



Australian Government

Community  
Grants Hub  
Improving your grant experience



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# CHSP update

February 2019

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## Preface

This update is provided for your Network as a Community Grants Hub representative is unable to attend your meeting on this occasion.

## Reporting

### Sector Support and Development reporting

A progress reporting template for the July – December 2018 period will be provided shortly for those grant recipients funded to deliver Sector Support and Development activities. Your Funding Agreement Manager (FAM) will be in touch shortly to provide further information.

### Data Exchange reporting

The six-monthly reporting period for 1 July – 31 December 2018 closed on 30 January.

We will be reviewing the data over the coming months and FAMs will be in touch to discuss any issues where necessary. As always, we encourage grant recipients to enter data regularly throughout the reporting period to avoid any last minute concerns.

If you have any further questions regarding the Data Exchange please do not hesitate in contacting the helpdesk on 1800 020 283 or via email: [dssdataexchange.helpdesk@dss.gov.au](mailto:dssdataexchange.helpdesk@dss.gov.au)

## CHSP funding extension

In line with advice over the past year, Victorian CHSP grant recipients were recently sent a letter from the Department of Health regarding the CHSP funding extension to 2020 and the transition to the new Whole of Government Funding Agreement.

It is anticipated that the Department of Health will offer current CHSP funded grant recipients an Agreement extension for one year from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

Your FAM will be in contact prior to the end of your existing contract to formally offer this extension.

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## Home Modifications funding boost

On 17 January 2019, the Minister for Senior Australians and Aged Care, the Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP [announced](#) \$15 million in funding for [existing](#) CHSP providers [delivering](#) Home Modifications services. CHSP providers delivering these services have been contacted by their FAMs to offer funding to increase service delivery.

Thank you to those grant recipients for your prompt response to offers.

This funding will allow existing home modification providers to deliver changes to a client's home to increase or maintain the person's functional independence so that they can continue to live and move safely about the house.

The arrangements are different for Victorian grant recipients as current agreements expire on 30 June 2019. These Agreements will transfer to the Whole of Government agreement. Grant recipients will therefore receive their home modifications funding boost as a one-off payment in July 2019 and will have the rest of the agreement period to spend the funds (i.e. until June 2020).

## Aged Care Quality Standards

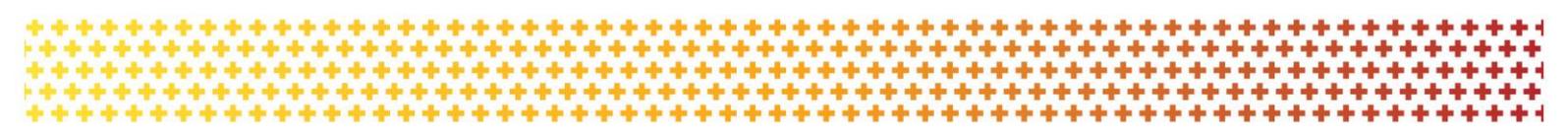
On 28 November 2018, Minister for Senior Australians and Aged Care, the Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP [announced](#) the new Aged Care Quality Standards (the Standards), which have now been made into law and will take effect from 1 July 2019.

The new Standards apply to all aged care services including the Commonwealth Home Support Programme.

The new Standards focus on quality outcomes for consumers, which will make it easier for consumers, their families, carers and representatives to understand what they can expect from a service.

The new Standards will also make regulation simpler for providers working across multiple aged care services, and encourage innovation, excellence and continuous improvement.

A copy of the new Standards is available on the [Department of Health website](#). As previously notified, transition to the new Standards began in July 2018. The Australian Aged Care Quality Agency will continue to conduct activities to assist consumers and providers to understand the new arrangements. More information about these activities is available on the [Quality Agency's website](#).



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## Aged Care Diversity Framework

### Homelessness Action Plan

The Diversity sub-group of the Aged Care Sector Committee has commenced work on a Homelessness Action Plan under the Aged Care Diversity Framework to help the aged care sector support older people experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness.

This sub-group is supported in this work by a reference group which has been convened by the Housing for the Aged Action Group (HAAG). HAAG has received funding from the Department of Health and has developed two online surveys to inform the action plan.

