s22

From: (Sen K. Gallagher)<sup>\$47F</sup> @aph.gov.au>

**Sent:** Monday, 15 April 2024 2:35 PM **To:** (A. Wells, MP)

**Subject:** Future Fit Collective Original Correspondence

**REMINDER:** Think before you click! This email originated from outside our organisation. Only click links or open attachments if you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi s47F

Sorry for the mix-up on the Future Fit Collective representation!

Here is the original piece of correspondence:

From: 847G @futurefitcollective.net.au 847G @futurefitcollective.net.au 9

**Sent:** Thursday, April 4, 2024 1:57 PM

To: Pocock, David (Senator Office) < Senator. David. Pocock@aph.gov.au >; Gallagher, Katy (Senator)

<Senator.Katy.Gallagher@aph.gov.au>

Cc: s47F @aph.gov.au>

**Subject:** OPEN CARE TECH

**Commercial in Confidence | Without Prejudice** 

Dear Minister Gallagher and Mr Pocock

**Future Fit Collective** represents a coalition of Meals on Wheels Services who were previously involved in a government funded reform program "Future Fit".

Future Fit's aim was to provide Government with a consistent service model and basic backbone infrastructure with the objective that Government can adequately map, fund and develop meal services across Australia. The Future Fit program was funded by Australian taxpayers for the benefit of older Australians.

Future Fit was unlike any other, in that grass roots meal services were engaged to provide their knowledge, experience and time, outside of management of their individual services and commitment to their respective local communities. In the past Peak Bodies, with no real day to day exposure to service delivery, have been engaged by Government for information.

The resultant technology from the Future Fit program could not have been built without this knowledge, experience and input. Since the decision to halt the Future Fit program, the connections made through the experience has seen the birth of Future Fit Collective to continue to build and grow shared resources across the network, hence Open Care Tech.

Our aim is for Open Care Tech to be open-source software. Our decision to make the software we helped to develop freely available will not only benefit the wider community but also maximise the impact of the Government's investment in Future Fit. We believe that this approach aligns with the objectives of the government, and the procurement working group you both participate in, to promote accessibility and advance technology, as well as setting a precedent for further investments to also be shared across the sector.

We believe that this collaborative approach will foster innovation, reinforce a strengthened sense of community, drive improvements, and ultimately support our common goal, which is to enhance the quality of in-home care.

s47G

As not for profit entities, funded by Government, our funding is for our local communities and the older Australians living in those various communities. §47G

. Our aim is only to provide an opensource software to meal provides with the benefit to those we serve, our customer base.

We see our mission of demonstrating the value of open-source tech to be aligned with your collective wish to get better outcomes from government procurement, especially for information technology. However, we are concerned that the very companies you are working with - the ones that are using your discussions for selfpromotion - are showing themselves to be bad actors against the very community services that you want to see thrive.

We would welcome a more fulsome discussion about the challenges we have faced and the opportunities we are creating, on our own accord.

You can read more about our open-source initiative here: Future Fit Collective - delivering Open Care Tech to the care community

Kind regards

The Directors



Kind regards

s47F

or the Public Servi Office of Senator the Hon. Katy Gallagher Minister for Finance | Minister for Women | Minister for the Public Service Senator for the Australian Capital Territory

**P.** 6230 0411 | **E.** \$47F