

Shelter WA Community Education Forums

Department of Housing - 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).

The Disruptive Behaviour Management Policy reflects a revised approach to public housing tenancy in response to community concerns regarding ongoing disruptive behaviour by a small proportion of public housing tenants. It aims to improve the Department's responsiveness to disruptive behaviour. The Policy is about good tenancy management, not just a tougher approach to dealing with tenants. It is designed to achieve an appropriate balance between sanctions and early intervention with support to effectively manage dysfunctional tenancies. All Department policies and actions must be compliant with the Residential Tenancies Act (RTA) as well as principles of procedural fairness. (Source: Department of Housing).

Shelter WA will be running several education forums across the metropolitan area giving an overview of the process of the DBMS.

The forum dates and locations are as follows:

Thursday, 4 October 2012 [Guildford](#)
Wednesday, 10 October 2012, [Mandurah](#)
Thursday, 11 October 2012 [Mirrabooka](#)
Thursday, 25 October 2012 [Kenwick](#)
Friday, 9 November 2012, [West Perth](#)

The first session will take about an hour and cover how the policy works. This includes:

- Department of Housing responsibilities
- Sections of the RTA
- What are the procedures, definitions, criteria etc
- Investigation
- Decision Making
- Procedural Fairness
- Complaints handling
- Reporting

The second session will also take about an hour and offers participants the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback regarding their experiences in relation to the DBMS.

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.

If you wish to attend and/or promote your services at one of the forums please contact Stephanie on 9325 660 or at cdpo@shelterwa.org.au

The forums are free and open to all.

Shelter WA AGM 16 October 2012

Shelter WA welcomes all members, and those interested in becoming members, to attend its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Tuesday, 16 October 2012 from 3:00-5:30pm at Claisebrook Lotteries House, 33 Moore Street, East Perth.

Shelter WA are pleased to announce that Anne Driscoll, Commissioner for Consumer Protection will be attending the AGM to launch the Shelter WA Housing Options Kit at 3:30pm

The Shelter WA AGM will commence at 4:00pm, followed by refreshments at 5:00pm.

Nominations to the Shelter WA Board of Management are now open; a nomination form can be downloaded [here](#). In order to nominate to the Board of Management, you must be a member of Shelter WA, membership forms are available [here](#) or visit our website www.shelterwa.org.au. A copy of the AGM Invitation is available [here](#).

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/>

National Shelter is Australia's peak housing advocacy organisation dedicated to advocating for a fairer, more just housing system, particularly for low-income Australian households. We aim to make housing more accessible, affordable, appropriate, safe and secure for everyone.

Shelter members in each state and territory contribute to National Shelter research, policy development and advocacy. The National Shelter federation of members and national member organisations represent a wide range of non-government housing organisations and individuals.

We see Australia as facing four key housing challenges in 2012:

- making housing more affordable
- reforming the private rental market
- combating homelessness, and
- revitalising social housing.

For more information visit: <http://www.shelter.org.au/>

Schedule Change Perth and Fremantle Soup Patrol

The Perth and Fremantle Soup Patrol schedules are changing. Below is the new pattern that volunteers will be following as of **Monday 1st October 2012**:

Perth

7.00pm – Wellington Street
(Bricked area between Yellow CAT stop and Backpackers building)
7.20pm – Red Cross HQ
(Bishops Row, off Goderich Street)
7.40pm – Wellington Square
(Hill Street, near the toilet block)
8.00pm – Stirling Street
(Corner of Aberdeen Street, in Church of Christ car park)

Fremantle

7.00pm – Pioneer Park
(near cnr Phillimore & Market Streets)
7.20pm – Ellen Street
(opp CBC)
7.40pm – Chester Street
(cnr Lefroy Road)
8.00pm – Beach Street
(Rottnef Ferry Wharf)

Since the beginning of September, Soup Patrol volunteers have been handing out small flyers to clients outlining the changes so they have some notice. The changes are not major: the number of stops has been reduced to four on both runs, changed the last Perth stop and moved the first Fremantle stop to the other side of Pioneer Park. These changes took place in order to start to link up with other after hours services to provide a higher level of care in what we all do.

For more information contact Serena Richardson Soup Patrol Co-ordinator

Monday 9am-2pm, Wednesday & Thursday 9am-5pm, Friday 9am-2pm

Tel 08 9225 8823 | Fax 08 9325 9040 | Email srichardson@redcross.org.au



CRISIS CARE COMMITMENT

WA NILS Launches New Products

On Friday 31st August WA NILS (No Interest Loans Network) launched the introduction of their new loan categories for WANILS loans.