Professionals, providers and services who work with older people, even those that don't specialise in providing services to people experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness were invited to complete an online Provider Survey. A consumer survey was also open to older people, their friends, families and carers. Both surveys closed on 8 February 2019.

If you have any questions about the Homelessness Action Plan, contact the Project Manager Dr Sandra South on 0427 662 687 or at [sandra.south@oldertenants.org.au](mailto:sandra.south@oldertenants.org.au).

### Diversity Action Plans launched

The Hon Ken Wyatt, AM, MP, Minister for Senior Australians and Aged Care, has launched action plans developed under the [Aged Care Diversity Framework](#).

The Aged Care Sector Committee Diversity Sub-group developed the action plans to guide the aged care sector to deliver respectful, inclusive and culturally safe care for:

- Older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Older Culturally and Linguistically Diverse people
- Older Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and gender diverse, and Intersex elders
- All diverse groups

Feedback from consumers, carers, providers and peak bodies has informed the plans.

To find out more about how the action plans can assist your service visit the [department's website](#).

## My Aged Care

### My Aged Care Learning Environment

The My Aged Care Learning Environment for the My Aged Care Screening and Assessment Workforce is now available online.

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The Learning Environment provides seamless access to up-to-date and new content in an interactive online experience and will be offered to:

- Screening and Assessment workforce members who wish to undertake a new My Aged Care Statement of Attainment
- Aged Care Assessment Team delegates who wish to undertake delegate training
- Nominated Screening and Assessment workplace trainers approved by the Department of Health.

For more information about course enrolment and access to the new Learning Environment, contact CIT Solutions at [myagedcare@cit.edu.au](mailto:myagedcare@cit.edu.au) or phone **(02) 6207 6978**.

For further information please contact the department at [myagedcare.training@health.gov.au](mailto:myagedcare.training@health.gov.au)

### **New My Aged Care website**

The Australian Government has committed to deliver a new My Aged Care website with enhanced service finder functionality in the 2018-19 budget. This aims to:

- Enhance the consumer's experience of using the website
- Improve access to aged care services
- Make it easier for consumers to find and compare aged care services in their preferred location.

This work is currently underway and the Department of Health will be providing details about what will change and what you will need to do to keep your information up to date.

The Department of Health is also actively addressing the issue of duplicate and incorrect service results appearing in the service finders. New requirements have been developed and are being enforced for service providers to manage and update their information.

### **Multiple referrals through My Aged Care**

There has been some confusion amongst CHSP grant recipients regarding the ability to make multiple referrals for service sub-types.

Referrals are issued at the service type level, however My Aged Care and assessment organisations are able to specify one or more service sub-types where a client's needs may be more specific.

This also assists assessors in issuing referrals to the most appropriate provider, where, for example, a client only requires assistance with washing and drying linen, the assessor may indicate the sub-type 'linen services'. This will allow the assessor to refer the client to a provider or providers who have indicated they cater to this sub-type, rather than referring to a provider that may not offer this service.

Selecting the sub-type assists providers in determining whether they can meet the specific needs of the client when deciding whether to accept a referral.

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A full list of service sub-types are stated in section 1.2.12 (p15-18) of the [CHSP Manual](#), April 2018.

## Aged Care Workforce Strategy

The industry-led Aged Care Workforce Strategy was released on 13 September 2018 by the Minister for Senior Australians and Aged Care, the Hon Ken Wyatt AM, MP.

It is estimated the demand for aged care staff will almost triple by 2050. The Strategy will help industry attract and retain a skilled workforce to meet this demand.

The Strategy flags the need to make caring for the aged a definitive career choice with:

- Clear professional pathways
- High community appreciation
- Strong self-respect.

Implementation has already started with an industry-led Accord on the Remote Aged Care Workforce. The Accord group meets quarterly and focuses on supporting senior Australians in remote areas to live close to home with the care they need.

The Strategy and supporting documents are available on the Department of Health website.

## Subscriptions

All CHSP funded organisations are encouraged to subscribe to receive the regular program update through the:

- [Department of Health eNewsletter to the Aged Care Industry](#)
- Regular Communique for Victorian CHSP Grant Recipients – contact your FAM
- [DEX updates](#)