

MEDIA RELEASE

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Older Territorians called on to shape the future of aged care

Older Territorians are being asked to share their knowledge, insights and perspectives on the aged care system as part of a consultation process looking at strengthening and improving the laws governing aged care.

The consultations, being held across Australia by peak advocacy bodies, Council on the Ageing (COTA) Australia and Older Persons Advocacy Network (OPAN), follow the release of the Australian Government's *Consultation Paper* on the new Aged Care Act.

Each forum will provide input into the *Consultation Paper* which focuses on foundational elements of the new Act, such as whistleblower protection, supported decision-making arrangements, duty of care and compensation pathways and a Statement of Rights.

They will also provide feedback on the draft funding principles recently released by the Aged Care Taskforce, which is examining the options for an equitable and sustainable aged care system.

"Improving the Aged Care Act is a critical step towards improving the aged care system. It is the foundation for the changes we need to see." says Sue Shearer, Chief Executive Officer of COTA NT.

"COTA NT will be hosting the in-person consultation for the Northern Territory on 31 August in Darwin. This is an opportunity for older Territorians, their families and carers to ensure that the voices and experiences of those who matter most are heard loud and clear.

"The consultations are open to anyone interested in the future of the aged care system. We encourage everyone, particularly older Territorians with experience of aged care to take part."

Territorians can have their say about the future of aged care:

- in-person at the consultation in a safe, inclusive setting.
Register for the Darwin consultation [here](#). (For help registering, call 1800 001 321 (operating hours, Mon-Fri 8am – 8pm, Sat 10am – 4pm)
- or by sharing their view in an *Aged Care Funding Principles Survey* or directly to the Australian Government via surveys and submissions.
Find out more at <https://opan.org.au/cota-opan-consultations>.

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COTA Northern Territory is the peak advocacy and representation organisation for senior Territorians advocating for and working towards an age-friendly, just, inclusive and equitable society since 1969

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