



2018 EMR Alliance Review Project – September Update

Background

From July 2019, it is expected that current transition activities associated with the State funded home and community care program for younger people into the NDIS and the Commonwealth aged care program will be complete. These activities are likely to bring significant change to the funding, policy and program environment. The changed role of DHHS is particularly significant for current partnership arrangements, as are the Commonwealth's priorities associated with regional communities of practice and alliances. Currently, the Alliance is playing an important role in supporting the transition processes, particularly with providing information, assisting in the maintenance of activity, implementing quality improvement initiatives and regional leadership.

With a year to go, it's timely that the Alliance starts looking at how it will transition into the new environment. There are lots of questions, such as the nature of its ongoing role in facilitating and responding to Commonwealth directions and requirements, including the Commonwealth quality agenda, market impacts and increased choice and control for clients. In addition, with many Alliance members providing both aged care and NDIS services, and new providers in aged and disability service delivery, the Alliance is well positioned to look at new regional strategic opportunities.

The Eastern Sector Development Team (ESDT), funded to assist the sector during this time of significant change and currently holding the secretariat function for the Alliance, is coordinating a collaborative process for Alliance members to think about the opportunities of these changes.

Alliance members have been participating in review project activities throughout 2018, which have included attending presentations, completing surveys and participating in consultation workshops. From the workshops, a report of member representatives' recommendations was created and released to all members for consideration. This report, along with EMR Alliance project update and Department of Health's Change Management Strategy, was presented at the 25 July 2018 EMR Alliance Convention. Voting on the report's key recommendation and 3 priority actions took place between 25 July – 27 August 2018.

25% of active members voted and the result was:

- 94% voted to establish the proposed member workgroup, with the Eastern Sector Development Team, to explore all member recommendations further; and
- 49% voted the highest priority for the action is 'Advocating for ongoing Government support for the Alliance coordination function' (the remaining 2 priorities received 25% and 26% of the votes)

The voting results and proposed actions were then shared with:

- the project Steering Committee, consisting of Department of Health, Department of Health and Human Services representatives and all Eastern Sector Development Members;
- Alliance members that attended the 28 July 2018 EMR Alliance meeting; and
- all Alliance members via the EMR Weekly Sector Update email 31 August 2018.

The Steering Committee agreed that a Workgroup nomination process, similar to the process used for member representative workshops, would be appropriate and an October 2018 meeting timeframe was tentatively set.

Next Steps

To start the next phase of this work, 8-12 Alliance members are being sought to become representative members of the EMR Alliance Review Workgroup. This leadership group has been empowered by the broader membership to drive the implementation of the Alliance Review Report recommendations.

In the first meeting the Workgroup will need to make decisions regarding:

- meeting structure and schedule; and
- how the Workgroup can act on the first priority, 'Advocating for ongoing Government support for the Alliance coordination function'.

How to Get Involved

There are only 3 criteria to nominate yourself to be a representative on the EMR Alliance Review Workgroup:

1. you must be a current EMR Alliance member with leadership responsibility within your organisation;
2. you must be able to attend an initial 2-3 hour meeting in October 2018; and
3. you must have an interest in providing change management leadership for the EMR Alliance.

Note: Representatives will be selected by the Eastern Sector Development Team, ensuring that a variety of service and organisation types are represented across both Inner and Outer East.

To nominate yourself please email Ayesha Fathers (ayesha.fathers@each.com.au) and ensure that the following details are included:

- Your name
- Your position
- Name of organisation
- Email address
- Contact number

Nominations will close **5pm Monday 8 October 2018**. Successful nominees will be notified Tuesday 9 October 2018 and provided with further information.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above please don't hesitate to contact Ayesha Fathers, Eastern Regional Development Coordinator:

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Kind regards,

Ayesha, Dale, Joanna & Lisa
(Eastern Sector Development Team)