

**Title**

# A future made in Australia is a future made in Tasmania.

**Chapter**

The Economy, Jobs and Employment

## Tasmanian Labor:

1. Reaffirms commitment to wealth-generating industries including metals manufacturing, forestry, mining, aquaculture as the backbone of secure jobs, strong wages, and working-class communities across Tasmania.
2. Endorses the Federal Labor Government's Future Made in Australia plan which prioritises sustainability and affirms Tasmania's vital role in building a competitive, value-adding industrial base.
3. Recognises the growing fragility of global supply chains, trade uncertainty, and geopolitical risk, reinforcing the need for strong sovereign industrial capability.
4. Calls on Labor governments and oppositions at all levels to work in partnership with unions and industry to take policy positions that:
  - a. Support public and private investment in local manufacturing and value-adding industries;
  - b. Support workforce development, training, and secure employment;
  - c. Position Tasmania as a key contributor to a strong, self-reliant Australian economy.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Public Holiday Reform and Winning back Time for Tasmanian Workers</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor recognises the importance of fair and consistent public holiday access for all Tasmanian workers and acknowledging that certain days hold important community value as time for workers to spend with their families and communities.

Tasmanian Labor condemns the State Liberal Government’s inaction on Public Holiday reform. Tasmanian Labor reaffirms its commitment to reforming the Statutory Holidays Act 2000 (Tas) by:

1. Recommitting to declaring Easter Sunday a public holiday, bringing Tasmania into line with every other Australian state and territory.
2. Committing to ensuring fairness for regional workers by providing the Central Coast Municipal Area with the Friday following the first Thursday in May (Agfest) as a statutory holiday.
3. Recommitting to the introduction of substitute public holidays for Boxing Day and New Year’s Day when they fall on weekends, consistent with national practice, in addition to the day itself.

Further, Tasmanian Labor:

1. Supports the SDA’s push nationally for a fifth week of annual leave as a way of returning part of the productivity dividend to all workers, recognising that productivity has grown faster than wages for many years and that extended leave supports wellbeing, safety, and family time, especially in industries with high weekend or irregular hours.
2. Affirms the principle of “winning back time for workers,” recognising that contemporary leave and public holiday settings should restore time for rest, family life, and community participation.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Standing Up for Those Who Serve: A Motion for Real Wage Increases</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor condemns the State Liberal Governments actions within the wage negotiations for the Public Sector EBA’s. It commits to hold the State Liberal Government to account for their shortcomings, by championing the workers, in all forums, and through advocating for timely resolution of real wage increases and conditions that support attraction and retention within the sector, while urging the ALP to visibly stand side-by-side with public sector workers in their campaign efforts.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Reproductive Health Leave and access to flexible work arrangements for all Tasmanian public sector workers</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

The impact of reproductive health issues on workforce participation – and workers’ health and wellbeing – has long been overlooked. In addition to causing serious physical and mental pain and logistical difficulties there is an ignorance, isolation and stigma around reproductive health issues that cause workers to suffer in silence and is linked to high rates of missed work and work opportunities. Impacts from delays in screening diagnosis can result in significant health implications for both men and women.

Tasmanian Labor supports Reproductive Health Leave as an entitlement that allows all workers to take time off to manage their reproductive health, including attending preventative screening appointments.

Tasmanian Labor supports:

1. A minimum of 12 days paid leave for reproductive health issues to be made available to all Tasmanian public sector workers regardless of gender identity.
2. Flexible work arrangements and reasonable adjustments made available for all those experiencing reproductive health issues.

Tasmanian Labor recognises the importance of Reproductive Health Leave entitlements to:

1. Promote health and wellbeing: by enabling workers to manage their reproductive health without compromising pay or employment.
2. Foster inclusivity: by recognising the diverse health needs of all employees and promoting a fair, safe and supportive workplace.
3. Encourage preventative care: by allowing time for necessary health screenings and treatments, reducing long-term health risks and interruption to work.
4. This leave will improve gender equality, help closing the gender pay gap between men and women workers and increase participation of women in the workforce.

<b>Title</b>	<b>End Outsourcing in the Public Sector</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor notes with disappointment that, the outsourcing of jobs in Government occupied buildings costs the taxpayer more than direct employment.

Tasmanian Labor commits when in government, to end the contracting out of jobs in Government occupied buildings and commits that the Government ensure that it will directly employ all cleaners and security workers serving those tenancies or buildings as State Service employees, so they can provide for their families and safe, secure well-paid jobs.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Support Education Facility Attendants in Tasmania Public Schools</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor condemns the Rockliff Government, and in particular, Minister Jo Palmer, for their inaction and lack of support for EFAs who are overworked and under-resourced.

Tasmanian Labor commits to:

1. Fully funding a maintenance formula that will see Government assets maintained by EFAs to a higher standard
2. Centralising the employment of EFAs to provide more full-time jobs and invest in professional development for our hard-working EFAs.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Employment Services - Back in Public Hands</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

The Conference calls on the Albanese Labor Government to:

1. Continue their commitment to a greater role for the APS in service delivery and reducing the use of labour hire in the department.
2. Reform the employment services system to create a system that provides diverse service offerings and tailored individual support.
3. Develop and publish a transition plan for a reformed employment services system, including bringing greater diversity of providers to the sector.
4. Work with unions, civil society groups, job seekers and employers on the development and implementation of a employment services model that is not punitive and genuinely improves employment outcomes.
5. Create a fair compliance system that doesn't penalise people unfairly, ensuring that decisions that impact payments are made appropriately and lawfully.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Services Australia Staffing</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

This Conference recognises the critical work of Services Australia in supporting Australians every day.

3,500 roles in Services Australia are at risk if supplementary funding is not made ongoing and workers are concerned about severe negative impacts on processing and call waiting times and compounding pressure on staff.

Trust in government is linked to service delivery standards. Satisfaction with public services correlates with increased trust across all Australian public institutions, and more so than in other OECD countries such as Australia. Worsening call waiting and processing times will not just add to financial pressure on families, it will erode trust in the current federal government.

This conference calls on the Albanese Labor government to make the supplementary funding ongoing to protect Services Australia jobs.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Regulating Labour Hire</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor notes that:

1. Our state is falling behind as one of the few jurisdictions without a Labour Hire Licensing Act.
2. Tasmanian workers will remain at an increased risk of exploitation without sufficient regulation of the labour hire industry.

Tasmanian Labor commits to:

1. Enacting a Labour Hire Licensing Act in Tasmania that ensures protections for workers and provides penalties for labour hire companies who mistreat workers under labour hire schemes, and
2. Including employment conversion provisions to ensure that no worker is able to be held on endless labour hire contracts, and instead can gain secure, full-time or part-time employment through direct employment.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Apprentice wages under Same Job, Same Pay</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

This Conference notes the positive impact of the Same Job, Same Pay legislation in encouraging direct employment and life changing pay increases for thousands of workers.

This Conference further notes a review is currently being undertaken into the Closing the Loopholes legislation.

However, notes the continued use of apprentices employed through labour hire, contractors, GTO's or other arrangements by some host employers undermines apprentice wages, enterprise bargaining and agreement coverage.

Tasmanian Labor supports apprentices receiving the relevant percentage of the tradespersons wage from workplace enterprise agreements.

In order to ensure all loopholes regarding apprentice wages are fixed, this Conference calls on the Federal Government to amend the Fair Work Act 2009 (Cth) to ensure apprentices undertaking work at a workplace receive the relevant percentage of the tradespersons wage from an enterprise agreement in place.

