



# newsletter

## Shelter WA Annual General Meeting 2010



Shelter WA Staff

### Shelter WA 2009/10 Annual General Meeting

Shelter WA (SWA) is an incorporated association with a management committee that provides corporate governance, strategic and policy direction.

Shelter WA's 2010 AGM was held on 21 October 2010. Shelter WA thanked outgoing Management Committee members for their contribution. A new Management Committee was voted in, they are:

<b>Richard Sheridan</b>	Chairperson (Quaybrook Pty Ltd)
<b>Tammy Solonec</b>	Vice Chairperson (Aboriginal Legal Service)
<b>David McKinley</b>	Treasurer (Town of Narrogin)
<b>Paul Harrison</b>	Ordinary Member (Welfare Rights and Advocacy Service)
<b>Antoinette Morris</b>	Ordinary Member (Individual)
<b>Cindy Dunham</b>	Ordinary Member (Newmont Mining)
<b>Nghia Luong</b>	Ordinary Member (Ruah Community Services)

Executive Officer Bronwyn Kitching presented the Shelter WA [Annual Report](#) that detailed the work of Shelter throughout 2009-2010.

### Shelter WA Forward Work Plan

Shelter WA has been hard at work these last few months on forums, research and submissions.

Forums:

1. [NGO Affordable Housing Alliance Meeting](#) hosted by SWA, Community Housing Coalition WA (CHCWA) and Tenants Advice Service WA (TASWA)
2. [Local Responses to the Need for Affordable Housing Workshop](#) for local government councillors and staff

3. TASWA International Tenancy Day, Supply of Boarding and Lodging Dwellings [WA Housing Indicators Shelter WA Presentation](#)
4. Sustainable Population Australia AGM [Shelter WA Presentation](#)

Submissions:

1. Joint submission with Aboriginal Legal Service of WA to FaHCSIA on [Indigenous Home Ownership](#)
2. Shelter WA report to the WA Mental Health Commission on [Mental Health and Housing](#)

For the remainder of 2010 Shelter WA has a number of exciting projects and initiatives to progress. These include:

- Progressing outcomes from the National Shelter Indigenous housing forum held July 2010 in Brisbane, by identifying and exploring housing issues for Indigenous people in Western Australia.
- Promoting Shelter WA's community engagement and participation strategy by inviting membership and consumer participation. SWA has already begun to form links with service providers and organisations in many sectors and has been meeting and promoting Shelter WA's work within those sectors.
- Working with the Tenants Advice Service WA to update research work we did in 2000, 2002, 2005 and 2007 on boarding and lodging houses and the lack of consumer protections for boarders and lodgers.
- Investigating the regulation of community housing providers and the proposal by the Department of Housing to establish a not-for-profit housing company.
- Continuing our work on the committees, reference groups and working parties we are a part of, and responding to consultation opportunities as they arise. These currently include:
  - The Housing Advisory Roundtable, Dept of Housing
  - Centrelink Community Consultative Committee
  - Centrelink Homelessness Reference Group
  - WA Peaks Forum facilitated by WACOSS
  - WACOSS Jobs 2 Communities Reference Group
  - Claisebrook Lotteries House Association Executive
  - Australasian Housing Institute

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## Shelter WA Forum

### *Housing Economics and Planning: Local responses to the need for affordable housing*

18 November 2010, 10am-12:30pm at Claisebrook Lotteries House, 33 Moore Street, East Perth.

Join us for a workshop to discuss strategies for the successful delivery of affordable housing. We'll explore planning tools designed to deliver a vibrant, diverse and affordable housing market. This will be an interactive workshop, designed to draw out specific issues of interest to participants and generate ideas about responding to the housing needs of today's households, planning for the housing needs of the future and supporting local communities and businesses.

