



South West Sydney Ageing Forum

A Network of Services Working Together to Support Older People, People with a Disability and their Carers to remain Independent in the Community

www.supportservices.org.au

Tuesday, 2 December 2025

Bryan Brown Function Centre – Community Room 1, Bankstown

Chairperson: Sandra Loyola-Sandoval – City of Canterbury Bankstown

Minutes: Danielle Taylor – Fairfield City Council

Attendees:

- Danielle Taylor
- Fina Kimah
- Paola Jamett-Cam
- Simone Lucidi
- Rina Fuimaono
- Louise Swar
- Patricia Camevale
- Adele Bills
- Maxine Goodwin
- Alessandra Marcelo
- Lucie Downer
- Hayley Orr

Apologies:

- Eunice Sansour

2. Welcome

Sandra Loyola-Sandoval (the chair) opened the meeting, provided housekeeping notes, and delivered an Acknowledgement of Country.

3. Acceptance of Previous Minutes

Previous minutes were accepted.

Moved: Paola Jamett-Caru

Seconded: Krystle Sands

4. SWS Ageing Forum – Terms of Reference

- Updated TOR reviewed; changes considered straightforward.
- Readability now rated at 67 (plain English).
- Eunice to circulate the updated TOR and registration instructions.
- No further updates required for 2025. Updated for 2026.
- TOR were reviewed in December 2025.

5. Presentation: 2023–24 Social Housing Assistance Commissioning Data Report

Presenter: Dr Lucy Burgmann, Director Housing Strategy, Homes NSW

Key Points:

- A NSW-wide review of social housing data is now publicly accessible via nsw.gov.au (Department pages).
- Members encouraged to download the full report here: [NSW Social Housing Assistance Commissioning Data Report 2023-2024 | NSW Government](https://www.nsw.gov.au/nsw-social-housing-assistance-commissioning-data-report-2023-2024)

Social Housing Register

- Data includes breakdowns of singles, dependents and household types.
- Localised data provided for South West Sydney.
- **13,000 households** in SWS on the register.
- **43%** of applicants are **senior households (55+)**.
- **57%** of senior/elderly households are applicants transferring or relocating.
- High demand for accessible housing: **93%** of senior households require modifications or accessibility features.
- Many existing properties are not senior-friendly.
- **43%** of current tenancies fall within the senior/elderly category.

NSW Homelessness Strategy 2025–2035

Launched August 2025

- Led by Homes NSW and developed as a whole-of-government initiative.
- Focus on shifting from crisis response to **prevention**.
- Moving from system-driven to **person-centred** responses.
- Transitioning from centralised to **local delivery** of services.
- **First Action Plan (2025–2027)** under development, including additional funding opportunities.
- Two dedicated action plans: **Youth and Aboriginal Homelessness**.

Highlighted Reforms:

- Replacing temporary motel-based accommodation with more suitable homelessness accommodation.
- System-wide **Housing First** approach—secure stable housing first, then wraparound supports.
- Reducing exits from government systems into homelessness (e.g., from correctional facilities and out-of-home care).

Homes for NSW Strategy (Released October 2025)

10-year plan covering non-market housing and homelessness support systems, with three priorities:

1. Customer-driven service
2. More and better homes
3. A system that works

- Strategy includes funding pathways for Community Housing Providers.

6. Aged Care Reforms and Sector Updates

Speakers: Adele, Patricia, Krystle (Department representatives)

Webinars & Engagement

- **Associate Providers Webinar** – Wednesday 10 December, 2pm (online).
 - Participants can submit questions during the session.
 - Registration link to be shared.
- **Hiring Overseas Workers Webinar** – Monday 9 December, 12–1pm.

Grants

- New grant round opened **26 November**, closing **14 January**.
- Targeted at **Support at Home providers**.
- Round 2 available via GrantConnect.
- Flexible funding streams will be included.
- Providers encouraged to contact the grants team directly with queries.

Support at Home Transition

- New Assistant Director appointed for Western Sydney team.
- Clarification sought on **associated providers** vs **subcontractors** under the new Act.
 - Must be registered providers; registered organisations are fully responsible for service delivery.
 - Guidance pending from policy team.
 - Department welcomes questions and feedback on transition issues.
- CHSP clients:
 - Existing CHSP clients will **automatically transition** to Support at Home.
 - New clients will require a fresh assessment.
- Service agreements: CHSP providers must maintain formal agreements (short- and long-term transport included).
- Specialised Aged Care Program will continue operating similarly during transition.

New Toolkit

- “Choice and Control” toolkit under the new Aged Care Act to be released.

7. Planning for 2026 – Mentimeter Discussion

Please see Mentimeter attachment for all Mentimeter results.

Members discussed priority themes and potential presenters/training for 2026:

1. **Social isolation**
2. **Access to services**
3. **Recruiting and retaining volunteers**

Additional sector queries:

- Future of **SSD programs** remains uncertain.

Roadshows for the sector and seniors to be scheduled in 2026—dates to be circulated.

10. Close (11.30am)

Meeting closed by the Chair.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, 3 February 2026

Hybrid meeting hosted by **Fairfield City Council, 86 Avoca Rd, Wakeley**