

### Shelter WA appoints New Executive Officer

Shelter WA, the State's leading community organisation for housing research and advocacy, has announced the appointment of Chantal Roberts as its new Executive Officer.

"Ms Roberts is the right person for our new Executive Officer. She is highly competent, has substantial research expertise and experience, is well regarded in the not-for-profit sector and has excellent interpersonal skills. We're certain she will provide leadership to forge even stronger relationships with Shelter WA's stakeholders," said Mr Richard Sheridan, Shelter WA Chairperson.

Prior to joining Shelter WA, Ms Roberts was the Program Manager of the Women's Support Services at Ruah Community Services, where she managed several programs to support women pre and post release prison. She holds a 1992 Bachelor of Arts (Social Sciences) from Murdoch University with a Double Major in Women's Studies, Politics, Philosophy and Sociology. Her extensive experience in the social sciences will stand her in good stead for the big job ahead.

"The high cost of housing is a growing concern for many Western Australians, with almost 90,000 households in Western Australia in housing stress. This means that after paying for housing costs Western Australians are increasingly at risk of financial hardship and poverty," said Mr Sheridan.



Chantal Roberts

Ms Roberts concurs.

"I am excited to join Shelter WA in this challenging environment, where the so called 'two speed economy' is creating the need for even more advocacy for those struggling to achieve the basic human right of safe and affordable accommodation," said Ms Roberts.

Ms Roberts begins her new role on 14 November 2011.

### Shelter WA Board of Management 2011-2012

Shelter WA held its AGM on Tuesday, 18 October 2011. The following members were elected to the Shelter WA Board of Management:

<b>Richard Sheridan</b>	<i>Chair</i>
<b>Tammy Solonec</b>	<i>Vice- chair</i>
<b>Bev Carstairs</b>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<b>Cindy Dunham</b>	
<b>Antoinette Morris</b>	
<b>Juanita Barron</b>	
<b>John Hollywood</b>	
<b>Martin Sinclair</b>	
<b>Danielle Van Kempen</b>	



Shelter WA Board of Management

Shelter WA is undertaking a strategic planning process. As part of that process, we're conducting a survey to seek input into the evaluation and planning process and help build a preliminary SWOT analysis for consideration. A SWOT analysis is a common tool used to gain information about the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of an organisation. It is used to help analyse where an organisation is now and where it wants to go.

The SWOT analysis refers to:

The internal strengths and weaknesses of Shelter WA e.g. existing resources, retention of staff

The external opportunities and threats of Shelter WA e.g. changes to funding programs, policy environment

All responses are anonymous, unless you choose to provide your name or your agency's name. The survey can be done by either members of Shelter WA or interested individuals or agencies.

[Click here](#) to fill out the survey before 25 November 2011

# Housing and Affordable Living Forum

Co-hosted by WACOSS and Shelter WA

**Monday, 12 December 2011, 1:00pm to 4:00pm**

**Room 7, City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi Street, West Perth**

Almost **90,000** households in Western Australia are in housing stress. After paying for housing costs they're at risk of financial hardship and poverty. Come hear about the latest State initiatives to boost the supply of affordable housing.

This forum will also integrate the affordable housing challenge into a broader conversation around affordable living.

Plus the WA Launch of the **Australians for Affordable Housing** national campaign!

### **Australians for Affordable Housing:**

Australians for Affordable Housing is a coalition of national housing, welfare and community sector organisations, established to highlight the problem of housing affordability in Australia. We believe that all Australians should be able to secure housing that they can afford.

### **Guest speakers at the forum will include:**

**Tania Loosley-Smith**, Department of Housing, General Manager of the Strategy and Policy division – a division that is responsible for providing leadership in the implementation of the *State Government's Affordable Housing Strategy 2010-2020; Opening Doors to Affordable Housing*.

**Associate Professor Steven Rowley** is Director of HURIWA and AHURI-WA; also Head of the Department of Property Studies, School of Economics and Finance, Curtin University. Before joining Curtin in July 2007, Steven delivered a number of influential research projects on affordable housing in the UK. He is now focused on housing affordability and housing supply in Australia.

**Kathleen Gregory** is the CEO of Foundation Housing and has 25 years experience working in the not for profit sector as a worker, executive officer and Board member. Kathleen has a strong knowledge base and skills in the development and management of social housing, and a long term commitment toward the provision of long term, secure and affordable housing.