Speakers and topics are:

**Dr. Steven Rowley**, Director of the Housing and Urban Research Institute of WA

*Housing Economics: The costs and benefits of delivering affordable housing*

**Dr. Shane Greive**, Lecturer in Urban and Regional Planning at Curtin University

*Effective planning mechanisms to promote diversity in housing size and cost*

**Julian Wright**, Senior Strategic Housing Officer with the City of Perth

*Implementing local housing initiatives: Affordable housing for key workers in the City of Perth*

Attendance is by registration only (no cost). RSVP to [research@shelterwa.org.au](mailto:research@shelterwa.org.au). Further details are available in the attached invitation, on our website [www.shelterwa.org.au](http://www.shelterwa.org.au) or [here](#)

## Homelessness Research needs your input

Two important homelessness research projects are currently being conducted and are seeking your input.

Flinders University South Australian have been funded by FaHCSIA to do research on "What works, in what circumstances and why?" and Homelessness Australia is looking at "preventing exits into homelessness". Further information is following including details about providing your input.

### **Flinders University 2010 Homelessness Research Project**

The Flinders University of South Australia has been funded by the Commonwealth Government to carry out research into the delivery of services to homeless people. In brief,

their research aims to identify what assistance works well for which homeless people and why.

### **Services to Homeless People – What works, in what circumstances and why?**

The research project seeks to gather information from service evaluation or assessment reports in order to draw out information about what aspects of service provision have worked well for homeless people, in what circumstances and why they are regarded as successful. The qualitative work will be based on information (from the last five years or so) provided to them by organisations assisting homeless people with accommodation and/or social support services. The research project team believe evaluation and similar types of reports may have the capacity to broadly contribute to sector knowledge about service models and approaches to preventing and responding to homelessness.

The research project team is hopeful that accommodation and social support services across Australia will help by providing them with a copy of their recent evaluation reports for inclusion in the project. The research project team are keen to talk with accommodation and support providers across Australia about their project. If you have an evaluation report you can provide to them or know of someone else you think they should talk with please contact [leanor.button@flinders.edu.au](mailto:leanor.button@flinders.edu.au) or contact Eleanor by phone on 0438 200 905.

### **Homelessness Australia -Policy Paper Input Sought**

Homelessness Australia (HA) has been asked to produce an evidence based policy paper on the topic of preventing exits into homelessness from the following settings:

- Foster, out of home and other statutory care
- Juvenile Justice
- Correctional Facilities
- Primary Health and Mental Health facilities

Homelessness Australia proposed the adoption of a 'No Exits' policy from those settings in its 2007 election platform and it was adopted by the Australian Government in *The Road Home* in December 2008.

Input is being sought from Homelessness Australia members, in particular from those who work with clients who are all too frequently exited from those settings into homelessness. HA needs examples of where efforts to prevent exits into homelessness are working well or of programs that are ensuring that people are not exited into insecure, tenuous accommodation or homelessness. Conversely, examples of clients who are discharged from these settings with either no or insufficient planning for accommodation post-institutionalisation are also needed. Please provide feedback to Travis Gilbert, Policy and Research Officer, Homelessness Australia, [policy@homelessnessaustralia.org.au](mailto:policy@homelessnessaustralia.org.au)

## **Research: Public Housing Tenants Need a 'Voice'**

**Samantha Glasgow, Pippa Lane,  
Jenny Temby & Sarah Groves**

*University of Western Australia, Department of Social Work and Social Policy*

Four final semester social work degree students from the University of Western Australia (UWA) recently undertook a research project with Shelter WA focusing on an area of poverty. They used a broad measure of poverty that encapsulated social, emotional and economic aspects of well-being. Samantha Glasgow, Pippa Lane, Jenny Temby and Sarah Groves concentrated the research project on social exclusion with particular reference to consumers of government housing, who they perceived as not being provided with an avenue for participation or having a 'voice' in regards to their housing.

They found during their action research, that there appeared to be limited access for housing consumers to fully participate and engage in a positive way with the state housing provider in Western Australia. Greater participation can lead to building a stronger sense of community and social inclusion. This is not, however, to discount the Western Australian Department of Housing's support of their tenants with feedback forums and partnership programs with the Department for Child Protection.

Informed by the consultation and reports undertaken by Shelter WA and the WA Peaks Forum to scope the creation of an Affordable Housing Consumer Reference Group, they explored this area further to gain a greater understanding of social exclusion; Australia's state housing history and recent policies; international housing policies; and interstate state housing tenant participation programs.

