



Promoting Affordable Housing

# Newsletter

## May 2013

### Anglicare Rental Affordability Snapshot 2013

The 2013 Anglicare Australia [Rental Affordability Snapshot](#) shows a 'snapshot' of rental affordability taken on one specific day, the Saturday 13 April, across the whole of Australia. The nationwide assessment done by the Anglicare network, surveyed 56,414 rental properties across of Australia.

A review of properties listed on [www.domain.com.au](http://www.domain.com.au), [www.gumtree.com.au](http://www.gumtree.com.au) and [REIWA](#) (in WA) showed that less than one per cent of the properties listed across Australia were suitable for anyone on Newstart allowance, parenting payment, aged pension or disability support pension.

There was also a marked decrease in affordable properties for working families. In last year's snapshot couples working on the minimum wage with children were able to afford 7.8% of rentals on the market. This year, they could only afford 2.6% of rentals – a drastic drop. The median price of a rental property in Perth was up from \$450 per week in 2012, to \$520 per week in 2013 – a 16% increase.

Many low income earners are buying into an expensive market, and placing themselves in housing stress, because they are accepting a rental price higher than what they can actually afford. The rental snapshot also identifies significant price barriers for young people trying to move out of home, as well as the strain that higher rentals are causing for public housing.

Regional areas were also noted to have significant affordability problems. They are far too expensive for people living on a government payment with this group only being able to afford 0.1-5.8% of the market and only marginally less expensive for single people living on a minimum wage, 4.0-6.3%.

This report is a good overall gauge of Australia's residential market and provides some insight into policy changes which can occur to facilitate more affordable housing. For more information or a copy of the report visit [www.anglicare.asn.au](http://www.anglicare.asn.au)

### Anglicare WA Homelessness Award Recipient

Anglicare WA has recently received an award from the 2013 National Homelessness Services Achievement Awards. Their [Making Ends Meet program](#) won the 'Outstanding business or philanthropic commitment to addressing homelessness' award. The program offers assistance to those experiencing significant 'housing stress' including couples, sole parent families and families that are employed either part or full time. In addition to helping families avoid homelessness, they also provide support to build resilience against future crisis.

Shelter WA congratulates Anglicare WA on their award. We also hope that they continue to achieve success with this program and other innovative programs in the future. More information is available through [www.anglicarewa.org.au](http://www.anglicarewa.org.au)

### Shelter WA Submissions, Resources 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.*

### New Shelter WA website

Shelter WA is pleased to announce its new website at [www.shelterwa.org.au](http://www.shelterwa.org.au). The website is designed to make it easy for users to access information, and provide feedback, on a range of housing issues. The Shelter WA team are pleased in what we have achieved with the new design and ask our members and subscribers to send their feedback to [shelterwa@shelterwa.org.au](mailto:shelterwa@shelterwa.org.au).

## Shelter WA has recently published the following reports and submissions

- [Shelter WA Policy Platform 2013-2015 Housing in WA: Affordability & Sustainability for the Future](#)
- [Shelter WA & YACWA Young People Housing & Homelessness Report](#)
- [Shelter WA Housing Options Kit](#)
- [Shelter WA Submission on the Department of Planning State Planning Strategy \(Draft\)](#)

## News and Updates

### Building Great Communities Fact Sheet

The Housing Advisory Round Table (HART) have recently released a fact sheet entitled [Building Great Communities: Public and Community Housing](#). It outlines how public and community housing can build a “safe, secure, and welcoming community”. The fact sheet also works to dispel the myths about social housing, explaining that the diversity created through this type of housing is integral to a vibrant and successful community.

### Housing Payment Deduction Scheme proposal – National Shelter & Homelessness Australia respond

On 11 April 2013, the Commonwealth Government released an exposure draft of a Bill to establish a Housing Payment Deduction Scheme. The proposed scheme provides for tenants of public housing and state-owned and managed Aboriginal housing who are in arrears or at risk of arrears to have their rent compulsorily deducted from their Centrelink benefits.

The scheme aims to prevent evictions and possible homelessness, and to reduce the cost of managing arrears. The proposal is linked to an initiative specified in the Commonwealth Government’s white paper on homelessness, *The road home*, and a reform identified in the National Affordable Housing Agreement.

Submissions have already closed (April 23), but persons interested in reading about the proposal can find it at- [Housing Payment Deduction Scheme](#).

Homelessness Australia and National Shelter have both completed submissions in response to the proposal copies are available by clicking on the links below:

[National Shelter Submission](#)

[Homelessness Australia Submission](#)

### WACOSS Social Innovation Community Platform

WACOSS is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from individuals and organisations in the Not for Profit Sector to participate and contribute to an advisory group to pilot and establish an online community platform. The project will encourage dialogue and information sharing across the sector enabling organisations to connect and make meaningful contributions to the issues which they are attempting to address. The platform presents an innovative approach to assisting the sector to collaborate and connect in a virtual online environment.

