

Building a stronger West Coast

Building a Tasmania we  
can all be proud of

Change  
for a brighter  
future

[www.tas.liberal.org.au](http://www.tas.liberal.org.au)

# The Plan to build a modern economy, to create jobs

## Building a stronger West Coast

A majority Hodgman Liberal Government will invest in the West Coast with a targeted \$750,000 package aimed at creating employment and building stronger communities. This package will include:

- a \$250,000 West Coast Training Initiative;
- \$300,000 for frontline public service housing upgrades;
- \$50,000 for the Queenstown Heritage and Arts Festival;
- \$25,000 for the North Lyell Disaster memorial park;
- \$100,000 for a West Coast bus service; and
- \$25,000 for a feasibility study into a West Coast Geopark.

Labor has long taken the region for granted, even standing by while their minority government partners, the Greens, have attacked local industries.

The West Coast has immense untapped potential but needs a majority government that stands up for it.

The Liberals' West Coast package will both address challenges facing the region, and seek to take advantage of new opportunities.

### Response to Mt Lyell stand-down

The stand-down at Mt Lyell as a result of the recent tragedies is having a significant adverse impact on the West Coast community.

During the election campaign, the Liberals have agreed to put politics aside and work side by side with Labor to ensure the community gets the appropriate support required from the Government.

### West Coast Wilderness Railway

The Liberals are committed to the ongoing operation of the West Coast Wilderness Railway, which is a vital attraction for the region.

We will honour the current Government's commitment of \$11 million to ensure its continued operations.

### West Coast Industry Training Initiative

Those who have grown up on the West Coast should be able to gain employment in local industries.

Whether in mining, aquaculture or tourism, prospective employees who are there and willing to work must also have access to appropriate training.

A majority Hodgman Liberal Government will provide \$250,000 to help West Coasters to gain the skills they need to secure jobs in their own region.

We will work with the community, including the West Coast Council and not-for-profit groups such as Queenstown Connect, employers and training providers to tailor courses to meet the local demand.

### **Frontline Public Service Housing Upgrades**

Existing housing, particularly those provided to police officers and health professionals, is in need of work. A majority Liberal Government will allocate \$300,000 for these urgent refurbishments.

Traditionally, the region struggles to secure and retain police officers, doctors and teachers, which is why housing has long been provided to help attract such workers.

Our Plan to invest in this area recognises there are benefits in having frontline public servants and their families living in their local communities, rather than commuting from outside the West Coast.

### **Queenstown Heritage and Arts Festival / North Lyell Disaster Memorial Park**

A majority Hodgman Liberal Government will invest \$50,000 in the award-winning Queenstown Heritage and Arts Festival to help promote cultural celebration on the West Coast.

This support will be targeted at helping the biennial festival to reach beyond Queenstown and into the wider region, while creating activity in its “gap year”.

In addition, \$25,000 will be allocated to assist in completing the North Lyell Disaster Memorial Park, a sculptural project that will commemorate the 42 men who lost their lives in the 1912 fire, and serve as a focal point for locals and visitors alike to connect with the story of the disaster.

### **West Coast Bus Service**

For many on the West Coast, travel to the region’s closest major centre is unaffordable, if not unavailable, and this only adds to their sense of disadvantage and isolation.

A majority Hodgman Liberal Government will allocate \$100,000, and work with a suitable contractor, to trial a service linking major West Coast towns to Burnie.

### **Queenstown Geopark Feasibility Study**

A majority Hodgman Liberal Government will invest \$25,000 in a feasibility study into a Queenstown Geopark, which would particularly look at the potential for geo tourism.

The geological heritage of Queenstown and its surrounds is significant, and this study will consider the idea of establishing a geopark, the opportunity to attract more tourists to the region, and the positive impact a geopark could have on community cultural development.

**The Plan to build a modern economy, to create jobs**

The Plan to build a  
modern economy, to  
create jobs

## Costings

\$750,000 over four years.