



MEDIA RELEASE

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AUSTRALIAN PROGRESSIVES CRITICAL OF MEAGRE \$500M FOR AGED CARE

Australian Progressives policy director, Nicolle Burt has slammed the Morrison Government's announcement of a measly \$500 million additional funds for the aged care sector.

"The Aged Care Royal Commission interim findings reveal the dreadful state of our national aged care system. We owe a debt of gratitude to older Australians" said Ms Burt, "and the state of the aged care system in Australia is completely broken. Older Australians are let down by the aged care industry and the Morrison Government. \$500 million dollars is a tiny fraction of the total expenditure necessary to address the failures identified by the Royal Commission" she continued.

The Morrison Government should do more, now, and not wait any longer to improve the living conditions for older Australians in care. The Australian Progressives will make aged care a policy priority to ensure any recommendations arising from the Royal Commission were fully implemented. "We know the aged care system has been broken for years, yet despite review after review, national policy reforms have only skimmed the surface," Ms Burt added.

The interim report from the Royal Commission in to Aged Care Quality and Safety was presented to the Governor General, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd) on October 31 and was tabled in parliament the same day. The report labelled the aged care sector as a 'shocking tale of neglect.'

Today's announcement of \$537 million dollars doesn't go far enough. "The Australian Progressives policy is to fully accept all recommendations from the Royal Commission for immediate implementation. We urge all levels of government to implement reforms in the aged care sector and improve the lives of older Australians who happen to reside or who are receiving care in aged care homes. As an advanced and wealthy economy, there is no reason for any Australian to live in substandard conditions" Ms Burt said.

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About Australian Progressives:

We believe in the advancement of an empathetic society - one in which all citizens of Australia can reach their full potential and find fulfilment in their lives within a thriving democracy. We will be a government with the guts to advance society through laws, services and infrastructure, for the benefit of all people. We believe government and communities should work together to develop creative and passionate individuals who can improve the world around them, embracing education, technology, science, culture and global leadership.

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