

s22

From: Minister Wells
Sent: Monday, 12 February 2024 3:15 PM
To: MPS
Cc: Minister Wells
Subject: MC24-002248 A SERVICE LED FUTURE [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Categories: **s22**

R H7925779=

D response – HRD

Thanks,
s22 (Graduate)

From: **s47F** <s47F@foodservices.org.au>
Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2024 11:13 PM
To: Minister Wells <Minister.Wells@Health.gov.au>; Minister.Wells@aph.gov.au
Subject: A SERVICE LED FUTURE

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.

Dear Minister Wells,

We are writing to you as Convenors of New South Wales and Queensland FUTURE FIT Meal Services.

FUTURE FIT has representatives from not only our two States, but also representatives from Tasmania and Victoria Meal Services. A number of services have contacted us raising concerns in relation to the current issues regarding to the future of the study, but also the opportunity to realise the benefits intended from FUTURE FIT.

Over the last two years frontline Meals on Wheels Services have participated enthusiastically in FUTURE FIT. Collectively, we have contributed our unfunded time and effort to the development of software as part of this transformation program. We have built the foundation of a future operating model and we are all now concerned that others may seek to take away our ideas and autonomy to suit their own purposes.

We believe the only way to counter this and associated market distortion and/or vendor lock-in, is to make the software developed through FUTURE FIT, open source.

s47G

. We hope that Government will support this approach to ensure continued collaboration, unity and transparency for Meals on Wheels services (and other CHSP meal providers) all of whom will be able to benefit from open source software. If this approach is not supported then the market distortion and opportunity for exploitation of frontline CHSP services will continue. We acknowledge the former and current government's support to help us get this far. However from hereon we need to take responsibility and control of our own destiny.

Our intention is to build an open source community where everyone is welcome and can contribute to the continual evolution of the software to meet our requirements. The only condition on this open source community will be that no one can use what we have built to commercialise it in any way.

The community will be governed by a not-for-profit entity and an advisory board, both made up only of frontline services. Our charter will ensure that we operate on an equitable and transparent basis for the betterment of the Older Australians we serve.

We look forward to being able to share this vision in more detail as we take this opportunity forward.

s47F Sutherland Food Services

New South Wals FUTURE FIT Convenor

s47F

Ipswich Meals on Wheels

Queensland FUTURE FIT Convenor



430 Kingsway, Caringbah NSW 2229

T 1300 637 301 Ms47F

E s47F@foodservices.org.au

W sutherlandfoodservices.com.au



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s22

From: Minister Wells
Sent: Wednesday, 20 March 2024 9:35 AM
To: MPS
Cc: Minister Wells
Subject: MC24-004534 - Open Care Tech announcement [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: Media release UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL 12.01AM 21 MARCH 2024.docx

Categories: s22

R H792559 : 89

HRD

For noting

Kindly,

s22

From: s47F <[REDACTED]@foodservices.org.au>
Sent: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 7:32 AM
To: Minister Wells <Minister.Wells@Health.gov.au>; Minister.Wells@aph.gov.au
Cc: s47F <[REDACTED]@Health.gov.au>; s47F <[REDACTED]@Health.gov.au>; s47G(1)(a) <[REDACTED]@futurefitcollective.net.au>
Subject: Open Care Tech announcement

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EMBARGOED UNTIL 12.01AM 21 MARCH 2024

Dear Minister Wells

Further to my email to you on 10 February 2024, I am writing to let you know we will be launching Open Care Tech this Thursday 21 March. Our media release which is embargoed until 12.01am Thursday 21 March 2024 is attached for your reference.

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 to promote accessibility and advance technology, as well as setting a precedent for further investments to also be shared across the network.

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.

Tomorrow, the **Open Care Tech** code base will be available for any vendor, developer, CHSP, HCP or NDIS service provider to use – in whole or part. The only condition being that they similarly make any use or enhancement of the code open and free for others to use.

We have the support of vendors currently providing products to meals on wheels providers, because as anyone experienced in open-source software knows, a vibrant commercial ecosystem is essential to our continued growth and success. We hope that the release of the software as an open-source project will encourage transparency and excellence within the vendor community.

This is the legacy of the Future Fit project and of the efforts meals on wheels services involved in the now abandoned Feasibility Study. It is only due to the commitment of these meals on wheels services that it will now be possible for every aged care provider to benefit from the code, should they want to. Making this software open-source limits the risk of coercion or vendor lock-in or commercially motivated financial barriers to what is essentially a taxpayer funded resource. We hope that **Open Care Tech** sets a precedent for future government technology investments.

