IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES DEALING WITH AUTISM

ACTION FOR TASMANIAN AUTISTIC CHILDREN [ATAC] wrote to the three parties represented in the State Parliament and asked them a number of questions on their policies for people dealing with AUTISM.

As a guide to voting on **March 20th,** we detail the results of this survey.

QUESTION	COMMITMENTS		
	LIBERAL	GREENS	LABOR
1. Will you introduce screening for autism for children at 18 months and 2 years of age?	1. Introduce early screening 2010-2011 financial year by child health nurses. GPs and paediatricians.	1. In principle support.	**NO**
2. Will you introduce diagnostic clinics for autism in the four major hospitals?	2. Introduce World's Best Practice diagnostic panel for those red-flagged by screening, including testing for co-morbidities.	2. Establish 2 clinics L.G.H. and R.H.H.	
3. Will you build early intervention centres in all regions?	3. Hobart centre by 1/1/2011. North West Coast and 2nd centre in Hobart to follow. Others as required.	3. Recognise early intervention is cruicial but no funding allocated.	**REPLY**
4. Will you use the only research proven method, Applied Behavioural Analysis, in early intervention centres?	4. Provide 20-30 hours intensive behavioural intervention per week in centres and treatment for children not coping in schools. Transition teams in each centre, outreach services.	4. In principle support. Support trial in Tasmanian schools.	**RECEIVED**
5. Will you supply special programmes for adults with autism?	5. Extend A-Team Statewide. Review proposals of British Parliament into this area to see if they are appropriate for Tasmania.	5. Establish unit in Skills Tasmania. Extend A-Team to all areas. Support Go E. Pilot.	

FOR FULL DETAILS OF THE PARTIES POLOCIES FOR AUTISM AND FULL TEXT OF ANSWERS SUPPLIED TO ATAC, GO TO THE ATAC WEBSITE AT www.atac.asn.au

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