



PREMIER OF TASMANIA

**EMAILED**  
**18 DEC 2017**

Ms Anne Haywood  
General Secretary  
Anglican Church of Australia  
General Synod  
Email: [generalsecretary@anglican.org.au](mailto:generalsecretary@anglican.org.au)

Dear Anne

Thank you for your letters related to the Resolutions of the Seventeenth Session of the General Synod.

The Tasmanian Government appreciates the opportunity to respond to each Resolution accordingly:

**1. Youth Suicide**

My Government has developed a targeted and comprehensive Youth Suicide Prevention Strategy with new services and programs being rolled out to support young Tasmanians, including programs in schools to combat bullying.

We have also committed to, and set a target, to reduce the suicide rate by 20 per cent by 2022 in Tasmania. Our recently-released Youth at Risk strategy is a collaborative approach across government and non-government organisations to respond better to young people at risk. It includes youth justice diversion programs and youth-specific specialist housing.

**2. Climate change**

My Government has set a zero net emissions target by 2050 as part of our new Climate Change Action Plan. This target aligns with the Paris agreement.

**3. Assisted Dying**

The Tasmanian Parliament has recently debated euthanasia legislation introduced by the Tasmanian Labor Party and the Tasmanian Greens. Liberal Members were afforded a conscience vote on the issue. The Bill did not pass. The Tasmanian Liberal Government does not support the introduction of such legislation.

**4. Constitutional recognition**

In 2016, the Liberal Government introduced and received unanimous support for legislation that recognises, for the first time in the State's history, the Aboriginal people as Tasmania's First People, and the traditional and original owners of Tasmanian lands and waters. It also recognises the enduring spiritual, social, cultural and economic importance of those lands and waters to

Tasmanian Aboriginal people and the unique and lasting contributions that Tasmanian Aboriginal people have made and continue to make to Tasmania

**5. Domestic violence.**

The Tasmanian Government has introduced a \$26 million Family Violence Action Strategy, which includes a new Aboriginal Family Safety Initiative.

This initiative will deliver stronger pathways to the Family Violence Counselling and Support Services and will specifically include pregnant women, who are known to be an at risk category for family violence.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Will Hodgman', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Will Hodgman MP  
**Premier**