

# 2023 Client Information

 Home Maintenance Services
 Domestic Assistance

 Social Support for
 Home Care Clients



The information in this document is correct at time of publication but is subject to change without notice. Updated copies will be available at <u>www.jobquest.org.au</u>

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

JobQuest's Services are supported by financial assistance from the Australian Government under the

- Home Care Packages Program and the
- Commonwealth Home Support Program [CHSP]

funded through the Commonwealth Department of Social Services.

Veterans Home Care Services are funded through the Commonwealth Department of Veterans Affairs.

Although funding for these programs has been provided by the Australian Government, the material contained herein does not necessarily represent the view or policies of the Australian Government. For more information see: <u>https://www.myagedcare.gov.au/</u> or https://www.dva.gov.au/

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## JobQuest - What we do

JobQuest provides a range of services to Home Care and Veterans Home Care clients.

Our Home Maintenance Services provide subsidised home maintenance services under the Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP)

The Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) helps older Australians access entry-level support services to live independently and safely at home.

CHSP works with you to maintain your independence rather than doing things for you.

The *CHSP program* operates in Western Sydney and Nepean in the following local government areas only:

- Western Sydney Parramatta, Hills Shire, Cumberland and Blacktown Council areas
- Nepean Penrith, Blue Mountains and Hawkesbury Council areas

We also provide services under Home Care Packages "HCP" to people living in Western Sydney, Nepean, Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury, Newcastle and the Hunter Region

We accept referrals for Veterans' Home Care Services in these areas:

- Western Sydney
- Nepean
- Blue Mountains
- Hawkesbury
- Newcastle and the Hunter Region



Examples of our services are listed on the following page.

### Government Funded or Subsidised Services

# CHSP [Commonwealth Home Support Program] is a subsidized service where you pay a client contribution for each service.

The "HCP" **Home Care Packages Program** provides older people who want to stay at home with access to a range of ongoing personal services, support services and clinical care that help them with their day-to-day activities.

JobQuest is an approved Veteran Home Care Service Provider.

DVA clients can telephone 1300 550 450 to undergo an assessment for services by a VHC Assessment Agency.

Clients who are not eligible for subsided or funded services can access all services as a fee-for-service customer.

## What services can we offer?

#### Home Maintenance Services

Our Home Maintenance Services include minor repairs such as changing light bulbs or small painting jobs. We also do domestic cleaning such as regular housekeeping, spring cleans and special cleans. Examples of the jobs we do are as follows:

<ul> <li>Supply / install bathroom grab rails</li> <li>Supply and install outdoor handrails</li> <li>Replace/repair clotheslines, letterboxes, fly screens, doors and screen doors/locks</li> <li>Repairs to cement paths, steps, fences</li> <li>Pressure cleaning mossy, slippery paths</li> <li>Assembling "Flat-Pack" furniture</li> <li>Install and checking smoke alarms</li> <li>Changing light bulbs, tubes and starters</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Spring cleans – half day or whole day</li> <li>Window cleaning - ground floor external windows only</li> <li>Carpet shampooing</li> <li>Oven and stove cleaning</li> <li>Heavy slashing and yard clean ups, rubbish removal</li> <li>small plumbing jobs</li> <li>small electrical jobs</li> </ul>		
<ul> <li>Install and checking smoke alarms</li> </ul>	small plumbing jobs		
do many other tasks. If your job is not on this sample list, please give us a call and ask about your			

We do many other tasks. If your job is not on this sample list, please give us a call and ask about your particular need.

#### Social Support - Individual

If you live in **Parramatta, Hills, Blacktown, Auburn** we may be able to assist you with Social Support which is designed to encourage seniors to have connections to the community.

- Dorothy was stuck at home for many months and was lonely. Staff now take Dorothy out for a muffin and coffee once a fortnight which she loves.
- Brian was 93 and wanted to do something with others and not just have family. We began taking Brian out to the Sports Club at Warragamba, where he could meet up with other lunch buddies and enjoy the company and the occasion.
- ♣ Jenny, a lady in her 80s wanted to learn flower arranging. We found a group for Jenny to attend and introductions were made and Jenny now has some new connections and a new hobby.

Social Support can be:

- Subsidised via CHSP My Aged Care Referral (Western Sydney only)
- Accessed using your Home Care Package funds
- Accessed using by fee for service in any area we can give you a quote for what you need.

