

**NATIONAL STRATEGIC APPROACH TO MATERNITY SERVICES  
ADVISORY GROUP**

**Meeting Communiqué  
March 2018**

The first meeting of the Advisory Group (AG) for the National Strategic Approach to Maternity Services (NSAMS) was held on March 9.

The AG has been established to provide advice to the Project Reference Group (PRG) and includes obstetricians, midwives, general practitioners, academics and consumers from both the public and private sector with experience providing and receiving maternity care in various settings including rural and regional, and Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander communities.

The AG is jointly co-chaired by Professor David Ellwood and Ms Helen McCarthy who will also attend the PRG meetings to ensure open communication and strong linkages between the two groups.

Members discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the current system and possible approaches for the final NSAMS. Members also provided advice on consultation processes.

The next meeting of the AG will be held after the first round of consultation workshops being held in late April- May 2018. At this time the AG will consider information gathered from the workshops and the online feedback.