The group acknowledged a flaw in their research, based on limited time, resources and scope that they did not consult with housing tenants about their views on social exclusion and tenant participation. This really is vital in order to gain a thorough insight into this issue and to advocate for the promotion of tenant participation in public policy development.

### ***Poverty as Social Exclusion***

Social exclusion can be defined as 'the deprivation of the necessary resources to enable individuals and families, groups and neighbourhoods from participating socially, politically or financially in society...People remain disconnected from services and social networks that the majority of society enjoys'.<sup>1</sup> This is a form of poverty. The concept of social exclusion has emerged in response to the need for a broader comprehensive measure of poverty, which encapsulates economic, social and structural disadvantage.<sup>2</sup> Social exclusion has been linked to an array of contemporary dysfunction including: unemployment, poor skills, low incomes, poor housing, high crime environments, poor health and family breakdown.<sup>3</sup> Furthermore authors critique poverty conceptions in general as being expert-driven and excluding the voices of the poor.<sup>4</sup>

From the research internationally and nationally, a number of difficulties were identified which appear to have led to increased feelings of isolation and social exclusion by tenants. These include: the provision of public housing in outer fringe locations where tenants had limited access to public transport, medical services and day care facilities; lack of local business and employment opportunities; housing that was inappropriate to the needs of the tenant household, poorly constructed and maintained; difficulty for tenants with special needs to access help. These factors were highlighted as contributing to tenants feelings of disconnection from informal social networks, isolation and poor self-image, and exclusion from mainstream society.<sup>5</sup> Furthermore, research highlighted the significance of a sense of belonging in building social fabric and inclusive communities, stating that the 'more choice people have the stronger their sense of belonging' and that

<sup>1</sup> J Pierson (2002) *Tackling Social Exclusion*, Routledge, New York, p. 7.

<sup>2</sup> Smyth, P (2006) 'Changes and Challenges' in *Social Policy in Australia: Understanding for Action*, eds A McLelland & P Smyth, Oxford University Press, South Melbourne, p. 137; Serr, K (2006) *Thinking About Poverty*, The Federation Press, Sydney, p 59; Fincher, R & Nieuwenhuysen, J (eds) (1998) *Australian Poverty: Then and Now*, Melbourne University Press, Carlton South

<sup>3</sup> Smyth, P (2006) 'Changes and Challenges' in *Social Policy in Australia: Understanding for Action*, eds A McLelland & P Smyth, Oxford University Press, South Melbourne, p. 138.

<sup>4</sup> Serr, K (2006) *Thinking About Poverty*, The Federation Press, Sydney, p 59; Serr, K (2004) 'Voices from the Bottom', *Australian Social Work*, vol. 57, no. 2, pp. 137-148.

<sup>5</sup> J Pierson (2002) *Tackling Social Exclusion*, Routledge, New York, pp.14,15, 163-165; S Gregory (1998) *Transforming local services. Partnership in action*, YPS Publishing Services Limited, York, p.10.

'supportive interaction between neighbours enhances the lives of public housing tenants'.<sup>6</sup>

### **Housing and Social Policy**

After deciding that social exclusion was an eminent feature of poverty in public housing, they explored the historical Australian perspective of how this came to be, and made comparisons to international housing projects to give greater insight into how social inclusion can help to modify this.

Following the end of World War II, Australia, UK and North America all embarked on similar government housing policies that were economically driven, providing the work force with low cost housing while at the same time maintaining low wage costs to underpin the growth of manufacturing.<sup>7</sup> Whole suburbs and large housing estates were developed in many western countries. By the 1980s, with the decline in manufacturing and with reduced government funding, public housing had become 'welfare housing' and was limited to those in the greatest need; very poor welfare dependant people, people with severe disabilities and the elderly.<sup>8</sup>

Many of the tenants in public housing estates developed a sense of social exclusion from mainstream society, as these estates were often isolated, distanced from regional and city hubs and lacked diversity of social fabric. A lack of integration with education, training and employment opportunities, health and other services has been highlighted as contributing to the development of problematic social issues including crime, drug abuse, unemployment and poorly maintained properties.<sup>9</sup>