### Our Service Philosophy

Your experience as a client of JobQuest Services is very important to us. We value our clients and expect that our workers will provide the services you require while treating you with dignity and maintaining, where possible, your independence.

We deliver services in a manner that is inclusive and respects the identity, culture and diversity of our clients. We respect our client's right to make choices about the services they engage us to provide. We will listen to any concerns, issues or complaints you have and do our very best to rectify these. We will be honest about what we can and can't do for you.

### Accessing supports

Many of us prefer to stay at home as we are getting older. Sometimes a little support will go a long way to help us maintain our independence and keep us staying at home. This help could range from mowing the lawn to help with cooking or shopping, depending on your needs and preference.

#### My Aged Care

The Australian Government subsidies some costs of home support services. If you are 65 years old or older (50 years or older for Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people), you may be eligible for subsided services. So if you notice a change in what you can do, been diagnosed with a medical condition, suffered a fall or have some changes in family care arrangements.

Please contact:

### My Aged Care - 1800 200 422

to check if you are eligible. JobQuest staff is always happy to help, so please feel free to contact us if you need any further information.

#### Veterans' Home Care

If you are a Gold Card or White Card holder with low care needs, DVA's Veterans' Home Care (VHC) program can assist you to continue living in your home by providing you with a small amount of practical help. To receive VHC services, you will need to be assessed by a VHC Assessment Agency as needing home care assistance. To arrange an assessment call **VHC Assessment Agency - 1300 550 450** 

## Enablement, wellness and re-ablement

JobQuest requires all of our field workers to take an enabling approach to their duties in providing services to our clients.

An enabling approach is a new way of supporting frail older people and people with a disability to live at home in their community. It is based on the following principles:

1. Frail older people and people living with a disability have the capacity to make gains in their physical, social, and emotional wellbeing.

2. The best outcomes for clients accessing community care occur when services are responsive to individual needs rather than being implemented on the basis of the types of services that are available.

3. An individual's needs are best met when there are collaborative working relationships between the person, their carers and family, social networks, support workers and between service providers.

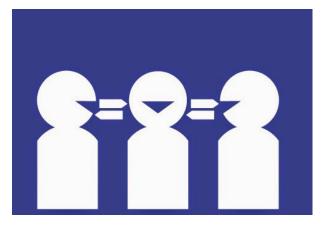
- An enabling approach focuses on what the person can do and wants to be able to do, not just on what they are unable to do at present.
- It's a use it or lose it approach!
- 4 It supports ageing in place and may prevent or delay the need to go into residential aged care

## Do you need an interpreter?

Telephone Typewriter (TTY) service are available for people who are deaf or hearing impaired

Contact TTY on 1800 810 586

If you speak a language other than English then you can call the Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS) on 131 450.



Home Care Package Providers can usually provide TIS services free of charge to their clients.

## Your Rights and Responsibilities

Every client has certain rights and responsibilities which are set out in various documents.

- For Aged Care clients this is the Charter of Aged Care Rights
- For Department of Veterans Affairs clients this is the Veterans' Home Care Services Rights and Responsibilities
- Australian Consumer Law

You will be provided with the relevant document for your service. Versions of some documents can be provided in languages other than English.

Aged Care Clients are provided with a copy of the relevant document and asked to sign an Aged Care Information Acknowledgement form which is kept on file so we know you have received this information.

Please read through the relevant document for you as it is important for you to know your rights. It's also important for our organisation and our staff that you know your responsibilities as well as our own.

One of your responsibilities is to treat our staff with respect at all times. This means not abusing or mistreating staff, in person, or when on the phone.

We have hundreds of clients and sometimes things go wrong or the weather is bad and we cannot do a job we expected to be able to do. We are happy to accept complaints and criticism to help us improve but abuse of any kind is not acceptable.

Another responsibility for clients with dogs and cats is to remove faeces [poo] from where our workers are working. This includes from lawns and gardens. Mowing dog poo can result in the worker being sprayed with the foul-smelling substance and is unacceptable.

If you have any questions about your rights and responsibilities please do not hesitate to ask.

## **General Fee Information**

JobQuest will provide a Service Booking or Service Quote regarding the fee to be charged for any service and ensure you understand the payment procedures.

All clients will be informed of the fees applicable to them at the time of assessment or commencement of the service.

It may also be necessary to re-assess clients due to a change in circumstances, particularly in relation to their financial situation changes to any funding arrangement for example a move from CHSP to a Home Care Package.

