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MEDIA RELEASE

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YNOT welcomes election commitment from Tasmanian Labor to invest in young people

The Youth Network of Tasmania (YNOT) today welcomed the Labor Party's commitment to invest in young Tasmanians by supporting Youth Connectors, a pilot program to address youth unemployment, as well as reforming Career Education in schools, if elected to Government.

Youth Connectors, an initiative of YNOT, 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 "We applaud the Labor Party's commitment to invest in youth targeted initiatives to support young Tasmanians into meaningful, secure employment".

"Youth unemployment has been a persistent problem for well over a decade in Tasmania. It is evident that current approaches don't work well enough and that we need to do things differently to support the economic participation of young people in our State. Youth Connectors is an evidence-based program designed to specifically target youth unemployment in Tasmania" Ms. Hunt said.

Career education plays a pivotal role in assisting young people to develop a greater understanding of career options, pathways, the labor market and employment and is an initiative supported by the State's Youth Peak body.

"Young Tasmanians have told us that they want to be better informed of their career options in high school and that these types of conversations need to start at a younger age to better prepare them for jobs of the future. Young people want to explore the types of careers options available to them in Years 7 and 8". Ms. Hunt said.

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

