

# MEDIA RELEASE



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## **Cancer Council rejects Williams' donation offer**

The Cancer Council Tasmania will not accept any money raised by Roberta Williams at her Hobart dinner engagement.

Cancer Council Tasmania CEO Lawson Ride said his organisation had not been approached by the organisers of Roberta Williams' \$100-a-head dinner in Hobart next month.

Mr Ride said that groups and individuals that wanted to raise funds for the Cancer Council needed to contact the Council and discuss their plans beforehand – not simply announce them in the media.

"Nobody involved with Ms Williams' Hobart event has approached us to raise money for us or in our name, and we will not be accepting any money from this event," Mr Ride said.

"Of course, as a charity we need funds to provide our vital services to the Tasmanian community, but we always have regard to where and how money is raised.

"While we do not doubt Ms Williams' motivation, we would decline to accept money from her Hobart event."

"There may be a public perception that money raised at Ms Williams' Hobart dinner relates to her connections with Melbourne underworld figures," he said.

"As a member of the Fundraising Institute Australia we are very conscious of our responsibilities to our donors and our reputation. In this case we've taken the view that accepting money from Ms Williams' event would be counter productive.

**For comment please call Lawson Ride on 0418 129 757**

**ENDS**