#### Special fee arrangements are in place for CHSP clients – see the following page.

Australian Consumer Law applies to all businesses that provide goods and services and protects the rights of consumers from unlawful trading practices. The laws relate to contracts, guarantees for goods and services, product safety and selling practices.

JobQuest must abide by consumer laws in its dealings with all clients and customers.

#### **Complaints about fees**

All clients have the right to complain about the fee they are being charged if they feel it is unfair or not affordable, either once the initial assessment has been made or at any time while they are receiving services.

Clients may require or elect to have an advocate in the complaint process.

As part of resolving fee complaints, JobQuest will confirm:

- The assessment has established the client's correct income level. The client has significant
  additional costs affecting their ability to pay for services, and whether the assessor has
  taken this into account and applied a reduction or waiver of fees.
- The client has understood the fee process and their entitlements. The client's circumstances have changed and the fee needs to be reassessed.
- There is a carer or guardian who should be involved in the fee process.

The same process for managing general complaints is also used for complaints about fees.

#### JobQuest Home Maintenance Fee Principles for CHSP Clients

The following principles provide a consistent framework within which JobQuest operates. The principles are:

- Inability to pay cannot be used as a basis for refusing a service to people who are assessed as requiring a service.
- Where fees are to be charged, it will be done in accordance with a scale of fees appropriate to the client's level of income, amount of service used, and any changes in circumstances and ability to pay.
- JobQuest will charge the full cost of the service where clients are receiving, or have received, compensation payments intended to cover the cost of care.
- Clients with similar levels of income (after considering levels of expenditure) and service usage patterns will be charged equivalent fees for equivalent services.
- Clients with high and/or multiple needs will not be charged more than a specified maximum amount of fees in a given period, irrespective of amounts of services used.
- Fees charged will not exceed the actual cost of service provision. Generally, the fee charged will be all-inclusive and cover all materials used in delivery of the service. Where there is a significant additional cost for material utilised in the provision of a service, a separate fee can be charged.
- Fee collection will be administered efficiently and attempts will be made to minimise the cost of administration.
- The revenue from fees will be used to enhance and/or expand services.
- Assessment of a person's capacity to pay fees will be as simple and unobtrusive as possible, with due regard for individual's privacy. Any information obtained will be treated as confidential.
- Clients and their advocates have the right of appeal against a given fee determination.

## **Complaints & Feedback**

JobQuest welcomes feedback from our customers. We consider any complaint or feedback to be important information which we can use to improve our services. You can be sure that all complaints and feedback will be treated fairly, promptly, confidentially and respectfully.

Our customer service staff contact clients on a regular basis to get feedback on our services. Please let our staff know if you have any issues or concerns that you wish to report.



If you want to raise something yourself, please contact our JobQuest staff by:

Phone Monday to Friday

Sydney office: 8677 8885 Newcastle office: 4960 9024 or 0421 220 152 business hours only

<u>Email</u>	mail@jobquest.org.au
<u>Letter</u>	Unit 7, 79 Mandoon Road, Girraween NSW 2145

Any complaints about the services provided to our clients will be actively processed and monitored in a fair and reasonable manner and the principles of impartiality, transparency, confidentiality and consistency maintained at all times through the process.

The Guidelines for the Aged Care Complaints Scheme will be used to guide our staff in how they process, respond to and monitor complaints made by our elderly clients.

All complaints will be responded to within 2 working days to enable the relevant supervisor to investigate the complaint.

Every attempt will be made to resolve all complaints within 14 days. Where this is not possible the complainant and relevant others will be kept inform of any progress being made on recommended actions.

Any complainant who is unhappy with how a complaint is being handled should make contact with the Program Manager or CEO at JobQuest and raise their concerns.

#### Aged Care Clients – CHSP and Home Care Packages

If you are not happy with how the complaint is being handled in relation to an elderly client you can contact the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission:

- Telephone call 1800 951 822 (free call)
- Online www.agedcarequality.gov.au
- Email Audit.Feedback@agedcarequality.gov.au
- In writing Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission GPO Box 9819, in your capital city

#### Department of Veterans Affairs Clients

If you are not happy with how the complaint is being handled in relation to an elderly client who is a veteran you can contact the **Department of Veteran Affairs**:

- Telephone call 1800 555 254
- Online https://www.dva.gov.au/sites/default/files/dvaforms/D9220.PDF
- In writing Manager
   Feedback Management Team
   GPO Box 9998
   SYDNEY NSW 2001

#### Positive feedback

We are also happy to receive positive feedback on our employees and the work they do for you. Please feel free to contact our staff, our Managers or our CEO, to report on a job well done or a particularly helpful or courteous staff member.