<b>Title</b>	<b>First Responder Superannuation</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor will advocate in support of increasing superannuation contributions by at least 4.4% so that first responders and their families are not financially penalised in retirement after serving Tasmanian Communities.

Title	Motion to expand Fair Work Ombudsman Resourcing and Workplace Inspections in Tasmania.
Chapter	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor:

1. Notes that wage theft and workplace exploitation remain widespread in Tasmania, particularly in sectors such as Hospitality, Cleaning and Security Industry, where Migrants, young and Casuals workers are overrepresented.

2. Recognises that:

- a. Tasmania has significantly fewer proactive Fair Work inspections than other states.
- b. Many vulnerable workers, including international students and Temporary Visa holders are reluctant to report underpayment due to fear of job loss or visa consequences.
- c. Enforcement of workplace rights should not rely solely on worker complaints, especially in marginalised communities.
- d. Recognises the important changes the Albanese Labor Government has made in its Protecting Worker Entitlements 2023 Bill which ensures the application of Australian workplace laws and conditions apply to migrant workers.

3. Calls on the Federal Labor Government to:

- a. Monitor and ensure sustainable funding of the Fair Work Ombudsman specifically for proactive, unannounced workplace inspection in Tasmania.
- b. Support the enforcement team within the Fair Work Ombudsman to ensure it has cultural and language competency to ensure it can support and work with migrant communities.
- c. Consider, in consultation with Tasmanian public sector unions, a role for the Fair Work Ombudsman in compliance and enforcement of workplace laws in the Tasmanian Public Sector, and what may be required to give effect to such a role.

4. Further calls for:

- a. Ensuring sustainable funding for community-based workplace rights education programs for migrants and young workers in Tasmania, and
- b. Supports legislative reform in the Tasmanian jurisdiction to strengthen penalties for wage theft.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Removal of Step Down Provisions from the, WORKERS REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION ACT 1988 (TAS)</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor, when in government, will commit to the removal of “Step Down Provisions” from the “Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988 (TAS)”.

As a movement we should not support the continuation of step-down provisions in the Act. They should be considered punitive, and we must acknowledge that they have a negative impact on the health of injured workers. And, that they disproportionately disadvantage women and low income earners and are therefore inconsistent with the objectives of the Act.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Fair Go for Tasmanian Migrant Workers</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor reaffirms the Party’s commitment to a fair go for migrant workers. Tasmanian Labor will:

1. Establish and resource a Migrant Workers Centre
  - a. Create a dedicated centre that delivers workplace rights education, advocacy and support for migrant workers. This centre must work closely with unions, multicultural community organisations, and all stakeholders to ensure workers can understand and assert their rights at work.
2. Ensure that any Tasmanian Designated Area Migration
  - a. Agreement (DAMA) does not see Tasmanian migrant workers paid less than the national minimum threshold for skilled visas.
  - b. A DAMA that includes wage concessions would allow employers to pay migrant workers on skilled visas less here than the minimum standards that apply nationally. Tasmanian Labor rejects wage concessions in migration agreements for our state, and will remove any such wage concessions that may be in place when they come to government.
3. Urgently establish and resource a labour hire licensing scheme
  - a. Introduce and enforce a strong statewide labour hire licensing system to prevent exploitation and shut down dodgy operators.

No shift worker should be penalised for working more than 7.6 ordinary hours a day by having fewer than 10 days available to be taken as sick leave, paid as they would have worked.

Currently, shift workers undertaking 10 or 12 hour shifts are only entitled to 76 hours personal leave, leaving them disadvantaged as a full 10 days would equate to 100 or 120 hours respectively.

Tasmanian Labor supports all workers receiving a full 10 days personal leave in a manner that reflects their actual working arrangements.

Tasmanian Labor further recognises that the current structure of personal leave under the National Employment Standards may not adequately reflect the working patterns of all employees, particularly those working non-standard or extended shifts.

This Conference therefore calls on the Federal Government to:

1. Consider the operation of personal leave entitlements as part of the current review of the National Employment Standards; and
2. Ensure that reforms deliver fair and equitable outcomes for workers, including shift workers working extended hours, including consideration of defining a "day" as the length of an employee's rostered shift or standard work day.

Tasmanian Labor notes that:

1. Tasmania's major manufacturing industries, including the Boyer Paper Mill and emerging hydrogen proponents in Bell Bay, require reliable, affordable access to electricity to remain competitive and to safeguard Tasmanian jobs.
2. The current Liberal Government has failed to recognise the statewide importance of critical energy infrastructure, instead placing financial and administrative barriers in the way of businesses seeking to expand or modernise their operations.
3. This failure includes not directing TasNetworks to plan and deliver the transmission upgrades required to support new industrial demand, limiting the ability of key industries to invest in future proof energy solutions.
4. Insufficient transmission planning has also restricted growth in Tasmania's renewable energy sector, directly affecting local manufacturing, including contributing to the loss of approximately 200 northern Tasmanian jobs previously involved in producing wind turbine components for Tasmanian projects.

Tasmanian Labor believes that:

1. Strategic transmission infrastructure is essential to Tasmania's economic sovereignty, long term manufacturing capability, and transition to renewable energy.
2. A coordinated, publicly guided transmission strategy would unlock major industrial investment in regions such as Boyer and Bell Bay, support emerging hydrogen industries, and provide secure employment for Tasmanians.
3. Properly planned transmission capacity is also critical to enabling expanded wind farm development and restoring local turbine manufacturing capability, supporting a just transition for workers and communities.

Tasmanian Labor resolves that a future Tasmanian Labor Government will:

1. Recognise critical energy transmission as essential public infrastructure, and ensure TasNetworks is empowered and directed to plan, fund, and deliver transmission upgrades necessary to support industrial growth.
2. Remove unnecessary financial barriers that currently prevent major employers, including Boyer and the Bell Bay industrial precinct, from accessing the energy infrastructure they need to invest with confidence in Tasmania.
3. Prioritise renewable energy enabled manufacturing, including the conditions required to support the return and expansion of wind turbine production and other clean energy supply chain jobs in northern Tasmania.
4. Work collaboratively with industry, unions, and communities to ensure energy infrastructure planning supports secure, long term, high skill jobs for Tasmanians across regional areas.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Meeting Tasmania's Future Energy Needs</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor believes that the Tasmanian Power Generation system should be developed through an integrated strategic approach bringing together Hydro Tasmania, TasNetworks and the Tasmanian Government

1. All of Tasmanians energy needs including additional capacity to meet industry expansion will be met by Hydro Tasmania's generation assets.
2. Hydro Tasmania will be directed to develop a portfolio renewable energy projects. These projects will meet 100% of Tasmania's energy needs and meet Benefit Cost Ratio tests.
3. Renewable Energy Projects will be located so they make the best possible use of existing transmission infrastructure.
4. Privately owned generation capacity will be directed to both Bass Link and the Marinus Link.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Renewable Energy</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor commits in government to driving new renewable energy generation and making Tasmania a clean energy powerhouse. A Tasmanian Labor Government will work with the Australian Government to:

1. Implement the 2025 Federal Environmental Standards criteria for the assessment of all renewable energy projects in Tasmania;
2. Coordinate renewable energy generation in strategic areas;
3. Develop long-term storage and grid firming;
4. Work with unions and RTOs to develop a renewable energy workforce, including traineeships and apprenticeships; and
5. Engage local communities to share the social and economic benefits of renewable energy projects.

