

## Libby Mettam MLA Leader of the WA Liberal Party

13th February 2025

Mr R Newman Chief Executive Officer Carers WA 182 Lord Street Perth WA 6000 Via Email: policy@carerswa.asn.au

Dear Mr Newman,

Thank you for the ongoing advocacy and support that Carers WA provides to carers across Western Australia each day.

The Liberal Party of Western Australia understands the invaluable care and support that carers provide to loved ones and we appreciate Carers WA informing us of the priorities you would like to see committed to as part of the 2025 State Election.

In particular, I know that Carers WA has long advocated for a Carer Card to enable a common method of carer identification and recognition of the vital role carers play across our community.

As you may be aware, on 16 January 2025 I announced with the Shadow Minister for Community Services, Hon Donna Faragher MLC, that a Mettam Liberal Government would establish a WA Carer Card. Under this policy, the Card would be modelled on Victoria's scheme and would be targeted to the carer.

Initially, the Card would be targeted to carers in receipt of a carers payment but consideration would be given to eligibility requirements to enable it to be expanded to unpaid carers as part of the roll-out of the initiative. Importantly, the Card would be developed in consultation with Carers WA.

Further, a Mettam Liberal Government would also review the WA Carers Strategy as part of an overall commitment to carers across the State. It is expected that as part of the review additional initiatives to support carers would be analysed and any necessary revisions to the *Carers Recognition Act 2004* would be investigated.

Additionally, a WA Liberal Government will triple the Grandcarers Support Scheme payment from \$1,000 per annum to \$3,000 per annum in recognition of the invaluable role grandcarers play in providing full-time, primary care for their grandchildren.

The Liberal Party of Western Australia is committed to supporting carers across the State and will continue to recognise the incredible role they play every day.

Thank you for your continued advocacy on behalf of all carers in Western Australia and please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions in relation to these announcements.

Yours sincerely

Libby Mettam MLA

Leader of the WA Liberal Party

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