Aged Care Funding Reform Working Group | Communiqué

Meeting Four | Date: 4 February 2021 | Time: 1:00PM - 4:00PM | Location: virtual

Overview of AN-ACC

 Professor Kathy Eagar from the Australian Health Services Research Institute presented an overview of the AN-ACC and findings from the Resource Utilisation Study. She touched on the importance of reforms to care planning, the role of rehabilitation in residential aged care facilities and further research into respite care funding reform.

Shadow Assessment (tender for assessor trainers)

 The Department provided an update on the appointment of six Assessment Management Organisations to undertake assessments of all aged care residents using the AN-ACC assessment tool, the appointment of La Trobe University to train assessors and consideration for the COVID-19 response.

Quality Assurance under AN-ACC

- The Department presented and lead a discussion about the Draft Shadow Assessment Quality Assurance
 Strategy.
- Members advocated for the collection of quantitative data measuring provider and resident satisfaction as part of the quality assurance process, and commented on the independence of assessments.

Homeless + Indigenous Base Tariffs

The Department discussed with members the proposed base care tariff (fixed fee component) of AN-ACC, the treatment of specialist services for homeless and Indigenous aged care residents and application/verification processes for homeless and Indigenous specialist services.

Update on legislative changes

- The Department talked to recent and proposed changes to the Aged Care Act 1997 and subordinate legislation.
- Attendees discussed the rationale and practicalities of the high/low care distinction in legislation and policy.

IT Build / interface with Services Australia

• Services Australia talked to the replacement of the payment system for residential aged care.