Labor condemns the Liberals for their failure to bring any new renewable energy generation online for the last five years. Their slow delivery on renewable energy projects is costing Tasmania billions of dollars in lost economic opportunity and placing industrial jobs at risk.

Labor will continue to argue for the best possible deal from the National Electricity Market so that Tasmanian electricity consumers can pay Tasmanian prices for Tasmanian power.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Generation Levy</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor recognises that access to low-cost, clean and secure hydro power has powered Tasmanian homes and industry. Labor recognises that a failure to limit the electricity that Snowy Hydro exports to the national energy market has exposed industrial users and households to high power prices.

Labor commits to establishing a generation levy as an additional source of revenue to ensure that local communities and the state share in the value created by renewable developers harnessing Tasmania’s natural resources.

That renewable energy is a resource which will remain sustainable and will grow for the future, supporting the Tasmanian community.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Building Northern Tasmania’s Clean Energy Jobs Future</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor recognises the importance of creating secure, well paid local jobs through the responsible development of Tasmania’s renewable energy resources.

Tasmanian Labor believes that Northern Tasmania can become a centre of clean energy manufacturing and hydrogen development, provided this growth supports local workers, protects the environment, and ensures the benefits remain in Tasmanian hands.

Tasmanian Labor supports:

1. Growing wind energy generation across Tasmania in a way that strengthens job opportunities in regional areas such as Wynyard, Devonport, Launceston and the Northern Midlands.
2. Rebuilding and expanding local clean energy manufacturing capacity, with the aim of restoring and surpassing the 200 renewable manufacturing jobs previously lost in Northern Tasmania.
3. Ensuring renewable energy projects use Tasmania’s natural resources responsibly and in ways that protect the environment and maintain strong community involvement.
4. Developing a pathway for Tasmania to utilise surplus renewable energy to support affordable local power and to participate in emerging clean energy export opportunities, including green hydrogen.
5. Prioritising Tasmanian workers, Tasmanian industries, and Tasmanian communities in all major renewable energy developments to ensure economic benefits stay within the state.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Support for Industry and the Bell Bay Precinct.</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor recognises the importance of supporting and promoting Tasmanian industry, particularly in the industrial precinct of Bell Bay, so as to ensure opportunities and strong career pathways for our young people.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Gig Workers Pay and Conditions</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor will always fight for the pay and conditions of workers which is why it supports the Albanese Labor Government’s commitment to improving wages for low paid gig workers. By ensuring these workers receive better pay and conditions, the government is addressing long-standing issues of insecurity and underpayment in the gig economy. This is not only a win for those on the frontlines of food delivery, ride sharing, and other gig jobs, but a positive move for all Australians who value fairness at work.

Tasmanian Labor acknowledges the tireless advocacy of the Transport Workers’ Union (TWU) and the Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees’ Association (SDA) who advocate everyday for better pay and conditions for some of Tasmania’s lowest paid workers. The TWU and SDA’s ongoing campaigns have shone a light on the daily struggles faced by gig workers and have been instrumental in driving these IR reforms. Their efforts have helped secure vital protections, demonstrating the power of collective action and the essential role of unions in championing dignity and justice for all workers.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Transport workers fighting back</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

This Conference:

1. Stands in solidarity with Tasmanian transport workers who are taking part in major 2026 negotiations for national enterprise agreements that preserve strong wages, job security, and enhance the voices of workers;
2. Commits the Tasmanian ALP to actively support the Transport Workers Union in these negotiations through political advocacy, public campaigning, and engagement with employers and governments to secure fair outcomes for transport workers; and,
3. Supports the development of state and national legislative reform that strengthens collective bargaining, protects job security, holds clients at the top of the supply chain accountable, and ensures transport companies can operate sustainably while paying fair wages.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Tasmanian Bus Drivers Deserve Better</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

This Conference:

1. Stands in solidarity with bus drivers at Kinetic, who have been left with no choice but to take action in their fight for dignity, respect, and a fair wage;
2. Condemns the Tasmanian Liberal Government for failing to adequately fund Kinetic so that it is unable to pass on a fair pay increase to its drivers that's in line with other states and its own publicly funded bus operation; and,
3. Calls upon the Tasmanian Liberal Government to take responsibility for the crisis it has created, and stand with workers to deliver a fair wage to bus drivers across Tasmania.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Aged Care and Early Childhood Education and Care Wages</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

The Albanese Labor Government's decision to support and fund significant increases for aged care workers and early childhood education and care workers represents a crucial investment in Australia's care economy.

Tasmanian Labor supports these pay increases and the dedicated professionals who provide invaluable support to some of our most vulnerable citizens. Aged care workers ensure dignity, comfort, and quality of life for older Australians, often assisting with daily tasks, emotional support, and complex health needs.

Early Childhood Education and Care workers are equally vital, shaping the foundations of learning and wellbeing for our youngest Australians through nurturing environments that foster curiosity, resilience, and social skills. Both groups often go above and beyond, working long hours with compassion and professionalism, yet have historically been undervalued. By raising their pay, the government is not only recognising the essential nature of their work but also helping to attract and retain skilled staff, which in turn improves outcomes for those in care. This move signals respect for workers and a commitment to quality care for all Australians.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Aquaculture</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor stands by Tasmania’s responsible and sustainable aquaculture industry, as it continues to grow and innovate. Labor recognises that aquaculture supports thousands of Tasmanian families through direct and indirect employment, particularly in regional areas.

Considering the comprehensive range of reviews that have already been conducted into Tasmania’s aquaculture industry, Labor believes the Liberal-Green Government’s review is creating unnecessary uncertainty for the industry and its workers. The review is about politics – not environmental sustainability – and shows that Jeremy Rockliff will do anything to keep the Greens and Peter George on side no matter the cost to Tasmanian jobs.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Australian Food Security</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

It is essential that our trade relations are conducted with ‘Fair Trade’ in mind, where benefits are balanced with strong support for local food industries, secure jobs, and high national standards.

Australia’s agricultural sector, including regions such as Tasmania, is vital to national food security, regional employment, and export success. Major retailers, food manufacturers and global supply chains should operate in ways that are fair, transparent, and supportive of Australian producers.

All imports must meet Australia’s health, labour, and environmental standards to ensure a level playing field and maintain consumer confidence.

This Conference calls on the Federal Government to:

1. Continue strengthening fair competition laws to ensure supermarkets and large buyers treat Australian producers transparently and fairly.
2. Ensure Free Trade Agreements deliver reciprocal benefits, including market access for Australian farmers and protections against unfair trade practices and support local food manufacturing.
3. Invest in local industries through targeted support, innovation funding, and regional development to boost productivity and resilience.
4. Maintain and enforce robust biosecurity, food safety, labour, and environmental standards on all imported goods.
5. Support Australian consumers with affordable food prices while promoting Australian-made and locally sourced products.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Bell Bay Manganese Smelter</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	The Economy, Jobs and Employment

Tasmanian Labor calls on the Tasmanian and Federal Governments for urgent support to save the only manganese smelter in our nation. Workers, Tasmania and the country are better off if Bell Bay stays.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Save TAFE</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Education and Training

Tasmanian Labor knows that job cuts are not the way to grow the Tasmanian economy or deliver a better future for our state

Tasmanian Labor:

1. Condemns the Rockliff Abetz Government's cuts to TasTAFE, including the cutting of courses, the sacking of teachers and staff, and the scrapping of course subsidies.
2. Recognises that these cuts are the direct consequence of 13 years of Liberal waste, and that Premier Rockliff has given control of the Liberals' job cuts to his second in charge, Treasurer, Eric Abetz, whose agenda is hurting working Tasmanians.
3. Calls on the Rockliff Abetz Government to immediately reverse the \$45 million of cuts and guarantee no further cuts to TasTAFE courses, teachers or staff.
4. Will continue to hold Premier Rockliff and Treasurer Abetz to account for the damage their cuts are inflicting on Tasmania's training system and workforce pipeline.

