

### Shelter WA Housing Options Kit

With the high cost of housing in WA, it is important that people have useful, accurate information to find the right kind of affordable accommodation. People need to know what to consider and where to go for assistance in seeking crisis or supported accommodation, renting in social housing or the private rental market, and in purchasing a home. The free Housing Option Kit will help them do just that.

There are many valuable services and housing providers in WA aimed at assisting people experiencing homelessness, people on low incomes, or who are otherwise disadvantaged in the housing market. However, it is often difficult for people to know where to go – and for service providers to know where to send their clients. The Housing Options Kit will build awareness of the services available and help connect people to the appropriate service.

Shelter WA identified the need for the Housing Options Kit from feedback from the housing and homelessness sector and daily calls from people in need of housing. Shelter WA has pulled together existing resources from the Department of Commerce, Department of Housing and the Department for Child Protection into one comprehensive resource. Each of those government departments also provided input into drafts of the Housing Options Kit. The Kit provides an excellent example of a community organisation identifying an area of need, working together with relevant government departments and service providers, and providing a valuable resource to the community.

Anne Driscoll, Commissioner for Consumer Protection launched the Housing Option Kit at Shelter WA's Annual General Meeting on 16 October 2012.

The free kit will be particularly useful to service providers working with people in need of housing, or in need of transitioning from one type of tenure to another such as out of crisis accommodation and into social housing, or from a private rental into affordable home ownership.

The paper copy of the guide will be mailed to various organisations in the housing and homeless services sector. It is also available electronically on the Shelter WA website [www.shelterwa.org.au](http://www.shelterwa.org.au).

[Click here for the Shelter WA Housing Options Kit](#)

### Shelter WA AGM 2012

Shelter WA would like to thank all the members who attended the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday, 16 October 2012.

Shelter WA would also like to thank Commissioner Anne Driscoll for taking the time to attend for the launch of Shelter WA's *Housing Options Kit*.

The Shelter WA 2012-2013 Board of Management is as follows:

Office Bearers		Ordinary Members
Richard Sheridan	Chair	Antoinette Morris
Cindy Dunham	Vice-Chair	Juanita Barron
Bev Carstairs	Treasurer	Danielle Van Kampen
		Gary Robins

## National Shelter calls for a National Housing Strategy

Tuesday, 30 October, 2012, Media release: National Shelter

On the eve of the National Housing Conference, National Shelter calls on the Federal Government to develop a National Housing Strategy.

This is based on the release of National Shelter's 2012 Policy Priorities publication, Meeting Housing Challenges, today at the National Shelter Council Meeting.

Chairperson of National Shelter, Adrian Pisarski, says the publication showcases just how overdue a Housing Strategy is.

"More than one in 10 Australian households will experience housing stress this year, and yet the last National Housing strategy was developed in 1991" Mr Pisarski said.

"In the last 21 years significant changes have occurred in the Australian housing market, including changes in Government policy, structural changes in the economy and the introduction of the GST".

Key recommendations from the [2012 National Shelter Policy Priorities](#) include:

- The Australian Government increase the maximum rate of Commonwealth Rent Assistance (CRA) by 30%.
- The Australian Government commit to an ongoing program of 50,000 NRAS incentives doubling to 100,000 after 2016.
- The Australian State and Territory Governments commit to the delivery of an extra 200,000 social and affordable rental dwellings by 2021.
- The Australian, State and Territory Governments commit to the continuation of the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness beyond 2013.
- The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) embed the National Affordable Housing Agreement as a permanent part of its decision-making, and expand it to include all forms of housing assistance.

National Shelter encourages all sides of politics to agree to address Australia's housing challenges through the continued investment in affordable housing programs such as the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) and a Growth Fund for social housing.

[Click here for the full media statement](#) or visit [www.shelter.org.au](http://www.shelter.org.au)

### National Shelter e-News Subscribe Now

'Want national housing news? Subscribe to National Shelter eNews'. You can subscribe from the National Shelter website: go to the red 'Housing updates' box on the left side of the home page, and click on 'Sign up for National Shelter eNews'. Visit <http://www.shelter.org.au/>

## Housing Industry Forecast Group October 2012 Report

The Housing Industry Forecast Group (HIFG) is a joint industry and government body re-established in February 2008 to provide independent commentary on the housing sector in WA. The Department of Planning and the Department of Housing jointly provide the HIFG secretariat and research function.

