



## TPI FEDERATION AUSTRALIA

*“Disabled in our Service - United in our Cause”*



# Federation President’s Report

February 2022

Happy New Year to all our Members and fellow TPI/SRs and it is hoped that the New Year is all that you would like it to be for you and your families.

As of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022, the PBS and the RPBS Safety Net threshold has been adjusted. From 1 January 2022, you pay up to \$42.50 for most PBS medicines or **\$6.80** if you have a concession card. The Safety Net threshold remains equivalent to 48 scripts. The amount of co-payment is adjusted on 1 January each year in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

### **Veterans’ Home Care services available**

The Veterans’ Home Care (VHC) program provides eligible DVA clients and eligible dependants with access to services to help you to remain independent and in your homes. For further information - <https://bit.ly/3FhFjbJ>.

DVA recently added an additional service for VEA clients of Lawn Mowing and Garden Maintenance for a maximum of 15 hours per year. Any TPI who is already receiving 26 hours per year service for this service will retain that entitlement. If you are concerned and would like to discuss your circumstances, you are encouraged to contact DVA on 1800 VETERAN (1800 838 372) so the matter can be investigated.

### **Rent Assistance**

Again, a reminder and a repeat of a comment in my August and October 2021 Reports –

As part of the October 2020 Federal Budget, the Government finally agreed, after 15 years of campaigning by the TPI Federation, and as from September 2022, to allow TPIs eligibility of the Federal Governments Rent Assistance allowance. The TPI Federation disagreed with the length of time this provision would take to be implemented and, as a result, as part of the May 2021 Federal Budget, this timeline was bought forward so that this initiative could commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022.

This provision will enable all eligible TPIs to have their TPI Compensation payment not included as income for the purposes of the income and assets test for this allowance. This will enable approximately 2800 TPIs to utilise this allowance.

Further information on this provision can be found at –

- TPI Federation Letter – Rent Assistance Information - <https://bit.ly/36bHIUR>,
- DVA Fact Sheet – Help with your Rent - <https://bit.ly/3wjYIJs>.
- DVA ‘How-To’ Accommodation Information - <https://bit.ly/3AfJQZM>,

### **Conclusion**

The TPI Federation will continue to assist all TPIs as best they can during the coming year and should you have any questions, please forward them to the email address below.

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Email: [federation@tpifed.org.au](mailto:federation@tpifed.org.au)  
Ph: 0417 291 546

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### **Important Dates**

Royal Commission started –	8 July 2021
Rent Assistance Eligibility for TPIs begins –	1 January 2022
Royal Commission Hearings – Sydney –	14 February 2022
Royal Commission Interim Report –	11 August 2022
Royal Commission Submissions close –	14 October 2022
Royal Commission Final Report –	15 June 2023