Tasmanian Labor affirms:

5. Labor's commitment to saving TasTAFE, with no cuts to jobs and no cuts to courses.
6. Labor will invest in TAFE as the key institution for training tradies, health workers, carers, and early years educators to address Tasmania's skills shortages.

<b>Title</b>	<b>5 Day Kinder</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Education and Training

A Tasmanian Labor government will introduce the option of 5 day kinder in all state government schools, and lift the enrolment rates of 3 year olds in the early childhood education and care sector.

Tasmanian Labor notes:

1. We know that greater access to early learning is the best possible way to give Tasmanian kids a headstart in life and sets them up for success across their schooling.
2. Increased investment for Tasmanian children in the early years is necessary for better school outcomes;
3. The Early childhood education and care sector are best placed to provide enhanced pre-school support 3 year olds;
4. There will need to be investment in workforce attraction and recruitment and in extra classrooms and facilities for the sector.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Increasing disability funding to support all Tasmanian children to achieve greater educational success</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Education and Training

Tasmanian Labor supports additional disability resourcing funding for Tasmanian public-schools to enable student to teacher/TA ratio support levels consistent with Australia’s Disability Strategy 2021-31.

All Tasmanian public-school budgets must be able to fund the teacher/TA hours required to provide the category of moderated support to suit each child’s individual diagnosis and support requirements.

Tasmanian Labor believes that all Tasmanian children have a right to be supported to maximise their individual educational achievement and that steps should be taken to bring Tasmanian educational metrics in line with national standards.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Fair Access to Extended Education for Students with Disability in Tasmania</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Education and Training

Conference believes that:

1. All students have the right to be treated with dignity, respect and fairness.
2. Students with disability should not be denied further education solely because of age where disability or illness has affected their educational pathway.
3. Decisions about extended access to state schooling must be based on individual need, not rigid thresholds.

Conference calls on a Tasmanian Labor Government to:

1. Reform Tasmanian education policies to require individual, needs-based assessment for applications for extended schooling.
2. Ensure disability and medical evidence, educational impact and reasonable adjustments are central to all decisions.
3. Remove blanket age limits that result in indirect discrimination.
4. Strengthen transparency and review processes so families can seek fair and timely reconsideration.

<b>Title</b>	<b>HECS taxation</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Education and Training

This Conference demands that the Federal Government redesign the Job-Ready Graduates Scheme by removing it.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Albanese Labor Government Delivery on Health</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Health and Wellbeing

That Conference notes the Albanese Labor Government is delivering on our healthcare commitments for Tasmanians:

1. With record investment in Tasmanian hospitals through a new funding agreement.
2. By expanding bulk billing, making it easier for Tasmanians to see a doctor for free, with around 60 practices across Tasmania registering for the Bulk Billing Practice Incentive Program.
3. By delivering \$1 billion towards Medicare Mental Health Clinics, with additional centres in Burnie, Glenorchy and Brighton.
4. By delivering 1800MEDICARE, providing free health advice or reassurance, and the ability to refer callers to the health service they need.
5. By making medicines cheaper, reducing the maximum cost of all PBS-listed medicines to \$25 and freezing the costs at \$7.70 for concession card holders.
6. By expanding the number of Urgent Care Clinics across Tasmania, with new clinics opening in Kingston, Sorell and Burnie, bringing the total number of UCC's in the state to 8.
7. With our landmark \$792.9 million women's health package, delivering more choice, better access, and more affordable healthcare for women.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Urgent Care Clinics (UCC's)</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Health and Wellbeing

Tasmanian Labor proudly endorses the Albanese Labor Government's commitment to building on the foundations of Medicare, ensuring it remains robust and accessible for future generations. By investing in Urgent Care Clinics (UCC'S) Labor is delivering real health improvements to everyday Tasmanians, safeguarding our communities, and upholding the promise of universal healthcare.

The Newstead Branch strongly supports the expansion and ongoing development of Tasmania's Urgent Care Clinics recognising their vital role in ensuring Tasmanians can access quality healthcare when and where they need it most. By providing timely treatment for non-life-threatening conditions, these clinics offer a practical solution that takes significant pressure off our busy emergency departments, allowing hospitals to focus on the most critical cases and reducing wait times for everyone.

Tasmanian Labor supports UCC's and will continue to work with the Albanese Labor Government to improve health outcomes across Tasmania.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Free healthcare is proudly the Labor way</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Health and Wellbeing

Congratulates the Federal Labor Government’s investments into universal healthcare including \$1 Billion into new mental health services, more Urgent Care Clinics and delivering more free GP appointments.

Tasmanian Labor supports the further expansion of universal healthcare including:

1. Increasing Medicare coverage for more free mental healthcare sessions
2. Supporting reforms with the goal of providing universal access to dental services for all Australians, in line with the Australian Labor Party National Platform.
3. Continuing to support TassieDoc’s free doctor clinics to the next state election.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Recognising the Importance of Regional Communities</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Health and Wellbeing

Tasmanian Labor notes that:

1. Regional and rural Tasmania is the heart and soul of our Island. Regional and rural communities provide experience, culture, and economic strength to our state.
2. People living in regional and rural communities experience disadvantages in receiving access to health services, public transport, government services, and other services, income, and support that is taken for granted in larger population centres.

Tasmanian Labor commits to:

1. Fighting for the regions and ensuring that services and support is always available for people living in our regional and rural communities.
2. Investing in regional and rural Tasmania when in government, to ensure that no Tasmanian gets left behind.
3. Prioritising regional and rural healthcare, including allied health, to ensure that all Tasmanians, regardless of where they live, are able to access modern and quality healthcare, when and where they need it.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Access to terminations protected in legislation</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Health and Wellbeing

Tasmanian Labor believes that all women in Australia should have equitable access to termination of pregnancy, and that reproductive rights should be protected in law.

Tasmanian Labor supports ensuring that Tasmania’s once nation-leading legislation keeps pace with legislation, rights and access around the country.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Access to surgical termination of pregnancy in public hospitals</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Health and Wellbeing

Tasmanian Labor believes that abortion is an essential, life-saving health service.

Tasmanian Labor understands that limiting access to abortion results in a higher incidence of unsafe procedures that can put women’s lives at risk.

Tasmanian Labor supports access to surgical termination of pregnancy in all public hospitals in line with legislation, and believes there should be no barrier to providing this health service for Tasmanian women.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Needed drug reform to save lives and support justice</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Health and Wellbeing

Tasmanian Labor supports:

1. implementing a pill-testing program to reduce harm and keep Tasmanians safe.
2. the decriminalisation of cannabis and a pathway to legalisation.
3. a review into mobile drug tests for drivers to ensure they do not unnecessarily discriminate against those who take cannabis medicinally.

<b>Title</b>	<b>A new approach needed for suicide prevention</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Health and Wellbeing

This Conference notes that the North-West Coast of Tasmania's youth taking their own lives is disproportionately higher than the rest of Tasmania.

This Conference further notes that more needs to be done in this space and calls on the State Parliamentary Labor Party to work in partnership with the state Government and in particular the Education Department to undertake new initiatives.

