

Support for Neighbourhood and Community Houses

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future

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The Plan to rebuild essential services

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Supporting Neighbourhood and Community Houses

A majority Hodgman Liberal Government will invest \$1.7 million to provide each House with an additional one-off funding injection of \$50,000 over the next two years.

Tasmania's thirty-four Neighbourhood and Community Houses have become the lifeblood of many communities.

In an average week, there are over 7600 participants in Neighbourhood Houses across Tasmania, and over 600 volunteers, averaging 3,880 volunteer hours.

A key advantage of the well-loved House network is their difference; they operate for their local community, with their local community, and are responsive to local community needs.

The Liberals have always been strong supporters of Neighbourhood and Community Houses, and this will continue.

Houses will be able to use this funding as they see fit to benefit their local community.

In addition to our one-off funding injection, we will also –

- **Provide \$100,000 to resource 15-20 start up Food Cooperatives** - to help families and individuals access low cost, healthy, fresh and nutritious food by establishing partnerships between community, local food producers, Neighbourhood and Community Houses and food relief organisations;
- **Ensure that in future emergencies, local Community Houses are properly recognised and resourced as part of the crisis response.** In the immediate aftermath of the January 2013 bushfires, the Dunalley Neighbourhood House played a key role in distributing emergency aid and acting as a community hub. This valuable role was recognised in the 2013 report into the Tasmanian bushfires; and
- **Reduce red tape and compliance reporting for all Neighbourhood Houses** – the Liberals have a clear plan to reduce red tape, and this includes the compliance burden imposed on community sector organisations by Government. We will work with the Tasmanian Association of Community Houses (TACH) to significantly reduce compliance reporting, including allowing suspension of normal reporting in the event of disaster and crisis response (such as bushfires).

Costing: \$1.8 million over four years.