

The Board and Staff of Shelter WA wish our members, subscribers and all our supporters a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

**Shelter WA will be closed from 12pm Friday
23 December 2011 and re-open at 9am
Tuesday 3 January 2012**



National Shelter Media Release - *Changes in ministry: housing in cabinet where it belongs*

Housing peak National Shelter would like to welcome the Honourable Robert McClelland, MP as the new Minister for Housing and Homelessness within Cabinet.

Chairperson of National Shelter, Adrian Pisarski, is pleased to see the Labour Government take a front foot with housing in Cabinet.

'It is encouraging to see that National Shelter's long-held position, which is that housing belongs in the Cabinet, is being acted on by the Federal Government.'

National Shelter would also like to congratulate the Honourable Mark Arbib for his promotion to Assistant Treasurer.

'We have enjoyed working closely with Minister Arbib, and look forward to seeing him champion housing and homelessness issues in the Treasury', Mr Pisarski said.

[Link to National Shelter media release](#)

Australians For Affordable Housing Campaign

WA Launch - 12 December 2011 hosted by Shelter WA & WACOSS

[Australians for Affordable Housing](#) is a coalition of national housing, welfare and community sector organisations formed to highlight the problem of housing affordability in Australia. National Shelter is a member of its steering committee.

Shelter WA and WACOSS launched the campaign in WA on December 12 at the Housing & Affordable Living Forum, which was hosted by both Shelter WA and WACOSS. Copies of the presentations from the forum are available by contacting Stephanie at Shelter WA on 9325 6660, email cdpo@shelterwa.org.au or Amelia at WACOSS on 9420 7222, email amelia@wacoss.org.au.

If you would like to put your support behind the Australians for Affordable Housing campaign, you can do any of the following:

- Put a link to www.housingstressed.org.au on your organisation's website
- Circulate the [website](#), [facebook page](#) and [twitter addresses](#) to your staff, and organisational networks.
- Spread the word through your newsletters, e-bulletins and contact lists.

For more information and to offer your support visit <http://housingstressed.org.au/>

Shelter WA

Affordable Housing Network WA

Meeting

Tuesday, 23 January 2012

10am – 12pm

Conference Room, Claisebrook Lotteries House, 33 Moore St, East Perth

Shelter WA will provide information and the latest news on Affordable Housing both nationally and in WA.

Please join us for the opportunity to meet other individuals, service providers and organisations to discuss affordable housing issues that need to be addressed.

These issues will help to inform Shelter's policy position in submissions and at various meetings and committees, such as the Department of Housing's Housing Advisory Roundtable (HART).

An Invitation and Agenda will be circulated in January 2012

For more information please contact Stephanie at Shelter WA on cdpo@shelterwa.org.au or 9325 6660

National Shelter Policy Platform

Shelter WA sits on the management committee of National Shelter along with representatives from each of the Shelter offices in each state and territory, Homelessness Australia, National Association of Tenants Organisations, and the Community Housing Federation of Australia. National Shelter has revised its Policy Platform. The Policy Platform is based around four key housing challenges. These are:

- Making housing more affordable across the board
- Reforming the rental market to make it suitable for long-term residents
- Revitalising the social housing system
- Combating homelessness

The National Shelter Policy Platform is available on the National Shelter WA website www.shelter.org.au or by clicking on the links below

Housing Australia Affordably, here: [download full version](#) (pdf ~640 kb), [download summary version](#) (pdf ~300 kb).

The future of the National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA)

Shelter WA Research Officer, Shae Garwood, attended a conference in October in Melbourne on the future of the National Affordable Housing Agreement. The Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) convened the conference titled *Beyond the current NAHA: what next for national housing policy?*

Shelter offices in each state and territory will be holding forums on the future of the NAHA in 2012. Shelter WA will hold its forum in WA in the first half of 2012. The date and location will be announced at the beginning of 2012.

