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MEDIA RELEASE

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YNOT welcomes State Government investment in Youth Navigators

The Youth Network of Tasmania (YNOT) today welcomed Premier Peter Gutwein’s announcement to invest in Youth Navigators; a 12-month pilot program to support 2020 Tasmanian school leavers to navigate work, education and training in a COVID changed world.

COVID-19 has been especially devastating for the 1100 young Tasmanians who completed Year 12 in 2020. This group will encounter a jobs, university and vocational landscape that has changed in ways never imagined.

Youth Navigators are youth specialists who will provide tailored, holistic and targeted support to 2020 school leavers to transition to further education, training or jobs following the pandemic. Youth Navigators will operate from a placed based context across Tasmania, drawing on the strengths of experienced not for profit organisations and local industry.

Tania Hunt, CEO said “Youth Navigators will play an important role in supporting 2020 school leavers into education, training and employment. Plan ‘A’ didn’t work out as intended for many school leavers impacted by COVID-19, and additional support is needed to help identify alternative pathways and opportunities to achieve their goals.”

“Current services do not address the specific needs of this group of young people, particularly those that offer self-service support.” Ms. Hunt said.

Youth Navigators is a pilot program developed by the Youth Employment Alliance (Alliance). An initiative of YNOT, the Alliance is a unique collaboration of experienced youth focused services that recognise urgent action is required to support our 2020 school leavers into further education, training and employment. Members include the Beacon Foundation, Colony 47, Your Town, 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