Whilst continuing to support the community with borrowing for essential household items, WA NILS are also extending the items to other products and services. This has been as a result of the continuing feedback from Member Agencies and their commitment to assisting the community with their current needs. These funds are available **NOW** which means that you can start interviewing your clients for these items.

For more information visit www.wanils.asn.au or [click here for information sheet](#)

A Call for Contributions—November 2012 edition of Parity

Funding the Future: Towards a Renewed and Strengthened National Affordable Housing Agreement and National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness

The Council to Homeless Persons (CHP) is joining with Homelessness Australia (HA), Homelessness NSW, National Shelter, The Community Housing Federation of Australia (CHFA) and Mission Australia, the main sponsor for this edition of *Parity*, to provide all those working in the homelessness and wider social housing sectors with an opportunity to have their say about the type of changes that they would like to see made to the National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA) and the associated National Partnership Agreements (NPA), which includes the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness (NPAH), due to expire in 2013.

This edition of *Parity* is a great opportunity to build on the progress that has been made in the last four years and to point the way forward for a renewed and strengthened commitment from government in Australia to provide the necessary funding framework that will give all Australians access to affordable housing, accommodation and where necessary, support and assistance if they experience homelessness.

For more information [click here](#)

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 or phone 9325 6660.

Young People Housing and Homelessness Survey and Draft Summary Report

Shelter WA wants your feedback.

[Draft Summary Report: Young People, Housing & Homelessness](#). 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 or complete the survey.

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

- 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;
- by printing and faxing to (08) 9325 6660;
- or by saving the PDF document and emailing to 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

[Department of Commerce Discussion Paper](#)

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

Shelter WA Local Government Guide to Developing an Affordable Housing Strategy

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

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

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

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

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

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

Shelter WA Affordable Housing Network Meeting

Thursday, 18 October 2012,

9:30am – 12:30pm

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

RSVP to Stephanie by 11 June 2012 - phone 9325 6660 or email cdpo@shelterwa.org.au

Petition No 137: Emergency Accommodation for the Homeless

Shelter WA was invited by the WA Legislative Council Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs to respond to Petition No 137: Accommodation for the Homeless.

A copy of Shelter WA's response is available [here](#)

Tenant Forums 2012 Report

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

The final report is complete and is available on our website www.shelterwa.org.au or [Shelter WA Tenant Forums 2012 Report](#)

The housing we'd choose – Perth focus groups

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Livable Housing Design Survey 2012

The Australian Network for Universal Housing Design wants to know what the housing industry thinks of Livable Housing Design. These Guidelines are a building industry initiative.

If you work in the housing industry, you are invited to participate in the survey [Livable Housing Design Survey 2012](#)

It will take only a few minutes!

For further information on Livable Housing Design go to www.lha.org.au or the Australian Network for Universal Housing Design go to www.anuhd.org or email anuhd.network@gmail.com

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](#)

Living Together: The Rise of Multigenerational Households in Australian Cities

City Futures Research Centre at the University of New South Wales has launched a new Australian Research Council-funded Discovery Project, Living together: The rise of multigenerational households in Australian cities. This 3-year project is led by the interdisciplinary team of Dr Hazel Easthope (sociology) Emeritus Professor Ian Burnley (human geography and demography) and Professor Bruce Judd (architecture) and uses a mixed methodology to determine the principal drivers of the emergence of multigenerational households in Australian cities (defined as two or more generations of related adults living together in the same dwelling) and how these affect the day-to-day lives of families. It will focus on:

1. Structural changes in Australian society, notably the ageing of the population, changing employment structures and constrained housing supply.
2. Public policy decisions about the provision of housing and areas of family significance, notably higher education, child care and aged care.
3. Social and cultural views about the family, influenced by shifts in the social and cultural makeup of our cities.

The project will demonstrate the dynamic relationships between the financial, political, demographic, social and cultural factors influencing the nature and extent of multigenerational households in Australian cities. You can find more information on the [project website](#).

For enquiries, please contact the Project Leader Dr Hazel Easthope (hazel.easthope@unsw.edu.au) or the Project Manager Dr Edgar Liu (edgar.liu@unsw.edu.au)

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan (NATSIHP)

The Australian Government is developing a new National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan (the Health Plan) in partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their representatives. State and territory governments have been invited to participate.

