

### Shelter WA Local Government Guide to Developing an Affordable Housing Strategy

The cost of housing has increased dramatically over the past decade in Perth and in some regional areas of the state. To purchase a house at the median price, it now takes 7.1 times the annual average income. This figure is up from 3.9 times the annual average income in 2001. Furthermore, almost 90,000 homeowners and renters in WA are in housing stress. After paying for housing costs, they're at risk of financial hardship and poverty.

Shelter WA is pleased to announce the publication of the [Shelter WA Local Government Guide to Developing an Affordable Housing Strategy](#), developed in consultation with Curtin University.

This guide will assist local government authorities to address what has become a housing crisis in WA. The guide is designed to be used by local councils in preparing an Affordable Housing Strategy to meet the needs of their residents. The guide includes a range of tangible measures councils can use to achieve more favourable housing outcomes. The guide explains what an affordable housing strategy is and why they are important for local governments; how to undertake a housing market analysis and read demographical data; and how to turn this analysis into strategies for action to facilitate more affordable housing.

Shelter WA has distributed the guide to local councillors and planning staff in WA and encourages councils to use the guide in developing their own Affordable Housing Strategy. Shelter WA is in the process of developing a suite of tools for local governments including facts sheets and templates to use to inform their constituents about specific housing issues.

We are currently compiling responses and feedback from local governments regarding the guide to present to the Ministers for Planning, Housing and Local Government.

Shelter WA is the peak body for affordable housing and homelessness in Western Australia. We are an independent community based organisation committed to accessible, affordable and secure housing for every Western Australian, with a focus on low to moderate income earners, or those who are otherwise disadvantaged in the housing market. Shelter WA provides a link between government and the community through consultation, research, systemic advocacy, policy advice and development. Our role is to provide an independent voice on housing rights and options in the state along the housing continuum.

If you would like more information, please contact us on 9325 6660 or e-mail [eo@shelterwa.org.au](mailto:eo@shelterwa.org.au).

#### A message from Shelter WA student volunteer Robert Gough



Hello housing affordability enthusiasts, my name is Robert Gough. Four months ago, I started my volunteer work at Shelter WA, and have loved every second. I am soon to graduate my studies, a Bachelor of Arts: Urban and Regional Planning, at Curtin University. Through a new placement partnership between Curtin University and Shelter WA, I was offered a position two days a week undertaking research and providing support in the planning field, a field in which I believe is essential to meet our goal of achieving more affordable housing in Western Australia. My position at Shelter involves being the leader of a four person planning team at Curtin. This is exciting because I collaborate with other students, and try to achieve the best from their specific skills and mine, and then we use these skills to achieve the best results we can for Shelter WA.

Shelter WA have given me a great opportunity to further my university studies, in a field that I find very interesting, and also somewhere I feel I can definitely make a difference. As part of my work for Shelter WA, I have made submissions on numerous local and state planning documents. Through this I grabbed the attention of LandCorp and Peter Tinley, the WA Shadow Planning Minister, and have since had meetings with representatives/organisations which are essential for the future of affordable housing in Western Australia. I have also just recently completed the 'Local Government Guide to Developing an Affordable Housing Strategy', which is an invaluable resource to inform local governments and opens up the opportunity for Shelter WA to create partnerships with them. I am also currently working on another occasional paper relating to the Fly-in/Fly-out workforce and its impact on housing affordability in rural and regional towns, which readers will be able to access on our website shortly.

Working with Shelter WA has been a great experience so far, and I am happy to be a part of this organisation now and into the future.

**Robert Gough, Prac Student at Shelter WA**



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Fix our housing crisis?

## Australians for Affordable Housing release a 4-point plan

A coalition of national housing, welfare and community sector organisations is proposing a four point plan to address affordable housing in Australia that will deliver 30,000 new affordable housing units each year and lift 250,000 households out of housing stress over five years.

The plan would deliver affordable housing options for two out of every three people currently on public and community housing waiting lists, as well as take pressure off house prices and ease demand in the private rental market.

Australians for Affordable Housing are urging Australia's Housing Ministers to consider the proposals at the meeting of the COAG Select Committee on Housing and Homelessness in Perth on Friday 31 August 2012.

"Housing is the single biggest household cost in Australia and, over the last 25 years, housing costs have been taking a bigger bite out of the household budgets – up as a proportion of spending by 41 per cent in that time," said Australians for Affordable campaign manager Sarah Toohey.

