



Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck
Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians
Minister for Youth and Sport

Gavin Pearce MP
Federal Member for Braddon

7 August 2019

Delivering More Aged Care Places in North West Tasmania

Senior Australians in North West Tasmania will have better access to residential aged care following a major expansion of Strathdevon, the Uniting AgeWell Community in Latrobe.

Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians, Senator Richard Colbeck, today congratulated Uniting AgeWell on delivering the \$10 million expansion which nearly doubles the number of places at Strathdevon, from 37 to 67.

“Strathdevon was built 38 years ago and a lot has changed in aged care in Australia in that time,” Minister Colbeck said.

“This beautiful home shows the commitment Uniting AgeWell and our Government have to delivering more aged care choices and quality that meets the needs of local seniors and their families.

“In this year’s Budget the Morrison Government provided a major \$5 billion boost for aged care and, of the record 13,500 new aged places funded in the 2018-19 Aged Care Approvals Round, more than 5,200 are in rural and regional areas such as North West Tasmania.

“I am delighted that locals will be able to be access the care they need in the community where they have lived, worked and raised a family.”

The capital works at Strathdevon were funded by Uniting AgeWell and is backed by around \$4.5 million in annual recurrent funding from the Australian Government.

Member for Braddon Gavin Pearce said supporting aged care choices is a priority for the local community.

“Senior Australians built this country and we owe it to them to make sure that we’re constantly working to provide even higher standards of care,” Mr Pearce said.

“These additional 30 aged care places will help local families support their loved ones as they age without having to travel too far.

“People on the North West Coast know how important it is to our way of life that families can maintain their close connections across the generations.”

Providers in Tasmania were allocated a total of 161 new residential care places in the 2018–19 ACAR, and \$4.2 million in capital works grants.

Once operational, these additional places in Tasmania will attract more than \$10.8 million in annual recurrent funding from the Government.

“By working with organisations like Uniting AgeWell, the Government is improving access to care, quality of care and quality of life for senior Australians, no matter where they live,” Minister Colbeck said.

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