



Senator Claire Moore

WEEKLY UPDATE: 21st September, 2018

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THIS WEEK:

This week Labor pushed forward with significant policy reform with our planned changes to the superannuation system that will provide a huge – and practical - benefit to women and low income earners.

Research is showing that too many Australian women retire, or will retire, into poverty.

On average, women retire with \$113,000 less in their super than men this is 40 percent less.

Many women are financially punished for the choices they make – sometimes these choices are just “expected”. These choices include that valuable work of raising kids or caring for sick family members.

No one – women or men - should be penalised for taking time out of paid work to have children.

This is why a Labor have announced they will ensure that recipients of Commonwealth Paid Parental Leave and Dad and Partner Pay payments continue to receive super contributions.

We also want to make it easier for employers to make extra payments into a woman’s superannuation fund.

Another, equally as importantly, reform Labor will make is to phase out the \$450 minimum monthly income threshold for eligibility for the superannuation guarantee – we know that the income eligibility threshold disadvantages people who work part-time, casual or in multiple low paid jobs.

Many of these workers are women however it is also all of our young workers.

It was Labor that introduced universal compulsory superannuation and this is the next step.

These new policies have been well received by the sector; “The changes announced today will help reverse the current trend where women are retiring into poverty and homelessness.” Women in Super, Chair Cate Wood said.

“Labor’s plan should be commended for helping all Australians, especially women, achieve a comfortable retirement.” Financial Services Council, Director of Policy Allan Hansell.

I would also recommend you have a read at the speech Senator Penny Wong made this week about female representation in Parliament and why it is so importance to our democracy,

You will find extracts from Penny’s speech in this Week’s Update but for the full speech go to:

<https://www.pennywong.com.au/speeches/senators-statements-a-more-equal-and-representative-parliament-the-senate-canberra/>

In September we have a month long celebration of all things LGBTIQA – it is Pride Month. This weekend one of the highlights is the annual Brisbane Pride Festival Rally and March. This is a tradition going back 27 years and it just keeps getting bigger and better. The Pride Fair follows the march and it is a great day out at New Farm Park!

SENATOR CLAIRE MOORE, LABOR SENATOR FOR QUEENSLAND

Senator Claire Moore
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CLAIRE’S WEEKLY UPDATE NEWSLETTER

If there is material you would like included or expanded upon, please let us know. If you think that others would like to receive copies please let us know and we will include them on the mailing lists.

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WHAT'S BEING SAID ...



EDUCATION FUNDING - PLIBERSEK – CANBERRA

"After more than a year of denials, today was an admission from the Government that they have cut billions of dollars from schools. Restoring some of that funding to Catholic and independent schools is a completely inadequate response to the \$17 billion cut from schools over the next decade."

EDUCATION FUNDING - PLIBERSEK – CANBERRA

"What we won't accept is the Government's proposition now that the problem's solved because they've admitted cutting funding from Catholic and independent schools, they've restored part of that funding - well, what happens to public schools?"

EDUCATION FUNDING - PLIBERSEK – CANBERRA

"The Prime Minister has turned his back on the two and a half million children that go to public schools around Australia. He's said to the five million parents of those children - we don't care about your kids, we're prepared to properly fund Catholic and independent schools but we're not prepared to properly fund public schools."

EDUCATION FUNDING - PLIBERSEK – CANBERRA

"But what's worse is it's not just the billions of dollars that've been cut from schools, it's the wasted time. We had a national school reform agenda that set all sorts of ambition for reform in our schools to make sure every kid got a great education. Five years later, those kids who started high school when Tony Abbott became Prime Minister are finishing high school with none of those reforms in place."

EDUCATION FUNDING - PLIBERSEK – CANBERRA

"The focus for today has to be on the five million or so public school parents around Australia who are asking themselves - well, what about my child, what about my child? Why doesn't my child get a fair funding deal? Why isn't the \$14 billion cut from public schools replaced by this government, as the part of the money cut from Catholic and independent schools has been today?"



AGED CARE - COLLINS- ABC TV BNEWS BREAKFAST

"Labor has been saying for some time that there has been a crisis and there is a crisis in aged care. We have been saying for some time that there is a really serious issue. We have been talking about the need for increased staffing and the need for increased funding for aged care."

AGED CARE - POLLEY- 2CC RADIO

"The government and the Minister has at least 14 reports that have investigated and taken evidence in relation to what is happening in the aged care system. There is no excuse for the government to have not known what was going on."

"I think it is extraordinary to call a Royal Commission into your own failings. I mean when you've been in Government for five years and you say the system is so much in crisis now that we need a Royal Commission." - Julie Collins

AGED CARE - COLLINS – RN DRIVE

"When Labor said there was a crisis they accused us of verging on elder abuse, they accused us of scare mongering and now, just a few months later, there is suddenly a Royal Commission. I do think that needs explanation."

AGED CARE - COLLINS – RN DRIVE

"What we're curious about is why the Minister said just two weeks ago that there was no need for a Royal Commission and now there is a need, the day before the Four Corners program went to air."

AGED CARE - POLLEY- 2CC RADIO

"Things have to change now and it has to start now. There is no reason why the Prime Minister and the Minister responsible can't start enacting those recommendations from those 14 reports that are sitting on his desk."

WOMEN & SUPER - SHORTEN- CANBERRA

"I am pleased to announce that a Labor Government if elected will make sure that parents - of course it's predominately women who take parental leave, but parents who take Commonwealth Paid Parental Leave will get superannuation paid whilst they're on parental leave."

WOMEN & SUPER - PLIBERSEK - CANBERRA

"We are also progressively getting rid of the \$450 a month threshold, below which superannuation currently isn't paid. We know that more and more people instead of working one full-time job, I work in multiple jobs. They are working part-time, they working casual, they're doing seasonal work and quite often, they are missing out on superannuation on all of those jobs. That is also contributing to the retirement income gap between men and women."

WOMEN & SUPER – BOWEN – CANBERRA

"Only two in 10 women in Australia are retiring with a level of income which can be regarded as comfortable, compared to five in 10 men. This has got to change and a Shorten Labor Government will change it."

WOMEN & SUPER - SHORTEN- CANBERRA

"I believe in Australia that we have got to do everything we can to close the earnings gap between men and women. Australian women deserve to be treated equally. A husband is not a retirement plan and we need to ensure that women have the opportunity to have some independence in their retirement."

DUTTON - NEUMANN – CANBERRA

"The Senate Inquiry into the Peter Dutton au pair saga has revealed that Peter Dutton clearly knew the intended employers of the au pairs and he misled Parliament, despite his claims otherwise. The report clearly shows the Minister's actions stink; they are anything other than routine".

"To claim he has no personal connection or relationship with these people just beggars belief." - Shayne Neumann

DUTTON - PRATT – CANBERRA

"The simple fact is he should not be intervening for his mates when everyone else with very clear humanitarian cases are waiting in a queue. It's just not good enough."

DUTTON - BURKE – CANBERRA

"Under our system of Government there is one reason that is agreed that is the offence that no minister can cross. That is you don't mislead the Parliament."

DUTTON - ALBANESE – CANBERRA

"He should do the right thing and resign as a Minister as the provisions of Westminster mean that he must. If Peter Dutton doesn't resign himself, what he will be doing is trashing the institution of Parliament, trashing the rules and conventions under the Westminster system. These people aren't really Conservatives of course; they are just reactionaries."

STRAWBERRIES- SHORTEN – SPEECH, PARLIAMENT- CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (FOOD CONTAMINATION) BILL18

"This issue, although rare, should not have caught our authorities off guard and I think some of the coverage and some of the debate and different responses has potentially caused more harm than some of the initial nasty acts of sabotage."

"So on the way home tonight; if you're in the supermarket on the weekend, we encourage people to grab a punnet for yourself and a punnet for the nation." - Bill Shorten

WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT - O'CONNOR – SKY NEWS

"It's hard to believe the Prime Minister, Scott Morrison, when he says there is nothing to see here. There is very little women to see when you look in the Chamber at the moment on the Government benches."

WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT -BOWEN – RN BREAKFAST

"He's 100 per cent sure there's no bullying in the Parliamentary Liberal Party when the women in his own Party say that's not true? It just beggars belief that he's got his head in the sand and refusing to acknowledge this."

TEACHER QUALITY - PLIBERSEK – ABC NEWS 24

"We know that the most successful school systems around the world take their teaching students from about the top 30 per cent of academic achievers. I think Australia should aim to do the same. We want teaching to be as tough to get into and as sought-after as medicine. We want teaching to be a first choice, not a fall-back for Australian students"

GOVT'S DROUGHT POLICY – FIZGIBBON – RN DRIVE

"They have been in office for five years and suddenly the solution is to form a committee, which is effectively what this is. Now I heard Barnaby Joyce, the Drought Envoy, say this afternoon this is about collaboration with the states. Well, Barnaby Joyce, when he was Agriculture Minister, abolished the CoAG Committee charged with that coordination and charged with further developing a reforming drought policy under an agreement that was signed off by the states in 2012. So, I mean, what is a Drought Summit going to tell the Prime Minister about the drought that he doesn't already know?"

GOVT CHAOS - COAG CANCELLED – KENEALLY – CANBERRA

"Now, Scott Morrison, having turned up as Prime Minister, is refusing to turn up at COAG. How can you a country if you can't even run a COAG meeting?"

"Hey, I'm the Prime Minister, but, hey, I don't have anything to talk about, so I'm going to cancel a meeting with the states and territories". That's not leadership; it's just chaos."

GOVT CHAOS-EDUCATION - BOWEN – RN BREAKFAST

"It's now September Fran and school principals don't have their budgets for next year because of the dysfunction in the school funding model which this Government has imposed."

DISABILITY ROYAL COMMISSION - ALBANESE - 5AA RADIO ADELAIDE

"We called for a Royal Commission into the treatment of people with disabilities 18 months ago at the beginning of 2017 and that is important. It's a significant enough issue to have its own Royal Commission. Royal Commissions shouldn't be about political vendettas. They should be about getting evidence to change policies in the national interest."

CHILDCARE POLICY- RISHWORTH- SKY NEWS

Workers in the child care industry have been undervalued for a long time and most people are pretty shocked to know a child care worker gets paid \$22 an hour- I mean an early educator that is taking our children and caring for them only gets paid that amount.

CHILDCARE POLICY- RISHWORTH- SKY NEWS

"If you look at our track record, we are the party that brought in Universal Access to four year old kindy, we are the party that introduced the Quality Framework and increased the subsidies."

GBRF - \$444 MILLION - KENEALLY – CANBERRA

"Well, we know now, thanks to the Senate inquiry, there has been almost no due diligence. We heard yesterday from the Foundation they were completely unaware that the government was conducting any due diligence on them before this money was offered. They hadn't even heard that the Solicitor General was apparently conducting due diligence. How do you conduct due diligence without the organization knowing about it? That doesn't seem like any type of due diligence at all."

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"Another day in Parliament, another episode of the Muppet Show, the Liberal Party caucus room meets today. They don't need a chair; they need a referee for the ongoing brawls that are occurring within the Coalition." - Anthony Albanese

"You have a Prime Minister who advocates for a woman to be the Liberal Party candidate in Wentworth but who finishes fifth in the ballot and men finish first, second and third; then that just identifies what the structural problem is." - Anthony Albanese

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

“The fact that the right-wingers Jones and Kenny hold such extreme and ill-informed views about climate and energy is well known, and not of great consequence, but the fact that the country’s energy minister goes on to their programs and agrees with them, despite all the evidence to the contrary, is deeply troubling – for investors and consumers.” - Giles Parkinson - (RenewEconomy) (New energy minister Angus Taylor launched a new and extraordinary attack against wind and solar, saying they cause “de-industrialisation” and claiming that Labor’s 45 per cent emissions reduction target would send a “wrecking ball” through the Australian economy.)

“By 2021, 4 million Australians will be aged 65 years and older. By the time they are 85 years of age, 62 per cent of women and almost 50 per cent of men will require residential aged care.” - Dr Jessica Borbasi

DUMB QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“I give notice that, on the next day of sitting, I shall move— that the Senate acknowledge:

The deplorable rise of anti-white racism and attacks on Western civilisation. It is okay to be white. — Pauline Hanson

[The One Nation Senator seeks official endorsement of the twin, seemingly contradictory traditions of [white supremacy and victimhood](#)]

SENATORS STATEMENTS [Excerpts] - A MORE EQUAL, AND REPRESENTATIVE PARLIAMENT —

Penny Wong

“We often hear from some of those opposite sarcastic remarks about “quota girls”, as if none of us on this side have any right to be here.

Well, I’d like to ask them this question; why is it that you think women make up so few of the Members and Senators in your party?

Because, since women make up more than 50% of the population, there can really only be two answers: either women are not seen by the males in your party as talented, and therefore not as deserving of a place in this Parliament as men, or there is something more systemic preventing women from being elected to Parliament as members of the Liberal or National Parties.

So, unless you are prepared to stand up in this place and argue that, if merit alone determines pre-selections, women in the Liberal and National Parties are consequently only one fifth as meritorious as men, then you accept that there are barriers of prejudice to equal representation.”

We were a place where women had not only won the vote, but had also won the right to stand for Parliament, an almost unheard of concept in the first decades of the 20th Century. And yet today, Australia is ranked 50th in the world when it comes to gender diversity in Parliament. Where once we led the world, today the latest figures from the Inter-Parliamentary Union show we trail the UK, New Zealand, South Africa, Mexico, Rwanda, Cuba, Slovenia and 42 other nations. And why? Because of the Liberal and National Parties.