"The Australians for Affordable Housing plan we are releasing today outlines the pathway for governments to act on our housing affordability crisis. It includes:

1. Increase the supply of affordable rental housing:
  - Establish an Affordable Housing Growth Fund that would fund at least 20,000 new low-income rental properties each year. **Cost: \$1.4 billion over five years.**
  - Double the number of property incentives under the National Rental Affordability Scheme. **Cost: \$1.1 billion over five years.**
2. Improve housing affordability through tax reform:
  - Change the tax breaks for housing investors, like negative gearing and capital gains tax discounts. **Saving: \$5 billion over five years.**
  - Help state governments to abolish stamp duty and introduce a broad-based land tax.
3. Improve rent assistance:
  - Establish a Productivity Commission review to enhance the effectiveness of Commonwealth Rent Assistance.
  - Increase the current maximum rate of Commonwealth Rent Assistance to restore its real value to the household budget. This would be an increase of between \$22 and \$27 per week, depending on household type. **Cost: \$6 billion over 5 years.**
4. Set benchmarks for all levels of government to deliver affordable housing:
  - Develop a national housing and infrastructure plan, with transparent funding and accountability arrangements.

"Because of its complexity, we cannot simply expect the housing system to fix itself, nor can we rely on the market or on the quick fix solutions of the past, like First home Owner Grants and land release. We need innovative solutions, a national commitment, and a growing understanding amongst the community that this housing affordability crisis hurts us all.

"Our housing system used to support people to get a roof over their heads, but now we have one in ten households struggling with high housing costs. This must be a priority for governments and we're urging Housing Ministers on Friday to renegotiate the National Affordable Housing Agreements to make sure it delivers for all households."

To read the full blueprint for change, visit [www.housingstressed.org.au](http://www.housingstressed.org.au) or visit [here](#)

*Australians for Affordable Housing is a coalition of national housing, welfare and community sector organisations working to highlight the problem of housing affordability in Australia. For more information visit [www.housingstressed.org.au](http://www.housingstressed.org.au)*

**Media contact: Sarah Toohey, Australians for Affordable Housing, 0427 563 989**

**Follow AAH on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/housingstressed](http://www.facebook.com/housingstressed) and Twitter: @housingstressed**

## COAG Final Housing Supply and Affordability Reform (HSAR) Report

COAG agreed to the recommendations of the Final Housing Supply and Affordability Reform (HSAR) Report out-of-session in July 2012. The report was authored by the HSAR Working Party and presented by the Standing Council on Federal Financial Relations, with an aim to increase Australian housing supply and affordability.

The report will be discussed at the Select Council on Housing and Homelessness meeting in Perth on Friday, 31 August 2012.

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

### HIA Media Release: COAG Housing Supply and Affordability Report Released

The Housing Industry Association (HIA) has welcomed the release of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Housing Supply and Affordability Reform report.

The report will be discussed at the Select Council on Housing and Homelessness meeting in Perth on 31 August 2012, involving State and Territory Housing Ministers.

“The housing industry welcomes the release of the Housing Supply and Affordability Reform report, and looks forward to some robust and constructive debate by the states and territories,” said Graham Wolfe, the HIA Chief Executive Industry Policy and Media.

“The residential building industry is in a severely depressed state at the moment, which is impacting on the livelihoods and job security of thousands of people within the industry, and limiting the capacity of many Australians to put a roof over their head.”

“Housing supply and affordability are serious issues in many parts of Australia, in no small way to do to the disproportionate level of taxation on housing, red and green tape slowing up new supply and constrained access to finance for builders and consumers.”

“It is important that genuine reform of the way housing is treated by all levels of government is undertaken, which will improve affordability and unlock the economic potential of the sector.”

“If acted on, many of the recommendations in the report will go towards addressing some of the chronic problems facing the industry, which we encourage the meeting to progress.”

“However, there were a number of insightful findings in the report about the success that measures enacted in different jurisdictions have had in addressing problems facing housing, which the industry feels could also be raised at tomorrow’s meeting.”

“Where a measure has proven successful in one state or territory, we would like to see it elevated and given further consideration by Ministers.”

*HIA Media Release for further information please contact:*

*Graham Wolfe, Chief Executive – Industry Policy and Media 02 6245 1361 / 0419 751 188*

*Greg Weller, National Director – Communications 02 6245 1388 / 0438 846 752*

*Website: <http://hia.com.au/>*

## Help save Queensland's Tenant's Advice and Advocacy Services

Queensland’s Tenant’s Advice and Advocacy Service has recently been defunded.