## Advocacy

You also have the right to an advocate to help you make a complaint. They offer confidential and independent advice and support for people receiving aged care services. An advocate is someone who stands beside you and works on your behalf and at your direction in a way that represents your expressed wishes.

An advocate can:

- Support you in making decisions that affect your quality of life
- Provide you with information about your rights and responsibilities, and discuss your options for taking action
- Support you when you raise an issue with us or other service providers
- Support you at any stage of a complaints process.

Advocacy is free, independent and confidential. An advocate will always seek your permission before taking action.



**Seniors Rights Advocacy Service** offers advocacy services to people using in-home care services. An aged care advocate will listen to your concerns, help you to identify your rights and responsibilities, assist you to uphold your rights and speak on your behalf if needed.

Call the Seniors Rights Advocacy Service on  $1800\ 424\ 079$ 



**The Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN)** is funded to provide free, confidential and independent advocacy support to older people, their families and representatives across Australia through organisations such as Seniors Rights. Information about OPAN can be found on their website

http://www.opan.com.au/ or Call 1800 700 600 - 8am to 8pm

Monday to Friday and 10am – 4pm on Saturdays.

### COVID 19

The Department of Health provides information to providers and the public about public health orders and Covid-safe guidelines.

JobQuest must abide by all requirements to ensure that our clients and our staff remain Covid-safe.

This means that workers may need to wear a mask and social distance when providing services.

Our works are also required to be vaccinated against Covid-19.

If you have symptoms or have been tested and are positive for Covid-19 we will not be able to provide services until you are well and have tested negative.

If you are concerned at all about receiving services during the Covid-19 pandemic, please don't hesitate to contact the office.

#### We ask our clients to assist us with the following in order to prevent any cross contamination:

- 1. Allow our cleaners to **use all your own equipment**. eg. Your broom, your mop, your mop bucket, your vacuum cleaner.
- Please assist our cleaners to understand how your vacuum or special mop works (or other instruments) as everyone has a different type. We will follow your instructions and use all care and caution on how to use your equipment, but we **cannot** be responsible if the item breaks.

2. We leave the used cleaning cloths by your washing machine for you to wash and dry, and the cleaner will use the same cloths when they come next time.

3. Our cleaners will use **your** cleaning products; your products must be in the original container with directions/ poison information etc on the label;

4. Our cleaners change disposable gloves often while cleaning houses.

5. The cleaners will use hand sanitiser before entering and when leaving your property.

6. We need to **stand-down** any worker who is sick or feeling unwell. We are doing this as per the Government Guidelines; and we hope you understand that if this happens, we may need to send a replacement worker.

7. If you would like our worker to wear a facemask - please let them know. They have supplies ready and will not take offence to the request.

8. We have asked all workers to refrain from any personal contact such as handshake.

If you have any questions or need more information, please give us a call.

## Work Health and Safety

#### Work health and safety is everyone's responsibility

Every employer has a legal responsibility or duty of care to protect the health and safety of people in the workplace.

#### **Our legal responsibilities**

NSW is legislated by the WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT 2011 . The legislation requires employers to adopt a risk management approach to eliminating and controlling risks to health and safety.

This means that when working in people's homes our employees must identify, assess and control any risks or hazards before they can commence work. This means that:

- Our staff are required to consider any safety issues that might present at your home,
- Discuss with you how any safety issues might be addressed,
- Report any significant safety issue to their supervisor, and
- Assist the supervisor to work with you to address any significant safety issue.

#### Example 1:

Mrs Jones lives alone with her pet Alsatian dog. The dog is very protective of Mrs Jones and tends to be very aggressive with strangers. When Joe, the staff member from JobQuest calls at Mrs Jones' to do some work on her house, the dog does not allow him to enter the property.



Joe then calls his supervisor Cheryl who in turn calls Mrs Jones who had not a set of the dog had Joe bailed up at the gate. When Joe gets into the home he does a quick safety check in which he notes the problem with the dog. Arrangements are made with Mrs

Jones that the next time Joe is due to call, she will contain the dog in the laundry. Joe also checks he has her phone number in case she forgets to do this.