The Health Plan will support the Government's efforts to close the gap in life expectancy and infant mortality between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and the broader population. It will recognise that health for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is not just the physical wellbeing of the individual, but also encompasses their social, emotional, spiritual and cultural wellbeing.

To develop a comprehensive plan in partnership, the Australian Government is holding a series of nation-wide community consultations and conducting an online submissions process to capture different views and ideas. To provide context and guidance for the consultations and submissions process, the Department has developed a Discussion Paper which seeks responses to a range of questions to help shape the development of the Health Plan.

By attending a consultation or completing a submission, key stakeholders will play an active role in ensuring the Health Plan identifies the key health issues and necessary priorities to further close the gap in health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The Discussion Paper outlines the current state of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and seeks responses to a range of questions related to health system performance and the social determinants of health. The aim of the Discussion Paper is to start a conversation about the development of the Health Plan and important health issues for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

[NATSIHP Discussion Paper](#) [Executive Summary](#) [Make a Submission](#)

To have your say in the development of the Health Plan, please read the Discussion Paper and complete a submission. All comments will be considered by the Department and may be published on the website (unless otherwise indicated).

The online submission portal will be available from 10 September 2012 to 21 December 2012.

If you would like to attend a consultation, please [email the Department](#) or phone (02) 8569 4477.

Consultation Schedule for the Development of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan

Location	Date	Time
Broome (WA)	Monday, 10 December 2012	11:00am up to 3:00pm
Perth (WA)	Tuesday, 11 December 2012	10:30am up to 2:30pm

Should you require further information please email [NATSIHP enquiries](#).

Not for Profit Sector Pro Bono Australia, in conjunction with national recruiting agency Dakin Mayers, is conducting one of Australia's largest salary surveys aimed specifically at the Not for Profit sector

With the results of this annual survey Pro Bono Australia hopes to be able to provide an essential guide to salary levels and expectations, analysis and employment trends for the rapidly expanding range of Not for Profit and Community jobs.

[Click here to take the survey](#)

The results of this survey will provide a valuable service to the 600,000 organisations operating nationally and for the 1 in 15 Australians who work for either a Not for Profit or a charity.

But first, to make this all possible Pro Bono Australia needs your help. They are calling on all Senior Managers and Executives working in the sector to fill out the short survey and be a part of this exciting initiative.

As a thank you for providing them with what will be invaluable feedback and information, all participants will receive a free copy of the results to the *2012 Pro Bono Australia Salary Guide for the Not for Profit Sector*.

All participants will also go in the draw to win a \$300 Ticketmaster voucher

The survey takes less than three minutes to complete and ensures your organisation will have primary access to all the results and analysis.

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

Researchers from The Centre for Housing, Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Adelaide are conducting a study to find out how frontline services deal with people who are experiencing homelessness. Frontline services such as the police, ambulance services, emergency departments, bailiffs all have significant contact with people who experience homelessness and because of this have potential to offer a new avenue for intervention to prevent, or cut short, periods of homelessness.

The project aims to answer the following research questions:

- How do frontline services interact with homeless people? What are their protocols, attitudes and behaviours? What information and guidance do they provide to people experiencing homelessness?
- Do current protocols and actions seek to assist people out of homelessness?
- What potential is there to introduce innovation into these protocols that will assist people exit from homelessness or avoid entering homelessness in the first instance?
- What forms of new intervention are likely to be effective?
- How can policy reform support more effective protocols and practices to address homelessness within frontline services?

Focus groups led by researchers from the University of Adelaide have been run with both frontline service staff and people experiencing homelessness themselves. These groups have been held in each capital city in Australia and one rural location in each state in Australia. The focus groups focused on experiences and interactions between the two parties, the frequency of such interactions, the effectiveness (or absence) of proscribed policies and locally apparent solutions to the challenge of homelessness. In addition the interview questions sought out instances of good practice in dealing with homelessness amongst frontline services.

The policy maker workshops will be used to:

- Tease out the policy implications of the research;
- Consider strategies to further support frontline services in their work;
- Communicate available research findings; and,
- Examine potential policy initiatives.

These workshops will contribute to the development of Stage 6 of the project; Final Report and a ‘Tool Kit’ for frontline services that will focus on good practices in dealing with homelessness and the ways of overcoming challenges to more effective action.

