

HOME

Monthly Magazine
AUGUST 2021
ISSUE 8

MAGAZINE

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in Queensland Parliament

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AFFORDABLE HOUSING
stock on the Sunshine Coast

SOLAR for REMOTE
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*benefit from **Housing Action Plan***

COVID-19: MAKE THE
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New **CULTURALLY DESIGNED** housing
units in VICTORIA

WA CALLS for a **CULTURAL**
APPROACH to HOUSING



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Housing Queensland





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HOW TO CONTACT US

Home Magazine welcomes submissions from our members and partners on the great work that is being undertaken to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing outcomes in Queensland. If you would like to contribute story ideas for consideration or comment on items in Home Magazine, please contact

our Communications Team at
admin@housingqueensland.com.au

Previous Home Magazine issues can be viewed online at
www.housingqueensland.com.au

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ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND

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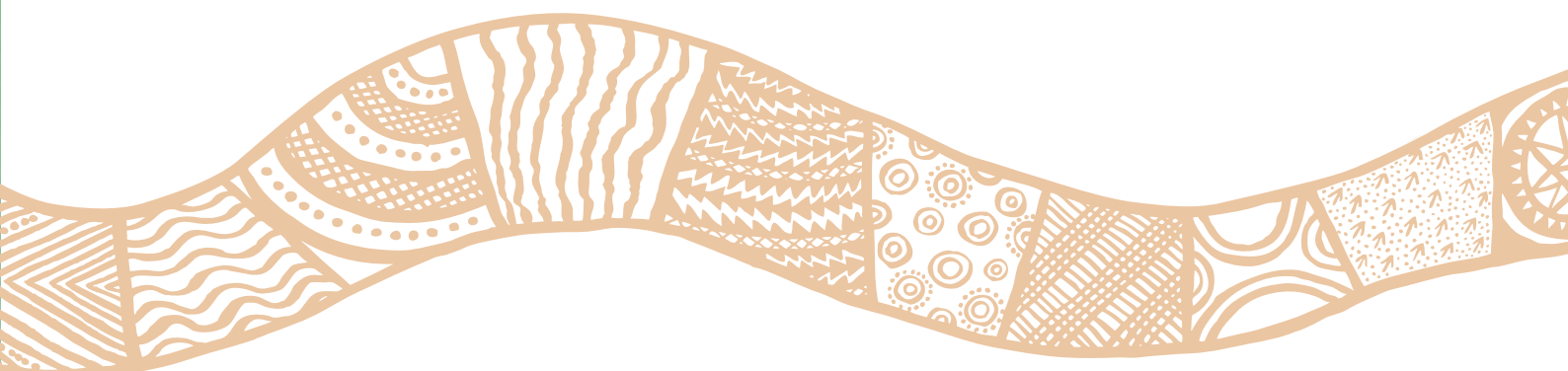
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Looking Back in History





AFTER some momentous housing announcements in recent months, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland will be seeking to capitalise and play a role in some of these initiatives. HOME Magazine this month gives our readers an understanding of the many initiatives being undertaken in our State, in addition to the news from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing organisations around Australia.

On the back of last month's positive news on the Queensland Budget, we are noticing that some actions of the Housing Action Plan are already being implemented across the State, which is great news.

At Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland, we will continue to work closely with our government partners to ensure that the priority outcomes for our Sector will be achieved from the Plan. Moving forward, we are also preparing for some significant stakeholder engagement activities in the latter part of the year to further understand the demands, requirements and aspirations of our members.

This information will help our organisation to no end in getting a much-needed, accurate and up-to-date snapshot of our Sector in order to inform future policy decisions both for State and Commonwealth Governments and to advocate for stronger partnerships with the wider industry.

From an internal point of view, our stakeholder engagement activities will help us as an organisation to better understand how we can support the varying needs of our housing Sector, where ever you might be in Queensland. From this, we look forward to building our Sector's capacity and implementing the required support structures to achieve resilience.

We also recognise the impact that COVID-19, in its many forms, is having on our ICHO's, their staff, tenants and families. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland is working with its partners to monitor and assist our Sector at any time they require it. We encourage all of our members to reach out with any questions or concerns they might have.

Stay safe,

MARY DOCTOR AND ANGELINA AKEE

INTERIM CO-CHAIRS

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND

Update #8

The Housing Working Group did not hold a meeting in July 2021 as it prepares to transition across to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland (ATSIHQ) Board.

