



Australian Government  
Department of Social Services



National  
Carer  
Strategy

# Draft National Carer Strategy

*Improving the lives of Australia's unpaid carers*

## Survey Questions

17/10/2024 – 03/11/2024

## Section 1: Strategy Overview

In this section, we want to know if the Vision, Principles and Objectives for the National Carer Strategy (the Strategy) appropriately set the direction to implement improvements for carers.

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### Vision

The Vision defines where we aspire to be and what we want to accomplish with the strategy.

*'An Australian community in which all carers are recognised, valued, and empowered with the support they need to participate fully in society and fulfil their caring role.'*

**Q1. Does the vision clearly articulate a desired end state that Government should be aiming for that reflects where carers want to be by the end of the Strategy?**

Insert X into one option

YES

NO

UNSURE

If you selected 'no' or 'unsure', please explain why.

Please provide response below:

# Principles

The principles should guide the coordination and delivery of carer-related and carer-impacting policies, programs and initiatives across Australian Government agencies.

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## Principle 1: Carer-centred

### **What we will do:**

Include carer lived experiences in the co-design and co-production of policies, supports and services for carers. Carers' lived experience will be included in evaluation processes.

### **How we will do it:**

Continue to seek out, listen to and act on carers' perspectives.

Focus on what they tell us they need. Be flexible and responsive when circumstances change.

## Principle 2: Evidence-informed

### **What we will do:**

Ensure that carer policies, supports and services are informed by evidence and innovation, to address challenges experienced by carers.

### **How we will do it:**

Focus on building and improving an evidence base to better support the development, implementation and monitoring of tailored and responsive supports and services.

Enable data sharing and evidence for use by governments and communities to evaluate interventions and resources.

## Principle 3: Accessible, equitable and inclusive

### **What we will do:**

Ensure carer policies, supports and services are inclusive and tailored to reflect the needs of all carers, at all stages of caring, recognising the diversity of carers, and the importance of cultural and psychological safety.

### **How we will do it:**

Use evidence-based data and lived experience to co-design innovative, accessible, tailored and inclusive services. Recognise, respect and facilitate the vital role of non-government organisations in providing supports and services.

## Principle 4: Supporting agency

### **What we will do:**

The design of policies supports and services for carers will enable choices that suit them.

### **How we will do it:**

Acknowledge that carers know their needs and aspirations best. All have unique relationships, strengths, capabilities and resources, which may change over time.

Co-design policies, supports and services to empower and support carers to find and access the right supports at the right time and to ensure unintended consequences for carers are identified and remediated.

## Principle 5: Transparent and accountable

### **What we will do:**

Federal government departments will be transparent in their processes to better recognise and value carers and will report on their progress.

### **How we will do it:**

Monitor, measure, evaluate and report on progress in delivering on the priority outcome areas and achieving the objectives set out in the Strategy.

Include carers in the continued development of actions and implementation plans to support realising the vision of the Strategy.

## Q2. Is there anything the principles don't capture?

Insert X into one option

YES

NO

UNSURE

If yes, please tell us what is missing.

Please provide response below:

# Objectives

Co-developed by carers, these objectives provide the overarching goals carers, and the Australian Government, want to see realised. Through monitoring improvements in these objectives, we will measure our progress toward achieving the Strategy vision.

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## Objective 1: Carers are identified, recognised, and valued

### Carers are:

- able to identify they are in a caring role, and can access information of supports available to them
- acknowledged by others, and consulted, regarding the person/s for whom they are caring
- identified early and are offered information pathways to supports appropriate to their needs
- valued equally in their caring role.

### **Q3. Does Objective 1 support the Strategy's vision; is it realistic and measurable; and does the description under each objective reflect the core elements of that objective?**

Insert X into one option

YES

NO

UNSURE

If you selected 'no' or 'unsure', please explain why.

Please provide response below:

Objective 2: Carers are empowered to fulfil their caring role, whilst still pursuing other aspects of their lives.

**Carers have:**

- access to resources and skills training that enhances safe and effective caregiving
- access to forms of respite that are most relevant to the circumstances of different carers and those they care for
- flexibility and adaptability with learning options and support to accommodate caring responsibilities from educational institutions to support personal and professional development goals
- carer-inclusive workplaces that welcome and accommodate their caring responsibilities to support employment goals and financial security.

**Q4. Does Objective 2 support the Strategy’s vision; is it realistic and measurable; and does the description under each objective reflect the core elements of that objective?**

Insert X into one option

YES

NO

UNSURE

If you selected 'no' or 'unsure', please explain why.

