

17 March 2021

**Media Release**

**MHCT Welcomes State Government Commitment  
to the Wellbeing of all Tasmanians**

The Mental Health Council of Tasmania (MHCT) welcomes the State Government's ongoing commitment to reforming Tasmania's mental health system, through initiatives announced during Premier Gutwein's State of the State address yesterday.

Included in the announcement was a commitment to funding Phase One and Two of the Government's response to the recent Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Review. MHCT CEO, Connie Digolis, said that the Community Managed Mental Health Sector is ready and eager to work with the Government to ensure CAMHS reform includes suitable wrap around supports for young Tasmanians during their recovery journey as their needs change.

"CAMHS cannot operate in isolation, and the Community Managed Mental Health sector plays a critical role in ensuring young Tasmanians have access to the support they need at any level, whenever and wherever they need it. We recognise that reforming Tasmania's Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services is a monumental task, but it's one that our sector is looking forward to working on with the Government and other key stakeholders."

The Premier yesterday also released PESRAC's final report. The recommendations in the report, all of which were accepted by the Premier, provide Tasmania with an opportunity to not only bounce back following the pandemic, but to build a better future for our state.

Recommendations in the PESRAC report include: rapidly finalising and funding Rethink 2020, expanding [www.checkin.org.au](http://www.checkin.org.au), implementing the [Peer Workforce Development Strategy](#) and providing community-level resources to help increase mental health literacy and awareness across the state.

MHCT CEO, Connie Digolis, said, "We commend PESRAC and the State Government for prioritising the mental health of all Tasmanians, recognising the important role that good mental health and wellbeing plays in underpinning every facet of Tasmania's post-COVID recovery. We look forward to working with the Government, our members, and communities across Tasmania to help build a better future and ensure we all have access to the tools and resources we need to stay mentally fit and healthy as we rebuild, recover, and together create a stronger future for all Tasmanians."

-ends-

**Media Enquiries:** Nick Sullivan

**Phone:** 0405 672 004

**Email:** [nsullivan@mhct.org](mailto:nsullivan@mhct.org)

**Please include the following crisis support services for any story regarding mental health or suicide:**

Lifeline: 13 11 14 [www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au)

Suicide Call Back Service: 1300 659 467 [www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au](http://www.suicidecallbackservice.org.au)

beyondblue: 1300 22 4636 [www.beyondblue.org.au](http://www.beyondblue.org.au)

**More information on safely reporting on mental illness or suicide can be found at:**

<https://mindframe.org.au/> and <https://www.tascharter.org/>