ATSIHQ BOARD

WHEN ATSIHQ WAS ESTABLISHED, a decision was made with Gadens (our legal advisors) that the Initial Directors at the incorporation of ATSIHQ would have either have a 2-year term or a 3-year term at the first AGM in 2021. This was to prevent the risk of an entirely new Board being elected at the first AGM. At the first ATSIHQ Board meeting, as per the 2021 ATSIHQ Constitution, these directors will appoint from amongst their numbers, the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

FIRST ATSIHQ BOARD MEETING It is anticipated that this first meeting will occur in either August or September 2021. Location of this first meeting will take into consideration any COVID lockdowns and travel restrictions. Stakeholders will be updated in the next magazine.

SECTOR STRENGTHENING PLAN WORKING GROUP As part of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, in mid-2021 four Sector Strengthening Plan Working Groups (SSPWG) were established for housing, health, disabilities and child safety. ATSIHQ is part of the Housing SSPWG along with Department of Communities, Housing and the Digital Economy (DCHDE) and other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations. Over the next few months, ATSIHQ will contribute strategies to strengthen the ICHO Sector in Queensland based on our five key focus areas (housing priorities, sector development, partnerships, sustainability and research).

COMMUNITY HOUSING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT In early July 2021, ATSIHQ hosted CHIA Queensland, QShelter and the Australasian Housing Institute (AHI) to discuss the available training for the community housing workforce in Queensland. This was the second meeting for the year which was initiated by QShelter. Participants shared valuable information on training and discussed training gaps, affordability and the need for appropriate training. This group will meet regularly to advocate for the sector and discuss training options.

QUEENSLAND HOUSING ROUND TABLE ATSIHQ participated in the Queensland Housing Round Table on 20 July 2021. Organised by QShelter, the Round Table included housing leaders and key people from the Department of Communities, Housing and the Digital Economy (DCHDE) who set the scene on housing issues. The Department asked attendees to consider how a group of multi-sectoral stakeholders can best help with the successful delivery of opportunities in the Queensland State Budget and the Housing and Homelessness Action Plan. During the Round Table, discussions focused on:

- The opportunities emerging from the Housing and Homelessness Action Plan and Queensland Budget.
- What is needed to enable those opportunities.
- The gaps and barriers and how can they be addressed.

QUEENSLAND COMMUNITY HOUSING STEERING COMMITTEE In late July 2021, the Department of Communities, Housing and the Digital Economy (DCHDE) established the Housing and Homeless Services Queensland Community Housing Steering Committee. Three organisations (ATSIHQ, CHIA Queensland and QShelter) were invited to join this formal Steering Committee. This new Steering Committee will provide advice and guidance to DCHDE on a range of community housing matters including the implementation of the new Queensland Government Housing and Homelessness Action Plan and the new DCHDE Master Agreement which is due for implementation later this year.

ATSIHQ
WILL KEEP YOU
UP TO DATE EACH
MONTH ON KEY
ATSIHQ MEETINGS
AND ACTIVITIES THAT
WILL STRENGTHEN
THE QUEENSLAND
ICHO SECTOR.

News

PROGRESS FOR *RENTAL LAW REFORM* IN PARLIAMENT

THIS month, The Housing Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 has been introduced in the Queensland Parliament to progress Stage 1 of Queensland's rental law reform.

The first stage reforms aim to strike the right balance between renters and rental property owner interests for all parties to have:

- more certainty about their tenancy arrangements by encouraging greater transparency and accountability about intentions and decision making
- confidence their rental property is safe, secure and functional by prescribing Minimum Housing Standards
- certainty about how renters experiencing domestic and family violence can manage their tenancy arrangements to improve their safety without bearing the costs of the violence used against them
- frameworks to support negotiations about renting with pets and encourage more pet-friendly rental accommodation in Queensland.
- The proposed changes to Queensland's rental laws have been informed by community consultation with over 150,000 responses received from consultation processes held in 2018 and 2019. Our COVID-19 response for residential tenancies also tested key elements of Stage 1 reform options in 2020 and 2021.

Reference: 'Rental law reform', Queensland Government, August 2021



QUEENSLAND'S FIRST BUILD-TO-RENT PROJECT

WORK is officially underway on the Palaszczuk Government's first Build-to-Rent development, providing a boost to jobs in the construction sector and making affordable housing more accessible.

