



Jeremy Rockliff

Liberal Member for **Braddon**
Premier of **Tasmania**



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Mr Phil Swift
Marketing and Communications Coordinator
Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (Tasmanian Branch)
Email: ANMF_Marketing@anmftas.org.au

Dear Mr Swift

Thank you for providing the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) Tasmania Branch's (Tasmanian Branch) Election Manifesto 2024. I am pleased to respond on behalf of all Liberal Members and Candidates.

Over the past 10 years, the Tasmanian Liberal Government has doubled the health budget, and employed an extra 2500 full-time health professionals, including 1390 nurses.

We know there is more work to do to make our health system even better, and we want to build on the gains we have made.

I am pleased to advise that as part of our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future, many of our commitments align with the ANMF's priorities including:

- Providing \$88 million over four years to fully staff the first stage of the expanded Emergency Department at the Royal Hobart Hospital. This will see the recruitment of an additional 44 full time doctors and 25 full-time nurses, ensuring that the recently expanded RHH Emergency Department can operate at maximum capacity, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Allocating \$10 million towards a relocation package of up to \$15 000 to all Nurses and Midwives who relocate to Tasmania and remain employed full-time with the Tasmanian Health Service (THS) for three years or more and providing a \$10 000 scholarship for new Tasmanian graduate nurses that start with THS and remain employed full-time for three years or more.
- Providing grant funding under our national leading GP Guarantee to allow General Practices to offer extended hours of service within their local community, embed nurse practitioners into their GP business model, offer added incentives to attract new doctors, change a GP practice model, or expand a GP practice with capital upgrades. The grants will also apply to nurse practitioner practices.
- More than \$500 million in infrastructure upgrades at all four of Tasmania's public hospitals. This includes continuing Stage 2 of the Royal Hobart Hospital upgrades, doubling the capacity of the Launceston General Hospital emergency department, a new \$120 million Northern Heart Centre at the LGH and commencing Stage 1 of the North-West Masterplans.

Jeremy Rockliff MP | Liberal Member for Braddon, Premier of Tasmania

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- Delivering a new \$120 million lifesaving Northern Heart Centre at the Launceston General Hospital, which will include a new coronary care unit with 16 inpatient cardiac ward beds, and seven coronary care unit beds, which will remain co-located in the ICU, two cardiac catheterisation (cath) labs with dedicated recovery and holding bays for direct access for patient requiring procedures (bypassing the ED), dedicated diagnostic testing for echocardiography and outpatient services, with five echocardiography testing rooms, one exercise testing room and six outpatient consultation rooms and direct access to the ICU, ED and medical imaging.
- Partnering with the Launceston Health Hub to build a new \$70 million hospital in Launceston, with private hospital rooms, theatres, endoscopy units and two additional beds, available to treat both public and private patients, and contracting with the Launceston Health Hub to deliver In addition to this joint venture, we will partner with the Hub on its Stage 1 development, delivering 20 additional public rehabilitation or sub-acute beds, taking pressure off the Launceston General Hospital.
- Extending Hospital@Home into Launceston with the establishment of eight new acute-level beds in the community. This will complement the work being done by the GP-led Community Rapid Response service, which will remain in place.
- Providing more protections for our frontline workers including nurses from serious assault. Draft laws are currently out for consultation, and will apply to frontline health, safety and emergency services workers, including nurses, doctors, allied health workers, orderlies, paramedics, correctional services officers, retail, hospitality and passenger transport workers.
- The establishment of a Statewide Integrated Operations Centre to help ensure a seamless transition through the different areas of our health system, from a GP visit to a hospital admission and back home with the support, if needed, from Hospital@Home or our virtual@health services.
- Install virtual infrastructure in all 13 district hospitals over the next 12 months which will provide an immediate and vital link for district hospitals to access the specialist expertise of our major hospitals and give Tasmanians access to a hospital specialist without having to travel into cities.

A re-elected majority Liberal Government will expand access to quality health care across a range of settings, which the ANMF know will help reduce demand pressures on Emergency Departments and hospitals. Under our 2030 Strong Plan we will:

- Establish a GP NOW team which will consist of 10 General Practitioners who are employed by the State Government and can be deployed into rural and regional areas when the private market for GPs fails.
- Attract up to 40 new rural and regional GPs with incentives.
- Partner with GPs to strengthen and sustain their practices with multi-year funding grants.
- Deliver a new GP specialist service for children with ADHD.
- Extend the trial of a new bulk-billed mobile GP clinic, delivering up to 4500 additional appointments a year from 2024.
- Deliver more bulk-billed Urgent Care Centres.
- Continue the Single Employer Model for GPs in training.
- Continue the GP-led Community Rapid Response Service.
- Boost health services for women by delivering an additional \$1.2 million for public endometriosis treatment, including awareness, diagnosis and treatment across our public health system, including the number of outpatient appointments.
- Pilot a clinician-led colon capsule trial at the RHH.
- Invest \$4.7 million to purchase a surgical robot for urological and other procedures, including gynaecological, at the LGH and ongoing operational funding of \$774,000 per annum from 2025-26.

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- Establish a new \$15 million Public Diagnostic Breast Care Centre co-located with BreastScreen Tasmania in a new multi-disciplinary Breast Care Centre in Hobart, including new operational funding from 2025.
- Expand our UTI program that allows pharmacists to diagnose and initiate treatment for uncomplicated UTIs to include extended prescriptions for the oral contraceptive pill. This means Tasmanian women will be able to get a two-year supply of their pill with just the one script.

Over the past decade, the Tasmanian Liberal Government has invested an additional \$410 million into Tasmania's mental health and alcohol and drug services system. We created the first dedicated Cabinet Ministry for Mental Health and Wellbeing, demonstrating our strong commitment to improving the mental health and wellbeing of all Tasmanians.

Under our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future a re-elected majority Liberal Government will:

- Partner with Tresillian Family Care to provide Mother and Baby Services across North and North West Tasmania. A re-elected majority Liberal Government will provide \$10.25 million over four years to help establish a four-bed service based at the Launceston Health Hub with a satellite service to the North-West, including a Statewide phone line and tele-health services. This is in addition to continuing the existing 3 mother and baby beds at the RHH.
- Deliver new child and youth mental health outreach clinics in Kingston, Brighton and the North-West.
- Complete the 27-bed mental health centre at St John's Park, and mental health precincts at the NWRH and LGH.
- Expand Eating Disorder community clinics to the North-West and establish a statewide community-based intensive treatment program for eating disorders, including group and day programs.
- Provide a new after-hours child and youth mental health service at the LGH and NWRH.
- Deliver a youth Mental Health Hospital in the Home in the North-West.
- Build a new \$7.6 million Mental Health Hub in Devonport.
- Establish a Safe Haven, Recovery College and Integration Hub in the new Mental Health Precinct at the LGH.
- Pilot an Emergency Mental Health Co-Response Service in the North.
- Build a new \$82.5 million 40-bed Older Persons Mental Health complex.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your correspondence.

For more information on our 2030 Strong Plan for Tasmania's Future and our full 2030 Strong Plan for Health please visit <https://tas.liberal.org.au/our-plan>.

Yours sincerely



Jeremy Rockliff MP
Premier