

MEDIA RELEASE



CALLS FOR TARGETED INVESTMENT IN 2026-27 TASMANIAN BUDGET

11 December 2025

National Seniors Australia (NSA) is calling for targeted investment to provide older Tasmanians with safety, security, and dignity as detailed in its <u>26-27 Tasmanian Budget Submission</u>.

The independent peak consumer body's submission to Treasury sets out nine (9) recommendations on key issues for Tasmanian seniors including transport, health, housing, concessions, and legacy.

"At its heart, many of the recommendations address cost-of-living pressures facing older Tasmanians and are designed to enable older people to live a more dignified life, while also supporting the economy and budget," NSA Chief Executive Officer Mr Chris Grice said.

"These recommendations have been formulated in consultation with our Tasmanian Policy Advisory Group reflecting feedback from older Tasmanians.

"According to the 2023 Intergenerational Report, the number of Australians aged 65 and older will more than double and the number aged 85 and older will more than triple over the next forty years. Australia, including Tasmania, needs to plan for this impact and opportunity now by investing in and implementing good public policy that supports and enables this cohort.

"This 26-27 Tasmanian Budget is an opportunity for government to show it listens, understands, and genuinely wants to help its seniors – today and into the future.

National Seniors Australia key budget recommendations:

Transport

- Review public transport services focusing on affordability and accessibility for older Tasmanians.
- Introduce free or very low-cost public transport fares for seniors.

Health

- Improve emergency department waiting times.
- Work with the Federal Government to develop solutions to the stranded patient issue in hospitals

Housing

- Boost downsizing by increasing the seniors duty concession threshold to \$750,000 for newly built homes.
- Provide incentives to boost investment in low-cost housing for seniors in Tasmania.

For more information, download the National Seniors Australia Tasmanian Budget Submission here

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