

Department of Health and Human Services

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Dear Householder

Subject: Tasmanian Population Health Survey 2013

We are writing to ask for your help with some important research into the health of Tasmanians. This research is known as the Tasmanian Population Health Survey.

The Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services is conducting the Tasmanian Population Health Survey to collect valuable information about the health, lifestyles and well-being of Tasmanians. To assist in this research they have appointed a survey research firm, *The Social Research Centre*, to telephone randomly selected households and ask them to participate in a telephone interview.

A representative from ***The Social Research Centre*** may telephone your household in the next couple of weeks to invite an adult to answer a number of health-related questions. This will take approximately 20 minutes and arrangements can be made for you to participate at a more convenient time.

The information collected in this study will be used by the Department of Health and Human Services to improve the delivery and quality of health services and disease prevention programs for the Tasmanian community. Your participation is entirely voluntary. However, in order for us to collect accurate information, it is important that as many households as possible participate in this study.

Please be assured that no sensitive or embarrassing issues are discussed. All information is treated in strict confidence. Your personal details will not be passed on to any other agency. The information you provide will be used for planning and research purposes.

If you have any queries about the study or would like further information please call the Tasmanian Population Health Survey Hotline on **1800 023 040**.

This study has been approved by the Tasmanian Social Sciences Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study, please contact the Executive Officer of the HREC (Tasmania) Network on (03) 6226 7479 or email human.ethics@utas.edu.au. The Executive Officer is the person nominated to receive complaints from research participants. Please quote ethics reference number H13485.

Thank you for your interest in this survey. The survey findings will be used to ensure that population health programs are relevant to the Tasmanian community and responsive to current and emerging health issues.

Yours sincerely



Dr Roscoe Taylor
Chief Health Officer/Director of Public Health