

National Shelter - NRAS SPARED FROM THE FLOODS

[Link to National Shelter Media Release 18 February 2011](#)

National Shelter congratulates the Federal Government, The Greens, and community agencies in brokering the restoration of the full National Rental Affordability Scheme.

This result comes following a campaign from the Affordable Housing Summit Group, over the last three weeks.

The campaign was in response to last month's decision by the Gillard Government to cap NRAS as part of a package to fund post-disaster reconstruction.

Chair of National Shelter, a member of the Affordable Housing Summit Group, Adrian Pisarski, said:

"NRAS is a program that works, so it is important to fight for it to be maintained, particularly as momentum is building to a critical mass."

National Shelter acknowledges the alacrity of Minister Burke and Cabinet in removing the cap.

"NRAS leverages small government incentives to encourage investment by institutional investors, community organisations and private developers."

"National Shelter believes NRAS is the centrepiece of the Government's housing strategy, and this decision reaffirms that."

"Investors may now have more confidence that NRAS will continue as a long term program," Mr Pisarski said.

For more information: www.shelter.org.au

www.qshelter.asn.au Queensland Shelter campaign "*Don't let NRAS wash away with the floods*"

www.sheltersnw.org.au Shelter NSW letter writing campaign

Contact:

Adrian Pisarski, Executive Officer, p: 0417 975 270 or Joanna Carson, Communications Officer, p: 0418 718 584

Gimme Shelter Saturday 19th February 2011

Gimme Shelter, the annual fundraiser for the homeless on the south lawn at Fremantle Arts Centre is on again on 19th February with another amazing line-up. Hugely popular hip-hop/R&B outfit The Last Kinection (Newcastle, NSW) are flying over to help the cause. The Last Kinection get regular air-play on Triple J and the trio recently hosted RAGE. Rocking it with the best of them, The Last Kinection have been blessed with sharing the stage alongside Paul Kelly, Missy Higgins, John Butler, Bernard Fanning and The Herd to name a few, at the sell out tribute to Australian music legend Kev Carmody at the 'Cannot Buy My Soul' concert last year at the Brisbane River Festival. They've recently supported Arrested Development, Public Enemy and The Herd, won a Deadly, and played just about every major festival in Australia.

Dom Mariani, Perth's godfather of pop, is performing with his new outfit Dom Mariani and the Rippled Souls, Dom's work is a distillation of rock'n'roll energy, sun-streaked melodies, ringing guitar work and headlock chorus hooks, fine-tuned with alchemical precision over 25 years of performance.

Also performing is Brave and the Bird. And who are Brave and the Bird? Gimme Shelter organisers are remaining tight-lipped on this one. "We can't tell you for legal reasons", said event organiser Phoebe Corke. "All I can say is it's a couple of big name performers, we're very excited and the crowd is going to go wild when they see who it is."

The Starlight Hotel Choir will also be singing songs from their just released CD and Jim Fisher will be MC for the night.

Gimme Shelter is a not-for-profit event with every cent from ticket sales going directly to feed and nurture the homeless. Tickets are dirt-cheap at \$25 + booking fee in advance, \$35 on the door from www.heatseeker.com.au, The Fremantle Arts Centre and usual outlets. Under 16's are \$10 and kids under 6 are free. Gates open at 5.30pm.

National Shelter Report *Issues from the Henry report on Australia's future tax system for housing policy*

A copy of the National Shelter report prepared in December 2010 titled *Issues from the Henry report on Australia's future tax system for housing policy* is now available to download from [here](#)

Fifteen Development Assessment Panels set to be established

Planning Minister John Day is set to establish 15 Development Assessment Panels that will operate across local government areas in Western Australia from July 1, 2011. [Link to Media Statement](#)

Mr Day said the panels would enhance planning expertise in decision making by improving the balance between technical advice and local knowledge.

"These panels will be independent decision-making bodies comprised of independent technical experts and elected local government representatives," he said.

