



**NCOSS Briefing Paper
COAG Reforms to the HACC Program
4 May 2010**

COAG has confirmed reforms to the HACC program and funding arrangements for older people, people with disability and carers:

- a. HACC as a joint Commonwealth/state special purpose payment will cease on 30 June 2011
- b. From 1 July 2011, Commonwealth will pay for all HACC services for eligible people aged **over 65 years** and Aboriginal people aged **50+** years. This effectively splits HACC after 2011 but there will be no *structural* changes until after July 2012.
- c. No substantial changes to the *provision* of HACC services before 2015.
- d. From 1 July 2011, Commonwealth will pay for all specialist disability services under the National Disability Agreement to people aged 65+ and Aboriginal people aged 50+ years.
- e. The states and territories will provide:
 - Funding & program responsibility for basic community care services for eligible people under 65 years
 - Funding for packaged community care & residential aged care delivered via Commonwealth aged care programs to eligible people under 65 years.
- f. Access arrangements will remain unchanged to National Disability Agreement services for people aged 65+ years.
- g. Access arrangements will remain unchanged to Commonwealth aged care services for people aged under 65 years.
- h. Eligible Aboriginal people aged 50+ can choose to access disability and/or aged care services under a “no wrong door” approach, but Commonwealth will pay.
- i. Each jurisdiction will continue to deliver basic community care services to its client groups. “There is no requirement for services to be delivered under competitive tender processes.”
- j. Timelines:
 - HACC Triennial Plans stay in effect until 30 June 2011.
 - New funding arrangements from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012 during transition period.
 - Commonwealth has operational responsibility from 1 July 2012, when it will directly fund service providers.

- Commonwealth will not substantially alter service delivery mechanisms before 1 July 2015.
- k. This decision applies to all states & territories except Victoria. WA has signed this HACC agreement but not the Health and Hospitals agreement; vice versa for Victoria.
- l. The Health & Hospitals Reform Agreement sets out how the HACC agreement will work.

More information is available on the COAG website www.coag.gov.au or from:

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