# Aged Care Transition Taskforce – Summary of tenth meeting – 21 July 2025

Aged Care Transition Taskforce (Transition Taskforce) members considered an update from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing (the department) with Services Australia and the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (the Commission) on the delivery of critical digital capabilities to support the *Aged Care Act 2024* (the Act) to commence on 1 November 2025. Members sought additional detail from Services Australia on work with providers in an ICT test environment. Members agreed to revisit the aged care sector’s digital readiness at the next meeting.

Members considered a draft reform timeline for providers to 1 November 2025 with key digital, education and training, legislation and policy, and sector and operational readiness activities. Members advised on the significance and prioritisation of the captured activities and steps to ensure that communication was fit for purpose for the target audience. Members advised on the importance of older people also having access to relevant reform details in parallel.

Members discussed the proposed training approach for aged care workers with an update from the Education and Training working group. Members advised on specifying a base level of training to ensure there is a consistent understanding of the rights of older people. Members agreed to continue to provide input into the development of a training framework for providers with supporting training information and material.

Members considered an update from the Commissioner on her regulatory strategy and other activities. This included an update on the Financial and Prudential Standards consultation, new resources such as learning modules, and sessions exploring the strengthened Quality Standards and regulatory landscape.

Members sought additional detail on the current legislative reform work being progressed by the department including Amendment Bills, the Aged Care Rules and Transitional Rules. Members expressed interest in opportunities for further briefings once legislation is tabled in Parliament.

Members agreed on the importance of continuing to consider the implementation of the aged care reforms with the needs and requirements of diverse groups including First Nations people, and those from cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

Members advised on early thinking around the design and implementation of an evaluation framework for the wider aged care reforms.

## 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

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

Liz Hefren-Webb Aged Care Quality and Safety Commissioner

*Luke Hiscox National Research and Policy Officer, Health Services Union (Nominated Alternative for Lloyd Williams)*

Emma Hossack Chief Executive Officer, Medical Software Industry Association

Jason Kara Chief Executive Officer, Catholic Health Australia

Andrea Kelly Interim First Nations Aged Care Commissioner

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

*Roald Versteeg General Manager of Policy and Advocacy, Ageing Australia (Nominated alternative for Tom Symondson)*

## Apologies

Tom Symondson Chief Executive Officer, Ageing Australia

Lloyd Williams National Secretary, Health Services Union