

## Communique - Carers Advisory Council

## Carers Advisory Council Meeting – 28 November 2022

The NSW Carers Advisory Council was scheduled to meet for the third time in 2022 on 12 September at Parliament House. That meeting was cancelled due to the official mourning period related to the passing of Queen Elizabeth II.

The Council held its third and final meeting for 2022 at Parliament House on Monday 28 November 2022.

The Council met with the Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Minister for Families and Communities and Minister for Disability Services, who thanked the Council for their continued commitment and support to carers. This was Minister Maclaren-Jones' third meeting with the Council. Issues raised with the Minister included accessing support at school for children with disability, and Carer Gateway support in NSW.

The Council received an informative presentation from the NSW Ageing and Disability Commissioner, Mr Robert Fitzgerald AM, about the work of the Ageing and Disability Commission including the Helpline. Ms Kathryn McKenzie, Director Operations Ageing and Disability Commission gave an update on the Ageing and Disability Commission Carer Research project.

Work continues to communicate the findings of the Carers Missing Out report and advocate for change with Mr Fitzgerald and Ms McKenzie participating in a productive discussion to determine opportunities for further advocacy such as the recently established independent review of the NDIS.

The Council reported back on the last of the Council's series of Conversations with Carers for the year which was held in Griffith on 24 October 2022. Hosted by the Chair, Prue Warrilow, and council member Anne Napoli, it focussed on regional and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) carers and was a success with 22 carers attending to share their stories.

The Council also received updates from NSW Health, Carers NSW and the Department of Communities and Justice on the activities conducted during National Carers Week. The Council recognised the success of the virtual Carers NSW conference 'There is nothing informal about carers' and the release of highlights from the National Carers Survey during Carers Week.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for 30 January 2023. Contact: NSWCarersAdvisoryCouncilSecretariat@facs.nsw.gov.au