"They will determine development applications of more than \$15million in the City of Perth, and more than \$7million across the rest of the State. In addition, applicants will have the option for panel determination for applications between \$10million and \$15million in the City of Perth, and \$3million to \$7million across the rest of the State."

The Development Assessment Panels will have the same discretion regarding decision making as local governments and the Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC).

Specialist members may have experience in one or more of the following areas of expertise: town planning; architecture; urban design; engineering; landscape design; environment; law; property development and management. Presiding members and deputy presiding members will be required to hold town planning qualifications.

Expressions of interest for specialist member positions are open until Friday, March 4.

In March, the Minister will invite local governments to nominate three of their elected councillors to sit as members on Development Assessment Panels.

To obtain an expression of interest package, visit the 'latest features' of the Department of Planning's website at <http://www.planning.wa.gov.au>. For enquiries in relation to specialist member appointments, contact Alice Brown on (08) 9264 7698 or alice.brown@planning.wa.gov.au.

Starlight Hotel Choir CD "*Shelter Me*" Out Now \$25

St Patrick's Community Support Centre is proud to announce that their Starlight Hotel Choir has produced its first CD "*Shelter Me*".

A number of the songs were actually written by members of the Choir during song writing workshops.

To purchase a CD or arrange distribution on behalf of the Starlight Hotel Choir, please contact Dave Johnson, Choir Director on 0419 190 725 or JOHNSON1964@OPTUSNET.COM.AU

www.myspace.com/thestarlighthotelchoir

Swags for Homeless

Swags for Homeless is a National not-for-profit charity.

- Run 100% by unpaid volunteers
- 3000+ Backpack Beds (swags) made in only 12 months
- Funded 100% by volunteers and do-gooders - LIKE YOU
- Only 1.89% of funds went to overheads (ASIC Audit March 2009)

Swags for Homeless distribute the World's ONLY fire retardant_Backpack Bed™ (swag) to homeless around Australia and the World.

80% of families are turned away from shelters tonight while 60% of individuals are turned away also. However, 100% are turned away from 98% of towns around Australia - simply because there is no solution.

"Charities are screaming for our help - the demand outweighs our donations".

To make a donations and see all about this initiative visit www.swags.org.au or e-mail admin@swags.org.au

Child Protection Minister Robyn McSweeney recently presented Anglicare WA with a Lotterywest cheque for \$303,124 to further the development of the Foyer Oxford project.

The Foyer project includes both an interim Foyer in Highgate, and the purpose-built Foyer Oxford in Leederville, scheduled for completion in mid-2012.

“The Foyer model is specifically designed for young people who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, and will provide secure, stable and supported housing,” Mrs McSweeney said.

“The focus will be on developing life skills and providing education, training and other opportunities to reduce the long-term risk of homelessness.”

The Foyer Oxford development is a partnership between Anglicare WA, Foundation Housing and the Central Institute of Technology and will be built on the Leederville Central Institute of Technology site in Oxford Street.

The Department of Housing will fund its construction and a 50-year lease has been negotiated with the Department of Training and Workforce Development.

The support component will be provided by the Department for Child Protection and is funded through the joint Commonwealth/State National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness.

The Foyer Oxford will accommodate up to 98 young people aged 16 to 25 years and will incorporate:

- studio apartments and small apartments for young people with children
- 24 hour on-site staffing and support
- specialised tutoring and mentoring
- commercial units and community spaces as well as an on-site café for young people to gain hospitality experience and engage with the local community.

“This project is an important step towards tackling youth homelessness as it demonstrates the commitment of the State Government to collaborate with non- government agencies to develop innovative and sustainable programs,” the Minister said. [Link to Minister's Media Statement](#)

HCCCaLD - Housing Crisis Committee for the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse

Is an advocacy group comprising of agencies and individuals committed to addressing the urgent housing issues facing WA CaLD people

Present a

HOUSING & TENANCY SERVICES FORUM

Friday, 11 March 2011

Come and find out about housing & tenancy related services North of the River and how to refer clients to them.

