THE TURNBULL COALITION TEAM CCHQ 2016



15 June 2016

Ms Helen L'Orange AM
Convenor
Women's Electoral Lobby (Australia) Inc
Email: helen.lorange@bigpond.com

Dear Ms L'Orange

Thank you for the opportunity to provide the views of the Coalition on important issues facing your members. On behalf of the Coalition Members of Parliament and candidates I am pleased to respond to your letter.

The Turnbull Coalition has made addressing domestic violence a national priority. The Coalition has elevated the national conversation and invested more Commonwealth funding than ever before.

The 2016-17 Budget commits an additional \$100 million in new funding over three years to reduce violence against women and their children, including \$30 million specifically for legal assistance services.

This new funding is in addition to the \$100 million Women's Safety Package that the Prime Minister announced in 2015.

The Coalition will make further announcements about specific funding for domestic violence initiatives, including frontline services, before the election.

In regards to your proposal to provide long term Commonwealth funding for women's refuges and other front line services, I understand you recently wrote to the Prime Minister, the Minister for Women and the Minister for Social Services regarding the same matter.

I am advised that you have been provided with details of the Coalition Government's current funding arrangements under the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness (NPAH) and the National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA). The Coalition has provided \$230 million over two years to fund frontline homelessness services with priority focusing on women and children experiencing domestic and family violence, and homeless youth.

This is a substantial investment, which recognises the vital work done across the sector.

Under the NPAH and NAHA, States and Territories retain responsibility for determining funding allocation, including where services are located and which service providers are contracted.

The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) has agreed that reforms to housing and homelessness services would be taken forward in the context of existing work on housing. COAG is expected to report on this at the end of 2016 and the Coalition will consider its recommendations.

More broadly, Australia's future depends on how well we can continue to grow and shape our economy.

Only the Liberal and National Parties have an **economic plan** to do that and ensure Australia's future. We have a clear plan to transition the economy from the mining and investment boom to a stronger and more diverse economy.

The key elements of our national economic plan for jobs and growth are:

- An Innovation and Science programme bringing Australian ideas to market. This
 means greater investment and more jobs and opportunities for our young people;
- A New Defence Industry plan that will secure an advanced defence manufacturing industry in Australia. This will create thousands of new hi-tech, higher paying jobs;
- Export Trade Deals that will generate more than 19,000 new export opportunities. These will
 create many more jobs for our urban and regional families;
- New Tax Incentives, which will include tax cuts for more small businesses. More than two
 million businesses can benefit, to deliver more growth and jobs; and
- A Strong New Economy with more than 200,000 jobs expected to be created.

Our national economic plan and management is already paying dividends. Last year our economy continued to grow creating almost 300,000 new jobs, many of them in small business.

We cannot put economic growth and the jobs that come with it at risk with a return to Labor and their debt and deficits, high taxing, big spending ideas.

Only a Liberal and National Party Government can protect Australia's future

Once announced, our policies will be available at www.liberal.org.au and www.nationals.org.au.

Thank you for communicating the Coalition's commitments to your members.

Yours sincerely

Tony Nutt

National Campaign Director