WACOSS is currently making contact with regional networks and is interested in hearing from individuals or organisations within the Not for Profit sector who want to participate in providing views and joining an advisory group. This is a unique opportunity to become part of an advisory network to provide discussion and input of ideas in the development of the platform for the sector. The work is currently being scoped, WACOSS is keen to identify those working on similar projects or who have an interest in the development of new technology.

Please send your EOI via email to [majja@wacoss.org.au](mailto:majja@wacoss.org.au)

### Defaulting on the Australian Dream



Australians for Affordable Housing recently launched their report into the affordability of housing for workers in a number of occupations, [Defaulting on the Australian dream](#). The research shows that a full-time salary no longer guarantees access to affordable housing in Australia.

They've also created a new way for you to take action as part of the campaign. You can now [send a letter to the editor of your local newspaper](#) directly from their website. What's even more powerful

than Australians for Affordable Housing contacting the media is for you to contact them directly – to tell your story of housing stress and why you believe housing stress should no longer be ignored.

Further information about their campaign can be downloaded [here](#).

## National Shelter Update

- [Housing supply: media releases](#)
- [Meeting housing needs: media releases](#)
- [Making liveable environments: media releases](#)

### National Shelter media release 18 April 2013

National Shelter has welcomed the new round of 'shovel-ready' National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) projects, but calls for long term certainty by providing a pipeline of projects based on NRAS.

The Minister for Housing and Homelessness, Mark Butler, officially opened the new round of NRAS projects today, which are committed to support ready to go projects.

Chair of National Shelter, Adrian Pisarski said that a long term commitment to NRAS projects will ensure low income earners are able to secure affordable rental properties that they would otherwise struggle to find.

"This announcement will breathe life onto the ember of housing recovery," said Mr Pisarski.

"Tenants and their families will be able to benefit from more opportunities to find affordable rental properties."

"We need to see the same commitments to NRAS from all levels of government.

"States and territories need to commit to their contribution, which could include land and capital grants.

"This could also be driven further through local government providing planning incentives, land and approvals to NRAS projects."

For more information:

- *Adrian Pisarski, Chairperson: 0417 975 270*
- *Emma Greenhalgh, National Shelter Project Manager: 0402 927 243*
- *Kim Zoe Evans, Communications Officer: 0404 429 20*

## Discussion/Issue Papers, Submissions, Surveys, Petitions

### Living in the Regions Survey – Now Open

Tell us your perceptions or experience of life in regional Western Australia.

**Living in the Regions 2013** is a quality of life survey conducted by the Department of Regional Development and Lands.

The survey will only take around 10 minutes to complete.

Questions for regional residents focus on:

- Your reasons for moving to or living in a particular region
- What you see as the strengths of the region
- How happy you are living in the regions.

A similar survey for metropolitan residents asks for their views and perceptions about living in the regions.

By participating in the survey you are helping the Western Australian Government develop projects and programs best suited to Western Australia's regions.

[Click here if you live in a regional area](#)

[Click here if you live in a metropolitan area](#)

**REGIONAL  
SURVEY**

**METROPOLITAN  
SURVEY**

<http://www.rdl.wa.gov.au/regions/survey/Pages/default.aspx>

**It is requested that your completed questionnaire is submitted by: 5.00pm on Friday 10th May 2013**

### Call for contributions for July joint edition of *HousingWorks* and *Parity*

Once again the **Australasian Housing Institute** and the **Council to Homelessness Persons** are combining their resources to publish a joint edition of their two publications. This will be the July 2013 '**Surviving and Sustaining Public and Social Housing**' joint edition of *HousingWorks* and *Parity*.

The publication will have two main themes. **Part One: The Future of Public and Social Housing**

This section of the publication will examine and discuss the main issues confronting the future of public and social housing in Australia. It will look at the policy mix and the public policy imperatives working to shape and structure the

provision of public and social housing. In particular it will look at the policies of both state and national governments in public and social housing provision and ask whether public and social housing has a future other than as the residual "housing of last resort" for the most disadvantaged and marginalised in our community. There will be a particular focus on the role of community housing in the public and social housing mix. Examples and models from comparable international examples will be featured.

## Part Two: Sustaining Public and Social Housing

This section will look at all those programs and services designed to assist and support people in social and public housing maintain their tenancies and avoid homelessness. What is the evidence for the effectiveness of these programs and services? What are some of examples of "best practice" in supporting social and public housing tenants?

