

Media release
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Premier urged to consider older Tasmanians

Council on the Ageing (COTA) CEO Maxine Griffiths has urged Premier Lara Giddings to consider the welfare of Tasmania’s older population when deciding how best to allocate the additional \$5 million in funding gained from the sale of TOTE Tasmania.

Whilst lending her support to the proposed funding distribution, Ms Griffiths was concerned that elderly Tasmanians may be overlooked in the implementation of any schemes or initiatives.

“I want to ensure Tasmania’s older population are given the same access to information services and programs,” Ms Griffiths said.

“Ms Giddings has promised to allocate money to assist with rising energy costs.

“This is an important issue for older Tasmanians, particularly independent retirees, who are emerging as a disadvantaged group.”

In a statement released yesterday, Ms Giddings announced the additional funding would be used to help those Tasmanians most in need.

“This money will allow us to fund practical initiatives that will make a real difference in the lives of struggling Tasmanians,” Ms Giddings said.

Ms Griffiths said COTA would like to see more money placed in information programs such as Peer Education, to better inform older people on how to make effective savings in electricity and water costs.

“Our older population face a difficult period economically over the next decade, and more effective education and information services could help to alleviate some of this anxiety and pressure.”

COTA is a leading advocate and source of trusted information, giving older Tasmanians a voice.

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