



New South Wales

## JOINT STATEMENT BY NSW MPS TO THE FEDERAL PARLIAMENT ON AFGHANISTAN REFUGEE INTAKE

The plight of many minority groups is no longer assured with the Taliban again taking control of Afghanistan. Of equal importance, the human rights of women and girls is under direct threat, with increasing evidence that they face exclusion from education and employment, sexual slavery, violence and death at the hands of the Taliban.

There is an urgent need to ensure a co-ordinated international response both for those at great risk who remain within Afghanistan, alongside those who have fled in the face of the Taliban and are now displaced. Many Afghans within Australia, whose families remained behind, are desperate to be reunited with loved ones who now face great risks in their current situation.

Australia has a proud history of providing safe haven, including accommodating 170,000 displaced persons after World War II, resettling 80,000 Vietnamese in the decade following the end of the Vietnam War and 12,000 displaced persons from the Syrian and Iraq conflicts.

In a joint statement, alongside 96 other nations, Australia committed to continue issuing travel documentation to designated Afghans and expressed a clear expectation of and commitment from the Taliban of their safe passage.

Whilst Australia's announcement of a willingness to receive 3,000 Afghan refugee is welcome, it falls well short of the commitments made by other coalition partners in Afghanistan. Canada and Britain, for instance, have each committed to resettle 20,000 refugees over the coming years. We call on the Federal Government to follow the example of these nations and increase our refugee intake, to provide a future to those fleeing the perils of a Taliban controlled Afghanistan and to honour the legacy of those brave Australian ADF personnel, and the Afghani allies, who fought in Australia's longest conflict, the Afghan War.

Jenny Aitchison MP Member for Maitland

Mark Buttigeig MLC

Stephen Bali MP Member for Blacktown

Yasmin Catley MP Member for Swansea

Clayton Barr MP Member for Cessnock

Tim Crakanthorp MP Member for Newcastle

Abigail Boyd MLC

Sophie Cotsis MP Member for Canterbury



Catherine Cusak MLC



Alex Greenwich MP Member for Sydney



Anthony D'Adam MLC



James Griffin MP Member for Manly



Helen Dalton MP Member for Murray



David Harris MP Member for Wyong



Tanya Davies MP Member for Mulgoa



Jodie Harrison MP Member for Charlestown



Jihad Dib MP Member for Lakemba



Jo Haylen MP Member for Summer Hill



Trish Doyle MP Member for Blue Mountains



Ron Hoenig MP Member for Heffron



Wes Fang MLC



Sonia Hornery MP Member for Wallsend



Cate Faehrmann MLC



Courtney Houssos MLC



Julia Finn MP Member for Granville



Emma Hurst MLC



John Graham MLC



Rose Jackson MLC



Steve Kamper MP Member for Rockdale



Rev Fred Nile MLC



Trevor Khan MLC



Marjorie O'Neill MP Member for Coogee



Nick Lalich MP Member for Cabramatta



Ryan Park MP Member for Keira



Jenny Leong MP Member for Newtown



Jamie Parker MP Member for Balmain



Paul Lynch MP Member for Liverpool



Peter Primrose MLC



Shayne Mallard MLC



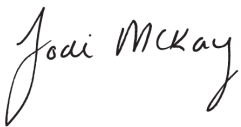
Janelle Saffin MP Member for Lismore



Hugh McDermott MP Member for Prospect



Paul Scully MP Member for Wollongong



Jodi McKay MP Member for Strathfield



Adam Searle MLC



David Mehan MP Member for The Entrance



Penny Sharpe MLC



Shaoquett Moselmane MLC



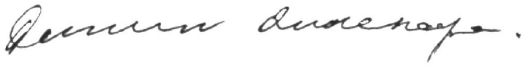
David Shoebridge MLC



Tamara Smith MP Member for Ballina



Liesl Tesch MP Member for Gosford



Damien Tudehope MLC



Mick Veitch MLC



Lynda Voltz MP Member for Auburn



Greg Warren MP Member for Campbelltown



Kate Washington MP Member for Port Stephens



Natalie Ward MLC



Anna Watson MP Member for Shellharbour