

Tuesday 27 April 2021

# MEDIA ALERT

**A curious tale of two Canberra ears.  
One listening for how to expand - one for how to cut.  
Are our Tasmanian candidates listening too?**

This week is a big week for the Tasmanian autism community. Canberra is arriving to listen to their stories, through a series of public hearings.

These hearings raise expectations that there is a genuine commitment for policy reforms on the horizon. The type of reforms that work to reduce the real barriers that autistic people unfairly experience each day.

- On **Wednesday 28 April 2021**, in Launceston the Parliament of Australia's Senate Select Committee on Autism will conduct public hearings inquiring into the services, support and life outcomes for autistic people. [SSC-Autism](#). The Senate has heard the call for **service growth** and national coordination and will report in October 2021.
- On **Thursday 29 April 2021**, the Senate Committee will continue their public hearings in Hobart
- On **Friday 30 April 2021**, the Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme will conduct public hearings inquiring into specific aspects of the Scheme. [JSC - NDIS](#) The hearings will consider the NDIS proposal to introduce the temporarily halted Independent Assessments which will **reduce both the number of people eligible for the Scheme and their size of funded supports**.
- On **Saturday 1 May 2021**, the electorate will decide who leads their government. Perhaps 8% of the Tasmanian community who are directly impacted by Autism will vote for candidates who have demonstrated their commitment to improving outcomes for autistic Tasmanians – and be prepared to ensure Tasmanians are heard in Canberra. Check [Pledge on a page!](#)

Autism Tasmania invites you to meet members of the **Autism Community, the CEO and Board members** at the public hearings.

Hear about why the Tasmanian government needs to pay attention to the outcomes of these conflicting conversations and be ready to respond to the impact on Tasmanian people.

**DATE:** Wednesday 28 April 2021, Launceston  
**TIME:** 1.00pm – 1.30pm  
**VENUE:** Fountain Foyer  
Grand Chancellor Hotel  
29 Cameron Street, Launceston

**DATE:** Thursday 29 April 2021, Hobart  
**TIME:** 1.00pm – 1.30pm  
**VENUE:** Foyer  
Hobart Convention Centre  
1 Elizabeth Street, Hobart

For further information please contact:

**Donna Blanchard, CEO**

T: 0447929140

E: [donna.blanchard@autismtas.org.au](mailto:donna.blanchard@autismtas.org.au) [www.autismtas.org.au](http://www.autismtas.org.au)



**autism**  
tasmania

[autismtas.org.au](http://autismtas.org.au)

[autism@autismtas.org.au](mailto:autism@autismtas.org.au)  
PO Box 4649, Bathurst St PO  
Hobart, TAS 7000

**Hobart office**

21 Goulburn Street  
Ph: 03 6231 2745

**Launceston office**

59D Amy Road, Newstead  
Ph: 03 6344 1212

**Burnie office**

9 King St, Burnie  
Ph: 03 6431 0306