Remember, you do not need to be a professional writer to publish interesting and valuable work - please read the [Contribution Guide](#). All suggestions, final articles and images can be sent to [admin@housinginstitute.org](mailto:admin@housinginstitute.org)

**The deadline for the July 2013 edition is Sunday, 16th June 2013.**

## Living together survey

Do you have adult children living at home? Do you live at home with your parents? Do you have adult children and elderly parents living with you? The City Futures research team at the University of New South Wales is conducting a research project on why there has been an increase in the number of multi-generation households in Australian cities. By participating in the survey you could win one of three \$100 Coles Myer gift cards. Your opinions will inform governments and the housing industry about the changing needs of Australian families. For more information and to take the survey visit the [City Futures website](http://www.surveys.unsw.edu.au/survey/156684/2081/) . <http://www.surveys.unsw.edu.au/survey/156684/2081/>

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

[Affordable Housing Survey](#)

[Renting in WA Survey](#)

[Feedback on the Disruptive Behaviour Management Strategy](#)

## Reviewing the Paid Parental Leave scheme, Have your say!

The Australian Government is undertaking a review of the Paid Parental Leave Scheme, as required under the [Paid Parental Leave Act 2010](#). The legislated review started in January 2013. The [Terms of Reference](#) outline the purpose and scope of the review.

The review will take into account the matters set out in legislation and will draw on submissions, consultations, administrative data and the emerging findings of the independent Paid Parental Leave evaluation.

Australia's first national Paid Parental Leave scheme was introduced on 1 January 2011. The scheme provides eligible working parents with government-funded pay when they take time off from work to care for a newborn or recently adopted child.

There are two payments under the scheme:

- **Parental Leave Pay** which has been providing up to 18 weeks pay at the rate of the national minimum wage to eligible primary carers (usually mothers) since 1 January 2011.
- **Dad and Partner Pay** which provides up to two weeks pay at the rate of the national minimum wage to eligible dads or partners caring for a child born or adopted from 1 January 2013.

The review is being undertaken by FaHCSIA with oversight by an independent [Steering Group](#).

FaHCSIA is holding public consultations as part of the review of the Paid Parental Leave scheme. We welcome submissions from individuals and organisations. Consultation forums will also be held with key representative groups and peak bodies. The public consultation phase **is now open and will close on 31 May 2013**.

Parents, employees, employers and interested members of the community are encouraged to contribute to the review by making a written submission or by contacting their peak body or representative group to discuss the issues they would like raised.

The Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, Minister for Disability Reform, the Hon Jenny Macklin MP, has released a [discussion paper](#) that provides information about the review and contains [review questions](#) to help guide discussion and submissions.

## Invitation to register for the Homelessness Community of Practice (CoP)

The Australian Homelessness Clearinghouse's (AHC) **Homelessness Community of Practice (CoP)** has been launched and we are very keen to hear what you have to say in this two-way discussion forum. We also think this is something you will want to participate in because the majority of AHC subscribers are working in the homelessness service sector.

Learning from each other we can really make a difference by sharing best-practice solutions and inviting input from the actual academics who conducted the studies. The CoP will help everyone better understand the strategies that work best, and why. Leveraging the latest research findings and implementing them on the ground can be exciting but at the same time challenging, so again, we are inviting you to communicate directly with the researchers to gain their insights, via the CoP.

This is your forum and as the research projects are being finalised and published, it is timely to activate the CoP to consult with you. We really want to know what you think about the research findings, how you have used them, whether you can suggest improvements, fill any gaps or identify issues that still need to be addressed. This discussion will help to make policy and programs more efficient and target homeless people and those at risk of homelessness, more effectively.

The Australian Homelessness Clearinghouse's plan is to post a question each week over a three-month period. Each week, a question will be drawn from one of the National Homelessness Research Agenda's project reports. All of the reports have been released on the clearinghouse over the last 12-months and are available by searching on the report's title. If this three-month trial proves to be a success, we hope the energy you bring to the forum will sustain ongoing activity.

The AHC has a global audience and it has grown into a credible source of world-class information on homelessness. Many research releases are re-posted on high profile websites in other countries in recognition of their merit; and their governments' commitment to tackling homelessness.

[Join the CoP now](#)

## Awards, Grants, Tenders and Funding Opportunities

### NRAS Round Call for Applications

The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) has opened a call for applications for the **National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS)**. This call for applications is for shovel ready projects.

- **The call for applications for shovel ready projects opened on 18 April 2013 and will close at 5.00pm AEST, 22 May 2013.**
- This call seeks to allocate approximately 1,000 incentives for dwellings.
- Successful applicants may be offered an allocation for dwellings that are ready to rent, or a reserved allocation for those that are not yet available.
- A condition may be imposed on successful applicants that approved dwellings must meet certain construction milestones and **be substantially completed by June 2014**, or at the latest available for rent by December 2014.

**There will be a further call for applications**, Round 5 call for applications will open on 7 May 2013 and will close at **5.00pm AEST, 6 August 2013**. More information will be available on the NRAS website ([www.fahcsia.gov.au/nras](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/nras)).

### 2013 Australia Award for Urban Design

The [Australia Award for Urban Design](#) is the premier award for excellence and innovation in all elements of urban design in Australia.

Individuals, groups and organisations in the planning, development and design industries recently involved with Australian urban design initiatives, projects or developments that deserve national recognition.

