






## Response from Mark Parnell MLC, Parliamentary Leader, Greens SA

Topic	COTA SA Solutions	Your Response
	<p>Develop options for avoiding or limiting long hospital stays, including through co-design with older people</p>	<p>Agree. Recovering at home where possible is the best outcome for many people.</p>
	<p>Develop an approach through co-design that supports older people needing to travel to specialist services either across the city or from country areas, including access to transport, visitors' benefits, information, planning, advice and support.</p>	<p>Agree. We need more options and more flexibility for patient transport, from regular cars through to intensive care ambulances.</p>
	<p>Support peer programs in SA to build awareness of vital health interventions for older people, including falls prevention, planning ahead and medication management.</p>	<p>Agree. Prevention is not only better than cure, it's cheaper!</p>
	<p>Extend access to appropriate physical fitness programs for older people with an emphasis on access in rural and regional SA and for older low income, CALD and Aboriginal people.</p>	<p>Agree. Investments in keeping people active lead to better outcomes for the individual and for the community.</p>
	<p>Recognise the low participation rate in Advance Care Directives (ACDs) and increase the understanding, active completion and use of ACDs by -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving community and practitioner understanding of the barriers for the completion and subsequent use of ACDs</li> <li>• Measuring the effectiveness of ACDs</li> <li>• Funding peer education to raise community awareness among older people and their families/supporters about the value of ACDs</li> <li>• Encouraging health professionals to understand, respect and make active use of ACDs.</li> </ul>	<p>Agree. It shouldn't just be an add-on at the solicitor's office when drawing up a will, but should be an early and regular conversation with health professionals and community workers.</p>


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 <p data-bbox="114 619 488 676">HOUSING</p>	<p data-bbox="521 304 1178 403">Prioritise the development of a comprehensive housing strategy for disadvantaged older South Australians.</p>	<p data-bbox="1346 268 2130 367">Agree. This cohort is not getting the attention it deserves. Homelessness amongst older women is growing faster than other sectors and needs urgent attention.</p>
	<p data-bbox="521 486 1178 550">Include age as a priority factor for access to public housing.</p>	<p data-bbox="1346 450 1424 481">Agree.</p>
	<p data-bbox="521 624 1178 687">Fund a one-stop housing support service for older people.</p>	<p data-bbox="1346 593 1424 625">Agree</p>
 <p data-bbox="114 1134 488 1192">TRANSPORT</p>	<p data-bbox="521 758 1178 821">Fund the extension of free public transport beyond off-peak times.</p>	<p data-bbox="1346 721 2130 820">Agree. The Greens were the first party to announce this and the only one to get it costed by the Parliamentary Budget Advisory Service. It will cost a measly \$1.5 million pa.</p>
	<p data-bbox="521 869 1178 965">Support the development of transport options for people without access to private transport to travel within and between local communities and suburbs.</p>	<p data-bbox="1346 865 2130 928">Agree. The concept of “complementary” transport options needs to include but go beyond the local council community bus.</p>
	<p data-bbox="521 1013 1178 1077">Invest in comprehensive digital literacy training, particularly for older people and in rural areas.</p>	<p data-bbox="1346 976 2130 1040">Agree. The digital divide and the concept of digital inclusion has been raised by SACOSS and should be adequately funded.</p>
	<p data-bbox="521 1157 1178 1252">Create expectations that businesses will support users to access digital information and not charge for hard copy bills or other essential information.</p>	<p data-bbox="1346 1120 2130 1216">Agree. You should not be penalised for requesting a paper bill. However, utilities can get around this by offering discounts for on-line bills and automatic direct debit bill payment.</p>


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 <p>EMPLOYMENT</p>	<p>Support initiatives with employers and recruiters to tackle employment-based age discrimination.</p>	<p>Agree. As the retirement age is pushed further out, this is a problem that could get much worse.</p>
	<p>Trial a mid-career check and planning service for people aged 50 and over, focused on planning ahead, upskilling and retraining and understanding future housing and financial goals.</p>	<p>Agree. This is a sensible initiative.</p>
 <p>DIVERSITY</p>	<p>Build advocacy with older people living in rural and regional SA, particularly in areas experiencing financial downturn.</p>	<p>Agree.</p>
	<p>Adopt the recommendations of the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Age Friendly SA report, including improvements to the age-friendliness of outdoor spaces, public buildings and public transport, as well as projects connecting older people of CALD backgrounds with their communities, and facilitating access to information and services.</p>	<p>Agree. Recent changes to planning laws requiring consideration of Universal Design Principles for accessibility should help improve the quality of new developments, however retrofitting existing spaces and buildings should be an ongoing priority.</p>
	<p>Establish a community hub for older LGBTIQ South Australians.</p>	<p>Agree.</p>

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 <p data-bbox="114 826 488 887">COST OF LIVING</p>	<p data-bbox="521 304 1178 405">Install solar panels and batteries in all public and social housing, including those intended for older people.</p>	<p data-bbox="1200 268 1610 296">Agree. This is precisely our policy.</p>
	<p data-bbox="521 486 1178 587">Provide incentives for private sector landlords to offer energy-efficient private rental for people on low incomes.</p>	<p data-bbox="1200 450 2107 512">Agree. The Greens are proposing incentives for landlords including land tax relief for efficient affordable housing.</p>
	<p data-bbox="521 668 1178 769">Offer the electricity concession as a percentage of the electricity cost of the household rather than a flat rate.</p>	<p data-bbox="1200 632 2130 764">Agree. With solar panels and storage on most public and social housing, there won't be a need for a concession for many customers, but for other customers who can't take advantage of this, the current fixed concessions are too low.</p>
	<p data-bbox="521 850 1178 951">Require all government services - including health - to have strategies in place to protect people on low incomes from being exposed to fees and co-payments.</p>	<p data-bbox="1200 813 2056 876">Agree. We can afford universal health care for our most vulnerable and should not accept creeping co-payments.</p>
	<p data-bbox="521 1032 1178 1094">Work with other states and territories to establish a national framework on elder abuse.</p>	<p data-bbox="1200 995 2107 1096">Agree. We note that there is momentum on this in many states and nationally in recent times. The horrors of Oakden have also focussed the public's attention on this issue.</p>

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	<p>Commit increased resources to campaigns and activities that counter ageism and create new opportunities for older people throughout SA.</p>	<p>Agree. Seventy is probably the new Fifty. Older South Australians can make a huge contribution to society and we need mechanisms in place to allow that potential to flourish.</p>

Answers provided by Mark Parnell MLC, Parliamentary Leader, Greens SA and spokesperson on ageing.

6<sup>th</sup> March 2018