



Support for highly vulnerable veterans through the Wellbeing and Support Program

This initiative provides \$23.3 million over four years to provide ongoing funding for the Wellbeing and Support Program. The Program provides intensive case management for highly vulnerable veterans who are either transitioning into civilian life after their Australian Defence Force (ADF) service, or veterans who have complex care needs post-transition.

Why is this important?

The Wellbeing and Support Program supports highly vulnerable veterans to improve their wellbeing.

This Program fills a critical gap in support for veterans with very complex, acute and multiple needs. It helps veterans who are experiencing a range of psychosocial challenges such as lack of employment, chronic pain, multiple physical health conditions, traumatic brain injury, at-risk drug and alcohol use, and complex mental health issues through intensive case management.

Following a three year pilot program, an independent evaluation found that personalised and comprehensive case management was of benefit to highly vulnerable veterans. Through the Program, veterans are supported by a community case worker who provides face-to-face support, motivation and adherence to treatment and support. The case workers help veterans with attendance at key health appointments and facilitate access to other services. Veterans also benefit from streamlined and responsive management of claims matters and access to Department of Veterans' Affairs programs.

This initiative delivers on the Government's commitment to improve the mental health and wellbeing of the veteran community.

Who will benefit?

Up to 200 highly vulnerable veterans are supported by this program at any given time. Highly vulnerable veterans who are already enrolled in the pilot will continue to receive support as needed.

Date of effect?

Under this initiative, the existing pilot will become an ongoing program. The ongoing program will take effect from 1 July 2021.

How much will this cost?

\$23.3 million over four years.