#### Example 2:

When JobQuest staff member Maryanne visits Mr Reid for the first time she notices that he has two overloaded powerpoints and a lot a flammable material in the vicinity of these. Maryanne notes these on the safety checklist and then discusses with Mr Reid her concerns about the risks. Mr Reid agrees that

there is a problem and says his daughter had already purchased 2 power boards for him but he had not got around to putting them in place. Maryanne seeks Mr Reid's permission to do this for him, throw out the old double adaptors and move the flammable items from near the power points. Once this is done, she then notes on the safety checklist how the risk has been controlled.



## Collection of Personal Information and Privacy

In line with its Information Management Policy, JobQuest is committed to ensuring that the privacy of information of all clients is in line with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 2002 (NSW) and the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth).

Information under the Commonwealth Home Support Program is also collected in accordance with the Aged Care Act 1997 the Aged Care Standards and the Records Principles 2014.

Information under the Veterans' Home Care Services is also collected in accordance with the Aged Care Standards and the Deed of Agreement with the Commonwealth Department of Veterans Affairs.

JobQuest uses a UK based client scheduling system that has EU GDPR "General Data Protection Regulation" certification.

JobQuest is required to provide data to the government. Please see attached brochure DATA EXCHANGE.

What information is collected by JobQuest?	Why is it collected?
Personal details that enable us to provide your services – name, address, date of birth, proof of identification	Personal details enable us to provide the services you need and determine your eligibility for any subsidised services
Contact information for your primary carer, next of kin or other support person	This is collected so we can contact this person if we cannot raise you or you want us to report to them
Client Risk Profile	This information is collected so we can provide our services in your home safely and that any safety risks that are in your home can be considered and controlled for your protection and that of our Field Workers.
Any assessments or individual plans completed in relation to the client	This information is collected so we are all clear on what your needs are
Any notes about the services provided to the client	This information is collected so we track progress in meeting your needs and document any issues, concerns or feedback from you
Any agreements between clients and JobQuest or records relating to fees being charged	This information is collected so we have a record of our agreements together
Accounts that relate to services received by clients	Records of accounts generated and paid
Records relating to financial status and financial hardship applications and determinations for a client	This is to enable us to determine your fees and your eligibility for subsidised services. It is also collected if we need to consider waiving fees due to hardship.
Records that relate to any complaints made by clients	This information is collected so we have a record of any complaint, how it was handled and how it was resolved.
Records about employees employed who deliver services to our clients	Employee information is kept as a matter of course and JobQuest ensures that it meets the requirements of the Records Principles when keeping records for employees administering and delivering these services.

#### How long do we keep this information?

While you remain a client of JobQuest we will keep the records about you on file in either paper or electronic form.

When you cease accessing our services, we are required by the Aged Care Act 1997 to keep your records for a period ending **3 years** after the 30th June of the year in which the record was made.

If you transfer to another Service Provider a copy of your records may be transferred to this provider with your permission.

If you are a Veterans' Home Care Services' client we will keep your records in line with the Aged Care Act 1997 as described above.

#### Who has access to personal information?

Access to personal information is restricted to senior staff working in the program that provides the services to you, the Manager and Compliance Manager who audits our operations.

#### REMEMBER THAT YOUR INFORMATION CAN ONLY BE PROVIDED TO A THIRD PARTY BY JOBQUEST WITH YOUR CONSENT!

#### How can clients get access to the information that JobQuest keeps about them?

- Contact the staff responsible for the service you access;
- A time will be arranged to sit down in private with the proper person to go through the information; and
- You can check that the information that we have on your file is correct.

#### **Disposal of personal information**

JobQuest uses an accredited security disposal system.

Access to unlock the secure disposal units while on site for any reason is restricted to the

- 1. Manager, Coordinator or Project Manager in charge of the site
- 2. Compliance Manager

#### **Information Privacy Laws**

Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 2002 (NSW) and Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)

For more information contact: Office of the Federal Privacy Commissioner, **www.privacy.gov.au** 

#### If you have any concerns about the privacy of your information, please

contact our office or the Privacy Hotline 1300 363 992 (local call charge)



## **Frequently Asked Questions**



#### How can I access JobQuest Home Maintenance Services?

People aged 65 or above can contact My Aged Care on 1800 200 4 22 for assessment and referral. DVA clients can telephone 1300 550 450 to undergo an assessment for services by a VHC Assessment Agency.