If Labor were the only party in this place Australia would rank 4th in the world.

It is time for those opposite to join the 21st Century, to stand up to the bullies, and to support affirmative action so that this Parliament, on all sides, whether Government or Opposition, truly represents the Australian people.”

YOU CAN HEAR THE LAUGHTER FROM HERE

The Liberal Party is being urged to “name and shame” those who bully or intimidate their colleagues in federal Parliament, amid growing fears the party is failing to recruit enough women to fight the next election. Former Liberal Party vice president Trish Worth said the party could not fix the problem if it ignored the concerns about bullying and the treatment of women before and during the leadership spill last month. But Defence Industry Minister Steve Ciobo played down fears the party could be left with just five or six women in the House of Representatives after the next election, saying the Liberals had a “terrifically strong track record” on the representation of women



Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

POPULAR

Queensland is the most popular destination for people moving from other states, according to the latest population figures released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

ABS Demography Director Anthony Grubb said that in the year ended 31 March 2018, Queensland recorded a net interstate migration gain of 24,000 people; Victoria was the next most popular state, with a net gain of 15,100 people.

"During the previous four years, Queensland came second to Victoria in terms of net interstate movement, so these states have swapped, before that, Queensland was the biggest gainer for 20 years, excepting a brief period in 2011 when Western Australia overtook it.

"The most common move between states was from New South Wales to Queensland with 52,000 people making the move north. The next most common move was in the opposite direction with 36,900 people moving from Queensland to New South Wales," said Mr Grubb.

Overall, Australia's population grew by 380,700 people to reach 24.9 million in the year ending March 2018.

Net overseas migration added 236,800 people to the population, and accounted for 62 per cent of Australia's total population growth.

Natural increase contributed 143,900 additional people to Australia's population, made up of 307,200 births and 163,200 deaths.

Further information is available in [Australian Demographic Statistics, March Quarter 2018](#) (cat. no. 3101.0).

BETTER START

A [Deloitte Access Economics report](#) that found, at a federal cost of \$3.3 billion a year, a Newstart increase of \$75 a week would lead to a boost in spending, lift overall wages, and create more than 10,000 jobs.

IF YOU THINK YOUR LUCK IS OUT, THINK AGAIN



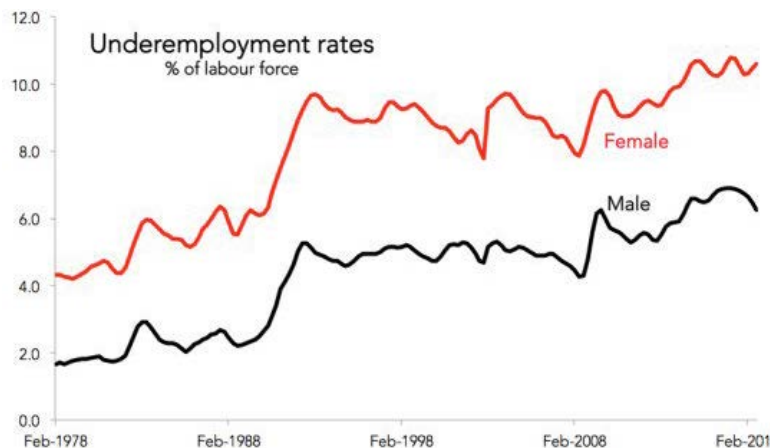
A woman is dead in Ireland after strong winds blew her caravan off a cliff during a heavy storm.

Irish police said the woman had been sleeping in the caravan when it fell from the cliff at Claddaghduff in Galway County yesterday.

Her body was found on the beach below.

"A search was carried out at the scene on the beach and after a short time the body of a female in her 50s was recovered," police said.

Rain and winds of more than 95 kilometres per hour have lashed Ireland and parts of Scotland and England in recent days. The storm, dubbed Storm Ali, has left around 55,000 homes and businesses without power, mainly in the south-west of Ireland, and caused disruptions to rail, road and ferry traffic across Scotland.



NOTHING TO SEE HERE



The office of then-immigration minister Peter Dutton demanded an au pair detained at Brisbane Airport be given "**urgent**" consideration for a visa - preferably within an hour.

Emails provided to a Senate inquiry on Wednesday show Mr Dutton's then-office asked the department to prepare a ministerial intervention briefing for the woman, Italian au pair Michela Marchisio.

She was about to be deported that night after officers found she planned to work while on a tourist visa.

"This is urgent. The minister requires this submission tonight (preferably in the next hour as he has an appointment at 7.30pm)," the email from Mr Dutton's departmental liaison officer said. **It was sent at 6.30pm on June 17, 2015.**

The intervention briefing was prepared and the woman was given a visa and released from detention that night. The emails also show the department expressly disagreed with Mr Dutton's push to give a visa to another au pair detained in Adelaide in November 2015.

Mr Dutton pushed ahead with it anyway and his ministerial decision had to be backdated after he missed signing it in time.

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

MEANWHILE

A French couple who have lived in Australia for more than 15 years say they are "**gutted**" after being told they had two weeks to leave the country.

Key points:

- **Mr Pigot and Ms Mendy say they are good citizens**
- **However, they claim to have exhausted all avenues to remain in Australia**
- **The couple have been told to leave the country by October 1**

Chef Damien Pigot and his partner Sandrine Mendy have run a cafe at Tweed Heads for the past five years, and, according to their friends, have become part of the area's "**culinary fabric**". Mr Pigot had hoped the business would bolster his application for permanent residency.



DUTTONISED

Elsewhere, a [series of emails](#) released as part of the inquiry demonstrate the urgency with which the Department of Home Affairs handled the two au pair cases, while [only last week](#) Australia was reported to the UN human rights council for three cases of arbitrarily detaining people seeking asylum.

DUTTON'S DUNG HEAP

[The Australian \(\\$\) reports](#) that shadow immigration minister Shayne Neumann has specifically questioned a bid for the \$1 billion visa processing contract from Liberal Party powerbroker Scott Briggs. Neumann has highlighted Briggs' personal connection to political allies Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Immigration Minister David Coleman, while also citing broader staffing, national security and privacy concerns over the program.

PROFITS BEFORE PEOPLE



Aged care providers are expected to rake in \$1.7 billion worth of profits in 2018-19, but [reports of poor living conditions](#) in nursing homes have raised concerns that the industry is putting profit before people.

So who are the corporate giants running Australia's nursing homes, and how much are they making?

Australia's residential aged care industry is made up of 902 companies that provide 200,689 residential places.

The industry's major players include six big for-profit companies: Bupa, Opal, Allity, Regis, Estia and Japara.

According to a report by IBISWorld, aged care providers will make \$1.7 billion in profits over the current 2018-19 financial year.

Residential care providers generated combined income of \$17.8 billion, or \$269.55

per resident per day over the same period.

The aged care industry's revenues are expected to swell further, by around 4.4 per cent annually over the next five years, rising to \$25.1 billion in 2023-24, according to IBISWorld.

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However, the [report](#) also found that the big six's "actual operating profits were much larger", and that they paid relatively little tax.

Australia's largest for-profit aged care provider Bupa generated almost \$7.5 billion in total income in Australia in 2015-16, but paid only \$105 million in tax on a taxable income of only \$352 million.

ARSONISTS

Insurance giant Suncorp tried to low-ball customers who had suffered losses in Victorian bushfires in 2015, offering more than \$150,000 under the replacement cost of destroyed buildings, the financial services royal commission has heard.

Chief executive Gary Dransfield admitted to the royal commission on Thursday that Suncorp's approach of buying out insurance claims following the 2015 Wye River fires meant many people were offered sums well below quotes to rebuild.

In one case, Suncorp offered \$499,000 to buy out a claim when the customer had a quote from a local builder for \$659,000. A second quote, obtained by the insurer, was for \$862,000.

Counsel assisting Rowena Orr QC asked Mr Dransfield whether he thought Suncorp had acted in a way that would allow its customers to "**properly complete all necessary repairs**". Mr Dransfield said he thought it had, and that settlements were often made at prices higher than the company's initial offer. He also admitted that some claims had taken a long time to settle after the Wye River fires in December 2015. Ms Orr said only 13 of 60 claims lodged had been finalised by April 13, 2016; 46 remained active.



JOB SCAM - The Age

Private job-seeking operators are stripping people of unemployment benefits without consulting government departments, leaving them with few avenues of redress despite up to 1 million mistakes being made last year.

The revelations come as Labor threatens to tear up some of the contracts in the \$7.3 billion employment services sector - the largest area of government procurement after defence - and considers whether to abolish the work-for-the-dole scheme if it is elected.

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

A Per Capita report to be released on Thursday accuses providers in the federal government's Jobactive scheme of cutting corners, ticking boxes and only referring job seekers to skill development courses when they were being run by an associated company.

The research, based off Monash University-run focus groups around Australia for the past year, found the chronically understaffed multibillion-dollar private job assistance industry had become dominated by compliance rather than focusing on genuine assistance for job seekers.

Case managers within the Jobactive system have 150 unemployed workers on their caseload on average, according to Per Capita, while a separate Melbourne University study found counselling staff spend 35 per cent of their time on compliance.

Since July, Centrelink's power to overturn penalties imposed by providers on job seekers has been removed, leaving any unemployed person who failed to apply for at least 20 jobs a month or failed to attend a meeting at their provider with no direct course of appeal against the judgment of the job agency.

In the 2015-2016 financial year, providers imposed 2 million monetary penalties on unemployed workers.

Centrelink rejected nearly half of these penalties, finding the person either had a reasonable excuse or that the provider had submitted the penalty in error.

"It is therefore of high concern that the process of review under which this startling error rate was uncovered is no longer in place," Per Capita found director Emma Dawson found.

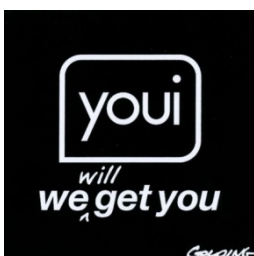
The report, which also used the Australian Unemployed Workers Union hotline to establish in its findings, warned services were increasingly prioritising **"creaming"**, assisting people who are relatively easy to place into work; and **"parking"**, not assisting people who are difficult to place into work while keeping them as clients and attracting government funding.

The federal government's own Employment Services Expert Advisory Panel found half of the people in Jobactive have remained in the service for two years while the most disadvantaged job seekers, had been stuck for an average of five years.

Labor's former employment services spokesman Ed Husic warned Jobactive providers that he was uncomfortable about job seekers being "churned through appointment after appointment, provider after provider, and not securing work," at their own industry conference in August.

[Who's the prominent Liberal supporter who makes millions churning job seekers? -Ed]

MEi



Insurer Youi has left customers stranded after natural disasters, failing to repair properties devastated by Cyclone Debbie and in a hailstorm, the financial services royal commission has heard.

Youi deliberately distorted the meaning of documents submitted to the financial services royal commission, describing the case of a man unable to claim on cyclone damage to his home for 18 months.

The Youi customer, Glen Sutton, is still waiting for repairs to his Cannonvale, Queensland home damaged so badly by Cyclone Debbie it remains unliveable. He employed consultants Solve My Claim to try to expedite the repairs in October last year.

The consultants submitted a description of his experience with Youi to the royal commission because Mr Sutton was so unhappy with his treatment. When the company became aware of the submission, a manager asked an executive to summarise it for internal use. The manager, Queensland claims assessing chief Katherine Ahern, characterised Mr Sutton as seeking more than he was entitled to.

"The usual story with this one. Customer believed our scope of works was too lean, our assessor attended site in December, met with Mr Sutton and his builder to discuss what they believed to be missing."

Counsel assisting Rowena Orr QC put to Youi chief Jason Storey claims the company had seriously misrepresented the Sutton situation.

"Now, do you agree that Ms Ahern's email misrepresents the true position in relation to the handling of Mr Sutton's claim?"

"Yes," Mr Sutton replied.

"Isn't that a serious matter in the context of providing information to the chief risk officer about a submission that has been made to the royal commission?"

"Yes," he replied.

Eighteen months after Cyclone Debbie hit, the repairs are still to be completed and Mr Sutton said he had no idea when they would be. In another case a pregnant single mother was forced to move to a caravan after Youi failed to repair her home that was badly damaged in a freak hail storm. Counsel assisting, Rowena Orr, QC, took Youi's chief operating officer Jason Storey through the corporate values at Youi, which markets itself as "fun, vibrant and unique", and whose mission includes ensuring that all customers received "awesome service". "Now, can I ask you, Mr Storey, do you think that Ms Murphy and Mr Sutton received awesome service from Youi?" Ms Orr asked. "I definitely do not," Mr Storey replied. **["Youi - we get you!" They certainly do. Ed]**

WHAT PROJECTS?

The Great Barrier Reef Foundation has revealed it has spent \$800,000 on "project management" since receiving a \$440 million grant in June, and expects to spend more than \$7 million on administration this financial year. The foundation only had six full-time staff when it was given the funding by former Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull. **[Would be interesting to know in detail what were those 'projects' and how rigorously were they evaluated on by who? Ed]**

MORE - SMH

Just days before the Great Barrier Reef Foundation received its controversial \$443.4 million funding, the organisation was in talks with the federal government for a grant of just \$5 million. Internal documents show that after then environment minister Josh Frydenberg met foundation chairman John Schubert on April 9 to tell him the grant had leapt almost 100-fold, officials had scrambled to learn what the non-profit group did. The internal emails and diary notes obtained by the Herald under freedom of information provide colourful details of the efforts to justify the funding. An Environment Department staffer asked the foundation on April 19 for **"any summaries of projects that we are investing with you" and "grateful if you can send up through a package of background material"**.

