

WHAT THE NEW AGED CARE ACT WILL MEAN FOR YOU

End of life: your choices

Thank you for joining us.
This webinar will begin shortly.

If you registered for this webinar, you'll receive a follow up email including a transcript & any links mentioned today.

[VIDEO]
OPAN Explainer Video

This webinar discusses end-of-life care,
including voluntary assisted dying.

We recognise these topics can be emotionally challenging.
Please feel free to pause, step away, or stop watching at any time.

If you become distressed or need support, consider reaching out
to one of the organisations below.



☎ 13 11 14

➤ lifeline.org.au



☎ 1300 224 636

➤ beyondblue.org.au



☎ 139 276

➤ 13yarn.org.au

LIVE WEBINAR + Q&A

End of life: your choices

**WHAT THE NEW AGED CARE ACT
WILL MEAN FOR YOU**

25 NOV 2025



Perspectives

**When you think of 'end-of-life',
what matters most to you?**





A new rights-based Aged Care Act

The new Aged Care Act will put the rights of older people first. It includes a Statement of Rights for older people accessing aged care services. This fact sheet is a plain language summary of those rights.

About the Statement of Rights

The Australian Government is changing Australia's aged care laws. The *Aged Care Act 2024* (the new Act) has a Statement of Rights. This explains what rights older people have when accessing aged care services funded by the Australian Government. The Statement of Rights will replace the current Charter of Aged Care Rights on 1 July 2025.

The full Statement of Rights from the new Act is at the end of this fact sheet.

What the Statement of Rights means for you

The Statement of Rights will help make sure you are at the centre of your aged care.

It gives you the right to:

- make your own decisions about your own life
- have your decisions not just accepted, but respected
- get information and support to help you make decisions
- communicate your wishes, needs and preferences
- feel safe and respected
- have your culture and identity respected
- stay connected with your community.

A new rights-based Aged Care Act

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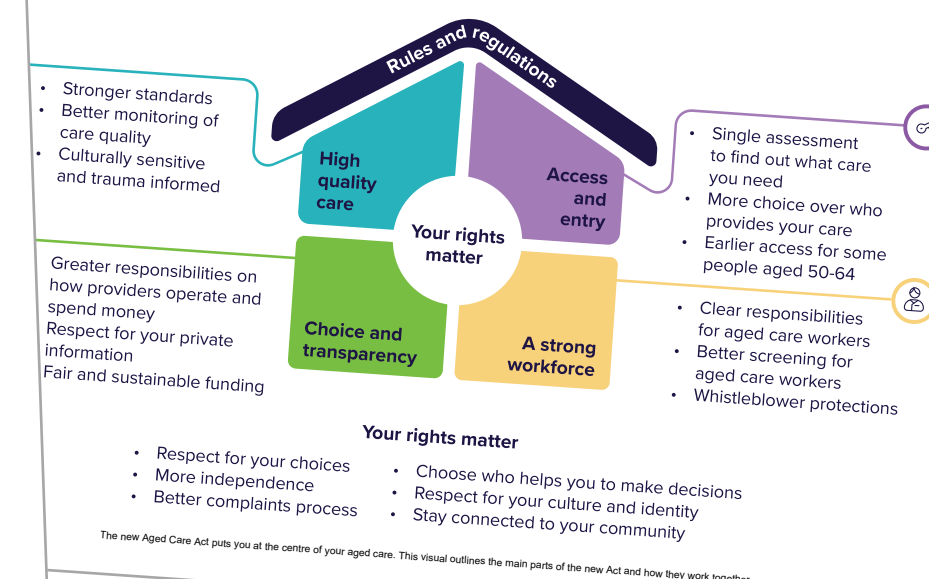


A new Aged Care Act for the rights of older people

A new law to protect the rights of older people who use aged care services

The new Aged Care Act puts you at the centre of your aged care

It will make aged care safer, fairer and more respectful. This visual outlines the main parts of the new Act and how they work together.



The new Aged Care Act puts you at the centre of your aged care. This visual outlines the main parts of the new Act and how they work together.