Our staff will discuss with you about your eligibility and what services might be available to you and ways to get a referral. Your doctor, your friends, your family or other people can also help you to access our services.

Anyone can access our services on a fee-for-service basis, assessments and referrals are only required for subsidised aged care services. We provide a wide range of services at competitive commercial rates.

#### How much will the service cost me?

There are different fee structures for different types of services. If you have any questions about service cost, please don't hesitate to contact our office for assistance.

**<u>CHSP</u>** – Commonwealth Home Support Program (subsidized)

As per your service agreement or as per a quote that is given prior to the service JobQuest staff will give you a quote before confirming any job for you.

CHSP clients will not be denied services if suffering from financial hardship and cannot pay the fee.

#### Home Care Package

If you have a Home Care Package, the funds for the services come out of your package as discussed with your Fund Manager.

Clients allocated a Home Care Package may need to pay for the standard fee of service out of their package.

#### Veterans Home Care – Department of Veterans Affairs Home Care Services

Your assessment agency will inform you of your contributions. This is generally between \$5 and \$20.

#### Am I allowed to choose the worker who does the job?

It is important to us that you feel confident and comfortable with the workers that provide services to you. We work very hard to ensure that we match the right staff for your job. However, due to factors often outside of our control, it is not always possible to send a particular worker for your job.

#### Are all JobQuest workers police checked?

Yes, every person that works for JobQuest, regardless of their position has been police checked. It is JobQuest's policy that all Field Workers and other staff providing services must have a Criminal Record Check completed within the last 3 years **or** a current NDIS Worker Screening check. NIDS screening is approved by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission as a probity check for aged care workers.

#### Do you provide CHSP support in my suburb?

JobQuest provides Home Maintenance Services at a subsidised rate under the Commonwealth Home Support Program. - CHSP in the following local government areas -

#### Nepean – Penrith Hawkesbury, Blue Mountains

Western Sydney - Cumberland, Parramatta, Blacktown and The Hills.

#### Where do you provide other Home Maintenance Services?

Western Sydney, Blue Mountains, Hawkesbury

Hunter Region – Newcastle, Lake Macquarie, Cessnock, Maitland, Port Stephens local government areas

Contact the office for specific suburbs or areas.

For Sydney, Blue Mountains Regions contact the Girraween office on 8677 8885

For Hunter Region – contact the Project Manager directly on 0421 220 152.

#### Where is your office for Aged Care Services based?

JobQuest's has offices at Girraween and Newcastle.

#### Is JobQuest an accredited service?

#### Yes, JobQuest is certified under:

- Aged Care Quality Standards;
- NDIS [National Disability Insurance Scheme] Practice Standards;
- IS045001:2018 Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems; and
- Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs).

#### Can I change my mind once I start using your services?

Yes, our services are flexible and designed to reflect your changing needs and requirements. You can cancel any scheduled booking. All we require is a **minimum notice of 2 business days**. Apart from this, there is no contracts, no obligations on your behalf.

Clients and participants have the right to change service providers at any time. You will need to give notice so we can re-organise our workers.

#### Can you confirm the exact arrival time of your workers?

We can advise if our workers will be at your place either **in the morning or in the afternoon**. However, due to factors not under our control (eg weather, traffic, equipment breakdown, etc), we may not be able to promise any specific time that our workers will arrive at your place. We understand you have other commitments.

Also you can arrange for our workers to do the assigned tasks [such as mowing your lawn] without you being there. Please check with the JobQuest staff when you book the service and we will advise the worker you have given your permission to do the task without you being home. (ie lawn mowing)

#### What if I need to cancel my service?

Our Field Workers have rosters that we need to give them the week before so they can plan ahead. Because of this we need a **minimum of 2 working days' notice** so the rosters can be adjusted.

#### Why don't you rake up the grass?

Based on environmental and local council reasons, it is JobQuest's standard practice to mulch lawn clipping back to the lawn.

Mulching the lawn can:

- Improve soil conditions and retention of moisture;
- Provide nutrient to the soil and reduce needs of fertiliser;
- Increase organic matters in the lawn;
- Reduce waste and cost of waste disposal.

#### We cannot collect clipping in plastic bag or garbage bags;

- Clippings can be put on the garden bed, or on the compost area;
- If clippings have to be disposed of, they can go **directly** into the green bin, or where no green bin is available, into the red bin;
- Customers will be charged \$38.75 per bag if clippings are is to be removed from the site.
- Talk to the JobQuest office staff if you need assistance with this.



