

NACA AGED CARE REFORM MONTHLY UPDATE

January 2016

This update provides the latest information on Aged Care Reform activities since the December 2015 Monthly Update.

EXTERNAL (NON-NACA) COMMITTEES AND ADVISORY GROUPS

The work of the Aged Care Sector Committee and its Advisory Groups continues to expand. The NACA Aged Care Reform Secretariat represents the Alliance on all of these committees and groups, and makes every effort to consult with the Alliance where time frames and confidentiality requirements permit. We continue to report on these aged care reform initiatives that are not NACA auspiced yet are related to the Alliance's work and in which Alliance members are represented.

Aged Care Sector Committee (Non-NACA committee)

Chair: Mr David Tune AO PSM

Progress

The Aged Care Sector Committee has not met since early December and its first meeting is set for Friday 4 March 2016.

ACSC Aged Care Workforce Advisory Group (Non-NACA Advisory Group)

Chair: Patrick Reid

This group has not met since the last Update.

ACSC Communications and Engagement Advisory Group (Non-NACA Advisory Group)

Chair: Judy Gregurke

This group is due to meet on 9 February and the meeting outcomes will be included in the ACR Secretariat Report to the February Alliance meeting.

ACSC Roadmap Advisory Group (Non-NACA Advisory Group)

The Roadmap Advisory Group is due to meet on 16 February and a verbal report will be provided to the February Alliance meeting.

AGED CARE COMPLAINTS SCHEME DIALOGUE FORUM (Non-NACA Advisory Group)

Co Chair: Kay Richards

This group has not met since the December Update.

NACA COMMITTEES AND ADVISORY GROUPS

HOME CARE REFORMS ADVISORY GROUP

Chair: Paul Sadler

Progress

This Advisory Group has not met since the December Update. A meeting is tentatively scheduled for 18 February and a verbal update will be provided at the February Alliance meeting.

For Alliance members' information, we advise that the Department of Premier and Cabinet website (<https://www.dpmc.gov.au/pmc/parliamentary-information>) lists, under Legislation Proposed for Introduction in the 2016 Autumn Sittings, Health section, the introduction of the following legislation.

“Aged Care Legislation Amendment (Increasing Consumer Choice) Bill

- give effect to the first stage of the aged care reforms announced by the Government in the 2015-16 Budget, to provide more choice and flexibility for consumers receiving home care

Reason for legislation: to implement a Budget decision

Link to announcement: 2015-16 Budget – Budget Paper No. 2; 2015-16 Budget Fact Sheet”

THE AGED CARE GATEWAY ADVISORY GROUP

Chair: Ian Yates

Progress

This group is due to meet on 8 February 2016 and meeting outcomes will be reported in the ACR Secretariat Report to the February Alliance meeting.

QUALITY ADVISORY GROUP

Chair: Kay Richards

Progress

This group met by video-conference on 13 January 2016. The majority of the meeting involved discussion of a confidential paper presented by the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency on the implementation of cost recovery for accreditation services. Resource documents relating to the confidential papers are the Australian Government Cost Recovery Guidelines and the Australian Government Charging Framework. Both are available on the Department of Finance website (www.finance.gov.au).

Further to the discussion at the November Alliance meeting on the Accreditation Marketplace from this Advisory Group, Sponsors have requested more information from the Department to clarify some of the issues raised. It is hoped that the response will be available for presentation to the February Alliance meeting.

The Terms of Reference for this group were again discussed and further amendments suggested. A final version is to be circulated for approval by the group and will then be presented to the February Alliance for endorsement.

QUALITY INDICATORS REFERENCE GROUP

Chair: Adrian Morgan

Progress

The QIRG met on 20 January 2016 by teleconference. Members were pleased to note that papers were circulated in advance with adequate reading time.

The Advisory Group was informed that Michael Culhane will be leaving the Quality team to take up the role of Branch Manager of Aged Care Policy from 8 February. Josh Maldon will be acting in his role until Amy Laffan takes up the permanent appointment from April.

Alliance Members may recall our November Update which identified the tools being piloted in home care and potentially road tested in residential care as:

- *Consumer Experience*: Your Experience of Services (YES) and Adult Social Care Outcomes Tool (ASCOT)
- *Quality of Life*: World Health Organisation Quality of Life (WHOQOL) survey, both OLD and BREF versions, and ASCOT
- *Goal Attainment*: Goal Attainment Scale (GAS) (home care only)

This meeting reviewed the KPMG Report on the road test of consumer experience and quality of life tools for residential care, which recommended that the three tools shown above were suitable for piloting in this setting.

KPMG also reported on the consultation in relation to the pilot of quality indicators in home care and provided the pilot handbook, guidelines for participants and a set of orientation slides. These are expected to be available when the pilot begins on Monday 8 February, with two data collection cycles occurring between February and June.

Members agreed in principle to the proposed workplan for QIRG for the remainder of 2016, which specifies some out of session document review for February and the next face to face meeting towards the end of April 2016.

COMMONWEALTH HOME SUPPORT PROGRAMME (CHSP) ADVISORY GROUP

Chair: Paul Sadler

The CHSP Advisory Group is due to meet again by teleconference on 16 February so a verbal report will be presented at the Alliance meeting.

NACA INTERNAL WORKING GROUPS

RED TAPE REDUCTION WORKING GROUP

Chair: Adrian Morgan

The ACSC has requested assistance from this Internal Working Group, requesting feedback on the net gains and positive impacts of red tape reduction to date. Examples from the sector are welcome. It is hoped that the Internal Working Group will meet prior to the Alliance meeting to discuss the request and perhaps to identify some of the early benefits. A verbal report will be presented to the February Alliance.

AGEING AND DISABILITY INTERFACE WORKING GROUP

Chair: Julie Heraghty / Deputy Chair: Sue Elderton

This group has provided input to the Blueprint process. The NACA ACR Secretariat is working with Macular Degeneration Foundation Australia (MDFA) to develop a paper for this group which addresses younger people in residential aged care and people 65 and over accessing specialist disability services including assistive technologies and equipment.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP

Chair: TBA

This group, under the leadership of Melissa Coad (United Voice), has provided input to the Blueprint process.

HOME CARE REFORMS INTERNAL WORKING GROUP

Chair/s: TBA

This group is expected to meet for the first time at the end of Day 1 of the February Alliance meeting, with an opportunity for follow up discussion in a short session on Day 2.

BLUE PRINT IMPLEMENTATION WORKING GROUP

Co Chairs: Nick Mersiades, Ian Yates & Ian Holland

This group has taken on the challenge of pulling together the actions and inputs from those with assigned responsibilities for developing the 'ask' for each Blueprint item, with the objective of presenting a workplan for the implementation of the 2015 Blueprint to the February Alliance meeting.

Judy Gregurke and Corey Irlam

National Aged Care Alliance Aged Care Reform Secretariat