



1 June 2021

NSW Ministerial Advisory Council on Ageing June 2021 Meeting - Communique

The Ministerial Advisory Council on Ageing held its second Council meeting for 2021 on 1 June at Parliament House.

Council congratulated The Hon Natalie Ward, MLC, Minister for Seniors, Sport, Multiculturalism and Veterans, on her appointment and welcomed her to the meeting. Council provided an overview of its work and role in advising the Minister on issues to do with Ageing in NSW. Minister Ward gave the Council a brief summary of her professional background, and also spoke to her enthusiasm for the seniors and other portfolios for which she is responsible.

The Ageing and Disability Commissioner presented an update on the work of the ADC, including the quarterly dashboard report and plans to work more closely with local councils. The Commissioner also spoke to the NSW campaign for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day commencing Monday 7 June which includes a social media campaign focused on the impact of ageist attitudes toward older people and a communications toolkit will be publicly available with social media assets and videos for stakeholders to share across their networks.

OWN NSW presented on '*Towards Housing Security for Older People in NSW*', highlighting the difficulty providing supports to people over 50 to access public or community managed housing, and '*Ageism in Health Care*,' summarising an investigation of recent experiences of age discrimination by older adults accessing health care.

The Department of Regional NSW addressed the Council on a number of issues relevant to older people in regional areas, including the Department's work regarding affordable housing and the complexities of transport. Council thanked A/Deputy Secretary Dewar for sharing the work of the Department and the valuable discussion.

Council reviewed its involvement against its 2021 Strategic Plan, The Year of Influence and discussed possible collaboration with the NSW Carers Council and the NSW Disability Council as well as ways to include the strategic priorities of the four ageing peak and advocacy organisations in NSW in the Council's work.

Kathryn Greiner AO
Chair