



NSA WELCOMES SENIORS' REPRESENTATION IN NEW MINISTRY

13 MAY 2025

National Seniors Australia (NSA) congratulates and welcomes existing and new ministers and assistant ministers announced this week.

NSA Chief Executive Officer Chris Grice said the peak advocacy body for older Australians looks forward to working with appointed ministers including Mark Butler – Minister for Health and Ageing, Disability and the NDIS; Sam Rae – Minister for Aged Care and Seniors; Matt Keogh – Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Defence Personnel; and Tanya Plibersek – Minister for Social Services, as it works to protect and promote the interest and contribution of this growing cohort.

"Over the next 40 years, the number of Australians aged 65 and older will more than double and the number aged 85 and older will more than triple. We must work now to get Australia's policy settings right," Mr Grice said.

"NSA is pleased to see 'ageing' recognised in cabinet through the change in Minister Butler's title to encompass Health and Ageing. This signifies government understands the importance and needs of an ageing population as we have been calling government to do.

"There are many issues facing Australians as they age. Many experience ageism, barriers to mature age employment, elder abuse, poverty, and homelessness which require government support and intervention.

"There is also a misconception that older Australians are doing well. However, pressures from global economic volatility, rising private health insurance and out-of-pocket health costs, rising living costs including rent, fuel, and grocery increases create significant uncertainty for older people.

"Representation is about listening to the needs of older Australians and ensuring their contribution, whether it be through paid or volunteer work, caring for grandchildren, mentoring, or financially assisting families is recognised and valued.

"We view the new ministry as an opportunity for government to support the millions of older Australians we both represent.

"National Seniors Australia wishes all ministers the very best for the term ahead and looks forward to working with all parliamentarians to help create a kinder and more respectful Australia that acknowledges and supports older Australians who made our country what it is today – and lays the foundation for those of tomorrow.

"National Seniors Australia also acknowledges and thanks Anika Wells and Kate Thwaites for serving the interest of older Australians in their former appointments as Minister for Aged Care and Sport and Assistant Minister for Social Security, Ageing, and Women."

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