We would welcome the addition of an attributable quote from you to include in our media release. We would also like to offer a meeting with you or your office at any time to discuss the work Future Fit Collective and the benefits of **Open Care Tech**.

Kind regards,
s47F
Manager



430 Kingsway, Caringbah NSW 2229
T 1300 637 301 M s47F
E s47F@foodservices.org.au
W sutherlandfoodservices.com.au



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UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL 12.01AM 21 MARCH 2024

MEDIA RELEASE

FUTURE FIT COLLECTIVE ANNOUNCES OPEN-SOURCE SOFTWARE

21 March 2024

For the first time ever, in-home care providers will be able to use and contribute to the same technology under an announcement made by a handful of reformist meals on wheels providers today.

A new entity called **Future Fit Collective**, which named after the government-funded transformation project the founding members were involved in, will be responsible for guiding the development of the software.

“Today marks a new era in how software can be used to provide essential infrastructure to government-funded in-home care providers in a way that upholds the principle of market parity.” Peter Gallagher, Manager of Tamworth Meals on Wheels and Founding Director of Future Fit Collective said.

The software called **Open Care Tech** can currently support basic operations of meal providers delivering fresh and/or frozen meals to older Australians, National Disability Insurance Scheme participants or private clients.

Two care providers have already committed to using **Open Care Tech** and investing in its development, with more expected to follow.

It is expected that a lively vendor and developer community will form around **Open Care Tech**, helping end users adapt the platform to meet their needs, as well as providing support to access and use the software on an ongoing basis.

The licensing arrangement means anyone can use the software on the condition that any improvements made in alternate versions of the program also be open-source.

Providing open-source software to anyone who wants it, will not only save taxpayers money, but will help all care providers improve the quality of their services through modern infrastructure.

By collaborating and pooling resources, technology can advance commensurate with the demand for specific functions, with a greater ability to adapt to a frequently changing operating environment.

A number of existing vendors in the aged care sector, designers and developers have offered to contribute to the software to help in-home care providers improve useability and functionality.

At least once a quarter, Future Fit Collective will release a list of priority enhancements and functionality based on consultation and feedback, so that contributors have a clear understanding of what work will provide the greatest benefits both to current users and the broader community.

The objective of any aged or disability care service should be to have more time to spend with clients. By being part of this initiative service providers will benefit from the co-investment of other services, helping to lift the quality of care across everyone involved.

The Future Fit Collective is encouraging anyone who needs the software to use it, and anyone who wants to contribute to the software’s enhancement to do so – for the greater good.

Developers who would like to be involved or contribute time to this initiative, and care providers who would like to use **Open Source Tech** can email ^{s47G(1)(a)} [@futurefitcollective.net.au](mailto:futurefitcollective@futurefitcollective.net.au) or go to futurefitcollective.net.au

Quotes attributable to s47F from Dubbo Meals on Wheels (Founding Director of Future Fit Collective Ltd): “Meals on wheels might be thought of as an old brand, but you don’t get to hang around this long without knowing how to embrace new and better ways of doing things.”

Quotes attributable to s47F of Sutherland Food Services (Founding Director of Future Fit Collective Ltd): “Building a community of users and ecosystem of paid and volunteer developers is not dissimilar to what each of us does in running a meal service.”

“Anyone who has managed a volunteer-driven organisation knows that being able to point to the public good is critical in being able to recruit people to your cause – and this is a unique opportunity for the IT sector to show some love, albeit in-directly, to their grand-parent’s generation.”

Quotes attributable to s47F of Meals on Wheels Central Coast (Director of Future Fit Collective Ltd and first service to use Open Care Connect): “We are all better, and stronger, together – rather than people spending time and money doing the same or similar things over and over again – why wouldn’t we share the technology we helped build, so that we can all spend more time with our clients.”

“We are one of the largest meals on wheels services in New South Wales, and if this technology works for us then I am sure it will do wonders for smaller services perhaps without the capital base to invest in bespoke software designed to improve the quality and efficiency of in-home meal services.”

– ENDS –

Media contact – s47F

UNDER EMPARTISHER
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From: [Minister Wells](#)
To: [MPS](#)
Cc: [Minister Wells](#)
Subject: MC24-005508 [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 3 April 2024 2:16:12 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

MC24-005508

For noting – HRD please

Thanks, **s22**

From: [s47G\(1\)\(a\)@futurefitcollective.net.au](#) <[s47G\(1\)\(a\)@futurefitcollective.net.au](#)>

Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 12:13 PM

To: [Minister.Wells@aph.gov.au](#); Minister Wells <[Minister.Wells@Health.gov.au](#)>

Cc: [s47F](#) <[@Health.gov.au](#)>

Subject:

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.