Treasurer and Minister for Investment Cameron Dick this month turned the sod on Mirvac's LIV Anura Build-to-Rent development at 60 Skyring Terrace, Newstead, being delivered under the Palaszczuk Government's \$70 million Build-to-Rent program.

"Driving the continued growth of Queensland's construction sector is a key part of our Government's COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan," the Treasurer said.

"This project will offer 395 apartments exclusively for renters, including 25 per cent of dwellings that will be provided at a discounted rent via a Palaszczuk Government subsidy.

"This development is due for completion in 2024 and will provide 100 per cent renewable energy to all apartments.

The Treasurer said final planning was underway for the commencement of construction at the second site under the Palaszczuk Government's Build-to-Rent program with Frasers Property Australia's development in Fortitude Valley.

Reference: 'Broken ground for Queensland's first Build-to-Rent project', Queensland Government, August 2021



PARTNERSHIP BOOSTS AFFORDABLE HOUSING STOCK ON THE SUNSHINE COAST

THE Palaszczuk Government's innovative partnership with leading community housing provider, Churches of Christ Housing Services, will commence construction of forty new affordable homes for seniors in Caloundra.

Turning the sod this month on the new construction,

Minister for Communities and Housing Leeanne Enoch said

the Palaszczuk Government would contribute up to \$8.9 million to the \$18.4 million project, creating 50 jobs in the local building and construction industry, delivering a plan for economic recovery from COVID-19.

"This project is part of the Palaszczuk Government's commitment to provide more affordable homes as part of the Queensland Housing Strategy 2017-2027 and the recently announced Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025," Minister Enoch said.

"Partnering with community housing providers is an integral element of our new housing action plan which is backed by a \$1.9 billion investment over 4 years and the establishment of a \$1 billion Housing Investment Fund.

"This is the largest concentrated investment in social housing in Queensland's history.

Minister Enoch said the Palaszczuk Government's investment in affordable housing was part of its commitment to commence 7,400 new social and affordable homes over the next four years.

Reference: 'Partnership boosts affordable housing stock on the Sunshine Coast', Queensland Government, August 2021

GOLD COAST YOUTHS BENEFIT FROM HOUSING ACTION PLAN

THE Palaszczuk Government's strategic approach to housing and homelessness is delivering improved housing outcomes for Queenslanders, including young people at risk of homelessness on the Gold Coast.

Minister for Communities and Housing Leeanne Enoch this month announced that the first tenants have been selected to move into the new \$12.3 million Gold Coast Youth Foyer, one of the key projects delivered under the Palaszczuk Government's Queensland Housing Strategy 2017-2027.

"This life-changing project will give up to 40 young people at risk of homelessness a place to call home," Minister Enoch said.

"The young people moving into the Gold Coast Youth Foyer are among the first Queenslanders to see the benefits of these services and support since the

new action plan was launched."

The Gold Coast Youth Foyer consists of 40 self-contained studio apartments, communal spaces and offices with 24-hour on-site supervision and support for young tenants aged between 16 and 25 years.

Minister for Youth Affairs and Member for Gaven Meaghan Scanlon said for young people to have every chance of reaching their full potential, a safe and secure environment in which to live is required, and the Gold Coast Youth Foyer will provide that.

Reference: 'Gold Coast youths among the first Queenslanders to benefit from Housing Action Plan', Queensland Government, August 2021

OLYMPICS to drive up BRISBANE HOUSE PRICES

B RISBANE'S median house price of \$678,000 is less than half of Sydney's and on par with that for Adelaide and Hobart. But don't expect it to stay that way. By the time the 2032 Olympic Games come to town, the figure is likely to be \$1.5 million.

The key driver, says veteran Brisbane estate agent Col Kelaart, is the huge sums of money being poured into planned capital works in preparation for the world's premier sporting event.

Among them is Brisbane City Council's \$1.2 billion Metro busway, featuring new tunnels, stations and a fleet of 60 electric vehicles.

With a population of roughly 3.7 million, Queensland's southeast is Australia's fastest-growing zone. Forecasts suggest it will top five million by the middle of the next decade.

Australian Bureau of Statistics data shows Brisbane added 4800 people from other states in the three months to December with Sydney and Melbourne losing residents at almost twice that rate.

