

# **Aged Care Transition Taskforce – Summary of Fifth meeting – 5 March 2025**

Members considered the latest releases of the Aged Care Rules – Release 2C covering the register of banning orders, the non-recovery of recoverable amounts and the Grantee Code of Conduct, and Release 4a covering elements of chapters 2, 3, 4 and 7 of the *Aged Care Act 2024* (the Act). Members asked the Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) that where work was still underway on sections of the Rules that are not included that they indicate when topics are expected to be available for consultation. Members also asked the department to provide a summary document outlining changes to what was originally consulted on.

Discussion continued from 17 February on funding and fee structure, in particular means test determinations and Support at Home aspects. Members emphasised the importance of ensuring older people had clarity around the individual impact of changes. Members proposed establishing a small out of session group to troubleshoot solutions for the implementation of care management.

Members considered the department's Communication Strategy for aged care reform. This focuses on informing older people and their families and carers, informing and preparing workers and preparing providers. Members advised on using active channels, to engage and ensure that information effectively reaches targeted groups, including fully utilising their various stakeholder channels.

Members considered the department's Education and Training Plan to support the sector to transition and implement the Act. Members advised on the need for further detail on the training modules and will partner with the department out of session on training modules focussing on proactively educating older people and training for workers and providers. Members also advised on the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission's education and engagement approach that sets out how the Commission will promote understanding of the regulatory system including protections for older people and accessing the complaints framework.

Members were updated on the progress of the Digital Impact Assessment.

## **In attendance (in-person and virtual):**

Anne Burgess AM	Chair
Sonja Stewart	Deputy Chair, Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care Group
Annie Butler	Federal Secretary, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation
Prof Jody Currie	Professor of Practice Queensland University of Technology

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Dr Paresh Dawda	General Practitioner, Principal and Director Prestantia Health and Next Practice
Tim Dymond	Senior Policy Analyst, United Workers Union
Craig Gear OAM	CEO Older Persons Advocacy Network
Andrea Kelly	Interim First Nations Aged Care Commissioner
Amanda Hawton	Executive Director, Reform Australian Unity
Liz Hefren-Webb	Commissioner, Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission
Emma Hossack	CEO Medical Software Industry Association
Claerwen Little	National Director, UnitingCare Australia
Deidre McGill	Chief Operating Officer, Home & Community Support Bolton Clarke
Simon Miller	Chief Executive Officer, Anglicare
Natalie Molloy	Head of Operations and Clinical Governance, HammondCare
Patricia Sparrow	Chief Executive Officer, COTA
Tom Symondson	CEO, Ageing Australia (ACCPA)
Stephen Teulan	Board Chair, Catholic Healthcare Limited
Lloyd Williams	National Secretary Health Services

### **Apologies**

Prof Tanya Buchanan CEO Dementia Australia