



Home Care (Pillar 1 of the Royal Commission response) – Future design and funding

In response to the Aged Care Royal Commission, the Australian Government will invest \$10.8 million to develop a new support at home program in consultation with senior Australians and community stakeholders, and commencing in July 2023. The program will replace the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP), Home Care Packages, Short-Term Restorative Care, and residential respite programs.

A new support at home program will mean better targeted services for almost one million older people who currently receive care at home or residential respite services.

\$10.8 million will support the new program design, which will offer better support to senior Australians as their needs change, including people living with dementia and people with complex needs who would prefer to stay at home.

The Government will consult on critical design elements, including:

- improved assessment arrangements that are more consistent, more accurate, and recognise that not all consumers need intensive assessments
- a modern classification and funding system to ensure the support senior Australians receive aligns with their assessed care needs
- an increased choice of provider/s across all types and levels of aged care
- a dedicated focus on care management in assessment and funding arrangements
- better support for informal carers, and
- more support for early interventions to help people to remain independent at home for longer.

To prepare for these future reforms, CHSP grant agreements will be extended for one year from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, with most CHSP providers transitioning to payment in arrears.

Why is this important?

Senior Australians want to age independently in their own homes. A new support at home program will be designed to better target services to eligible senior Australians' assessed care needs.

Implementing a change of this size requires a careful, measured approach to avoid disrupting services to senior Australians. The Government is committed to developing a

new support at home program in consultation with senior Australians and community stakeholders.

This measure implements in full or in part *Recommendations 25, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 40, 41, 42, 72, 117, 118, 119, and 124* of the Royal Commission's final report.

Who will benefit?

A new support at home program would mean more better focused services for more than one million older people who currently receive Commonwealth Home Support Programme, the Home Care Packages, Short-Term Restorative Care, or residential respite programs. It would give senior Australians greater choice when it comes to their care and deliver improved outcomes as support will be based on their assessed needs.

Existing and new providers and residential respite aged care homes will have simpler funding arrangements.

The move to payments in arrears for CHSP will align CHSP funding arrangements with those for home care and related sectors such as the NDIS.

How much will this cost?

The Australian Government is investing \$10.8 million over one years, from 2021–22.