

The Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP
Minister for Senior Australians and Aged Care
House of Representatives
Australian Parliament House, Canberra, 2600

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25 September 2018

Dear Minister Wyatt,

Re: Terms of Reference for the Aged Care Royal Commission

Unfortunately due to a technical difficulty the Anglicare Australia Network's input to the National Aged Care Alliance for the Aged Care Sector Committee regarding the Terms of Reference for the Royal Commission was not received. Therefore please accept our input below.

Anglicare Australia wishes the Royal Commission to inquire into the following matters:

- a) Examine the needs and expectations of older Australians, their families and the community with regards to aged care.
- b) Adequacy and effectiveness of the legislation and policies that govern the delivery and funding of aged care services.
- c) Assess to what extent current reforms underway, planned or recommended, would address issues identified in (a) and (b).
- d) Examine the numerous reviews undertaken in the aged care sector in recent years (i.e., including and following the 2011 Productivity Commission Report – Caring for Older Australians) and the adequacy of the Commonwealth's response(s).
- e) Assess to what extent current supply constraints, pricing controls and funding arrangements are adequate to deliver the standard of care expected by senior Australians. As part of this, determine if current supply constraints, pricing controls and funding arrangements inhibit innovative service delivery and attraction and retention of workers in the aged care sector. This should also include a review of the indexation methods employed by Government.
- f) Referring to the Aged Care Workforce Strategy Taskforce Report, identify elements of a best-practice model of care in residential facilities that delivers a high-quality of life for older Australians. In doing so, consider frailty, acuity, workforce planning, flexibility, transparency, and so on.
- g) Building on the Review of National Aged Care Quality Regulatory Process and subsequent reforms, inquire into the following matters:
 - a. Identify the expectations of older people, their families, and the community in regards to Australia's quality and compliance regime.
 - b. Investigate the adequacy and effectiveness of the entities charged with regulation of the aged care system and processes used to apply regulations.
 - c. Consider the cost of compliance with applicable service standards.

- h) Design a transparency framework that tracks the performance of both regulators and providers, to ensure consumers can see how all aspects of the system work together to provide high quality care for older Australians.
- i) Examine the interdependencies and interactions between aged care, acute and sub-acute care, palliative care, disability, retirement living, allied health and primary care sectors, and review how these elements work together to:
 - a. meet the needs of older people in the least restrictive way.
 - b. support the needs of a workforce to work across the various sectors.
- j) Consider ways to support and promote innovative service delivery in the aged care sector. Review current structures and funding models, and consider other incentives, to generate more research and encourage new evidenced-based approaches in aged care.

In closing, we request that the scope of the inquiry and recommendations have regard to the fact that older people make up a considerable proportion of Australia's population and that the number and proportion of older Australians is expected to grow. By 2057, it is projected there will be 8.8 million older people in Australia (22% of the population)¹.

With regard to possible Commissioners, following his exceptional work as Chair of the Aged Care Workforce Strategy Taskforce, we would like to nominate Professor John Pollaers for consideration, given his deep understanding of the aged care system.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you require any more information.

Yours Sincerely



Kasy Chambers
Executive Director
Anglicare Australia

¹ Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (September 2018), [Older Australians at a Glance](#)