Program

Part A: Quick Snap Shot of Housing & Tenancy Issues

Affordable Housing Strategy for WA
Current & predicted private rental market
Discrimination in the private rental market

Morning tea

Part B: Housing & Tenancy Services – Who they are

3 minute talks from up to 20 local agencies!!!
Pamphlets and posters from each of the agencies will also be available.

Coming to this Forum will save you heaps of time!!

9:00 (for a 9:30 start) – 1:45pm

Morning tea provided

Herb Graham Recreational Centre

38 Ashbury Cres, Mirrabooka, *Opposite the Mirrabooka Square Shopping Centre*

Registering & Enquiries:

Please contact Mandy or Robyn on:
93420120 or Mandy.Whitton@det.wa.edu.au

Is your Agency Represented and Speaking?

Contact Mandy by 25 February 2011, to ensure your agency gets a place to talk at the Forum.

Grants and Funding Opportunities

Social Innovation Program Grants

Community groups are invited to apply for the first round of the State Government's new Social Innovation Grants Program. The Government has allocated \$2million funding for 2010-11, increasing to \$4million in future years.

Applications are open now and run until March 31, 2011.

More information, including the application guidelines and criteria for priority selection, will be available on the Department for Communities' website on 21 January 2011 - www.communities.wa.gov.au or phone 6217 8400

Regional Grants Scheme 2010-11 Funding Round Now Open

Communities in regional Western Australia will benefit funding of up to \$9million in the latest round of the State Government's Royalties for Regions' Regional Grants Scheme (RGS).

The Regional Grants Scheme is an initiative of Royalties for Regions that aims to improve economic and community infrastructure and services in regional Western Australia.

Individuals and organisations apply for funding directly to their Regional Development Commission.

A list of Regional Development Commission contacts is available on the Department of Regional Development and Land's website: <http://rdl.wa.gov.au> or by phoning 9217 1400.

The applications will close on 10 March 2011.

Call to apply for Environmental Community Grants 2011

Environment Minister Bill Marmion today called for applications for the third funding round of the State Government's four-year \$6million Environmental Community Grants Program.

"There are eight categories of grants, including biodiversity conservation; sustainable catchment management; interpretation and sustainable recreation in natural areas, regional parks and Bush Forever sites."

The State Government will also support the many dedicated wildlife rehabilitators who provide a vital service to the community, with grants of \$500 available for individuals and up to \$5,000 for incorporated groups.

"Funding will be available for projects which rehabilitate, conserve, enhance or restore natural areas or values, as well as for activities that raise public awareness for nature conservation at a local level," the Minister said.

Application forms can be downloaded from <http://www.dec.wa.gov.au>, or obtained by phoning 9442 0300, and **must be submitted by April 7, 2011.**

[Link to Minister's Media Statement](#)

Community Grants Program

The Office of Multicultural Interests (OMI) vision is an inclusive and cohesive society drawing on the cultural and linguistic diversity of its people to enhance the social, economic and development of the State. The Community Grants Program (CGP) objectives support the OMI strategic plan by encouraging participation, equity and promotion of all Western Australians in projects and events that remove barriers and enhance cross-cultural engagement.

Closing dates

Applications can be submitted at anytime however, applications received after the closing date for each round will only be considered by the grants assessment panel in the next funding round:

Community grants closing round dates

4pm Thursday 24 February 2011

4pm Thursday 19 May 2011

4pm Thursday 18 August 2011

4pm Thursday 10 November 2011

Applications may be posted to the Office of Multicultural Interests, 2nd Floor, Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street, West Perth, or hand-delivered to Dumas House, Ground Floor Reception.

The onus is on community organisations to ensure that applications are received by OMI no later than 4:00pm on the closing date. Applications received or postmarked after the closing date for each funding round will not be considered in that round. Please note: Emailed or facsimile applications are not accepted.

If you need help with your application, please contact the Grants Officer at OMI on 9217 1619 or by email on nilda.eisen@omi.wa.gov.au. Application Forms and Guidelines on how to prepare your application are available at [here](#).

