Aged Care Sector Committee
Members – Biographies

Chair:– Independent Currently Vacant. The process to appoint a new Chair is underway.

Adjunct Professor John G Kelly AM – Aged & Community Services Australia (ACSA)

Adj Prof John G Kelly AM has been involved in the health and aged care sectors for 35 years. Before starting his own law firm Prof Kelly was a partner at top 10 law firms for over 10 years, and held clinical and management positions in health care for 15 years. Prof Kelly is a former Commonwealth Aged Care Commissioner and is President of the Nursing and Midwifery Council of NSW. Prof Kelly has been a Director and Chair of a number of health, not-for-profit and national membership entities. Prof Kelly became a Member of the Order of Australia in the Queen’s Birthday Honours List in 2009. Adj. Prof Kelly is the Chief Executive Officer of Aged & Community Services Australia (ACSA).

Aged and Community Services Australia
Aged and Community Services Australia (ACSA) is the national peak body for aged and community care providers and represents church, charitable and community-based organisations which provide housing, residential and community care and home support services to older people, younger people with a disability and their carers. It represents providers across Australia in metropolitan, regional, rural and remote regions.

ACSA is a Federation with four State associations which provide direct support, advocacy and training for members. ACSA has been represented on numerous aged care reform implementation advisory groups.

Mr Patrick Reid – Leading Age Services Australia (LASA)

Patrick is Chief Executive Officer of Leading Age Services Australia (LASA), the peak organisation for care, services and accommodation for older Australians. LASA represents providers across the entire spectrum of the age services industry regardless of their ownership status. Formerly a National Director at The Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Patrick has a long standing history as a change agent in health. He has developed an impressive track record of stakeholder engagement and
advocacy at all levels of government. Patrick’s work includes examples of innovations that demonstrate the capacity of the health profession not only to deliver monetary efficiencies across the care system (by reducing the Medicare burden) but also to provide a suite of professional and prevention services that assist in maintaining the health and wellbeing of Australians. Patrick has considerable experience in the health care industry including roles in both the acute and community setting. Patrick has played an integral role in the negotiation and development of national Community Pharmacy Agreements. He has extensive experience in the delivery of federal programs and policy in membership organisations.

**Leading Age Services Australia**

Leading Age Services Australia (LASA) is the national peak organisation for all providers of care, services and accommodation for older Australians. LASA represents providers across the entire spectrum of the age services industry, including not-for-profit, community, state, and commercially based service providers. LASA was represented on the Ageing Expert Advisory Group, as well as on numerous aged care reform implementation advisory groups.

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**Mr Ian Yates AM – COTA Australia**

Mr Ian Yates is Chief Executive of COTA Australia the national peak body for COTAs in each state and territory of Australia. He has played national leadership roles in COTA since 2002.

Mr Yates serves as COTA’s representative on a wide variety of federal government and aged sector national bodies. Mr Yates represents COTA on the consumer advisory committees to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) and the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC); the National Forum on Mature Age Participation; and the National Aged Care Alliance. Mr Yates is also a member of the Aged Care Financing Authority (ACFA) and numerous other aged care reform implementation advisory groups.

Mr Yates holds a Bachelor of Arts from Flinders University; is a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors; and was awarded Membership in the Order of Australia (AM) in 2005.

**COTA Australia**

COTA Australia is the national policy and advocacy arm of the COTA Federation which comprises COTAs in each state and territory, which collectively have thousands of organisational members representing over 500,000 seniors, plus 45,000 individual members. COTA Australia focuses on policy issues from the perspective of older people as citizens and consumers.
Ms Lee Thomas – Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF)

Ms Lee Thomas is the Federal Secretary of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF). Ms Thomas commenced nursing as a personal care attendant in aged care and completed her general nurse and midwifery education in Adelaide. Ms Thomas also holds a Bachelor of Nursing and a neonatology certificate, is a registered midwife, and is currently studying a law degree.

Ms Thomas is a member of the Aged Care Financing Authority and several aged care reform implementation advisory groups.

Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation
The ANMF is the union for registered nurses, enrolled nurses, midwives, and assistants in nursing work in every state and territory throughout Australia. Established in 1924, the ANMF has over 230,000 members working across Australia in cities, rural, regional and remote locations and in every area of health, health prevention and aged care.

Mr Michael O’Neill – National Seniors Australia

Michael is the Chief Executive of National Seniors Australia Limited. He joined National Seniors in August 2006 and is responsible to the Board for all of National Seniors’ membership, representative and commercial operations. An Economist by training, Michael has extensive experience in managing representative bodies having led Queensland and National groups in the agricultural and mining sectors. He has also operated his own consulting and agricultural businesses.

