Capability review -Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission

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The Australian Government is committed to ensuring the safety, security, dignity and wellbeing of every older Australian accessing aged care services.

The role of the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (the Commission) as the national aged care regulator is critical to meeting this commitment.

On 27 July 2022, the Minister for Aged Care, the Hon Anika Wells MP announced that the Federal Government would expedite a capability review of the Commission, as recommended by the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety.

Terms of reference

On 14 October 2022, Minister Wells released the Terms of Reference for the capability review of the Commission.

The independent capability review will be conducted by Mr David Tune AO PSM, commencing from October 2022.

It is expected that Mr Tune will submit a final report and recommendations to the Government in the first half of 2023.

Why is the capability review taking place?

The Commission's work is important to every older person receiving aged care across Australia – now and into the future.

The aim of the independent capability review is to identify what best practice looks like for an aged care regulator and to make recommendations to support the Commission in its mission of ensuring safe and quality aged care that meets the needs and expectations of senior Australians.

The capability review of the Commission is an important opportunity to safeguard and strengthen its role as the national regulator of aged care. That is why the review will consider all aspects of the Commission's operations including its resources and workforce, the competencies required by staff, and the wide range of regulatory activities it undertakes.

These include resolving complaints about services, engaging with, informing and educating consumers and providers, monitoring, assessing and investigating the performance of aged care services, and taking effective compliance and enforcement action with individual providers where the Commission identifies non-compliance, to ensure that the provider addresses the shortcomings in care.

Where can I get further information?

The Department of Health and Aged Care's website has information about the capability review, including the Terms of Reference.

This web page includes contact details if you have enquiries about the review - www.health.gov.au/health-topics/aged-care/aged-care-reforms-and-reviews/royal-commission-into-aged-care-quality-and-safety/capability-review

Will the review impact the work of the Commission?

There is no impact on the work of the Commission while the capability review is underway, and the Commission will continue to undertake its full regulatory functions.

This includes providing support and guidance to the sector in the lead up to, and beyond the commencement of key reforms due to come into place from 1 December 2022 – implementing the Serious Incident Response Scheme in home services, introducing a code of conduct for providers and workers, and strengthening provider governance.

For further information – <u>www.health.gov.au/health-topics/aged-care/aged-care-reforms-and-reviews/royal-commission-into-aged-care-quality-and-safety/capability-review</u>







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