

From: Julian Burnside <julian.burnside@vic.greens.org.au>

Date: 30 April 2019 at 5:12:09 am GMT+5:30

To: Andrew [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: MS Australia seeks endorsement of its 2019 Election Commitments

Hi Andrew,

Thank you for getting in touch with me about this important issue and for the opportunity to respond to MS Australia's federal election priorities.

I would like to reiterate the Greens policies that relate to election commitments you are seeking.

Roadmap 1: Defeat Multiple Sclerosis in Australia

The Australian Greens support efforts to defeat multiple sclerosis in Australia. A key element of health platform is a focus on prevention, and of treating health as an investment, not a cost. We will ensure that all Australians, including those with MS, have access to the best possible models of care from the onset of their symptoms through to ongoing treatment and management.

Roadmap 2: Support people with MS Living with Disability

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 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.

Roadmap 3: Support people Ageing with MS

The Australian Greens support reform of the aged care sector. Our vision is for older Australians to be able to continue to participate fully in their communities and have their skills, life experience and contributions recognised. We support older Australians in the workplace, and work for a high quality aged care system. The Greens support implementing recommendations of recent reviews into the aged care sector, including reviews into quality regulatory processes and the aged care workforce. We are conscious of not losing momentum and continuing the reform process while the Royal Commission is underway. We understand the importance of giving people the choice to stay at home for as long as possible through access to high quality care and support in the home. This is why we will support an increase in 50,000 Level 3 and level 4 Home Care Packages. We also support State and Federal Governments coming together to develop a sustainable solution to the equitable provision of assistive technology to all Australians.

Kind Regards

Julian