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