WA Grants for Women 2011

The Department for Communities is currently seeking applications for the WA Grants for Women Program.

In support of the Centenary of International Women's Day in 2011, the Department for Communities is providing one-off grants of up to \$5,000 to eligible community groups and organisations for projects that strengthen the social and economic wellbeing of women, increase their participation in the community, promote positive images of women, encourage women's leadership and/or encourage women's sense of safety.

The program guidelines and application form are available on the department's website at [.communities.wa.gov.au](http://communities.wa.gov.au).

If you have any further questions or queries, please contact the Department for Communities on 6217 8400 or email @communities.wa.gov.au. **Applications close at 5:00pm on Friday 15 April 2011.**

Better Aged Care Services for Older Australians from Non-English Speaking Backgrounds

Older Australians of non-English-speaking backgrounds will benefit from better access to aged care services that meet their needs following the call today for applications for funding under the Partners in Culturally Appropriate Care (PICAC) Program.

Minister for Mental Health and Ageing Mark Butler announced that \$6.6 million would be available for up to three years from 1 July 2011 under the PICAC program. [Minister's Media Statement](#)

Mr Butler said that one organisation in each state and territory will receive a grant to work collaboratively with aged care service providers, the Community Partners Program and the Department of Health and Ageing.

"The core objective of projects funded under the PICAC Program is to equip aged care service providers to deliver appropriate care to older people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

"The Australian Bureau of Statistics figures from 2009 show almost a quarter of Australia's population were born overseas. The PICAC program contributes to the Gillard Government's commitment to providing access to quality care services to meet the needs of people from a culturally and linguistically diverse background," Mr Butler said.

The PICAC program is essential to improving culturally appropriate aged care through the provision of training to staff of aged care residential homes and to community based aged care services.

Further information on the Partners in Culturally Appropriate Care Program, including contact information for current PICAC providers in each state and territory, is available from www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ageing-specneed-picac.htm.

Shelter WA Submissions and Presentations

Shelter WA is currently involved in the following submissions. If you have any issues or concerns that you would like us to consider when preparing our submissions contact Shae at research@shelterwa.org.au or phone 9325 6660

Submission to the WA Parliamentary Community Development & Justice Standing Committee

The WA Parliamentary Community Development and Justice Standing Committee of the Legislative Assembly commenced an Inquiry into the adequacy and future directions of social housing in WA in August 2010. The Inquiry builds on the work previously undertaken by the Social Housing Taskforce and other investigations. See the Standing Committee website and the list of submissions [here](#)

Shelter WA Executive Officer, Bronwyn Kitching and Research Officer, Dr Shae Garwood presented to the hearing of the Standing Committee on 16 February 2011. A copy of Shelter WA's submission is available [here](#). Hansard transcripts will be available on the parliamentary website when confirmed.

National Quality Framework for Homelessness (FaHCSIA)

The Commonwealth, States and Territories are working together to progress the development of a National Quality Framework to achieve better outcomes for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness by improving the quality and integration of services they receive. Stage one consultations focused on what quality service provision is, the mechanisms to support that quality and how to involve mainstream and allied services in a Homelessness National Quality Framework. These consultations were undertaken in February, March and April of 2010 and guided the development of an [Options Paper](#) that identifies four possible models of a Homelessness National Quality Framework.

Stage 2 consultations on a National Quality Framework for homelessness commence on the 17 of February across Australia. Public workshops will be held in Bunbury on 24 March and Perth on the 25 March.. Please register if you want to attend the consultations by either emailing homelessness.quality@fahcsia.gov.au or calling 1800 300 125.

Further information on NQF and the NQF Options Paper are available on the FaHCSIA website (www.fahcsia.gov.au).

Written submissions will be accepted and an on-line survey will also be available once consultations begin.

Shelter WA is will be attending the workshop in March and is currently preparing a submission.

Discussion Papers, Submissions, Issues Papers etc.