**WACOSS & Shelter Members \$35 / Non-members \$45 / Government and Corporate \$55**

**To Register:** Book on-line by going to WACOSS website

<http://www.wacosstraining.org.au/index.cfm/booking.394> or call Katherine at WACOSS on 9420 7222.

## The future of the National Affordable Housing Agreement

Research Officer, Shae Garwood, attended a conference in October 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?*

The current NAHA has witnessed considerable national housing policy innovation and arguably one of the most productive periods in recent history for the building of affordable housing in Australia. The conference provided an opportunity for a wide-ranging conversation, by a diversity of interested parties, about national housing policy reform. Its objectives were to examine:

- the housing policy challenges facing political leaders now and into the future
- the factors critical to the successful delivery of affordable housing in Australia
- the missing ingredients under the current NAHA
- the shape and structure of future national housing policy

Shelter offices in each state 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.

## National Shelter

Shelter WA sits on the management committee of National Shelter along with representatives of each of the Shelter offices in other states, Homelessness Australia, National Association of Tenants Organisations, and the Community Housing Federation of Australia. Shae Garwood attended a meeting of the committee in Melbourne in October. National Shelter is in the process of revising 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 will be posted on the Shelter WA website when it becomes available.

### Shelter WA Affordable Housing Survey

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

## 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, go to:

Telephone: 1300 275 794

Email: [postgrad@swinburne.edu.au](mailto:postgrad@swinburne.edu.au)

Website: [www.swinburne.edu.au/postgrad](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/postgrad)

Closing date for applications is the last Friday in January 2012

## Mercy Reconnect "Changing Faces" Group, Willagee

Mercy Reconnect will be running a group called "Changing Faces" at the Willagee Community Centre.

The group aims to educate and support young people aged between 14-17 years about relationship violence, family violence and the importance of healthy relationships.

The group uses sessions with reflection, scenarios and art media to support young people on this journey.

For further information please contact [cprince@mercyare.com.au](mailto:cprince@mercyare.com.au).

# Awards, Grants and Funding Opportunities

## Inaugural National Homelessness Services Achievement Awards

The Inaugural National Homelessness Services Achievement Awards were announced on 30 September 2011 by Minister Mark Arbib:

The Awards have been initiated to highlight the exceptional efforts made by organisations in responding to the needs of people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. The Awards will demonstrate and celebrate their responsive approaches, selfless dedication, innovative services and hard work.

Nominations are now open to the homelessness sector (and to general community members who wish to nominate services) in seven award categories.

1. Excellence or innovation in addressing homelessness by an organisation
2. Excellence in the prevention of, or early intervention in, homelessness
3. Outstanding business or philanthropic commitment to addressing homelessness
4. Excellence or innovation in partnerships in delivering services
5. Closing the Gap: Excellence in addressing Indigenous homelessness
6. Excellence in supporting pathways to employment or education
7. Excellence in addressing homelessness in a regional, rural or remote location

**Nominations will close on Friday 25 November 2011.** The finalists will be recognised at a formal award ceremony to be held at Parliament House, Canberra in February 2012—along with a broader event that will also include an expo and discussion panel workshop on homelessness priorities and progress.

All the information about the Awards, including the nomination guidelines and forms can be accessed from FaHCSIA's website: <http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx>. There is also an Awards hotline, 1800 702 866, set up for services who have queries about the Awards.

## Beyond Gambling Grants Program

The Department for Communities and the Department of Racing, Gaming and Liquor have partnered to provide the Beyond Gambling Grants Program. Grants are available to enable not-for-profit community organisations and local governments to deliver local solutions that address problem social gambling issues.

The objectives of the grant program are to:

- raise awareness of the effects of problem social gambling on individuals, families and communities
- strengthen the capacity of individuals, families and communities to reduce the level of gambling in the community
- strengthen the capacity of the non-government sector to work with individuals, families and communities on the impact of problem social gambling
- address the impact of problem social gambling on individuals, families and communities.

Funding of \$50,000 to \$200,000 for projects up to one year in length is available for organisations to deliver a range of strategies including:

- social and recreational programs as diversionary activities
- community education and awareness raising activities and campaigns
- support services (e.g. group work)
- training for service providers/professionals.