Membership of the group is drawn from major organisations associated with the housing and land development industry in Western Australia and from government. Through its diverse membership, the group has access to considerable expertise and knowledge of the sector, including land development, real estate, the private rental market, social housing, building statistics, demographics, building resources and home finance.

Housing Minister launched the HIFG October Report on Wednesday, 30 October 2012. The report showed housing activity and consumer confidence showing signs of recovery. [Click here for the Minister's full media statement.](#)

A full copy of the report is available on the website [www.hifg.net.au](http://www.hifg.net.au) or click on the link following [Housing Industry Forecast Group October 2012 Report](#)

## Mediation Service – Gosnells Community Legal Centre Inc (GCLC)

The Gosnells Community Legal Centre Family Dispute Resolution now offers a mediation service for neighbourhood disputes. GCLC assist with neighbour disputes in these areas:

- Dividing fences and strata title
- Encroaching roots and branches
- Harassment and nuisance.

For more information contact the Gosnells Community Legal Centre on (08) 9398 1455 (public) or visit the website [www.gosclc.com.au](http://www.gosclc.com.au)

# 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.

## Shelter WA and WACOOS Community Education Forum - Disruptive Behaviour Management Strategy

Shelter WA has undertaken training with the Department of Housing to provide education to the community about its Disruptive Behaviour Management Strategy (DBMS).

Shelter WA and WACOOS will be running an education forum giving an overview of the process of the DBMS on Friday, **9 November** 2012 in West Perth.

For more information contact Shelter on 9325 6660. [Click here](#) to register now.

Shelter WA will be providing a report to the Department of Housing by collating community and sector feedback regarding the policy. Shelter WA is currently developing a feedback questionnaire which will be available for participants to either complete when they attend a forum or online via Survey Monkey.

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

**Shelter WA wants your feedback.**

[Draft Summary Report: Young People, Housing & Homelessness](#). Please feel free to provide feedback on the draft summary report (including additional material, amendments etc) by email to Dr Shae Garwood, Research Officer on [research@shelterwa.org.au](mailto:research@shelterwa.org.au) or complete the survey.

[Survey questionnaire](#) Young People Housing & Homelessness, can be completed and submitted:

- o directly to Shelter WA via the PDF format, 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) ;

The final report will include key themes, emerging issues, ABS 2011 stats (as they are released), action items, survey results etc.

## 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.

For more information and to keep up to date with the progress of the Department's review visit [www.commerce.wa.gov.au](http://www.commerce.wa.gov.au)

[Department of Commerce Discussion Paper](#)

If you would like to discuss Shelter WA's response please contact Chantal Roberts, Executive Officer on [eo@shelterwa.org.au](mailto:eo@shelterwa.org.au) or phone 9325 6660.

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

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.

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

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](#)

# I Need A Home



## Gathering

**FOR FAMILIES, INDIVIDUALS & SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Come to show and voice your concerns re lack of affordable & accessible housing in Perth

**Mirrabooka Shopping Centre**

On lawn outside Mirrabooka House

**Thursday 8 November**

**10 a.m. – 12 noon**

The campaign is part of work done by the Housing Crisis Committee for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (HCCCALD),

# Discussion Papers, Submissions, Issues Papers, Surveys

## National Compact - Online Discussion Forums

The National Compact: *working together* is an agreement between the Australian Government and the not-for-profit sector to find new and better ways of working together based on mutual trust, respect and collaboration.

The Compact was co-created by the government and a broad range of not-for-profit organisations following extensive consultation. The Compact is based on a shared vision, purpose, principles and aspirations. Implementation of the Compact is focused on eight priority actions and is aligned with the government's reform agenda relating to the not-for-profit sector and social inclusion.

Have your say on the National Compact online discussion forums.

**The forums will be live until 16 November 2012.** To participate and register you will need to read the [Forum Guidelines](#).

Discuss the current barriers to good consultation, what works well, and recommendations for how Government and the NFP sector can do things differently.