Submissions Close 25 February 2011 - *Scoping study for a national not-for-profit regulator*

The Assistant Treasurer has released a public consultation paper as part of the scoping study for a national not-for-profit (NFP) regulator. The consultation paper forms part of the Government's 2010 election commitment to strengthen the (NFP) sector. The paper seeks comment from stakeholders on the goals of national regulation, the scope of national regulation and the functions and form of a national regulator.

Closing date for submissions: **Friday, 25 February 2011**. [Click here for more information about making a submission](#)

Issues paper: *A Sustainable Population Strategy for Australia – Open for Comment*

Australian Government, Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPaC)

The issues paper and its appendices, reports provided by the three Sustainable Population Advisory Panels, identify and explore issues around Australia's changing population. The paper is intended to facilitate the expression of community views about the challenges and opportunities created by changes in Australia's population.

The strategy will consider the policies and programs required to ensure that we can shape and respond to changes in our population to build a sustainable Australia. The ultimate goal of the strategy is to improve the wellbeing of current and future generations through more effective recognition and management of the impacts of population changes, including the size, composition and location.

Submissions to the issues paper are invited. Submissions will help to inform the government as it develops a *Sustainable Population Strategy* in 2011.

[Have your say](#) - submissions close **Tuesday 1 March 2011**. For more information visit the [SEWPaC Website](#)

Caring for Older Australians - Call for Submissions

The Productivity Commission have recently released their long-awaited draft report into the provision of care for older Australians. The Productivity Commission are calling for submissions to be made by **21 March 2011**.

CHFA made a number of recommendations towards the development of the report [Caring For Older Australians](#), and broadly support the recommendations that have resulted. The full report can be accessed from the [Productivity Commission website](#)

Research, Resources, Reports and Publications

New Independent Committee to Assure Research Integrity

Australian taxpayers can be confident the research activities they fund meet the highest ethical and moral standards thanks to the establishment of the Australian Government's Australian Research Integrity Committee.

Announcing that the Committee is now open for business, Innovation Minister Senator Kim Carr and Mental Health and Ageing Minister Mark Butler reinforced the importance of upholding Australia's science and research reputation and ensuring public research funds are used appropriately. [Link to Media Statement](#)

The Committee is jointly administered by the Australian Research Council and the National Health and Medical Research Council. Committee members were appointed earlier this month and are individuals with a reputation for integrity and impartiality, with wide experience.

For more information on ARIC, including its underlying framework and how to submit a request for a review, visit www.arc.gov.au or www.nhmrc.gov.au.

Shelter WA Affordable Housing Online Survey

What housing issues are you most concerned about? Shelter WA is conducting a survey about affordable housing needs, the impact of housing stress, and recommendations to the government.

Click here to fill out the [Affordable Housing Survey](#).

Shelter WA is offering a one year complimentary membership for anyone who completes the survey.

At Home in My Community – Finding Solutions to Young Women’s Homelessness Together

This is a 2011 evaluation of an innovative response to young women homelessness. The report looks at:

- Young women’s place in current homelessness policy and tracks individual experiences over 18 months;
- The nature of philanthropy in Australia and an attempt to work ‘outside the square’; and
- Collaboration and partnerships – their successes and pitfalls.

In 2009, Othila's Young Women's Housing and Support Service, Brisbane Housing Company and Second Chance embarked on an innovative, collaborative partnership that aimed to house ten young women who are homeless in Brisbane. The partnership was high profile and commenced in a spirit of goodwill. The project was funded by the [Ian Potter Foundation](#).

The partnership was unique as the combined efforts of community, business and charity were brought together to create sustainable housing opportunities for young women. This report is an evaluation of the project. The evaluation aimed to:

- Track young women's experiences Explore the relationship between the three parties; and
- Locate the project within the broader context of policy development and philanthropy.

