

INQUIRY INTO 2018 REVIEW OF THE DUST DISEASES SCHEME

Organisation: Carers NSW
Date Received: 1 November 2018

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The Director
Standing Committee on Law and Justice
Parliament House
Macquarie St, Sydney NSW 2000
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Review of the Dust Diseases Scheme

Carers NSW wishes to thank the Standing Committee on Law and Justice for the opportunity to provide a submission to the review of the Dust Diseases scheme. Carers NSW is the peak non-government organisation for carers in New South Wales (NSW). A carer is any individual who provides care and support to a family member or friend who has a disability, mental illness, drug and/or alcohol dependency, chronic condition, terminal illness or who is frail. Our vision is an Australia that values and supports all carers, and our goals are to:

- Be a leading carer organisation in which carers have confidence
- Actively promote carer recognition and support
- Actively support carers to navigate a changing service landscape that will be characterised by ongoing policy reform
- Promote connected community experiences and opportunities for carers that are inclusive of diverse carer groups
- Lead and advocate for carer-specific and carer-inclusive policy making, research and service delivery
- Continue to be a quality-driven, responsive and carer-focused organisation.

Carers NSW is pleased that our ongoing partnership with icare has led to the expansion of the Mentoring Carers Program to carers of individuals covered by the Dust Diseases scheme. We also commend icare's inclusion of staff members with lived experience of caring in the newly established client liaison team. In line with the requirements of icare under the NSW *Carers (Recognition) Act 2010*, we encourage icare to train and support these and other staff to reflect the principles of the NSW Carers Charter, acknowledging and respecting carers' views and experience, and supporting carers to participate fully in family and community life. We recommend that staff provide carers with clear and regular communication, appropriate service referrals and time to explain how the scheme works.

For further information regarding this submission, please contact Sarah Judd-Lam, Manager, Policy and Research, on _____ or _____

Yours sincerely

Elena Katrakis
CEO
Carers NSW