

Working together

for better
housing and
sustainable
communities

It's time to
take action

DISCUSSION PAPER SUMMARY

Why is housing important?

Every Queenslanders has the right to a place they can call home. It gives us the stability, safety and security we need to access employment, education, health and other services. It also enables us to be part of a wider community – a community that offers the things we need now and into the future, including sustainable choices for the generations to come.

What are the housing issues in Queensland?

Securing a stable, safe and secure home is becoming increasingly challenging for Queenslanders.

Some of the issues include:

- › decreasing housing affordability and lower home ownership
- › increasing demand on social housing and support services
- › limited housing choices and access to services for people, including those who are ageing, have special care needs, or live in rural and remote communities, and
- › access to information about housing choices and options.

Queenslanders' housing needs are also changing. The housing choices currently available have not kept up with these changes. As housing is key to how we live in the community and participate in the economy, we need to think about the housing choices required to continue to support people and communities, and strengthen the Queensland economy.

Who is responsible for delivering better housing and sustainable communities?

We all have a role to play in shaping the future of housing options for Queensland. Providing an integrated housing and support system that meets housing needs and creates new and diverse housing options requires collaboration across all levels of government, the non-government sector, industry and the broader community.



What is being done now to improve housing?

The Queensland Government is working on a 10-year Housing Strategy to help build better housing futures for all Queenslanders.

Working with other government agencies, the non-government sector and industry, we have identified the challenges and opportunities associated with delivering responsive and sustainable outcomes. Our work to date has included:

- › introducing national uniform law on residential tenancy databases
- › bringing stakeholders together to identify options to improve housing affordability and new supply
- › re-establishing a tenant advice and advocacy service, and
- › Introducing a Fairness Charter and Principles to help us assess the fairness and suitability of existing and new social housing policies.

We've also released the *Working together for better housing and sustainable communities* discussion paper. The discussion paper is part of an important process — an opportunity to discuss issues across the housing continuum. These range from homelessness and social housing through to affordable rent, home ownership and retirement options.



Housing and you

All Queenslanders' circumstances are different. We therefore need to plan for a future that provides present and future generations with the opportunity to live in a home that is suitable, affordable and safe.

To do that successfully, we need to hear from everyone with an interest in improving housing outcomes and building strong communities. The Queensland Government's *Working together for better housing and sustainable communities* discussion paper provides the opportunity to do so.

The discussion paper is organised around three key discussion themes. These themes will help guide your feedback on how we can address these issues in the Housing Strategy to build a better housing future for Queensland.



THEME 1: SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Our goal is to build housing and communities that maximise people's economic and social wellbeing and are sustainable for future generations.

Have your say on what needs to happen to ensure housing markets across the state meet the needs of the Queensland community.



THEME 2: HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Our goal is to improve people's access to housing in both the rental and home ownership markets.

Have your say on ways to improve housing affordability and choices for people.



THEME 3: RESPONSIVE HOUSING SYSTEM

Our goal is to create a single, accessible and integrated homelessness and housing assistance system.

Have your say on how to deliver better services to the people who need our help.

Your input will help shape Queensland's housing direction for the next 10 years.

It's time to take action

We want to hear what is important to you. We want you to tell us what's working, what isn't working, and areas we need to focus on.

There are many ways to have your say on the future direction of housing and homelessness in Queensland. You may choose to respond on behalf of an organisation or group, or as an individual.



Access the discussion paper on the Queensland Government's website www.qld.gov.au/housing


Visit the Queensland Government's Get Involved website and complete the online survey at www.getinvolved.qld.gov.au



Prepare a written response and email to housingstrategy@hpw.qld.gov.au or post to Housing Strategy Team, GPO Box 690 Brisbane Qld 4001

Attend Queensland Government, industry or community group engagement sessions. Session details can be found at www.qld.gov.au/housing





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