

# Aged Care Reforms

## Summary Guide



## Background – The Why

Between October 2018 and March 2021, the Royal Commission into Aged Care produced 148 recommendations. The Government accepted 126, with the majority to be implemented by 2026-2027.

## New Aged Care Act

The new Aged Care Act will come into effect on 1 November 2025, replacing the 1997 Act. The focus will shift from providers to the rights and needs of older people.

### Key changes include:

- New Statement of Rights
- Strengthened Quality Standards
- Increased protections for whistleblowers
- Supported decision-making safeguards
- Independent complaints commissioner
- Consolidated assessment pathways and in-home care programs

## New Fee Rules (from Nov 2025)

- Everyone pays something – pensioners included
- Clinical care (e.g. nursing) remains free
- Independence support: 5–50% of hourly rate
- Everyday living supports: 17.5–80% of hourly rate
- No worse off guarantee for those already on/waiting for packages pre-12 Sept 2024

## Support at Home Program

From 1 November 2025, the Support at Home Program will replace Home Care Packages and Short-Term Restorative Care.

The Commonwealth Home Support Programme remains unchanged until ~2027.

### Key points:

- Package levels increase from 1–4 to 1–8
- Funding ranges from \$10,696 (Level 1) to \$77,709 (Level 8)
- Existing packages remain unchanged until transition

## Additional Funding Supports

- Assistive Technology & Home Modifications: \$500–\$15,000/yr
- End-of-Life funding: \$25,000 for 12 weeks
- Restorative Care funding: \$6,000 for 16 week

*Information current as of 20 August 2025*

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### What this Means

- Package Management fees incorporated into service prices
- Care Management capped at 10% (was ~17%)
- Providers expected to increase service fees

### Need help or have questions?

- Burnie Brae - Call 3624 2121
- Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN): 1800 700 600
- My Aged Care: 1800 200 422 or visit [myagedcare.gov.au](http://myagedcare.gov.au)



### Support at Home Funding Levels

Package Level	Annual Funding under Support at Home	Current Annual Funding under Home Care Packages
1	\$10,696	Level 1: \$10,931
2	\$15,981	Level 2: \$19,224
3	\$21,919	
4	\$29,545	Level 3: \$41,847
5	\$39,535	
6	\$47,957	
7	\$58,122	Level 4: \$63,440
8	\$77,709	

# Support at Home

## Program Overview & FAQs



### What is the Support at Home Program?

The Support at Home program is a new government initiative designed to help older Australians live safely, comfortably, and independently in their own homes for as long as possible. Starting 1 November 2025, this program will replace some existing aged care services and bring every-thing together under one simpler system.

### So, what does that mean for you or a loved one?

It means you can access personalised support, based on your individual needs and goals. You'll get a plan tailored just for you - and you stay in control. You can choose which provider delivers your care, and if things change, you can switch providers too.

### Some of the services available through the program include:

- Personal care – help with things like showering, dressing and grooming
- Household assistance – support with cleaning, laundry or preparing meals
- Health services – including nursing care, physiotherapy or occupational therapy
- Transport & social activities – to help you stay active and connected to your community

### How do I apply?

It's easy to get started with Support at Home.

- Contact My Aged Care call 800 200 422 or visit [www.myagedcare.gov.au](http://www.myagedcare.gov.au) to register.
- Have an assessment A trained assessor will chat with you (usually in your home) to understand your needs, preferences, and what kind of support you might benefit from.
- Receive your plan Based on the assessment, you'll receive a personalised support plan. This plan will outline your approved services and any funding you're eligible for.

*Information current as of 20 August 2025*



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## Program Overview & FAQs



### Do I have to pay?

Possibly - but it depends on your financial situation.

Some people may be asked to contribute toward the cost of their care, but the government will let you know exactly how much, based on your income and assets. Support is still heavily subsidised for most people.

### When does it all begin?

The Support at Home program officially launches on 1 November 2025. If you're already receiving aged care services, don't worry - you'll be contacted directly about what the changes mean for you, and support will continue during the transition.

### A few things to remember:

- The program is all about helping you stay at home longer.
- You'll get a personalised plan that reflects your goals and needs.
- You can choose your care provider and change them if you want to.
- Some people may need to contribute to their care, depending on their finances.
- The program starts on 1 November 2025.

*Information current as of 20 August 2025*