



# Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources

Liberal Senator for Tasmania

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Breast cancer MRI scans now listed under Medicare**

The Liberal National Government has today announced the \$32 million investment so that breast cancer patients can have life-saving scans covered under Medicare, saving patients up to \$1,500 a scan.

Liberal Senator for Tasmania Richard Colbeck welcomed the announcement as a major boost for breast cancer patients in North West Tasmania.

“Today I announced that our Government is delivering a new Medicare-supported MRI licence for Devonport, which means that now all major population centres in Tasmania have access to Medicare-supported MRI scans.

“By extending this support to women in our community suffering breast cancer we will help ease the financial pressure on families during their illness.

“This is what can be done by delivering a strong economy – our Government is extending more services to more patients and taking the pressure off families.

Liberal Candidate for Braddon Gavin Pearce welcomed the announcement as excellent news for the North West.

“As a community we know all too well the hardship of cancer diagnoses in the family, a tragic experience I have had in my own family.

“This new investment will save local patients \$1,500 per scan, which will make a massive difference to family Budgets.

“I note that last year the Australian Government also delivered life-saving support for breast cancer medication Kisquali, which will save patients \$71,000 a year.

“I welcome the support for breast cancer patients and I hope it goes some way to easing financial difficulties for North West, West Coast and King Island families at what is already a difficult time.”

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