

27 May 2022

The Hon. Justice Ross AO
Fair Work Commission
Level 4, 11 Exhibition Street
Melbourne VIC 3000

Dear Justice Ross

MercyCare write this letter in relation to the award rates under consideration in the matters of AM2020/99; AM2021/65; and AM2021/63.

MercyCare is a not-for-profit provider of aged care services. We operate five residential aged care homes, providing services to 380 residents and 2000 home care clients in Western Australia.

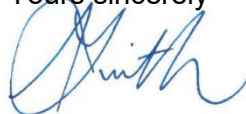
Together with our staff, Mercycare support a significant increase to the aged care award rate fully funded by the Federal Government. This increase will help address inequity and the increasing complexity of the work that aged care staff perform, help ease staff shortages severely impacting the industry and provide a platform for a sustainable industry to meet care needs for elderly Australians into the future.

Our staff are highly skilled individuals who care deeply for our residents and provide them with the care and support they need to live their best lives with enjoyment and dignity. We would welcome the opportunity to host the Fair Work Commission at one of our aged care facilities.

Without a skilled, engaged and properly remunerated workforce, the aged care sector cannot continue to deliver the essential care and services older Australians deserve and the community expects.

We support increased wages for employees covered by the aged care award, nurses award and SCHADS award in line with the HSU's recommendations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anthony Smith".

Anthony Smith
Chief Executive Officer