Evidence of the rushed effort to prepare for the April 29 unveiling of the massive grant includes a search for a celebrity, as requested by the minister, and schoolchildren from **"the best talent pool"** to front the launch

MAKING MONEY FROM CORAL

In response to [reports](#) companies associated with a Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA) board member financially benefited from publicly-funded reef resilience work, Australian Conservation Foundation (ACF) Chief Executive Officer, Kelly O'Shanassy, said:



“The Australian Conservation Foundation is increasingly concerned about how the Great Barrier Reef is being managed.

“The conflict-of-interest questions around the allocation of taxpayer funds administered by GBRMPA will worry everyone who loves our reef.

“Australians should be able to be confident the Great Barrier Reef is being properly looked after and the Authority and other relevant bodies are making the best decisions for its future, not the narrow interests of some.

“These latest concerns follow the numerous issues that have been highlighted about the Federal Government’s \$444 million grant to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation.

“And while most Australians understand climate change is the single greatest threat to our reef’s survival, we’ve seen the Morrison Government abandon all serious climate change policy.

“The future of the Great Barrier Reef is too important to be left to chance and poor judgment.

DOCTORS REVOLT



AMA President, Dr Tony Bartone, has written to Prime Minister Scott Morrison demanding that the Government move asylum seeker children and their families off Nauru to more appropriate settings for their deteriorating physical and mental health and wellbeing, preferably in Australia.

The AMA wants to see a more compassionate Government approach to the health care of refugees and asylum seekers in the care of the Australian Government.

Dr Bartone said there had been a recent groundswell of concern and agitation across the AMA membership and the medical profession about conditions on Nauru and the escalation in reports of catastrophic mental and physical health conditions being experienced by the asylum seekers, especially children.

“Put bluntly, we want some urgent action to help these vulnerable people who find themselves in a hopeless, despairing situation,” Dr Bartone wrote in his letter to the PM.

“The AMA has been calling for a more humanitarian approach, including independent assessment of health care arrangements, for many years now.

“The medical situation for the children on Nauru has been described by health experts, including medical staff who have worked on Nauru, as critical and getting worse. It is a humanitarian emergency requiring urgent intervention.

“We have been given some hope at the bureaucratic level, but a slammed door at the political level.

“The AMA and the medical profession are demanding a change of policy – a change of policy that reflects community concern for the health of asylum seekers.

In a separate letter to all MPs and Senators urging support and advocacy for the AMA position, Dr Bartone reminded politicians that, in April 2017, the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee released the report of its inquiry into asylum seekers on Nauru.

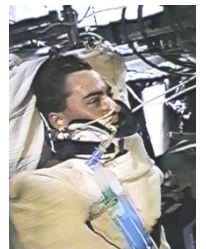
The inquiry made two recommendations about the availability of medical services and medical transfers:

- ***Recommendation 1: The committee recommends that the Department of Immigration and Border Protection, as a matter of urgency, commission an external review of its medical transfer procedures in offshore processing centres.***
- ***Recommendation 2: The committee recommends that the Australian Government undertake to seek advice in relation to whether improvements are required to the medical treatment options available to asylum seekers and refugees in the Republic of Nauru and Papua New Guinea, particularly mental health services.***

The Government has not yet responded to the inquiry.

WHO SWITCHED OFF THE LIGHTS?

Australians on life support had their crucial machines unexpectedly switched off 30 times in two years when power companies forgot to tell them about planned interruptions. No one has died yet but the scale of the problem has the Australian Energy Regulator cracking down with more than half a million dollars in fines. ***“Customers relying on life support equipment are particularly vulnerable and any unexpected loss of supply can have dangerous, and even fatal consequences,”*** AER chair Paula Conboy said on Wednesday.



- ***Power companies are meant to give people with life support machines at least four days written notice of planned power interruptions.***
- ***That didn’t happen in 30 cases since July 2016, with seven already in just the past two-and-a-half months.***
- ***That didn’t happen in 30 cases since July 2016, with seven already in just the past two-and-a-half months.***

\$30 MILLION TO FOXTEL

Remember when the Coalition government gave \$30 million of tax payers money to commercial operator Foxtel to encourage the broadcasting of more women’s sport?

Well it’s been revealed by the Age that; “The majority of sporting codes to benefit from the first portion of Foxtel’s \$30 million government handout have previously aired on the subscription broadcaster, according to documents released under freedom of information laws. The documents also show the Department of Communications and the Arts signed off on Foxtel funneling funds towards men’s rugby league games

because the New South Wales Cup – now called the Intrust Super Premiership – was considered an “emerging” sport on the grounds it is a reserve grade competition.

But eyebrows were raised when the ABC revealed a government paper trail on how Foxtel was chosen did not exist. Labor’s communications spokeswoman, Michelle Rowland, argued this showed the funding was part of a “backroom deal”.

ABBOTT BEATS NOBODY – Nikki Sava – (Former Liberal staffer and now Journalist with The Australian)

There was a point during Tony Abbott’s eight-minute speech on Friday night at the Balgowlah RSL when almost a third of preselectors for his seat of Warringah felt like “calling for Ruth”. It had nothing to do with gender wars. For those unfamiliar with old Australianisms, they were in danger of throwing up.



When the time came for preselectors to tick off on his endorsement, a good percentage of them showed what they thought of him, his behaviour during the past three years and his policy positions. With an official vote of 68 for him, 30 for Nobody, Definitely Not Abbott, and two informal. Liberal women are now caught in a vice. If they complain about bullying, Bullies and Co vilify them for being weak, or wreckers, or liars. If they don’t complain — and let’s be clear, there is a not-so-subtle campaign to bully or shame them into silence — the thugs will continue. Nothing will change. If women nominate for preselection and win, they risk accusations they have won only because of their gender. It diminishes their victory and their sense of achievement. If they lose, it’s because they were lousy candidates, not because male powerbroker s were dispensing favours to pets.

**“The chair, if it had gone on for another hour, the chair would have won.”
Anthony Albanese**

There is something rotten in the party’s culture, a nastiness not seen before. Scott Morrison must address it in whatever time he has as leader. It was wrong to assert, despite the public comments of MPs such as Julie Bishop, Kelly O’Dwyer, Linda Reynolds, Ann Sudmalis and Lucy Gichuhi that if there’s a problem it is in the states. Morrison has not been responding as leader of his party or as Prime Minister but as a politician trying to shut down a distraction because of fears people will think the government remains focused on its internals

I’ve been in the Labor Party for a long time now. I have never been a part of a political process where you vote in favour of someone or you vote in favour of an empty chair. It’s a Liberal Party thing. – Anthony Albanese

Liberal Party federal vice-president Teena McQueen, a diehard Abbott supporter, who is on the federal executive that Morrison says must sort out the mess, told women to suck it up. She said they should put up or shut up and accused them of wanting the spoils of victory without the fight. That will have them flocking to sign up.

NO HEALTH RECORD

Almost a million Australians have so far opted out of the controversial My Health Record, the Senate Committee looking into the system has heard. As of September 12, roughly 900,000 people had opted out of the system, according to Australian Digital Health Agency chief executive Tim Kelsey.

PELVIC HELP

The TGA has launched a [web hub](#) to help consumers and health professionals find information on transvaginal (urogynaecological) surgical mesh. Transvaginal mesh is used to treat pelvic organ prolapse and stress urinary incontinence. Some women have experienced serious complications from transvaginal mesh implants, and this has had a major impact on their lives.

The web hub links to information on consumer support services, adverse event reporting, regulatory changes, the Senate Inquiry into transvaginal mesh, and other topics.

For more information, please contact the TGA at info@tga.gov.au or 1800 020 563.



LINKS THAT MAY INTEREST YOU

[IMMIGRATION / JUSTICE](#)

A Senate committee issued reports from its inquiry into use of ministerial powers with respect to the visa status of au pairs. [\[Full Text\]](#)

[ENVIRONMENT / TRADE / JUSTICE](#)

A Senate committee issued the report from its inquiry into trade in elephant ivory and rhino horn. [\[Full Text\]](#)

[EMPLOYMENT / COMMERCE / EDUCATION](#)

A Senate committee issued reports from its inquiry into future work. [\[Full Text\]](#)

[FOREIGN / JUSTICE](#)

The Lowy issued 'The other Rohingya crisis'. [\[Full Text\]](#)

[FOREIGN / ANTARCTICA / SPACE](#)

ASPI issued 'What's China up to in Antarctica?' [\[Full Text\]](#)

ECONOMY

LABOR'S TO IMPROVE WOMEN'S SUPER SECURITY – Shorten/Plibersek/Bowen/Burney/Clare O'Neil

Too many Australian women retire in poverty. A Shorten Labor Government will help women plan for a secure financial future, investing \$400 million to strengthen Australia's superannuation system and boost women's superannuation balances. This is another step in our Women's Economic Strategy – taking active steps towards economic equality in Australia.

Labor knows that closing the gender gap on superannuation is absolutely critical to Australian women having dignity and certainty in retirement.

On average, women retire with \$113,000 less in their super than men – 40 percent less.

Labor believes that no Australian should be penalised for taking time out of paid work to have children. That is why a Shorten Labor Government will ensure that recipients of Commonwealth Paid Parental Leave and Dad and Partner Pay payments continue to receive super contributions.

Labor will also:

- Phase out the \$450 minimum monthly income threshold for eligibility for the superannuation guarantee – in recognition that the income eligibility threshold disadvantages people who work part-time, casual and in multiple low-paid jobs.
- Make it easier for employers to make extra payments into a woman's superannuation fund.
- Improve transparency by committing to consider and publish the impact that any future changes to super would have on women.
- Universal, compulsory super is one of Labor's greatest achievements. It has already ensured a better retirement for millions of Australians.

But more needs to be done to build on this progress. Despite all of its successes, superannuation is still not working effectively for women. By the time they are 60, [34 per cent](#) of single women in Australia live in poverty.

This is a complex issue. While today's measures won't end the problem, they will help reduce the inequity in the system.

This announcement builds on Labor's strong record on superannuation – we introduced universal, compulsory superannuation; legislated all of the increases in the rate of the superannuation guarantee (from 3 percent, to 9.5 percent and the scheduled increases to 12 percent) and introduced the low income superannuation contribution scheme. Labor's superannuation policies mean Australians now have \$2.6 trillion in superannuation savings.

In contrast, the Liberals have a pathetic record on superannuation and have undermined it at every turn. The Liberals voted against the introduction of universal, compulsory superannuation, and subsequently voted against all of the increases to the superannuation guarantee.

A Shorten Labor Government will not only protect super, but take these important steps to ensure that Australian women benefit from a better and fairer superannuation system.

LABOR'S PLAN TO IMPROVE FOR WOMEN'S SUPER SECURITY - Bowen

"It is heartening to see the Opposition addressing the problem – in particular seeking to close gaps where women are denied superannuation contributions."

"The changes announced today will help reverse the current trend where women are retiring into poverty and homelessness." -Women in Super, Chair Cate Wood said.

"Adding super to paid parental leave, and phasing out the \$450 monthly threshold are changes that respond to both existing realities and the evolving workforce." - Industry Super Australia, head of consumer advocacy, Sarah Saunders.

"Labor's plan should be commended for helping all Australians, especially women, achieve a comfortable retirement." - Financial Services Council, Director of Policy Allan Hansell.

"We are particularly pleased Labor will scrap the exemption that prevents people who earn less than \$450 a month from any employer being paid superannuation. COTA and others have been pushing hard for this change for years." - COTA Australia, CEO Ian Yates.

"Structural policy reform to protect and enhance the economic security of women in retirement is something that ASFA has long advocated for. It is of critical importance to ensure that women are not condemned to experiencing poverty, and even homelessness." - ASFA, CEO Dr Martin Fahy.

"Providing super payments to those on paid parental leave and phasing out the \$450/month super threshold will make a real difference for women." - Per Capita

"Today's announcement is an important first step to closing the 47 per cent superannuation gap for women. It is vital that super be paid on parental leave and we welcome the ALP's announcement." - ACTU, President Michele O'Neil.

"This is a comprehensive package of measures to address the gender super gap and [is a] significant step towards ensuring our super system is fairer to women and we call on all sides of politics to prioritise this issue and act swiftly to address the persisting gender inequities in our super system." - HESTA, CEO Debby Blakey.

"Fantastic commitment from Bill Shorten, Tanya Plibersek and the Australian Labor Party to top up parents' super while they're on paid parental leave." - The Parenthood.

"This is a good step in the right direction to address the obvious gaps to address women's financial insecurity." - Women's Electoral Lobby, NSW Convenor Philippa Hall.

TACKLING TAX HAVENS - Leigh

A Shorten Labor Government will clamp down on unsubstantiated allowances for travel to tax havens and target 'passport shopping' through measures raising more than \$9 million over the forward estimates.

Globally, around \$600 billion of profits are estimated to be shifted to tax havens, representing almost 40 percent of multinational profits

Tax havens are used by drug-runners, extortionists and money-launderers. They are used to hide the proceeds of fraud, corruption and tax evasion. According to one estimate, around four-fifths of money in offshore bank accounts is there in breach of other countries' tax laws.

Under Australian tax law, a company executive can receive tax-free allowances related to travel to Bermuda, Panama and similar jurisdictions.

As such travel is unlikely to be for purposes of creating assessable income in Australia, claims for unsubstantiated tax-deductible allowances in tax havens would be automatically denied under a Labor Government. Exceptions would require a detailed application to the Commissioner of Taxation.

This proposal will not affect the overwhelming majority of travel and meal allowances for employees, and is targeted to ensure that no additional compliance cost is put on firms who do not engage in higher-risk tax jurisdictions.