A new rights-based Aged Care Act

COMMENCED 1 NOVEMBER 2025

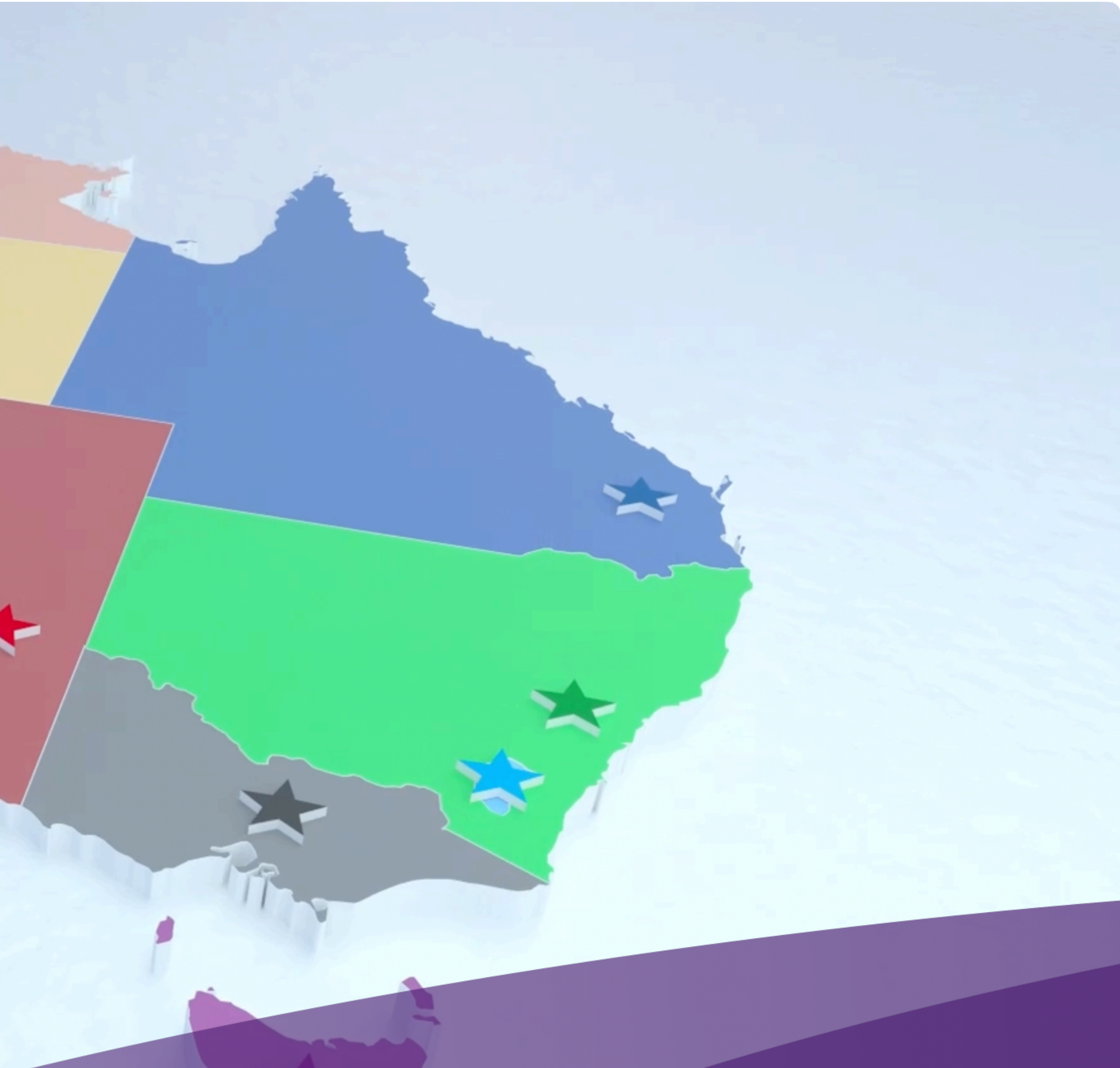
➔ health.gov.au/aged-care-act

Coming Up

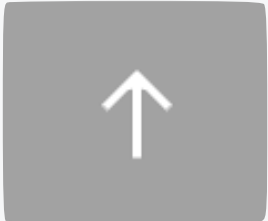
- The end of life journey
- Key changes under the new Aged Care Act
- Best practice: Planning ahead, diverse needs & backgrounds, bereavement
- Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD)
- Practical steps & supports
- Live Q&A

Panelists

- **Craig Gear OAM**
CEO
Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN)
- **Camilla Rowland**
CEO
Palliative Care Australia
- **Dr Linda Swan**
CEO
Go Gentle Australia
- **Helen Callanan**
Founder & Director
Preparing the Way



Ask a question



198 characters



Ask anonymously

Recent

Popular



Mary Wright a few seconds ago

Where can I find out more about my rights?