International research on urban and community renewal projects has shown that community

development projects can successfully address the social exclusion of tenants by:

- Providing tenants with information and inclusion in planning discussions.
- Training tenants in skills to build confidence to effectively voice their requirements and problem solve.
- Consult with tenants in groups, and individually in their homes to include the most disadvantaged, ensuring the voices of many tenants were included. The simple fact of being asked was in itself empowering.
- Include tenants' suggestions into planning documents and action suggestions. By seeing their suggestions being implemented, tenants felt heard.
- Facilitation and encouragement of tenant involvement in providing local supports; youth groups, victims of crime groups.
- Active involvement in all areas of property and community management, maintenance, landscaping, activities and support groups.<sup>10</sup>

Benefits from tenant participation include:

- Improved safety and reduced crime rates
- The development of community activities and organisations, that tackle local problems
- Improved environment, sport and leisure activities
- Tenants feel an ongoing commitment and responsibility to their environments
- Tenants gain firsthand experience of problems and problem solving<sup>11</sup>

There are limitations to achieving tenant participation, including: resistance to participation on both sides, representation of the whole tenant community, funding for a community development

<sup>6</sup> Mee, K (2009) 'A space to care, a space of care: public housing, belonging, and care in inner Newcastle, Australia', *Environment and Planning A*, vol 41, pp 842 -858.

<sup>7</sup> K Arthurson (2003) 'Neighbourhood Regeneration: Facilitating Community Involvement', *Urban Policy and Research*, vol.21, no. 4, p.360; Spiller Gibbons Swan Pty Ltd (2000) *Public Housing Estate Renewal in Australia*, Australian Housing Research Fund, p.1.

<sup>8</sup> R Judd & B Randolph (2006) 'Qualitative Methods and the Evaluation of Community Renewal Programs in Australia: Towards a National Framework' *Urban Policy and Research*, vol. 24, no. 1, p. 99; Spiller Gibbons Swan Pty Ltd (2000) *Public Housing Estate Renewal in Australia*, Australian Housing Research Fund, p.10.

<sup>9</sup> R Judd & B Randolph (2006) 'Qualitative Methods and the Evaluation of Community Renewal Programs in Australia: Towards a National Framework' *Urban Policy and Research*, vol. 24, no. 1, p. 99; J Pierson (2002) *Tackling Social Exclusion*, Routledge, New York, pp. 14-15.

<sup>10</sup> S Gregory (1998) *Transforming local services. Partnership in action*, YPS Publishing Services Limited, York, p.9; J Pierson (2002) *Tackling Social Exclusion*, Routledge, New York, p.14; K Arthurson (2003) 'Neighbourhood Regeneration: Facilitating Community Involvement', *Urban Policy and Research*, vol.21, no. 4, p.364;

<sup>11</sup> S Gregory (1998) *Transforming local services. Partnership in action*, YPS Publishing Services Limited, York, p.32; L Stern, L Kemp & M Clague (1997) 'The Entre Nous Femmes Housing Society, Vancouver: Single Women and Community Economic Development' in H Campfens (ed) p. 74.

worker, sustaining participation once a community development worker is withdrawn and a lack of commitment from developers to involve tenants due to deadlines and financial constraints.<sup>12</sup>

With understanding of the emergence of the public housing system in Australia, the students recognised that our system can contribute to individuals' experience of isolation and social exclusion from the broader community. The review of research found that 'policy initiatives taken now that focus on economics and asset management have the potential to cause further social exclusion for tenants'.<sup>13</sup> The research suggested that involving people in service provision, and including their perspectives and 'voices' can improve their belonging to their community, their sense of home and build social fabric.

### **Tenant Participation Programs**

Research on tenant participation programs in non-government social housing (community housing) in Western Australia revealed that there are housing rental co-operatives that have a high level of tenant participation and provide a 'voice' for community housing tenants. A housing co-operative is a not-for-profit organisation, owned and run by its members and based on self-help, democracy, social responsibility and caring for one another. People join the cooperative on a democratic basis to own or control the housing in which they live.<sup>14</sup>

Local housing cooperatives are associated with the Federation of Housing Collectives, a peak body that has representatives on other state and national community housing peak organisations and forums. Community housing tenants are provided with an avenue to participate and be heard within a supported framework.<sup>15</sup>

The research process then led the students to examine interstate government housing providers and assess if they had any social housing tenant

participation programs. The group discovered that some states, Queensland, Victoria and South Australia, had what appeared to be comprehensive, long-running tenant participation programs. It was not, however, part of the research assignments' remit to research the success, outcomes and activities of these programs in any depth.

