

**A statement from a spokesman for the Minister for Senior Australians and Aged Care Services, Richard Colbeck:**

Jeta Gardens was subject to a number of site visits by the regulator since 2019.

There were no non-compliance issues identified until 2021.

As outlined by the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commissioner at Wednesday's Senate Estimates hearing, issues of non-compliance are not routinely raised directly with the Minister until such time that the provider has been unable to respond effectively and its risk rating is subsequently escalated by the regulator.

I note that the Commission is closely monitoring the service under a Notice to Agree, issued to the provider on 2 February 2022.

It has the power to take regulatory action that can include revoking approved provider status.

Efforts to strengthen the protections for senior Australians in aged care remain a priority for the Australian Government and the work of the strengthened independent Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission remain key to that important reform.

It has been continuously engaged with regulatory activity across the sector throughout COVID-19.

This program of work, including targeted visits based on assessed risk, has been built on universal surveys, existing regulatory intelligence, and visits.

The Government has provided additional funding to the Commission during COVID-19 and in the latest Budget to bolster this regulatory activity.

The Morrison Government is committed to senior Australians receiving high quality aged care when and where they need it most.

That is why it is delivering once in a generation change through a \$18.3 billion aged care reform package, which includes \$7.8 billion over five years to improve and simplify residential aged care services and access. From 1 July 2021, \$3.2 billion has been invested for a Basic Daily Fee supplement of \$10 per resident per day to providers to deliver better care and services, and the continuation of the 30 per cent increase in the homelessness and viability supplements.

The Government is delivering record investment in the aged care system over the forward estimates, growing from \$26 billion in 2021-22 to \$33 billion in 2024-25.

Funding for residential care is \$15 billion in 2021-22 and it is estimated in 2024-25 this will grow to \$19 billion.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government has committed more than \$2 billion in funding for aged care to respond to the pandemic.