



**Aged Care Association Australia**

**Initial submission to Productivity Commission**

**on**

**Performance Benchmarking of Australian Business  
Regulation: Planning, Zoning and Development  
Assessments**

**February 2011**

## Introduction

Aged Care Association Australia (ACAA) welcomes the Productivity Commission inquiry into Planning, Zoning and Development Assessment aspects of Performance Benchmarking of Australian Business Regulation.

ACAA encourages the Productivity Commission to include consideration of the effects of unreasonable and inconsistent regulations on the ability of the aged care industry to adequately plan for the provision of quality aged care services.

ACAA warmly welcomes the recognition of the importance of quality aged care services by the Productivity Commission in its recent draft report *Caring for Older Australians*.

As you recognise, the significance of our ageing population to aged care, and to the demand on such services for end of life care, is substantial and will increase.

In the Productivity Commission's August 2009 research report *Annual Review of Regulatory Burdens on Business: Social and Economic Infrastructure Services* the Commission found that:

*The aged care industry is characterised by centralised planning processes which result in a heavy regulatory burden on aged care providers in order to maintain the quality of care. Without tackling the underlying policy framework that constrains supply it is unlikely that the regulatory burden can be substantially reduced.*

ACAA is pleased that the Commission is now looking into the disincentives and regulatory hurdles created by different planning, zoning and development assessment procedures across Australia.

We look forward to your draft report, and to the opportunity to engage with the Commission on this.

Yours sincerely

Rod Young  
CEO  
8 Feb 2011