Labor will also add an integrity measure targeting people who 'shop for citizenship' in tax havens to avoid the automatic reporting and exchange of tax and financial account information on foreign tax residents.

'Passports for sale' or 'citizenship for sale' by tax havens are deliberately structured to undermine the OECD's Base Erosion and Profit Shifting program, particularly the Common Reporting Standard.

Under a Labor Government, all individual Australian taxpayers would need to notify and declare to the Australian Taxation Office if they have residency or citizenship of any other jurisdiction and the name of that jurisdiction. False declarations to the Australia Taxation Office would attract penalties.

These measures will increase revenue by \$9 million over the forward estimates, and follow the [Tax Haven Transparency measures](#) Labor announced last year:

- **Mandatory shareholder reporting of tax haven exposure.** Companies must disclose to shareholders as a 'Material Tax Risk' if the company is doing business in a tax haven.
- **Government tenderers must disclose their country of tax domicile.** All firms tendering for Australian Government contracts worth more than \$200,000 must state their country of domicile for tax purposes
- **Develop guidelines for tax haven investment by superannuation funds.** The Australian Tax Office (in collaboration with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission and the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority) will develop guidelines for responsible investment by superannuation funds.
- **Publicly accessible registry of the beneficial ownership of Australian listed companies.** This will allow everyone to find out who really owns our firms. Shareholders should not be able to use complex structures and sham ownership to avoid complying with corporate transparency rules.
- **Public reporting of country-by-country reports.** High-level tax information about where and how much tax was paid by large corporations (over \$1 billion in global revenue) will be released publicly.
- **Whistle-blower protection and rewards.** Provide protection for whistle-blowers who report on entities evading tax to the Australian Taxation Office. Where whistle-blowers' information results in more tax being paid, allow them to collect a share of the tax penalty (a reward of up to \$250,000).
- **Public reporting of Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) data.** Require the annual public release of international cash flow data.
- **Australian Taxation Office disclosure of settlements and reporting of aggressive tax minimisation.** Require that the Australian Taxation Office's annual report provide information on the number and size of tax settlements.

When revenue gets lost to tax havens, Australians ultimately have to pay higher taxes or suffer cuts to vital services.

Only Labor can be trusted to get tough on tax havens, and restore fairness to our tax system.

TRAINEE TREASURER AND COMMITTEE CHAIR GIVE UP- Thistlethwaite/Keogh/Wilson

The Liberal Party has given up on governing. That's why the trainee Treasurer has defied all Parliamentary conventions by asking the House of Representatives Economics Committee to solely focus on Labor's proposed reforms to the Howard-era dividend refund scheme.

These proposed changes to the only fully-refundable imputation system in the world were announced by Labor in March.

Since that time, the chaos in the Liberal Party has resulted in no new ideas or policies to tackle stagnant wages growth while they are in Government.

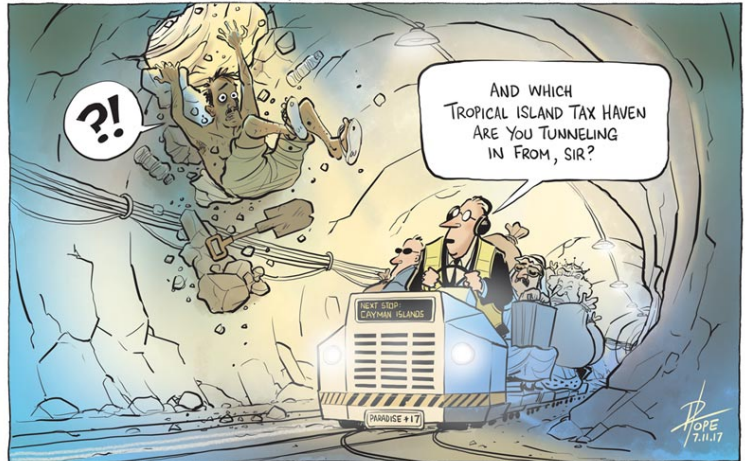
Instead, Josh Frydenberg and the rookie Chair of the Economics Committee are playing silly and shallow political games by focusing on what will happen after the next Federal election.

It shows just how out of touch this Government is with the key issues facing our national economy. The House Economics Committee has a serious remit to inquire into Australia's economic management and key regulatory entities like the Reserve Bank, APRA, ASIC, and the ACCC.

The Economics Committee should be focusing on why many costs for households and small businesses are going up and yet wages are going nowhere.

The Committee has previously written to the former Treasurer (now Prime Minister) explaining its priorities. These include looking into low wage growth and the effect on households and the Australian economy.

WHEN YOU'RE IN AUSTRALIAN DETENTION LIMBO, DIGGING A WELL, BUT ALL YOU REACH IS AN UNDERGROUND RAILROAD...



This important issue was raised 15 times when the Reserve Bank Governor Dr Philip Lowe appeared before the Committee recently:

“I have certainly been talking for a couple of years about the benefits of stronger wages growth” - Dr Phillip Lowe, Transcript of RBA Hearing, 17 August 2018.

The Committee also requested an enquiry into the whole Australian insurance industry, a call Labor renews in the wake of the appalling stories that continue to be told daily during the Royal Commission.

On Tuesday, the rookie Chair advised the Committee that the trainee Treasurer had requested an inquiry into dividend imputation reforms. This is a topic that has never been raised with the Committee by the Reserve Bank or any regulatory agency.

The vast majority of working Australians do not receive cash refunds for excess imputation credits. Analysis from the PBO shows that 92% of taxpayers in Australia did not receive any cash refunds for excess imputation credits in their 2014-15 tax return, while the majority of refunds go to wealthier households.

On figures costed by the Parliamentary Budget Office (PBO), Labor's reform will save Australian taxpayers \$10.7 billion over the forward estimates and \$55.7 billion over a decade.

Labor will also ensure that all pensioners will still be able to access cash refunds from excess dividends imputation credits. Charities and not-for-profit institutions are excluded from the change.

The Parliamentary Committee system is an important feature of our system of governance. It should not be used for political stunts.

Australia faces a number of significant economic challenges including the persistence of wage stagnation at a time of weak consumer demand, record high household debt, and increasingly limited fiscal and budgetary capacity to respond to the next economic crisis.

Morrison and the Liberals have had five years to develop a plan to help reform and grow our national economy. Only Labor is ready to govern with positive policies to help all Australians.

SLOMO “ALARMIST” STATEMENTS ON HOUSING CALLED OUT BY EXPERTS – Bowen Poor old SloMo. It was only a couple of years ago he was arguing within his party to reign in the “excesses” in negative gearing, only to be rolled by his Cabinet.

But now in a last ditch desperate bid to save his failing Government he is at it again peddling lies about Labor's negative gearing reforms.

The Prime Minister has told the *Daily Telegraph* that Labor's negative gearing policy will “torpedo” and have a “massive impact” on the housing market.

This follows his claims when he was Treasurer that negative gearing would take a “*sledgehammer*” to the market, a statement directly contradicted by his own [Treasury department that said “the price changes are likely to be small”](#).

The problem for our new Pinocchio Prime Minister is that the experts are now lining up to slam these claims.

Just today respected housing market analyst Martin North of Digital Finance Analytics has called Morrison's comments “*alarmist*”.

In one of the most stinging rebukes to Mr Morrison's credibility Martin North goes on to say that “*Morrison is, I think, trying to deflect attention away from five years of bad housing and economic policy*” and “*This is playing politics, not dealing with the core issues we face, which is how we manage the mortgage debt bomb, as mortgage stress rises*”

Ouch. The truth hurts.

Morrison can't escape the facts that the record of his government over the last 5 years is a housing affordability crisis and record household leverage, Australia now with the second highest household debt in the OECD.

Labor's reforms to negative gearing and the capital gains tax discount are responsible, fair, well calibrated, and fully grandfathered.

They will help put first home buyers back on a level playing field, will take some of the load off APRA macro prudential policies and over time will ensure that tax system doesn't encourage excess leverage which puts Australia's macroeconomic stability at risk.

ANY EXTENSION TO BANKING ROYAL COMMISSION MUST INCLUDE CSC – Rishworth

If the new Treasurer is serious about allowing more time for the *Royal Commission into the misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry* to conduct their investigation; he should also extend the Terms of Reference to include the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation (CSC).

CSC is a significant player in the superannuation sector especially for our current and former Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel.

Excluding CSC from the Royal Commission means a key participant in the sector is not being subject to transparency.

Labor has written twice to the then Treasurer, now Prime Minister, Scott Morrison to extend the Terms of Reference to include CSC to ensure there is full transparency for our ADF personnel.

However, the Turnbull-Morrison Government have arrogantly dismissed concerns raised by Labor and the veterans community and refused to include CSC in the Terms of Reference for the Banking Royal Commission.

Comments this morning on ABC radio from the new Treasurer, Josh Frydenberg would suggest the Liberal Government are willing to uncover every stone;

“We will leave no stone unturned in getting a better financial system which is better customer-focused for the Australian people.”

If the new Treasurer really wanted to “*leave no stone unturned*” he would extend the Banking Royal Commission to include the CSC and give ADF personnel, veterans and public sector employee's confidence in their superannuation scheme.

INTERNAL ATO SURVEY PROVES NEED FOR SMALL BUSINESS RELIEF – Madeleine King



An FOI request has revealed a dramatic slump in the number of small businesses satisfied with the Australian Tax Office – proving the need for a second tax commissioner to deal with their appeals.

The ATO's Single Corporate Perceptions Survey, discovered by an Opposition FOI request, says overall client satisfaction levels have fallen during the past year, driven by a 10 percentage point slump, to 71 per cent, in the number of small businesses satisfied with the quality of service they received.

On August 31, Shadow Treasurer Chris Bowen announced Labor's plan to relieve small business of taxation pressure by appointing a second commissioner to deal overwhelmingly with appeals from stressed-out businesses.

Labor's plan will directly benefit Australia's biggest business sector – particularly the 30 per cent of businesses who say they are not satisfied with current services.

The need for Labor's change has also been underlined by media investigations of small business concerns and by many stakeholders who want a new second commissioner, separating out appeals from the people who had made the original decisions in the ATO.

Under the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government, more than 4,000 jobs have been slashed from the Australian Tax Office, making life harder for Australians who just want to pay their taxes and get on with their work.

BACKGROUND: Key findings of the MilwardBrown annual perceptions survey of the ATO:

- 71 per cent were satisfied with ATO services – down 4 points from the year prior, driven mainly by lower SME satisfaction (down 10 points to 71 per cent over the year) and lower satisfaction with the ATO's online services (down 11 points to 66 per cent).
- SMEs said they 'strongly agree' that ratings have worsened across two aspects of the audit process: being treated respectfully (down 22 points to 42 per cent) and staff being easy to deal with (down 22 points to 35 per cent).

SENIORS

LATEST DATA ON THE AGED CARE CRISIS MUST BE RELEASED – Julie Collins

The Minister for Aged Care must be honest with older Australians and release the latest round of data on the waitlist for home care packages.

If the Minister and Scott Morrison are as committed to fixing the crisis in aged care as they say they are, the data will be released today.

It is imperative older Australians and their loved ones have a Government that is open and transparent about the challenges facing the aged care sector.

The Department of Health has previously committed to release the data two months after the period that the data covers.

With the latest quarter of data ending in June, this means the data is now almost a month late. The last round of data was deliberately delayed by more than two months.

The last package of data revealed almost 108,000 older Australians were waiting for a home care package, with the average wait time for a high level package blowing out to more than a year.

This includes more than 88,000 older Australians waiting with high needs, many with dementia.

As the list grows longer and longer, fresh stories emerge daily of older Australians waiting years for home care.

Older Australians are entering residential aged care or even emergency departments rather than being able to stay at home and receive the home care they have been approved for.

The Government cannot wait for a Royal Commission to begin fixing this crisis. The Minister has already admitted the Government will need to consider other interventions to reduce the list, but with older Australians waiting years for care this action needs to be happening now.

MINISTER CHANGES HIS STORY AGAIN ON MORRISON'S CUTS TO AGED CARE – J. Collins

Scott Morrison has been embarrassed by his Minister for Aged Care who has finally admitted his Government cut funding to the care of older Australians.

In Question Time this week the Minister conceded that Mr Morrison used the aged care Budget to prop up his Budget.

***"The funding instrument was capped at a time in which there were claims that were much higher than the trajectory and all governments have a responsibility to live within their means."* - MINISTER FOR AGED CARE, QUESTION TIME, 19 SEPTEMBER 2018**

The Minister changed his story moments later, repeating a misleading statement that funding for aged care had not been cut following the 2016 Budget. He should just be honest with older Australians and their loved ones – as Treasurer Scott Morrison cut \$1.2 billion from aged care in his first Budget.

The cut was so savage that the Minister for Aged Care was [reportedly forced to complain](#) about the Prime Minister's decision to the owner of a nursing home.

His \$1.2 billion cut in the 2016 Budget came on top of the almost \$500 million from aged care funding he cut in the 2015 MYEFO.

This money went out of the aged care Budget and didn't come back.

The Royal Commission must examine the impact of the Liberals' years of cuts. You don't fix aged care by cutting it.

This savage cut hit older Australians in residential aged care facilities the hardest, with a 50 per cent cut to the indexation of complex health care subsidies.

Scott Morrison and the Liberals cannot be trusted to ensure older Australians get the aged care services they need.

