

In This Issue...

Articles

Community housing to play an integral role in Government's plan

4000 properties transferred to community housing providers in SA

Social housing rent reform to support vulnerable families

Looking at the future of social and affordable housing at NHC

Ignoring social housing is a recipe for failure expert warns

Evaluation of Housing SA's new service delivery model

SACAT: providing documents for housing disputes

Position Vacant: Business Relations Specialist (Renewal SA)

ACNC Podcasts: Charity Chat

CHCSA Calendar

CHCSA Links

CHCSA Information

Community housing to play an integral role in Government's plan

As published in a Media Release by the CHIA

Community housing will play an integral role in the Federal Government's plan to tackle Australia's housing issues, according to Assistant Minister to the Treasurer, Michael Sukkar MP.

Minister Sukkar told a lunchtime forum of more than 90 community housing organisations and other stakeholders that, 'There is always going to be a place for state government's public housing stock, but increasingly we see the future being community housing providers.'

The Federal Government's billion dollar infrastructure facility will provide loans to unlock projects that are difficult to get off the ground for want of small, but vital, infrastructure and, 'projects that have a significant social housing component will get preference', he said.

The establishment of the bond aggregator will provide a 'quick win' in enabling community housing providers to access low cost finance.

Another government priority will be working towards a national regulatory scheme. Minister Sukkar acknowledged the value of a diverse community housing sector that can meet the needs of different tenants, but pointed to the importance of a more uniform regulatory regime in lifting standards and accessing institutional capital.

To read the full article click [here](#)

4,000 properties transferred to community housing providers in SA

On Saturday 23rd September 2017, five community housing providers in South Australia commenced the management of 4,000 properties that were transferred by the South Australian Housing Trust.

AnglicareSA Housing, Community Housing Ltd, Housing Choices SA, Junction Australia & Unity Housing successfully tendered for the management of these properties.

For information on the transfers including FAQ's for tenants click [here](#)

Social housing rent reform to support vulnerable families

As published in a joint Media Release by the Hon Christian Porter MP, Minister for Social Services and the Hon Alan Tudge MP, Minister for Human Services

The Turnbull Government moved to give greater housing security to low income households in social housing, introducing legislation to help them keep on top of their rent and avoid eviction.

Minister for Social Services, Christian Porter, said the *Social Services Legislation Amendment (Housing Affordability) Bill 2017* includes a new Automatic Rent Deduction Scheme (ARDS) to help social housing tenants pay their rent on time and avoid eviction through rent default.

“Through ARDS, social housing tenants would have their rent and other housing costs automatically paid to their social housing provider out of their welfare payment, ensuring their housing costs are met every fortnight.” ARDS is expected to be available from March next year. To read the full Media Release click [here](#)

Looking at the future of social and affordable housing at NHC

As published on the AHURI website

The number of households in the not-for-profit community housing sector over the last 10 years has more than doubled (35,667 to 74,220 in 2016, a 108% increase). With such rapid growth the sector is becoming an even more important part of providing housing for households on low incomes.

How can the sector continue to grow efficiently and sustainably while providing the best and most affordable services for its tenants? The 2017 National Housing Conference presents a number of sessions to challenge and inspire everyone working for, or with an interest in, social housing organisations and allied service providers.

Sessions include:

- Ready for growth: Building Australia’s affordable housing industry
- A stocktake on stock transfers

For more information on this and other National Housing Conference news click [here](#)

Ignoring social housing is a recipe for failure expert warns

As published on the Pro Bono website

Professor Eoin O’Sullivan, editor of the European Journal of Homelessness gave the keynote address at the Victorian Homelessness Conference recently. Professor O’Sullivan cautions governments and policy makers against pouring resources into crisis responses to homelessness and encourages them to focus on permanent housing options.

“The solution to homelessness had to begin with housing. The problem that created homelessness in the first place was a kind of absence of housing, and the response should be a housing response,” O’Sullivan said.

To read the full article click [here](#)

Evaluation of Housing SA’s new service delivery model

In 2013, Housing SA released the Housing SA Blueprint as a future strategy to deliver a modern, connected, multi-provider housing and homelessness system. The Practice and Placement Project was established under the Blueprint to drive Housing SA’s delivery reform including the New Service Delivery Model (NSDM). The recently released evaluation of the NSDM resulted in 10 key findings including:

- Housing SA is building capability to ensure private rental customers are better supported
- Housing SA is building capability amongst service staff through training and recruitment
- The NSDM provides an effective service approach to address current customer need and cater for future customer scenarios

The evaluation finds that the NSDM is having a positive impact for Housing SA customers, and provides an effective service approach for a changing customer base. To view the NSDM evaluation click [here](#)

SACAT: Providing documents for housing disputes

The South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT) has specific requirements relating to the documentation required for various housing disputes. Whether the claim is for vacant possession, a bond refund or repairs, ensuring you have the right documentation will make your SACAT experience easier.

To assist with this SACAT has prepared an Information Sheet that will assist Tenancy Officers to ensure they have the right documentation prepared for their SACAT hearing. To view this information sheet click [here](#)

Position Vacant: Business Relations Specialist (Renewal SA)

The Business Relations Unit, Renewal SA has a vacancy for a Business Relations Specialist to create and maintain effective relationships with community housing providers to develop performance; manage risk and assure the contractual interests of the SAHT as the principal custodian of the state’s social housing system. In addition to the standard business relations functions, a key focus of this role is the undertaking of project work that contributes to the effectiveness of the Business Relations Team.

Please email RenewalSA.P&C@sa.gov.au for more information. Applications can also be sent to this address.

Applications close: COB 4 October 2017. Please note this position is for a backfill arrangement until December 2017, with a possibility of extension.

ACNC Podcasts: Charity Chat

As published on the ACNC website

The ACNC publishes podcasts that help charities stay informed about all things charity related: issues facing the charity sector, charity operations and governance, and how charities can meet obligations to the ACNC.

The latest podcast titled ***Are charities getting the most out of their boards?*** discusses the importance of a charity investing in the board’s education and training to be most effective. Commissioner Susan Pascoe talks about the benefits of spending time and money on the capacity of a board including some of the ways charities can do this. To listen to the podcast click [here](#)

CHCSA Calendar of Events

Friday 6th October 2017

CHP Forum

(Housing Associations & Companies)

Wednesday 11th October 2017

Central Forum

(Housing Co-operatives)

Tuesday 17th October 2017

Recognising & Responding to DV Workshop

(Housing Associations & Companies)

CHCSA Recommended Links

[Consumer & Business Services](#)

[South Australian Civil and Administrative
Tribunal](#)

[Tenants Information and Advisory Service](#)

[Community Centres SA](#)

[SA Legislation](#)

[ATO Benchmark Market Rent Rates](#)

[STARservice](#)

[Volunteering SA](#)

[Renewal SA](#)

[Data SA](#)

[Housing Co-operative Resources Guide](#)

[Australasian Housing Institute](#)

[Affordable Homes for Purchase](#)

[Homestart Finance](#)

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The CHCSA welcomes & encourages member contributions to this fortnightly publication at the discretion of management.

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