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MEDIA RELEASE

BUDGET LEAVES TASMANIA COLD

Tasmania has missed out on any major new funding in the Budget and questions remain over existing projects.

All but two unfair measures from the Abbott Government's first Budget remain, including cuts of \$2.1 billion to Tasmania's health and education.

The Abbott Government has failed to deliver on Gonski funding, leaving young Tasmanians without the support they need to get a decent education.

The Government has confirmed it has broken its \$16 million election pledge to upgrade the Cadbury visitor centre and these funds have been reallocated to a national discretionary grant program. There is no guarantee this money, promised to Tasmania, will not be shifted to projects in other states.

A combined \$240 million state and federal freight rail package promised by Labor has been slashed.

The promised extension to the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme has been funded but confirms the unit price has dramatically been cut from \$855 to just \$700.

A doubling of the failing Tasmanian Jobs Program confirms Labor's call for it to be overhauled, but it will deliver no additional money to Tasmania.

In just one year the Western Australian Premier has leveraged a \$499 million infrastructure program, while Will Hodgman and his Federal Liberal colleagues have let Tony Abbott cut money from Tasmania.

Tasmanian Liberals have again failed to stand up for our community and get any new money for the Mersey, any new money for jobs or any new money for industry or tourism.

This is not a Budget for Tasmania's future.

It is a short-sighted attempt to save Tony Abbott's job and as a result Tasmanians have missed out.

WEDNESDAY, 13 MAY 2015