A copy of the paper '**Towards NAHA Mark II: National Shelter dialogue ahead of the next National Affordable Housing Agreement and associated National Partnership Agreements**' is available here [download](#) (pdf ~740 kb).

Shelter WA Submissions and Projects

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

Discussion Paper: Department of Housing's Tenant Support Programs

Shelter WA is currently preparing a submission in response to the Department of Housing's Tenant Support Programs Discussion Paper.

The deadline for submissions has been extended to 27 January 2012.

National Regulatory System for Community Housing – Shelter WA Submission

Shelter WA is currently writing a submission on the proposed National Regulatory System for Community Housing. State, Territory and Federal governments are working together to create a national regulatory system to overcome barriers, gaps and inconsistencies that have arisen through each State and Territory regulating community housing providers in a different way. These changes are aimed at building confidence in the community housing sector and ultimately promoting the growth of social housing.

Submissions close on Friday 20 January 2012.

You can find out more about the proposal and consultation, and make your own submission, at www.nrsch.gov.au.

If you're completing a submission please consider sharing a draft with us as early as possible so we can reflect your views in our own submission. If you're not making a submission, but have views you would like us to include in our submission, please contact Chantal Roberts, Executive Officer on 9325 6660 or email eo@shelterwa.org.au

Shelter WA Affordable Housing Survey

If you would like to take part in Shelter WA's affordable housing survey, go to [Affordable Housing Survey](#)

Awards, Grants and Funding Opportunities

Swinburne University postgraduate programs in housing management and policy

Swinburne's postgraduate programs in housing management and policy are distance education programs designed for those working in the public and community housing sectors and in related industries such as real estate and property development. The programs aim to provide the practical and conceptual skills necessary for management, administration, research and policy development in housing provision.

For more information:

Telephone: 1300 275 794

Email: postgrad@swinburne.edu.au

Website: www.swinburne.edu.au/postgrad

Closing date for applications is the last Friday in January 2012

Property Council of Australia - Innovation & Excellence Awards Nominations Now Open

The Awards program promotes and celebrates innovation and leadership practice across the investment and development sectors, recognising excellence in 16 categories. For more information or to register your interest [Click Here](#)

Nominations close and final submissions due on 30 January 2012

Nominations open for multicultural awards

Citizenship and Multicultural Interests Minister John Castrilli has invited nominations for the 2012 Western Australian Multicultural Community Service Awards. Mr Castrilli said the awards recognised individuals and organisations dedicated to improving service delivery, removing cultural barriers and promoting the ideals of a multicultural society.

Nomination guidelines and forms are available from the Office of Multicultural Interests' (OMI) website at <http://www.omi.wa.gov.au> or phone OMI on (08) 6552 1500. **Nominations close 5pm Friday January 6, 2012**

[Click here for full media statement](#)

Nominations for 2012 Youth Awards open soon

Nominations for the 2012 WA Youth Awards will open in mid-January and close on February 24. The awards are coordinated by the Department for Communities in conjunction with the Youth Affairs Council of WA. They were established in 1999 to ensure that young Western Australians receive recognition for their achievements and contribution to the community. These awards are open to all young Western Australians aged 12 to 25 years, youth-led groups and youth workers.

Please consider nominating an outstanding young person for an award in 2012. Categories recognise young people for their achievements in the arts, protecting the environment, leadership, sport and recreation and overcoming adversity. There is also a special category for young people aged between 12-17 who have made positive changes within their local community.

Nomination kits will be available to download mid-January at the following website: www.communities.wa.gov.au/youth

New Grants to Assist Research into Indigenous Health Issues

The Australian Government is investing \$644,950 in nine new postgraduate scholarships to help outstanding young health and medical researchers work towards improving the health and wellbeing for young Indigenous Australians. [Click here to view the full media release](#)

Discussion Papers, Submissions, Issues Papers and Surveys

WACOSS Conference: The Big Picture 8-10 May 2012

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS CLOSING IN 4 WEEKS

The West Australian Council of Social Services invites you to participate in the WACOSS 2012 Conference THE BIG PICTURE by submitting an abstract for consideration by the conference committee to present at the Conference or Cross Sectoral Collaboration Networking Day.

