

Communique - Carers Advisory Council

Carers Advisory Council Meeting – 4 December 2023

The NSW Carers Advisory Council held its final meeting for 2023 at Parliament House on Monday 4 December 2023.

The Council met with the Hon Jodie Harrison MP, Minister for Women, Minister for Seniors, and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault.

This was Minister Harrison's third meeting with the Council. Members brought to the Minister's attention that residential and respite care contracts can be too lengthy and complex for carers and expressed concern over the cessation of the Regional Seniors Travel Card trial which could impact senior carers.

The Minister thanked those members whose term on the Carers Advisory Council concludes on 31 December 2023 for their advice, knowledge, commitment and support for carers given over the years.

The Council received an informative presentation from Amy Wyndham (Director, Mental Health Branch NSW Health), Toni Garretty (Clinical Coordinator Family and Carer Mental Health Program, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District) and Sarah Holmes (Service Manager, Stride) about the Family and Carer Mental Health Program.

The Council also consulted with Jane Spring (Chair, Disability Council NSW) and Joanna Maxwell (member, Ministerial Council on Ageing) to discuss key issues common to all three councils such as digital access, housing, accessible transport and service integration.

The Council also received updates from NSW Health, Carers NSW and the Department of Communities and Justice.

The next Council meeting is yet to be scheduled for 2024.

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