

## **Media Release**

# **VISIONARY AND CORAGEOUS PLAN FOR UTAS LAUNCESTON**

**By Guy Barnett**

**Wednesday 7 August 2013**

The University of Tasmania has been congratulated for its plan to establish a health science and sport precinct in Launceston.

“This is a visionary and courageous plan that could work, said Diabetes Australia Ambassador Guy Barnett today.

“Tasmania leads Australia in prevalence of obesity and chronic disease including type 2 diabetes, heart disease and certain cancers. This sort of initiative by the University of Tasmania acknowledges the problem and can be part of the solution.

“The Federal Government spent over \$300 million with the University of Sydney to establish their Centre of Excellence in Obesity, Diabetes and Cardio-vascular disease at the newly established Charles Perkins Centre so serious consideration should be given to the University of Tasmania’s plan for Launceston,” he concluded.

**FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT GUY BARNETT 0428 622 333**

(Guy Barnett, former Senator, is Diabetes Australia Ambassador)