



**3<sup>rd</sup> October 2014**

## **Housing and Homelessness News**

### **Resource to Assist Sector Respond to Commonwealth Government Reviews**

The Commonwealth Government has indicated it will begin two processes during 2015 which have the potential to have significant impact on housing policy: a housing and homelessness review and a white paper on federalism. These processes will be linked and will likely also draw on the Commission of Audit and the Henry Tax Review. National Shelter EO Adrian Pisarski has written an article on housing policy and federalism to help housing and homelessness organisations navigate these processes. The Commonwealth has a 70 year history of involvement in the provision and promotion of housing programs, but an extreme interpretation of federalism could point towards withdrawing from all involvement except the provision of Commonwealth Rent Assistance. [Read the article](#) on the National Shelter website.

### **Some Important Updates**

**NRAS Regulation Amendments** – information on the changes to the National Rental Affordability Scheme can be found on the [DSS website](#).

**ACNC Commissioner's Interpretive Statement on the provision of housing by charities** - This Statement provides binding guidelines for Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) staff when assessing providers for charitable status and significant clarity for the sector. The Community Housing Federation of Australia (CHFA) has produced [notes on the key points](#) (with a link to the [Statement](#)). The period of comment on the Statement is open until 26<sup>th</sup> October and you can also provide input into CHFA's response if you wish.

**Changes to the Residential Tenancy Act** – these changes are effective as of 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014, the Tenants' Union of Tasmania has an excellent summary of these changes. [Click here](#) for the TUT website.

**Update from Sen. Jan McLucas** - Sen. McLucas, as Shadow Minister for Housing and Homelessness provides an update on relevant issues (Affordable Housing Inquiry, Housing Review, Senate Estimates etc.). Please contact [Shelter Tas](#) if you would like this edition to be forwarded to you, or [Sen. McLucas' office](#) to subscribe to future updates.

### **AIHW Report: Housing Outcomes for Groups Vulnerable to Homelessness**

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) has released a new report - **Housing outcomes for groups vulnerable to homelessness: 1 July 2011 to 31 December 2013**. Using data from specialist homelessness agencies, the report examines four cohorts vulnerable to

homelessness and the differences in the housing outcomes both across and within the groups. It seeks to better understand why some people in these groups may retain or attain housing while others become or stay homeless. It is expected that well known factors which make people more vulnerable to homelessness will also be key factors in their housing outcomes following support. This bulletin seeks to confirm that this is the case and also provide an indication of the extent of the impact of these factors. The report can be purchased for \$10.00 at the [AIHW website](#), or [downloaded](#) for free. You can also go to Homelessness Australia's [website](#) to read their sector briefing on the report.

### Shelter NSW Factsheets

Shelter NSW has developed two new factsheets that explain some key terms in housing and urban policy – '[affordable housing](#)' and '[social housing](#)'.

### Shelter Tas Training Reminder

Our next workshop *Show Leadership in the Workplace* will be held on the 7<sup>th</sup> October in Campbell Town from 10.00am – 4.00pm. This unit is nationally accredited and subsidised by Skills Tasmania, meaning a cost of just \$120 to your organisation. For more details on course content and registration go to the [Singleton Consulting website](#).

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### Factoid of the Week | Home Ownership

In 2011-12, 45.8% of home owning households owned their home outright. In 1994-5 it was 58.5%. ABS 2013b Survey of Housing Occupancy and Costs.

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## Media Releases

### Disadvantaged Australians face hardest climb out of homelessness

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014. [Click here](#).

### Moving from homelessness to housing is hard work

Homelessness Australia, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014. [Click here](#).

### Tasmanian Association of Community Houses conference

Minister for Human Services, Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014. [Click here](#).

### Tasmanian firm to build housing IT system

Minister for Human Services, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014. [Click here](#).

### First ABS Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander survey to collect experiences of homelessness

Australian Bureau of Statistics, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014. [Click here](#).

## Research and Articles

### AHURI Evidence Review #64 – Mapping where the homeless are

In 2011, 42% of the nation's homeless population was found in just 10% of the 328 regions that make up Australia. [Click here](#) to read more.

### ABC 7.30 – Are foreign investors making the Australian dream unaffordable?

Debate on foreign investment in Australian homes has grown as prices continue to rise and concerns over housing affordability continue, amid fears of a coming housing bubble in Australia. [Click here](#) to watch the video.

