



## **New Dementia Research Funding Alzheimer's Australia Statement**

On 25 August, during the 2013 Federal election campaign, then leader of the opposition Tony Abbott and Shadow Health Minister Peter Dutton announced their commitment to providing \$200 million additional funds for dementia research over the next five years.

\$9 million of this funding has been allocated to the Clem Jones Centre for Ageing Dementia Research at the University of Queensland, while the allocation of the remaining funds is yet to be determined.

This announcement responded directly to Alzheimer's Australia's Fight Dementia Campaign, supported by tens of thousands of Australians, which had called for dementia research funding to be increased to a level commensurate with research funding for other chronic diseases.

Importantly, the additional \$200 million funding will be directed to research, and will be held and administered by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC).

Alzheimer's Australia is looking forward to working with the NHMRC and the new Government to determine how this new funding will be allocated to ensure best outcomes in terms of support for high-priority dementia research questions, and developing the capacity of the sector to respond to these.

Under the leadership of National President and 2013 Australian of the Year Ita Buttrose, AO OBE, Alzheimer's Australia is now turning its advocacy focus over the next three years to achieving better health and care services for people with dementia, as well as ensuring that the additional research funding is fully committed.