



## CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION

# Tasmanian Social and Economic Support Package

## Supporting Households and Individuals

The health, safety and wellbeing of Tasmanians is our number one priority as we face the challenge of coronavirus. Our second stimulus package will help Tasmanian households and individuals as we deal with the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Government Fees Relief

For households and individuals the Government will:

- Freeze the Community Fire Levy, which is part of rates collections, from the next financial year.
- Waive school levies for this year at a cost of \$13 million this calendar year. For those who have already paid their schools levies, the Government will arrange for these to be refunded.
- Cap electricity prices and freeze water bills for next financial year, at an estimated combined cost of \$20 million. This is in addition to hardship funds and arrangements currently in place.

### Additional money for primary health

- The Government will increase funding for primary healthcare from \$2 million to \$5 million to ensure better health outcomes for Tasmanians.

### Rent relief for social housing

- The Government will not increase rent for social housing tenants, and will not count Federal Government emergency payments as income for the purposes of calculating rent contributions.
- This will leave more money in the hands of low income households who need it in these difficult times, and in local economies at a cost of around \$6.7 million.

### Additional housing for Tasmanians

- The Government will also increase funding to the Private Rental Incentive Scheme to increase the pool of available houses by up to 200 this year, at a cost of \$2 million for 75 additional homes. This will assist in meeting the needs of those on the housing register.

### Supporting workers

- The Government will do its part to help our workforce by providing casual workers in the state sector with two weeks special leave if they are required to self-isolate.

### No Interest Loan Scheme (NILS)

- The Government will provide an extra \$1 million in increase the provisions of NILS to support low-income families obtain affordable finance for goods and services.