Please contact the Grants and Contracts Officer for more information by telephoning (08) 6551 8416 or email [grants@communities.wa.gov.au](mailto:grants@communities.wa.gov.au)

**Application closing date: 5.00pm 16 December 2011**

## 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.

“The Western Australian Multicultural Community Service Awards allow us to acknowledge and celebrate those who have accomplished outstanding work in advancing multicultural inclusiveness and participation.

“Through their inspiring work, all West Australians are empowered to take part fully in society regardless of the linguistic, religious, racial or ethnic background.”

The awards will be presented in five categories:

- Multicultural Community Service Individual Excellence Awards
- Engaging the Community Innovation Award
- Community Service Excellence Award
- Implementing Multiculturalism Locally Award
- Business Migrant of the Year Award

The Minister said the awards emphasised the shared values of all West Australians and encouraged an inclusive and vibrant multicultural society.

“I encourage people to nominate a remarkable individual, organisation or business whose achievements have promoted our multicultural State,” he said.

### Fact File

- Nomination guidelines and forms 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**

Minister's office - 9216 6800 [Click here for full media statement](#)

## Discussion Papers, Submissions, Issues Papers and Surveys

### Cockburn Coast Masterplan released for public comment

- **Cockburn Coast Masterplan released for public comment**
- **Cockburn moving from its industrial past to an urban future**
- **Area to transformed into a residential and commercial community**

Cockburn Coast’s redevelopment reached another milestone today as plans were released showing how the area will leave its industrial past behind for an urban future. Lands Minister Brendon Grylls said the formerly industrial-zoned land would be transformed into a thriving residential and commercial community.

“The regeneration of the area will create a new community of up to 10,000 people with an exciting mix of commercial, residential and recreational activities,” Mr Grylls said.

“This project is moving forward with the masterplan and Town Planning Scheme Amendment now released for public comment by the City of Cockburn.

“Cockburn Coast has been developed in line with the State Government’s Directions 2031 which addresses Perth’s population growth through lively and well connected neighbourhoods.

### Fact File

- **The public comment period closes Thursday December 1**
- **The documents can be downloaded at <http://www.cockburn.wa.gov.au/cockburncoast> or by calling the City of Cockburn on 9411 3444**

Lands Minister’s office - 9213 7000

Planning Minister’s office - 9213 6600

[Click here for link to full Media Statement](#)

## Research, Resources, Reports and Publications

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

[www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au)

[House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities, Sep 2011](#)

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

[Building Approvals, Australia \(Media Release\), Sep 2011](#)

[Building Activity, Australia, Jun 2011](#)

[Household Wealth and Wealth Distribution, Australia, 2009-10](#)

[Australian Bureau of Statistics -- Annual Report, 2010-11](#)

[Most Australians happy with their lives \(Media Release\), 2010](#)

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)

[www.aihw.gov.au](http://www.aihw.gov.au)

### 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](#).

Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI)

[www.ahuri.edu.au](http://www.ahuri.edu.au)

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

Australian Policy Online

[www.apo.org.au](http://www.apo.org.au)

[The health impacts of housing: toward a policy-relevant research agenda](#)

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

## Conferences, Events and Workshops 2011

### 2011

**International Housing Summit** (Rotterdam, Netherlands) 1-2 November

**The Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs (APSAD) Conference** (Hobart) 13-16 November.

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

**Yfoundations End Youth Homelessness Conference 2011** (Sydney) 22-24 November

**Australian Institute of Health & Welfare (AIHW) Australia's Welfare 2011 Conference** (Canberra) 24 November

### 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.

**Green Cities 2012 Conference** (Sydney) 4-7 March 2012



You are invited to a Showcase of



### BY Tenancy Managers FOR Tenancy Managers

CHINTARO was purpose-built for the Victorian Office of Housing over 10 years ago and has since been utilized and modified to suit the needs of many and varied housing providers across Australia.

It offers the automation of activities such as: Tenancy & Rental Management; Reporting & Exporting; Client Management; Bank & Centrepay Integration; Arrears Management; Automated Mail Merging; Asset Management

**Monday 21 November, 2011 from 10 – 12 noon**

CHCWA

Claisebrook Lotteries House, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 33 Moore St, East Perth, WA 6004

Free of Charge, Refreshments will be served

Places are limited so please RSVP to Brenda Eland [brenda@mdb.com.au](mailto:brenda@mdb.com.au) or call 03 9005 6446

If you are unable to attend please register your interest in a personalised web Presentation

Whether you're a small Housing organisation or a larger provider CHINTARO is a cost-effective way to help you, while you help others.

