

MONDAY 3 DECEMBER 2012

WHERE NEXT FOR AGED CARE REFORM?

Minister for Mental Health and Ageing The Hon Mark Butler MP will be the keynote speaker at a special one-day forum **tomorrow** aiming to light the road ahead towards policy reform in Australian aged care.

The Aged Care Policy Dialogue, to be held at The Australian National University's Crawford School of Public Policy, will bring together leading Australian and international experts, policy makers, researchers and commentators to consider current and future challenges for this important policy area.

The event has been jointly organised by the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research (CEPAR), Crawford School of Public Policy and the Menzies Centre for Health Policy.

International speakers Dr Joshua Wiener, Program Director for Ageing, Disability and Long-term Care at health non-profit organisation RTI International, and Dr José-Luis Fernández from the London School of Economics and Political Science, will join Australian speakers including Peter Shergold, Chair of the Aged Care Reform Implementation Council and Mike Woods, Deputy Chairman of the Productivity Commission. The event will also include talks from CEPAR Chief Investigators Professor Michael Sherris from University of New South Wales, Professor Hal Kendig of the University of Sydney and Professors Kaarin Anstey and Peter McDonald of ANU.

The dialogue comes in the wake of the Government's recently-announced 10-year plan to reshape aged care following the Productivity Commission's Report into the sector. The report highlighted some of the challenges facing aged care including an ageing demographic and an increasing desire for independent living.

A copy of the program is attached. Journalists are welcome to attend the dialogue and interviews with selected speakers can be arranged.

To arrange interviews with speakers: Melanie Brake – 0479 072 233

For media assistance: Martyn Pearce, Crawford School – 02 6125 6413 / 0432 606 828

WHAT: Aged Care Policy Dialogue

WHEN: 8.30am – 3.30pm (Mark Butler to talk at 8.45am), Tuesday 4 December

WHERE: Molonglo Theatre, JG Crawford Building, Lennox Crossing, ANU