

Youth Employment Partnership

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The Plan to build a modern
economy, to create jobs

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The Liberals' Youth Jobs Partnership with Whitelion will operate statewide for young people in the 16-25 age group, and is part of our long term plan to reduce the unemployment rate to the national average in our first four years of office.

Youth Employment Partnership

A majority Hodgman Liberal Government will partner with Whitelion in a new \$360,000, three-year program to tackle Tasmania's high youth unemployment rate.

The partnership will help up to 200 at-risk young people become job-ready, find long-term employment or re-engage in vocational education and training.

Tasmania's unemployment rate is the worst in the nation at 7.7 per cent, but Tasmania's youth unemployment rate is nearly three times that at 20.5 percent.ⁱ

There is a strong and direct correlation between offending and unemployment and an "absolute correlation" between a young person failing at school and entering the youth justice system.ⁱⁱ

In this key partnership, the Liberals will expand on Whitelion's established networks in the State to target the unacceptably high rate of youth unemployment. The project will target young people disengaged from education and at risk, or young people who have become involved with the youth justice system.

Under the program, Whitelion will provide tailored solutions to ensure job-readiness by helping to connect young people to the skills they need to get a job in the first instance. Case worker support will assist young people keep on track with their goals, and Whitelion will use its established network of corporate partners to provide employment opportunities.

This multi-faceted approach to at-risk youth has had proven success in other States in helping young people into long-term employment, and preventing offending or re-offending. Post job placement support will assist young people to sustain their job, with a focus on workforce expectations and behaviours.

Whitelion has a great record working with and supporting vulnerable young people in Tasmania for over ten years. Its annual statewide Jobs Campaign *Thirty Jobs in Thirty Days* has delivered over 100 real jobs for young people in Tasmania over the past three years, with 75 per cent of those achieving employment of six months or more.

Costing: \$300,000 over three years, and \$60,000 from Whitelion's own funds.

ⁱ ABS Labour Force Stats, December 2013.

ⁱⁱ Children and Youth Services, 2012.