[www.chintaro.com.au](http://www.chintaro.com.au)

### Homelessness Research Conference 19-20 April 2012 (Melbourne)

The Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) and RMIT University are pleased to announce the inaugural Homelessness Research Conference to be held in Melbourne on Thursday 19 and Friday 20 April 2012.

This is an important event for the [National Homelessness Research Network](#) and will provide the opportunity to hear from many of Australia's leading researchers — to not only get a sense of what research is currently underway and what research methods and approaches are being used, but also to consider what further homelessness research is needed.

The conference will include a call for the submission of abstracts with all approved papers to be peer reviewed. Themes to include:

- Cost-benefit evaluations of homelessness
- Longitudinal analysis of homelessness
- The use of administrative datasets to monitor changes in homelessness and program interventions
- Concepts of homelessness
- Qualitative approaches to homelessness research

Further details regarding this will be released in the near future. We will also be adding new information regarding the conference to [the website](#) as it comes to hand.

The conference will also be a chance to hear from international experts [Dr Dennis Culhane](#), Professor of Social Policy, University of Pennsylvania (USA) and [Dr Volker Busch-Geertsema](#), Chair, European Observatory on Homelessness (Germany).

In addition to homelessness researchers, the conference is a must attend event for senior policy-makers and practitioners in the homelessness and allied sectors. It will provide a rare opportunity to focus on current homelessness research in Australia and to facilitate the knowledge transfer to contemporary policy and practice settings.

[Click here for more information](#)

### WA Government Media Releases

#### More affordable housing options for West Australians

- **2,300 homes for WA funded from Round 4 of the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS)**

Affordable rental options in Western Australia will increase substantially with the announcement of 2,300 new properties to be funded under Round 4 of the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS).

Housing Minister Troy Buswell said the latest allocation brought the total NRAS allocation in the State to 5,000 properties.

“An additional benefit is the stimulus it will provide to the building and construction industry, during a downturn in new homes being built across the State.”

The State Government will provide a cash incentive of \$2,285 annually, indexed per year for the next 10 years, to property owners under the NRAS scheme, in addition to the incentive provided by the Federal Government.

“This is more than \$11.4million per year over the next 10 years to increase affordable housing options in the State,” the Minister said.

Properties eligible for the NRAS program must be either newly-constructed or recently completed, and will be located in areas of most need, particularly those with employment, transport, schools and other services nearby.

Mr Buswell said the properties would be constructed across the State, including 920 in the North-West.

“We have been very successful in delivering NRAS in WA, and it continues to be an important element among our innovative initiatives to deliver affordable housing options to low and middle income earners.”

#### Fact File

- **Information on NRAS:** <http://www.environment.gov.au/housing/nras/index.html>
- **Last WA Government NRAS announcement (March 2011):**  
<http://www.mediastatements.wa.gov.au/Pages/Results.aspx?ItemID=138630>

Minister's office - 9213 6900 [Click here for link to full media statement](#)

### WA Government Media Releases

*Continued*

[Anticipated land released for College Grove](#)

[New strategy reflects importance of Mid-West](#)

[Affordable housing for North-West NGOs](#)

[Workshop lots continue Midland's revitalisation](#)

[Families benefit from affordable housing](#)

[New rules to combat real estate fraud](#)

[Planning blueprint to guide Stirling's future](#)

[Lotterywest funds for homeless facility](#)

[Mental Health Week marks start of construction of sub-acute facility](#)

[10-year vision for mental health launched](#)

[WA's Indigenous Landholder Service wins national award](#)

[More land in Karratha for residential development](#)

[SuperTowns receive \\$5.5million planning boost](#)

[Oombulgurri community to be formally closed](#)

For a full list of recent Media Releases, please click on the links below:

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

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



[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.

The deadline for contributions for Shelter WA's December Update is 12 December 2011

If you have any questions or require further information contact Stephanie on 9325 6660 or email [cdpo@shelterwa.org.au](mailto: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.*

If you wish to receive Shelter WA's Newsletters and Updates please click [Subscribe](#)

If you no longer wish to receive Shelter WA's Newsletters or Updates please click [Unsubscribe](#)