This decision is a great loss to Queensland consumers and Shelter WA believes it is important that WA gets behind the Queensland sector to show the Queensland government the need for this service, particularly in the current housing market conditions.

Shelter WA is a member of National Shelter and has received a campaign kit from Queensland Shelter to reverse the decision and we invite you to join the campaign and support Queensland housing consumers.

[Click here for Queensland Shelter's kit on how to help the campaign.](#)

Inside the kit is:

- A message from Queensland Shelter’s Executive Officer, Adrian Pisarski.
- Queensland Shelter response to the decision (media release)
- What you can do to help
- Tips on getting your message across
- Queensland Shelter’s letter to the Minister(s)
- Example testimonials

# Shelter WA Submissions and Projects

Shelter WA is currently working on the following submissions and projects. If you have any issues or concerns you would like us to consider when preparing our submissions or you wish to attend a forum contact Stephanie at [cdpo@shelterwa.org.au](mailto:cdpo@shelterwa.org.au) or phone 9325 6660.

## Petition No 137: Emergency Accommodation for the Homeless

Shelter WA has been invited by the WA Legislative Council Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs to respond to Petition No 137: Accommodation for the Homeless. The deadline for this response is 13 September 2012. Given the short time frame Shelter WA will not be able to circulate a draft for feedback however we invite members and stakeholders to contact us if you there are any issues or concerns you would like us to include.

Please contact Dr Shae Garwood [research@shelterwa.org.au](mailto:research@shelterwa.org.au) or phone 9325 6660.

## Young People Housing and Homelessness Survey and Draft Summary Report

**Shelter WA wants your feedback.**

[Draft Summary Report: Young People, Housing & Homelessness](#) available for comment. Shelter WA is in the process of developing the final report on Young People, Housing and Homelessness. The final report will include key themes, emerging issues, ABS 2011 stats (as they are released), action items, and survey results. Please feel free to provide feedback on the draft summary report by email to Dr Shae Garwood, Research Officer on [research@shelterwa.org.au](mailto:research@shelterwa.org.au) or complete the attached survey.

The Young People Housing & Homelessness [survey](#) can be completed and submitted:

- o directly to Shelter WA via the PDF form, enter your comments in the text boxes under each question; click on the SUBMIT button on the top hand of the right corner of the document;
- o by printing and faxing to (08) 9325 6660;
- o or by saving the PDF document and emailing to [cdpo@shelterwa.org.au](mailto:cdpo@shelterwa.org.au) ;

## Department of Commerce (Consumer Protection) Discussion Paper – Residential Parks Review

Shelter WA is currently compiling a response to the [Department of Commerce \(Consumer Protection\) Discussion Paper – Residential Parks Review](#).

The discussion paper outlines some questions regarding the regulation of the residential parks sector, and seeks feedback from all sectors of the community, especially current and prospective residential park tenants, and residential park operators.

There is also a short survey for park operators and long-stay tenants to complete to improve the Department's understanding of how residential parks currently operate.

Feedback received from this discussion paper will help to develop possible options for reform, and assist in shaping what will be presented to stakeholders in the next stage of this statutory review, which is the release of a formal Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement (C-RIS). The C-RIS is a requirement of the Department of Treasury's Regulatory Gatekeeping Unit and applies to policy proposals for new and amending legislation that may have a significant impact on business, consumers, government or the economy.

Feedback from the C-RIS will then help to determine what proposals are presented to the Government to reform tenancy regulation of residential parks and guide the Government's future decisions in this area.

For more information about the progress of the Department's review visit [www.commerce.wa.gov.au](http://www.commerce.wa.gov.au)

A draft copy of Shelter WA's submission will be circulated at the beginning of November for feedback. If you would like to discuss Shelter WA's response please contact Chantal Robert, Executive Officer on [eo@shelterwa.org.au](mailto:eo@shelterwa.org.au) or phone 9325 6660.

## Tenant Forums 2012 Report

In May 2012 Shelter WA ran a series of tenant forums to provide an opportunity for tenants to voice their concerns about the housing situation in Perth. The forums also provided information about affordable housing options and support services that are available. The forums were free and are open to the general public and were held in various areas around the metropolitan region (Perth metro, Armadale, Clarkson and Rockingham).

The final report is available on our website at [www.shelterwa.org.au](http://www.shelterwa.org.au) or go directly to the [Shelter WA Tenant Forums 2012 Report](#) .

