

Minister for Education
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27 SEPT 2024

Ms Jen Butler MP
Labor Member for Lyons
Email C/O Clerk of Assembly: laura.ross@parliament.tas.gov.au

Dear Ms Butler

Thank you for your Constituent Question on Tuesday, 10 September 2024, asked as follows:

Bill from Swansea and Rosina from St Helens, want to know what the terms of reference will be for the pending Online Access Centre review.

They note this announced review will determine the potential complete shutdown of 19 online access centres, 19 coordinator jobs, hundreds of volunteers and essential services provided to our regional community.

I am pleased to provide the following response:

Online Access Centres are supported through the Digital Connections Grants program which funds 18 community-managed, Online Access Centres, through deeds to 30 June 2025.

As previously stated in the response to your Constituent Question of 19 June 2024, the Tasmanian Liberal Government is undertaking an independent review of investment in digital inclusion programs, including the Digital Connections Grant.

This is due to be completed by the end of November 2024.

The reviewer has been briefed to identify the digital inclusion needs of our local communities, including to identify existing digital inclusion programs and to make recommendations.

Consultation with stakeholders, including Online Access Centres, will form part of the review.

Yours sincerely

Hon Jo Palmer MLC
Minister for Education