GETTING OLD – David Margan & The New Daily

As Neville Wran privately opined to a lose friend in his twilight years; “There’s nothing f..... good about getting F..... old

The Federal government has for five years presided over a decline in the standards of aged care, poor staff training, poor staff wages, a deteriorating ratio of qualified staff to patient and soaring profits for the big six companies who profit from aged care.

For them to declare 24 hours before a two part Four Corners expose o our aged care business is is so obviously politically motivated its not funny.

As a sign of the extent of the aged care disgrace 1300 aged care workers have independently contacted Four Corners with information and their stories.

For years industry insiders have been constantly telling the Federal Government of the massive problems in the sector and the poor standards of care and what did this Christian caring government do? NOTHING except slash the aged care budget. Scott Morrison as Treasurer slashed \$1.2 Billion in 2016.

As reported by the New Daily one aged care inmate told the ABC about the food served in these money making complexes in the following terms describing a common dish known as “minced moist”, Nicole said: “It smells horrible and is truly disgusting.”

In a suburban Melbourne facility, dinner was a chunk of store-bought garlic bread, a hotdog and tomato sauce.

A Perth home offers party pies – a classic staple for children’s birthday parties and, it seems, aged care facilities.

In Sydney, they’re serving a watery soup with a pale yellow creamy pasta.

In some homes, the meals are blobs – green, brown and white blobs smeared in gravy. It’s what’s known as a texture-modified meal, for people who have difficulty swallowing. According to a family member, one regional Queensland home hasn’t changed the dinner menu since September last year.

Dietician Dr Cherie Hugo led research on more than 800 aged care facilities in Australia and found on average, homes were only spending \$6.08 a day on food per resident.

The dollar figure is far less than other adults in the community, who eat about \$17 per day’s worth of food, and \$2 less than is spent on Australian prisoners.

More worrying to Dr Hugo than the low spend was that the amount spent on food dropped by 31 cents per person per day in just one year, while facilities spent 50 cents a day more on nutrition supplements.

At one facility the manager pinned a selection of pictures of food to the noticeboard for family and friends of residents to see when they visited.

The food looks delicious: a stuffed lamb rack, profiteroles, tiramisu and salmon bruschetta.

“Admittedly [the residents] did get some of those things,” a witness said.

However, most of the meals pictured were prepared for managers’ lunches, rather than for residents.

“The rack of lamb was served to the leadership team to impress the new regional manager,” she said.



MORRISON FAILS TO RULE OUT FURTHER CUTS TO AGED CARE – Julie Collins

Scott Morrison has failed to rule out further cuts to aged care after it was [revealed this morning](#) that the Government was considering taking more money out of the aged care budget.

Asked directly about the report in Question Time, the Prime Minister declined to rule out cutting further funding from the care of older Australians.



Australians are rightly appalled by the shocking stories we’ve seen and the crisis that exists in our nation’s aged care system, particularly the standard of care being delivered in some nursing homes.

It is deeply disturbing that the Prime Minister will not rule out further cuts, but it’s not surprising.

Scott Morrison as Treasurer cut \$1.2 billion from aged care in his first Budget.

His \$1.2 billion cut in the 2016 Budget came on top of the almost \$500 million from aged care funding he cut in the 2015 MYEFO.

This money went out of the aged care Budget and didn’t come back.

This savage cut hit older Australians in residential aged care facilities the hardest, with a 50 per cent cut to the indexation of complex health care subsidies.

The Royal Commission must examine the impact of the Liberals’ years of cuts. You don’t fix aged care by cutting it.

To date there are more than a dozen reviews and hundreds of

recommendations on these issue that have been ignored by the Government. This isn’t good enough.

For all the claims of a ‘baby boomer Budget’ earlier this year, Scott Morrison again cut further funding from residential aged care to try and fix the growing crisis in home care the Liberals created.

Scott Morrison and the Liberals cannot be trusted to ensure older Australians get the aged care services they need.

\$1.2 BILLION CUT TO AGED CARE JUST A 'LITTLE FACT' TO MORRISON – Collins

Scott Morrison characterising his \$1.2 billion cut to aged care as just a 'little fact' in Question Time is an insult to every older Australian who relies on care.

This cut is not just a 'little fact' – across the country there are deep concerns about the quality of care being delivered in residential aged care facilities. This is one of the reasons why we need a Royal Commission. This \$1.2 billion cut was in Scott Morrison's first budget as Treasurer:

Aged Care Provider Funding – further revision of the Aged Care Funding Instrument

Expense (\$m)

	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Department of Human Services	0.2	1.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Department of Veterans' Affairs	-	-13.5	-23.8	-31.7	-38.8
Department of Health	-	-106.6	-205.8	-307.9	-425.2
Total – Expense	0.2	-119.0	-229.6	-339.5	-463.8

The Government will achieve efficiencies of \$1.2 billion over four years through changes to the scoring matrix of the Aged Care Funding Instrument (ACFI) that determines the level of funding paid to aged care providers. The Government will also reduce indexation of the Complex Health Care component of the ACFI by 50 per cent in 2016-17 and establish a \$53.3 million transitional assistance fund to support providers.

These changes expand on the refinements made through the 2015-16 MYEFO measure titled *Aged Care Provider Funding – revision to the Aged Care Funding Instrument Complex Health Care Domain*. This measure is part of the Government's response to the continued higher than expected growth in ACFI expenditure, which has increased by a further \$2.5 billion over the forward

Budget Paper Number 2 2016-17, Page 101

Labor is not alone in calling out Scott Morrison's cuts to aged care:

"\$3 billion has been taken out of the aged care system by successive Governments over the last four years." - Sean Rooney, Leading Aged Services Australia, ABC News, 16 September 2018

His \$1.2 billion cut in the 2016 budget came on top of the almost \$500 million from aged care funding he cut in the 2015 MYEFO. This money went out of the aged care budget and didn't come back.

The Royal Commission must examine the impact of the funding cuts. You don't fix aged care by cutting it.

To date there are more than a dozen reviews and hundreds of recommendations on aged care issues that have been ignored by the government. This isn't good enough.

Scott Morrison even cut further funding from residential aged care this year – pretending he was boosting home care places at the same time as he was slashing funding. Scott Morrison and the Liberals cannot be trusted to ensure older Australians get the aged care services they need. Older Australians deserve better and won't be fooled by Scott Morrison and the Liberals, who have done nothing but cut funding for years.

ROYAL COMMISSION INTO AGED CARE – Julie Collins

Labor supports a Royal Commission into the abuse and the cover-ups in the aged care sector, but the Liberals can't wait for the Royal Commission to finish before they start fixing the crisis.

Labor has been saying for a long time that the aged care system is in a state of national crisis. When Bill Shorten said this in the Parliament in May, the Government likened it to committing elder abuse. We are glad they are now listening and have changed their mind.

There have been several inquiries into problems in the aged care sector, which the Government hasn't acted on. The quality standards and reporting system isn't working. There aren't enough aged care workers – and they aren't given enough pay, respect or support.

The Royal Commission needs to examine the impact of the Liberals' years of cuts. You don't fix aged care by cutting it.

Billions of dollars have been cut from aged care in the last five years by the Liberals. Mr Morrison cut almost \$2 billion in his first year as Treasurer. No wonder the system is in crisis.

There are 108,000 people on the home care package waiting list, including 88,000 people with high needs – many living with dementia. We should judge ourselves as a nation by how we treat our elderly.

We can't call ourselves a fair and generous country until we give elderly Australians the love, care and respect that they deserve.



SCOTT MORRISON TURNS HIS BACK ON PUBLIC SCHOOLKIDS - Plibersek

Scott Morrison has turned his back on every public school parent and child in Australia by locking in massive cuts to public schools.

After spending a year trying to deny it, this afternoon Scott Morrison was finally forced to admit he was cutting billions from schools. Australians didn't vote for Mr Morrison or his \$17 billion of school cuts.

Mr Morrison has gone some way towards fixing the mess for Catholic and independent schools, but he hasn't give public schools a dollar extra. The only way Scott Morrison can fix his school funding crisis is by reversing all his cuts to schools in full, including the \$14 billion he's cut from public schools.

For the parents of the 2.5 million students that go to public schools, 2 in 3 of all Australian students, today Mr Morrison said you and your kids don't matter.

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

Scott Morrison confirmed he reckons the schools that have the greatest need deserve the least help.

Public schools educate 82 per cent of the poorest kids in Australia. They teach 84 per cent of Indigenous kids and 74 per cent of kids with disabilities too.

Yet Mr Morrison is cutting their funding by \$14 billion. Because of the Liberals' chaos and division public schools have no funding certainty for 2019.

Public schools need to be able to plan for next year right now – the Liberals' division and chaos in Canberra is hurting our schools, and our kids. Only Labor has a plan for fair school funding. Labor believes that we all need to work together to give every child the best start in life. For that, our kids need the best schools. Bill Shorten and Labor will undo the savage cuts to our schools to make sure that every child gets the fair go they deserve.

A senior Liberal MP said the government would struggle to gain political capital from the deal because of the delays in signing off on the agreement. "It has taken far too long to get this done," the Liberal MP said. "Simon Birmingham cocked it all up, but this won't be a vote winner. All it will do is throw a bucket of money at a problem and it won't win us any votes. The damage has been done." In July, the review of the government's SES funding model confirmed the Catholic sector's criticism of a system that was biased against low-fee nongovernment schools. The government said at the time it would not deal fully with the issue until well after the next election, opening up another front for Labor on the issue. The government is exposed to a voter backlash in 13 marginal seats along the east coast. Analysis of the 13 seats in NSW, Queensland and Victoria shows almost 70,000 children were Catholic-educated

INNOVATION

HOPE IS NOT A STRATEGY – WE NEED A PLAN FOR THE FUTURE OF WORK - Watt

A Senate Select Committee has called for urgent action from the Federal Government, to prepare Australian workers and workplaces for the future.

Over nearly 12 months, the committee heard evidence from over 160 submitters, from industry, unions, academics, governments and community organisations.

Issues raised included:

- the potential impact of automation and artificial intelligence on Australian jobs,
 - the need to modernise workplace laws and regulation of the gig economy,
 - improving the knowledge and skills of graduates and mature workers, and
 - solutions to growing casualisation, labour hire and persistent flat wages.
- In "Hope is Not a Strategy: Our Shared Responsibility for the Future of Work and Workers", the Committee has urged the Federal Government to take responsibility for impending changes to work in Australia.

Labor initiated this inquiry because the Government has completely vacated this space. Throughout the inquiry it was made even clearer that, unlike other developed countries, our Government has no plan to deal with the changing nature of work and its implications on Australian businesses, workers and the economy.

The Committee's report was tabled in the Senate last night and is available here:

https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Future_of_Work_and_Workers/FutureofWork/Report.

ENCRYPTION BILL PROCESS SHOULD NOT BE RUSHED – Dreyfus/Rowland/Husic

The government has introduced its encryption bill into Parliament this morning only 10 days since submissions to its exposure draft closed, and without releasing a public response to stakeholders. This is unacceptable.

This decision makes a mockery of the exposure draft process, and suggests the 'consultation' run by the government was nothing more than a sham.

The government has not even made stakeholder submissions to the exposure draft public. The government should do so now.

It is simply implausible that Peter Dutton could have in such a short timeframe given due consideration to the widespread concerns when dealing with encryption that raised by industry and other stakeholders.

Instead, the government appears to have taken a tick and flick approach to an incredibly complicated bill, with potentially far-reaching consequence for the privacy and digital security of all Australians.

Reflecting the complexity involved, when a similar bill was introduced in the United Kingdom, it took two years from announcement of the government's policy to implementation of the bill.

We saw what a mess the Liberals made with [their half-baked metadata proposal](#) and attempting to rush the encryption Bill in a similar way would be reckless.

Proposals that seek to provide security agencies with powers to bypass encryption and access personal communications must be subject to robust and well-considered consultation. This includes rigorous scrutiny by the PJCS once the Bill is introduced into Parliament to ensure proposed legislation is best targeted to combat those who seek to do Australia and our interests harm.

Protecting national security and enabling law enforcement agencies to operate effectively in the digital age is a bipartisan commitment, and Labor is absolutely committed to ensuring our security agencies have the resources and capabilities they require to keep our community safe. In doing so we need to ensure that Australians also have confidence that appropriate privacy safeguards and transparency measures are put in place, to ensure their rights and freedoms are protected as they go about their daily lives.

It is vital that the government engages in proper consultation processes when introducing entirely new national security laws with the potential to impact every Australian who uses a phone or computer. Without proper consultation, public confidence in these measures, and the agencies that use them, may be undermined.

It is important to get this right and with its rushed process the Government has not made a good start towards that outcome.

WORKING TOGETHER ON ROAD SAFETY – Sterle/Gallacher/Bilyk

The Senate passed a motion acknowledging the findings of the inquiry into the National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020, delivered to the Parliament last week.

The motion, put forward by Labor, asked that the Senate to note:

- i. That Australia is not likely to reach its 2020 goal (National Road Safety Strategy 2011-20) of reducing road death & injuries by at least 30 per cent relative to the baseline 2008-10 figures, and that in the 2018/19 budget the target only reached 14.1 per cent;
- ii. the release of the report into the Inquiry into the National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020 conducted by Associate Professor Jeremy Woolley and Dr John Crozier;
- iii. that on current trend by 2030, 12,000 people could be killed, 360,000 injured and at a cost of more than \$300 billion nationally according to the report;
- iv. the need for Road Safety to be made a priority issue for Commonwealth, State and Local Governments; and
- v. that even one single death or injury on our roads is unacceptable.
- vi. calls on the Government to work with Parliament to make our roads, vehicles and users safe.



Bipartisan support for the report is a reflection of the approach that the Government and Federal Labor plan to maintain to deal with this very important issue, an issue that affects all Australians.