[A full copy of the report is available here](#)

Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI)

[Final Report: No. 164: Housing, loneliness and health](#)

[Final Report: No. 163: Partnership working in the design and delivery of housing policy and programs](#)

[Final Report: No. 161: Stakeholder views of the regulation of affordable housing providers in Australia](#)

[Final Report, No. 160: Gentrification and displacement: the household impacts of neighbourhood change](#)

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

www.abs.gov.au

[Lending Finance, Australia, Dec 2010](#)

[Housing Finance, Australia, Dec 2010](#)

[Analytical Living Cost Indexes for Selected Australian Household Types, Dec 2010](#)

[Pensioner and Beneficiary Living Cost Index, Dec 2010](#)

[Australian Economic Indicators, Feb 2011](#)

[House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities, Dec 2010](#)

[Building Approvals, Australia \(Media Release\), Dec 2010](#)

[Production of Selected Construction Materials, Dec 2010 \(Additional Information\)](#)

[Disability, Ageing and Carers, Australia: Summary of Findings, 2009 \(Additional Information\)t](#)

[2011 Census Media Release: Census Area Supervisors - 3,500 job opportunities](#)

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) Reports

www.aihw.gov.au

[State owned and managed Indigenous housing 2009-10.](#)

[Public rental housing 2009-10](#)

[Community housing 2009-10](#)

[Child protection Australia 2009-10](#)

[Pathways in Aged Care: program use after assessment](#)

2010 Women's Health Policy

The new National Women's Health Policy 2010 was released 29 December 2010, [click here](#) for a copy.

The Australian Women’s Health Network (AWHN) have issued a media release in response to the policy release a copy is available [here](#) . For more information visit the AWHN website - <http://www.awhn.org.au/>

[Stakeholder views of the regulation of affordable housing providers in Australia](#) This study contributes to discussions in government and among not-for-profit housing providers about the way regulation can assist their efforts to increase the supply of affordable rental housing in Australia.

[Gentrification and displacement: the household impacts of neighbourhood change](#) Gentrification raises concerns about segregation, social mix and sustainability issues for Australian cities. This report examines the process and its impact.

[Comparison of people with ABI living in two accommodation settings: shared supported accommodation and residential aged care](#) Young Australians with an acquired brain injury are more disconnected from their communities when living in aged care nursing homes than group homes according to this research.

[Ways forward in the population and environment debate](#) Recent projections of higher than expected population growth in Australia over the next 40 years has refocused the attention of governments and communities on population policy, according to this paper, and yet a focused policy response has not yet emerged.

[Caring for older Australians: draft report](#) This report sets out a series of proposals to deal with weaknesses and challenges in the aged care system and promote higher quality care.

[Rough living: Surviving homelessness and violence](#) According to this research intense chains of disadvantage, incorporating homelessness, are triggered by very early experiences of violence.

[Asset rich, but income poor: Australian housing wealth and retirement in an international context](#) This paper looks at patterns of own-home wealth across the life cycle in Australia and in several North American and Western European countries and finds that Australia is out of step with comparable countries.

[Moving young people out of nursing homes](#) Di Winkler outlines recent research and argues for the need to maintain momentum

[A predictable crisis: older, single women as the new face of homelessness](#) The dissolution of partnerships and re-partnering involve serious risks for women and their children, according to this paper

[Report on government services 2011](#) Promoting awareness about the performance of government services across the country this annual report helps drive both social and economic improvements.

[Local government and the Commonwealth: an evolving relationship](#) This paper provides a broad historical overview of Australian local government and its relationship with the Commonwealth, with some discussion of contemporary issues.

[The volunteer matrix: positioning and volunteering](#) Presented here is the volunteer matrix – a perceptual mapping which can help volunteer organisations deal with the growing competition with other similar organisations in accessing the common-pool resource of volunteering.

Directory of Services a Good Guide for Older Australians

A concise and user-friendly information directory that outlines the many Government services available for older people and their families has been launched.

Minister for Mental Health and Ageing Mark Butler said the *Australian Government Directory of Services for Older People 2011* is more comprehensive than those of previous years and provides easily accessible information on the numerous Government programs and services available to older people.