Dear Minister

Further to our email about launching **Open Care Tech**, we are pleased to let you know we are making great progress with developers and service providers putting their hands up to be involved in this great initiative.

There is no doubt that providing free and open software, where contributions can be shared and duplicated effort reduced. It gives service providers a sense of what the future might hold, where the point of difference are the services on offer and the quality of care – not the ability to pay large amounts of money for technical infrastructure.

The first location where the software will be deployed is likely to be Open Arms Care who deliver 88,000 meals per year across northern New South Wales. We would like to extend an invitation for you to visit Open Arms Care and see how your investment in Future Fit is benefiting a regional aged care service provider, and most importantly, their clients and local community. We will extend an invitation for each service as they are onboarded, as well as for companies donating time or money to our cause.

While it has no doubt been challenging for some people to see the responsibility for our own future shift into the our own hands as frontline services, we can assure you that nothing will dissuade us from our mission: to provide backbone infrastructure, in the form of dynamic and adaptable open-source software, so that community-based organisations can thrive in a challenging and changing operating environment.

If you would like more information, please feel free to contact me us on

Our website is also an easy point of reference, if anyone in your office should have any questions:

[Future Fit Collective - delivering Open Care Tech to the care community](#)

[The Directors](#)



s22

From: Paul Sadler <s47F@mealsonwheels.org.au>
Sent: Friday, 12 April 2024 3:16 PM
To: anika.wells.mp@aph.gov.au
Cc: CONNOLLY, Thea; Invites.Wells; s47F; Robbie Millar; Chris Watt
Subject: Letter of support for s47G
Attachments: MOWA MOW NSW and MOW VIC letter to The Hon. Anika Wells MP.pdf

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.

Dear Minister

Please find attached a letter supporting an application by s47G for assistance following the departure of Miles Morgan Australia from management of s47G.

Regards

Paul Sadler
Chair

Meals on Wheels™ Australia

m: s47F

e: s47F@mealsonwheels.org.au

w: mealsonwheels.org.au



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12 April 2024

The Hon. Anika Wells, MP
Minister for Aged Care
Department of Health and Aged Care
By email: anika.wells.mp@aph.gov.au

Cc:
Thea Connolly, First Assistant Secretary, Home & Residential,
s47F [@health.gov.au](mailto:s47F@health.gov.au)
s47F, s47E(d) [@health.gov.au](mailto:s47E(d)@health.gov.au)
s47F [@health.gov.au](mailto:s47F@health.gov.au)

Dear Minister

Re: s47G Meals on Wheels and the future of the Future Fit program

We write to you regarding s47G [redacted]
operation of s47G [redacted] as a Future Fit pilot site, and
the future of the Future Fit program.

s47(1)(b)

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by the Department of Health and Aged Care

s47(1)(b)

Meals on Wheels Australia Limited (**MOWA**), Meals on Wheels NSW Ltd (**MOW NSW**) and the Victorian Meals on Wheels Association Inc (**MOW VIC**) support s47G [redacted] s47G [redacted] to undertake the above steps urgently while the Future Fit program is in abeyance.

Future of the Future Fit program

We understand that:

- The s47G [redacted] site has been used as the test case for the deployment of the new modernised Enterprise Resource Planning (**ERP**) system that aims to reduce the administrative burden on services, while improving the ability to track and report on key data indicators that the Department of Health and Aged Care (**DoHAC**) needs to support decision making processes.
- The ERP was due to be deployed on 3 July, following which the plan was for DoHAC to commence a feasibility study with Meals on Wheels services to help inform future policy settings under in home aged care reforms, including trialling new funding and pricing settings under the current block funded arrangements.
- Under the study, the services would:
 - Seek to co-design a new standardised definition of a meal as well as how to reflect social support that can be applied to in-home aged care.
 - Rollout the ERP and provide near real-time data on meal services, volunteer interactions, client demographics/choice and costs of production to the DoHAC.
 - Co-design new funding structures to test what could be administered under the 24-25 CHSP extension.
- The study was to be supported by the rollout of a new online ordering platform tool where consumers could be provided with additional choices in the selection of meals.

