The Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) provides a range of entry-level home support services designed to help people to continue living in their own homes for as long as possible.

Who uses the CHSP?
During the 2017-18 financial year, 783,043 people accessed CHSP, accounting for nearly two thirds of aged care clients.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, CALD people and Carers
In 2017-18, nearly 3% of CHSP clients self-identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

One in five clients were Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) people, born overseas in non-main English speaking countries.

16% of CHSP clients also had a carer. Note that here the definition of ‘carer’ refers family members, friends or neighbours who provide regular care and assistance, and excludes formal (paid or volunteer) care services.

CHSP client’s living arrangements
The majority of CHSP clients (58%) were in private residences owned by themselves or their family.

During the 2017-18 financial year, 45% of clients were living alone, 36% of clients were living as a couple. 18% of clients were living in a group of related or unrelated adults.

CHSP Organisations
In 2017-18, a total of 1,456 aged care organisations were funded to deliver CHSP home support services to clients.

1 Excludes records where living arrangement was not specified
CHSP services provided in 2017-18

The CHSP is used to deliver a range of timely, high-quality entry-level support services.

Most clients use only a few service types. In 2017-18, around 76% of clients received either 1 or 2 service types. Slightly less than 6% of clients received 5 or more service types.

Figure 4: Number of service types received by CHSP clients, 2017-18

Domestic Assistance had the largest share of clients, with around 307,000 clients (just over 39% of all clients) receiving this service.

Figure 5: Proportions of CHSP clients, by service type, 2017-18

CHSP Funding & Fees

The CHSP is a grant-funded programme. During 2017-18, the Australian Government provided $2.2 billion for the delivery of CHSP services.

The average amount of grants funding per person in the CHSP was approximately $2,762; however there can be significant variation in funding between clients.

The top three services by funding were: Domestic Assistance (18% of total CHSP funding, $393 million), Nursing (12%, $269 million) and Social Support Group (11%, $235 million).

Figure 6: CHSP grants funding amounts by service type, 2017-18

CHSP service providers may have a client contribution framework through which those clients who can afford to contribute to the cost of their care do so. On average, $280 of fees were paid per client over 2017-18. Cottage Respite services had the highest average fee per client, at $866 over the year.

Figure 7: Average total fees per client over the year, by service type, 2017-18

The services with the largest total of fees were: Domestic Assistance ($57 million), Meals ($50 million) and Personal Care ($18 million).

Figure 8: Total amounts of fees collected, by service type, 2017-18