

18 June 2021

MEDIA RELEASE

TASMANIAN CARERS ACTION PLAN

Carers Peak Body Welcomes Tasmanian Carer Action Plan

Carers Tasmania, the state's peak body for unpaid family and friend carers, has welcomed the release of *Supporting Tasmanian Carers: Tasmanian Carer Action Plan 2021-24*.

This action plan seeks to support the 1:6 Tasmanian's that are an informal carers and succeeds the inaugural plan that expired in 2020.

"Tasmania has the highest carer ratio in the country. The ongoing commitment to carers by the Government through this action plan is welcomed," said Carers Tasmania's CEO, David Brennan.

Legislated carer recognition is the centrepiece of the 2021-24 carer action plan.

The Tasmanian Liberal's 2021 Election Policy 'Building Stronger Communities' promised legislation that 'will include a set of principles about the significance of care relations and include obligations for organisations that interact with people in care relationships.'

"As the only state without carers recognised in legislation, to have the election commitment translated to an action plan and to commence the process within the next three months is a big win for carers," said David Brennan, CEO, Carers Tasmania.

"Carers Tasmania looks forward to working with the Minister for Community Services and Development on crafting carer recognition legislation that is the best in the country."

Supporting Tasmanian Carers contains a number of practical initiatives, and also delivers a new small grants program proposed by Carers Tasmania. The program will celebrate the contribution of carers each National Carers Week by enabling access to small grants to hold community-based events.

"Now that the action plan is approved, Carers Tasmania will work with the sector and Government to ensure it is implemented to the benefit of carers," said Mr Brennan.

The plan can be found [here](#).

About Carers Tasmania

Carers Tasmania is a non-profit body supporting informal carers across the state. They were appointed the state's Peak Body for carers in July 2018, recognising their central role as the lead agency for family and friend carers.

Carers Tasmania has offices in Hobart, Launceston and Burnie.

About carers

An informal, unpaid carer is often a family member that cares for someone suffering chronic or life-limiting illness, has a mental health illness, is frail aged, has a disability or alcohol or other drug dependence.

Informal carers are distinct from paid support workers who are also colloquially also called 'carers', but who are fully employed and remunerated with all the benefits of employment. Conversely, family carers perform their caring duties without remuneration, other than minimal carer payments and allowances from the Department of Social Services.

Media contact

David Brennan - 0432 129 015