Parliamentary National Party of Australia (WA)

Our ref: 210209 / AW

Mr Peter Coates
Chief Executive Officer
Carers WA
182 Lord Street
PERTH WA

via email: policy@carerswa.asn.au

Dear Mr Coates

SPEAKING UP FOR WA CARERS: STATE ELECTION 2021

Thank you for your letter of 18 January 2021 to the Leader of The Nationals WA, Hon Mia Davies MLA, letting her know of two specific priorities for carers in WA in the lead up to the State election. I am replying on Mia's behalf as Deputy Leader and spokesperson for community services.

The Nationals WA share your disappointment that the Premier and the Minister for Communities, Hon Simone McGurk MLA, have failed to progress the review of the *Carer Recognition Act 2004*.

We recognise and appreciate the vital role of carers, especially in regional areas where access to support services and remaining socially connected can be particularly challenging. We support any strategies that build awareness, recognition and understanding of the invaluable contribution of our carers.

If we are in a position to form government after the State election, we would welcome the opportunity to work with Carers WA towards better meeting the needs of all carers across WA.

The Nationals WA have announced a number of election commitments to date which may be of interest to you and your members including:

- Restoring Royalties for Regions – this will provide a funding program for important projects, including social infrastructure, to enable our regional towns and communities to be more socially connected.
- $91.5 million to ensure the sustainability of our Community Resource Centres (CRCs). CRCs are a critical hub in regional areas, delivering information and support about not-for-profit and essential government policy and programs.

Parliament House, Perth, Western Australia 6000 **ph** (08) 9222 7296 **fax** (08) 9222 7812

- $58 million boost to Patient Assisted Travel Scheme, which will increase subsidy support for travel costs associated with important health appointments.
- $25 million to build independent living units and residential aged care facilities, which will assist in transitional care arrangements.

Please visit www.nationalswa.com.au for more information and full details of all our policy commitments. Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely

Shane Love

Shane Love MLA
DEPUTY LEADER

18 FEB 2021