

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate release

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Aged Care Workforce Industry Council appoints CEO

The Aged Care Workforce Industry Council has today announced the appointment of Louise O'Neill as the inaugural Chief Executive Officer of the Council, charged with facilitating the delivery of the Aged Care Workforce Strategy, *A Matter of Care*, over the next three years.

Ms O'Neill has over 18 years' experience in the Australian Public Sector, working across disability, aged care, health, Indigenous and communications portfolios.

Acting Chair of the Aged Care Workforce Industry Council and CEO of Independent and Assisted Living at Australian Unity, Mr Kevin McCoy, said that the appointment of Ms O'Neill is a significant milestone for the Council.

"The role of the CEO is pivotal to the ability of the Council to implement a program of change," he said.

"The position is essential in setting the Council up to develop strategies that align with Council's vision and goals, overseeing operational and financial performance and enabling effective liaison and engagement with key stakeholders.

"We believe Ms O'Neill is a great fit for this role with her extensive government experience within the health and disability sector as well as her stakeholder engagement and communications abilities.

Ms O'Neill said the position was a fantastic opportunity to assist the Council to implement the Aged Care Workforce Strategy, *A Matter of Care*.

"I believe strongly in the 14 Strategic Outcomes of the strategy," she said.

"I am thrilled to be able to utilise my experience towards delivering measures that will enable significant improvements for the aged care sector's workforce and in turn for those receiving care and their families."

Work is already underway in progressing the Strategic Actions of the Workforce Strategy. Most notably around the Voluntary Industry Code of Practice, workforce planning, assessment and development of online training curriculum, supporting the establishment of the Centre for Growth and Translational Research (CGTR) and the first industry workforce study, conducted in collaboration with the Department of Health and Best Practice Australia.

Mr McCoy said the appointment of Ms O'Neill as CEO was funded with Government support and now means we can accelerate the good work of the Council over the next three years.

For more information on the Aged Care Workforce Industry Council, please email contact@acwic.com.au

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Further comment can be obtained from spokesperson Mr Kevin McCoy, Acting Chair, Aged Care Workforce Industry Council.

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