## National Regulatory System for Community Housing – Shelter WA & FoHCOL submission

Shelter WA and the Federation of Housing Collectives WA (FoHCOL) have prepared a joint submission in response to the WA Government Consultation Paper: [Regulatory Impact Statement – National Regulatory System for Community Housing: Implementation of Nationally Consistent Legislation in Western Australia](#)

A copy of the submission is available [here](#).

## Shelter WA

# Affordable Housing Network Meeting

Thursday, 18 October 2012, 9:30am – 12:30pm

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

RSVP to Stephanie - phone 9325 6660 or email [cdpo@shelterwa.org.au](mailto:cdpo@shelterwa.org.au)

## Submission to the Senate Homelessness Bill 2012 Exposure Draft

Shelter WA has completed a submission to the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia's House of Representatives and The Senate Homelessness Bill 2012 Exposure Draft. Shelter WA prepared the response to the Homelessness Bill 2012 Exposure Draft in consultation with its members and stakeholders within the homelessness sector in Western Australia. A preliminary response was prepared and sent to all Shelter WA members and sector stakeholders for comment and feedback.

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

## Shelter WA Surveys

If you would like to take part in any of Shelter WA's surveys, please click on the links below:

[Young People Housing & Homelessness Survey](#)

[Affordable Housing Survey](#)

[Renting in WA Survey](#)

## Discussion Papers, Submissions and Surveys

### The housing we'd choose – Perth focus groups

Curtin University Graduate Business School and Hames Sharley are taking the fantastic Grattan Institute study "The housing we'd choose" and applying it to Perth right now.

<http://www.hamessharley.com.au/news/the-housing-wed-choose-a-study-for-perth-and-peel.html>

The findings showed a massive gap and mismatch between consumer preferences and what was being built, planned or already existing at the time.

**The researchers are looking for people interested in taking part in focus groups** that will contribute to the study, and will ask questions such as:

- What type of property would you choose to live in? What features of your home are most important to you? What would you be willing to trade for a comfortable, affordable and desirable place to live?

They invite people "To be a voice for the future of Perth and participate in a focus group in early September.

Email your name, contact number, age, suburb and your household type (e.g. couple, single, family, group of friends) and where you were born to: [housingwechoose@hamessharley.com.au](mailto:housingwechoose@hamessharley.com.au) or call Liesel Perks on 9381 0244 to leave your details."



## Working to “turn off the tap”: The role of frontline services in addressing homelessness

Researchers from the Centre for Housing, Urban and Regional Planning (CHURP) at the University of Adelaide are currently researching interactions between people experiencing homelessness and front line service staff such as the police force, ambulance service, emergency departments and specialist homelessness service providers.

This study seeks the views of frontline service staff dealing with homeless persons, the frequency of such interactions, the effectiveness (or absence of proscribed) policies, and locally apparent solutions to the challenge of homelessness.

A key outcome of this research is to develop a set of strategies to assist frontline services in their dealing with the homeless and empower them to assist those they have contact with to exit homelessness.

# Perth FOCUS GROUP MONDAY 17 September 9-11am Australian Services Union 102 East Parade, East Perth

If you would like to participate in this study, please contact:

Emily Thwaites-Tregilgas  
The University of Adelaide

Ph: 08 8313 1289

Mobile: 0466 471 431

[emily.thwaites-tregilgas@adelaide.edu.au](mailto:emily.thwaites-tregilgas@adelaide.edu.au)

This research is funded by the Australian Government as part of the  
National Homelessness Research Agenda

**We thank you for your assistance with this research**

*This research project has been approved by the University of Adelaide Human Research Ethics Committee.*

## National Housing Supply Council Release of *Housing Supply and Affordability - Key Indicators 2012*

The growth of housing stock in Australia in 2010–11 fell short of the increase in estimated underlying demand for housing. Affordable housing for lower income individuals and families is in especially short supply in most Australian capital cities and some regional areas, although the Australian Government's economic stimulus spending on social housing lifted the number of new public and community–managed dwellings in 2010–11 to its highest level since the late 1980s.

The National Housing Supply Council has released its latest report: ***Housing Supply and Affordability – Key Indicators, 2012***.

For further information on the report and the Council's findings:

- see [the National Housing Supply Council website](#)
- contact the [Council's Secretariat by email](#)
- contact [Owen Donald via email](#) or 0419–313–186.

The Report can be downloaded from the [National Housing Supply Council website](#).

## Respect and choice integral to health and aged care

Age Discrimination Commissioner, Susan Ryan, today released the Australian Human Rights Commission's paper, *Respect and choice: A human rights approach for ageing and health*.

