



## RESTORING DIGNITY TO AGED CARE

### Summary of package

The 2022–23 October Budget funds the Australian Government’s commitment to improve safety, dignity, quality and humanity in the aged care sector.

**A \$3.9 billion investment in this budget will help implement reforms that meet the needs of aged care recipients.**

Older Australians, their families, and carers deserve an aged care system that delivers safe and high quality care.

The Government’s aged care reforms in this Budget respond directly to 23 recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety.

The Government is investing \$2.5 billion in new legislated requirements for residential aged care homes to have a Registered Nurse onsite 24 hours a day, seven days a week and more care minutes.

The Budget will help build a qualified aged care workforce. It will improve food standards for residents and introduce tougher penalties and transparency measures to protect recipients of aged care from abuse, neglect and exploitation.

The Government is also improving services for older First Nations peoples, and older people from diverse communities, regional areas and older people living with dementia.

This support will increase access to culturally safe care that acknowledges the diverse needs of older Australians.

### Total value of package

**\$3.9  
billion**

**\$2.5b**

towards 24/7 nurses and  
increased care minutes

**\$48.6m**

towards establishing Aged Care  
Complaints Commissioner and the  
Inspector-General of Aged Care

**\$312.6m**

towards improved information  
and communication technology  
Aged Care platforms

## Who benefits

From 1 July 2023, aged care residents will benefit from the requirement for aged care homes to have a registered nurse on site at all times.

Mandatory care time requirements in residential aged care will also be lifted starting with 200 care minutes including 40 nursing minutes from 1 October 2023, and 215 care minutes including 44 nursing minutes from 1 October 2024. The Budget includes \$2.5 billion to fund these changes.

The Government will support aged care providers to adjust to the new Australian National Aged Care Classification (AN-ACC) funding model, implement increased care minutes and deliver enhanced reporting requirements.

The Budget includes \$312.6 million to improve Aged Care ICT platforms, enabling better connectivity and streamlined processes for aged care providers, and up-to-date aged care service information for older Australians through My Aged Care.

Older Australians will receive better care from a strengthened, professional aged care workforce that is valued. An investment of \$3.6 million will establish a new national registration scheme for personal care workers.

Older Australians living in an aged care home will receive better food and nutrition. As part of a \$5 million investment, the Maggie Beer Foundation will help train aged care staff on how to source, prepare and serve more nutritious and appetising food.

Tougher penalties and transparency measures will protect aged care recipients and residents from abuse, neglect and rip-offs.

The Budget includes \$9.9 million to establish an Aged Care Complaints Commissioner to ensure complaints are properly and thoroughly dealt with.

\$38.7 million will establish an Inspector-General of Aged Care to target systemic issues, provide independent oversight of the aged care system and make recommendations directly to Government.

The \$68.5 million Strengthening Regional Stewardship measure will expand the Department's local presence to better lead and respond to aged care matters on the ground, including in eight regional locations.





For people who wish to be independent and remain living in their own home, reforms to in-home aged care will start from 1 July 2024. Existing in-home aged care programs will continue until this time. This includes a twelve month extension to the Commonwealth Home Support Programme. The Budget includes \$23.1 million for research and consultation to deliver an equitable program. In the meantime, the Government will introduce price caps for administration and management charges and ban exit fees to make costs fairer to recipients.

Older First Nations peoples, those from diverse communities, older people living with dementia and older Australians in regional areas will benefit from \$26.1 million of targeted funding for individual aged care homes which cater for these groups.

Funding for the Disability Support for Older Australians (DSOA) Program will be extended through \$53.5 million.

**\$26.1  
million**

to support  
homes providing  
care for First  
Nations people  
from diverse  
communities and  
regional areas



## Funding details

- 24/7 nurses and 215 care minutes – \$2.5 billion over 4 years.
- AN-ACC Transition Fund – \$43.8 million over 3 years.
- Research and consultation for reforms to in-home aged care – \$23.1 million over 1 year.
- Capping administration and management prices for Home Care Packages program will deliver higher value for money.
- Aged Care Complaints Commissioner – \$9.9 million over 2 years.
- Inspector-General of Aged Care – \$38.7 million over 4 years.
- Establish a registration scheme for personal care workers – \$3.6 million over 1 year.
- Better food for Aged Care residents – \$5 million over 3 years.
- Strengthening Regional Stewardship of Aged Care – \$68.5 million for 4 years.
- Aged Care ICT to Enable Reform: My Aged Care and Future ICT Platform – \$312.6 million over 4 years.
- Funding for Individual Facilities – \$26.1 million over 4 years.
- Disability Support for Older Australians (DSOA) Program – \$53.5 million until December 2023.



All information in this publication is correct as at October 2022

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