National Plan to End the Abuse and Mistreatment of Older People 2024-2034 Program Logic

**Situation:** The National Elder Abuse Prevalence Study (2021), delivered under Australia’s first *National Plan to Respond to the Abuse of Older Australians 2019-2023 (National Plan)* identified that at least one in six older people experienced abuse in a 12-month period. The *National Plan to End the Abuse and Mistreatment of Older People 2024-2034* is the key national framework through which this issue is being addressed, building on the success of initiatives delivered under the first National Plan.

**Objectives:** Older people feel safe, valued and heard; have their rights protected and promoted; and live free from abuse and mistreatment.

# Key principles of the National Plan:

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| Taking a human rights approach | A strong focus on prevention and early intervention |
| Combatting ageism | A person-centred and trauma-informed response |
| Listening to and learning from the experiences of older people and diverse communities | Supporting individual decision-making, autonomy and dignity |

Outcomes and Benefits

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| **Inputs** |
| Commonwealth, state and territory commitment to the National Plan |
| State and territory strategies to respond to the abuse of older people |
| First National Plan to Respond to the Abuse of Older Australians 2019 - 2023 |
| Research and existing knowledge |
| Other National Strategies with aligned objectives |

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| **Activities/Outputs** |
| National Plan priority actions  Whole of community awareness, education and engagement |

**Short Term** (2027)  **Medium Term** (2030)  **Long Term** (2034)

**Enhanced legal and aged care frameworks and adult safeguarding responses** in line with Government reform priorities

**Reporting better aligns** with **prevalence** of mistreatment and abuse

**Improved data collection** by services

Improved **data quality**

Whole of community and systems **promote the rights of older people**

Strengthened **adult safeguarding responses**

Whole of community\* and systems have **better awareness and are supported to respond to abuse and mistreatment**

Older people and their families have **better awareness of risk and protective factors of abuse and mistreatment**

Older people are supported to have **meaningful social connections**

**Improved integration, capacity and capability** of services for older people and people who cause harm

**Increased equity of access** to services providing support for older people experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or mistreatment

Services have **sustained capacity** and **capability** to deliver a **person centred** and **trauma informed** approach to prevent and respond to the abuse of older people

**Reduced ageism** across the community and systems

**Reduced opportunity for abuse and mistreatment of older people**

Whole of community and systems have **better awareness of importance of social connection as a protective factor**

**Institutions identify, prevent and report** potential financial abuse

Systems, communities and individuals implement **strategies aimed at preventing abuse and mistreatment**

Whole of community has **better awareness of and engagement with Compass.info**

**National guidance** on communicating about abuse and mistreatment is **developed** and **used by government** and the **broader community**

Identified **approaches to improve system coordination**

Capacity and capability of services

**Aged care services operate in line with relevant reforms** implemented as part of the Australian Government’s response to the Aged Care Royal Commission, including the new Aged Care Act

Identified **approaches to clarify reporting pathways** relevant to adult safeguarding

**Progressed the delivery of relevant reforms to aged care** from the Aged Care Royal Commission, including the new Aged Care Act

Greater consistency in **EPOA laws across jurisdictions**

**Progressed implementation of appropriate EPOA reforms**

**Identified enhanced ability for institutions to** prevent financial abuse

**Identified improved service responses and pathways** for older people who **are at risk of**, or experiencing, abuse or mistreatment

Specialist services are **aware of identified best-practice quality and safety standards**

(including trauma-informed, person-centred and culturally safe approaches)

**Improved capability of 1800 ELDERHELP** services

Relevant professionals and systems **can identify and respond to ageism, abuse and mistreatment**

**Increased and earlier help seeking and reporting** of mistreatment or abuse

Gaps in evidence base and collaboration

Agencies and community partners **collaborate and share practices**

Research, monitoring and evaluation of **data gaps** relevant to preventing and responding to the abuse and mistreatment of older people **are identified and being addressed**

Legal frameworks

and adult safeguarding responses

**Identified improved service responses and pathways** for people **who cause harm** to older people

Whole of community and systems **can identify and respond to abuse and mistreatment**

Whole of community and systems have better awareness of, and are **supported to prevent and respond to ageism**

Whole of community and systems have **better awareness of older people’s rights**

Agencies and community partners are **aware of and utilise the national evidence-based prevention framework**

**Design and implementation** of abuse and mistreatment prevention and response initiatives utilise more and better evidence

Initiatives to prevent and respond to abuse and mistreatment are **evaluated to be effective**

Whole of community and systems **sustain behaviours to prevent and respond to abuse and mistreatment**

**Communities are more age-friendly, inclusive and connected**

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| **Participation** |
| Australian Government |
| State and territory governments |
| Community partners and services |
| Australian Community, including the diverse lived and living experiences of  older people |

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| Key assumptions: |  | Key inhibitors: | |  | **Key enablers:** |
| All Australian Governments continue to prioritise and commit to programs under the National Plan | Lack of engagement from key partners | Intersectional inequality | Ageist attitudes and unconscious bias amongst individuals, community and systems | | Commitment of Commonwealth, state, territory governments, and the broader community in National Plan initiatives. |
| Time resourcing and constraints | Lack of engagement with/from older people | | |

**Note:** This program logic should be read together with the National Plan to End the Abuse and Mistreatment of Older People 2024 – 34 for additional context and definitions.

The program logic is a first step in the development of a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework that will support the implementation of this National Plan.

Whole of community references are intended to include a focus on First Nations Peoples and other Priority Groups.

A non-exhaustive list of Priority Groups can be found in the National Plan under ‘Key Terminology’.