0 



Anonymous 2 minutes ago

What's the link to the advocacy toolkit?

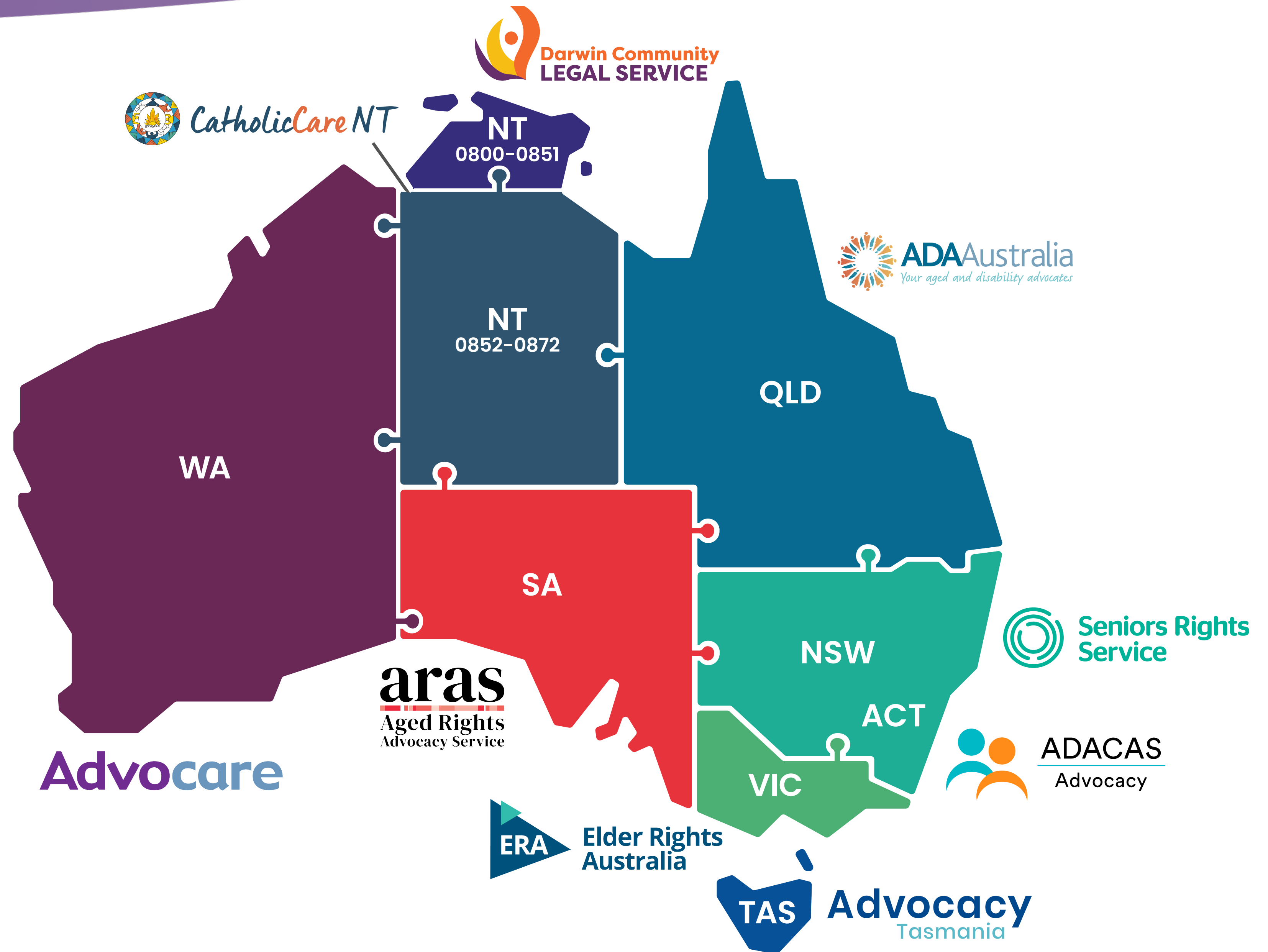
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Older Persons Advocacy Network