The Social Housing Tenant Participation Program that has been implemented by the Queensland Government appears to be very inclusive, focusing on positive interaction. According to the information sourced, Queensland have the largest volunteer program of its kind in Australia, and tenants in their Participation Program make significant contributions to social housing policy development, services and community services. Tenants have improved access to information, services and a reduction in isolation. There is a tenant newsletter about the program's activities, and there are various programs for tenants such as garden awards, communal vegetable gardens and neighbour day.<sup>16</sup> The Queensland department appears to prioritise consumer feedback throughout the process and is planning to undertake consultation early in 2011 to identify how the program can be enhanced.<sup>17</sup> This demonstrates that there is some interest in ensuring that the Qld program continues and is relevant to its service users.

The students hoped that the information provided may encourage an organization, individual or other to further examine tenant participation programs in other states and assess their effectiveness and their applicability in WA. This could add to the work undertaken by Shelter WA and the WA Peaks Forum and inform the development of social housing tenant participation programs in WA to allow tenant perspectives and needs to be heard. The students believe such programs could help social housing tenants feel less isolated and be more socially included in areas where they live. By examining what other State Housing Departments have done in regards to tenant participation, Western Australia

<sup>12</sup> K Arthurson (2003) 'Neighbourhood Regeneration: Facilitating Community Involvement', *Urban Policy and Research*, vol.21, no. 4, p.360; S Gregory, *Transforming local services. Partnership in action*, YPS Publishing Services Limited, York (1998) pp.366-368.

<sup>13</sup> Spiller Gibbons Swan Pty Ltd (2000) *Public Housing Estate Renewal in Australia*, Australian Housing Research Fund, p.16.

<sup>14</sup> Federation of Housing Collectives, *Cooperatives*, retrieved 10 October 2010, (<http://www.fohcol.org.au/~fohcolor/node/10>)

<sup>15</sup> Federation of Housing Collectives, *History*, retrieved 10 October 2010, <http://www.fohcol.org.au/~fohcolor/node/6>.

<sup>16</sup> Government, Housing and Homelessness Services, *Tenant Participation*, 2010, retrieved 9 October 2010, (<http://www.public-housing.qld.gov.au/renting/public/involved/participation.htm>)

<sup>17</sup> Government, Housing and Homelessness Services, *Tenant News – February 2010*, retrieved 9 October 2010, (<http://www.public-housing.qld.gov.au/renting/public/publications/tenantnews/feb10/ind-ex.htm>).

would have the advantage of not 're-inventing the wheel' and being able to utilise the expertise and knowledge already gained in other jurisdictions.

*We would like to thank and acknowledge Shelter WA for allowing us to submit this article to their newsletter as part of Anti-Poverty Week.*

## Conferences and Events

### designBUILD Seminars Perth: *Affordable Housing, the Tyrannies of Fringe Development and Other Considerations*

**3rd November 2010, 6.15pm-7.15pm. Sundowner Session - Panel / Presentation**

**Speakers:** Kieran Wong & Emma Williamson, CODA;  
David McLoughlin, Department of Housing;  
**Bronwyn Kitching, Shelter WA**

Housing as a necessity is a given. For people at the beginning of their house renting or buying experience (the first home buyer and students) and for a growing section of the population (the downsizing empty nester), delivering housing forms which are affordable, highly liveable, and supported by infrastructure is key to social sustainability. Consideration must also be given to the transient requirements of itinerant workers in industries such as mining which requires workers in areas with less housing availability.

All groups have a need for smaller, more affordable housing options. What are the considerations (including tyrannies of fringe development), options and opportunities for affordable housing in both urban and regional environments? What is a government's role in demonstrating affordability? Should we be expecting more from private enterprise?