The directory is now available free of charge by contacting the Aged Care Information Line on 1800 500 853 and online at www.health.gov.au. Copies are also available through Centrelink offices.

For more information, please contact the Minister's Office on (02) 6277 7280.. [Link to Minister's Media Statement](#)

7th Annual Demographia International Housing Affordability Survey: 2011 Report

The 7th Annual Demographia International Housing Affordability Survey has recently been released, and has shown Australia to be one of the most unaffordable countries, and our cities to be some of the most unaffordable markets in the world, with many of our capital cities, and even some of our major regional centres being less affordable than Major international cities like New York or London. The report paints a shocking picture of the state housing affordability in Australia has reached, and emphasises the need to continue the push for affordable housing initiatives - making the recently announced cuts to NRAS all the more damaging. The full Demographia report can be downloaded from their www.demographia.com. Or [A copy of the survey is available here](#)

My City: The People's Verdict

The Property Council of Australia have recently released a report from a survey they have commissioned to assess attitudes towards the livability of Australian cities and government performance in urban policy. Although some cities have fared better than others the results are not good in terms of perceived affordability and government performance in many of our major cities, with the best barely making a pass mark. The full report and a range of supporting information can be accessed from their website www.propertyoz.com.au or [here](#)

Conferences and Workshops 2011

AHURI [Symposium](#) *Future Housing for Older Australians* (Sydney) 25 February

Unlocking the Economic and Social Potential of Regional Australia [Conference](#) (Albury Wodonga, NSW) 22-23 February

AHURI [Seminar](#) *Housing, loneliness and health in contemporary Australia: What is the connection?* (Melbourne), 10 March

International Women's Day Centenary [WA Events](#) (Perth) 11 March

Grace Vaughan Memorial [Lecture](#), *From Symbolic Mother to Public Protector: women working in corrective services* (Perth) 14 March

11th National Rural Health [Conference](#), (Perth) 13 – 16 March

Centre for Social Impact [Panel Discussion](#) *Are Community Organisations at a Crossroads?* (Perth) 17 March

AHURI [Seminar](#) *Improving housing affordability: the tax reform debate*, (Sydney) 17 March

Australian Asian Association Inc Harmony International Folkfest (Perth) 20 March for more information phone 9328 1160 or 9328 6202

ACOSS National [Conference](#) (Melbourne) 29-30 March

[Youth Homelessness Matters Day](#), *Hide & Seek: the Hidden Nature of Youth Homelessness*, 6 April

National [Youth Week](#) 1-10 April

Community Housing Federation Australia, [National Affordable Housing Exchange](#) (Sydney) 14-15 April

The Aboriginal Health Council of WA: Annual State Sector [Workshop](#) (Perth) 12 - 13 April

National Disability and Carer [Congress](#) (Melbourne) 2-3 May

National Indigenous Domestic Violence [Conference 2011](#) (Gold Coast) 17-19 May

Australasian Therapeutic Communities Association (ATCA) Annual [International Conference: Therapeutic Communities Today - No Closed Doors](#) (Fremantle) 30 May - 3 June. Deadline for Abstracts Monday, 21 February.

Australian Social Policy [Conference](#) *Social Policy in a Complex World* (Sydney) 6-8 July

WA Family Therapy Association [Symposium](#): *Family Therapy in the Tapestry of Clinical Practice* (Bentley, Perth) 29 July, Abstracts close Friday 4 March 2011.

National Homeless Persons' [Week](#), *My Address: diversity in homelessness* 1-7 August

Men's Health [Gathering](#) (Perth), 19 - 22 September

AHURI 7th National Housing [Conference](#) (Brisbane) 20-23 September

Social Inclusion Week 19-27 November [Website](#)

