# Supporting a high-quality, sustainable aged care system

**Ageing Australia**QLD State Conference 2025

James Chen –Director, Aged Care Costing
Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority



## **Acknowledgement of Country**

We respect and acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we meet today, and recognise their continuing connection to land, sky, waters and culture.

We pay our respect to Elders today and those who walk in spirit.



# Independent Health and Aged Care Pricing Authority (IHACPA)



Independent government agency established under the *National Health* Reform Act 2011 as part of the National Health Reform Agreement



Delivery of transparent, independent, evidence-based pricing and costing advice, underpinned by broad stakeholder consultation, to the Australian Government



## Roles and responsibilities

### Aged care pricing roles and responsibilities



#### **IHACPA**

Develops aged care pricing and costing advice





### Australian Government

Sets aged care prices

Undertakes cost collections and public consultations. Analyses data and stakeholder feedback. Develops the pricing framework and pricing advice that we provide to government.

Determines and announces the prices.

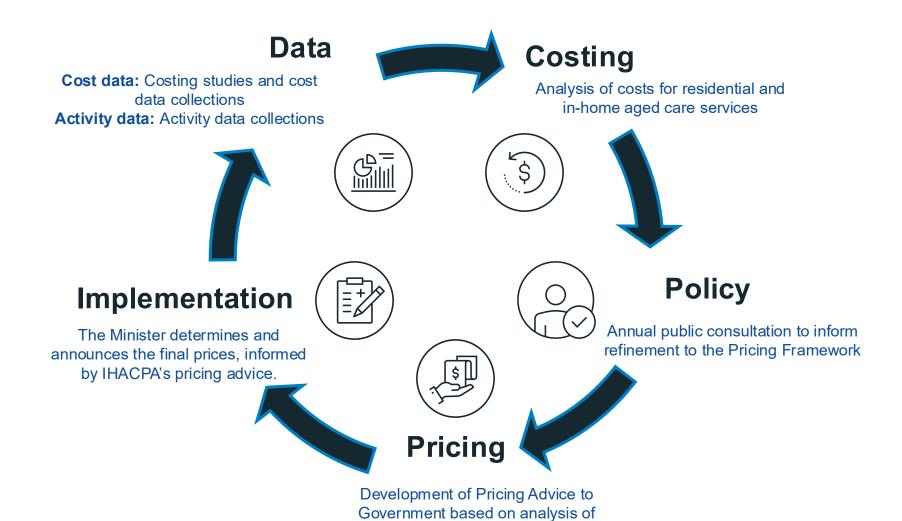
Minister for Health and Ageing

Supports program implementation and policy settings.

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing







activity and cost data



## Why is costing important?

- IHACPA's pricing advice reflects the cost of providing care
- Costing is the process of understanding what and how much resource are utilised by residents / clients when receiving specific services
- Costing enables us to understand variations in the costs of delivering care across different services and demographics
- This enables IHACPA to create a broad data set which forms the basis of its pricing advice



## **Aged Care Cost Collections**

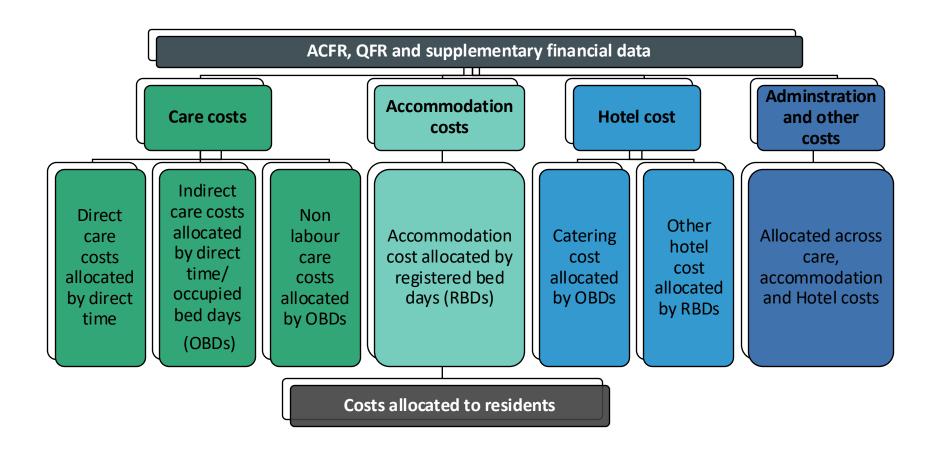
 IHACPA's costing studies and cost collections allow its pricing advice to reflect contemporary cost structures, changes in costs over time and care delivery models



