

2016-17 financial year. Under the Turnbull Government the NDIS is one of the most reckless outsources and privatisations in Australia.

The NDIS is being forced to outsource important work because the ASL cap hinders on its capacity to be able to do their job. The Turnbull Government needs to scrap the cap in order to properly resource the service.

Importantly, the NDIS requires the scheme to be fully funded for the long-term so that people with disabilities can be secure in the knowledge that the scheme will always be there to support them.

ACT Labor supports improving the implementation of the NDIS to give peoples with disabilities more control over their lives.

ACT Labor supports lifting the ASL cap in order to stop the outsourcing and under resourcing of work.

ACT Labor calls on Federal Labor to commit to fully funding the scheme to provide necessary support for all Australians with disabilities in the long-term.

Resolution 5

Conference notes that there is a growing awareness in the community about both the size and scope of elder abuse. As was the case with domestic violence up to a decade ago, the issue of elder abuse has received only minimal attention from policy makers, legislatures, police, courts, academics and the media. However, this situation is starting to change. Both the NSW Legislative Council's 2016 Inquiry into Elder Abuse in New South Wales and the Australian Law Reform Commission's 2017 report entitled Elder Abuse - A National Legal Response shed much light on the blight of elder abuse in its various forms including psychological or emotional abuse, financial abuse, physical abuse, sexual abuse and neglect.

The time has come for the whole community to face up to behaviour that has for far too long been ignored and in some instances covered up. The elderly, particularly in their advanced years, can find themselves most vulnerable to abuse and ill treatment from family members, carers and unscrupulous individuals who may seek to take advantage of them. Such behaviour towards the elderly in whatever form it takes cannot and must not be tolerated.

Conference calls on the Labor government to re-examine the recommendations made in the national report and draw on them to implement specific initiatives that will reduce, with the plan to ultimately eliminate, elder abuse in the ACT. Furthermore, the ACT Labor government will seek to prioritise at relevant COAG Councils, policy and legislative proposals that will address elder abuse.

Resolution 6. Offshore Detention

This Conference affirms the resolution of the ACT Branch Council, 26 September 2017, as follows:

1. This Council reaffirms the resolutions on the Manus Island and Nauru detention centres passed by the 2014 and 2016 ACT Branch Conferences, namely:
 - a. 2014: This Conference calls on the federal government to close down immediately the detention centres on Nauru and Manus Island.
 - b. 2016: This Conference calls on the Australian government to announce that all asylum seekers will leave Manus Island and Nauru no later than the end of this year.
2. We call on the Australian Government to bring all detainees and former detainees now in PNG or Nauru to Australia as soon as possible. We call on the national leader to pledge that Labor will bring them all here within the first three months of taking office.
3. We regard the Turnbull-Trump American resettlement deal as no solution to the offshore detention problem. We call on the national leader to promise that while

US “extreme vetting” is in process, all the detainees will be in Australia, that those recognised as refugees but not accepted by the US or other countries will be settled here, and that those who are to be deported to their country of origin will be deported from here, after reconsideration of their refugee applications.

4. The national platform should include the following statement: “Australia will never again send people seeking asylum into offshore detention.”
5. We call on the government to amend current legislation that imposes a fine on airlines or other carriers who bring to Australia passengers without passport or visa, to allow carriers to bring some asylum-seekers, up to a number set by the government each month, so as to pre-empt dangerous boat journeys.
6. We call on the government to negotiate with other countries to improve the living conditions of asylum-seekers within the region. Australia should offer a contribution toward the cost.
7. We call on the government to do what it can in international affairs to reduce the pressures driving people out of their homes.
8. All asylum seekers from Iran and Somalia except for one have been rejected for resettlement in the United States due to the current travel ban targeting Muslim majority countries. It seeks to absolve Australia of its responsibilities to resettle those seeking asylum within its borders.

Economics & Employment

Resolution 1. Raise the Rate

That ACT Labor:

1. notes that the ACT Chief Minister’s Budget Speech called on the Federal Government to increase the rate of Newstart, noting that the rate of Newstart is some \$400 below the national minimum wage and is too low to help people get back on their feet;
2. commends the ACT Government for being the first state or territory to formally support a substantial increase in Newstart;
3. calls on Federal Labor to commit to increasing Newstart and other relevant income support payments by \$75 a week as soon as possible if it is successful at the next election, in addition to undertaking the review of income support to which it is already committed; and
4. calls on ACT Labor delegates at the ALP National Conference to support a firm commitment by Federal Labor to a substantial increase in Newstart and other relevant income support payments.

Resolution 2. Automation

Conference calls on ACT Labor and the broader Australian Labor Party to investigate appropriate policy responses to the changing nature of work in Australia, with an emphasis on balancing the protection of workers’ rights while embracing the opportunities presented by automation. This motion further calls for policy responses with a focus on:

- Inclusive vocational education and workforce retraining;
- Legislative industrial relations reform;
- The creation of a strong social safety net; and
- Taxation reform

In order to:

- Ensure that in an increasingly precarious and automated future working Australians are not left behind;
- Ensure that all workers, regardless of manner of engagement, receive fair and decent wages, conditions and access to disputes tribunals;
- Continue promotion of gender equity in the workplace; and
- Limit perverse financial incentives to favour automation of jobs over employment.