"Australia's health system and aged care sectors are about to expand dramatically, to take account of the longer lives we are living," said Commissioner Ryan.

"Our position paper outlines a human rights approach for the implementation the federal government's new aged care reform package, *Living Longer Living Better*.

While welcoming this new package with its increases in assistance, particularly for home based care, Commissioner Ryan said it was important that these new arrangements were built on a human rights approach.

"By adopting a human rights approach, we will be able to expect services that are available, accessible, appropriate and of good quality," Commissioner Ryan said. "We also want to see effective monitoring mechanisms and ensure accountability."

"Put simply, we are talking about ensuring that older people have choices in care, are provided with information about what is happening to them and have their privacy protected," Commissioner Ryan said. "Whether care is being provided at home or in residential facilities, providers need training that creates respect for the religious choices, sexual orientation and cultural backgrounds of the older people in their care."

The approach adopted in the *Respect and choice* paper reflects that developed by the United Nations Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights in General Comment No. 14 - 'The right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health'.

The *Respect and choice* paper is available on the Australian Human Rights Commission's website at: [www.humanrights.gov.au/age/ageing/](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/age/ageing/)

Media contact: Brinsley Marlay (02) 9284 9656 or 0430 366 529

## Awards, Grants, Tenders and Funding Opportunities

### The Homeless Short Film Competition 2012 closes 14 September 2012

The Homeless Short Film Competition focuses on Youth Homeless.

You can make a film about any aspect of Youth Homelessness but your film must not be any longer than three minutes including all credits.

You can win a share in \$25,000 for your school as well as student prizes. Entry is Free.

To enter you must fill in the entry form ([download here](#)) and sign the Terms and Conditions ([download here](#)).

Send both forms to [online@sharkisland.com.au](mailto:online@sharkisland.com.au), then [upload your film](#).

The email address for all competition correspondence is: [online@sharkisland.com.au](mailto:online@sharkisland.com.au)

1. We suggest you [watch THE OASIS DOCUMENTARY](#)
2. We suggest that you [read the curriculum resource](#) which will help facilitate your learning around your film

You can watch the 2011 finalists [here](#) on the Shark Island You Tube channel.

**The Competition closes at 5pm AEST on Friday 14 September 2012.**

[For more information visit the Oasis website here](#)

## Commission calls for nominations for the Law Award

Lawyers and legal centres around Australia are being urged to nominate for the prestigious 2012 Human Rights Law Award.

Australian Human Rights Commission President Professor Gillian Triggs said law and those who work within it represent the strongest avenues for the protection and promotion of human rights.

"Whether it is the Constitution, federal discrimination laws, or challenges to these and other legislation, the law provides us with the living, breathing framework to protect our human rights," Professor Triggs said.

Previous Law Award winners have included the team that acted for Sri Lankan asylum seekers who claimed refugee status after arriving at Christmas Island by boat and whose High Court challenge led to the unanimous decision that despite the status of Christmas Island as an 'excised offshore place', the men were entitled to the full protection of Australian law and to procedural fairness. The Northern Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency won the Award in 2010 for its high quality, culturally appropriate legal aid services to Aboriginal people in the Top End of the Northern Territory.

Sponsored by the Law Council of Australia, the Law Award is awarded to an individual or an organisation with a proven track record in promoting and advancing human rights in Australia through the practice of law.

Nominations are also being called for all of the Award categories including the Human Rights Medal and Young People's Human Rights Medal and specific categories such as the Business Award, Literature (non-fiction) Award and the Community Organisation Award.

**Nominations close on 15 September.** Nomination forms and details of each Award category are online at [www.humanrights.gov.au/hrwards/nominations.html](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/hrwards/nominations.html)

The 25th Human Rights Awards are being held at the Hilton Sydney on Monday 10 December 2012. Tickets to the Awards are now on sale. Go to [www.humanrights.gov.au/hrwards/tickets.html](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/hrwards/tickets.html) for more information.

Media contact: Louise McDermott (02) 9284 9851 or 0419 258 597

Up to the minute information on human rights is now available on twitter at [twitter.com/AusHumanRights](http://twitter.com/AusHumanRights).

## 25th Australian Human Rights Awards nominations close 5 September 2012

The Australian Human Rights Commission has announced the opening of nominations for Australia's National Human Rights Awards. Commission President Catherine Branson QC said this year's awards are a watershed event celebrating 25 years of honouring those who protect human rights for all Australians.

