



Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care

A/g Deputy Secretary

Dear local government aged care providers,

As you are aware, the Albanese Government's Aged Care Bill passed Parliament on 25 November 2024. This means the new Aged Care Act and Support at Home program will start from 1 July 2025.

The government is committed to supporting all aged care providers to successfully transition to these new arrangements. The government is aware of and concerned about the exit of some local government providers from the aged care market. I assure you that local government providers play a crucial role in delivering aged care services, and that the government is committed to supporting you to continue delivering aged care.

I am aware some local government providers have raised concerns with the changes to be introduced through the new *Aged Care Act 2024* and Support at Home program and have shared broader views on the reforms to the aged care sector. In response, the Department of Health and Aged Care (the department) will work directly with councils on the transition to the new act in early 2025.

This consultation will ensure we understand local government provider perspectives around the upcoming reforms and can help you transition to the new system on 1 July 2025. This will help the government understand the issues you are facing, and to understand information gaps, logistical issues or financial barriers for local government providers as we undergo this significant transformation of Australia's aged care system.

The department will invite all existing local government providers to participate in this important opportunity, as well as a number of local government peak bodies and worker representatives. Further information is available at agedcareengagement.health.gov.au/get-involved.

A representative from the department's local network will reach out to invite your participation, but if you have any questions please contact Assistant Secretary for the Market Intelligence Branch, Ms Jessica Evans (Jessica.Evans@health.gov.au).

Thank you for your ongoing engagement as we deliver these once in a generation aged care reforms.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Laffan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amy Laffan

A/g Deputy Secretary, Ageing and Aged Care

13 December 2024