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MEDIA RELEASE

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YNOT welcomes election commitment from Liberal Party to connect young job seekers to local jobs

The Youth Network of Tasmania (YNOT) today welcomed the Liberal Party's announcement to invest in a pilot program to connect young people to local jobs if re-elected for another term of Government.

Youth Connectors is a youth targeted, individualised program specifically designed to respond to youth unemployment and underemployment in Tasmania. The program will build on the place-based strength of Employment Hubs in Sorell, Glenorchy and George Town, and will support young people to address barriers to work and training, identify employment opportunities in the local market and connect with industry.

Tania Hunt YNOT CEO said "For well over a decade, youth unemployment in Tasmania has been one of the most persistent and challenging problems facing our State, currently sitting at 14.8%. Many young Tasmanians are not job ready, have limited or no work experience and have yet to establish networks in their community that can lead to meaningful and secure employment. This program will provide young people with targeted, holistic support to enter the workforce."

"Thousands of young Tasmanians are currently unemployed or do not have enough work. We're missing opportunities for young people to participate in our economy and live their best life in Tasmania. It's time to do things differently" Ms. Hunt said.

Youth Connectors, an initiative of YNOT, is supported by the Youth Employment Alliance, Glenorchy City Council, Sorell Council, George Town Council and the George Town Future Impact Group.

Youth Connectors is a unique collaboration of experienced youth focused services who recognise that targeted action is needed to support young Tasmanians into meaningful and secure employment. Members include the Beacon Foundation, Colony 47, yourtown, Youth, Family and Community Connections, Launceston City Mission, The Link Youth Health Service/headspace Hobart, Workskills/Impact Communities and young people.

YNOT is the peak body for young people aged 12-25 years and the non-government youth sector in Tasmania. YNOT works to ensure policies affecting young people in Tasmania are relevant, equitable and effective and that young people have a voice on issues that matter to them.

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ynot is the peak body representing the voice of Tasmanian youth