If you would like to participate in the Perth workshop on 12 November 2012, 1:00 – 2:30pm please RSVP to Emily Thwaites-Tregilgas at Emily.thwaites-tregilgas@adelaide.edu.au

Department of Housing Community Disability Housing Program – Interim Policy

The Community Disability Housing Program (CDHP) assists people with a high need for supported housing due to disability, mental illness or alcohol and drug issues to live in the community by providing housing and packages of ongoing support funding.

People are assessed and referred by the Disability Service Commission, the Mental Health Commission or the Drug and Alcohol Office.

In conjunction with these Departments, the Department of Housing has developed an interim policy which underpins future directions for the CDHP. As part of this work the Department is seeking the views of housing and support providers for CDHP clients. The Interim Policy was the subject of wide consultation throughout late 2011 and 2012.

Additional copies of the Interim Policy can be downloaded from the Department of Housing’s website at: <http://www.housing.wa.gov.au/aboutus/strategyandpolicy/PolicyDocumentation/Pages/default.aspx>.

The survey will take approximately 15 minutes to complete. All responses will be treated as confidential. [Survey](#)

The Housing Authority will continue to seek ways to improve the CDHP. Planning has commenced for a “Lessons Learned Workshop” to review implementation of the Combined Capital Bid. This will inform development of a more comprehensive policy framework which will encompass all of the Housing Authority’s initiatives related to supported housing.

Please contact Principal Policy Officer Peter McGlynn on 9222 4955 or peter.mcglynn@housing.wa.gov.au if you require further information.

[Community Disability Housing Program - Interim Policy](#)

Awards, Grants, Tenders and Funding Opportunities

Applications open for 2013 Australian Youth Forum Steering Committee

Young people who want to have a voice in Government are encouraged to apply for a position on the Australian Youth Forum (AYF) Steering Committee.

Applications open from 10 September 2012 and **close midnight on 8 October 2012**.

For more information visit the [Australian Youth Forum](http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/other/dfat/au/youthforum/) website

Grants open for 2013 National Youth Week

Funding of up to \$1000 is available for organisations to host a National Youth Week event that brings young people together. Priority will be given to applications that provide opportunities for young people to express their ideas and views, celebrate the positive contribution young people make to the community, or encourage the participation of diverse groups such as Indigenous, culturally and linguistically diverse, and young people with a disability.

For more information please contact the Grants and Contract Officer by telephoning (08) 6551 8700 or email grants@communities.wa.gov.au. Applications are also available online at <http://www.communities.wa.gov.au>

The Department for Communities hosts the week in WA.

2013 National Youth Week runs from April 5-14, 2013

Applications close at 5pm Friday October 19, 2012

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](#)

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

Funding opportunity: the Commonwealth Government's Partnerships in Recovery Initiative

The Commonwealth Government has announced the Partnerships In Recovery (PIR) initiative. This is a mental health initiative with significant funds to be allocated through a submission process. The initiative may be of interest to agencies in the Specialist Homelessness Service System.

The following organisations are eligible to apply for funding:

- Suitably placed and experienced non-government organisations in Medicare Local regions, who can implement PIR in a way that best complements existing support and service systems and any existing care coordination efforts already being undertaken.
- For legal and accountability reasons, only incorporated, non-government health and welfare service providers are eligible to apply for funding. They could be funded by Commonwealth and/or State/Territory Governments, but would be governed independently, and be non-profit/charitable or for-profit or local community groups.
- Favourable consideration will be given to consortium applications. Consortium applications must identify the lead organisation to be contracted to the Department, and outline the role of each partner in the consortium. An authorised representative of the lead organisation must sign the application form, along with any representatives of any partner organisations.
- Joined up or multi-regional approaches will also be considered if it can be demonstrated such an approach is a more effective and efficient way to deliver PIR (if, for instance, the PIR target group population numbers in one region are too small to sustain a PIR organisation and the system of service delivery extends to adjoining regions).

Applications will close late October 2012.

More detail on the initiative, the program guidelines and a fact sheet can be found at: <http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/mental-pir>

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

COAG Select Council on Housing and Homelessness

The COAG Select Council on Housing and Homelessness met on 31 August in Perth, Western Australia. In April 2012, the remit of the (then) Select Council on Homelessness was expanded to provide an integrated and holistic approach to the related policy areas of housing supply, social and affordable housing and homelessness. This was the first meeting of the Council under its new Ministerial Council arrangements.

