



The Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP
Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care

MEDIA RELEASE

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Advocating for better aged care services

Advocates and consumers are being encouraged to have their say to help inform the design of future aged care advocacy services that focus on individual advocacy support.

The Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, the Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP said the consultation period on the draft National Aged Care Advocacy Framework is now open.

“Advocacy is a fundamental element of the aged care system, and consumers of aged care services, their families or representatives have the right to participate in decisions about the services they receive and to have their views heard,” Minister Wyatt said.

“The recent review of Commonwealth aged care advocacy services looked at how individual advocacy can best support consumers to access and interact with the aged care system, including supporting them to have increased choice and control.

“The development of this Framework was a key finding of this review and will help support a nationally consistent approach to the delivery of Commonwealth-funded advocacy services for aged care consumers.

“This process is part of the Australian Government’s commitment to giving older Australians greater choice and control over their aged care needs.”
Minister Wyatt has also announced a short-term extension of funding to advocacy providers.

“To allow time to gather early perspectives on the draft Framework, existing providers delivering advocacy services under the National Aged Care Advocacy Program and Commonwealth Home Support Programme will have their funding extended to 30 June 2017,” Minister Wyatt said.

“This will also allow an open funding round to be held later this year with the new advocacy program to be implemented from 1 July 2017.”

Submissions on the draft Framework close on 7 October 2016 and can be made through the consultation hub on the Department of Health’s [website](#). Information regarding the advocacy open funding round will be made available on the Department’s Tenders and Grants [webpage](#). The final report for the Review is available on the Department of Health’s [website](#).

Media Contact: Minister Wyatt’s Office: 02 6277 4707