

# Terms of Reference

## Northern Rivers Community of Practice Ageing

### Purpose

Bring service providers together to build capacity, cohesion and responsiveness in the community aged care system in the Northern Rivers Region of NSW<sup>1</sup>. We do this by sharing information, through continued development of good practice and identifying strategies for collaboration to enhance local and regional community aged care services, collegial support, pathways and responsiveness to community need.

### Our focus

- Pathways and activities that promote independence and wellness.
- Dementia care practice, pathways and issues.
- Local and regional initiatives and strategies to prevent and respond to abuse of older people.
- Aged care assessment.
- Training and professional development, including facilitated reflective practice.
- Community education.
- Regional challenges and opportunities regarding responding to community aged care needs (including through delivery of the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) & Home Care Package (HCP) program).
- Informing regional, state and national policy and planning.
- Workplace health and Safety.
- Community aged care workforce development.
- Community aged care for special needs group identified under the Aged Care Act 1997<sup>2</sup>.

### Membership

Community, government and private sector organisations delivering community aged care services and programs Northern Rivers/ Far North Coast region of NSW, and others working on related sector and service system development and quality, community development and education.

**Meetings** are bi-monthly for three (3) hours.

**Convenor and secretariat** – Social Futures' Sector Development Program.

Contact: [sectordevelopment@socialfutures.org.au](mailto:sectordevelopment@socialfutures.org.au).

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<sup>1</sup> Tweed, Byron, Ballina, Kyogle, Lismore, Richmond Valley and Clarence Valley Local Government Areas.

<sup>2</sup> Special needs group identified under the Aged Care Act 1997:

- people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
- people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- people who live in rural and remote areas
- people who are financially or socially disadvantaged
- people who are veterans of the Australian Defence Force or an allied defence force including the spouse, widow or widower of a veteran
- people who are homeless, or at risk of becoming homeless
- people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex
- people who are care leavers (which includes Forgotten Australians, Former Child Migrants and Stolen Generations)
- parents separated from children by forced adoption or removal.

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We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of country throughout the Northern Rivers, their continuing connection to land, water, sea and community. We pay respects to Australia's First Peoples, to their unique and diverse cultures and to Elders past, present and future.