

NSW Ministerial Advisory Council on Ageing February 2023 Meeting - Communique

The Ministerial Advisory Council on Ageing (MACA) held its first Council meeting for 2023 on 15 February in Sydney following a planning day on 14 February.

At the planning day and meeting, Council discussed areas where it could have the greatest impact for NSW Seniors, noting issues addressed in 2022 like housing that are expected to remain a focus for 2023. Council re-affirmed its commitment to working in partnership with other stakeholders to address its 2022-23 priorities:

- Housing Choice and security
- Government services in regional areas
- Proactive inclusion of diverse older people including CALD and ATSI people and LGBTQI+
- Ageing and corrective services
- Age-friendly liveable communities

These priority areas align with the <u>Ageing Well in NSW: Action Plan 2023-24</u>, which was recently released by the Hon. Mark Coure, Minister for Seniors and supported by the Council.

Council also discussed a series of literature reviews on issues facing seniors conducted by Macquarie University Masters Students that aligned with Council's priorities. Council agreed to further investigation of possible interventions that could address the issues raised.

Council then discussed a range of key issues with Minister Coure's advisor on seniors, including:

- Housing
- Suicide prevention
- Loneliness

Council noted the 25 March NSW election and Council's next meeting will be in May 2023 in Sydney followed by a regional forum in Bega in June.

Kathryn Greiner Chair Ministerial Advisory Council on Ageing