

## **NACA AGED CARE REFORM MONTHLY UPDATE**

**December 2017**

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### **NON-NACA COMMITTEES AND ADVISORY GROUPS**

The NACA Aged Care Reform Secretariat represents the Alliance on the Aged Care Sector Committee and most of its sub-committees and advisory groups, as well as on other groups such as those auspiced by the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency. The Aged Care Complaints Commissioner's Consultative Committee also has Alliance representatives. We make 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**

The Aged Care Sector Committee (ACSC) met on 1 December 2017 in Canberra.

Professor John Pollaers, Chair of the Aged Care Workforce Strategy Taskforce, addressed the ACSC and led discussion about the Taskforce's remit, governance and key engagement and support mechanisms.

Minister for Aged Care Ken Wyatt spent an hour with the ACSC discussing the home care data findings, the Diversity Framework and launch, as well as the Carnell/Paterson and Tune reviews, including ongoing analysis and exploration of possible responses.

ACSC members participated in a facilitated discussion on broader ageing issues and the possible implications for aged care, with consideration of ways to encourage more positive views on and proactive planning for ageing.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 2018.

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

**Chair: Judy Gregurke**

The ACSC Communications and Engagement Advisory Group did not meet in December 2017.

#### **ACSC Diversity Sub-group (Non-NACA Advisory Group)**

**Chair: Samantha Edmonds**

The Diversity Sub-group did not meet in December 2017. The Diversity Framework was launched By Minister Wyatt at Parliament House, Canberra on 6 December. The Framework is available at:

<https://agedcare.health.gov.au/support-services/people-from-diverse-backgrounds/aged-care-diversity-framework>.

## **Aged Care Complaints Commissioner Consultative Committee (Non-NACA Advisory Group)**

**Chair:**           **Rae Lamb**

The Complaints Commissioner's Consultative Committee did not meet in December 2017.

## **Quality Agency Liaison Group (QALG) (Non-NACA Group)**

**Chair:**           **Nick Ryan**

This Group did not meet in December 2017.

## **Consumer Focused Report Working Group (CFRWG) (Non-NACA Group)**

**Chair:**           **Christina Bolger**

This group did not meet in December 2017 and is deemed to have completed its work.

## **NACA COMMITTEES AND ADVISORY GROUPS**

### **COMMONWEALTH HOME SUPPORT PROGRAMME (CHSP) ADVISORY GROUP**

**Chair:**           **Paul Sadler**

The CHSP Advisory Working Group met in Canberra on the 13 December 2017 to provide advice and support to the Department on the CHSP contract extensions. A revised draft of the manual is expected to be circulated to working group members before a further teleconference in early February 2018. Funding agreements are expected to be sent to providers from 1 March 2018.

Advice was provided by the working group on a number of issues including: strengthening the wellness and reablement approach, sector support and development, grandfathering arrangements, eligibility, CHSP/HCP interface and client contributions.

The group also received updates on the launch of the Diversity Framework, RAS Extensions and the single quality framework.

### **THE AGED CARE GATEWAY ADVISORY GROUP**

**Chair:**           **Ian Yates**

The Gateway Advisory Group did not meet in December 2017.

### **QUALITY ADVISORY GROUP**

**Chair:**           **Danielle Bennett**

The Quality Advisory Group did not meet in December 2017. The next QAG meeting is expected to occur in early February 2018.

### **CARE AT HOME REFORM ADVISORY GROUP**

**Chair:**           **Pat Sparrow**

The Care at Home Reform Advisory Group met on 8 December 2017 to review and revise the smaller working group's development of a paper providing advice to the Department on the future of a Care at Home program.

To support the Department's planning, the group worked through the recommendations of the paper as a priority and an interim paper has been provided to the Department as advice from the Care at Home Advisory Group within the required timelines. Further refinement of the paper is occurring to ensure that the final record of advice is as comprehensive as possible.

Key messages and themes identified during the December meeting were:

- Any future integrated program should have a wellness and reablement focus with recommendations to strengthen assessment and establish a short-term restorative and reablement service.
- Specific recommendations supporting an integrated assessment model and single assessment tool
- The CHSP contract extensions should be shaped to reflect the intention to move to an integrated care at home program.
- A move towards individualised funding was supported with an understanding that this may need to be staged for some services currently block funded. In the interim, whilst this work is being undertaken, continued block funding for meals, transport and centre based respite was supported.
- Specific consideration of mechanisms to fund and support individuals with special needs was also considered.

## **QUALITY INDICATORS REFERENCE GROUP**

**Chair:** TBC

The Reference Group did not meet in November 2017 and there is still no advice of a possible future meeting.

## **Department of Health – Standards Technical Advisory Group (Non-NACA Advisory Group)**

The Standards Technical Advisory Group did not meet in December 2017. There has been no indication that the July 2018 introduction of the Single Quality Framework and Standards will be delayed by the outcomes of the recently completed reviews.

## **Department of Health – Quality Indicators Technical Advisory Panel (Non-NACA)**

The Panel did not meet in December 2017.

## **Department of Health – Quality Indicators User Group (Non-NACA)**

The Group has not yet met.

## **NACA INTERNAL WORKING GROUPS**

### **AGEING AND DISABILITY INTERFACE WORKING GROUP**

**Chair:** Julie Heraghty / **Deputy Chair:** Sue Elderton

This Group did not meet in December 2017.

### **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP**

**Chair:** Melissa Coad

This Group did not meet in December 2017.

## **BLUE PRINT AND ROADMAP IMPLEMENTATION WORKING GROUP**

**Co-Chairs: Ian Yates and Nick Mersiades**

This Internal Working Group has been delegated to prepare a budget response based on discussion at the November Alliance meeting and to develop an initial paper preparing for an election campaign for discussion at the February 2018 meeting of the Alliance.

## **EQUITY OF ACCESS AND OUTCOMES INTERNAL WORKING GROUP**

**Co-Chair: James Beckford-Saunders**

The Working Group did not meet in December 2017.

## **AFFORDABLE HOUSING INTEREST GROUP**

**Chair: Ben Myers and Roland Manderson**

The Working Group presented a discussion paper with positions and recommendations for the Alliance to consider at its November meeting. Feedback received is being incorporated into the final draft. The Paper will proceed through the standard endorsement process once amended.

## **RESIDENTIAL AGED CARE SUSTAINABLE FUNDING WORKING GROUP – NEW GROUP**

**Chair: TBC**

The Group has now received eight nominations for membership from a range of organisations and constituency groups. As per the resolution of the meeting of the Alliance on the 23/24 November 2017, this Group will now be considered a sub-group of the Blueprint and Roadmap Internal Working Group.

The appointment of a Chair has now been referred back to the Blueprint and Roadmap Internal Working Group.

**Judy Gregurke, Sophia Petrov and Jude Harris**

**Aged Care Reform Secretariat  
National Aged Care Alliance**