



Election Priorities

1. Connecting Communities

We urge all political parties to help Tasmanian communities facing increasing needs by committing to appropriate direct resourcing of the Neighbourhood House Network to deliver essential outcomes.

A recent evaluation of the Neighbourhood House Community Connector Pilot found that for every dollar spent, an estimated \$2.54 was returned in the measured areas of social connection and mental health and wellbeing¹. The Community Connectors' work has grown the capacity of Houses to respond to community needs and improved lives as they engage and support people to link with community and government systems and services.

Neighbourhood Houses empower individuals and groups to make change in the community on issues that affect them. We are inclusive, fair and respond by creating local solutions to challenges in our communities.

Cost of Living Booster² and Program Funds

will enable the Network to continue to respond to mounting pressure due to the increased cost-of-living experienced by many Tasmanians. To meet the basic demand at the forefront of community we need more sustainable funding models.

Place-based Community Connectors

build social connection, mental health and wellbeing, family support, food support and other responses to cost-of-living pressures and social isolation - 4 days per week Community Connector role in each Neighbourhood House.

More information

[Connecting Communities Budget Priority Statement](#)

Community Connectors Snapshot
Support for Community Connectors

Our Ask 1

Connect communities by extending core recurrent funding 2024-29 by \$188,000 per Neighbourhood House per year. This will build capacity and create employment.

- **Cost of Living Booster** - \$50,000
- **Program Funds** - \$20,000
- **Place-based Community Connectors** - \$118,000

2. Capital Improvement

Continuing to bring all Neighbourhood House properties up to 'fit-for-purpose' level, building on the previous Capital Improvement Program rounds in line with the Program's Strategic Framework.

Our Ask 2

- **Capital Improvement Program** - \$2.3 million per year 2024-29

¹ Deloitte Access Economics, Measuring the benefits of Community Connectors, Social return on investment of the Community Connector pilot, 24 November 2023.

² Thirty-four Neighbourhood Houses and Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania (NHT)



3. Future Proofing Tasmania's Neighbourhood House Network

We seek a commitment to future proof the Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania (NHT) Network to operate and respond effectively to legislative and governance changes, and important priorities such as the Commission of Inquiry, the rising costs of living and unexpected events in communities.

Government has acknowledged and invested in the Network's capacity to provide a welcoming open door for people negotiating the heavy social and economic pressures impacting our communities. The Network is poised to take the next steps towards its future-state as sustainable, co-ordinated, and well-governed, able to respond to current and future challenges.

While NHT is currently developing the Network, the resourcing for this is not ongoing. In addition to these essential tasks, key aspects require additional resources.

Support development of place-based leadership and embed the recommendations of the NHT Independent Review

by providing recurrent funds to meet increased development needs, build the capacity of Houses to grow community health and wellbeing, and embed the recommendations of the NHT Independent Review.

Three years of intensive co-ordinated action in quality and safety development and compliance across the network.

Providing resources, mentoring and coaching to build stronger cultures, structures and systems, implementing requirements such as the findings of the Commission of Inquiry, the Child and Youth Safe Organisation Framework, Aboriginal Cultural Competence, and regulatory requirements such as Fair Work.

Three years of focussed business development support, partnerships and shared service models.

Increasing the network's access to diverse funding sources such as social enterprise opportunities, private public partnerships and philanthropic funding sources.

Our Ask 3

- **Support development of place-based leadership and embed the recommendations of the Independent Review of NHT - \$179,000/year recurrent**
- **Three years of intensive co-ordinated action in key areas of quality and safety development and compliance across the Network - \$179,000/year for 3 years**
- **Three years of focussed business development support, partnerships and shared service models - \$119,000/year for 3 years**

Coordinating and leveraging the collective power of the NHT member Network for efficiency gains and developing shared services to alleviate the burden of each House managing all aspects of specialised business functions.

More information

[Future Proofing Budget Priority Statement](#)

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