**Cost Collections** 



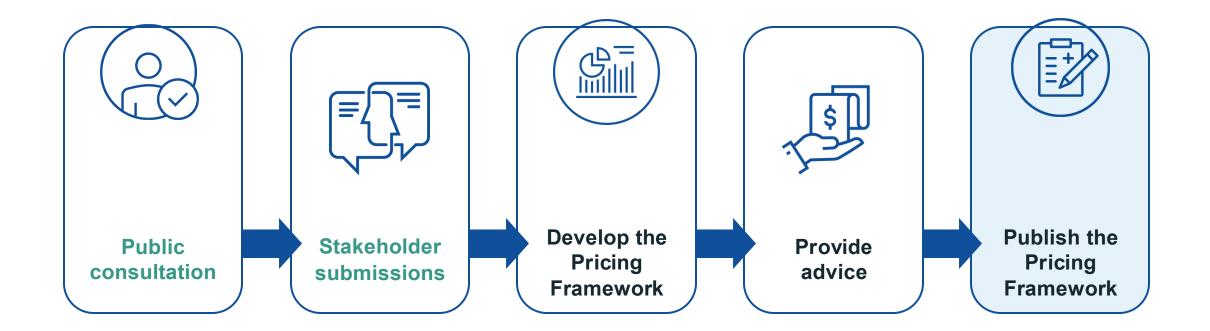
## **Example costing methodology**





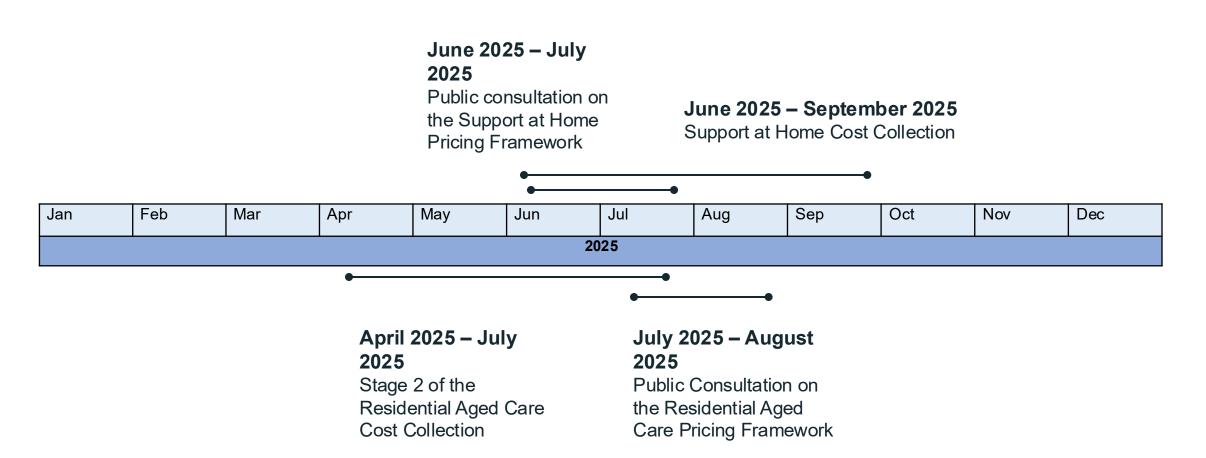
Master template

## **Annual consultation processes**





## Timelines for cost collections and public consultations





## Residential Aged Care Pricing Advice

IHACPA provides annual advice to government on:



recommended AN-ACC price



recommended changes to the BCT categories



recommended AN-ACC price weights



estimated average gap between the costs of delivering required hotel services and specific types of revenue received



# **Example of methodology for Residential Aged Care Pricing Advice**

### **Data preparation**

- Apply trimming rules
- Sample to population weighting
- Determine inscope cost
- Escalate ACFR cost to meet care minute targets

### **Pricing model**

- Model individual and shared cost for each AN-ACC class and BCT category
- Calibrate cost to population ACFR
- Derive a reference cost per NWAU
- Calculate price weights

### Indexation

- Fair Work
   Commission Work
   value case –
   Aged care
   industry Stage 2
   and 3 decisions
- Superannuation guarantee increase
- Indexation of labour and nonlabour cost to 2024–25

Residential
Aged Care
Pricing Advice
2024–25





## Support at Home Pricing Advice

IHACPA provides annual advice to government on:



recommended prices of service list items



prices differentiated by time of delivery



recommended pricing adjustments, if any



all in-scope costs such as labour, transport, consumables and administration



### Connect with us

Subscribe to our mailing list to receive updates on our work developing aged care pricing and costing advice.

### Aged care mailing list topics

- Residential aged care and residential respite care
- Refundable Accommodation Deposit (RAD) and Extra Service Fee applications

ihacpa.gov.au/subscribe





## Thank you



ihacpa.gov.au



youtube.com/@IHACPA



linkedin.com/company/independent-health-and-aged-care-pricing-authority



soundcloud.com/ihacpa



https://www.ihacpa.gov.au/events/ihacpa-conference-2025