

Aged Care Sector Committee – Communiqué – 4 December 2020

The Minister for Aged Care and Senior Australians, Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck, addressed the Committee, thanking Members for their ongoing response to the COVID-19 situation, and noted he looked forward to receiving the Committee's paper on key strategic priority areas for Government's consideration.

The Minister discussed with Members their views on Counsel Assisting's proposed recommendations presented to the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety (Royal Commission) in October 2020.

The Department provided Members with an overview of the Government's response to the Royal Commission's Aged Care and COVID-19 – a special report, which was tabled in Parliament on Monday 30 November 2020. Members noted the Government has accepted and is acting on all six recommendations.

Members received a presentation from Professor (Practice) Alison McMillan, Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer detailing her experience, lessons learnt and key challenges in establishing the Victorian Aged Care Response Centre (VACRC).

Members received an update on the work of the Committee's Diversity Sub-group, including progress on the homelessness review being undertaken by Sapere Research Group.

Members noted the Committee's Quality Sub-group work in developing the Aged Care Quality Policy Framework and updating of the Quality Vision for Aged Care, which will be presented to the Committee for endorsement prior to completion by 30 June 2021.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for Friday 26 March 2021.