**AGED CARE
ADVOCACY LINE**

☎ 1800 700 600

➡ opan.org.au



The end of life journey

Stages of life

End of life doula model of care

- Stage 1** Living well
- Stage 2** Diagnosis, illness or ageing
- Stage 3** Living with a life-limiting or terminal illness
- Stage 4** Palliative care
- Stage 5** Active dying
- Stage 6** Death occurs
- Stage 7** After death care, vigil & ceremony
- Stage 8** Funeral, memorial, celebration of life
- Stage 9** Body returned to the elements
- Stage 10** Bereavement & care for the living



natural
grace[®]
holistic funeral care

Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD)

When legalised in Australia



VIC: 2019 June

WA: 2021 July

TAS: 2022 October

QLD: 2023 January

SA: 2023 January

NSW: 2023 November

ACT: 2025 November

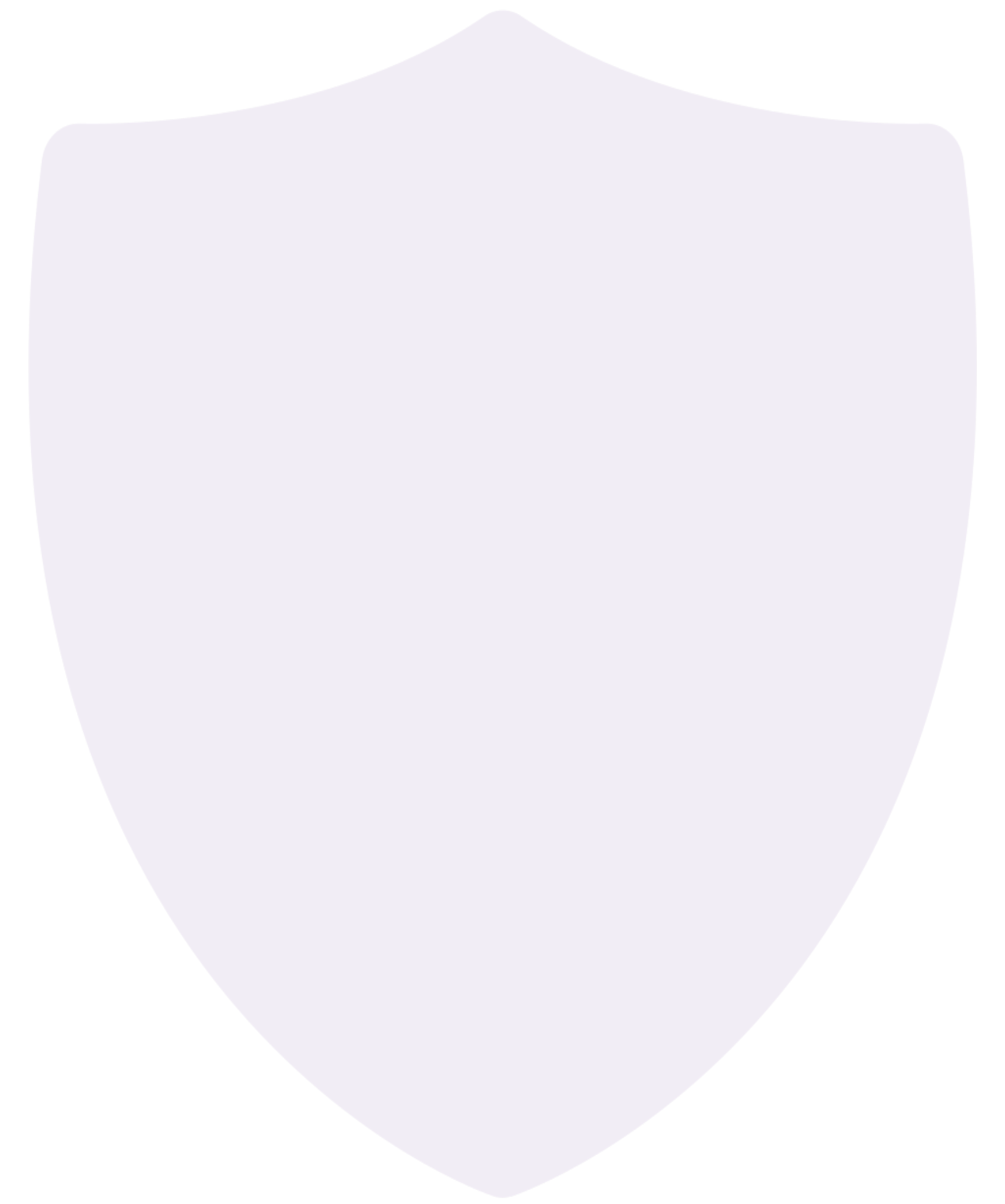
NT: Illegal

Key changes under the new Aged Care Act

Statement of Rights

Rights for individuals accessing, or seeking to access, funded aged care services covering:

-  Independence, autonomy, empowerment & freedom of choice
-  Equitable access to funded aged care services
-  Quality & safe funded aged care services
-  Respect for privacy & information
-  Person-centred communication & ability to raise issues without reprisal
-  Access to advocates, significant persons and social connections



Strengthened Aged Care Quality Standards

Expectations for older people



Australian Government

Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission



Best Practice Palliative & end of life care

Perspectives

**What does good
palliative & end of life care
look like?**



Perspectives

Grief & bereavement



Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD)

Perspectives

Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD)



Perspectives

Voluntary Assisted Dying (VAD) & capacity



Support services



**24/7 CRISIS SUPPORT
CALL, SMS OR ONLINE**

☎ 13 11 14

💬 0477 13 11 14

➔ lifeline.org.au



**24/7 SUPPORT
CALL OR CHAT ONLINE**

☎ 1300 224 636

➔ beyondblue.org.au



**RUN BY ABORIGINAL
& TORRES STRAIT
ISLANDER PEOPLE**

☎ 139 276

➔ 13yarn.org.au

Practical steps & supports

Perspectives

Talking about it





What Matters Most Discussion Starter



Supporting older people to work out
what is right for them



palliativecare.org.au

This project was funded by the Australian Government through the Dementia and Aged Care Services Fund