One death on our roads is one too many and it is clear, that we must lift our game to keep all road users safe.

Federal Labor would like to acknowledge the hard work of the co-authors of the inquiry, Associate Professor Jeremy Woolley, Director of the Centre for Automotive Safety Research at the University of Adelaide, and Dr John Crozier, Chair of the Trauma Committee at the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons, as well as National President of the Australasian College of Road Safety, Mr Lauchlan McIntosh, and CEO of the International Road Assessment Program, Rob McInerney who assisted the inquiry as advisers.

Federal Labor looks forward to reviewing the Governments response to the inquiry.

For the full Inquiry Report go to: http://roadsafety.gov.au/nrss/files/NRSS_Inquiry_Final_Report%20September_2018.pdf

IMMIGRATION

DUTTON'S DEPARTMENT FUDGES DAMNING AU PAIR EVIDENCE – Pratt/Watt/Kitching

New [explosive evidence](#) released by Peter Dutton's own Department of Home Affairs shows a level of personal service by the Minister and his office which goes above and beyond the normal level of service or occurrence when individuals enter Australia in breach of their visa conditions.

The 169 pages of evidence was provided to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee after the final report had been adopted – meaning Senators and the Committee could not consider the evidence in their final report.

Despite Peter Dutton's categorical denial in Parliament he knew the intended employer in the June 2015 Brisbane case, the evidence indicates

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 17 June 2015 9:37 PM
To: Peter RICHARDS
Cc: DLO: [REDACTED]; Kruno KUKOC; Guy BOEKENSTEIN
Subject: RE: Ministerial intervention submission - [REDACTED] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Peter - yes, I absolutely agree. Thanks to all.

[REDACTED]

The Minister's Office is contacting [REDACTED] hosts at the moment to advise them of this outcome.

I'm leaving the office now, but will be available on my mobile (and by email). If [REDACTED] has further details about [REDACTED] release, I'd be very happy to pass them on to the MO. For now, I have said 30 mins to 1 hour.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Senior Departmental Liaison Officer

Office of the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection Suite [REDACTED] Parliament House, Canberra

Dutton's own office let the host family of the au pair know the Minister's personal intervention was successful. In the same case, a Senior Departmental Liaison Officer in Peter Dutton's office stressed that the au pair should not be held in immigration detention. This is not a normal occurrence for someone who has had their visa cancelled at an Australian airport and is awaiting deportation. In the November 2015 Adelaide case, the new evidence shows the Australian Border Force – the operational arm of the Minister's own Department – disagreed with the ministerial intervention submission, stating they thought it was not appropriate for Dutton to intervene. It has even been revealed the individual involved was already on a flight about to be deported from Australia but was offloaded because of the Minister's personal intervention.

The failure by the Department of Home Affairs to provide this evidence to the Committee in a timely manner is both unacceptable and characteristic of the Minister's dismissive approach to the entire inquiry.

This evidence only further reinforces the view provided by the Committee in the report that Peter Dutton granted visas to au pairs at airports because he was helping out mates.

INQUIRY PROVES DUTTON'S PERSONAL CONNECTION WITH AU PAIRS - Neumann

The Senate Inquiry into Peter Dutton's au pair affair has released its [report](#) finding the Minister both had a personal connection with the intended employers of au pairs and misled the Parliament when he claimed otherwise.

***"It is the view of the committee that Minister Dutton had a clear personal connection and existing relationship with the intended employer of the au pair in the Brisbane case. Given his definitive answer in the House of Representatives, it is the view of the committee the minister misled Parliament in relation to this matter."* - Senate Inquiry report page 28**

There are serious and substantial concerns about Peter Dutton's use of ministerial intervention powers – the report makes clear that Peter Dutton's actions fail the pub test.

***"Minister Dutton appears to have failed to give consideration to the damage to public confidence in the integrity of the immigration system that his actions could cause and, at best, reflects very poor judgement on the part of the minister."* - Senate Inquiry report page 28**

Peter Dutton's attempts to claim his interventions were routine or normal have been proven a falsehood by the Senate Inquiry's report.

***"At best, Minister Dutton's actions have resulted in a perception, if not an actual, conflict of interest."* - Senate Inquiry report page 29**

Australia's security agencies, border security, and immigration functions should be beyond political interference and not be undermined by the actions of a Minister.

The report made three [recommendations](#) including the Government ***"strengthen the minister's tabling statements to Parliament on ministerial interventions, by requiring the minister's statements to declare whether or not each ministerial intervention was made in accordance with the Ministerial Guidelines."***

The Senate Inquiry also raised concerns about the multiple clarifications to errors or inconsistencies in evidence provided by the Department, leaving the Committee ***"in significant doubt as to whether all relevant ministerial interventions have been captured/exposed by this inquiry."***

Peter Dutton has perpetually failed to answer simple questions about why he overturned the decisions of his ABF officers to grant tourist visas to au pairs at airports.

Labor has serious concerns because misleading Parliament is a serious and sackable offence.

If Scott Morrison believed in upholding the integrity of Australia's immigration system – and had any integrity himself – he would show some leadership and stand his Minister down.



LABOR'S LONG SUPPORT OF DISABILITY ROYAL COMMISSION– Burney/Brown

On 26 May 2017 Labor [announced](#) a \$26 million commitment to a Royal Commission into Violence and Abuse Against People with Disability.

The harrowing accounts of abuse, assault and neglect – too often in places where people with disability are meant to receive support – cannot be ignored. Only a Royal Commission has the weight, authority and investigative powers needed.

Labor supports the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety. We also remain committed to a Royal Commission into Violence and Abuse Against People with Disability.

We understand that people with disability have waited too long for such an inquiry – and it is essential.

Yesterday advocates and disability representative organisations wrote to Members and Senators calling for a separate Royal Commission:

***"We have called for a specific disability Royal Commission for many years because the issues are so big, and so systemic that our own Royal Commission is warranted."* [18 September 2018, correspondence to Members and Senators from People with Disability Australia, Women with Disability Australia, First Peoples Disability Network, National Ethnic Disability Alliance, and Children and Young People with Disability Australia]**

This call has been [reiterated](#):

***"People with disability have the right to a stand-alone and targeted Royal Commission that will interrogate and address the full scope of violence, abuse and neglect of people with disability"*.**

Labor has listened to these calls. People with disability deserve nothing less. A Shorten Labor Government will establish a dedicated disability Royal Commission as a matter of urgency.

It's not Labor that needs to be convinced of the importance of a Royal Commission into Violence and Abuse Against People with Disability – it's the Government

GOVERNANCE

LIBERALS' LACK OF TRANSPARENCY SLAMMED – Chalmers/O'Connor/Hill

A new independent report has laid bare the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government's lack of transparency when it comes to the way taxpayers' money is being used in the public service.

The [Final Report of the PGPA Act 2013 and Rule Independent Review](#) released this week criticises the current lack of transparency around the use of contractors and consultants and the reporting of executive remuneration for Government entities.

It's well past time for Scott Morrison and Mathias Cormann to reveal just how much taxpayer money they are wasting through labour-hire firms instead of hiring permanent staff.

Labor has already committed to greater transparency concerning the use of contractors, consultants and labour-hire firms in the public service, and it's time the Turnbull Government got on board too.

On executive remuneration, Labor has already committed to the report's recommendations, they're consistent with the Auditor-General's views ([p. 9](#)), and the overhaul was a key recommendation in a [Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit report](#) as well.

The Liberals made amendments which created the problem in the first place – a loophole that subsequently allowed Australia Post to avoid disclosing the former CEO's salary of \$5.6 million in its annual report.

The Liberals have since informally asked some Commonwealth entities to revert back to the previous reporting regime, but these half-hearted, piecemeal requests don't go far enough. Some agencies have refused to publish this information, even after three requests.

If the Turnbull Government doesn't act on this, a Shorten Labor Government will.

Taxpayers have a right to know how much of their money is going to contractors, consultants and well-paid executives, and it's about time the Liberals realised that.

THE FARM

WE HAVE RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT'S IN THE NEW COALITION AGREEMENT - Fitzgibbon

Scott Morrison must do the honourable thing and release the Coalition Agreement. Malcolm Turnbull spent \$80,000 of taxpayers' money on lawyers keeping the last agreement a secret. It's time for some transparency and accountability.

All Australians are entitled to know what deals he did with the National Party in order to become the Prime Minister.

It became high farce this morning with Agriculture Minister David Littleproud telling ABC radio that he doesn't know what is in the Coalition Agreement.

[Reports](#) that Deputy Prime Minister Michael McCormack is under threat amid a bitter battle with his National Party colleagues about components of the Coalition Agreement is all the more reason it should be released.

It is clear that policy matters such as the mystical agriculture visa are causing deep division both within the National Party and between the National Party and the Liberal Party.

Labour force issues are critically important to the agriculture sector and the Prime Minister must show some leadership on the issue.

Nothing is more fundamental to our democracy than the deal a major party does with a minor party to form government.

The Australian people have a right to know what deals have been done.

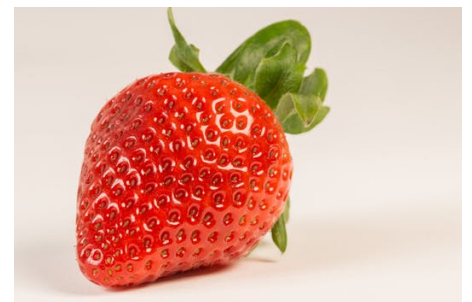
STRAWBERRIES - Joel Fitzgibbon- House of Representatives

The strawberry contamination scandal has had, and will continue to have, a devastating impact on the sector, its growers and all those along the supply chain. Understandably, it's caused very real concern in our local communities. The spectre of pins in strawberries paints a particularly graphic picture in our minds, because healthy strawberries are the first choice for parents feeding young children. It's issues like these that bring us together as a parliament, and they should. It's the role of the opposition, so far as it is able, to support the response measures of the government. It is in that spirit that we support the Criminal Code Amendment (Food Contamination) Bill 2018.

The penalty increases contained in this bill may act as a deterrent. They can certainly do no harm. But, unlike the previous speaker, I stand by the concerns expressed by the shadow Attorney-General. They are very, very real, and it is questionable whether moving the penalties from 10 years to 15 years is going to be any form of deterrent for people so intent on these reckless acts. But, acts taken in response are no replacement for acts taken to avoid these crises in the first place. That's the real work of this parliament. Let us not think that our work begins and ends with the bill we're debating and considering today.

Our key objectives going forward must be threefold. We must do all we can to assist the state policing authorities. Second, we must both strengthen food security frameworks and improve Commonwealth-state cooperation and coordination. We must also do all we can to rebuild consumer confidence, both here and in our export markets. There has been no shortage of evidence in recent days to suggest that Commonwealth-state cooperation, coordination and harmonisation is not what it could be or should be. We saw that with the white spot outbreak in our prawn sector when, clearly, the Commonwealth was slow to advise the state of its concerns. We saw it with fruit fly in Tasmania, when we saw a blame game open up between Commonwealth and state governments, and we saw that sheeted home with the abolition of the Standing Council on Primary Industries, the key COAG committee for the agriculture sector—a committee this government abolished.

There's a fine line between acting decisively, as the government says it's doing today, and putting unnecessary fear into the community. I'm not convinced that the government has walked that line sufficiently carefully over the course of the last couple of days. I don't believe it was helpful that the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, Minister Littleproud, when asked about growing concerns about an overreaction and its impact on consumers, said this on Radio National this morning:



... that's totally fair. I've had representation to me that the state government in Queensland jumped the gun in publicising this when they were asked not to ...

My first point is this: the minister for agriculture should authenticate that comment in the interest of a working relationship with the Queensland government. I thought that was a most unfortunate remark. Think about this, what he was saying the Queensland government should have been doing is not warning people at the first possible opportunity of the risks involved in the contamination of fruit.

I began by talking about the bipartisanship necessary, the way these issues bring the parliament together but unfortunately it hasn't been all about that at all. We heard that again from the previous speaker. What the shadow Attorney-General said was perfectly reasonable, responsible and something that needed to be said.

In closing, I will say this: rockmelon producers who suffered the impacts of a listeria outbreak would have loved to have seen the same sort of attention from the government that the strawberry industry has had. I know the situation was slightly different but the impacts on the sector were the same but the media opportunities weren't as great. We all stand by the strawberry sector and all those within it. We need to keep working together to rebuild that community confidence.

SHEEP SET TO SUFFER AS LIVE EXPORT TRADE CONTINUES - Fitzgibbon

It has been 13 weeks since Agriculture Minister David Littleproud brought the live sheep export trade to a temporary stop. The Turnbull/Morrison Government has provided no assistance to sheep meat producers in that time.

But the Minister has given the trade the green light again, despite the fact that nothing has changed.

The MV Maysora is about to be loaded with 30,000 sheep for a voyage into the sweltering Middle Eastern summer.

The Australian Veterinary Association has warned exports to the Middle East should not occur from May to October because sheep will remain susceptible to heat stress and will perish due to the extreme climatic conditions.

The temperature in Kuwait at 10.00am today was a scorching 41 degrees and rising.

There is no way the live sheep export trade meets animal welfare or community expectations.

Meanwhile, Liberal Members Sussan Ley and Sarah Henderson have back-flipped and voted against their own Bill to end the live sheep trade.

