



5 April 2017

## Communique

The Ministerial Advisory Committee on Ageing held its second meeting of 2017 at Parliament House.

The Committee received the Digital Enablement paper. The Committee noted the opportunity to improve the reach and benefit of enabling and assistive technologies. Once this paper is finalised, the Secretariat will arrange meetings with relevant government stakeholders to discuss the recommendations of the paper, including the potential role for a consultative committee, and local responses to digital enablement.

The Committee discussed a paper on Cumulative Disadvantage prepared by members of the MACA. The paper highlights the impact of inequality throughout an individual's lifespan and identifies this as a 'wicked problem'. The paper will be provided to the Minister for Ageing for her consideration.

The Committee was pleased to welcome the Minister for Ageing, the Hon. Tanya Davies MP, to the meeting. The Minister spoke about the challenges and opportunities of the ageing portfolio. The Minister also acknowledged the ongoing contribution of the Committee, and noted the Committee's various backgrounds in government, community, industry and academia, and the Committee's abilities in engaging and starting conversations amongst crucial stakeholders. The Minister discussed the work of the Committee to date and its alignment with NSW Government priorities, particularly in relation to employment, housing, elder abuse and age discrimination, and communication. The Minister shared her experiences in the portfolio to date, and her priorities for the future.

The Committee continued to refine and consolidate their 2017 Strategic Work Plan, initiated at the planning day held in February. Preliminary discussions had focused on the priority areas of the NSW Ageing Strategy and the strengths of and opportunities available to the Committee, with a view to taking a focused and strategic approach, which maximises the Committee's impact and effectiveness.

The Committee endorsed the six focus areas of the Strategic Plan:

- Health and wellbeing
- Working and retiring
- Housing choices
- Getting around
- Inclusive communities
- Communication



Out of session, members of the Committee presented at the **Rental Options Roundtable** on 3 April 2017, conducted as part of the NSW Ageing Strategy. The Roundtable sought to initiate a conversation and identify opportunities for innovation and collaboration between industry, government, academia and community sectors about ensuring access to housing for seniors who have, or are about to, reach retirement and face the property rental market with limited wealth and low income.

The Committee was also represented at the **Career Health Check for Mature Workers Expo** in Wollongong, a Liveable Communities grant to the IRT Foundation.

The next meeting will take place in June 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kathryn Greiner'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'y' at the end.

**Kathryn Greiner AO**  
**Chair**