



Tony Simpson MLA

Opposition Spokesperson for Volunteering

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Ellery short sighted about ageing Australia

The Carpenter Government does not take the ageing of Australia's population seriously.

This is the only conclusion that Opposition Spokesperson for Volunteering Tony Simpson believes that can be taken from comments made by Minister for Seniors and Volunteering Sue Ellery.

"It is a fact that Australia's population is aging," said Mr Simpson.

"Western Australia is no exception to this.

"This may or may not cause economic problems for Australia and it may cause financial problems for governments, as pension and health costs increase and a smaller percentage of our population remains in the workforce.

"With this in mind, I am concerned by comments made by the Minister, who has taken it upon herself to criticise the Federal Government's plans to future proof Australia to better prepare for the consequences of an ageing population.

"I join the Minister in commending Western Australia's seniors in their volunteering efforts.

"Volunteers enrich our society and make our State a better place to live.

"However, assuming that seniors will volunteer as much in 20 years as they do now is a foolish reason not to prepare for the challenges we will face in the future.

"Minister Ellery's criticism of the Federal Government's real efforts to future proof Australia is both short sighted and foolish.

"The Western Australian Liberal Party support and congratulates the Federal Government and Treasurer Costello for their farsighted efforts to prepare Australia for the many challenges that we as a community will face with the ageing of our nation.

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