

Hearing Health Sector Committee Roadmap for Hearing Health Communiqué 8 November 2018

The Hearing Health Sector Committee met in Melbourne on 8 November 2018 to progress the development of the Roadmap for Hearing Health.

The Committee confirmed its shared understanding of views gained at the Hearing Health Stakeholder Forum on 27 September 2018, as expressed in the Summary of Outcomes circulated to the participants.

The Committee reviewed a draft Roadmap reflecting the views expressed at the Stakeholder Forum. The themes or domains for the improvement of hearing health in Australia developed at the Forum were refined through Committee discussion, which sought to effectively discern the key issues across the sector. The Committee workshopped the proposed short-, medium- and long-term actions within each domain, and agreed to incorporate both the needs of particular age groups and goals for future financial arrangements into the subsequent draft.

The Committee welcomed the appointment of two new members by the Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP, Minister for Senior Australians and Aged Care and Minister for Indigenous Health, Mr Dig Howitt and Mr David Brady. Mr Dig Howitt is the Chief Executive Officer and President of Cochlear, and was represented at the meeting by Ms Brooke O'Rourke, Cochlear's Senior Government Affairs Manager. Mr David Brady is the Chief Executive Officer of Hear for You. Dr Lisa Studdert also joined the Committee as the representative of the Department of Health.

The Committee agreed to meet again in Sydney on 6 December 2018, and to continue to consult with other hearing health stakeholders.

The Hearing Health Sector Committee is made up of a range of representative stakeholders and was established in July 2018 to progress the development of a Roadmap for Hearing Health. The Roadmap will set out future reform directions and priorities for improvements to hearing health for all Australians.

The Committee has committed to consulting the hearing sector's broader industry and consumer partners during development of the Roadmap for Hearing Health. Previous communiques on hearing health detailing the Committee's Terms of Reference and membership are available online at:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/publications-Hearing>