



PHILLIP THOMPSON OAM MP

Federal Member for Herbert

The Hon Darren Chester MP
Minister for Veterans' Affairs
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Via email: minister@dva.gov.au

25 May 2020

Dear Minister Chester,

I write to you following a meeting today with Wayne Crase, CEO of Everglow Community Care.

Mr Crase has raised concerns around the transition for veterans and war widows from the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) to My Aged Care.

As I understand it, when a veteran/war widow turns 65 they are then eligible for a My Aged Care package for home services. During the transition phase, services such as domestic assistance, personal care and safety-related home and garden maintenance are not funded at the appropriate level which can have a severe impact on these vulnerable people.

I understand that the current wait list for a My Aged Care package is roughly 112,000 people strong however I do feel that veterans/war widows who have already been receiving a form of Government service should not be put to the bottom of the list and potentially be without necessary assistance for months or even years.

I would like to know what mechanisms can be put in place to ensure a streamlined transition process for veterans/war widows from DVA to My Aged Care.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Phillip Thompson OAM MP
Federal Member for Herbert

CC: Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck – minister.colbeck@health.gov.au