The Award intent and scope is broad and invites entries for design initiatives, projects, built developments, and publications that will make a significant difference to the places, spaces, buildings and infrastructure of our cities.

The Australia Award for Urban Design is hosted by the Planning Institute of Australia with support from the Australian Institute of Architects, Property Council of Australia, Green Building Council of Australia, Consult Australia, The Australian Urban Design Forum and the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects. Think Brick Australia are delighted to again be the major sponsor of the Awards.

[Download the 2013 Nomination Kit](#)

**Final date for submissions: 4pm Monday 13 May 2013**

For further information please contact Robyn Vincin, NSW Executive Officer, E: [nswmanager@planning.org.au](mailto:nswmanager@planning.org.au) T: 02 8904 1011



## Office of Multicultural Interests 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, cultural and economic 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.

[Download application forms and guidelines \(PDF format\)](#)

### KEY DATES for 2013

**CGP Grant Writing Workshop**, 5.30 – 8.00pm Tuesday 18 June 2013  
RSVPs essential to the Grants Officer by 5.00pm Wednesday 12 June 2013  
**CGP July 2013 round closes 4:00pm, 15 July 2013**

**CGP Grant Writing Workshop**, 5.30 – 8.00pm Tuesday 24 September 2013  
RSVPs essential to the Grants Officer by 5.00pm Wednesday 18 September 2013  
**CGP October 2013 round closes 4:00pm, 21 October 2013**

For more information about the CGP Grant Writing Workshop or assistance with your application contact the Grants Officer at OMI on (08) 6552 1463 or by email on [grants@omi.wa.gov.au](mailto:grants@omi.wa.gov.au).

## Housing Industry Association (HIA) Training Scholarship

[APPLY NOW](#) for an HIA training scholarship.

The building industry is in demand for skilled tradespeople. HIA is committed to finding and supporting the needs of current and future apprentices to help develop their skills for a brighter future. HIA and its valued partners will award full and partial training scholarships across Australia to help offset the cost of HIA training fees for Nationally Recognised Training (NRT) courses ranging up to \$7,200.

Each state or territory provides courses covering specific requirements in regards to qualifications needed to gain a required licence. For more information on the courses available in your state or territory [click here](#). (Please note your course preference on the nomination form). You can apply for a scholarship by:

- submitting an [online scholarship application form](#)
- [downloading](#) a scholarship application form and faxing it to **08 8340 5992**
- contacting your nearest HIA office on **1300 650 620**

Applicants must read and agree to the [terms and conditions](#), in order to submit an application and accept an HIA training scholarship. If your application is unsuccessful, you may still re-apply for future HIA training scholarships. HIA Training Scholarships are awarded twice a year. **Closing date is the 31 October.**

## Research, Resources, Reports and Publications

### CREATE Foundation Report Card 2013

CREATE Foundation has released its report *Experiencing Out-of-Home Care in Australia: The Views of Children and Young People*, By Dr Joseph J. McDowall

This survey was designed to provide a benchmark or reference point for how the out-of-home care system is faring in 2013 from the point of view of the children and young people living in it. Click on the following link for a copy of the report [Experiencing Out-of-Home Care in Australia: The Views of Children and Young People](#)

### Homelessness Clearing House

[www.homelessnessclearinghouse.govspace.au](http://www.homelessnessclearinghouse.govspace.au)

[Are Boarding Houses Disappearing](#)

[Millions of Youth Put at Risk By Parents' Low-Wage Jobs \(USA\)](#)

[Homelessness and Residential Care, 2013 \(India\)](#)

[Going Home Staying Home. 2013 \(Aust\)](#)

[Behaving Badly or Brain Injury?](#)

[Under 1 Roof: Learning, Training and Development Survey](#)

[Women rough sleepers who are the victims of domestic violence: Final report. 2012 \(UK\)](#)

[What effect does housing assistance have on social inclusion for people with disabilities? 2013 \(Aust\)](#)

[Innovating alongside Designers. 2013 \(Aust\)](#)

[The Latest in Sustainable Resilience Housing](#)

[Land Prices, Sales Rise in December Quarter](#)

[Property Confidence Hits Record High](#)

[Building a harmonised planning act](#)

[Design for an Aging Population](#)

[Reconnecting young people to break the cycle of homelessness](#)

**Property Observer**[www.propertyobserver.com.au/](http://www.propertyobserver.com.au/)

[Ten things not to do when buying a home](#) 23 April 2013

["Some room" for house prices to increase as lower interest rates support "consumer revival": HSBC's Paul Bloxham](#) 23 April 2013

[Hit and miss hotspots: Box Hill flames out while Highgate, Karratha, Newman and other mining locations are on fire](#) 23 April 2013

[School zones inflate real estate prices and maintain a social divide](#) 22 April 2013

[Housing is more affordable than you think](#) 19 April 2013

[Times are changing and apartments are on the rise](#) 16 April 2013

[Perth weekly rents rise to \\$480 for houses and \\$450 for units: REIWA](#) 15 April 2013

