

22 May 2026

Missed opportunity to do more now to support ageing well in Tasmania.

Budgets are about more than numbers.

They are a tangible annual statement of what the government values, what it prioritises, and who it sees.

In an ageing Tasmania, that must include the almost 40% of Tasmanians now aged 50 and over — a number that is continuing to grow.

The 2026-2027 State Budget did not reflect the level of consideration, investment and desire to create the Age Friendly State this Government reportedly wants to shape.

We welcome commitments that support older Tasmanians, including investment for the Older Tasmanians Action Plan, funding towards preventive health and care at home, and transport-related measures.

But the scale of investment still does not match the scale of demographic change.

Important questions have not been clearly addressed, including measures to improve digital inclusion, housing options for older people, elder abuse responses, community services industry sustainability, and whether the Older Tasmanians Action Plan is funded at a level that can deliver meaningful change.

COTA Tasmania will release a full response to the Tasmanian State Budget early next week.

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