This shall include a program for all schools that enables students to deal with relationship breakdowns and rejection.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Homes Tasmania</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

Tasmanian Labor condemns the failure of the Liberals Homes Tasmania to effectively manage our essential public housing system and to ensure that all Tasmanians who need a home have one.

Tasmanian Labor notes that

1. The 10,000 new homes by 2032 will clearly not be achieved;
2. The reporting of their metrics is full of double counting and hides the real numbers;
3. land identified in 2018 for use is still not at development stage – 8 years later;
4. Of the target of 10000 homes only 3000 are planned to be social housing -where the wait list for Homes Tas is over 5000;
5. Homes Tas Debt levels continue to rise to unsustainable levels. To \$1billion by 28-29 with a \$50m interest bill each year to service it;
6. Homes Tas continues to miss out on Federal programs for Tasmanians and didn't apply for the Housing Australia Future Fund in 24 because they didn't have any projects ready;
7. Homes Tas has not progressed the findings from the external review to improve their performance;
8. The Liberals Homes Tas experiment has failed Tasmanians who need housing.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Public housing - something Labor should champion</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

Tasmanian Labor believes the first principle of all government housing policies should be that safe, secure housing is a basic human right and it is the responsibility of all levels of government to work to uphold that right.

Tasmanian Labor believes State and Federal Governments must increase the provision and maintenance of publicly owned and managed, safe, secure housing (including supported housing) as a matter of urgency.

Tasmanian Labor believes taxation concessions that promote the commodification of housing should be phased out.

Tasmanian Labor recognises the importance of public acquisition of existing basic housing stock and public construction of mid to high density housing – in areas with established infrastructure to meet the rental needs of essential workers and low-income earners, ensuring proximity to employment, public transport, health and education facilities – should be prioritised.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Public Housing Government Body</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

Labor supports the re-instatement of a dedicated Government workforce to maintain Public Housing and improve its Energy Efficiency.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Rezoning Profits used for Housing</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

Labor supports the adequate provision of new infrastructure that supports new housing. It believes the cost of this infrastructure must be shared between local and state governments and with property developers who benefit from rezoning.

Title	Regulatory Reform to Ensure Quality Housing and Increased Market Investment
Chapter	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

A Tasmanian Labor government will:

1. Enact all provisions of the latest version of the National Construction Code without delay;
2. Require all occupational trades be licensed to establish accountability for all scopes of work performed in the construction of a dwelling;
  - a. Only electrical, gas-fitting and plumbing are currently licensed occupations in Tasmania. Trades like plasterers or concreters have no oversight and issues arising from the same can only be reconciled via civil litigation; and
3. Legislate mandatory inspection frequencies for building surveyors during the construction of a dwelling, to mitigate against structural defects;
4. Empower Permit Authorities to enforce identified areas of non-compliance during the construction of a dwelling;
5. Require that when a Permit Authority issues a permit for the construction of a new dwelling, the regulator (CBOS) be notified so that basic legislative conditions are satisfied before building works begin; and
6. Increase the period for statutory warranty under the Residential Building Work Contracts and Dispute Resolution Act 2016 to 10 years so responsible builders residential constructions have more incentive to mitigate against defects during a build.

<b>Title</b>	<b>A Fair Deal: The Right to Adequate Housing For All Tasmanians</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

The Tasmanian Labor Party acknowledges the hardship many Tasmanians have been placed in by the current housing crisis and commits to taking immediate and long-lasting action to promote an adequate standard of living for all Tasmanians through:

1. Committing to increasing state-owned public housing stock in the 2027 Budget Reply, and 2028 Alternative Budget should one be submitted.
2. Reducing the amount of private and public homes sitting unoccupied,
3. Implementing, in full, the 2023 National Cabinet's "Better Deal for Renters",
4. Ensuring rental increases are fair and reasonable, through implementing 'rent-stabilisation' measures,
5. Amending the Residential Tenancy Act to prohibit 'no-grounds' evictions for all residential tenancy agreements,
6. Limiting the number of rental properties converted to short-stay accommodation and incentivising owners to return properties to the rental market,
7. Ensuring that all rental properties in Tasmania are fit for purpose.

<b>Title</b>	<b>A Comprehensive Plan to Fix Tasmania's Housing Crisis</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

This Conference calls for immediate action on the housing crisis by:

1. Support a 12 month a freeze on new approvals for short-stay accommodation listings until housing supply and rental availability have demonstrably recovered;
2. Supporting "if you can pay rent you can pay a mortgage" 0% deposits for first-home buyers only for home loans backed by state government deposits; and
3. Calling on the state government to establish a 10% public & social housing target for all new housing developments.

Further conference supports:

1. A Tasmanian Labor government within three months of election conducts a short, and sharp analysis of short-stay accommodation in Tasmania with the aim on how we mitigate the impacts to renters and first-home buyers. The review should not rule out levies, that could increase funding to public and social housing.
2. A condemnation of the Tasmanian State Liberal Government for their politically driven Short Stay Levy bill currently before parliament which does nothing material to help with housing supply or the current housing crisis.

<b>Title</b>	<b>People before portfolios</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

Tasmanian Labor calls for a full audit and review of all vacant residential homes across the state to understand how many homes are currently withdrawn from the rental market during a housing crisis.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Robust Tenant-Friendly Tenancy Laws</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

This Conference supports the review and establishment of robust, tenant-friendly tenancy laws that provide strong security of tenure, promote open-ended contracts, and include clear safeguards against arbitrary evictions. These reforms should ensure greater housing stability and fairness for renters, while taking into account local conditions and best-practice approaches demonstrated in countries such as Germany, Austria, the Netherlands, France, and Sweden.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Securing Fair Housing and Renters Rights</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

Tasmanian Labor commits to implementing a "Fair Housing Guarantee" to protect renters and restore affordability. To achieve this, a future Labor Government must:

1. End No-Grounds Evictions: Amend the Residential Tenancy Act 1997 to ensure that a tenancy can only be ended for specified, legitimate reasons, providing Tasmanians with the security to treat their rental as a long-term home.
2. Implement Fair Rent increases: introduce "Rent Stabilisation" measures, limiting rent increases to once every 12 months and ensuring increases are reasonable and indexed to evidence-based benchmarks, preventing the predatory "price-gouging" seen in recent years.
3. Establish a Rental Standards Task force: Adequately fund an enforcement body to ensure all rental properties meet minimum energy efficiency and habitability standards, reducing the "energy poverty" that disproportionately affects Tasmanian renters.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Fast tracking housing</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

The Tasmanian Labor Party calls on the State Liberal Government to fast-track dormant subdivisions, housing developments and individual homes by speeding up the following processes:

1. Issuing of titles
2. Planning approvals
3. Plumbing approvals
4. Building approvals
5. TasWater connections
6. TasNetwork connections

The Liberal Party has an abysmal record of delivering on housing and has failed to get adequate roofs over the heads for Tasmanians.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Local Government land release</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

Mandatory for all Councils to identify available land appropriate for social housing & be submitted to State Government for prioritising.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Glenorchy as a Second CBD development initiative</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

1. Tasmanian Labor supports upzoning areas in Glenorchy council (pushing through medium - high rise mixed use residential, work, tourism, retail, medical, social housing and entertainment projects) and developing Glenorchy as a second CBD of greater Hobart, to grow the local (non tourism) economy, provide affordable housing, and economic opportunity to working class Tasmanians. This will be centred on an improved existing public transport corridor. Sensible deregulation that still meets social responsibility, and amending relevant laws will ensure timely development.

