



MEDIA RELEASE

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Nurses acknowledge SA Government softening of the McCann Review

Nurses welcomed the softening of cuts to non-hospital services in today's response to the McCann *Review of Non-Hospital Based Services* from the Minister for Health, Hon Jack Snelling.

"Whilst we remain disappointed with the adoption of some of the recommendations, it is clear that there has been a softening of approach with many of the recommendations being accepted only 'in part' and several of the most crucial services have been preserved." said Adj Assoc Professor Elizabeth Dabars, CEO of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (SA Branch).

"In particular, we welcome the preservation of the 'Community Foodies' program and face-to-face Breast Feeding services."

"We were also waiting to see the State Government approach to Child Adolescent and Women's Health services, and we are cautiously pleased to see that provision has been made to provide for these services into the future, under an adjusted model, auspiced by the Women's and Children's Health Network, which is an improvement to the original McCann review recommendations."

"We also welcome the adoption of a new service, modelled on the 'Get Healthy Phone Service' as a viable alternative to the 'Do It For Life Program'."

"The State Government has made clear that transition plans will be developed to ensure providers can deliver programs and services in a focused and targeted manner, with the associated commitment that South Australians will continue to receive health promotion and support."

The absence of a transition strategy was a major gap in the original proposals and their development should safeguard service delivery in many areas.

"Finally, we have also been provided with a commitment that SA Health will consult and engage with the nursing and midwifery professions as part of the transition plan, in order to ensure that the transition does not create negative or unintended consequences."

"We will however, continue to maintain an active interest and monitor the effect of both those services that will undergo transition and also those that will no longer continue."