**Australian Policy Online**[www.apo.org.au](http://www.apo.org.au)

[Literature review of the interplay between education, employment, health and wellbeing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in remote areas](#) Oanh Nguyen, Sheree Cairney Ninti One Limited 15 April 2013

[Protected tenancies: history and proposals for reform](#) Edwina Schneller, NSW Parliamentary Library, 13 March 2013

[Housing bubbles and expected returns to homeownership: lessons and policy implications](#) Marius Jurgilas, Kevin Lansing 28 January 2013

[Urban planning for city leaders](#) Pablo Vaggione et al United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat) 30 December 2012

[Implications of population growth on infrastructure and resources in regional cities](#) Essential Economics 30 October 2012

**Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)**[www.aihw.gov.au](http://www.aihw.gov.au)

[The desire to age in place among older Australians](#) focuses on the premise that many older Australians report a desire to age in place. This bulletin explores the relationship between this desire and the housing circumstances of older Australians of different tenure types; that is, those who own their home outright, those paying a mortgage and those who rent their home either privately or through social housing.

**Accessible events – a guide for organisers**

Disability Discrimination Commissioner, Graeme Innes, has congratulated Meetings & Events Australia on the release of an updated edition of *Accessible events – a guide for organisers*.

"Events such as conferences, festivals, annual meetings, award ceremonies, fundraisers and seminars are big business and an important part of the lives of many people," said Commissioner Innes. "Ensuring they are accessible for people with disability - whether they are presenters, sponsors or participants is a legal requirement."

The Guide was first developed in 2006 by Meetings Events Australia in partnership with the Australian Human Rights Commission.

"Since then new access requirements have been introduced and MEA and its members have gained experience in using the Guide, so it is timely that this updated version has been released," said Commissioner Innes.

The Guide aims to help organisers think about access and participation when planning an event and understand what can be done to ensure the best possible access. It includes sections on the venue, promotional material, booking systems, information and the overall organisation of an event whether it is an open air festival, large conference or community consultation. The Guide is available here: [www.mea.org.au](http://www.mea.org.au) under section titled 'Downloads of Interest'. [www.meetingevents.com.au/downloads/Accessible\\_Events\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.meetingevents.com.au/downloads/Accessible_Events_Guide.pdf)

Media contact: Neena Mairata (02) 9284 9862 or 0417 957 525

[Reflecting a Nation: Stories from the 2011 Census, 2012–2013](#)

[Selected Living Cost Indexes, Australia, Dec 2012](#)

[Production of Selected Construction Materials, Mar 2013](#)

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

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

[Private sector houses remain weak in January \(Media Release\), January 2013](#)

[Housing Finance, Australia, Feb 2013](#)

[Lending Finance, Australia, Feb 2013](#)[Building Approvals, Australia, February 2013](#)

[Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness, 2011 \(Additional Information\)](#)

[What's New in Regional Statistics, 2013 \(Additional Information\)](#)

[Engineering Construction Activity, Australia, Dec 2012](#)

[Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas \(SEIFA\), Australia, 2011](#)

[Australian Social Trends - Population boom in mining towns \(Media Release\), April 2013](#)

[Australian Social Trends April 2013](#)

[Inner Sydney, Australia's most densely populated \(Media Release\), 2011-12](#)

[Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2011-12](#)

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

[Construction Activity: Chain Volume Measures, Australia, Dec 2012](#)

[Where and how do Australia's older people live?](#)

**Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI)**

[Research and Policy Bulletin: Issue 162 .What influences pathways into and out of social housing and how can mobility support positive housing outcomes?](#)

[Research and Policy Bulletin: Issue 161 What role does assertive outreach play in ending homelessness for people who are sleeping rough?](#)

[Research and Policy Bulletin: Issue 160 How would proposed reforms in the Henry Tax Review affect housing affordability for private renters and property owners?](#)

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[Final Report No. 205: The cost of homelessness and the net benefit of homelessness programs: a national study](#)

[Final Report No. 204: Understanding leadership, strategy and organisational dynamics in the not-for-profit housing sector](#)

[Final Report No. 203: Bridging the divide: the experiences of low-income households excluded from the private rental sector in Australia](#)

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[Positioning paper No. 152: The housing security consequences of underemployment](#)

[Positioning Paper: No. 151: Cost-effective methods for evaluation of neighbourhood renewal programs](#)

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

[AHURI Evidence Review](#) AHURI's *Evidence Review* is a short, weekly online article linking AHURI research findings to contemporary debates, media discussions and community concerns. Focussing on a single theme or issue, each edition of *Evidence Review* connects the findings from different AHURI research projects to help the policy and practice communities, and the interested public, understand what evidence is available on the topic and what it means.



