More Choices for a Longer Life — healthy ageing and high quality care

This measure include the following two components:

- Simpler Means Testing Forms for Consumers, and
- Outreach and System Navigator Services – Financial Information Service Officer Trial

Simpler Means Testing Forms for Consumers

This component will simplify the means testing forms aged care consumers must complete when entering care. It also examines the scope for simplifying other forms consumers are required to complete when engaging with the aged care system.

A Forms Taskforce will be established from July 2018 to create a simpler paper-based short form for means testing consumers with straightforward financial affairs. The new form will be introduced by May 2019. The Taskforce will also make recommendations on simplifying the means testing forms and process for all aged care consumers, including those with more complex financial affairs.

The Taskforce will include consumer group representatives, aged care providers and other stakeholders such as financial advisers. It will report back to the Government by the end of 2018.

Who is eligible?

Improvements in the means testing process will benefit the approximately 170,000 consumers and their families who undertake a financial assessment for home or residential aged care every year. It will particularly benefit consumers with straightforward financial affairs, who will be eligible to use the short means testing form.

The date this will start and finish

This will start from 1 July 2018 with a new form available by May 2019.
**Outreach and System Navigator Services – Financial Information Service Officer Trial**

This component provides support to senior Australians and their families to engage with the aged care system.

The Department of Human Services will work with the Department of Health to trial the use of dedicated Financial Information Service (FIS) Aged Care specialists.

These specialists will assist senior Australians and their families with the financial aspects of an aged care assessment.

The trial will be conducted over a 12 month period.

The results of the trial will help decide options for a comprehensive Aged Care Outreach and System Navigator services.

**Who is eligible?**
People located in the trial sites will have access to the FIS Aged Care specialists for the trial’s duration.

**The date this will start and finish**
This will start in September 2018 and end in September 2019.