

Media Release

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AUSTRALIA WILL BE OLDER IN 2020

Leaders in the aged care industry today expressed support for the Prime Minister's national summit.

Aged and Community Services Australia (ACSA) which represents Australia's not-for-profit aged care providers stated: "The Summit is a perfect opportunity for community input to future policy in many areas."

"One of the many important issues which needs to be considered by the Australia 2020 summit in April is the ageing of our population and its implications, particularly for the care of older people."

"Lifting aged care issues out of the cut and thrust of day-to-day partisan politics could be the ideal opportunity to address some of the longstanding issues." commented Greg Mundy, ACSA CEO.

"We do not yet have the policy settings right to ensure that we can care for our ageing population effectively, efficiently and with high quality services. The normal political process has not delivered the solutions we need to an ageing workforce, a flexible and client centred system of care and sustainable, quality services. Opening up these issues in a broader context could be just what's required."

"How we pay for the care of an ageing population should be the subject of community debate."

The millions of Australians whose lives are touched by aged care have much to gain from a productive discussion at the summit, and subsequent action. Preparing for our future now makes eminent sense.

"Ageing impacts on many areas of policy: health and social care, housing, the building environment, workforce and productivity. It should be a core consideration in the summit. Population ageing should be a cause for celebration but also a prompt for preparation for the changes that it is bringing"

ACSA represents over 1,200 church, charitable and community-based organisations providing housing, supported accommodation and community care services to around 700,000 older Australians, people with a disability and their carers.

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For Further Information

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