

Aged Care Transition Taskforce – Summary of thirteenth meeting – 15 October 2025

Members discussed progress on reform implementation activities and readiness for 1 November 2025 when several reform activities will commence. Members welcomed the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's (the department's) publication of the New Aged Care Act roadmap. Members discussed the forecast of planned communication activities targeting older people, providers and workers, including a guide to support the use of fee estimators and proposed videos on the new Support at Home program pathways. Members encouraged the department to continue to seek advice and input on the design, structure and content of resources to meet the needs of diverse audiences and to ensure ease of use.

Members discussed the department's progress on risk assessment and contingency planning and discussed approaches to the management of issues following commencement of the new Aged Care Act and Support at Home program.

Members considered updates on education and training including the suite of education and training resources available for providers and workers, including training plan guidance, program manuals, transition guides, fact sheets, scenarios, case studies, training modules, webinars and frequently asked questions. Members discussed and advised on completion rates of training modules and advised on how to ensure continued uptake.

Members considered an update on digital engagements, sector feedback and support (including engagement activities) in preparation for commencement of the new Aged Care Act on 1 November 2025. Members noted that the department continues to regularly engage with the sector including through its Digital Transformation Tech Talks which have included updates across the reforms, the Support at Home program and from the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission.

Members acknowledged the work and progress made since the Transition Taskforce was established, and that the changes to shift to a new rights-based Act with older people at the centre of the system would be an adjustment for the whole sector – a positive one that would take time.

In attendance (in-person and virtual):

Anne Burgess AM	Chair
Sonja Stewart	Deputy Chair, Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care Group
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
Emma Hossack	Chief Executive Officer, Medical Software Industry Association
Claerwen Little	Former National Director, UnitingCare Australia
Deidre McGill	Chief Operating Officer, Home & Community Support Bolton Clarke
Simon Miller	Chief Executive Officer, Anglicare
Natalie Molloy	Former Head of Operations and Clinical Governance, HammondCare
Sonya Smart	Chief Executive Officer, Villa Maria Catholic Homes
Patricia Sparrow	Chief Executive Officer, COTA
Tom Symondson	Chief Executive Officer, Ageing Australia
Lloyd Williams	National Secretary, Health Services Union

Apologies:

Annie Butler	Federal Secretary, Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation
Andrea Kelly	Interim First Nations Aged Care Commissioner