Sussan Ley has claimed: ***"Sarah Henderson and I are doing the hard yards behind the scenes and we've already seen results: we have not seen a shipment of live sheep leave Australia since the 6th of June and I cannot see any now until October at least. So effectively there has been no trade during the northern summer, the critical time, where sheep are under enormous stress."***

Henderson and Ley have done absolutely nothing to end live sheep exports since accepting positions in the junior ministry. This latest voyage could have been stopped if they stuck to their convictions and voted with Labor to end the cruel live sheep trade.

Labor voted in support of the Senate bill to phase out live sheep exports because the horrors of the live sheep trade have been exposed and something must be done.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

REPORT OF THE UN FACT-FINDING MISSION ON MYANMAR - Wong



Labor joins with the Government in strongly condemning the atrocities committed in Myanmar's Rakhine, Shan and Kachin states.

The [full report of the UN Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar](#) finds that:

"gross human rights violations and serious violations of international humanitarian law have been committed in Myanmar since 2011 and that many of these violations undoubtedly amount to the gravest crimes under international law.

"The gross human rights violations and abuses committed in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan States are shocking for their horrifying nature and ubiquity."

The report makes clear the Myanmar military, or Tatmadaw is directly responsible for these gross human rights violations, *"including sexual and gender-based violence and grave violations against children"* and that its leadership must be removed.

The report concludes that there is now sufficient evidence to warrant an investigation and prosecutions for genocide perpetrated against the Rohingya.

The Myanmar Government can no longer ignore its responsibilities and must now act to rein in the Tatmadaw, and hold to account those responsible for these horrific crimes. Labor welcomes the Government's commitment to work with the international community, including considering targeted sanctions, and use our position on the UN Human Rights Council to bring accountability and justice to Myanmar.

The development of strong democratic practices and institutions - including the protection of human rights - is crucial to Myanmar's long-term prosperity.

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

NEW AGRICULTURAL VISA MUST NOT UNDERMINE PACIFIC PROGRAMS - Wong/Moore/Neumann

The decision to delay a proposed new agricultural visa because of its potential to undermine existing programs with Australia's Pacific neighbours highlights the ongoing chaos and division within the Morrison Government.

The Assistant Minister for International Development the Pacific Anne Ruston has admitted "*the devil is in the detail*" and further work is now needed to ensure the new visa does not undermine existing schemes for workers from the Pacific and Timor-Leste.

The Morrison Government was reportedly preparing to announce the new agricultural visa as early as tomorrow so the Nationals Leader "has something to announce" in a desperate attempt to give him a much needed win.

The fact the Morrison Government only realised at the last minute the damage a rushed announcement could have caused in the region is extremely concerning, and is further evidence of a Government simply not on top of the detail, or up to the job.

Australia's relations with our Pacific neighbours are too important to be held hostage to divisions between the Liberals and Nationals or to decisions designed to prop up the ailing leadership of Mr McCormack.

Since 2012 the Seasonal Worker Program (SWP) has brought more than 25,000 workers from Pacific island countries and Timor-Leste to Australia for up to six months to pick fruit and vegetables.

In addition, the recently established Pacific Labour Scheme (PLS) allows workers from Pacific island states to access low and semi-skilled temporary work opportunities here, in sectors including agriculture and processing, for up to three years.

Just this month the newly appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs announced with great fanfare at the Pacific Islands Forum the expansion of this scheme to an additional three Pacific island countries.

These existing, successful schemes have been hailed by the Government as a "win-win for Australia and for Pacific island countries" that promote economic development and deepen ties between Australia and Pacific island states and are an important part of Australia's engagement with the Pacific.

These schemes promote development in the Pacific by providing a much needed source of income for many families, teach new, transferable skills, and importantly do not displace Australian jobs as they require labour market testing to ensure local workers are given the first shot at local jobs.

Sadly, as we saw with the backpackers tax debacle, the Abbott/Turnbull/Morrison Governments fail to undertake due diligence when it comes to developing policies to address agricultural workforce shortages.

At a time when Australia's commitment to the region is being openly questioned by many Pacific Island states because of the Abbott/Turnbull/Morrison Government's failure on climate change, it must ensure any new category of agricultural visa takes account of the potential consequences for the existing Pacific schemes.

ENVIRONMENT

AUSTRALIA CAN NO LONGER WATCH ON FROM THE SIDELINES - Singh

Labor is developing a policy to work with the states and territories to implement a national, domestic ban on Australia's commercial trade in elephant ivory and rhinoceros horn.

A proposal will be considered at Labor's National Policy Forum in December.

This commitment supports the recommendations of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement's inquiry into the trade, which has been tabled in the House of Representatives this morning.

Labor initiated this inquiry to examine whether Australia should take more legislative, regulatory and enforcement measures to restrict, or even close, its domestic trade in these products.

The existence of legal domestic markets around the world continues to fuel the poaching crisis of elephants and rhinos in Africa.

In 2017, 1,028 rhinos were illegally killed in South Africa while between 20,000 and 50,000 elephants are killed each year to supply the illegal ivory trade around the globe.

Earlier this month, the fresh and recent carcasses of 87 elephants were discovered in Botswana, killed and stripped of their tusks by poachers. Australia is not immune from contributing to the global problem as a consumer market and, given our close proximity to Asia, a transit route. Labor's support for a domestic ban follows the UK Government's recent efforts to ban its domestic trade in elephant ivory. China, the United States, Hong Kong, and the European Union have all banned or are moving to ban their respective domestic trades.

When Galaxy Research conducted a poll last year, it found that 77 per cent of Australians thought that trading in elephant ivory and rhinoceros horn within Australia was illegal.

In fact, we have no domestic laws that currently police this insidious trade in Australia.

Australia, as a signatory to the *Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species* (CITES), prohibits the import or export of ivory and rhino horn but once an item finds its way into the country the commercial market is unregulated.

Domestic sellers do not need to provide any evidence at the point of sale demonstrating a specimen's legality, where it was sourced from or its age.

Decisive action is needed to implement a domestic ban on Australia's commercial trade in ivory and rhinoceros horn, to help save these iconic species for future generations.



Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

THE LAW

TIME TO LISTEN TO THE SENATE ON FAMILY COURT CONSULTATION – Dreyfus/Pratt

On Tuesday, the Senate passed its third motion instructing the government to conduct adequate consultation on its family court merger bills. It is time for the government to listen.

The government has defied the will of the Senate at every step of this process, turning it into a ridiculous farce.

Last week, Senator Rex Patrick successfully moved a motion to extend the closing date for submissions from September 28 to November 23. But government members of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee refused to adjust the planned report date, and insisted on maintaining a report date just one business day later.

Now, the Senate has instructed the government that it cannot hold hearings until after submissions are due, through a further motion from Senator Patrick.

The government now simply has no choice but to agree to delay the report date. If it does not, it will not be able to hold hearings before it produces a report. This is plainly ridiculous.

The government should agree with the Senate's decision to have the committee report on 15 April 2019, to allow time for proper consultation, and for the completion of the Australian Law Reform Commission review of the family law system, due on 31 March 2019.

The 500-plus pages of bills put forward by the government represent the effective abolition of the family court, a legacy of the Whitlam government from 1975. It is time the government drops their ridiculous efforts to rush this through, and withstand some proper scrutiny of its plans.

SIX MONTH'S AND NO RESPONSE TO 'PATHWAYS TO JUSTICE' REPORT– Dodson/Dreyfus

This week, a coalition of human rights organisations issued an open [letter](#) calling for a response from the Federal Government to respond to the ALRC's Pathways to Justice Report.

Labor supports this call.

It is time for honesty from this Government on how they plan to address the incarceration crisis facing First Nations people.

The ALRC made 35 recommendations towards systemic reform of how the justice system deals with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Their findings came from 11 months of research, 149 national consultations and more than 120 submissions.

The Government commissioned this report, but have failed to give a response.

The report has been publicly available since March 2018, but the Government have had a copy since December 2017.

The Attorney General has now had nine months to "consider the recommendations".



Meanwhile:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men are 14.7 times more likely to be imprisoned than non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are 21.2 times more likely to be imprisoned than non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women now represent 34% of Australia's female prison population – and 80% of them are mothers.
- The total costs of incarceration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in 2016 were \$3.9 billion, with associated costs increasing it to \$7.9 billion.
- There have been over 400 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander deaths in Custody since the 1991 Royal Commission.

It is not acceptable to ignore this issue. As ALRC Commissioner Judge Matthew Myers said: "Law reform is an important part of that solution. Reduced incarceration, and greater support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in contact with the criminal justice system, will improve health, social and economic outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and lead to a safer society for all."

The Government cannot hide behind inquiry after inquiry – at the expense of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lives.

Labor also calls on the Government to reconsider its refusal to include justice targets as part of the Closing the Gap Framework – to help reduce incarceration and build safer communities.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and our nation deserve better. Labor will deliver better.

WORKERS

VICTORIAN APPRENTICES TO RECEIVE PROPER RECOGNITION – Cameron

The Victorian Labor Government's re-introduction of Trade Papers for apprentices who successfully complete their formal training is a positive step toward rebuilding our trade training system. As well as reintroducing Trades Papers, new independent assessments and updating learning materials will help to modernise Victorian apprenticeships.

The changes are part Andrews Government's new \$220 million **Building Better TAFEs Fund** that includes upgrades to TAFE campuses in Bendigo, Sale and Morwell. Trade Papers show employers that a worker has the technical skills, knowledge and experience to get the job done. Despite calls by industry for them to be retained, the former Victorian Liberal government scrapped Trade Papers as part of its attacks on vocational education and training.

Shadow Skills, TAFE and Apprenticeships Minister Doug Cameron said rebuilding TAFE campuses and revitalising courses ensures working class Victorians have better access to meaningful vocational education. He said a recent KPMG report showed 40 per cent of Victorian TAFE students come from low socio-economic backgrounds, compared with just 14 per cent that attend universities. **"This investment by the Labor Government will support Victorians on low-income who heavily rely on TAFE,"** Senator Cameron said.

"The reintroduction of Trade Papers, new independent assessments and updated learning materials will all help to restore TAFE and trade training in Victoria."

Senator Cameron said Victorian Training and Skills Minister Gayle Tierney has put together a positive plan for Victorian students. The Andrews Government is also spending \$50 million supports students to stay at school to finish their VCAL, VCE or apprenticeship.

"The Liberals just don't value trades or apprentices that is why the Abbott-Turnbull-Morrison Government has cut \$3 billion from vocational education since coming to power. The Liberals have failed to improve the quality of courses, reduce costs and increase access to education and training. Only Labor properly funds vocational education for all Australians." Senator Cameron said.

A Shorten Labor government will also waive upfront fees for 100,000 students to attend TAFE and conduct a once in a generation inquiry into the post-secondary education system within the first 100 days of being elected."

ENERGY POLICY

LABOR'S POLICY CERTAINTY KEY FOR LOWER POWER PRICES – Mark Butler

After five years of no national energy policy under the Liberal government, all Energy Minister Angus Taylor can do is blame Labor for rising prices and pollution that come with this government's anti-renewable energy policy chaos.

Yet two new studies have added to the already overwhelming evidence making clear the biggest obstacle to lower power prices is the Liberal's energy policy paralysis.

[S&P Global's](#) says the best way to reduce prices in the long term was to create a stable, national energy policy that provided clear directions for investment to boost new generation and increase supply, saying **"Australia's continued energy policy vacuum risks delaying planned investment in new dispatchable generation capacity across the NEM, affecting wholesale power market competition and further reducing investor confidence."**

At the same time, the latest [ACOSS](#), Frontier Economics research shows investing in renewable energy lowers prices and pollution, with Labor's 45 per cent emissions reduction target to drive a fall of 18.3 per cent in average power bills by 2030.

Australians should be rightly outraged by Mr Taylor's claim that **"emissions reductions are the least of our problems"** considering renewable energy and storage is the cheapest form of new power generation, will bring down power prices, secure our grid and start to bring down carbon pollution which has skyrocketed under the Liberals. Australian households and businesses will only see cheaper power bills, more investment and lower pollution under a Shorten Labor Government.

HEALTH

NEARLY ONE MILLION AUSTRALIANS OPT OUT OF MY HEALTH RECORD – King

Nearly one million Australians have opted out of the My Health Record following the Government's botched rollout - proving public trust in this important reform has been severely damaged.

Under Labor questioning in a Senate Committee, the Australian Digital Health Agency has finally admitted that 900,000 people have now opted out. This is the first update provided since 20,000 people opted out on day one. With two months to go in the opt-out period, that number is likely to rise to well over one million people. It's clear now just how badly the Government's rollout has undermined public support for a system that could deliver enormous benefits.

The Government must now heed Labor's call to suspend the opt-out rollout until all remaining security and privacy concerns are addressed and public confidence in this important reform is restored.

Labor supports a national digital health record - which is why we created one when we were last in Government. But the Government's failure to explain its shift from an opt-in model to an opt-out model has fuelled suspicion and scepticism.

The ADHA also said while public awareness of the program is high, nearly half (41 per cent) still don't know a record will be created for them at the end of the opt-out period.

This shows the Government still has considerable work to do to educate and inform the public. It should begin by delivering on its promise to launch a new comprehensive information campaign.

The Labor-initiated My Health Record inquiry, which Health Minister Greg Hunt described as a "stunt", has also uncovered a range of other concerns that the Government must address.

SOCIAL SERVICES

MINISTER KEENAN, GET READY TO BE SWAMPED - Husic

Human Services Minister Keenan must have a lot of spare time on his hands - or he's a time management guru.

This week in Question Time, he was asked why more and more older Australians were finding it hard to get their applications for the aged pension approved.

Mr Keenan responded by inviting MPs who have had individual constituents experience these delays to come see him.

The sad reality is the average time for processing such claims continues to climb.

