

Budget 2019-20

More Choices for a Longer Life – extending the Commonwealth Home Support Program

The Government will increase funding for aged care by \$7 billion over five years. The Government will extend funding arrangements for the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) for two years, to 30 June 2022. This extends funding agreements with CHSP service providers. The CHSP funds a range of essential services e.g. Meals on Wheels, community transport, personal care, nursing, domestic assistance (e.g. cleaning and shopping), home maintenance and respite services.

Why is this important?

The CHSP helps people to stay active and engaged in their homes and communities. This funding extension will provide continuity for essential support services to senior Australians and help them to continue to live at home for as long as possible. It also means they will not have to access more complex aged care services as early.

Who will benefit?

Around 850,000 older Australians who access the CHSP each year to support living at home will benefit. It will also provide certainty for the more than 1,500 existing CHSP providers and tens of thousands of volunteers.

How much will this cost?

This will cost \$5.9 billion from 2020–21 to 2021–22.