

## **MEDIA STATEMENT BY THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A ROYAL COMMISSION INTO THE AGED CARE SECTOR**

**18.9.18**

The Benevolent Society welcomes the announcement made by the Prime Minister last weekend of a Royal Commission into the Aged Care sector in Australia.

The Benevolent Society views as positive and constructive any and all measures which seek to strengthen the rights of older Australians by respecting their dignity as rich contributors to our communities. Their well-being within the aged care sector today and that of older Australians in the future, is a desired outcome and a responsibility which we should all share.

We understand the Royal Commission seeks to tackle the failings of poor practice which have been highlighted in the media. We stand with all responsible partners and providers in the category in calling out these often distressing examples of when the level of care being delivered falls far short of expectations and industry guidelines. There is, every day across the aged care sector in Australia, outstanding support being delivered to older Australians that is focused on high levels of professional care and expertise. It is therefore important that we also acknowledge and recognise the excellent work currently being delivered to clients within the sector.

As a long-standing advocate for the rights of older Australians to live well and age well, we are also keen that the work already underway to improve the level of quality care being delivered into the sector continues to be implemented, whilst the Royal Commission begins its work.

We await further details of the specific scope and purpose of the Royal Commission, its timeline and framework with much interest, and we look forward to working with the Government and other stakeholders and partners, as part of the process.

---

### **FOR ALL MEDIA ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Stevie Rooney Mb: 0410-680-717 E: [stevie.rooney@benevolent.org.au](mailto:stevie.rooney@benevolent.org.au)

### **About The Benevolent Society**

The Benevolent Society is Australia's first charity, working as a catalyst for social justice and change for over 200 years. Founded in 1813, The Benevolent Society advocates for a better life for all Australians, and provides in-home services for older Australians, and people with disability, as well as providing programs in Family support and early intervention. We help people age well and live their best lives, staying in their homes wherever possible.

For more information, please visit [www.benevolent.org.au](http://www.benevolent.org.au), on Facebook/thebenevolentsociety or on Twitter - @BenevolentAU

Find out about the EveryAGE Counts campaign: <https://www.everyagecounts.org.au/>

**– ENDS –**