Please provide response below:

Objective 3: Carers' health, safety, wellbeing and financial security are supported.

**Carers can flexibly access the assistance they need to support their:**

- physical well-being and safety
- psychological health
- social connection
- cultural and spiritual identity
- financial security

**Q5. Does Objective 3 support the Strategy's vision; is it realistic and measurable; and does the description under each objective reflect the core elements of that objective?**

Insert X into one option

YES

NO

UNSURE

If you selected 'no' or 'unsure', please explain why.

Please provide response below:



## Section 2: Priority Outcome Areas

In this section we look at the priority outcome areas. The priority outcome areas encompass recognition and value, support and empowerment, and wellbeing. The priority outcome areas are where the Australian Government will direct efforts to achieve the above objectives and the Strategy's Vision.

### Q6. Would action in these priority areas address the key challenges you face?

Insert X into one option below for each priority outcome area

	Priority Outcome Areas	Yes	No	Unsure
1	The community, government and those who provide paid care and support recognise and value carers' contributions and expertise and carers are supported to self-identify early.			
2	Carers can access supports, services and programs at the right time, right place and in the right way across the caring continuum.			
3	Ensure carers are able to develop the knowledge and skills they need to fulfill their caring role.			
4	Carers can access, pursue and maintain employment and education, including to improve financial well-being for themselves and those they care for.			
5	Carers have access to supports that safeguard their psychological, physical and social wellbeing.			
6	Build the evidence base on carers to better understand who carers are, what are their experiences, what works for them and why.			

If you selected 'no' or 'unsure', please explain why.

Please provide response below:

## Section 3: The National Carer Strategy

In this section we look at the National Carer Strategy overall. The Strategy sets out a national agenda to support Australia's unpaid carers to improve and maintain their wellbeing, to empower carers with the tools, skills and knowledge they need to reach their goals and aspirations, and to better balance their lives with their caring roles.

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**Q7. Are you satisfied that the National Carer Strategy will lead to a positive change in your caring experience and provide a foundation for the coordination of carer policies, programs and initiatives across Australian Government agencies?**

Insert X into one option

YES

NO

UNSURE

If you selected 'no' or 'unsure', please explain why.

Please provide response below:

## Section 4: Conclusion

We would like to thank you for participating in the National Carer Strategy survey. Your feedback and responses will assist in ensuring the Strategy makes a difference in improving the lives of carers across Australia.

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### **Q8. Is there anything else you want to say about how the National Carer Strategy could be improved?**

If yes, please tell us below:

## Section 5: Demographics

This section provides a through overview of our audience and allows access to vital insights that will help create strategies, services, and decision-making that will benefit Carers throughout Australia.

### Gender

Insert X into one option

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Binary | <input type="checkbox"/> Female               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Male       | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer |

### Age

Insert X into one option

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Under 24 years | <input type="checkbox"/> 55 – 64 years        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25 – 34 years  | <input type="checkbox"/> 65+ years            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 35 – 44 years  | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 45 – 54 years  |   |

### Location

Insert X into one option

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Queensland                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Australia    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New South Wales              | <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Territory   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Capital Territory | <input type="checkbox"/> Tasmania             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Victoria                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> South Australia              |   |

### Carer Diversity

Insert X into each option that best reflects you. Carers may have multiple diversity indicators.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQIA+              | <input type="checkbox"/> Person with a Disability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CALD                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Neurodivergent           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> First Nations         | <input type="checkbox"/> None                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regional/Rural/Remote | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer     |

## Care Recipient Health

Insert X into each option that best reflects the care recipient/s' health indicator/s. Care recipients may have multiple health indicators or carers may care for different recipients with varying indicators:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health                            | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Disability  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic Condition                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Frailty due to age   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Illness                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Neurodivergent       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alcohol or Drug Abuse                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please provide information) _____ |   |
| _____   |   |

## Number of recipients you care for

Insert X into one option

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> More (please provide number) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 |   |

## Do you require care yourself

Insert X into one option

- |                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> Unsure               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No  | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer |

## Do you undertake work outside of your caring responsibilities

Insert X into one option

- |                              |                             |   |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No | <input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to answer |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|

If yes, please provide other information below:

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full time  | Hours per week _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Part-time  | Hours per week _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please provide information i.e. Charity, Study Uni, Secondary School) _____ | Hours per week _____ |