



MEDIA RELEASE

**THE HON JENNY MACKLIN MP
SHADOW MINISTER FOR FAMILIES & PAYMENTS
SHADOW MINISTER FOR DISABILITY REFORM
MEMBER FOR JAGAJAGA**

**SENATOR ANNE URQUHART
LABOR SENATOR FOR TASMANIA**

**JUSTINE KEAY
LABOR CANDIDATE FOR BRADDON**

TURNBULL URGED TO STOP DRAGGING HIS FEET ON NDIS IN TASSIE

Labor has today called on Malcolm Turnbull and the Liberal Government to get on with the full rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in Tasmania.

Shadow Minister for Disability Reform, Jenny Macklin, visited Devonfield Enterprises in Devonport today with local Labor Senator, Anne Urquhart, and Labor's candidate for Braddon, Justine Keay. Devonfield Enterprises is a local not-for-profit organisation that assists people with disability in Tasmania's North-West to learn new skills and get regular employment.

Ms Macklin said the Liberal Governments in Canberra and Hobart had missed their own deadline to sign the bilateral agreement that would begin the full roll out of the NDIS in July next year.

"The Liberals promised they would have this agreement signed by August, but three months on, we are still waiting," Ms Macklin said.

"The clock is ticking. The full rollout is supposed to begin next July, but people with disability and their families, as well local service providers, are still waiting for the Federal and Tasmanian Governments to finalise the details.

"There is no cause for delay and there can be no excuses. People with disability here in Tassie's north deserve certainty and support.

“The Liberal Governments in Canberra and Hobart need to stop dragging their feet. People with disability have waited long enough.”

Senator Urquhart said the NDIS was already benefiting people with disability, their families and carers in the north-west.

“The Federal Labor Government launched the NDIS in Tasmania in 2013 for people aged between 15 and 24,” Senator Urquhart said.

“In two years, about 1000 young Tasmanians have received care and support through the NDIS. This includes help with daily tasks, new equipment, travel support and home modifications.

“This is all about making sure people with disability in our state can live full and decent lives like everybody else.”

Justine Keay said when the NDIS is fully rolled out, it will benefit about 11,000 Tasmanians with disability, their families and carers, and it will bring more jobs to Tasmania.

“The NDIS is so important for people in this part of the state. We all want to see the NDIS rolled out on time as promised,” Ms Keay said.

“Instead all we are hearing from the Liberal Party is false claims that the NDIS is unaffordable.

“The NDIS is being delivered on time and on budget, and its already transforming the lives of people with disability in Tassie. Now it’s time to get on with the job and make it a reality for more people.

“The Victorian and New South Wales Government have already signed their funding agreements, so what is taking the Tasmanian Government so long?

“Our local Liberal MPs need to be banging on the doors of the politicians in Canberra and Hobart asking why this agreement hasn’t been signed already.”

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