



## Proposed Sale of Vasey RSL Care FACTSHEET

### What is the relationship between Vasey RSL Care, RSL Victoria and the War Widows Guild?

- Vasey RSL Care was formed in 2004 by an amalgamation of RSL Victoria and War Widows Guild age care facilities.
- RSL Victoria and the War Widows Guild have enjoyed a long and supportive relationship with the Vasey RSL Care Board.
- The decision taken by the Vasey RSL Care Chairman to publicise false and misleading information about RSL Victoria, the War Widows Guild and the proposed sale of Vasey RSL Care, was unexpected and contrary to the relationship.

### Who proposed the sale of Vasey RSL Care?

- The Vasey RSL Care's governing members\* first proposed the sale of Vasey RSL Care facilities in 2012. A deed of ratification, formalising the proposed sale, was signed in that same year.
- RSL Victoria's subsequent involvement in the proposed sale of Vasey RSL Care has been, by convention, on behalf of the RSL appointed governing members.
- The State President has provided periodic updates to the RSL Victoria State Executive for their awareness.
- The power to finalise the proposed sale of the Vasey RSL Care facilities remains with the Vasey RSL Care's governing members.

*\* The governing members of Vasey RSL Care are a group of individuals ('company members') appointed by RSL Victoria and the War Widows Guild. As a Company Limited by Guarantee, the company members make decisions about the future of the organisation.*

### Why did the proposed sale go to the media?

- Sadly, the Vasey RSL Care Chairman launched his campaign of opposition against the proposed sale of Vasey RSL Care in the lead up to ANZAC Day 2020.
- The negative impact that the Vasey RSL Care Chairman's campaign is having on their residents and families is alarming and concerning.
- Targeting RSL Victoria and the War Widows Guild, and the suggestion that either organisation can direct the Vasey RSL Care Board to sell is false and malicious.

### Is the proposed sale of Vasey RSL Care imminent?

- No.
- The 2012 deed of ratification indicated the sale would take place in 2019.
- At the Vasey RSL Care 2018 Annual General Meeting, the deed of ratification was extended to 2023 by the governing members.



## Proposed Sale of Vasey RSL Care FACTSHEET

### Will the proposed sale of Vasey RSL Care go ahead?

- An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Vasey RSL Care's governing members to discuss the current status of Vasey RSL Care, and its proposed sale, is planned for later in 2020 when COVID -19 restrictions allow.
- The Vasey RSL Care's governing members will assess the proposed sale based on up to date information on the Vasey business model and modelling on the needs of veterans across Victoria.
- Ultimately the Vasey RSL Care's governing members will decide if the proposed sale of the Vasey RSL Care facilities will go ahead.

### What will happen to the residents of Vasey RSL Care if the proposed sale eventuates?

- There are federal laws that ensure the continuation of care of residents if their aged care facility changes ownership.
- RSL Victoria is committed to ensuring the Vasey RSL Care residents and clients continue to receive the care and support deserving of our veterans and their dependents.

### Will RSL Victoria financially benefit from the sale of Vasey RSL Care?

- No.
- Vasey RSL Care is a patriotic fund\*, as such any monies gained through the proposed sale of Vasey RSL Care must, by law, be invested back into the Victorian veteran community and remain in a patriotic fund.

*\*A patriotic fund is a type of trust fund that provides for veterans and their dependents. Money and assets held in this type of trust fund can only be used consistent with the Veterans Act 2005 (Vic).*

### What can I do if I need support?

- The RSL and its volunteers provide assistance to past and present service personnel when in need with a range of financial and non-financial support services, including accessing emergency accommodation, aged and health care support services, health and wellbeing programs, assistance with claiming DVA entitlements and accessing Financial Assistance. Contact the RSL via [veteranservices@rslvic.com.au](mailto:veteranservices@rslvic.com.au) or (03) 9655 5555 for support.
- If you have concerns about any aspect of your aged care experience (or a loved one's), it's essential you raise them. You can contact the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission on 1800 951 822 or The Elder Abuse support line on 1800 353 374 for support.
- Veterans and their families can access immediate mental health support through Open Arms at <https://www.openarms.gov.au/> or 1800 011 046.

END