

14 March 2011

## **Carers NSW Conference draws international and local experts on caring**

The Productivity Commission's recent inquiries into both aged care and disability support have highlighted the pressing need for fundamental reform across the Australian aged care and disability service systems. Now in the build up to the NSW State Election, the Carers NSW 2011 Biennial Conference will ensure the spotlight remains on carers and the people they care for.

With the theme *Changing Society; Changing Needs – new directions in carer support*, the Carers NSW Conference will be exploring and debating issues as diverse as the caring role and its impact on the workforce, supporting young carers, and technological innovation to support carers.

Several internationally and locally renowned experts on caring will also deliver keynote addresses including:

- Professor Saul Becker, Social Policy and Social Care, University of Nottingham, UK on young carers
- Associate Commissioner John Walsh on the Inquiry into Disability and Long-term Support and Care Scheme outcomes
- Commissioner Robert Fitzgerald on the Inquiry into Support for Older Australians outcomes
- Professor Sue Yeandle, Centre for International Research and Care, Labour and Equalities, University of Leeds, UK on carers and work
- Professor Jane Hall, Centre for Health Economics Research and Evaluation, University of Technology, Sydney on the costs of care and the implication for government and service providers
- Professor Stephen Leeder, Menzies Centre for Health Policy, University of Sydney on consumer-centred care

There will also be a Carer Panel, with carers sharing their direct experiences. The NSW Minister for Ageing and Disability, the Hon. Peter Primrose, will officially open the conference.

**ENDS**

**What:** Carers NSW 2011 Biennial Conference

**When:** Thursday 17, 9.30am-5pm and Friday 18 March, 9am-3.30pm

**Where:** Novotel Hotel, Brighton Le Sands

**Media contact:** Nina Olle, 0409 823 134 / [nina.olle@me.com](mailto:nina.olle@me.com)

*For photo, filming and interview opportunities or to get a copy of the program*