### [Land Sales Signal Inadequate Home Building Recovery](#)

Economics Group [Residential Building Approvals – still a mixed bag](#)

### [New Home Starts Slip Back in December 2012 Quarter](#)

### [New Home Lending is Grinding Higher](#)

## HIA - Australia's Housing Industry: The Cold Hard Facts (28 April 2013)

The Housing Industry Association (HIA) will commence its Housing Australians campaign tomorrow with the release of a series of radio and print advertisements.

The HIA campaign, which aims to place housing issues squarely on the national agenda, will highlight the distressing facts impacting new housing, from the disproportionate level of taxation on the family home, growing rates of unaffordability, and the current high level of job losses in the sector.

These facts are:

**FACT:** This year, Australia will build 25,000 less homes than we did a decade ago.

**FACT:** Building and construction has contracted every month for the last 34 months.

**FACT:** Over 1 million Australian workers in building and construction watch helplessly as building keeps falling, knowing their jobs are at risk.

**FACT:** Severe drops in new housing have forced many manufacturing and small businesses to close with risks of further layoffs.

**FACT:** Taxes, levies, fees and charges account for 40% of the cost of a new home.

**FACT:** Australia will need 1.3 million new homes built by 2020. At the current rate of building, more than 150,000 families will miss out on the home they've waited for.

"Access to affordable housing is one of the biggest challenges facing the Australian community," said HIA Managing Director Shane Goodwin. "Housing provides shelter – a necessity for all Australians."

"Building new and affordable homes should be actively encouraged, supported and sustained by Governments."

"Governments can't ignore housing any longer. They need to act more constructively, cooperatively and determinedly to meet the housing needs of Australians and their families."

"With 2013 being an election year, it is essential that all parties embrace policies that will improve housing affordability and cut through the red and green tape that is strangling new housing development."

HIA will be launching policy actions to address these problems in the coming weeks.

HIA will officially launch 50 actions for housing Australians on 9 May at the National Press Club, Canberra.

*For further information contact: Greg Weller, National Director Communications, M: 0438 846 752*

The HIA Economics Group has released a [Discussion Paper](#) which reviews recent developments in dwelling prices across Australia. The paper highlights the current weaknesses in the market in the context of developments over the last decade. The Discussion Paper also finds that dwelling prices are largely in line with long term relationships to income and mortgage repayments. This indicates that prices are likely to remain largely stable for the foreseeable future. If you have any questions please contact HIA Senior Economist, Shane Garrett on 0416 633 261.

## Wesley Mission - Living on the streets can be far safer than living at home, new report reveals

For some, homelessness is safer than home. It is difficult to imagine a life where the home is a dangerous place yet 34 per cent of those seeking help for homelessness do so as a result of abuse (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2012).

Wesley Mission staff have seen a seismic shift in the face of homelessness—from an experience largely defined by single, older men to one where women, families and children are now a sizeable representation.

Wesley homeless services offer a wide range of accommodation for individuals, families, young people, and the elderly. It includes both the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless. From July 2011 to June 2012, 100,062 nights of care were provided by Wesley Mission homelessness services through safe and secure, short to medium-term accommodation and support services.

The latest research in The Wesley Report, *Homelessness and the next generation*, reveals the facts about homelessness and how we reach effective and sustainable outcomes. [The Wesley Report May 2013](#).

A copy of the report can be also be found at <http://www.wesleymission.org.au/Releases/130430.asp>

## Homelessness Solutions Database (US Interagency Council on Homelessness)

Do you struggle to find the time to keep up-to-date with homelessness research? Ever wondered about the evidence base behind coordinated entry or rapid re-housing approaches?

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness ([USICH](#)) has created the [Solutions Database](#), a searchable source of information about emerging and established responses to homelessness. The database contains short profiles of important practices and programs such as permanent supportive housing, motivational interviewing and funder collaboratives. Although it is compiled from North American evidence, the database includes tips for replicating these approaches, as well as links to help you find more information or resources that you can use.

## New Australian Human Rights Commission website

The Commission has launched a new website to provide a more modern platform for the web audience. The site has a lot of features that weren't available previously. It's now mobile and tablet friendly and more geared to social media. It's also more interactive, with places to comment such as on the news stories on the home page. Accessibility has been greatly improved, with a range of enhancements such as better contrast for the visually impaired. There will be more video content across the site, and a new video section in news.

[All publications are also now in the one place.](#) The new website uses a content management system, which will help us update content more quickly.

As part of the changes, we'll be using Mailchimp to send out emails to people [subscribing to e-lists](#).

