

Will Hodgman MP
Leader of the State Opposition
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Time for Government action on disability services

The State Government continues to ignore the needs of Tasmanian's with an acquired brain injury (ABI) despite Tasmania having among the highest prevalence of ABI in the country.

Leader of the State Opposition, Will Hodgman, has urged the State Government to consider a Community Co-operative Living Concept business plan launched today.

For an investment of just over \$2 million, the plan developed by HOPES Inc. aims to provide specialist accommodation facilities to provide independent living, support and family respite for people with acquired brain injury or neurological disabilities - something that Tasmania currently doesn't have. Within three years the development aims to be cost neutral.

Mr Hodgman said Tasmania spends less per capita than any other state on ABI services.

Of the 9300 Tasmanians who currently live with an ABI, the Labor Government only spends an alarming 20 cents per person per day.

"This Government's ignorance means only 2% of Tasmanians with an ABI will be able to receive any services of support through the Department of Health and Human Services Disability Services Program," Mr Hodgman said.

"Today's innovative business plan to start closing the gap for Tasmanians and their families and carers, must be considered by Health Minister Lara Giddings and Premier Paul Lennon as a matter of urgency.

"Actions speak louder than words but after 10 years this Government has failed to deliver any major initiatives to help alleviate this situation."

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