Minister for Housing and Homelessness Brendan O'Connor welcomed the release of a new report which recommends ways to enhance housing supply and affordability. The Housing Supply and Affordability Reform (HSAR) report, by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), recommends measures for all levels of government to ensure more efficient use of existing land and housing stock and reduce unnecessary costs and charges for developers and home buyers. "The Gillard Government understands that housing affordability is a significant issue for many Australians, especially those on low and moderate incomes. Adequate housing supply is a central response," Mr O'Connor said.

[Click here for the Minister's full media statement](#)

A copy of the COAG report is available [here](#) on the website www.coag.gov.au

Supporting Fathers Who Are Homeless

Barker J, Kolar V, Mallett S, McArthur M, Saunders V, Australian Catholic University, Institute of Child Protection Studies. August 2011

Currently little is known about the experience of single fathers who are homeless and their families. Even less is known about their experience of homelessness services and how these services respond to their needs, particularly their needs in relation to their parenting role.

This mixed method study begins to address this research and knowledge gap by exploring the experiences of homeless fathers, with or without an active parenting role. It identifies the social, emotional and material consequences of their homeless experience for them and their relationship with their children. The study also examines how their identity and role as fathers impacts on their lives in general and their experiences of homelessness. Finally it examines how homelessness services currently support single fathers and identifies policy and service delivery changes that could result in improved outcomes for this largely invisible population.

This study, funded by the Australian Government under the [National Homelessness Research Agenda 2009-13](#), increases what is known about the impact of homelessness on fathers and how their experiences of homelessness affect their parenting and relationship with their children. The findings of this study can inform policy, services and community organisations who work with homeless fathers, build service capacity to respond better to their needs, and lead to better outcomes for homeless fathers, their children and the community.

Full Report [[PDF](#) - 554KB] [[DOCX](#) - 983KB] Evidence Note [[PDF](#) - 55KB] [[DOCX](#) - 141KB]

<https://homelessnessclearinghouse.govspace.gov.au/files/2012/08/3.-More-than-just-Me-Supporting-fathers-who-are-homeless.pdf>

Housing Industry Association (HIA) - 'Window into Housing'

Window into Housing is a ready-reckoner that highlights a range of key housing indicators and related economic data. Journalists, students or anyone with an interest in the residential building sector will find this resource useful for the headline numbers on one of Australia's most important industries.

For further in-depth analysis or forecasts please contact HIA Economics Group on (02) 6245 1393. To browse titles of available publications including HIA State and National Outlooks, HIA-COLORBOND STEEL Housing 100 or the HIA-JELD-WEN Kitchens and Bathrooms report visit [HIA Economics Group](#).

Window into Housing will be updated annually, and will also be available on the [HIA Media Centre](#).

For media enquiries contact Greg Weller on (02) 6245 1388.

Social Inclusion in Australia - How Australia is faring, 2nd Edition

How Australia is faring tracks Australia's progress against a range of social inclusion indicators. It looks at how we're performing in relation to health and disability, employment, financial stress, education, access to services, housing, feelings of safety and engagement in community activities.

The report highlights that while we're a thriving prosperous nation with high rates of employment, good health and high educational attainment, there are still people who are at risk of being left behind. In particular, around 5% (or 640,000) of working age Australians continue to experience multiple and entrenched disadvantage and income inequality has grown steadily since the mid-1990s.

Download the full report [PDF](#) (2MB) | [RTF](#) (1MB) or <http://www.socialinclusion.gov.au/resources/how-australia-faring>

Read the [At a glance factsheet](#).

[AIHW Specialist Homelessness Services Collection March 2012](#)

This report presents results of the Specialist Homelessness Services Collection for the March quarter 2012. Nationally, 102,356 clients who were homeless or at risk of homelessness accessed specialist homelessness services in this quarter. On average, 18,600 clients were accommodated by these services on any given night during the quarter.

[Aged care packages in the community 2010-11: a statistical overview](#)

Aged care packages in the community 2010 -11 describes the key characteristics of services and recipients and also looks at the distribution of services relative to the needs of the population. At 30 June 2011, there were 50,900 recipients of care packages. About 1,200 providers delivered low-care packages, 500 delivered high-care packages and 340 providers delivered high-care specialised dementia packages.

