



It's a long way to 2060

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Unless Julia Gillard soon commits to

- Who will be eligible for NDIS
- What level of services they will receive
- Who will fund the NDIS

Then some people with a disability in SA are in for a long wait.

Thanks to Shadow Minister John Gardner for doing a good job.



Labor on track to eliminate disability accommodation waiting list by May 2060

September's disability waiting list figures saw a rare drop – of one, from 573 to 572 – in the supported accommodation waiting list for people assessed as Category 1, the highest level of need.

While any drop is welcomed, if the Government continued to reduce this list by only one per month, it would take 47 years and 8 months to get us down to

zero.

Of even greater concern is that the overall category 1 waiting list, including other types of services such as respite, therapy and behavioural intervention, has reached a new record high level of 1,296 individuals still waiting for services – up from 1,246 in August.

“To be assessed as category 1 on the Disability SA waiting list, it means that an individual has been determined to be at immediate and high risk of harm to themselves or others, or of homelessness,” Shadow Disability Minister John Gardner said.

“The fact that there are now 1,296 vulnerable South Australians with complex and difficult needs waiting for help is a sad indictment on Labor’s management of this system over a decade.

“Labor talks big on disability issues. The Premier and the Minister regularly use aspirational jargon to identify the sort of inclusive community we would like to be – and the Opposition shares their aspirations.

“However it all falls apart for the Government when it comes to actually delivering services on the ground, as demonstrated by the extraordinary blowout in the waiting lists.

“To put these figures into context, when Monsignor Cappo released the Government’s *Strong Voices* blueprint this time last year, there were 907 people on this waiting list. Monsignor Cappo noted that South Australia was ‘*sorely lagging behind the nation when it comes to supporting people with disability, as well as families and carers*’. In the year since then, we’ve seen a 43 per cent blowout.

“Many of Monsignor Cappo’s recommendations remain unfunded. Even when the Government has announced some funds – such as \$61.5 million for building new houses for supported accommodation – they get it wrong. Labor’s plan is to build only 63 houses for more than \$60 million at nearly \$1 million per house, while hundreds of others will miss out.

“For all of the Government’s rhetoric, Labor has failed to deliver for South Australians with a disability. They deserve so much better.”

**Disability Services Unmet
Need Historical Data Set**
**Data taken from *The Provision of
Disability Services in South Australia*
document produced by DFC and DCSI**

Date	Total Supported Accommodation (Category 1)	Total Unique Clients (Category 1)
Jun-09	238	510

Dec-09	306	663
Jun-10	368	793
Dec-10	413	810
Jun-11	446	886
Jul-11	450	900
Aug-11	454	888
Sep-11	470	916
Oct-11	482	932
Nov-11	497	976
Dec-11	504	989
Jan-12	498	995
Feb-12	507	1 046
Mar-12	519	1 069
Apr-12	523	1 109
May-12	518	1 123
Jun-12	543	1 190
Jul-12	560	1 219
Aug-12	573	1 246
Sep-12	572	1 296

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