



The Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP

**Minister for Aged Care
Minister for Indigenous Health
Member for Hasluck**

MEDIA RELEASE

15 May 2018

Consultations on Location of New Aged Care Places

Ensuring thousands of new residential aged care places are located where they are most needed is the aim of a national consultation process underway from today.

Minister for Aged Care, Ken Wyatt AM, said a wide range of aged care stakeholders were invited to take part, to help inform the 2018-19 Aged Care Approvals Round (ACAR), announced in the Turnbull Government's 2018–19 Budget.

Funding for aged care will increase by \$5 billion over the next four years, including for 13,500 new residential aged care places, 775 short term restorative care places and a further \$60 million in capital investment, to be made available in this ACAR.

Minister Wyatt said the results of the consultation would help guide the distribution and targeting of new places and capital grants in each state and territory.

“We are keen to hear about the gaps in current aged care availability, not just in terms of locations but in terms of special needs and the requirements of particular groups, such as people from regional, rural and remote areas and people living with dementia,” Minister Wyatt said.

The targeted consultation commences on Tuesday, 15 May 2018, and concludes on Monday, 28 May 2018.

Stakeholders will be sent an email with a link to the consultation hub, where they can fill in a survey form about unmet demand for aged care within a local area.

National peak aged care organisations, Aged Care Assessment Teams, Primary Health Networks, local councils, consumer groups and aged care approved providers are among those who will be invited to take part.

Details of the consultation process, known as the “2018–19 ACAR Consultation—Identifying Residential Aged Care Needs” - can be found on the Department of Health Website at <https://agedcare.health.gov.au/2018-19acar>

Organisations which are not initially invited to take part in the consultations can access the survey by contacting the Department of Health at acar@health.gov.au

This consultation and feedback will inform the opening of the ACAR shortly.

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