



DR RICHARD DI NATALE

Leader of the Australian Greens

Senator for Victoria

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Andrew Giles
Acting CEO
MS Australia

Via email: andrew.giles@msaustralia.org.au

29 June 2015

Dear Mr Giles

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to MS Australia's federal election priorities.

The Greens supported the establishment of the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) which when fully capitalised at \$20 billion a year will contribute \$1 billion per annum to health and medical research. We know that funds allocated from the MRFF will provide the essential resources to progress medical breakthroughs and will be critical in the search for new treatments and cures including a cure for MS.

The Greens note the profound personal, social and economic impact that suffering from MS can have and look forward to engaging with MS Australia in the 45th Parliament regarding your Brain Health proposal and its ability to maximise long-term brain health for those with MS in Australia.

The Australian Greens are committed to the timely and full roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). We recognise the substantial impact the NDIS will have on the lives of millions of Australians who require support and will maintain our vocal advocacy for its swift and effective implementation. The Australian Greens agree that those with a disability should access the services which best meet their needs and that both NDIS and Australia's aged care system should be appropriately resourced.

The Greens have announced that we would reverse the government's cuts to the Aged Care Funding Instrument (ACFI). We also recognise the importance of a smooth interface between the two systems, and the need for a person-focused approach.

The Greens hold serious concerns about younger people in residential care, with Greens Senator Rachel Siewert Chairing the 2015 Senate inquiry into this issue. The Greens continue to urge the government to implement in full the recommendations of that inquiry, which would greatly reduce the need for young people to receive care in these facilities. You can read the recommendations of this report [here](#).



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The Greens are supportive of the timely implementation of Australia's Liveable Housing Design Guidelines and note the challenges of inaccessibility for those living with conditions which limit their mobility including MS.

Thank you again for the opportunity to respond to your election priorities. I encourage you to consider the Greens' full election platform by visiting: <http://greens.org.au/platform>

Yours Sincerely,

Senator Richard Di Natale
Leader of the Australian Greens

