



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

Media Release

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Alzheimer's Summit

Sharon Grierson, Co-Convenor of Parliamentary Friends of Dementia, today chaired the closing session of the National Consumer Summit on Dementia at Parliament House, Canberra.

The two-day Summit, hosted by Alzheimer's Australia and the Parliamentary Friends of Dementia, brought together around 50 people from all states and territories with dementia and their carers to be directly involved in the political process in Canberra.

Following the closing session, Alzheimer's Australia and Summit participants released a Communiqué on priorities for dementia care services and research.

"Through this Communiqué, those directly affected by dementia will be able to help set the national agenda into the future," Ms Grierson said.

"The Commonwealth has now made dementia a National Health Priority, and we need to ensure that the funding and services being made available are used in the most effective way at the local level."

"The most recent figures show that there are around 10,000 people with dementia in the Hunter and New England region, and this number is set to triple by 2050."

"This represents a higher rate of dementia than the rest of NSW," Ms Grierson said.

"I call on the Government to seriously consider the recommendations in this Communiqué as strategies for dementia are developed, so that the views of people living with dementia and their carers shape service delivery and their real needs are met in the Hunter and all around Australia."

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