The Conference will be focusing on the Big Issues for community services, the sector and civil society at large. Beyond tackling our own organisation challenges we can work collaboratively to drive change and use our collective voice to build a united civil society built on the principles of social justice and community engagement. The two day Conference follows a full day community and government networking event focused on working in collaboration to achieve a sustainable community service sector.

WACOSS are calling for innovative, inspiring and informed presentations on topics which address the Conference sub-themes *Community, Creativity, Culture and Collaboration*. Presentations may take any form and we particularly encourage those which encourage and stimulate discussion around the Conference theme.

Please address any queries to the Conference Secretariat EECW Pty Ltd

T: 08 9389 1488 F: 08 9389 1499 E: emmap@eecw.com.au

Or [click here to visit the WACOSS website](#)

Abstracts must be submitted online via the following link: <https://register.eecw.com.au/ei/getdemo.ei?id=529&s= 4J40IQ1X>

Please note abstract submissions will close Friday 13 January 2012.

Consultation Paper - Review of Not-for-profit Governance Arrangements

The Assistant Treasurer, the Hon Bill Shorten MP, has [released](#) a consultation paper on current governance arrangements for the not-for-profit (NFP) sector. The Government is consulting on what the core organisational governance principles applying to registered NFPs should be. The outcomes of the governance review will help form the governance requirements for registered entities in the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission legislation, starting from 1 July 2012.

Making a submission - Interested parties are invited to comment on the exposure draft bill and explanatory materials.

For enquiries, please call Fiona McLaren on (02) 6263 3010 or Chris Leggett on (02) 6263 3357 or email

NFPReform@treasury.gov.au

[Click here for link to Treasury website](#)

Closing date for submissions: Friday 20 January 2012

Research, Resources, Reports and Publications

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

www.abs.gov.au

[Australian Economic Indicators, Jan 2012](#)

[Housing Finance, Australia, Oct 2011](#)

[Construction Work Done, Australia, Preliminary, Sep 2011](#)

[Building Approvals, Australia, October 2011](#)

[Production of Selected Construction Materials, Oct 2011](#)

[Directory of Family and Domestic Violence Statistics, 2011 \(First Issue\)](#)

[Lending Finance, Australia, Sep 2011](#)

[Housing costs for owners with a mortgage up 42% over past decade \(Media Release\), 2009-10](#)

[Housing Occupancy and Costs, 2009-10](#)

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)

www.aihw.gov.au

Government-funded specialist homelessness services: SAAP National Data Collection annual reports 2010-11

Government-funded specialist homelessness services: SAAP National Data Collection annual report 2010-11: Australia presents the 2010-11 data on the use of government-funded specialist homelessness services.

In 2010-11, an estimated 230,500 people (equivalent to 1 in every 97 Australians) used specialist homelessness services. Young people, families and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continued to be significant users of services. The most common reasons why people sought support were interpersonal relationship issues (such as domestic or family violence); accommodation-related issues (such as being evicted); and financial issues (such as having insufficient money to pay for accommodation, food, bills or other essentials).

This national report is accompanied by eight state and territory supplementary reports, which include data specific to each state and territory and a summary of key results and a separate appendix.

Click to view the [media release](#) and follow the links below to view the individual reports.

[National report \(HOU 250\)](#)

[Appendix \(HOU 251\)](#)

[Western Australia \(HOU 255\)](#)

People turned away from government funded specialist homelessness accommodation 2010-11

This report presents data on the people turned away from government-funded specialist homelessness accommodation in 2010-11. It is the final report to be sourced from the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) National Data Collection (NDC). From 1 July 2011, data will be reported from the new Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) collection. The data collected indicate that government-funded specialist homelessness agencies are operating to capacity and are unable to completely meet the demand for accommodation. Some groups, such as families, experience more difficulty than others in obtaining accommodation.

