## The Coalition's Response to the Arthritis Australia 2025 Federal Election Questionnaire

A Dutton Coalition Government will invest \$9.4 billion into Medicare to fix Labor's primary healthcare crisis and restore bulk billing back up to Coalition levels and to invest in mental health.

This investment includes our \$500 million commitment already announced to restore critical Medicare funding for mental health support, after it was slashed in half by the Albanese Government from 20 sessions to 10.

A Dutton Coalition Government will commit over \$1 billion over the next 5 years to grow a strong pipeline of Australian-trained doctors and nurses to help fill the shortages in our suburbs and rural areas.

We will also address the health workforce crisis through a substantial and comprehensive suite of measures. This includes extra medical student places, extra places for postgraduate GP training, nursing scholarships and incentives for junior doctors to pursue a career in General Practice.

The Coalition will make a considered and comprehensive response to the *Unleashing the Potential of our Health Workforce – Scope of Practice Review*. Exercise and rehabilitation and social prescribing initiatives will be considered as part of this process.