National Seniors Australia
NSA was established in Queensland in 1976. With over 200,000 members, 140 branches, and 70 employees, it is a not-for-profit consumer lobby for older Australians.
Ms Lin Hatfield Dodds – UnitingCare Australia

Ms Lin Hatfield Dodds is the National Director of UnitingCare Australia. She chairs the Boards of the Australia Institute and UnitingCare Kippax, and serves on the Australian Centre for Christianity and Culture. Ms Hatfield Dodds chaired the Australian Social Inclusion Board in 2012-. Ms Hatfield Dodds has worked as a public policy advisor on health, health ethics, and community services within federal and state governments. Her background includes working as a counselling psychologist in community settings, including in drug rehabilitation and with young people at risk, with a particular interest in trauma and abuse.

Ms Hatfield Dodds’ contribution to the community was recognised by an International Women’s Day Award in 2002, and in 2008 Ms Hatfield Dodds was ACT Australian of the Year.

UnitingCare Australia

The UnitingCare network is one of the largest providers of community and aged care services in Australia. The network employs 39,000 staff providing services, supported by 27,000 volunteers, to more than 2 million people each year in 1600 sites in every state and territory in remote, regional and urban Australia. UnitingCare Australia is an agency of the Uniting Church in Australia.

Alzheimer’s Australia - TBA

Alzheimer’s Australia

Alzheimer’s Australia administers leading edge national dementia programs and services funded by the Commonwealth as well as providing national policy and advocacy for the 321,600 Australians living with dementia. He is an active member of the National Aged Care Alliance and is a member of many ministerial and official advisory committees on aged care.

Ms Ara Cresswell – Carers Australia

Ms Ara Cresswell has a lengthy history as an executive in the not-for-profit sector both at the state and territory, and national levels. Before joining Carers Australia in September 2011, Ms Cresswell held senior positions at Reconciliation Australia, the ACT Council of Social Service, the Australian Federation of Homelessness Organisations (now Homelessness Australia), and Toora Women Incorporated.

A current member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, Ms Cresswell has served in a broad range of advisory groups in the sector including two terms as a Commissioner with the ACT Legal Aid Commission, as a member of the Gambling and
Racing Commission Advisory Committee, member of the Australian Federal Police Consultative Board, member of the Australian Bankers Association Community consultative group, as an elected member of the Australian Council of Social Service Board, and as a member of the Commonwealth Advisory Committee on Homelessness. Ms Cresswell is a member on the Minister’s Dementia Advisory Group.

Carers Australia
Carers Australia is the national peak body representing Australia’s carers. It takes a leadership role and responds to carers’ needs and those of the people they care for, being mindful of their financial challenges and in many cases a lack of social inclusion. Carers Australia advocates on behalf of Australia’s carers to influence policies and services at a national level. It works collaboratively with partners and its member organisations, the network of state and territory Carers Associations, to deliver a range of essential national carer services.

Ms Netty Horton – Salvation Army
Ms Netty Horton is currently the Territorial Social Programme Director for the Salvation Army Australia Southern Territory with over 600 social programmes. Previously Ms Horton was the General Manager of Community Services in the St Vincent de Paul Society in Victoria. Since May 1998, she has served on the Board of Directors of Wintringham, a specialist welfare company that provides housing and aged care services to elderly and frail people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and is also a Board Director of McAuley Community Services for Women, a Ministry of the Sisters of Mercy.

Ms Horton was also the Chief Executive Officer of the Council to Homeless Persons for more than 12 years, during which time she established and ran the first and second National Conferences on Homelessness in Australia, chaired the Ministerial Advisory Committee on the development of the Victorian Homelessness Strategy, and founded the Council for Homeless Persons Australia, and was a founder member of Foodbank Australia.

Ms Horton has a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) (Exeter University, UK), and Master of Public Policy (University of Melbourne). In 2001 she successfully completed a Churchill Fellowship examining Foodbanking and homelessness in the US, Canada, Europe and the UK.

Salvation Army
The Salvation Army is a not-for-profit organisation that operates a broad variety of charity efforts across demographics. The Salvation Army aged care facilities provide accommodation and care for older Australians in the form of hostels, nursing homes, self-care units and respite care.
Ms Judy Gregurke – Representative from the National Aged Care Alliance (NACA)

Judy started with COTA in April 2014 and is currently responsible for Aged Care Policy at COTA and providing Secretariat functions to the National Aged Care Alliance (NACA) in relation to the aged care reforms. In this role Judy attends and works with all NACA Aged Care Reform Advisory Groups and is well positioned to share perspectives of the current and proposed aged care reforms and the implications for consumers, families and providers of care. She has experience in working with a variety of designated special needs groups, and expertise with governance and boards.