AIHW catalogue number (**HOU 260**). Click on the link to view the [report](#) and [media release](#) and [appendix](#).

National Social Housing Survey : a summary of national results

The majority of National Social Housing Survey respondents were either 'satisfied' or 'very satisfied' with living in either public housing or community housing. In addition, most respondents indicated that the amenity and location of their housing met the needs of their household. These respondents also recorded experiencing 'benefits' from living in social housing - around 90% felt more settled and over two-thirds felt they enjoyed better health. These findings are particularly noteworthy given that social housing is typically targeted at groups such as low income earners, those who were previously homeless and people who are otherwise disadvantaged in the housing market.

AIHW catalogue number (**AUS141**). Click on the link to view the [media release](#) and [report](#).

AIHW Report: [Alcohol and other drug treatment services in Western Australia 2009-10](#)

[Click here for the latest AHURI publications and news](#)

[Click here for the latest from Australian Policy Online](#)

Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission Website Launched

The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) Implementation Taskforce has launched its website to advise the public of its role in the not-for-profit reform agenda.

The Implementation Taskforce was established to ensure that the ACNC is operational by 1 July 2012 and will be engaging with the not-for-profit sector on developing a smarter reporting framework, building a public information portal (due 1 July 2013) and creating a model for the provision of information, education and advice to the sector.

The ACNC Implementation Taskforce also has a [YouTube channel](#) that contains messages from the Minister for Social Inclusion, the Hon Tanya Plibersek MP, Susan Pascoe, the Interim Commissioner of the ACNC Taskforce and other government representatives involved in not-for-profit reform.

[Visit the new ACNC Website for more information](#)

Conferences, Events and Workshops 2012

[International Year of Housing Cooperatives 2012](#)

The International Year of Co-operatives, or IYC, celebrates a different way of doing business, one focused on human need not human greed, where the members (who own and govern the business) collectively enjoy the benefits instead of all profits going just to shareholders. Having an International Year of Co-operatives provides an opportunity to captivate the attention of national governments, the business community and, most importantly, the general public on the advantages provided by the co-operative model. As the global voice of co-operatives The International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) is seeking to leverage the International Year to raise the public awareness of co-operatives worldwide.

Pathways Through The Maze: [National Hoarding & Squalor Conference](#) (Sydney) 21-22 February

[Green Cities 2012 Conference](#) (Sydney) 4-7 March

AHURI & RMIT [Homeless Research Conference](#) (Melbourne) 19-20 April

PropertyOz [Property Congress 2012](#) (Location to be advised) 31 October – 2 November

Media Releases

WA Government: [Click here for a full list of recent WA Government Media Statements](#)

Labour Party WA: <http://www.wa.alp.org.au/news/rss>

Greens Party WA: <http://greens.org.au/>

National Party WA: <http://www.nationalswa.com/>

Liberal Party of Australia: <http://www.liberal.org.au/>

National Party Australia: <http://nationals.org.au/>

Australian Government: [Click here for the latest Australian Government Media Releases](#)

Useful links

[Homelessness Australia Newsletter](#)

[Homeless Information Clearing House](#)

[Community Housing Federation Australia](#)

[Community Housing Coalition WA \(CHCWA\)](#)

[Tenants Advice Service WA](#)

[WACOSS](#)

[Housing Industry Association Ltd](#)

[Australasian Housing Institute](#)

[Real Estate Institute of Australia \(REIA\)](#)

[Real Estate Institute of WA \(REIWA\)](#)

[Communities and Families Clearing House](#)

[Council to Homeless Persons](#)

Shelter WA 2011 Newsletters & 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.

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

For copies of Shelter WA's previous publications click on the following links to access [Updates](#) and [Newsletters](#)

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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