#### [Seminar Info](#)

Email: [designbuild@divexhibitions.com.au](mailto:designbuild@divexhibitions.com.au)

Website: [www.designbuildexpo.com.au](http://www.designbuildexpo.com.au)

### Aboriginal Health Incentive Program Free Information Session and afternoon tea

The City of Belmont and Canning Division of GPs invite service providers to attend an information session about the Indigenous Health Incentive Program. This information could be of benefit to Aboriginal people who access your service. Afternoon tea and networking will follow the information session.

**Tuesday, 16 November 2010, 2pm to 3pm.**

RSVP on 9477 7148 or email [kat.pinder@belmont.wa.gov.au](mailto:kat.pinder@belmont.wa.gov.au) by Friday, 12 November 2010.

### Scarlet Alliance Australian Sex Workers Association presents a public symposium on *Models of Sex Industry Regulation and Western Australia*

This symposium offers a panel of International and Australian expert guest presenters, providing insight into a range of models of sex industry regulation and the varied outcomes.

**Wednesday, 3rd November 2010, 1:30pm -4:30pm**

RSVP to [adrnin@scarletalliance.org.au](mailto:adrnin@scarletalliance.org.au) or [here](#)

### WA Hoarder & Squalor Focus Group

Are you a case worker or working in an agency dealing with compulsive hoarders and people living in squalor?

Compulsive hoarding is a perplexing and confounding problem for afflicted individuals, their families and communities. This is the first group to meet in WA to discuss this issue, exchange ideas regarding this complex problem. The group is comprised of community and government agencies working in collaboration with one another for the purpose of helping local communities develop a multidisciplinary coordinated response to hoarding and squalor issues.

**17th November 2010, 9:00am to 10.30am. Conference room**

- Department of Housing, 42 Queen Street Fremantle

Contact: [lan.Jorritsma@housing.wa.gov.au](mailto:lan.Jorritsma@housing.wa.gov.au) 9432 5303

[Tede@fremantle.gov.au](mailto:Tede@fremantle.gov.au) 9432 9790

### Australian Institute of Urban Studies (AIUS) Forum

*Small is the new big: Has the McMansion had its day?*

'Our society's desire for more space seems insatiable. The large house with pool rooms, home theatres, gymnasiums, studies, 4 bedrooms and 2.5 bathrooms now appears to be "standard" for new and old home buyers alike.

But are there clouds on the horizon for the McMansion? Do demographic changes that see an ageing population, growing numbers of single person households & "empty nesters", the rising of cost of running homes, transport costs, environmental pressures and increasing population growth spell the demise of the McMansion?

Or are changes in our culture, our society, our technology, our habits, our wealth and the potential of new building technology creating a future where the McMansion is here to stay?'

**Thursday, 18th November, 4 - 7 pm.** For more details contact the Australian Institute of Urban Studies (WA Division). PO Box 784, Subiaco WA 6904

E: [admin@aiuswa.org.au](mailto:admin@aiuswa.org.au) W: [www.aiuswa.org.au](http://www.aiuswa.org.au)

### Tenants Advice Service WA, State Tenancy Conference

A Conference about matters related to tenancy issues - such as tenancy law, advocacy and support of tenants. For those who provide tenancy support, advocacy, consumer protection, information or advice on anything to do with tenancy.

**7 & 8 December 2010, Ibis Hotel, 334 Murray Street, Perth**

[Registration details](#)

### WA National Youth Week Grants for 2011

National Youth Week 1 - 10 April 2011. Funding of up to \$1,000 is available for organisations to host a National Youth Week event. Download the [guide](#) and [application form](#) here. The closing date for applications is **12 November 2010**.

