



# Review of the remoteness classification system for aged care

This review is looking at how the Modified Monash Model (MMM) is used in aged care to support service delivery in regional, rural and remote locations.

## About the review

The Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) is conducting a review of the Modified Monash Model (MMM). The review will assess the appropriateness of the system as the primary tool to allocate aged care funding and supports in regional, rural and remote locations.

The review is consistent with the Government's aged care reform package and responds to Recommendation 17 of the Aged Care Taskforce Final Report. It also follows on from current work under the Working Better for Medicare Review.

## Why the review is important

The MMM is used to define locations by metropolitan, rural, remote or very remote based on geographical remoteness and town size. The system was designed to improve distribution of health workforce in rural and remote areas. People in these areas can find it more difficult and more expensive to access health services and doctors.

In aged care, the MMM is used to allocate program funding and other supports for aged care providers in regional, rural and remote locations. Eligibility for some programs or supports can also be based on a provider's MMM location.

The review will help us make recommendations for the ongoing use of the MMM in aged care. This will help aged care providers to access targeted supports that match local conditions and costs of service delivery.

## Goals of the review

The review will explore:

- how the MMM system is used in aged care
- any advantages and disadvantages of the system for aged care
- factors and conditions, including remoteness, that influence aged care service delivery in regional, rural and remote locations
- options for the ongoing use of the MMM for aged care.

## Timing and scope of the review

The review will be completed in 2 phases.

The **Scoping phase** is now complete. It involved a stocktake of aged care programs using the MMM, internal consultations, and targeted consultations in Kalgoorlie, Broken Hill and Tamworth with aged care providers, local councils, local health services, Primary Health Networks, and not-for-profit organisations.

The **Consultation and reporting phase** is underway and will be completed by the end of 2025.



This phase will involve wider consultation such as through surveys and discussions with a range of people from the aged care sector and communities across the country.

Information about how to participate in the review will be available at <https://www.health.gov.au/review-of-the-remoteness-classification-system-for-aged-care>.

## Contact

For information about the review contact the MMM aged care review team at [ACRuralAndRemote@health.gov.au](mailto:ACRuralAndRemote@health.gov.au).

## Let's change aged care together

We invite Australians to continue to have their say about the aged care reforms.



Visit [agedcareengagement.health.gov.au](https://agedcareengagement.health.gov.au)



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