"For 25 years the Australian Human Rights Commission has recognised the efforts of Australia's finest who have achieved amazing things in making Australia a fairer and more equitable nation for us all," Ms Branson said. Ms Branson said the Commission had continued to evolve the Human Rights Awards which are held each year to mark Human Rights Day.

Nominations are being called for each of the 10 categories including the Human Rights Medal, the Young People's Human Rights Medal and specific categories such as the Business Award, Community Organisation Award and the Law Award, among others.

Nomination forms and details of each Award category are now live at [www.humanrights.gov.au/hrwards/index.html](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/hrwards/index.html)

**Nominations close 5 September 2012**

## Nominations open for Positive Image Award

Teachers, student councils and individual secondary students are urged to nominate an outstanding secondary student for this year's Positive Image Awards.

Opening the nominations, Youth Minister Robyn McSweeney said the awards, first introduced in 1998, recognised the contributions made by secondary students throughout the State.

"There are many Western Australian students who set positive examples and are exemplary role models to their peers. It is vital these students are acknowledged," Mrs McSweeney said.

"For more than a decade these awards have worked to enhance the community's perception of our young people, and I expect the 2012 nominees and winners to do the same."

Secondary schools are encouraged to nominate a school ambassador, who will then be entered into the Positive Image Award and be in the running to become the region ambassador for their education region.

The Minister said she was looking for students who were involved in youth projects and activities, and for those who inspired other students through their work.

**Applications close 5pm on Friday 28 September.**

Application kits are available from <http://www.communities.wa.gov.au> or phone 6551 8700

Minister's office - 6552 6500 [Click here for link to full media statement](#)



## Count Me In Awards: time to nominate

Two new categories have been added to the Disability Services Commission's annual Count Me In Awards, recognising governance and leadership and innovation and excellence within disability sector organisations.

Disability Services Minister Helen Morton said with nominations open for this year's awards, it created an opportunity to honour individuals and organisations committed to access and inclusion for people with disability.

Other categories include the Count Me In Award for an Individual; Barry MacKinnon Award for Employment; Count Me In Award for Local Government; Count Me In Award for State Government; Count Me In Award for Education and Training; Count Me In Award for Customer Service and Disability Future Directions Award: Liveable Homes.

All category winners are eligible for the overall Dr Louisa Alessandri Award for Excellence.

Mrs Morton said the awards provided a tangible expression of the State's Count Me In vision; that all people live in welcoming communities that facilitate citizenship, friendship, mutual support and a fair go for all.

"The awards tie in with that vision by highlighting the importance of providing opportunities for people with disability across community life," the Minister said.

"They recognise the efforts of those working towards a more inclusive society for Western Australia."

**Nominations close 5pm Friday 28 September.**

**Winners announced December 5, during Disability Awareness Week 2012**

Disability Awareness Week (December 2-8) being held for the third time in 2012

Ties in with International Day of People with Disability on December 3

For more information, visit [www.count-me-in.com.au](http://www.count-me-in.com.au), email [cmiawards@dsc.wa.gov.au](mailto:cmiawards@dsc.wa.gov.au) or call 9426 9264

Minister's office - 6552 6900 [Click here for the link to the full media statement](#)

## Research, Resources, Reports and Publications

### Australian Council of Social Services - The Australian Community Sector Survey 2012

The ACOSS Australian Community Sector Survey 2012 was completed by 665 agencies nationally and provides the most comprehensive picture of how the non-government community services and welfare sector is travelling. This year the report reveals the extent of the crisis engulfing the nation's community legal services which are facing chronic underfunding, longer waiting lists, and turning away greater numbers of people. It also shows how Australia's housing and homelessness services are stretched and unable to meet growing demand for services.

[Click here for a copy of the report](#)

#### National Shelter media release

National Shelter is concerned but not surprised at the latest ACOSS community sector survey report findings, and calls for more investment in affordable housing in response.

The report, released today, shows that what disadvantaged and low income Australians need most is housing:

- Nearly 3 in 5 respondents listed housing among 'high need' services of clients.
- 81% say they cannot meet demand for their services.
- 63% of respondents said waiting times for their service have increased.
- There were 303,713 instances of service provision, but 20,496 instances (8%) of people turned away or 56 people turned away each day from services responding to the survey.

Chairperson of National Shelter, Adrian Pisarski, said the results highlight the need for ongoing investment in affordable housing programs:

'This is not news to the community sector: many services, including welfare services, report housing shortages as their greatest challenge.'

'But this survey confirms the figures that show up to one million households are in housing stress.'