View it at [humanrights.gov.au](http://humanrights.gov.au) Please send any comments and feedback to [webfeedback@humanrights.gov.au](mailto:webfeedback@humanrights.gov.au)

## Conferences, Events and Workshops 2013

### Equal Opportunity Commission Training May & June 2013

Recruitment & Selection – Are You Getting it Right? – Full day	Wednesday, 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2013	Cost \$350.00
Equal Opportunity Law and Workplace Culture – Full day	Wednesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2013	Cost \$350.00
Contact Officer Refresher – Full day – pre-requisite applies	Wednesday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2013	Cost \$350.00
Equal Opportunity Law and Workplace Culture – Full day	Tuesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> June 2013	Cost \$350.00
Contact Officer Role – Full day - pre-requisite applies	Wednesday, 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2013	Cost \$350.00
Grievance Officer Role & Complaint Handling (Two day course) – pre-requisite applies	Tuesday/Wednesday, 18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2013	Cost \$621.00

For further details on these workshops and the pre-requisite requirements please refer to the website [www.eoc.wa.gov.au](http://www.eoc.wa.gov.au) under Community Education & Training or you are welcome to call 9216 3900 for further assistance.

If you would like to attend please register online at [www.eoc.wa.gov.au](http://www.eoc.wa.gov.au) under Community Education & Training – Courses by Calendar and select the relevant event or alternatively phone 9216 3900 for assistance in registering for the workshop.

### Emergency Relief Conference 28-29 May 2013

The biennial Emergency Relief Conference will take place on Tuesday 28th and Wednesday 29th May 2013 at The Salvation Army Fortress, Northbridge. The theme of the conference in 2013 will focus on DivERSity - diversity in the ways our services assist those who are vulnerable in times of financial crisis and hardship, the diversity of services across the State and the environments in which they operate, and most importantly the diversity among people - the volunteers, workers and those using the services. [Go to the WACOSS website](#) to read more or visit <http://www.wacoss.org.au/ERConference2013> to register.

## Safe in Oz Perth Workshop 28-28 May

SAFE in Oz will be presenting in partnership with Intework, 'An Introduction To Working With Individuals Who Have Self-Destructive Behaviour' to be held in Balcatta, Perth on the **28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> May 2013**.

SAFE in Oz aims to give workshop participants an insight into the headspace of a person who participates in self-destructive behaviour/s in order to better understand their 'real' world and life experiences.

For more information or to register visit [safeinoz@wideband.net.au](mailto:safeinoz@wideband.net.au) or email [www.safeinoz.com.au](http://www.safeinoz.com.au)

## Planning Institute of Australia (WA) The Housing We'd Choose Study Perth & Peel Regions Report Launch

The Planning Institute of Australia (WA) is supporting a landmark study about what people in Perth really want when it comes to housing and what drives their decision making when choosing a place to live.

The Departments of Housing and Department of Planning have commissioned an independent study of housing preferences to inform government policy in the roll out of its strategic responses to the growing population; the *Affordable Housing Strategy 2010 – 2020* and *Directions 2031*. This breakfast will be your first chance to hear the findings of the research and contribute to a panel discussion.

The report launch will be headed by Steven Rowley (Head of Department - Property Studies, Curtin University) and also includes: David Caddy (Managing Director, TPG Town Planning Urban Design and Heritage); Dean O'Rourke (President, HIA WA; General Manager, Dale Alcock Homes); Troy Pickard (President, WALGA; Mayor of City of Joondalup).

It will be conducted on **Friday the 31 May 2013** at the Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre. Registrations can be completed [manually](#), [online](#) or through phone on (08) 9382 2100 (Planning Institute of Australia).

## 8<sup>th</sup> National Housing Conference – A new way home, 30 October – 1 November 2013, Adelaide

Convened by the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) in partnership with Housing SA, the 8th National Housing Conference will provide a platform for sharing, debating, celebrating and promoting ideas in affordable housing research, policy and practice.

For the housing industry's many sectors 2013 is a landmark year. Against the backdrop of a federal election, key issues including housing affordability, undersupply, homelessness and Aboriginal housing continue to dominate the national conversation.

As the single largest cross-sectoral event for the housing industry, the 8th National Housing Conference will adopt the latest technology, including a conference app, as well as offering a series of customised small group and face-to-face sessions to allow delegates to contribute to the conversation like never before.

Join us in Adelaide as we celebrate current achievements, workshop innovations in practice, and scrutinise the latest research findings to deliver the innovation and reform that means Australia will have a *new way home*.

To register now, or for more information visit: [www.nhc.edu.au/adelaide2013](http://www.nhc.edu.au/adelaide2013).

## Conferences, Events and Workshops 2013

Council to Homeless Persons (CHP) [Conference 2013: A vision for ending homelessness](#) (Melbourne) 2-3 May

Meeting & Events Australia [26<sup>th</sup> National Conference](#) (Darwin) 4-7 May

WA Family Pathways Network [Conference](#) (Perth) 8 May

(ACSWA) Aged & Community Services WA (in partnership with Alzheimer's Australia WA) [Conference 2013: Talkin' About Your Generation](#) (Perth) 9-10 May

[7<sup>th</sup> Australian Women's Conference](#) *Gender Matters: Determining Women's Health* (Sydney) 7-10 May

PowerHousing Australia [Conference](#) (Melbourne) 7-10 May

[3rd International Symposium on Motivational Interviewing](#) (Melbourne) 13-14 May