What matters most: Discussion starters

**FREE RESOURCES TO
DOWNLOAD OR ORDER.
AVAILABLE IN 12 LANGUAGES**

➤ palliativecare.org.au
🔍 What matters most





What matters most: Discussion starters

**FREE RESOURCES TO
DOWNLOAD OR ORDER.
AVAILABLE IN 12 LANGUAGES**

➔ palliativecare.org.au
🔍 What matters most



Voluntary Assisted Dying in Residential Aged Care Homes

A NATIONAL REPORT CARD



Voluntary Assisted Dying in Residential Aged Care Homes

**NATIONAL REPORT CARD
FREE DOWNLOAD**

➔ gogentleaustralia.org.au
🔍 national report card





Palliative Care Australia

Matters of life and death

RESOURCES & INFORMATION

➡ palliativecare.org.au



Preparing
the Way

INFORMATION ABOUT DOULAS

☎ 1800 368 527

➡ preparingtheway.com.au

INFORMATION ABOUT DOULAS

☎ 1800 368 527

➔ preparingtheway.com.au

➔ doulaconnections.com.au

➔ endoflifedouladirectory.com.au



Go Gentle Australia

RESOURCES & INFORMATION

☎ 0468 464 360

➡ gogentleaustralia.org.au

✉ contact@gogentleaustralia.org.au



Advance Care Planning Australia

An Australian Government initiative

RESOURCES & INFORMATION

☎ 1300 208 582

➡ advancecareplanning.org.au

Self-advocacy toolkit

FREE ONLINE RESOURCE

➡ opan.org.au/toolkit

Helping you speak up
to get the care & support you need

Available in 7 languages



Live Q&A

Sign up for our newsletter

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& our upcoming webinars

➤ open.org.au



LIVE WEBINAR AND Q&A

Understanding home care packages

Airs 9 August 2022 | 11:30am – 12:30pm
Australian Eastern Daylight Time

OPAN Older Persons Advocacy Network



Who's missing?
Diversity and inclusion in aged care

Air date:
Tuesday 7 June, 11:30am
Australian Eastern Standard Time

OPAN Older Persons Advocacy Network



LIVE WEBINAR AND Q&A

The Ageing Mosaic – Support for LGBTI+ people

FREE online event
Tuesday 1 February | 11:30am – 12:30pm
Australian Eastern Daylight Time

OPAN Older Persons Advocacy Network



[View this email in your browser](#)

OPAN Older Persons Advocacy Network
1800 600 700

The National Advocate

AGED CARE ADVOCACY NEWS FOR YOU

EDITION 27, OCTOBER 2023



**Message from the CEO
Craig Gear OAM**

As an advocacy network, OPAN believes older people have the right to make decisions about the care and services they receive and the risks they are willing to take. This right and a supported decision-making framework should be recognised under the law.

Under supported decision-making, which is endorsed by the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, people are provided with the support and information they need to actively make their own choices. The importance of a supported decision-making framework was also reinforced by the recent Disability Royal Commission.

At our recent consultation forums on the future of aged care with COTA, I heard from many attendees that supported decision-making should feature in the new Aged Care Act and that older people must be supported to make decisions that affect their lives.

To better understand supported decision-making including our panel's tips for older people and their supporters tune in to our webinar below on 24 October 2023. You can also contribute to a survey below on supporting people living with dementia to make decisions.

Last month on behalf of our network and reference group I made a submission to the Federal Inquiry into Australia's human rights framework to best protect the protections for older people. The rights of older people are the same universal rights afforded to all adults, though the ways in which some rights apply to older people may differ.

OPAN Older Persons Advocacy Network



UPCOMING
LIVE Q&A SESSION

The big Q&A

PART 2

TUESDAY 2 DECEMBER, 2025
1PM AEDT





AGED CARE ADVOCACY LINE

 1800 700 600

 opan.org.au

[VIDEO]
OPAN Closer Video

New Aged Care Act resources

FREE DOWNLOADS

➡ opan.org.au/new-aged-care-act

June 2025



How the new Aged Care Act will affect what you pay for residential aged care



Clinical care, such as nursing or physiotherapy, will be **fully funded** by the Australian Government under the new Aged Care Act, which comes into effect on 1 November 2025.

However, care costs above government-set thresholds may be required for non-clinical care services. This includes a Residential Aged Care Deposit (RAD) and daily accommodation fees.

The Statement of Rights

The Statement of Rights clearly identifies your rights when seeking or receiving aged care services. Under the new Aged Care Act, which comes into effect on 1 July 2025, your provider is legally obliged to deliver services in line with these rights.



Autonomy and freedom of choice

I have the right to make my own choices – about my care, relationships, lifestyle and taking risks – with support.



Equitable access

I have the right to have my needs assessed in a way that works for me including having my views and preferences taken into account.



Safe, quality care

I have the right to be treated with dignity and respect by aged care workers and to have my identity, culture, and diversity respected.



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important including es. As an t Islander Country

June 2025



How the new Aged Care Act will affect what you pay for in-home aged care



The new **Support at Home program** will replace the Home Care Packages (HCP) program and the Short-Term Restorative Care program from 1 July 2025. The Commonwealth Home Support Programme will transition to the Support at Home program no earlier than 1 July 2027.

The Support at Home program will have 8 funding classifications, ranging from approximately \$11,000 to \$78,000 annually. Recipients will receive a budget aligned with their assessed funding classification. Existing HCP recipients will be allocated a budget that matches

- **Clinical supports**, such as nursing and physiotherapy
- **Independence services**, including personal care, respite care, transport, and social support
- **Everyday living services**, such as cleaning, gardening, and meal delivery

The government will cover the full cost of **clinical supports**, but all recipients will be required to make contributions toward their **independence** and **everyday living services**. These contributions will replace the basic daily fee and income-tested care fee currently paid by some HCP recipients.

