

Clover Moore Responds

OWN Election Policy

I write to express my support for the Older Women's Network 2011 State election issues. I share OWN's concerns about the need to respect and acknowledge the specific circumstances of older women, ensure their voice is heard, and provide support and services where needed. OWN is a highly valued organisation, and I support your work.

Ageism

While employment and income security are largely Commonwealth responsibilities, I share your concerns about programs to support employment of older people, and oppose discrimination against any group based on irrelevant criteria including age. The NSW Government should provide strong leadership opposing discrimination, including community education and model employer programs.

Affordable Housing

During the past term, I supported retirement village residents on legislative changes, and have developed a Private Members Bill to improve strata management. I strongly support social housing and social housing tenants across my electorate, and have advocated strongly for increased affordable housing, including through the Legislative Council Inquiry.

I continue to work for protection of boarding house residents and measures to provide more energy and water efficient housing, as well as effective programs that help homeless people get back on their feet. The factors involved with homelessness are complex and changing, and I support OWN's proposal to ensure gender is incorporated into the analysis of needs and the development of programs to help those in need.

Violence

While responses to family violence have improved in recent years, OWN's research showing higher levels of violence against older women are a concern. I support better coordination between domestic violence and elder abuse programs to address this concern.

Health

I have consistently worked to get more emphasis on prevention and early intervention to better respond to health concerns, including oral health, mental health and alcohol/drug problems, particularly for disadvantaged groups. Programs and services should be based on need, and I support an assessment of gender impacts on need to ensure that services meet community needs.

Volunteers and Carers

Programs such as Home and Community Care are vital to help people remain in their home and community, and I have consistently supported expansion of these programs. Both Commonwealth and State Governments need to increase funding to match identified need.

Transport and Mobility

Active transport is vital for all residents, and I strongly promote and advocate for better public transport services including accessible stations and vehicles. Major inner city railway stations remain inaccessible to people with limited mobility, and many buses are not accessible, despite Government promises and Easy Access programs. I will continue to push to fast track access upgrades.

I have advocated for expanded community transport options and increased use of smaller shuttle buses to transport people with limited mobility to public transport.

Please contact Roy Bishop in my office if you have specific questions or need more information

Yours sincerely

Clover Moore Member for Sydney