'Commonwealth and state governments need to build on the past five years of investment by continuing their commitment to programs like the National Rental Affordability Scheme.'

[Click here for National Shelter media release](#)

## Booklet: Domestic violence and renting

This booklet outlines options for people living in a rental property who are experiencing domestic violence. It explains the types of tenancies, what an apprehended violence order is and what to do to leave a property. It also provides contact details of service providers that can offer further advice and assistance about tenancy, housing and domestic violence.

Download the booklet: [Domestic violence and renting \(PDF 5.9MB\)](#) or from [here](#)

## Australian Institute of Health & Welfare (AIHW)

### [AIHW National social housing survey- state and territory results 2010](#)

This report presents state and territory findings from the 2010 National Social Housing Survey of public housing and mainstream community housing tenants. It shows that:

- the majority of tenants are satisfied with the services of their housing provider
- about 1 in 5 public housing tenants and 1 in 3 community housing tenants indicated they had been homeless at some time
- about 1 in 5 households had at least one person who needed help with self-care, communication or body movement activities.

### [AIHW Specialist Homelessness Services Collection December 2011](#)

This report presents results of the Specialist Homelessness Services Collection for the December quarter 2011.

## Community Housing Federation Australia National Affordable Housing Exchange July 2012

The Presentations from the Community Housing Federation Australia National Affordable Housing Exchange held in July 2012 are now available [on line](#).

For all enquiries contact Conference Coordinator: Beverley Atkins

Phone: 02 6162 0345, Email: [chfa@in-sync.com.au](mailto:chfa@in-sync.com.au), Website: <http://exchange.in-sync.com.au>

## Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

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

### ABS 2011 Census Data and Shelter WA Publications

The ABS 2011 Census data has arrived. Shelter WA is currently in the process of updating its publications (fact sheets, reports). We will also be producing several reports outlining the new data. Links to some of the latest data released is following. The new look Census website is [available here](#).

[Government Financial Estimates, Australia, 2012-13](#)

[Housing Finance, Australia, Jun 2012](#)

[TableBuilder Pro, 2011 First Release](#)

[Building Approvals, Australia, June 2012 \(Additional Information\)](#)

[House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities, Jun 2012](#)

[Analytical Living Cost Indexes for Selected Australian Household Types, Jun 2012 \(Final Issue\)](#)

[Production of Selected Construction Materials, Jul 2012](#)

[Census of Population and Housing: Basic Community Profile DataPack, 2011 First Release](#)

[Census of Population and Housing: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples Profile DataPack, 2011 First Release](#)

[Building Approvals, Australia, June 2012](#)

[Australian Social Trends, Jun 2012](#)

[QuickStats, 2011 First Release](#)

[Construction Work Done, Australia, Preliminary, Jun 2012](#)

[Private sector house approvals fall in June \(Media Release\), June 2012](#)

[Lending Finance, Australia, May 2012](#)

[Housing Finance, Australia, May 2012](#)

[Building Activity, Australia, Mar 2012](#)

[Final Report: No. 191: Quantifying planning system performance and Australia's housing reform agenda: an Investigative Panel](#)

[Final Report: No. 190: Addressing concentrations of disadvantage: policy, practice and literature review](#)

[Final Report: No. 189: Moving home: conceptual and policy implications of the housing-mobility nexus](#)

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[Positioning Paper: No. 150 Downsizing amongst older Australians](#)

[Positioning Paper: No. 149 The Australian private rental sector: changes and challenges](#)

[Positioning Paper: No. 148: Marginal rental housing and marginal renters: a typology for policy](#)

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[Research and Policy Bulletin: Issue 155 How can secure occupancy in rental housing be improved in Australia?](#)

[Research and Policy Bulletin: Issue 154 How should government respond to affordability problems in regional and rural housing markets?](#)

[Research and Policy Bulletin: Issue 153: What does the residual income method tell us about housing affordability in Australia?](#)

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

## AHURI Research Seminar Perth, 26 September

This [AHURI Housing Research Seminar](#) will present the findings from two new AHURI research projects - [Delivering diverse and affordable infill housing developments \(Investigative Panel\)](#) by [Associate Professor Steven Rowley](#) (AHURI Research Centre—Curtin University) and [Towards a new development model for housing regeneration in greyfield precincts \(Investigative Panel\)](#) by [Dr Peter Newton](#) (AHURI Research Centre—Swinburne University of Technology).

[Mr Grahame Searle](#) (Director General, Department of Housing, Western Australia) will welcome delegates and [Mr Eric Lumsden](#) (Director General, Department of Planning, Western Australia) will comment on the policy and practice implications of the new findings following the research presentations.

