

Aged Care Transition Taskforce – Summary of second meeting – 11 December 2024

In considering feedback and priority issues raised by the sector, Members reviewed and updated the Aged Care Transition Taskforce forward workplan. Members agreed to an ongoing process of registering, prioritising and working towards resolution of implementation issues. The forward workplan will continue to be a ‘live’ document that will reflect this process.

Members provided feedback on the data and digital roadmap through to 30 June 2025 including for it to set out the intended audience and refining some information. Members supported the release of the roadmap and the summary of meeting on the Transition Taskforce webpage. Members are keen to understand the digital maturity of the sector in the context of preparing to transition to the New Aged Care Act.

Members sought further clarification around the consultation process and key engagement dates for the Aged Care Rules. Members agreed for the Rules to continue as a standing agenda item at each meeting.

A ‘deep dive’ session on the implementation of the funding and fee structure of the Support at Home program was included as part of the meeting agenda. Members explored the impact of means testing on various groups and provided feedback on communicating and implementing reforms, noting the need to clearly communicate grandparenting arrangements to minimise confusion and concern in the sector.

Members raised the impact of aged care reform and considerations for particular groups including First Nations people, those living and working where there are thin markets, Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people and those impacted by dementia. Effective ways to communicate reforms with the sector, particularly with these groups, is included for discussion at upcoming meetings in addition to exploring unique implementation requirements.

The next meeting of the Taskforce is scheduled for 20 January 2025.

In attendance (in-person and virtual meeting):

Anne Burgess AM	Chair
Prof Tanya Buchanan	CEO Dementia Australia
Annie Butler	Federal Secretary Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation
Prof Jody Currie	Professor of Practice Queensland University of Technology
Dr Paresh Dawda	General Practitioner, Principal and Director Presantia Health and Next Practice
Craig Gear OAM	CEO Older Persons Advocacy Network
Amanda Hawton	Executive Director, Reform Australian Unity
Emma Hossack	CEO Medical Software Industry Association
Andrea Kelly	Interim First Nations Aged Care Commissioner, Department of Health and Aged Care
Claerwen Little	National Director UnitingCare Australia

Deirdre McGill	Chief Operating Officer, Home & Community Support Bolton Clarke
Tom Symondson	CEO Ageing Australia (formerly named Aged and Community Care Providers Association)
Stephen Teulan	Board Chair Catholic Healthcare
Lloyd Williams	National Secretary Health Services Union
Corey Irlam	<i>Deputy Chief Executive Officer COTA Australia</i> <i>(nominated alternative for Patricia Sparrow)</i>

Apologies

Amy Laffan	Acting Deputy Chair Deputy Secretary Ageing and Aged Care Department of Health and Aged Care
Janet Anderson PSM	Commissioner Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission
Tim Dymond	Senior Policy Analyst United Workers Union
Simon Miller	CEO Anglicare
Natalie Molloy	Head of Operations and Clinical Governance HammondCare
Patricia Sparrow	CEO COTA Australia

Observers

Michelle Jones	Services Australia
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