- **Seniors Week** (WA) 31 Oct – 7 Nov 2010, [Events](#)
- **Design Build Expo** (Perth) 3 - 5 Nov
- **Family Planning WA (FPWA) Sexual Health Forum** (Perth) 3-4 Nov *“Sexual Health or Social and Emotional Health: Going Below the Surface”*
- **Australia New Zealand Third Sector Research Conference** (Sydney) 15-16 Nov
- **Homeless Connect Perth** 17 Nov [Info](#)
- **Australasian Housing Researchers Conference** (Auckland) 17-19 Nov
- **Suicide Prevention Conference** (Brisbane) 17-20 Nov
- **Scarlet Alliance National Symposium** (Sydney) 23-25 Nov
- **White Ribbon Day**, International Day of the Elimination of Violence Against Women, 25 Nov
- **International Human Rights Day** 1 Dec
- **International Day of People with a Disability** 3 Dec
- **Tenants Advice Service WA, State Tenancy Conference** (Perth) 7-8 Dec

## Research and Reports

**Australian Housing & Urban Research Institute (AHURI)** see full list [here](#)

### October 2010

- [Report No. 154: The benefits and risks of home ownership for low-moderate income households](#)
- [Report No. 153: Lessons of Defence Housing Australia for affordable housing provision](#)
- [Report No. 152: Environmental sustainability: understanding the attitudes and behaviour of Australian households](#)
- [Issue No. 132: Home ownership reduces the cost of home-based care among old adults](#)
- [Positioning Paper No. 135: Housing, public policy and social inclusion](#)

### Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)

For a full list of recent AIHW publications visit [here](#)

- [Report: A profile of social housing in Australia](#)

### Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

- [Western Australian Statistical Indicators, 2010 \(Replacement Content\)](#)
- [A guide for using statistics for evidence based policy, 2010 \(First Issue\)](#)
- [Census Data Enhancement Project: An Update, Oct 2010](#)
- [Building Activity, Australia, Jun 2010](#)
- [Housing Finance, Australia, Aug 2010](#)
- [ABS Measures of Australia's Progress 2010 Report](#)
- [One year to go until 2011 Census](#)

### Shelter WA Affordable Housing Online Survey

What housing issues are you most concerned about? Shelter WA is conducting a survey about affordable housing needs, the impact of housing stress, and recommendations to the government. Click here to fill out the [Affordable Housing Survey](#).

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

**Anglicare [State of the Family Report](#):** In from the Edge.

### National Shelter - Housing Australia Factsheet

An October update of National Shelter's Housing Australia Factsheet is now available. The factsheet provides a range of current facts and figures on housing in Australia, which provides a useful reference. The factsheet can be downloaded from the [National Shelter Website](#)

### Shelter NSW - Intermediate Housing Markets and Effective Policy Responses

This report - commissioned by Shelter NSW, and produced by AHURI - examines both Australian and international evidence around the nature of housing stress for many low-moderate income households, as well as ways to assist these families into sustainable, affordable housing that meets a variety of individual needs. The full report can be downloaded here from the [Shelter NSW Website](#)

**Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS) Community Sector Survey** This survey is the only annual national survey collecting data about the community services and welfare sector. [Click here for survey](#)

### Media Statements WA Government

**Bill Marmion, MLA**, Minister for Commerce; Science and Innovation; Housing; Minister Assisting the Treasurer

[High-quality housing management service for East Kimberley](#)

[Stage One of Roebourne's NASH project under way](#)

[Development of land at Henley Brook brought forward by three years](#)

[First remote Aboriginal community signs Housing Management Agreement](#)

[Launch of Australia's first Foyer development to reduce youth homelessness](#)

[Government strengthens community housing partnerships](#)

[New housing opportunities in Albany](#)

[State says no to national red tape](#)

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**John Day, MLA**, Minister for Planning, Culture and the Arts

[New multi-unit code to give community greater choice in housing](#)

[State Government prioritises development of activity centres](#)

[Major review of the R-Codes](#)

[Directions plan lays framework for 2031 and beyond](#)

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**Robyn McSweeney, MLC**, Minister for Child Protection; Community Services; Seniors and Volunteering; Women's Interests

[Findings show Western Australia's Income Management trial is a success](#)

## Shelter WA

Shelter WA is Western Australia's peak independent housing organisation. Shelter represents the views of consumers and community groups on major housing issues. Shelter WA aims to ensure that every person has access to affordable, appropriate, secure and safe housing that is free from discrimination.

### We do this through:

- coordinating and representing community sector views to government;
  - developing and responding to policy;
- providing education and information; and
- promoting alternative housing models.

### Newsletter Production

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