2. Tasmanian Labor supports providing incentive and plans for working youth to move here from the mainland, in stages as we build the housing and opportunities for them to use, and incentivise Tasmanian youth to remain.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Statewide Review into Public Transport System</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

Tasmanian Labor will conduct a statewide public transport review, with a view to improving routes and timetables, improving fare affordability, access throughout the regions, and safety for passengers and drivers.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Connecting the population of our growing cities and regional centres with an effective public transport network.</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

Tasmanian Labor supports the creation of a strategic plan and financial commitment for the staged implementation of a mixed mode public transport network that can equitably meet the needs of the growing population of our major cities and regional centres.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Four Lane Bass Highway</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

Tasmanian Labor supports the construction of a four lane dual highway from Deloraine to Devonport as a continuation of current plans for a four lane dual highway between Launceston and Deloraine.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Digital Connectivity in Regional and Rural Tasmania</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Housing, Planning and Infrastructure

Tasmanian Labor supports all efforts to eradicate digital blackspots so as to facilitate equality of opportunity for all Tasmanians.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Make No Penalty Monthly Payments the Default</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Government, Law and Safety

Tasmanian Labor will introduce legislation to ensure all state government and local government taxes and levies can be paid monthly with no penalty to citizens. This includes all state Government Business Enterprises and Entities.

This motion is additionally recommend to the Federal Labor Parliamentary Party to legislate to ensure all companies operating within Australia are required to offer monthly payment options with no penalty to the consumer.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Abolition of Tasmanian Industrial Commission</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Government, Law and Safety

This Conference condemns the State Liberal Government for their plans to abolish the Tasmanian Industrial Commission (TIC) and further resolves the next Tasmanian Labor Government shall maintain and strengthen the TIC.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Workplace Protection Orders (WPOs) in Tasmania</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Government, Law and Safety

Tasmanian Labor recognises the growing violence, threats and abuse faced by retail, fast food and other frontline workers, and supports stronger measures to protect them.

Tasmanian Labor reaffirms its commitment to introducing Workplace Protection Orders (WPOs) in Tasmania. In Government, Labor will model WPO reforms on successful approaches such as South Australia's legislation, which empowers unions, employers, industry bodies and businesses to apply to the Magistrates Court for orders restricting violent individuals from entering or approaching workplaces and frontline workers.

Tasmanian Labor will pursue the strongest possible worker protection model and calls on the State Government to do the same in line with South Australia's work to develop consistent, evidence-based frameworks to address escalating violence in retail and fast food.

Tasmanian Labor remains committed to ensuring no worker in Tasmania has to fear for their safety at work.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Anti-Bullying Jurisdiction for the Tasmanian Industrial Commission</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Government, Law and Safety

Tasmanian Labor will when in Government, amend the Tasmanian Industrial Relations Act to provide equal protections to employees in the Tasmanian State Service by providing access to a jurisdiction that can investigate and enforce orders to stop bullying.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Support Correctional Officers at work</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Government, Law and Safety

Tasmanian Labor, when in government, will consult with Correctional Officers with the view to reinstate previous practices of allowing officers to access remittance options and reinstate remittance as a reward for prisoners serving short non-violent sentences as encouragement to rehabilitate.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Fair Jobs Code for Local Government</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Government, Law and Safety

Tasmanian Labor and unions will develop a Fair Jobs Code to apply to all local government, social and community services, and GBE employment.

A Fair Jobs Code will include these principles:

1. Safe and equitable work;
2. Direct employment;
3. Outsourcing will be rare and fair;
4. Workers' real wages and conditions will not fall;
5. Workers in insecure work will have conversion rights; and
6. No disadvantage to workers will accrue as a result of the transition to a fair jobs code.

Tasmanian Labor, in their first term of government, will implement a Fair Jobs Code.

Title	<b>Strengthening Local Democracy, Accountability and Efficient Service Delivery</b>
Chapter	Government, Law and Safety

Tasmanian Labor notes that:

1. Strong local government is essential for delivering the infrastructure, services, and representation that Tasmanian communities rely on.
2. Trust in local institutions depends on fair, transparent, and accountable governance, not systems where administrative power can be concentrated or misused to benefit a select few.

Tasmanian Labor believes that:

1. Tasmanians deserve councils that represent their communities effectively, and that elected members must have the authority and support to exercise meaningful oversight.
2. Improving governance is also about improving outcomes: transparent decision making, efficient service delivery, and fair use of public resources all contribute to better roads, facilities, and local investment.
3. Collaboration between councils, including shared services and joint planning, can help ensure communities get high quality, efficient services without compromising local identity or democratic voice.

Tasmanian Labor resolves that the next Tasmanian Labor Government will:

1. Champion stronger representative oversight, ensuring elected members have clear, practical pathways to scrutinise decisions, access information, and act in the community's interests.
2. Support improved governance standards across local government, placing transparency, integrity, and public accountability at the centre of council operations.
3. Encourage councils to pursue efficient shared service arrangements that reduce duplication, improve service quality, and free up resources for community priorities, while keeping local representation strong.
4. Promote community centred infrastructure planning, making sure decisions are shaped by local needs and deliver long term public benefit.
5. Work with councils and communities to strengthen collaboration and reduce siloing, ensuring that administration serves the public interest rather than private advantage.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Reducing informal voting in Tasmania</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Government, Law and Safety

Tasmanian Labor will advocate for amendments to the Electoral Act 2004 (Tas) to introduce a savings provision enabling votes to be counted where voter intention is clear, to call for a review by the Tasmanian Electoral Commission of ballot design, voter education materials and in person voting support, particularly in low SES communities and institutional voting settings, and to forward this motion to the Tasmanian Labor State Conference for consideration and inclusion in the Party Platform.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Lowering the Voting Age and Civic Education</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Government, Law and Safety

Tasmanian Labor:

1. Acknowledge the need to strengthen Civics Education within our public schools.
2. Recognise that while Civics and Citizenship is currently mandatory from Prep to Year 8, and included in the Year 9–10 curriculum as a non compulsory subject, Labor supports making Civics education mandatory throughout all years of schooling, including Years 11 and 12.
3. Calls for a review into young people’s access to and participation in democracy
4. Supports in principle a voting age of 16, and commits to implementing the findings of the review in full, including lowering the voting age should it be recommended.

<b>Title</b>	<b>An Effective Fire and Rescue Service</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Government, Law and Safety

Tasmanian Labor will increase fire and rescue capabilities to ensure Tasmanians are provided with equally effective fire and rescue services as those on the mainland. The Productivity Commission data will be used as the relevant comparator, with the national average used as a minimum standard.

## Conference notes

1. The leadership shown by Labor governments in addressing the harms caused by unregulated social media.
2. The Federal Labor Government's decision to ban children under 16 from social media platforms.
3. That social media companies are powerful global corporations whose business models can undermine public safety, community cohesion and democratic debate if left unchecked.

## Conference believes

1. Governments have a responsibility to act when corporations put profit ahead of the wellbeing of children, communities and democracy.
2. Social media companies should be held to the same standards of accountability expected of other industries operating in Australia.
3. Transparency and accountability are essential to restoring trust in online platforms.