Taking into account the figures (see below) - and the fact that there will be people across many of the 150 federal electorates in this nation that have experienced these delays - one suspects the Minister doesn't know what he's getting himself into.

AGE PENSION MEDIAN PROCESSING TIMES

2016-17 (full FY)	36 days
2017-18 as at 31 March	49 days (p.171)

(Source: Senate Estimates 31.05.18)

Also caught in these delays are older Australians currently on Newstart, who are being tripped up by Coalition red-tape that forces them to fill out application paperwork instead of being smoothly transitioned to the aged pension that they're eligible to claim.

Minister Keenan should be upfront, acknowledge the delays, spell out what will be done to sort this out and ensure vulnerable older Australians get the support they need.

And instead of slashing jobs and outsourcing work, he should focus on building a stronger Centrelink to help better meet the needs of struggling Australians.

REGIONAL

NEW ROUND OF MOBILE BLACK SPOT PROGRAM JUST RECYCLED MONEY - Jones

The Government has announced a new round of funding for the Mobile Black Spot Program. Although it is not new money – just recycled money unspent in the previous round – it is an opportunity to fix the massive distortion in the allocation of grants in rounds 1-3 of the program.

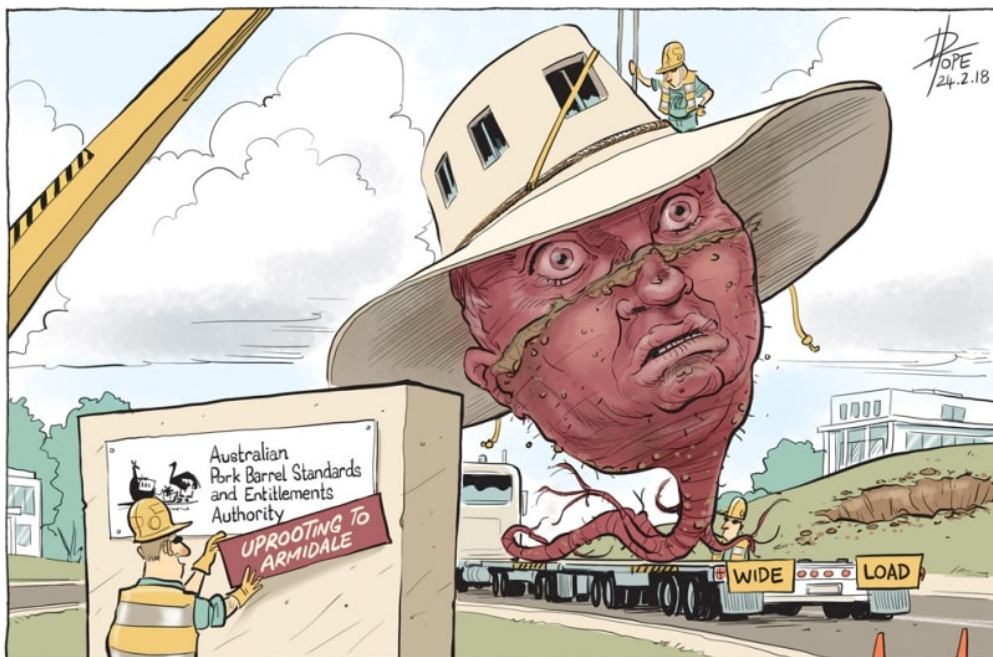
Across the three rounds of the program, 80% of the allocation went to Coalition seats. There are over 10,000 on the public database. Only 40% have been funded, so the lack of new funding is a let-down.

In Round 4 Australians are being asked to contact their local MP to report black spots. There should be one in-tray in the Ministers office for all MPs, not an in-tray for Government MPs and a garbage bin for non-government MPs.

As the Government announces round four of the program, [a recent ABC investigation](#) found almost one in six of the towers funded in **round one** of the program are not yet operational.

Labor is calling on the Government to take a broader approach to this round of funding – to look at alternative technologies and mechanisms to extend coverage. Labor has a strong track record of investment in regional communications. In government, Labor invested \$250 million Regional Backbone Blackspots Program (RBBP) to enhance the supply of backhaul infrastructure in priority regional locations.

Backhaul is an essential link in the mobile transmission network. Without this investment in backhaul, the Coalition's mobile base stations would not have been able to connect to the network.





Hard to Swallow.

Stop NDIS funding cuts for swallowing therapy: someone's everyday emergency.

THE STORY

Ellen has a swallowing problem called dysphagia. This means she can be at risk of choking or even dying when she swallows.

Ellen's mum Margaret knows how much better it was for Ellen and the family when these specialist therapeutic supports were funded. Ellen needs these supports in her NDIS package but the NDIS won't fund them. This has left Ellen's mum, Margaret with no other option than to take the NDIS to court.

THE PROBLEM

There is a dangerous gap in funding for swallowing therapy.

The NDIS has the funds for the specialist swallowing therapy that Ellen needs. But the NDIS is now saying it is not responsible. The NDIS says the health system should fund swallowing therapy. The problem is that the health system does not have the skills to do so, nor does it have the funds – all the NSW disability funding went to the NDIS. The NDIS has got it wrong and this is dangerous for people with disability.

WHO SUFFERS

Many people find it hard to swallow as a result of their disability. This makes it difficult for them to get adequate nutrition and puts them at risk of pneumonia, choking and even death. If a person cannot safely eat a meal, then their whole life is disrupted.

Assessment of a swallowing problem and developing an eating and drinking plan is a team effort with input often required from a range of professionals. This must be funded by the NDIS. It is disability support.

YOU CAN HELP

We are asking new Australian Families and Social Services Minister Paul Fletcher to please resolve this problem and confirm that the NDIS will fund this vital swallowing therapy.

Please phone Minister Paul Fletcher on **02 6277 7560**

Please email Minister Paul Fletcher at paul.fletcher.MP@aph.gov.au

Please tell Minister Fletcher these NDIS funding cuts for swallowing therapy are putting people like Ellen at risk of choking and even death and ask him to confirm that the NDIS will fund this vital swallowing therapy.

MORE WAYS YOU CAN HELP

[Sign our petition](#) and ask your friends and family to sign.

Put up posters in your area to raise awareness. Order posters and leaflets by emailing us at advocacy@nswcid.org.au, or [download our poster now](#).

Cr Peter Cumming's ANNUAL

WIN PRIZES
WIN PRIZES
WIN PRIZES

FRIDAY
OCTOBER 12

TRIVIA NIGHT

EAT DRINK AND TEASE YOUR BRAIN
DOORS OPEN AT 6:15PM
TRIVIA STARTS AT 6:45

\$20pp tables of 6
BYO DRINKS & NIBBLES - LIGHT SUPPER

ST PETERS' ANGLICAN CHURCH HALL
77 CHARLOTTE ST, WYNNUM

RSVP: KERRY 0409 037 629 BY OCTOBER 8
All Proceeds to Peter Cumming's re-election campaign

Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.



You are warmly invited to attend the Arana Hills ALP branch

TRIVIA NIGHT!



• Saturday Night, 13 October 2018

- Hills District Community Centre, Dawson Parade , Arana Hills (see map)
 - Doors open 6pm; **7pm start SHARP**; 9.30pm finish
 - Teams of 6-8 people invited
 - 6 rounds of 10 general knowledge questions plus 3 'Who Am I's'
- Great prizes; Pizza and nibbles provided (feel free to BYO food as well); All drinks on sale at the bar; Coffee & tea also complimentary



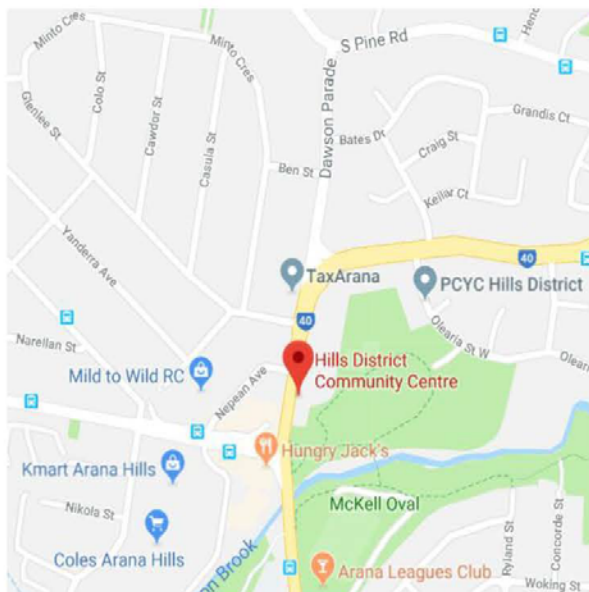
- **\$20 entry fee** per person or \$15 concession;
Pay on the night OR transfer \$\$\$ to:

ALP State of Qld Arana Hills Branch BSB 06 4171 Account no. 009 000 44

Donations also welcome if you can't attend 😊

To RSVP email amcmicking@bigpond.com or geoff96@tpg.com.au

Please provide details of the number in your team and whether you will pay in advance or on the night. For enquiries phone 0475 353 550.



**ALL \$\$\$ PROCEEDS TO THE ARANA HILLS ALP
TO HELP US CONTRIBUTE TO
ALI FRANCE AND THE DICKSON ALP CAMPAIGN.**



Authorised by Senator Claire Moore, Australian Labor Party, 421 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley QLD 4006.

CURRENT SENATE INQUIRIES – FRIDAY 21 SEPTEMBER 2018

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

- **New** [Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission Bill 2018 and related Bill](#)
- [My Health Records Amendment \(Strengthening Privacy\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Social Security Legislation Amendment \(Community Development Program\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Social Services Legislation Amendment \(Maintaining Income Thresholds\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Social Services Legislation Amendment \(Encouraging Self-sufficiency for Newly Arrived Migrants\) Bill 2018](#)

Community Affairs References Committee

- [Support for Australia's thalidomide survivors](#)
- [My Health Record system](#)
- [Accessibility and quality of mental health services in rural and remote Australia](#)
- [Effectiveness of the Aged Care Quality Assessment and accreditation framework for protecting residents from abuse and poor practices, and ensuring proper clinical and medical care standards are maintained and practised](#)

Economics References Committee

- [Financial and tax practices of for-profit aged care providers](#)
- [The Commitment to the Senate issued by the Business Council of Australia](#)
- [Regional Inequality in Australia](#)
- [Consumer protection in the banking, insurance and financial sector](#)
- [Non-conforming building products](#)

Education and Employment Legislation Committee

- **New** [Fair Work Amendment \(Family and Domestic Violence Leave\) Bill 2018](#)

Education and Employment References Committee

- [The appropriateness and effectiveness of the objectives, design, implementation and evaluation of jobactive](#)
- [The exploitation of general and specialist cleaners working in retail chains for contracting or subcontracting cleaning companies](#)
- [The high rates of mental health conditions experienced by first responders, emergency service workers and volunteers](#)
- [The prevention, investigation and prosecution of industrial deaths in Australia](#)

Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

- [Treasury Laws Amendment \(Improving the Energy Efficiency of Rental Properties\) Bill 2018](#)

Environment and Communications References Committee

- **New** [Impact of feral deer, pigs and goats in Australia](#)
- [Gaming micro-transactions for chance-based items](#)
- [Australia's faunal extinction crisis](#)
- [Great Barrier Reef 2050 Partnership Program](#)
- [Australian content on broadcast, radio and streaming services](#)
- [Water use by the extractive industry](#)
- [Rehabilitation of mining and resources projects as it relates to Commonwealth responsibilities](#)

Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

- [Intelligence Services Amendment \(Enhanced Parliamentary Oversight of Intelligence Agencies\) Bill 2018](#)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

- [Defence Amendment \(Sovereign Naval Shipbuilding\) Bill 2018](#)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

- [Use of the Quinoline anti-malarial drugs Mefloquine and Tafenoquine in the Australian Defence Force](#)
- [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(SDG\)](#)

Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee

- **New** [Aviation Transport Security Amendment Bill 2018 \[Provisions\]](#)
- [Freedom of Information Legislation Amendment \(Improving Access and Transparency\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia \(Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions\) Bill 2018, Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia Bill 2018](#)
- [Customs Amendment \(Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership Implementation\) Bill 2018 \[Provisions\], Customs Tariff Amendment \(Comprehensive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Implementation\) Bill 2018 \[Provisions\]](#)
- [Freedom of Speech Legislation Amendment \(Censorship\) Bill 2018, Freedom of Speech Legislation Amendment \(Insult and Offend\) Bill 2018, Freedom of Speech Legislation Amendment \(Security\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Australian Citizenship Legislation Amendment \(Strengthening the Commitments for Australian Citizenship and Other Measures\) Bill 2018](#)
- [Judiciary Amendment \(Commonwealth Model Litigant Obligations\) Bill 2017](#)

Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee

- [The practice of dowry and the incidence of dowry abuse in Australia](#)

Red Tape Committee

- [The effect of red tape on private education](#)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

- [Performance of Airservices Australia](#)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

- [Regulatory approaches to ensure the safety of pet food](#)
- [The need for regulation of mobility scooters, also known as motorised wheelchairs](#)
- [The operation, regulation and funding of air route service delivery to rural, regional and remote communities](#)
- [The integrity of the water market in the Murray-Darling Basin](#)

Select Committee into the obesity epidemic in Australia

- [Obesity Epidemic in Australia](#)

Select Committee on Charity Fundraising in the 21st Century

- [Charity Fundraising in the 21st Century](#)

Select Committee on Electric Vehicles

- [Electric Vehicles](#)

Select Committee on Stillbirth Research and Education

- [Stillbirth Research and Education](#)

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