

# 2026-27 Victorian State Budget Public Accounts and Estimates Committee

Ingrid Stitt MP  
Minister for Ageing



Department  
of Health

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## Acknowledgment

### TITLE

Bayi Dha-ang: Walk Strong  
(Dhudhuroa language)

### ARTIST ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Bitja (Dixon Patten Jnr)  
Baylia Creative

### TRIBES

Gunnai, Yorta Yorta, Gunditjmara,  
Dhudhuroa/Jaithmathang, Djab Wurrung, Wemba  
Wemba, Wadi Wadi, Barapa Barapa, Monero,  
Wadawurrung.

# Budget Overview

- **\$35.7 million** to support public sector residential aged care services to deliver quality, safe care including supporting mandated nurse-to-resident ratios.
- **\$22.5 million** to maintain Home and Community Care Program for Younger People so they can maintain independence in the home and their community.
- **\$5 million** will boost the Victorian Aids and Equipment Program so eligible Victorians can remain independent at home.
- **\$17 million** to bring hospital-level care into residential aged care facilities by supporting continuation of the Residential-in-Reach program.
- **\$15.1 million** is being invested to support aged care providers to ensure nurses administer high-risk medicines where residents do not self-administer.
- **\$7.5 million** for targeted upgrades to public sector residential aged care facilities, addressing critical safety, compliance and infrastructure risks.



# Key achievements in 2025-26

## Safer care for older Victorians

From 1 July 2026, Victoria has legislated that only **nurses and other qualified health professionals can administer high-risk medicines** in residential aged care, alongside restrictive practices reforms that strengthen resident safeguards..

## Delivering hospital-level care in aged care homes

Residential In-Reach delivered **more than 37,000 episodes of care to more than 20,000 aged care residents.**

## Supporting residents during emergencies

Supported by the Department of Health, public sector aged care services acted decisively during recent bushfires to keep residents safe



Boolam Boolam Aged Care Centre

# Continuing to deliver in 2026-27



## Supporting the aged care workforce

Our public sector residential aged care services are home to more than 5,500 people each year. Through **targeted training and workforce pipeline initiatives** in 2026–27, we will continue to strengthen the aged care workforce.



## Delivering ageing-in-place and community support

We're on track to **deliver around 45,000 aged care assessments** each year and are **investing in local supports** so older Victorians can access the right care at the right time and stay connected in their communities.



## National aged care reform

We're working closely with public sector aged care providers to navigate the transition to the new *Aged Care Act 2024*. **Ensuring consistent quality, compliance and continuity of care** during national reform.



## High-quality, nurse-led care

Victoria's public sector residential aged care services consistently achieve star rating results above the national average. Our staffing star rating is **4.61 out of 5**.

# Delivering new and upgraded facilities across Victoria

## Completed in 2025-26

- **Camperdown** – new \$35.9 million 36-bed Leura Aged Care facility
- **Cohuna** – Stage 1 of the new \$41.1 million 24-bed acute and residential aged care home with admin spaces to follow
- **Mansfield** – Stage 1 of the new modern 30-bed aged care redevelopment with upgrades to the co-located Bindaree facility to follow
- **Orbost** – new \$45.36 million 38-bed Snowy River Views Residential Care facility

## Projects underway

- **Numurkah** – \$54.38 million to build a new 36-bed aged care facility
- **Maffra** – \$69.7 million to build a new 30-bed aged care facility



# Supporting Seniors to Thrive

- The ***Ageing Well Action Plan 2022-2026*** supports all Victorians to age well as they participate in their communities, connect socially, and live healthy, active and purposeful lives.
- The **Senior Victorians Advisory Committee** provides advice directly to government on the needs and experiences of older Victorians.



# Delivering Seniors Card and Festival programs

- There are over **1.5 million** Victorian Seniors Card members with around 1,500 new card holders joining the program each week<sup>1</sup>
- 2025 Seniors Festival delivered **4,700** free and low-cost events across the state to **163,900** attendees<sup>2</sup>
- **17** older Victorians were recognised through the 2025 Victorian Senior of the Year Awards<sup>3</sup>
- From January 2026, Victorian Seniors Card holders can **access free weekend public transport statewide** to help with cost-of-living pressures.



# Thank you.



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