

2 May 2019



Miles Whiticker

miles.whiticker@pirateparty.org.au

Dear Miles,

Re: Federal Election 2019

We would like to congratulate you on your decision to stand in the upcoming Federal Election on May 18th and wish you all the best on election day.

Lung Foundation Australia is the only national first point of call supporting anyone living with a lung condition. Our mission is to improve lung health and reduce the impact of lung conditions for all Australians. We take an evidence-based approach to promoting lung health, supporting patients and carers, funding research, developing education, training health professionals, and undertaking community awareness activities and advocacy around Australia.

Lung conditions have a significant health, social and economic impact on the Australian community. Almost one in three people live with a lung condition⁽¹⁾, are the second leading cause of death⁽²⁾ and account for more than 10% of the total health burden in Australia⁽³⁾. Lung conditions are having significant impact on the people in your electorate.

Earlier this year, Australia's first National Strategic Action Plan for Lung Conditions was launched by The Hon. Greg Hunt MP, Minister for Health, at Parliament House. Our patient and clinical communities were encouraged to hear that the Action Plan is being fully endorsed by the Government and that all recommendations will be pursued.

The Action Plan articulates a goal supported by six high-level priorities that together aim to improve the lives of all Australians through better lung health. The Plan is an evidenced based framework developed in collaboration with patient organisations, government departments at both Commonwealth, State and Territory levels, clinical and professional bodies and a substantial number of lung health researchers and their institutions.

FREE CALL

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Patron: His Excellency General the
Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd)
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A full copy can be found at <https://lungfoundation.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Information-paper-National-Strategic-Action-Plan-for-Lung-Conditions-Feb2019.pdf>

We are calling on all levels of Government to continue to support the work on implementing the recommendations in the National Strategic Action Plan for Lung Conditions, and work towards changing the face of lung health in Australia. To this end we have attached our Federal Election Platform as an accompanying document. This highlights actions that can be delivered in the short term to start to address the inequity of lung disease.

We look forward to the prospect of working with you to make this a reality and improve health outcomes for people with lung conditions.

Yours sincerely



Mark Brooke

Chief Executive Officer

Lung Foundation Australia

References:

1. **Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.** *Australia's Health 2018. Australia's health series no. 16. AUS 221.* Canberra : Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2018. 978-1-76054-319-8.
2. **Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.** *Deaths in Australia.* Canberra : Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2018.
3. **Poulos, Leanne M, et al.** *Lung disease in Australia.* Sydney : Woolcock Institute of Medical Research, 2014.

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