Judy came to the aged care sector in August 2011 and has extensive experience in community sector management roles, most recently as General Manager – Policy, Community Living & Rural Health at LASA Victoria. Prior to that, Judy was Regional General Manager for Victoria at Multiple Sclerosis Australia – ACT/NSW/VIC. As a qualified Speech Pathologist, Judy has worked in acute hospital, primary care and education settings and she has a Master’s Degree in Health Administration and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

National Aged Care Alliance

The National Aged Care Alliance (NACA) is a representative body of peak national organisations in aged care, including consumer groups, providers, unions, and health professionals. NACA was formed in April 2000. Representatives attending the inaugural meeting resolved to recommend to their organisations that a united policy agenda be developed to achieve better outcomes for the care of older Australians, particularly in the areas of consumer rights; quality of care; workforce planning; and short and long term financing of aged care.

Mr Gary Barnier – Opal Aged Care (formerly Domain Principal Group)

Mr Gary Barnier was appointed Managing Director of Opal Aged Care (formerly Domain Principal Group) in 2011 and prior to this was Chief Financial Officer for the group.

Before joining DPG in January 2010, Mr Barnier held the role of Chief Executive Officer of the I-MED Network, a $800 million healthcare company employing 4,500 clinicians and other staff across 250 sites in Australia and the UK.

Mr Barnier has also held the role of Chief Financial Officer of I-MED’s parent company DCA Group Limited. Additionally, Mr Barnier has held several senior finance, strategy and operational roles with George Weston Foods and Boral Limited including stints as...
General Manager – Finance for Weston Biscuits, General Manager – Marketing for Boral Timber and Corporate Development Manager for Boral Limited.

**Opal Aged Care (formerly Domain Principal Group)**

Opal Aged Care is one of Australia’s largest privately operated aged care provider, and was created in February 2008 via the merger of Domain Aged Care and Principal Aged Care.

Opal Aged Care offers residential care, specialist dementia care and respite services.

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**Mr Louis Dudley – Bupa**

On 1 May 2013, Mr Louis Dudley was appointed Managing Director, Bupa Care Services Australia. With a broad financial, strategic and operational background in healthcare, Mr Dudley has significant experience in growth strategies across a range of markets. Prior to joining Bupa Care Services Australia, Mr Dudley was responsible for managing Bupa China and the company’s business development activities across Asia.

Mr Dudley studied at the University of Western Australia, attaining Bachelor degrees in both Commerce and Arts. He has held a number of senior positions with Australian Medical Enterprises, Vista Healthcare, Deloitte and Bupa’s global strategy team.

*Bupa*

Bupa is a leading international healthcare group. Bupa offers personal and company-financed health insurance and medical subscription products, runs hospitals, provides workplace health services, home healthcare, health assessments and chronic disease management services. They are also a major international provider of nursing and residential care for elderly people.

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**Catholic Health Australia Member - TBA**

*Catholic Health Australia*

Catholic Health Australia (CHA) is the largest non-government provider grouping of health, community and aged care services in Australia, nationally representing Catholic health care sponsors, systems, facilities and related organisations and services.
Ms Carolyn Smith – a/g Deputy Secretary, Department of Social Services

Carolyn Smith commenced as Acting Deputy Secretary in January 2014 with responsibility for Ageing and Aged Care. Carolyn has a wide range of experience in policy, program and regulatory roles. Prior to taking up the role of Acting Deputy Secretary, Carolyn was Group Manager of Ageing and Aged Care, where, she was responsible for policy and management for ageing and aged care, spanning from care and support in the home to high level residential care. This included responsibility for implementation of aged care reform. She moved to this role from the Office of Aged Care Quality and Compliance, which she established in 2006 to provide a focus on quality improvement of care and services for recipients of Australian Government funded aged care services.

Prior to her work in aged care, Carolyn worked in a number of senior executive roles within the Department of Health and Ageing, including responsibility for the National Immunisation Program and the introduction of a Bowel Cancer Screening Program. Carolyn was also a senior health negotiator on the Australian United States Free Trade Agreement, with particular focus on pharmaceutical issues. Carolyn has a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) majoring in History and Law.

Ex-officio Member

Ms Lynda O’Grady – Aged Care Financing Authority

Ms Lynda O’Grady is currently the Chairman of the Aged Care Financing Authority, a statutory committee established to provide independent advice to government on pricing, funding and financing issues in aged care.

Ms O’Grady is the Principal of the management consultancy firm, Advanced Management Services, which provides consultancy and business advisory services to clients across a wide range of industries and sectors. Ms O’Grady most recently held several roles at the Executive/Managing Director level at Telstra, including as Chief of Product. Prior to this, Ms O’Grady was Commercial Director of Australian Consolidated Press, the publishing subsidiary of PBL and General Manager of the Business Systems Division of Alcatel Australia.

Ms O’Grady is a corporate advisor and director of a number of government, academic, professional and commercial organisations. She is currently a member of the Council of Bond University and director of National Electronic Health Transition Authority (nehta). She has also served on the Boards of Screen Queensland and of TAB Queensland prior to its listing and on the IT&T Board of Advisors to the New South Wales Treasurer.

She holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Hons) degree gained at the University of Queensland and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.