



## **The Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP**

**Minister for Aged Care  
Minister for Indigenous Health  
Member for Hasluck**

**The Hon Kevin Hogan MP  
Member for Page**

### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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#### **New Aged Care Facilities to Support Seniors in Grafton**

Major extensions of the Whiddon Grafton aged care facility will immediately benefit senior Australians living in and around Grafton.

Aged Care Minister, Ken Wyatt AM, said that while the Whiddon Group had a long history of aged care in New South Wales, innovation was a hallmark of the Grafton expansion, especially in the care of people living with dementia.

“The new facilities will provide a safe sanctuary for people when they decide to move into residential care, and will further enhance the sense of community at Whiddon Grafton,” said Minister Wyatt.

“Residents are also encouraged to invite their family and friends into their home, too, just as they would in their previous homes, allowing them to live more fulfilling lives, while staying close to the people they know and love.

“Safe, quality care for dementia patients is highlighted in the Grafton home’s creative ageing programs, activities that provide wellbeing benefits including the potential to improve physical capability and cognition.”

The group’s multi-award winning HenPower creative ageing program will be implemented and involve residents coming together as a community to care for hens.

Officially opening the facilities on behalf of Minister Wyatt, Member for Page, Kevin Hogan MP, said the \$25 million expansion would more than double the size of the home, from 54 to 110 places.

“I congratulate Whiddon on its long record of support for Grafton seniors,” Mr Hogan said.

“Here we have a facility that provides a caring and compassionate environment, supports senior Australians in maintaining their independence and seeks to keep them connected to the community they know and love.”

Minister Wyatt said residents were encouraged to maintain their own interests, while also being able to take advantage of the social and community life of the upgraded facility.

“The Turnbull Government’s aged care reforms aim to ensure older Australians experience the best possible quality of life,” the Minister said.

“Our nation has been built on the hard work of our elders, and it is important we provide them with the care, respect and kindness they deserve as they grow older.”

**Media contacts:**

**Minister Wyatt - Nick Way, Media Adviser 0419 835 449**  
**Kevin Hogan MP - Peter Weekes 0428 173 114**