### **The Conversation - Home loan limits and buffers won't stop a housing bubble**

Australia's central bank has formally flagged the use of macroprudential tools to address what it has called "unbalanced" lending in its most recent [Financial Stability Review](#). [Click here](#) to read the article.

### **The Conversation – Going bananas over affordable housing**

Houses are not like bananas. [Click here](#) to find out why.

### **Daily Life – What it's like to be homeless, while pretending that you're not**

[Click here](#) to read the full article.

## **Conferences/Forums/Training**

### **Mental Health First Aid - Launceston 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> October**

This course has been developed by The Centre for Mental Health Research at the Australian National University and aims to help people provide initial support for someone with a mental health problem. For more information or to register, contact Allan Johnson on 0408 891 372 or email [arj@eftel.net.au](mailto:arj@eftel.net.au).

### **2014 Disability Support Conference – Registrations Now Open**

You can now register [online](#) for the 2014 Tasmanian Disability Support Conference, which will be held on 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014 at the Hotel Grand Chancellor in Launceston. The theme of the conference is "A New Way of Thinking". The conference will be an opportunity to gain knowledge, resources and connections to lead you into the new support environment. Over the two days, participants will be able to share practical ideas and network extensively with other disability support professionals.

**When:** 21<sup>st</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014

**Where:** Hotel Grand Chancellor, Launceston

**Registration:** Registrations close at 5pm on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Go to the [NDS website](#) for program and registration details.

**Cost:** *Full Registration – Day 1 & 2*

Members (any Tasmanian Community Sector Peak\*) \$150  
membership will be required in registration process.

\* Proof of

Non-member \$225

Students\*\* \$75

\*\* Students will be

required to show their student ID at the conference.

*Day Registration*

Members (any Tasmanian Community Sector Peak\*) \$90

Non-member \$125

Students\*\* \$40

**Contact:** Lyndell George, Executive Assistant 6212 7300 or [lyndell.george@nds.org.au](mailto:lyndell.george@nds.org.au)

## Other News

### Mental Health Week Forum – Don't get in my way – what is the role of services in helping people to live a life beyond services?

Anglicare presents findings from recent research on the role of natural supports in recovering from mental illness and welcomes guest speaker Helen Glover. Helen draws upon her professional background in social work and education as well as her lived experience to expand and challenge the concepts of recovery-oriented practice in the mental health sector. She is the Director of [Enlightened Consultants](#), based in Brisbane.

**When:** Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October

**Time:** 10.30am – 12.00pm (morning tea provided)

**Where:** C3 Conference Centre, Angelsea St, South Hobart

**RSVP:** by Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October to [SARC@anglicare-tas.org.au](mailto:SARC@anglicare-tas.org.au)

### Report – Women and Girls in Tasmania

Minister for Human Services, Jacque Petrusma, recently launched this report, which provides a statistical snapshot of the current status of women and girls in Tasmania. The report provides a unique baseline profile of women and girls in Tasmania by bringing together a range of data spanning six outcome areas: health and wellbeing, economic security and financial independence, education and training, housing and homelessness, safety and justice and leadership and community participation. Go to the [DPaC website](#) to download the report.

### Grant Alert – National Youth Week 2015 Grant Program

The National Youth Week (NYW) 2015 Grant Program supports the development and delivery of NYW projects, events and activities during NYW 2015, which runs from Friday 10<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

Grants of up to **\$2,000** are available to organisations to develop and deliver NYW 2015 projects, events or activities. Grants of up to **\$5,000** are available to organisations in each region to work with at least two other partners to deliver a regional NYW 2015 event. Applicants must also identify how they will transport young people from across the region to the event.

The NYW 2015 Grant Program will support the development and delivery of innovative and creative NYW projects, events and activities in Tasmania that:

- Showcase the talents and skills of young people;
- Profile the role of young people and celebrate their contributions; and
- Raise issues of concern to young people and explore possible solutions.

Applications must be received by DPaC by 5pm on **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014**. Late applications will not be accepted. For further information, guidelines and application packs, go to the [DPaC website](#), alternatively, please contact Communities, Sport and Recreation Tasmania by email at [cdgrants@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:cdgrants@dpac.tas.gov.au) or phone on 1800 204 224.

Thanks to all contributors for their submissions and feedback. As information for our eNews comes from many different sources, views expressed are not necessarily those of Shelter Tas. If you would like to make a submission to the Shelter Tas eNews please [forward it](#) to us for consideration.



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