

COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT TO SUPPORT THE SENIORS OF BELL AND DALBY DISTRICTS

Planning For Old Age? Here's What The Aged Care Changes Mean For You

What are the key changes for Home Care Packages (HCP) program recipients transitioning to Support at Home from 1 July 2025?

Home care recipients can retain their current service provider and continue to access services and supports. Key changes from 1 July 2025 will include:

Moving to a quarterly budget – this means the annual Home Care Package amount will be divided into 4 equal budgets that each cover 3 months of the year. Recipients who have not spent their budget within the quarter will be able to accrue a maximum of \$1000 or 10% of their quarterly budget (whichever is higher) from one quarter to the next.

A defined service list – under Support at Home, all services will be specified on a service list with clear inclusions and exclusions that will largely mirror existing services accessed through the Home Care Program.

No separate administration charges – package management costs will be incorporated into prices, not charged as separate fees.

Care management funding set at 10% of all quarterly budgets – this funding will be set aside for providers to use to deliver care management support across all participants.

Separately funded Assistive Technology and Home Modifications (AT-HM) Scheme – people will be approved at assessment for a separate funding amount for assistive technology and/or home modifications.

Do no-worse-off principles continue if a current Home Care Package recipient is reassessed under Support at Home?

Yes. Grandfathering arrangements for participant contributions continue to apply even if a participant who transitions to Support at Home from the Home Care Packages Program is reassessed and reclassified at any time in the future. For further information, refer to page 37 of the [Support at Home program handbook](#).

No worse off principle for existing Home Care participants Packages

All individuals who have a Home Care Package (a package) on 30 June 2025 will maintain the same level of funding and retain any unspent funds under Support at Home. Individuals on the National Priority System or who have been approved for a package as of 30 June 2025 will receive a Support at Home budget equivalent to their approved package level when one becomes available. If these participants have another assessment, and are entitled to a higher level of funding, they will move to the new Support at Home classification when one becomes available.

Contributions

A no worse off principle will apply to the contributions arrangements for people who, on 12 September 2024, were either receiving a package, on the National Priority System, or assessed as eligible for a package. These participants will be no worse off because of the reforms: they make the same contributions, or lower, than they would have had under Home Care arrangements.

When these participants move to residential care, they will stay on the existing contribution arrangements unless they opt to move to the new program. Changes to accommodation payments in residential care would still apply to these participants, since accommodation payments are an agreement negotiated between the resident and their provider.



We Recognise The Challenges of
Country Living and are
Committed to Helping Local
Seniors Get Better Value Care.

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- Trilogy Care Updates
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- Community Info and Events
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How we're tracking

100

People in our Care Project

87

People using their Home Care Packages and receiving in home services

40

Local people employed through the project

Welcome Bridey



I was born in Adelaide SA, grew up in SW QLD and Northern NSW/ SA border on S Kidman & Co properties until the age of 14, I then finished school and lived in SA for many years.

I have been living in QLD around the Dalby area for the last 7 years.

Since finishing school I have worked in the aged care industry on and off as a Personal Carer and Assistant In Nursing.

In my spare time I enjoy competing competitively in campdrafts with my partner. Together we have 7 horses and 4 dogs.



- Plan your outings
- Lock premises when leaving
- Know what to do if you're followed or confronted when walking
- Wear your falls alarm at all times - 6/10 falls happen at home
- When walking, carry your mobile phone and some form of ID
- When shopping, keep your wallet and handbag secure
- Put money in different pockets or parts of your handbag
- Protect your money and PIN when using an ATM
- Park your car in well-lit areas at night
- Don't leave valuables in your car
- Lock your car doors and keep valuables out of sight when driving.

CLAIM THE DATE!

Thursday 3 July

Bell Cares 5th

Birthday Celebration

More details to come

PUB LUNCH

Russell Tavern, Dalby
1 Cunningham St, Dalby



Thursday, 17th April 2025
@ Midday

YOU'RE INVITED to come and join us
for lunch and to meet and welcome
to the team our new *Dalby Care*
Coordinator, Bridey Jonas
She would love to put some faces to
the names.

