



Coversheet

Initial agreement to the draft Carers' Strategy Action Plan and progression to public consultation

Hon Penny Simmonds, Associate Minister for Social Development and Employment

The following documents have been proactively released:

5 November 2025, Cabinet paper - Initial agreement to the draft Carers' Strategy Action Plan and progression to public consultation

5 November 2025, Appendix 1: Draft Carers' Strategy Action Plan – Summary A3

5 November 2025, Appendix 2: Draft Carers' Strategy Action Plan Narrative

5 November 2025, Appendix 3: Draft Carers' Strategy Action Plan Consultation Plan

5 November 2025, Cabinet Social Outcomes Committee Minute, SOU-25-MIN-0149, Cabinet Office.

These papers outline Cabinet agreement in principle to the government commitments in the draft Carers' Strategy Action Plan (Action Plan) to support informal or unpaid carers (Appendix 1) and provide further detail on the Action Plan and development. Agreement in principle is subject to the planned report-back to Cabinet in April 2026, which considers consultation feedback and advice on ongoing governance structures for the Action Plan.

The following documents that provide a general summary of the Cabinet paper and consultation process are already public:

- *Draft Carers' Strategy Action Plan: Discussion document November 2025*, which outlines the draft Carers' Strategy Action Plan and development.
www.msd.govt.nz/documents/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/consultations/carers-strategy-action-plan/discussion-document.pdf
- *Draft Carers' Strategy Action Plan: Summary document November 2025*, which provides a summary of the draft Carers' Strategy Action Plan and development.
www.msd.govt.nz/documents/about-msd-and-our-work/publications-resources/consultations/carers-strategy-action-plan/summary.pdf

Minor typographical errors have been noted, these do not make any substantive changes to the policy decisions. These are:

- Cabinet paper:

- on paragraph 29, 49 and recommendation 1 to state: Carers Advisory Group instead of Carers' Strategy Advisory Group or Carers' Advisory Group
- on paragraph 34 and recommendation 3 to include correct punctuation at the end of bullet points: `;`.
- Appendix 2:
 - on slide 5 to add a full-stop to the Vision statement
 - on slide 6 to correct grammar to: `recognising' instead of `recognise'.
- Appendix 3:
 - on page 3, correction to full title: Mahi Aroha Carers' Strategy Action Plan 2019-2023.

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