We have not sought the specific views of other peak Meals on Wheels bodies for the purposes of this letter but wish to express MOWA, MOW NSW and MOW VIC's support for the above objectives to ensure the network can continue to thrive. We envisage these objectives could be achieved through, or with close association with, the Meals on Wheels peak organisations and, initially, trial sites like s47G [redacted] on the understanding that s47G [redacted] remains committed to the ongoing viability and success of the Future Fit program.

The undersigned peak bodies are united in our support for the service at s47G [redacted] and the administration of the service in its current format by s47G [redacted]. s47G [redacted]

Yours faithfully

s47F [redacted]

Paul Sadler
President
Meals on Wheels Australia
s47F @mealsonwheels.org.
au
M: s47F [redacted]

s47F [redacted]

Chris Watt
President
Meals on Wheels NSW
s47F [redacted] @tweedmeals.o
rq
M: s47F [redacted]

s47F [redacted]

Robbie Millar
President
Meals on Wheels VIC
s47F [redacted]
[redacted]
M: s47F [redacted]



Senator the Hon. Katy Gallagher

Minister for Finance
 Minister for Women
 Minister for the Public Service
 Manager of Government Business in the Senate
 Senator for the Australian Capital Territory

The Hon Anika Wells MP
 Minister for Aged Care
 PO Box 6022
 House of Representatives
 Parliament House
 Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister *Anika*

I write to you to make representations on behalf of the Directors of Future Fit Collective, a coalition of meals-on-wheels services committed to providing open-source software to assist community-based organisations in their day-to-day operation.

Future Fit Collective have expressed concerns regarding a sub-contractor claiming rights to their software, jeopardising their ability to continue providing this service.

I understand that Future Fit Collective feels that the actions of this sub-contractor are contrary to the support needed for community services.

Future Fit Collective request a meeting to discuss the challenges they are facing, as well as future opportunities.

In bringing this issue to your attention, I have enclosed a copy of Future Fit Collective's original correspondence and ask the you respond directly to:

Future Fit Collective
 Email: s47G@futurefitcollective.net.au
 Phone: s47G

Thank you in advance for your favourable consideration of this matter.

Yours sincerely

Katy Gallagher

Katy Gallagher
 Senator for the ACT

15 April 2024

| | |
|---|---|
| Minister for Aged Care Minister for Sport | |
| 15 APR 2024 | |
| Reply By <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minister <input type="checkbox"/> Chief of staff <input type="checkbox"/> Adviser | Action <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Response <input type="checkbox"/> Phone call <input type="checkbox"/> Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Department Other <input type="checkbox"/> Campaign <input type="checkbox"/> Constituent <input type="checkbox"/> Background <input type="checkbox"/> Information <input type="checkbox"/> Required | <input type="checkbox"/> Urgent by URG <input type="checkbox"/> Refer to |
| Comments: | |

s22

From: s47F (Sen K. Gallagher) s47F @aph.gov.au
Sent: Monday, 15 April 2024 2:35 PM
To: s47F (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: s47G @futurefitcollective.net.au s47G @futurefitcollective.net.au
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 (Sen D. Pocock) 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. s47G

s47G Our aim is only to provide an open-source 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 self-promotion - 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



Future Fit Collective

1300 294 644
enquiries@futurefitcollective.net.au

Kind regards

s47F he/him/his)

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 s47F E. s47F @aph.gov.au



Australian Government
Department of Health and Aged Care

Ref No: MC24-005915

Directors
Future Fit Collective
enquiries@futurefitcollective.net.au

Dear Directors of Future Fit Collective

I refer to your correspondence of 15 April 2024 to the Minister for Finance and Minister for Women and Minister for the Public Service, the Hon Katy Gallagher MP, regarding Open Care Tech. Your letter has been referred to the Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Sport, the Hon Anika Wells MP. The Minister has asked me to reply.

s47(1)(b)

s47G

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I appreciate your support in helping us better understand the issues you've raised. I would be grateful for a response by 28 June. Following this response, I would still be interested in meeting with the Future Fit Collective to discuss your broader vision.

Thank you for writing on this matter.

Yours sincerely

s47F



Thea Connolly
First Assistant Secretary
Home and Residential Division
5 June 2024

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From: "Minister Wells DLO"
Sent: 30/04/2024 2:43:09 PM
To: "MPS" s47E(d)@health.gov.au>; "Minister Wells DLO" s47E(d)@Health.gov.au>
Cc: s22@health.gov.au>; s22@health.gov.au>
Subject: RE: MC24-005915 : PDMS Notification - Record Assigned [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Categories: s22

Happy with a D response, thank you 😊

Kindly,
s22

From: MPS s47E(d)@health.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2024 2:17 PM
To: Minister Wells DLO s47E(d)@Health.gov.au>
Cc: s22@health.gov.au>; s22@health.gov.au>; MPS s47E(d)@health.gov.au>
Subject: RE: MC24-005915 : PDMS Notification - Record Assigned [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good afternoon DLOs

Please find s22 request below to downgrade MC24-005915 to a D reply.