## Conference resolves

1. To commend the Federal Labor Government for implementing the under 16 social media ban and standing up to global technology companies.
2. To call on the Federal Government to go further in holding social media companies to account, including by:
  - a. Requiring platforms to identify, restrict and remove automated bot accounts that distort public debate and spread misinformation
  - b. Mandating greater transparency of platform algorithms, including public scrutiny of whether harmful or extremist content is being promoted
  - c. Strengthening requirements to prevent the spread of misinformation and disinformation, including independent fact checking mechanisms
3. To support strong enforcement powers, including significant financial penalties and removal of access to the Australian market for companies that repeatedly fail to comply.
4. To reaffirm that social media platforms operating in Australia must protect young people, serve the public interest, and support a healthy democracy.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Social Media Ban</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Government, Law and Safety

The Newstead Branch proudly endorses Tasmanian Labor’s unwavering commitment to supporting the Albanese Labor Government’s social media ban for Tasmanians under the age of 16.

This policy reflects a proactive approach to tackling the growing crisis in youth mental health, acknowledging the mounting evidence that unrestricted access to social media platforms can have detrimental effects on the wellbeing of young people.

By championing this ban, Tasmanian Labor is taking meaningful steps to protect children from online harms, cyberbullying, and the pressures of digital environments which have been linked to anxiety, depression, and other serious mental health concerns.

This initiative is a key pillar in building a healthier society for future generations. It not only prioritises mental health but also encourages young Tasmanians to engage more in real-world activities, fostering stronger community ties and resilience instead of being addicted to social media.

Tasmanian Labor supports young people to live in a supportive environment that values their mental wellbeing and empowers them for a brighter future.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Decriminalisation of sex work in Tasmania</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Government, Law and Safety

Tasmanian Labor reaffirms the Party Platform commitment to the decriminalisation of sex work in Tasmania.

Tasmanian Labor notes the findings of the 2008 Review into the Sex Industry Offences Act 2005 and the Regulation of the Sex Industry discussion paper that the current legislative framework is ineffective in protecting sex workers’ health and safety and does not achieve its stated objectives.

Tasmanian Labor urges the Parliamentary Labor Party to progress legislative reform to decriminalise sex work, consistent with the Party Platform.

Tasmanian Labor shall:

1. Commit to a review of how the national industrial relations system established under the Fair Work Act 2009 is operating in Tasmania, recognising the state's unique economic landscape, with a focus on accessibility, fairness, and effectiveness for Tasmanian workers.
2. Advocate for changes that improve outcomes in Tasmania, so workers and small businesses can easily use the system, avoid unnecessary red tape, and resolve issues quickly and fairly. This will include targeted measures to ensure that wages in Tasmania achieve parity with mainland wages.
3. Work with the Commonwealth to ensure the national industrial relations system delivers strong outcomes for Tasmanians, including protections for wages, mainland wage equity, job security, and safe workplaces, particularly for low paid and vulnerable workers in Tasmania.
4. Strengthen Tasmania's voice in national workplace relations conversations, ensuring Tasmanian workers and unions have meaningful representation and input, supported by accessible local services and engagement.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Labor believes that Tasmanians sleeping rough deserve dignity, compassion, and timely access to supports</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Social Justice and Community

Tasmanian Labor:

1. Recognises that sleeping rough is an urgent safety, health and dignity issue.
2. Commits to ensuring people sleeping rough can access outreach, crisis support, health and housing pathways quickly, without unnecessary barriers.
3. Supports a coordinated, statewide approach based on Housing First principles, backed by strong partnerships with local services and lived experience.
4. Affirms that frontline homelessness and outreach services must be properly valued through secure funding, fair wages, safe staffing levels, and realistic reporting requirements.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Skills in demand</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Social Justice and Community

The Tasmanian Labor Party will:

1. Reduce barriers for those in Tasmania seeking pathways to permanent residency.
2. Improve support networks to help migrants navigate the skills assessment process.
3. Expand the scope of the Tasmanian ombudsman to deal with complaints and appeals, monitor and enforce quality, and provide independent oversight over the state's skilled migration process.
4. Expand TASC's capacity to provide preliminary assessments for a wider range of occupations currently outside its scope.
5. Create a dedicated fast-track assessment stream for occupations on Tasmania's critical shortage lists.
6. Expand TasTAFE's current gap training for overseas qualified tradespeople to include other priority professions.
7. Review and adjust state nomination criteria to weight verified employment and employer verification more heavily relative to formal skills assessment requirements
8. Formally request the Commonwealth Government review skills assessment requirements for Australian graduates holding qualifications from Australian institutions.

**Title**

# Family and Sexual Violence Primary Prevention, Early Intervention, Response and Recovery Motion

**Chapter**

Social Justice and Community

This Conference notes that:

1. Family and sexual violence continues to have a profound and growing impact on individuals, families and communities across Tasmania.
2. Victim-survivors of family and sexual violence, including their children of all ages and genders, often face significant barriers to accessing immediate, safe and appropriate accommodation when leaving an unsafe home.
3. Housing and homelessness programs can play a critical role in both supporting victim-survivors and holding perpetrators accountable.
4. Evidence-based primary prevention, early intervention, response and recovery strategies are essential to ending violence against women and children.

This Conference believes that:

1. Access to safe accommodation is fundamental to the safety, dignity and recovery of victim-survivors of family and sexual violence.
2. Government programs must not unintentionally enable ongoing harm by failing to address perpetrator behaviour.
3. Strong leadership and coordinated action at both State and Federal levels are required to deliver meaningful reform and reduce family and sexual violence in Tasmania.

This Conference calls on the Tasmanian Labor Party to:

1. Work collaboratively at both State and Federal levels to ensure victim-survivors of family and sexual violence, including their children regardless of age or gender, have access to immediate, safe accommodation when they choose to leave an unsafe home.
2. Lead reform of government housing and homelessness programs, including Rapid Rehousing, to ensure that where perpetrators are accommodated through such programs, participation in rehabilitation and behaviour-change interventions is a mandatory condition of housing.
3. Formally recognise that a vehicle, when used with intent to cause harm, constitutes a weapon under relevant policy and legislative frameworks.
4. Implement the Our Watch recommendation for a comprehensive Primary Prevention Strategy to end violence against women and children, encompassing primary prevention, early intervention, response and recovery.
5. Acknowledge the growing and detrimental impact of family and sexual violence in Tasmania, hold the State Government to account, and champion meaningful, survivor-centred reform.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Prevention of Child Sex Abuse</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Social Justice and Community

Tasmanian Labor commits to:

1. An evidence based, trauma informed and community-wide approach to education, including educating parents, carers, early childhood educators, school staff and students about prevention of child sexual abuse.
2. An evidence based, trauma informed, community-based approach to education about and prevention of grooming behaviour (including online).
3. Building on the work of the Commission of Inquiry in responses to and prevention of child sexual abuse, working across the community to keep children safe.

<b>Title</b>	<b>A Whole-of-Government Commitment to Tasmania's Vulnerable Youth</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Social Justice and Community

Tasmanian Labor reaffirms its commitment to a whole-of-government approach to the planning, coordination, and delivery of services for children and young people.

Tasmanian Labor recognises that children and young people — particularly those who are most vulnerable — require coherent, integrated, and accessible support across government systems to achieve safe, healthy, and positive outcomes.

Tasmanian Labor condemns the current Liberal Government for its failure to ensure effective coordination and delivery of services, resulting in gaps in support for children and young people who need it most.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Food for Everyone</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Social Justice and Community

1. Tasmanian Labor believes and acknowledges the scale of problems identified by the Foodbank Hunger Report and local reporting and treats food insecurity as a priority policy issue for Tasmania.
2. Tasmanian Labor recognises the importance of the fact that no one should be hungry.
3. Tasmanian Labor supports calls for the adoption of an outcomes focused program that aims to reduce food insecurity through coordinated state and federal action, stronger support for frontline food relief services, and targeted measures for regional and vulnerable cohorts.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Licensing - Stop Criminalising Poverty</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Social Justice and Community

That conference supports the Tasmanian Parliament to amend the law so that non-payment of fees owed to a Tasmanian Government instrumentality does not result in licence deregistration, vehicle deregistration or other registration sanctions.

