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14 October 2021

Report highlights safety concerns for young Tasmanians using public transport

“People are sometimes too afraid to get on buses. This may be because of a particular bully catching the same bus, or others causing a massive ruckus. I have been a victim of harassment on public transport and felt scared. That's not okay.”

- TYF participant

Tasmania's young people are calling for action to increase their safety and the safety of others using public transport in Tasmania according to the findings of the Tasmanian Youth Forum Report Transport published today.

YNOT CEO, Tania Hunt said the report highlighted significant concerns from young people about their personal safety both on public transport and in public transit waiting areas.

“We heard from a diverse range of young people and their desire to improve personal safety for themselves and others when using public transport,” Ms. Hunt said.

“Public transport dominated discussions at the forum with personal safety emerging as a prominent theme. Concerns varied from anti-social behaviour on buses, to overcrowding to insufficient lighting at bus stops”.

“In particular, they spoke about who has, or should have, duty of care for students on buses with a high level of empathy expressed for bus drivers and their safety. Young people also recognised that their peers engage in anti-social behaviour on public transport and that this is unacceptable”

“Other key issues raised included access to affordable, available and appropriate transport, transport disadvantage, environmental concerns, road safety and multiple barriers to social and economic participation in their communities.”.

“Young people shared a statewide vision for a safe, connected, environmentally sustainable and innovative transport system in Tasmania. They have told us what they need to make this happen. Not only do we need to listen, but we also need to act to

ensure young Tasmanians can take full advantage of all that our State has to offer.” Ms. Hunt said.

The TYF 2021 *Transport* Report is available on the YNOT website www.ynot.org.au.

TYF is an initiative of the Youth Network of Tasmania and is supported by the Tasmanian Government, Department of Communities Tasmania.

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