

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

12 November 2021

## Lease arrangements for the Cygnet Medical Centre

Council resolved, in Closed Council on 25 August, to seek expressions of interest for the lease of the Cygnet Medical Centre premises from 1 March 2022.

Mayor Bec Enders said the lease would be for a period of five years with an option for a longer term lease.

"This lease agreement reflects our commitment to fulfilling the Commonwealth Funding Agreement to provide secure medical services at the Centre until 2032 or beyond," she said.

"The Cygnet Medical Centre, located at 14 George Street, Cygnet, was originally developed by the Huon Valley Council in 2012 through a funding agreement to meet a need for medical services in Cygnet that was not being met by private practices at the time. The Commonwealth's Health and Hospitals Fund helped to establish medical services within regional areas of Australia.

"Council operated the Centre for five years, and in 2017 the Centre was leased to a private provider, Huon Medical Group. This lease is due to expire in late February 2022.

"Council has engaged Real Estate Agent Knight Frank to market the premises for submissions of expressions of interest from today with submissions closing on 9 December."

Mayor Enders said Council will review and assess any submissions received with a decision to be made by the end of January 2022.

Further information about the process will be released following Council's decision.

Mayor Enders said the Huon Medical Group has an established business that is well supported within the Cygnet community and Council will continue to work with the Huon Medical Group to deliver medical services under the current lease period.



The Huon Medical Group are eligible to lodge an expression of interest during the advertising period.

"I have no doubt that whatever the Huon Medical Group decide it will communicate with their patients as to their future intentions," Mayor Enders said.

For more information: Mayor Bec Enders (03) 6264 0300