RSVP and pre-orders
to Bell Cares
4663 1333
by
Monday, 7th April 25



SENIORS MENU

200G RUMP (GR)



\$21

Chips, salad, choice of sauce

BEEF RISSOLES

\$16

Mashed potato, seasonal veg and gravy

LEMON PEPPER CALAMARI

\$16

Chips, salad, aioli and lemon

FISH AND CHIPS (GRO)

\$16

Battered or grilled barramundi, house salad, lemon and tartare sauce

CLASSIC CHICKEN SCHNITZEL

\$16

Chips, house salad and gravy

UPGRADE to parmigiana

\$4

CRUMBED LAMB CUTLETS

\$21

Mashed potato, green peas, gravy and mint jelly

ROAST 'OF THE DAY' (GR)

\$18

Roast potato, pumpkin, green peas and gravy

+\$5 desert special - pavlova



BELL CARES DATE CLAIMERS

MARCH 2025

Thurs 6 Mar 2025

Social Morning Tea

Pips'n'Cherries

Ensor Street, Bell

Thurs 20 Mar

Social Morning Tea

Bell Bunya Community
Centre

Ensor Street, Bell

APRIL 2025

Thurs 3 Apr 2025

Social Morning Tea

at Pips'N'Cherries
15 Ensor Street, Bell

**DALBY PUB LUNCH
MEET BRIDEY**

Thurs 17 April 12 noon

Join us for a pub lunch at
The Russell Tavern, Dalby

RSVP by Mon 7 Apr 25

**PRIZE FOR
BEST EASTER BONNET**



People Changes

As of now, we have some changes happening in our office. As we are growing, the demands on our workers is changing in many ways. Since Bridey started with us, we've now decided that we need our Care Coordinators to be more focused. So along those lines, Bettina is now our Care Coordinator for Bell (and elsewhere) clients, Bridey is Care Coordinator for our Dalby clients. The girls will work together in the office, but eventually they will have individual phone numbers. This will enable a much more holistic approach to your care, as your Care Coordinator will manage things from start to finish. The other change is that Danielle will be moving more to 'back of office' duties. There is an enormous amount that goes on in the background, so that now is her job. Don't be concerned if you no longer speak to her on the phone - Bridey and Bettina will look after your needs - Danielle will provide support behind the scenes.

Happy Birthday

March

Kay Gleeson
Elaine Hall
Kay Joyce
Joan Rynne
Neil Schultz
Barry Weier

April

Gary Berting
Nancy Blanck
Shirley Buckley
Malcolm Carter
Joe Garnham
David Gilbert
Graeme Gillespie
Doug Kittle

The Last Word ...

Are we all breathing a sigh of relief, that autumn seems to be just around the corner? I don't know about you, but I definitely have The Mouse Army on the move at my place - the little sods are everywhere just now!

I've decided this month to put a bit of big info into this newsletter, to try to start getting information to you about the new Support@Home model which will be upon us on 1 July. There will be some changes which won't happen until 1 July 26 - but much of it is in place and ready to go - even if very few of us understand it all! The most important thing for you to remember is that for the bulk of our consumers, who were signed up into the My Aged Care system before 12 September 2024, there will be no changes. You will be the fortunate 'grandfathered' (and why not grandmothered, I say) consumers for whom nothing will really change.

We are already starting to notice the tightening up of the rules. One important thing will be that now it will not be a 'done deal' to simply ask your gardener/cleaner/driver for more hours. These requests will need to be made through us, your budget adjusted for the service and only then can the service be provided. We have several workers who still like to do their own thing and tell us nothing - in the future those accounts will very likely not be paid if we have not added it to your budget prior. As the majority of you have accumulated credits available to you, the actual availability of funds won't be an issue - rather, you simply have to have it approved beforehand. Please take the responsibility to contact us first, before making plans with your support worker.

I did a bit of an exercise the other day, trying to add up how much unspent funds our clients have accumulated. I was quite shocked to see that it added up to around \$1.4 million dollars, just for our Bell Cares clients. I would encourage to you all to start spending some of those funds. I suspect that the time will come, even for the 'grandfathered' consumers, that the government says 'use it or lose it'. Many people have more than enough for bathroom renovations, ramps and significant home modifications. Talk to us about how to make this happen for you.

Lesley x