Kind regards

s22

Ministerial Coordination Officer | Ministerial and Parliamentary Services Branch (MPS)

People, Communication and Parliamentary Division | Corporate Operations Group

Australian Government, Department of Health and Aged Care

MPS Hotline: 02 6289 s47E(d) | E: s47E(d)@health.gov.au

Location: Sirius Building, 6.N.1

PO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia



Australian Government
Department of Health and Aged Care

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community.

We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to all Elders both past and present.

From: s22 [redacted] <[redacted]@health.gov.au>
 Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2024 1:33 PM
 To: MPS s47E(d) [redacted] <[redacted]@health.gov.au>
 Cc: s22 [redacted] <[redacted]@health.gov.au>
 Subject: FW: MC24-005915 : PDMS Notification - Record Assigned [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Team

Gallagher's letter asks for us to respond directly to the group who wrote to her. Are we able to convert this Min response to a D response? Or can we NFA MC24-005915 and create a separate PDR?

Thanks for your advice

s22 [redacted]

From: noreply@pws.gov.au <noreply@pws.gov.au>
 Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2024 12:54 PM
 To: s22 [redacted] <[redacted]@health.gov.au>
 Subject: MC24-005915 : PDMS Notification - Record Assigned [SEC=OFFICIAL]

SEC=OFFICIAL

Chloe STODDART has assigned [MC24-005915](#) to s22 [redacted].

Click on the above link to open the record in Microsoft Edge.

| Record details* | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Subject | Meals on Wheels Services - Senator Gallagher obo Future Fit Collective |
| Type | Minister Reply |
| Processing Instructions | Hi s22 [redacted] as discussed - letter indicates a direct response to the Collective. Can you please talk to MinCorro team to get re-allocated as a departmental. thanks, Chloe |
| Milestones | Due for Clearance: 30/04/2024 12:00:49 PM Due to Parliamentary: 30/04/2024 2:00:49 PM Due to Ministers Office: 1/05/2024 5:00:49 PM Critical Date: |
| Responsible Area | Ageing and Aged Care Home and Residential |
| Status | Draft |

*Please note if any fields are empty, the associated field has not been populated in PDMS.

Have a question or would like to organise some training?

Contact the Ministerial and Parliamentary Services Branch on 02 6289 s47E(d) You can also visit the MPS [Intranet](#) page for the latest information, news, and events.

Thank you
PDMS Notification Service

Please do not reply to this automated message.

SEC=OFFICIAL

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Australian Government
Department of Health and Aged Care

Ref No: MC24-002248

s47F

Sutherland Food Services
 NSW Future Fit convenor
 s47F [@foodservices.org.au](mailto:s47F@foodservices.org.au)

s47F

Ipswich Meals on Wheels
 Queensland Future Fit Convenor

Dear s47F and s47F

Thank you for your correspondence of 12 February 2024 and 20 March 2024 to the Minister for Aged Care and Minister for Sport, Hon Anika Wells MP regarding Future Fit Meal Services and Open Care Tech, respectively. The Minister has asked me to reply.

The department recognises the time and effort you have put into developing the Future Fit deliverables with the ultimate goal of supporting older people to access nutritious meals and to help ensure viability of organisations that provide those meals and accompanying social supports.

The contract with Miles Morgan Australia (MMA) to support the Future Fit project ended on 31 December 2023. In January the Department of Health and Aged Care put in place a transitional contract with MMA. This contract was to close out the Future Fit project and to fully transition any MMA administration at Whitehorse while consideration was given by the Australian Government on the next steps for reforms. However, MMA notified the department on 31 January 2024 that it will no longer be involved in the proposed meals Feasibility Study, which was to be the likely next stage of Future Fit. The department is therefore considering its options before preparing advice to government.

s47G(1)(b)

We welcome your offer to discuss the Future Fit Collective and Open Care Tech with you. The below questions build on those I posed to you on 20 March:

s47G(1)(b)



I will ask my team to arrange a time to discuss these important issues. Thank you for writing on this matter.

Yours sincerely

s47F



Thea Connolly
First Assistant Secretary
Home and Residential Division
4 April 2024

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