



IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE ST BASIL'S SA COMMUNITY

Dear St Basil's Homes (SA) community,

In light of recent media reporting we thought it important to outline to you how St Basil's Homes (SA) is different from other aged care operations throughout Australia that sit under the umbrella of our Holy Archdiocese.

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia has for many years offered aged care services throughout Australia. The aged care operations in each State operate separately from and independently of each other.

In South Australia these aged care operations are conducted through a separately incorporated not for profit aged care provider that is managed by an SA based independent Board of Directors and executive team. We have operated this way since our incorporation in 1984.

St Basil's Homes (SA) operates from three sites through an incorporated entity that is not associated with the operator of St Basil's Fawkner or any other St Basil's aged care facility that operates around Australia. We are regulated by the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission.

Although the Archdiocese has an overarching role to play in the aged care space, each State operates independently from each other.

We are all named after Saint Basil, who was known for his vast charitable works and care and concern for those who need support – hence we honour his memory through our service and name.

Understandably, when you have a service being provided by aged care providers that share the same or similar name, it is very simple to draw the conclusion from the outside that they are the same organisation which is not true in this instance.

In South Australia, the sites from which we operate are owned by the Archdiocese. Although the land is owned by the Archdiocese, the development and ownership of our facilities sits with the local and separately incorporated entity described above. The establishment of our facilities have been funded initially by money advanced to our local Board by the Archdiocese and then subsequently by operating surpluses.

In 2007 St Basil's Homes (SA) agreed to commence paying rent for the land from which we operate to the Archdiocese. The initial rental arrangements were struck by reference to what was then considered to be fair, reasonable and commercial. Since that time we have continued to pay rent that has increased annually in line with changes to CPI.

As mentioned above, we are regulated by the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission. The Commission on occasion undertakes audits of regulated charities. In 2018 the Commission undertook an audit into the governance and management practices of St Basil's Homes (SA). In June of 2020 the Commission concluded its audit and determined that we complied with the governance standards that were the subject of the audit.

The COVID pandemic has also raised grave community concerns that have been highlighted in the recent Royal Commission into Aged Care.

We welcome the changes recommended by the Commission as we strive for excellent service and care for the residents at our three sites in South Australia.

We have made significant improvements at our sites over the last year and will continue to do so to maintain the high level of standards our community should expect from us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Harry Patsouris', with a stylized, cursive script.

Harry Patsouris
Board Chair, St Basil's Homes (SA)
chairman@stbasils.com.au