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

WACOSS Emergency Relief [Conference](#) (Perth) 28-29 May

International Homelessness Research [Conference](#): Advancing the Policy and Practice of Crisis Response Systems, (Philadelphia, USA) 3-4 June

Australasian Housing Institute (AHI) [Master Class Series People and Places](#) (Sydney) 5-6 June

COTA WA [Conference](#) WA Active Ageing Conference (Perth) 5-6 June

Queensland Shelter Housing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century [Conference](#) (Brisbane) 12-13 June

Australian Health Promotion Association (APHA) 21<sup>st</sup> National [Conference](#) (Sydney) 17-19 June

4<sup>th</sup> Annual Affordable Housing Projects [Conference](#) (Kuala Lumpur Hilton, Malaysia) 17–19 June

The Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) Housing 2013 [Conference & Exhibition](#) (Manchester, UK) 25-27 June

NAIDOC [Week](#) (National) 7-14 July

5<sup>th</sup> International Community, Work & Family [Conference](#) *Changes & Challenges in a Globalizing World* (Sydney) 17-19 July

Annual National Suicide Prevention [Conference](#) *Collective Impact: Partners in Prevention* (Melbourne) 24th–26th July

The Property [Congress](#) (Sydney) 26-28 August

Not-for-Profit People [Conference](#) (Melbourne) 27-28 August

8<sup>th</sup> National Housing [Conference](#) (Adelaide) 30 October – 1 November

4th WA Transcultural Mental Health & 2nd Australasian Refugee Health [Conference](#) 2013 (Perth) 31 October – 1 November

World Town Planning [Day](#) (International) 8 November

11th Australasian Injury Prevention & Safety Promotion [Conference](#) (Fremantle, WA) 11–13 November

LSAC and LSIC Research [Conference](#) *Growing Up in Australia and Footprints in Time* (Melbourne) 13-14 November

2013 National Indigenous Health [Conference](#) (Cairns) 25–27 November

## Media Releases

[Rising vacancies in mining towns](#) Property Council of Australia, Clair Chaffey, 29 April 2013

[Mining Boom Causing Housing Crisis in WA](#) ABC News 23 April 2013

[CCC warns Pilbara Councils and miners to avoid misconduct](#) The Stringer, by [Gerry Georgatos](#) 22 April 2013

[Housing bubble is real- Its just not due to pop](#) Canberra Times 19 April 2013

[More support needed for disabled, homeless](#) 9 News 15 April 2013

[Many young migrants 'homeless'](#) SBS World News 11 April 2013

[Vinnies election plea on homeless- St Vincent de Paul Society](#) by Linda Mottham 10 April 2013

[Land Plan to Cut House Prices](#) Peter Kerr, The West Australian 9 April 2013

[Perth Median Property Price Soars](#) The West Australian, 2 April 2013, Kate Emery

## WA Government Media Releases

[Housing for GPs in Port Hedland](#)

[Local Government and Communities merge](#)

[DAO joins Mental Health Commission](#)

[Name change to fit Aboriginal identity](#)

[Major reform for State's energy sector](#)

[Young West Australians shine at Youth Awards](#)

[Housing development for elderly Pilbara Aboriginals](#)

[Major project milestone hit as Riverside flows](#)

[Kalamunda aged care facility on WAPC agenda](#)

[Bassendean men with disability move home](#)

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

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

**Labor Party WA:** <http://www.wa.alp.org.au/news/rss>  
[McGowan unveils WA Labors shadow cabinet](#)

**Greens Party WA:** <http://greens.org.au/>  
[Government must invest in housing](#)

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

**Liberal Party Australia:** <http://www.liberal.org.au/Latest-News.aspx>

**Australian Government** <http://australia.gov.au/>

## Useful links

[National Shelter](#)

[Federation of Housing Collectives WA](#)

[Homelessness Australia](#)

[Homelessness Clearing House](#)

[Australian Institute of Urban Studies WA](#)

[Australian Institute of Health & Welfare](#)

[Community Housing Federation Australia](#)

[Community Legal Centres WA](#)

[Pro Bono Australia](#)

[City Futures](#)

[National Housing Supply Council](#)

[Housing Industry Association Ltd](#)

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

[Property Observer](#)

[Housing Action Network](#)

[Australians for Affordable Housing](#)

[WACOSS](#)

[Homelessness Australia Newsletter \*Inform\*](#)

[Council to Homeless Persons](#)

[Urban Development Institute WA](#)

[Communities and Families Clearing House](#)

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

[Tenants Advice Line \(Scales\)](#)

[Australian Policy Online](#)

[Make My City Work Campaign](#)

[COAG Housing & Homelessness](#)

[Australasian Housing Institute](#)

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

[Property Council of Australia](#)

[Centre for Housing, Urban & Regional Planning](#)

## Shelter WA Newsletters

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

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

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