Media Statements/Releases

WA State Government

- [Further residential land release at Perry Lakes](#)
- [Major development sites approved in the Wheatbelt](#)
- [Regional Cabinet to be held in the Peel region](#)
- [New transfer duty arrangements commence March 1, 2011](#)
- [Groundbreaking house now available to the public](#)
- [Innovative catalogue to showcase housing choice in Karratha](#)
- [Nominate your heritage champion for State awards](#)
- [Waste disposal gets \\$10million boost](#)
- [New generation of climate-responsive housing on display in Collie](#)
- [Proponent selected for high-quality housing in Karratha](#)
- [New centre to boost Mid-West training opportunities in building industry](#)
- [The next step towards mental health reform](#)
- [Exciting plans under way for National Youth Week](#)
- [Ambassadors advocate for people with disability](#)
- [\\$1,000 assistance for grandparents and other informal foster carers](#)
- [New strategic family day care plan launched for Western Australia](#)
- [Informative website on multicultural issues launched](#)
- [Western Australia - no place for racial vilification](#)
- [Land transfer set to benefit Eastern Guruma people](#)
- [Launch of West Kimberley services to boost youth crime prevention](#)
- [Land transfer allows expansion of Aboriginal health centre](#)
- [New Mid-West centre to increase workforce development opportunities](#)
- [40,000 regional West Australians enjoy benefits of the Fuel Card](#)

WA Labour Party

- [WA Labor extends sympathy to bushfire victims](#)
- [Period for public comment on Mangles Bay development cloaked in secrecy](#)
- [Barnett \\$270,000 per month leasing fiasco referred to Auditor General](#)
- [Bleak future for WA households if bills continue to soar](#)

WA Greens Party

- [Defer corporate tax cuts not affordable housing - housing cuts to pay for flood relief makes no sense](#)
- [Funding cut to national affordable housing scheme needs a rethink](#)
- [Greens question focus of Government's approach to Closing the Gap](#)
- [Government disappoints with response to UN findings on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander rights](#)
- [Big cuts to affordable housing program will worsen crisis](#)
- [Urban planning, not urban sprawl](#)
- [Housing affordability in Australia a 'world-class outrage'](#)
- [Study welcome, but action on homelessness needed now](#)

Australian Government

[plan to reduce violence against women and children](#)
[response to Family Violence Bill Consultation](#)
[into the Australian family - The Hon Jenny Macklin MP](#)
[Commission Draft Report on Aged Care](#)
[Report on Government Services 2011](#)
[New pocket Constitution](#)
[Delivering services to close the gap](#)
[AFL industry and Ladder helping homeless youth off the street](#)
[Government invests in innovative projects to get Australians into work](#)

Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA) www.reia.com.au

[Australian home buyers delay major purchases into 2011](#)
[Affordability still a great concern across Australia](#)

Shelter WA 2011 Newsletter & Update Publications

Shelter WA publishes a quarterly newsletter and monthly updates and welcomes your input. We accept articles, reports, new housing related and support services, and are happy to promote events, training etc.

Shelter WA's **March Newsletter theme is *Affordable Housing***
The deadline for contributions is **21 March**

If you have any questions or require further information contact Stephanie at Shelter on 9325 6660 or email cdpo@shelterwa.org.au .

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About Shelter WA

Shelter WA is an independent community based peak organisation that is committed to the principle of safe, secure, appropriate and affordable housing for all people. Shelter WA has operated in Western Australia since 1979 and advocates on behalf of community groups and housing consumers. Shelter WA focuses on people who have low incomes or who are otherwise disadvantaged in the housing market. This includes people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Shelter's role is to give an informed voice on housing policy issues based on sound research, collaboration, consultation, representation and research with housing consumers and community based organisations working with housing and related issues. We do this by: holding regular forums and consultations, conducting questionnaires and surveys in response to housing policy and practice issues; actively participating in government and community sector committees; by responding to queries and requests from the public; and, by informing and educating through the electronic circulation of regular newsletters, reports and fact sheets which are also made available on our website. We promote housing options for people on low incomes, including social housing (public housing and community housing), affordable housing provided through the private sector, and affordable home ownership.

Shelter WA is committed to the presence and extension of choice in the articulation of Government housing policy and therefore to the availability of a range of housing options for low income and special needs housing consumers.

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