Brisbane's median house price sits a tad under \$700,000 but some economists tip the figure will more than double by the time the Games roll around.

Reference: 'Olympics to drive up Brisbane house prices', AAP, August 2021



News

SOLAR for REMOTE COMMUNITIES in FNQ

As part of the Department of Energy and Public Works' \$3.6 million Decarbonising Remote Communities program, 4 Indigenous communities in Queensland's far north will have new renewable energy systems installed to reduce the use of diesel power. Participating Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Councils are key project partners in planning and delivering these projects.

DOOMADGEE

Installation of the 304 kilowatt (kW) ground-mounted solar farm extension (adjacent to the existing 264kW solar farm) is now complete and 105kW of rooftop solar has been installed on 4 Doomadgee Shire Council buildings. All systems were commissioned on 30 November 2019.

MAPOON

The Mapoon Aboriginal Shire Council installed 65kW of rooftop



solar in the community during the second half of 2019. Further rooftop solar and battery storage is planned for mid-2021.

PORMPURA AW

Around 210kW of rooftop solar was installed on 8 council owned buildings during the second half of 2020. The solar is expected to result in annual power bill savings of around \$40,000 for Pormpuraaw Council over the next 20 years.

NORTHERN PENINSULA AREA

Up to 360kW of rooftop solar is planned for installation on 13 buildings across the Northern Peninsula Area (NPA). Each of the communities in the area, including Bamaga, Umagico, Injinoo, Seisia and New Mapoon, will have solar installed. Construction is due to commence in mid-2021.

Reference: 'Solar for remote communities', Queensland Government, August 2021



COVID-19: MAKE THE CHOICE TO STEP UP AND GET VACCINATED

THE Redcliffe Hospital community vaccination centre is hosting 'Special Saturdays' over six weeks to support local First Nations families to get vaccinated.

Starting from Saturday, 21 August 2021, the Moreton Bay Integrated Care Centre based at the Redcliffe Hospital campus will accept walk ins for First Nations people from 10am to 2.30pm. These hours will be extended if there is further demand. The walk-in vaccination clinics will run each Saturday until approximately 25 September 2021.

Health Minister Yvette D'Ath said the targeted vaccination push was a combined effort of the Queensland Government, Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council (QAIHC) and the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health (IUIH) as part of a new campaign to encourage more First Nations people to get vaccinated.

Reference: 'Make the choice to step up and get vaccinated', Queensland Government, August 2021

Quality of Housing

The 2014–15 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey collected information on: basic types of household facilities considered important for a healthy living environment; and whether the household dwelling had major structural problems.

2014 – 2015

29% OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS WERE LIVING IN A DWELLING WITH MAJOR STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS. MOST COMMONLY, THESE WERE MAJOR CRACKS IN WALLS OR FLOORS, FOLLOWED BY MAJOR PLUMBING PROBLEMS.

15% OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS WERE LIVING IN A HOUSEHOLD IN WHICH AT LEAST 1 BASIC FACILITY CONSIDERED IMPORTANT FOR A HEALTHY LIVING ENVIRONMENT (NAMELY, FACILITIES FOR PREPARING FOOD, WASHING CLOTHES, WASHING PEOPLE, OR SEWERAGE FACILITIES) WERE NOT AVAILABLE OR DID NOT WORK.



OVERCROWDED

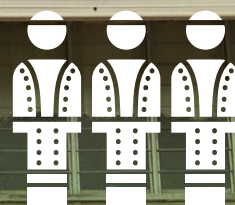


NEARLY 1 IN 5 (19%) INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS WERE LIVING IN A HOUSE THAT DID NOT MEET AN ACCEPTABLE STANDARD – THAT IS, AT LEAST 1 BASIC HOUSEHOLD FACILITY WAS UNAVAILABLE OR THERE WERE MORE THAN 2 MAJOR STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS.



27%

INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS IN **REMOTE AREAS** WERE MORE LIKELY THAN THOSE IN NON-REMOTE AREAS TO BE **LIVING IN A DWELLING WITH MAJOR STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS** (37% COMPARED WITH 27% RESPECTIVELY), THAT **LACKED BASIC HOUSEHOLD FACILITIES** (27% COMPARED WITH 11%) OR THAT **DID NOT MEET ACCEPTABLE STANDARDS** (31% COMPARED WITH 16%).



