

**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**Ministerial arrangements:  
an opportunity to make some progress for affordable housing**

Adrian Pisarski, Chairperson of National Shelter has welcomed Mark Arbib as Minister for Social Housing and Homelessness, and Tony Burke as minister for Population and Communities, claiming that “as long as a consistent policy approach is taken across the portfolios, some real progress for affordable housing can be made.”

Mr Pisarski supports the transition of affordable housing into the Sustainable Population portfolio, however emphasises the need for communication at the Cabinet level between Minister Macklin and Minister Burke to align policy priorities.

“We welcome a regional development perspective to increasing housing supply and improving affordability,” Mr Pisarski said.

“However, the risk in this type of split portfolio approach is that communication between Ministers and departments is neglected.”

“Continued investment in affordable housing programs, especially Social Housing and NRAS are essential to combat housing supply and affordability, and this won’t be achieved without effective communication between the ministers,” Mr Pisarski said.

National Shelter also thanked the outgoing minister for Housing Tanya Plibersek for her contribution to developments in the area of Affordable Housing and homelessness.

“National Shelter has worked well with Minister Plibersek over the last three years, and we congratulate her on her successes as housing minister and wish her well in her new portfolios,” Mr Pisarski concluded.

***Housing Australia Affordably***, National Shelter’s policy platform makes extensive recommendations to improve housing affordability in Australia. It is available at [www.shelter.org.au](http://www.shelter.org.au)

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