The seminar will close with a group discussion and Q&A facilitated by [Dr Ian Winter](#) (Executive Director, AHURI Limited).

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2012**

Time: 8.30am – 11.30am

Venue: Hyatt Regency Hotel in Perth

Cost: \$45 plus GST

[Click here for website link & more information](#)

# Conferences, Events and Workshops 2012

Self Help & Support Groups National Awareness [Day](#) *United Voice of Compassion* (National) 5 September

7<sup>th</sup> National Homelessness [Conference](#) (Melbourne) 5-7 September

ASTSS 17<sup>th</sup> Australasian [Conference](#) on Traumatic Stress (Perth) 6-8 September

AHURI [Seminar](#) Planning, development and supply: new AHURI research (Perth) 26 September

Annual National Suicide Prevention [Conference](#) (Sydney) 11-12 October

Australasian Housing Institute (AHI) People and Places: A [Master Class Series](#) for housing professionals involved in place making, community renewal and urban regeneration (Adelaide) 11-12 October

Anti-Poverty [Week](#) (National) 16-22 October

Not-for-Profit Partnerships WA [Conference](#) (Perth) 30-31 October

PropertyOz Property [Congress 2012](#) (Sydney) 31 October–2 November

7<sup>th</sup> National Housing [Conference](#) (Brisbane) 30 October – 2 November

The First International Law Enforcement and Public Health [Conference](#) (Melbourne) 11-14 November

Youth Mentoring Network [Conference](#) (Gold Coast, QLD) 14-15 November

## 2013

AHURI National Urban Policy [Conference](#) (Sydney) 16-17 May 2013

12<sup>th</sup> National Rural Health [Conference](#) (Adelaide) 7-10 April 2013. [Call for Abstracts](#)

## Media Releases

### WA Government Media Releases

[Program delivers more regional lots](#)

[Affordable housing strategy delivers results](#)

[Inner harbour developments at Port Hedland](#)

[Perth homelessness survey completed](#)

[Government support sown in Harvest doco](#)

[Ethnic organisations funded for priority services](#)

[New Bill to strengthen local govt services](#)

[Mandurah Junction to showcase new standards](#)

[Boosting rights of seniors in retirement villages](#)

[Remote community housing targets exceeded](#)

[Health and social care jobs boom predicted](#)

[Mid West Investment Plan's four new projects](#)

[Vacant nursery site to be developed](#)

[Cockburn Central advances to Stage 2](#)

[Minister calls for awareness on homelessness](#)

[Service workers' houses arrive in Hedland](#)

[Click here for a full list of WA Government media statements](#)

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

Australian Government <http://australia.gov.au/>  
Labor Party WA: <http://www.wa.alp.org.au/news/rss>  
National Party WA: <http://www.nationalswa.com/>  
Liberal Party Australia: <http://www.liberal.org.au/Latest-News.aspx>  
Greens Party WA: <http://greens.org.au/>

## Useful links

<a href="#">National Shelter</a>	<a href="#">Australians for Affordable Housing</a>
<a href="#">Federation of Housing Collectives WA</a>	<a href="#">WACOSS</a>
<a href="#">Homelessness Australia Newsletter</a>	<a href="#">Homelessness Clearing House</a>
<a href="#">Council to Homeless Persons</a>	<a href="#">Australian Institute of Urban Studies WA</a>
<a href="#">Australian Institute of Health &amp; Welfare</a>	<a href="#">Communities and Families Clearing House</a>
<a href="#">Community Housing Federation Australia</a>	<a href="#">Community Housing Coalition WA (CHCWA)</a>
<a href="#">Tenants Advice Service WA</a>	<a href="#">Community Legal Centres WA</a>
<a href="#">Housing Industry Association Ltd</a>	<a href="#">Australasian Housing Institute</a>
<a href="#">Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA)</a>	<a href="#">Real Estate Institute of WA (REIWA)</a>
<a href="#">National Housing Supply Council</a>	<a href="#">Property Council of Australia</a>
<a href="#">Pro Bono Australia</a>	<a href="#">Australian Policy Online</a>
<a href="#">City Futures</a>	<a href="#">Make My City Work Campaign</a>

### Shelter WA 2012 Newsletters

Shelter WA publishes a monthly newsletter 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](mailto:cdpo@shelterwa.org.au)

For copies of Shelter WA's previous newsletters click on the following link: [Newsletters](#)

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