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Travel costs must be included for home based carers

The recent move by ACC to cut travel payments to home-based support workers is a step backwards, says the National Council of Women of New Zealand (NCWNZ).

“Home-based support is an essential service for many, and carers should be rewarded not penalised. The decision to remove payments for the first 20kms travelled by a support worker to an ACC client is unacceptable,” says Elizabeth Bang, NCWNZ National President.

NCWNZ agrees with Rural Women New Zealand that the move is short sighted and will end up costing the government more in the long run.

In 2004, NCWNZ passed policy requesting the Government to include the costs of travel in the remuneration for government contracted providers of home-based care.

“We stand by our policy that the total cost of travel must be included in the remuneration of government contracted providers of home-based care. It is very disappointing that ACC is proposing that carers pay for a portion of the travel out of their own pockets,” concludes Elizabeth Bang.

Further Information:

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