Put forward your ideas on appropriate governance arrangements for the sector.

For more information visit <http://www.nationalcompact.gov.au/>

## Awards, Grants, Tenders and Funding Opportunities

### Community urged to nominate consumer advocates

Nominations for the Consumer Protection Awards 2013 have opened with Commerce Minister Simon O'Brien calling on the Western Australian community to nominate consumer advocates.

Mr O'Brien said it was important to recognise and reward those in the community who promoted consumer rights, provided assistance and educational programs and raised awareness of consumer issues, including child safety.

- *The Rona Okely Award* - acknowledges an individual who has influenced and inspired the advancement, development and promotion of consumer protection in their community
- *The Richard (Dick) Fletcher Award* - acknowledges a local government, non-government organisation or group of individuals operating in WA which has, through their particular field of endeavour, made a significant contribution to the advancement of consumer protection
- *The Kidsafe WA Award* - acknowledges those who have made a significant contribution to the advancement of injury prevention for children
- *The Media Award* - acknowledges an individual journalist or news media outlet which have made a recent and significant contribution to the advancement of consumer protection.

"The awards provide a fantastic opportunity for individuals, community organisations, local governments, businesses and media outlets to have their outstanding achievements rewarded, so I urge those working in this area to submit a nomination before the deadline," the Minister said.

### Consumer Protection Award nominations close November 30, 2012

Information on the awards and how to nominate: <http://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/cpawards>

Winners to be announced in March 2013

Minister's office - 6552 5800 [Click here for Minister's full media statement](#)

### 2013 National Homelessness Services Achievement Awards

The National Homelessness Services Achievement Awards recognise the outstanding achievements and contributions that community organisations make to supporting people who are homeless in our communities. The Awards celebrate excellence and innovation by organisations, services and programs responding to the needs of people experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness.

If your service or organisation, or one you know, has made a significant contribution to addressing homelessness issues—either at a local, regional, state or national level—tell us about it by nominating for a 2013 National Homelessness Services Achievement Award.

To nominate, you can download the guidelines and nomination forms from [www.fahcsia.gov.au/homelessnessawards](http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/homelessnessawards).

Nominations close at 5pm EDT **Friday 18 January 2013**.

## National Volunteer Awards now open

Volunteer awards will be given by Members of Parliament for exceptional volunteers in a range of categories, including: Junior, Youth and Senior volunteer; business, education, emergency management and environment categories and a long term commitment to community service award.

For information on application procedures contact your local Federal Member of Parliament or visit [www.notforprofit.gov.au/volunteering](http://www.notforprofit.gov.au/volunteering)

## Strong Spirit Strong Mind Metro Project Community Grants

The Strong Spirit Strong Mind Metro Project is about raising awareness of alcohol and other drug issues among Aboriginal people, families and communities in the Perth metropolitan area.

With a focus on young people aged 12 to 25 years, the project encourages Aboriginal people to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills to choose healthy lifestyles, promote healthy environments and create safer communities.

Project activities include the development of:

- an Aboriginal Youth Advisory Group
- targeted strategies for young people
- culturally secure resources aimed at preventing harm from alcohol and other drug use.

Funding of up to \$3000 is now available for eligible organisations that aim to support the Aboriginal community in the Perth metropolitan area to undertake activities or initiatives that prevent and/or reduce hazardous and harmful alcohol and drug use in the local community.

The Strong Spirit Strong Mind Metro Project Grants are about encouraging families and communities to develop the knowledge, attitudes and skills to choose healthy lifestyles, promote healthy environments and create safer communities.

*Please note that only groups within the Perth metropolitan area are eligible for this funding.*

[Download application form.](#)

Completed applications must be lodged at least TWO MONTHS prior to the commencement of the event. Please check the application forms for more information on the application processes.

