



Bridget Archer MP

Federal Member for Bass

MEDIA RELEASE

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Labor's GP Pocket Pain for northern Tasmanians

Federal Member for Bass Bridget Archer has called on the Federal Labor Government to urgently address the primary healthcare crisis in the northern Tasmanian region.

“New data from Cleanbill has revealed that access and affordability to primary healthcare and GP services has severely worsened under the Albanese Government,” Mrs Archer said.

“The research clearly exposes Labor’s healthcare failures. Over the past year, the state’s bulk billing rate has fallen to 1 per cent from over 6 per cent and the average out of pocket expenses have increased by eight and a-half per cent.

“The Albanese Government and the Federal Tasmanian Labor Team made some serious promises before coming into Government more than 18 months ago. So far, these promises have failed to materialise, leaving northern Tasmanians struggling.

“Having worked extensively with healthcare providers on this issue, I acknowledge that there is no silver bullet to fixing the complex issues of affordability and accessibility to primary healthcare services. However, Labor’s promise of ‘No one left behind’ is feeling emptier by the day.

“Labor Senator Helen Polley espoused Labor’s goal of “greater access to healthcare for all” but is missing in action as this data reveals the truth.

“The increasing cost of healthcare just adds to the cost-of-living pain many in our community are experiencing.

“After almost 600 days in office, Labor shouldn’t need reminding that they are in Government now and it’s up to them to fix this crisis.”

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