

Aged Care Transition Taskforce – Summary of ninth meeting – 12 June 2025

Aged Care Transition Taskforce (Transition Taskforce) members supported the Australian Government's decision to seek to commence the *Aged Care Act 2024* and the Support at Home program on 1 November 2025. Members noted that while some providers were well prepared, the announcement has been received positively and was overall the right decision to make.

Members discussed the importance of maintaining momentum and identified priorities for action prior to implementation. These include timeframes for when things will occur, finalising the Aged Care Rules, means testing, co-contributions and Service Agreements, IT testing and monitoring sector viability.

Members agreed to the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's (the department) proposal to extend Transition Taskforce membership to the end of the year, with meetings to continue to occur every few weeks. Members agreed to changes to the Terms of Reference to reflect this decision.

Members sought clarification around the remaining legislative components for completion ahead of the 1 November 2025 commencement of the new aged care framework and advised on the importance of publishing clear guidance, particularly around timelines.

Members sought clarification around the management of the continuation of the Home Care Package Program, including in regard to maintenance packages. The department confirmed that maintenance packages would continue to 1 November 2025.

Members considered the proposed implementation and operation of the new Higher Everyday Living Fee arrangements.

Members acknowledged the department's work to support the transition for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and providers.

Members noted the updates provided by the working groups for Digital, Education and Training, and Care Management. Members considered the training approach for aged care workers outlined by the department and the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission and agreed to continue discussion as a priority at the next meeting.

In attendance (in-person and virtual):

Anne Burgess AM	Chair
Sonja Stewart	Deputy Chair, Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care Group
Annie Butler Federation	Federal Secretary, Australian Nursing and Midwifery
Professor Tanya Buchanan	Chief Executive Officer, Dementia Australia
Professor Jody Currie	Professor of Practice Queensland University of Technology
Dr Paresh Dawda	General Practitioner, Principal and Director, Presantia Health and Next Practice
Tim Dymond	Senior Policy Analyst, United Workers Union
Craig Gear OAM	Chief Executive Officer, Older Persons Advocacy Network
Amanda Hawton	General Manager, Home Health, Australian Unity
Emma Hossack Association	Chief Executive Officer, Medical Software Industry
Corey Irlam	Deputy Chief Executive Officer, COTA
(Nominated Alternative for Patricia Sparrow)	
Claerwen Little	National Director, UnitingCare Australia
Andrea Kelly	Interim First Nations Aged Care Commissioner
Deidre McGill Bolton Clarke	Chief Operating Officer, Home & Community Support,
Mel Metz	Deputy Commissioner, Sector Capability and Regulatory Strategy Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission
(Nominated Alternative for Liz Hefren-Webb)	
Simon Miller	Chief Executive Officer, Anglicare
Natalie Molloy	Head of Operations and Clinical Governance, HammondCare
Tom Symondson	Chief Executive Officer, Ageing Australia
Stephen Teulan	Board Chair, Catholic Healthcare
Lloyd Williams	National Secretary, Health Services Union

Apologies

Liz Hefren-Webb	Aged Care Quality and Safety Commissioner
Patricia Sparrow	Chief Executive Officer, COTA