[Residential aged care in Australia 2010-11: a statistical overview](#)

Residential aged care in Australia 2010-11 provides comprehensive statistical information on residential aged care facilities, their residents, admissions and separations, and residents' dependency levels. At 30 June 2011, there were nearly 185,500 residential aged care places, an increase of more than 2,600 places compared with 30 June 2010. More than 85,200 permanent residents (52%) had a recorded diagnosis of dementia at 30 June 2011. Other recorded health conditions included circulatory diseases (40,000 residents) and diseases of the musculoskeletal and connective tissue (29,400 residents).

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

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

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

Age-friendly homes kit will help seniors stay in their homes longer

Seniors and Volunteering Minister Robyn McSweeney has launched the [Age-Friendly Homes Checklist Kit](#) designed to help older people stay in their homes longer.

The kit contains a series of checklists and links to help seniors assess their homes to make sure it is liveable and appropriate for their future needs.

"A home that helps seniors adapt as they age can make a big difference to how long they can stay in their home and participate in their local communities," Mrs McSweeney said.

"With baby boomers making up the single largest group in the State, it makes sense for them to start planning now to remain independent and active in their communities as long as possible. Whether you are thinking about moving or renovating, the kit helps you focus on ensuring your home can meet your needs for many years to come."

Consultation with Western Australian seniors has consistently shown an overwhelming desire to stay in their local area as they age.

The Minister said age-friendly housing and neighbourhoods were important not only for older Western Australians' health and quality of life, but also for the community.

"Encouraging people to stay active and independent as they age benefits everyone," she said.

By 2050, one in three West Australians will be 55 years and over

Kits available for download at <http://www.communities.wa.gov.au> or [here](#)

Minister's office - 6552 6500 [Minister's full media statement available here](#)

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

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

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

Single Parent Families Most Vulnerable to Homelessness

[Pro Bono News, Monday, 24 September, 2012](#)

Single parents are the most common type of family group to receive support from homelessness agencies, according to a new report.

The report, Homelessness Services Collection: March quarter 2012, by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) tracked the use of homelessness services between January and March 2012 and revealed that about 30% of people who received support from specialist agencies were families.

It also found that the average size of all family groups receiving assistance was 3.1 people, while the second most common family group to receive homelessness support was couples with children.

AIHW spokesperson, Geoff Neideck, said that women were more likely than men to receive assistance for homelessness and that this proportion rises with increased remoteness.

"For example, 57% of clients were female in major cities, compared with 82% in very remote areas," Neideck said.

"There was also an over-representation of Indigenous people, especially outside of major cities - while 14% of clients in major cities identified as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin, this proportion increased to 76% in remote areas and 93% in very remote areas."

However, there were a number of positive results to come out of the report, including statistics showing fewer people were living without shelter after seeking help.

The Federal Minister for Housing and Homelessness, Brendan O'Connor, praised specialist homelessness services for "having a positive impact on reducing homelessness and helping people struggling with housing get back on their feet".

However, O'Connor also warned that while the report shows an apparent increase in the number of people being assisted between the last three months of 2011 and the first three months of 2012, the figures cannot be directly compared as there are still some services to come on board with their data.

"These figures are not a count of homeless people, but they build into our understanding of homelessness and how we measure our progress towards halving homelessness by 2020, and our interim target of a 20 per cent reduction by 2013," O'Connor said.

"These figures also cannot be compared to the ABS estimate of 90,000 people homeless on Census night 2006, as that was a snapshot of one night while these figures cover all people being assisted over a three month period.

"Using this research, including the AIHW figures, the ABS Census data and Journeys Home, the first longitudinal study of homelessness in Australia, we will have the best understanding of homelessness and how best to direct our resources to tackle this challenge."

Other key findings include:

- In the March quarter 2012, almost 102,400 clients were assisted by specialist homelessness agencies across Australia, and on any given night in this period almost 18,600 clients were accommodated.
- Accommodation was provided in 34% of all support periods, with most accommodation being short-term or emergency accommodation.
- Domestic and family violence was the most common reason for seeking assistance-it was the reason given in almost a quarter of cases.
- In 19% of support periods, clients had 'slept rough' in the month before presenting for support.
- Overall, there were fewer clients living without shelter or in inadequate dwellings at the end of support periods (4% of closed support periods, compared with 7% at the beginning of these support periods).

There was also a drop in the proportion of clients who had no housing tenure at the end of support (25% of closed support periods, compared with 29% at the beginning).