## How do I pay?

Your Payment options are:

- 1. In person at your Bank or any ANZ branch JobQuest's account details are on your invoice, use your invoice number as your reference. A transaction fee may apply.
- 2. Using an ANZ ATM select "Agent Deposit" and enter your invoice number in the reference box.
- 3. Pay over the phone with your credit or debit card call (02) 8677 8885 (9am-430 Monday to Friday)
- 4. Pay by Electronic Funds Transfer with your internet banking., again **put in your invoice number as the reference**
- 5. "Pay Now" option on all emailed invoices.

# **Prompt payment is appreciated**

#### IMPORTANT

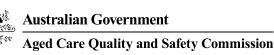
- Please use <u>the invoice number</u> as a reference, otherwise your payment will not be allocated to your account.
- Please do not pay workers attending your property no JobQuest worker will ask you for cash nor will they be able to accept any payment
- we are unable to offer more services if invoices are not paid.
- JobQuest does not accept cash
- If you are suffering financial hardship do not hesitate to call and speak to the manager



If you have any other questions, do not hesitate to contact our office!



OFFICE CONTACTS – MONDAY TO FRIDAY – 9am to 4:30pm		
Cirrowcon	Noucostlo	
Girraween	Newcastle	
Phone: (02) 8677 8885	Phone: (02) 4960 9024 Mobile: 0421 220 152	
E: <u>mail@jobquest.org.au</u>		
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# What is the Serious Incident Response Scheme?

Information for home services care recipients

1800 951 822 agedcarequality.gov.au

## The Serious Incident Response Scheme (or SIRS) helps reduce the risk of abuse and neglect for people who receive aged care.

On 1 December 2022, the SIRS was extended from residential aged care to include home care and flexible aged care delivered in a home or community setting.

# What home services providers must do

Your provider must record all incidents that occur when delivering aged care and services in their incident management system. This includes recording an incident that nearly happened or when someone suspects that something happened. This is so they can learn from the incident and improve their practices so that incidents don't occur again.

Your home services provider must notify the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission (the Commission) of certain reportable incidents that happen while delivering your care and services. The Commission will determine if any regulatory action should be taken.

## What is a reportable incident?

A serious incident your provider must report to the Commission could be:

- Unreasonable use of force like kicking, punching or rough handling
- Unlawful sexual contact or inappropriate sexual conduct – like stalking, making sexual advances or unwanted sexual touching
- **Psychological or emotional abuse** like yelling, name calling or ignoring
- Stealing or financial coercion by a staff member – like stealing money or pressuring you to give money
- **Neglect** like not giving you the care you need to stay well
- Inappropriate use of restrictive practices – like using physical force or medication to restrict your freedom or movement

## Aged care **reforms**

- **Missing consumers** where a care recipient goes missing
- **Unexpected death** like someone dying unexpectedly because they did not receive proper care and services.

# What should I expect from my provider?

If an incident like this happens to you while you are receiving care, staff must:

- check that you are okay, talk to you about what happened and work with you to resolve the issue
- record all incidents in their incident management system
- report serious incidents to the Commission.

## Your aged care rights

You have the right to safe, quality care and to live without abuse or neglect. It's always okay to speak up if you are concerned about an issue or incident.

Any incidents or concerns can be raised by you, your representative or by staff to your home services provider. You should not be treated differently if you raise a concern or exercise any of your rights under the <u>Charter of Aged Care Rights</u>.

## Where can I go for help?

If you do not feel comfortable talking to your provider or were not satisfied when you did, you can contact the Commission or an advocacy service for help and support.

## Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission

You can raise concerns or make a complaint about the aged care services you receive by calling the Commission on **1800 951 822 (free call)**. You can also contact us by <u>online form, email or post</u>.

## **Translation services**

If translation services are required, call Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS National) on **131 450**, and ask the operator to contact us.

## Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN)

An advocate is an independent person who helps you understand your rights and supports you to sort out your aged care concerns. They can help you talk to your provider about a problem or raise a complaint with us. This free and confidential help is available from the Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN). Call OPAN on **1800 700 600** (free call) or visit <u>opan.org.au</u>.

5 December 2022

Phone

1800 951 822



Web agedcarequality.gov.au



Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission GPO Box 9819, in your capital city