**Final applications will be accepted no later than 31st January 2013.**

For more information, or to discuss an idea, contact Reception at the Drug and Alcohol Office (08) 9370 0333 or visit [Strong Spirit Strong Mind Metro Project](#)

## Research, Resources, Reports and Publications

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

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

[Final Report: No. 194 Australian Indigenous house crowding](#)

[Final Report: No. 193: Delivering diverse and affordable housing on infill development sites](#)

[Final Report: No. 192: Housing affordability, housing stress and household wellbeing in Australia](#)

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

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

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

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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](#)



## Concessions WA – new online resource

ConcessionsWA is an easy-to-use online resource where you can search by category, concession card type or people group to find details on more than a 100 rebates, concessions and subsidy schemes provided by the Government of Western Australia.

[Click here for more information](#) or visit [www.concessionswa.wa.gov.au](http://www.concessionswa.wa.gov.au)

## The Longitudinal Study of Australian Children 2010-11 annual report

### [LSAC 2010-11 Annual Report](#)

This annual report released by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) provides an overview of findings from The Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC), which began in 2004. This study involves approximately 10,000 families around Australia and the report focuses on the study children when they were aged six to seven years old and ten to eleven years old.

[Click here for link to study on FaHCSIA website](#)

## Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

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

[Dwelling approvals rise in September \(Media Release\), September 2012](#)

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

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

[Census of Population and Housing: Time Series Profile, 2011 Second Release](#)

[Census of Population and Housing: Place of Enumeration Profile, 2011 Second Release](#)

[Census of Population and Housing: Expanded Community Profile, 2011 Second Release](#)

[Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness, 2006 \(Additional Information\)](#)

[QuickStats, 2011 Second Release](#)

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

[TableBuilder Basic, 2011 Second Release](#)

[Perspectives on Regional Australia: Population Growth and Turnover in Local Government Areas \(LGAs\), 2001 to 2006 \(First Issue\)](#)

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

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

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

[Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Western Australia, Jun 2012](#)

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

[Official ABS estimates of homelessness: 90,000 homeless people on 8 August 2006 \(Media Release\)](#)

[Information Paper - Methodology for Estimating Homelessness from the Census of Population and Housing, 2012 \(First Issue\)](#)

[Methodological News, Sep 2012](#)

[Australian Demographic Statistics, Mar 2012](#)

[Australian Social Trends, Sep 2012](#)

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

[Lending Finance, Australia, Aug 201](#)

# Conferences, Events and Workshops

## 2012

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

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

AIJA 2012 Drug Court [Conference](#) (Melbourne) 9-10 November

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

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

Social Inclusion [Week Australia](#) (National) 24 November – 2 December

## 2013

Youth Homelessness Matters [Day](#) (National) 10 April

Green Cities [Conference](#) (Sydney) 6-7 March

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

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](#)

### Australian Housing Researchers Conference 2013, Perth

The 2013 Australasian Housing Researchers Conference website [www.business.curtin.edu.au/ahrc13](http://www.business.curtin.edu.au/ahrc13) is now live!

The Australasian Housing Researchers' Conference is the premier conference for housing researchers and other stakeholders in the Australasian region. T

he AHRC13 will be held in Fremantle, Western Australia.

The event will run from Wednesday 6th February to Friday 8th February 2013.

Delegates can now register for the conference via the conference website.

**Early bird registration closes on 1 December 2012.**

**Abstract submission deadline is 5 November 2012.**

For further information, please visit the conference website or contact the conference committee via [AHRC13@curtin.edu.au](mailto:AHRC13@curtin.edu.au)



# Media Releases

## WA Government Media Releases

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

## Australian Government Media Releases

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

**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

[National Shelter](#)

[Federation of Housing Collectives WA](#)

[Homelessness Australia Newsletter](#)

[Council to Homeless Persons](#)

[Australian Institute of Health & Welfare](#)

[Community Housing Federation Australia](#)

[Tenants Advice Service WA](#)

[Housing Industry Association Ltd](#)

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

[National Housing Supply Council](#)

[Pro Bono Australia](#)

[City Futures](#)

[Australians for Affordable Housing](#)

[WACOSS](#)

[Homelessness Clearing House](#)

[Australian Institute of Urban Studies WA](#)

[Communities and Families Clearing House](#)

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

[Community Legal Centres WA](#)

[Australasian Housing Institute](#)

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

[Property Council of Australia](#)

[Australian Policy Online](#)

[Make My City Work Campaign](#)

## 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)

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