

Federal Budget Brief 2017/18 for the National Aged Care Alliance

\$99B investment into aged care over forward 5 years including:

<u>Department of Health</u> <i>Outcome 6: Ageing and Aged Care</i>	2016-17 Estimated actual \$'000	2017-18 Budget \$'000	2018-19 Forward Year 1 \$'000	2019-20 Forward Year 2 \$'000	2020-21 Forward Year 3 \$'000
Program 6.1: Access and Information	241,914	252,001	253,695	261,653	263,851
Program 6.2: Home Support and Care	4,126,995	4,649,813	5,515,060	6,017,738	6,439,718
Program 6.3: Residential and Flexible Care	11,496,951	12,058,747	12,708,667	13,570,362	14,314,432
Program 6.4: Aged Care Quality	186,127	160,690	162,840	164,126	165,832
Total expenses for Outcome 6	16,051,987	17,121,251	18,640,262	20,013,879	21,183,833

There were five key budget announcements in aged care:

1. \$67.314M invested in the **modernising of health and aged care payment systems**. Government to continue to own and operate the payment system by replacing the outmoded IT systems supporting health, aged care and related veterans' payments with a new digital payments platform, while ensuring the existing systems continue to operate reliably and effectively.
2. \$1.92M on the **development of an aged care workforce strategy** through the establishment of an aged care industry-led Taskforce which will connect with and complement the NDIS Integrated Market, Sector and Workforce Strategy. The taskforce will be appointed by the sector in conjunction with the Department and will explore short, medium and longer term options to boost supply, address demand and improve productivity for the aged care workforce. The taskforce will consult widely within the sector and with other sectors, with particular effort needed to boost the quality of vocation in education and training for the aged care sector. This proposal is in addition to the ['Boosting the Local Care Workforce'](#) which can be found in the Department of Social Services under the NDIS and creates regional and specialist coordinators to help aged care providers grow their business and employ more workers.
3. **2-year extension of CHSP Service Provision and RAS Assessment contracts** to 2020 in all states (including VIC from 2019) as well as new CHSP and RAS contracts for WA HACC providers and assessors from 2018. New funding conditions will provide a greater focus on activities that support independence and wellness and provide more choice for consumers.
4. \$3.071M towards **ICT support for My Aged Care** to improve system performance and efficiency to ensure timely access to aged care services.
5. \$8.3M over 3 years to boost funding for **palliative care coordination through Primary Health Networks** to support people who have a known life-limiting condition by improving choice and quality of care and support. Expression of interest will be called for to select 10 Primary Networks to recruit a facilitator to identify palliative care services and build links with GP's in the area.
6. Older Australians considering downsizing will be given flexibility to contribute up to \$300,000 from the **sale proceeds of their home into superannuation** as a non-concessional contribution. This initiative requires that the home must have been owned for 10 years or more and each member of a couple may add up to \$300,000 to their superannuation funds from the sale of one home.

Key budget targets

Department of Health	2016/17	2018-19	2019-20	2019-20	2020-21
Outcome 6: Aged Care	Estimated	Target	Target	Target	Target
	Results				
Number of allocated Home Care Packages .	90,763	100,436	112,733	124,443	134,545
No of older people who accessed restorative interventions through the Short-Term Restorative Care Program or the Transition Care Program .	25,000	≥27,000	≥28,000	≥31,000	≥34,000
Number of places funded through Multi-Purpose Services .	3,634	3,712	3,869	3,980	4,060
Number of places funded through the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program .	820	850	850	850	850
Residential aged care places available as at 30 June.	202,800	209,700	216,900	224,600	232,300
<i>My Aged Care Performance</i> Maintaining the percentage of high priority comprehensive assessments with clinical intervention completed within 48 hours of referral acceptance.	69.5% ³	>90%	>90%	>90%	>90%
<i>My Aged Care Performance</i> Maintaining the percentage of high priority home support assessments completed within 10 calendar days of referral acceptance.	81.3% ⁴	>90%	>90%	>90%	>90%
<i>My Aged Care Performance</i> Percentage of surveyed users who are satisfied with the service provided by the My Aged Care Contact Centre.	96%	≥95%	≥95%	≥95%	≥95%
<i>My Aged Care Performance</i> Percentage of surveyed users who are satisfied with the service provided by the My Aged Care website.	56%	≥65%	≥65%	≥65%	≥65%

Resources:

Department of Health Portfolio Budget Statement:

http://www.health.gov.au/internet/budget/publishing.nsf/content/2017-2018_Health_PBS

Department of Health's Aged Care Factsheets:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/budget/publishing.nsf/Content/budget2017-aged-care.htm>