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

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

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

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

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

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

[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](#)

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

[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](#)

[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](#)

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

www.abs.gov.au

ABS 2011 Census Data and Shelter WA Publications

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

The ABS publication: [Information Paper: A Statistical Definition of Homelessness](#) (cat. no. 4922.0) was released on 5 September 2012. Related [Q&As and Factsheets](#) were also published. The ABS will also publish an **Information Paper: Guide to Homelessness Statistics** (cat. no. 4923.0) in November 2012 to assist users with analysing the multiple data sources available to obtain a more complete picture of homelessness. The guide will outline which parts of the homeless definition ABS collections can, or cannot capture. If you have any enquiries, please contact Bob McColl on (02) 6252 6233 or bob.mccoll@abs.gov.au in the first instance.

[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 \(First Issue\)](#)

[What's New in Regional Statistics, 2012 \(Additional Information\)](#)

[Population Characteristics, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, Western Australia, Aug 2001 \(Replacement Content\)](#)

[Dwelling Unit Commencements, Australia, Preliminary, Jun 2012 \(Final Issue\)](#)

[Methodological News, Sep 2012](#)

[Australian Demographic Statistics, Mar 2012](#)

[Australian Social Trends, Sep 2012](#)

[Information Paper: Census of Population and Housing -- Products and Services, 2011 \(Replacement Content\)](#)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

[Tomorrow's suburbs: building flexible neighbourhoods](#) Peter Breadon, Jane-Frances Kelly | Grattan Institute | With our city fringes growing at a rapid rate, this report suggests some ways to ensure that our new suburbs are flexible enough to thrive for decades to come.

[Pathways to a fair and sustainable social housing system](#) Brotherhood of St Laurence | The Victorian Government's discussion paper on social housing provides an opportunity for difficult conversations that are necessary if we are to gain the Victorian community's support for the long-term solutions that are required.

[Children and their families](#) Elly Robinson, Robyn Miller, Rhys Price-Robertson | Department of Human Services | This resource has been designed as a useful guide to help practitioners deal with the particularly sensitive issues and situations when working with vulnerable children and families.

[Mapping and reviewing homelessness programs](#) Eleanor Button, Jo Baulderstone | Flinders University | Non-government organisations across Australia work to assist homeless people in a myriad of ways and from time to time many of these programs and services are evaluated. Service review and evaluation reports may be used to justify funding requests, demonstrate accountability, improve service delivery or test the effectiveness of service models.

[Global liveability report: August 2012](#) Economists Intelligence Unit | Assessing the stability; healthcare; culture and environment; education; and infrastructure of 140 cities around the world, Melbourne remains the world's most liveable location followed by Vienna and Vancouver.

[Sustainable housing for sustainable cities](#) UN-HABITAT | In a rapidly changing and urbanising world, the provision of adequate and affordable housing remains a key priority for all governments.

[The right to housing](#) Robert Freestone | Australian Policy Online | In this review of Pat Troy's new book, *Accommodating Australians*, Robert Freestone asks if affordable housing should be seen as a basic right for all Australians like other social goods such as education?

[Why are special services needed to address Indigenous homelessness?](#) Kelly Greenop, Christina Birdsall-Jones, Paul Memmott | Institute for Social Science Research | This report explores why it is necessary to design and deliver homelessness services specifically for Indigenous people.

[Going without: financial hardship in Australia](#) Ben Phillips, Binod Nepal | National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (NATSEM) | Looking at households where the main source of income is the New Start Allowance and job-seeker Youth Allowance Payments, this report finds that these households experience much greater rates of poverty and financial stress than other household types.

[Future fabric of cities flagship program 2011 highlights](#) Vivian Mitsogianni | Design Research Institute, RMIT | Exploring innovative propositions around the questions that arise in the future design of cities, these projects share a concern for venturesome project-based research and research through design.

[Persons in improvised dwellings, tents and sleepers out](#) Chris Chamberlain | Centre for Applied Social Research | Prepared for the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, this report provides background information for the evaluation of Street to Home programs being undertaken in Australian capital cities.

[Social inclusion in Australia: How Australia is faring, 2nd Edition](#) Australian Social Inclusion Board | This is the principal research report tracking Australia's progress against a range of social inclusion indicators, including health and disability, employment, financial stress, education, access to services, housing, feelings of safety and engagement in community activities.

[Transforming the New Zealand census of population and dwellings: issues, options, and strategy](#) Statistics New Zealand | This report presents the issues on the development of a strategic direction and timeline for the transformation of the New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings.

[The influence of unstable housing on children's wellbeing and development](#) Matthew Taylor, Ben Edwards | Australian Homelessness Clearinghouse | This study examines the association between residential mobility, unstable housing tenure and housing stress on children's cognitive development and social-emotional functioning.

