Remote and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aged Care Service Development Assistance Panel

Fact Sheet

About the Panel
The Remote and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Aged Care Service Development Assistance Panel (SDAP) provides culturally appropriate local solutions to address the challenges of maintaining and delivering quality aged care services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and people living in remote areas.

SDAP consists of suitably qualified organisations engaged by the Department to provide specialist advice and assistance to eligible aged care providers.

Aged care providers eligible for assistance
Aged care services located in remote and very remote areas and/or those providing aged care to a significant number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people located anywhere in Australia may be eligible for assistance.

This includes the following:

- service providers funded under the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Programme;
- residential aged care services operating under the Aged Care Act 1997;
- service providers funded under the Home Care Packages Program; or
- service providers delivering Commonwealth Home Support Programme services, at the Department’s discretion.

Panel service categories

The Panel provides assistance across the following four service categories.

Service Category 1: Service Delivery
Panel Members can be engaged to assist aged care workers, managers and Board members to meet requirements of the current regulatory environment, including requirements of relevant legislation, quality standards and Australian Government funded aged care programs.

This may involve, but is not limited to the following activities:

- review of existing processes and procedures;
- implementation of improvements to processes and procedures;
• development of culturally appropriate supporting documentation;
• review and improvements to governance practices;
• staff training;
• staff recruitment, retention and rostering activities;
• care planning activities and related claims for fees and supplements;
• provision of nursing advice and guidance;
• identification of community aged care needs and building capacity to meet those needs; and
• management advisory services.

Service Category 2: Sector Support
Panel Members may assist one or more providers within a particular region to reposition their business or adopt changes to the aged care system through one or more of the following activities:

• facilitation of information sessions;
• education and awareness raising activities that are suitable to a range of service types and delivery models in remote and/or Indigenous communities; and
• strategic planning activities and development of options for delivery of a blended care model in remote and/or Indigenous communities.

Service Category 3: Financial management
Panel Members may provide specialist financial advice to assist aged care providers to meet their financial obligations in accordance with requirements of current legislation and Australian Government funded aged care programs.

This includes, but is not limited to the following activities:

• review and development of clear and effective cost controls, accounting, financial management, asset management and reporting processes;
• implementation of improvements to processes and procedures;
• staff training;
• development of a budget to support sustainable delivery of aged care services; and
• financial analysis activities.

Service Category 4: Project management
Panel Members can be engaged to assist aged care providers to develop, manage and deliver a project to meet the relevant regulatory requirements including the Building Code of Australia.

This includes, but is not limited to the following activities:
• review and assess existing buildings and infrastructure;
• scope building and infrastructure requirements;
• develop and review building concept plans;
• develop funding proposals;
• project manage building works; and
• undertake community and stakeholder engagement activities.

Should you wish to explore options for assistance, in the first instance contact the Department of Health office in your state/territory or visit the Department’s website: https://agedcare.health.gov.au/programs-services/flexible-care/support-services-for-remote-and-indigenous-aged-care