



Labor's investment in rural and regional health facilities a welcome step in the right direction

Health Consumers Tasmania (HCT) provides health consumer advocacy on behalf of Tasmanians and has a community of interest of over 650 people right around the State.

HCT CEO, Bruce Levett, welcomed Labor's announcement that if elected, Labor will invest \$197 million to upgrade community health centres and rural hospitals.

"Tasmanians repeatedly tell us they do not want to go to hospital if they can help it, they want to access treatment either at home or within their community".

"The statistics for Tasmania are concerning, with 1 in 10 Tasmanians unable to afford healthcare when they need it – early access to healthcare is critical," Mr Levett said.

"If Labor are elected, we would like to see this funding rolled out quickly so that more people can receive healthcare within their community when they need it.

"HCT supports this proposal and is committed to working with the next government to ensure our health system is efficient and effective so that initiatives like this can benefit as many Tasmanians as possible as quickly as possible.

"We also call on all parties and candidates contesting the 1 May election to outline a clear plan on how they would help empower communities in areas like accessing health services and identifying preventative health measures."