Instead, such non-payment should give rise to a recoverable civil debt, with appropriate hardship provisions, ensuring that deregistration is reserved for matters relating to public safety (such as dangerous driving or unsafe vehicles) rather than simply inability to pay.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Funding and implementing the outcomes of the ASUs gender based undervaluation and work value Fair Work Commission matters</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Social Justice and Community

Tasmanian Labor supports the ASUs gender based undervaluation work value case before the Fair Work Commission.

Tasmanian Labor supports proper, indexed based funding, and long-term funding contracts for community sector work.

Tasmanian Labor will support full funding and implementation of all direct and associated outcomes of ASUs gender based undervaluation priority awards review and work value cases before the Fair Work Commission.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Rethinking the Arts</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Social Justice and Community

Labor recognises the significance of the Arts to the Tasmanian economy and the need to rethink the way in which it is supported by the Government. This will be achieved through designing policies and programs that provide practical support, investment and access.

Title	Establishment of a Statewide Volunteers Day Public Holiday
Chapter	Social Justice and Community

Establishment of a Statewide Volunteers Day Public Holiday as Volunteers Day.

Tasmanian Labor recognises the long history and ongoing importance of volunteering in Tasmania, including the contribution of volunteers in community services, emergency response, sport, arts, environment, health, education, and local organisations.

Tasmanian Labor believes that volunteering strengthens social connection, supports essential services, and reflects Labor values of fairness, solidarity, and collective responsibility.

Tasmanian Labor calls for Volunteers Day to both acknowledge existing volunteers and encourage broader community participation.

On this day, Tasmanians would be encouraged to spend time volunteering with an organisation, group, or cause of their choice, or to take part in community activities that support volunteering.

<b>Title</b>	<b>State of Environment Reporting</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Environment and Climate Change

Tasmanian Labor values our State’s environmental assets, and commits to implementing the 2024 State of the Environment Report recommendations, including developing a long-term vision and strategy for Tasmania’s environment, and to improving Tasmania’s environmental performance, prioritising indicators marked as ‘getting worse’.

In the light of accelerating environmental change, Tasmanian Labor also recognises the importance of well-planned and resourced State of Environment monitoring and reporting in enabling adaptive environmental planning to ensure environmental, social and economic sustainability.

The Labor Party commits to funding and maintaining the ongoing five-yearly State of Environment Reporting Program, and to its implementation.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Highlighting the Liberal Governments mis-management for the Special Species Timber industry.</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Environment and Climate Change

Labor recognises the economic, cultural and brand value of Tasmania’s Special Species Timbers and the jobs they support. The skills, practices and traditions associated with working these timbers form an important part of Tasmania’s living cultural heritage. Because this heritage can only be maintained through continued practice, ongoing and sustainable access to suitable Special Species timber resources is essential.

Labor considers that management of the sector over the past twelve years has resulted in a systemic failure to maintain supply continuity for industry, heritage trades and regional employment, with supply levels of key species now more than 95% lower than under the previous Labor government.

Labor supports the designation of Special Species Timber Zones on land to which the Special Species Management Plan (2017) applies, but notes that the current government is not implementing the plan. Labor calls on the plan to be given statutory effect within those zones.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Marine Protected Areas</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Environment and Climate Change

Conference notes that International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) has a range of classifications for marine reserves that allow for both take and no take zones, and that these classifications are an important part of future marine planning process.

While respecting the standing 2007 moratorium on the establishment of marine protected areas, Tasmanian Labor will improve monitoring, public reporting and accountability for the condition of Tasmania's marine environment.

Conference further notes the importance of evidence-based policy and stakeholder consultation in marine management.

Conference requests that Tasmanian Labor work with inputs from IMAS, UTAS, DPIPW, TSIC, Tarfish, branches and affiliates to develop policy and mapping that supports a comprehensive and representative marine environment, based on the best available science.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Supporting Tasmania's Forest Industry</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	Environment and Climate Change

Tasmanian Labor recognises the value of Tasmania's forest industry to regional communities and resolves to support its ongoing management consistent with the principles as set out in the ALP National Platform.

<b>Title</b>	<b>State Liberal Government has failed regional Tasmanians</b>
<b>Chapter</b>	General Resolutions

Tasmanian Labor notes after 12 years of State Liberal Government they have continually failed regional Tasmania and Braddon in particular. Braddon still has some of the worst health and education outcomes in the nation. As well the region has appalling levels of digital literacy, high youth unemployment, and a disproportionate number of people on benefits.

Not to mention, the limited access to crisis accommodation for women and children in rural and regional areas is a reflection of the Liberal government's neglect for women's and children's services. Currently, the closest crisis accommodation for women and children living on the West Coast is in Burnie, almost 3 hours away from Queenstown, and an hour and a half away from Circular Head.

And of course, the Liberals have achieved the single biggest infrastructure stuff up in the state's history with their bungled delivery of new Spirit of Tasmania ships. Where the Liberals have failed, it is up to Labor to fill the void. As a first step Conference calls upon the State PLP to appoint a Shadow Minister for Regional Tasmania. This MP shall be responsible for working with other caucus members, rank and file members, the union movement, industry, and wider community to develop specific policies to address 12 years of Liberal failure in regional Tasmania. Upon returning to government a specific ministerial position for regional Tasmania should be established.

<b>Title</b>	<b>Australian government must oppose racism at home and in Palestine</b>
Chapter	General Resolutions

This Conference notes that the Australian Government must move beyond the symbolic step of recognition and take urgent, concrete action to end the violence and destruction across the Occupied Palestinian Territories (OPT).

State Conference affirms that these urgent actions must include:

1. Targeted sanctions on all individuals and entities responsible for violations of international law in the OPT, including executive members of the Netanyahu Government.
2. A comprehensive two-way arms embargo on Israel, including all arms, and military parts and components whether supplied directly or indirectly. This must include a suspension of Australia's involvement in the international F-35 Consortium.
3. Further humanitarian support, including increased UNRWA funding, enhanced medical services (including mobile hospitals and medical evacuations) and expanded permanent visa pathways and settlement support for those seeking refuge in Australia.

This Conference further call on the Federal Government to undertake:

1. An urgent review of all relations with Israel (political, cultural, educational, economic and military) followed by actions to ensure that no Australian individuals or entities (government, private business, civil) are providing aid or assistance to Israel in the commission of the unlawful acts of settlement, occupation and genocide. We note that this is a binding obligation on all nations as per the International Court of Justice 2024 ruling.
2. An immediate review of the Future Fund to ensure that its investments are not contributing directly or indirectly to the genocide in Gaza or the maintenance and expansion of settlements and occupation in the West Bank.

This Conference also call on the State Labor Party, upon taking office, to undertake a review of all state controlled investments, including those under the auspices of Government Business Enterprises to ensure that its investments are not contributing directly or indirectly to the genocide in Gaza or the maintenance and expansion of settlements and occupation in the West Bank.



*"The Australian Labor Party is a democratic socialist party and has the objective of the democratic socialisation of industry, production, distribution and exchange, to the extent necessary to eliminate exploitation and other anti-social features in these fields."*

**Socialist Objective from the ALP National Constitution**