[Constructing and maintaining houses](#) Paul Pholeros, Peter Phibbs | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare | This resource sheet is about the construction and maintenance of Indigenous housing. It does not cover broader questions such as the total amount of housing required or the best housing management systems, although it touches on these issues.

Conferences, Events and Workshops 2012

2012 National Drug Trends [Conference](#) *Drugs, crime and the front line: Australasian Perspective* (Sydney) 9 October

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

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

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

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

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

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

AJJA 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

2013

Green Cities Conference 6-7 March

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

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

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

Men's Sheds Conference will Share the Knowledge - Wednesday 3rd 7 Thursday 4th October

The successes and challenges of establishing and maintaining a successful men's shed will be tackled at a conference where the rapidly growing network of "shedders" will Share the Knowledge about their shed's successes and challenges. The 2012 WA Men's Shed Conference and Trade Exhibition will be held at the Mosman Park Community Men's Shed, Tom Perrott Reserve, Mosman Park, Western Australia on Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th October 2012.

[Click here](#) for more information. [Click here](#) to download a Registration Brochure.

Housing (Fringe) Forum

Tenant Participation

Still

Alive and KICKING

Who

Social housing tenants and supporters

What

A meeting of social housing tenants to share stories find out about the housing budget, other states and other ways.

Decide responses to government changes and what's next for Tenant Participation.

Why

Tenants have a right to a say!

When

Monday 29 October 2012, 10.00am-4.00pm

Where

Queensland Council of Unions, Level 2/16 Peel Street, South Brisbane Accessible venue, Close to South Brisbane Rail Station and Cultural Centre Bus Station

How

To register phone 3890 1739 or email mpslivka@bigpond.net.au

For more information contact Merrilyn Rowler on 0439 201 589 or by e-mail rowlerm@bigpond.net.au

Book now as places are limited. **RSVP by 22 October**

How much

We're trying to keep costs down, but please be prepared to pay \$10 concession, \$20 waged.

Sponsored by

The Brisbane Combined Unions Choir Inc and community organisations for housing justice

Media Releases

WA Government Media Releases

[Affordable housing sales pass \\$118million](#)

[Indigenous short-term stay for Goldfields](#)

[New affordable land released in Broome](#)

[Development of Perry Lakes races further ahead](#)

[New prime hotel earmarked for South Hedland](#)

[History of the ALS wins 2011 Premier's Prize](#)

[Planning milestone for Keralup housing project](#)

[Home handover milestone in the Pilbara](#)

[Karratha workers' accommodation wins award](#)

[State Govt helps build a new family centre](#)

[Guidelines to help bring structure to planning](#)

[Regional planning receives a boost](#)

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

Australian Government Media Releases

[Celebrating 50,000 affordable loans to vulnerable Australians](#)

[Continued growth in aged care sector \(AIHW\)](#)

[Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs releases report into the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission bills.](#)

[Declaration on Rights of Indigenous Peoples turns five years old \(2012 Media Release\)](#)

[Social inclusion in Australia: How Australia is faring 2012 | Social Inclusion](#)

[Support for families making a difference in Belmont](#)

[Revised ABS figures won't change commitment to halve homelessness](#)

[Pensions to increase later this month](#)

[Social and Community Services Sector Equal Remuneration Update](#)

[Delivering affordable housing in Tasmania](#)

[Minister opens 7th National Homelessness Conference](#)

[The Joint Parliamentary Committee on Corporations and Financial Services releases their report into the ACNC Bills.](#)

[Historic Equal Remuneration Order for hard-working community sector workers](#)

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	Australians for Affordable Housing
Federation of Housing Collectives WA	WACOSS
Homelessness Australia Newsletter	Homelessness Clearing House
Council to Homeless Persons	Australian Institute of Urban Studies WA
Australian Institute of Health & Welfare	Communities and Families Clearing House
Community Housing Federation Australia	Community Housing Coalition WA (CHCWA)
Tenants Advice Service WA	Community Legal Centres WA
Housing Industry Association Ltd	Australasian Housing Institute
Real Estate Institute of Australia (REIA)	Real Estate Institute of WA (REIWA)
National Housing Supply Council	Property Council of Australia
Pro Bono Australia	Australian Policy Online
City Futures	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

For copies of Shelter WA's previous publications click on the following links to access previous [Newsletters](#)

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

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