

THE TURNBULL COALITION TEAM

CCHQ 2016



28 June 2016

Mr Andrew Giles
National Policy Officer
Multiple Sclerosis Australia
Level 19 Northpoint Building
100 Miller Street
North Sydney NSW 2060
Email: Andrew.giles@msaustralia.org.au

Dear Mr Giles

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 survey.

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.

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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.

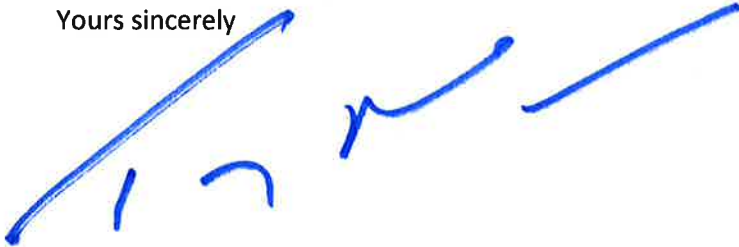
We cannot put economic growth and the jobs that come with it at risk with a return to Labor and their debt and deficits, high taxing, big spending ideas.

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several fluid, connected strokes that form the name 'Tony Nutt'.

Tony Nutt
National Campaign Director

COALITION RESPONSE TO MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS AUSTRALIA

The Coalition is committed to supporting Australians with multiple sclerosis (MS).

The Coalition believes that Australian patients should have timely access to innovative new treatments that have been independently assessed as safe, effective and cost-effective.

The Coalition has restored the independence of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee (PBAC) and has proceeded to list new medicines at a more rapid rate than the previous Labor Government.

In 2014-15 the total expenditure for medicines to treat or alleviate MS was over \$305 million.

It was the Coalition that listed the breakthrough medicine for the treatment of MS – Lemtrada (Alemtuzumab) on 1 April 2015 at a cost of nearly \$4 million.

The Coalition will continue to list medicines that have been approved by the PBAC at a faster rate than Labor. A new medicine for the treatment of MS – Zinbryta (Daclizumab) – will be considered by the PBAC during 2016.

Since 2000, the National Health and Medical Research Council has provided over \$77 million for research related to MS, including \$9 million provided for MS research projects in 2015.

The Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) will inject \$400 million over the next few years, rising to \$1 billion once fully established. This funding will provide the opportunity to strategically fund research and address national priorities in a more cohesive and coordinated way than under previous approaches.

It will complement existing health and medical research funding to improve health outcomes by distributing new funding in more diverse ways to support stronger partnerships between researchers, healthcare professionals, governments and the community.

The eminent members of the Australian Medical Research Advisory Board, appointed in April 2016, will set out Strategies and Priorities in their advice to Government about how funds in the MRFF should be allocated.

In developing these priorities the Board will consider: the burden of disease on the Australian community; how to maximise the practical benefits from medical research to as many Australians as possible; and, how to ensure that funding under the MRFF complements and enhances other financial assistance provided for medical research.

The Coalition is reforming aged care to make it a consumer driven system capable of meeting the demands of an ageing population and their expectations of quality and service delivery.

Aged Care funding has grown each year under the Coalition. We are continuing to increase aged care investment. Our investment in 2016-17 is \$4 billion more than in Labor's last full year of office (2012-13).

We have committed to a 7 per cent increase in overall spending each year, and have made responsible changes to the funding tool for residential care to bring the blow out in spending under control, whilst ensuring that people with the highest needs continue to get the highest level of funding for care.