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Government has been delivered, now let's deliver primary health care reform

The Australian General Practice Network (AGPN) has today welcomed the new minority government led by Prime Minister Julia Gillard.

AGPN CEO, David Butt says the impact and significance of the Independents Rob Oakeshott and Tony Windsor representing rural and regional Australia in this newly formed government can only benefit the primary health care-led reform that's needed for Australia sooner, rather than later.

"AGPN looks forward to working with this new minority government to deliver the reforms needed for Australia's health care system that should see a reorientation of services towards the primary health care sector as opposed to the current hospital-centric system," Mr Butt said.

"To overcome the blame game and fractured health system currently in place, fundamental changes need to be made to the way health care is governed, organised and delivered. A strengthened primary health care system will improve access to and the quality of care by ensuring better coordination of care across services and sectors.

"A commitment from this new government to heed the reforms recommended in the National Health and Hospital Reform Commission will also be keenly sought after by AGPN and the primary health care sector," he said.

"Broadband has been identified as a major factor in determining the outcome of this election: it is also a major factor in providing better access to quality health services for people living in rural and remote areas," he said

"Broadband can be used to link up general practice, specialists and patients to enable greater equity in access to health care," Mr Butt said.

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