2008

THE PROPORTION OF INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS LIVING IN **DWELLINGS WITH MAJOR STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS** OR IN WHICH **1 OR MORE BASIC FACILITIES WERE NOT AVAILABLE** WAS SIMILAR IN 2014–15 AND IN 2008 (AIHW 2017).

News

WA REMOTE ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES BENEFIT FROM HOUSING GRANTS

HUNDREDS of Western Australians will benefit from more safe and secure housing under the McGowan Government's \$92.8 million community housing grants program.

The grants will be delivered under the Social Housing Economic Recovery Package (SHERP) and include \$46.5 million for refurbishments of community housing and supported accommodation dwellings, along with \$33 million to construct new community housing dwellings.

The remote Aboriginal community maintenance grants will only be made available to remote Aboriginal communities where an additional \$13.3 million has been allocated for housing maintenance works. Grants will be awarded from December 2021 with housing maintenance works to be completed by December 2022.

The grants program is part of the overall \$319 million Social Housing Economic Recovery Package, which is one of many State Government initiatives currently underway to increase the number of social housing dwellings in WA and ensure the State's ageing social housing stock remains in the system for many years to come.

Reference: '\$93 million in grants to be made available to community housing across WA', Western Australia Government, August 2021



NEW CULTURALLY DESIGNED HOUSING UNITS IN VICTORIA

AUSTRALIA'S largest registered Aboriginal housing agency, Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV) has teamed up with ClarkeHopkinsClarke Architects and Indigenous landscape designer Charles Solomon to transform ageing units on a 1000-square metre site in Melbourne as part of the first moves into a multi-residential apartment development.

Funded as part of the Victoria Government's \$2.7 billion Building Works package and recently fast-tracked through planning, the project creates 10 much-needed one and two-bedroom homes for diverse tenants and reimagines the connection to culture and Country possible in urban social housing settings.

AHV currently manages more than 1500 rental properties for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in Victoria – mostly larger villas and houses, for which singles, couples and younger people often don't qualify.

Although Aboriginal people make up just one percent of Victoria's total population, 18 percent are either recurrent users of homelessness services or at risk of homelessness.

Reference: 'Reimagining Indigenous social housing', Australian Design Review, July 2021



WA CALLS for a CULTURAL APPROACH to HOUSING

THIS month, Noongar Mia Mia, Western Australia's First Nations owned and controlled rental accommodation company has called on Australia to make Aboriginal homelessness a part of the national housing agenda.

As Australia's most marginalised group and one of the most poverty-stricken, the housing market continues to leave Aboriginal Australia out in the cold.

Across the country, 1 in 28 are homeless, and 10 times more likely to be homeless than non-Aboriginal Australians. In WA, the gap is even wider. The State has the second-highest rates of Aboriginal homelessness and rough sleeping in the country, yet the lowest rate of non-Aboriginal homelessness.

Through the report, Noongar Mia Mia asks its readers to help make Aboriginal homelessness part of the conversation, to raise awareness and help Aboriginal voices be heard. It aims to raise awareness in the broader community about cultural factors and considerations as well as the importance of self-determination and a cultural approach to housing and homelessness solutions.

The report can be found at: www.shelterwa.org.au/why-aboriginal-homelessness-needs-a-cultural-approach/



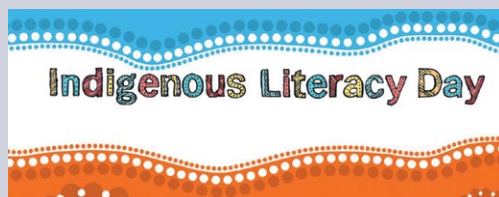
COMING UP IN

September 2021

**ASK
R U OK?**
It can make a big difference

2 SEPTEMBER

INDIGENOUS LITERACY DAY Indigenous Literacy Day aims to help raise funds to raise literacy levels and improve the lives and opportunities of Indigenous Australians living in remote and isolated regions.



8 SEPTEMBER

INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY Today one in five adults are illiterate, which causes many social and educational issues. International Literacy Day is a reminder of the importance of literacy.



5 SEPTEMBER FATHER'S DAY

9 SEPTEMBER

R U OK DAY?

Are You Ok Day is an annual national day of action that aims to get Australians, right across the entire spectrum of society, connecting with friends and loved ones, by reaching out to anyone doing it tough and simply asking: "Are you ok?"

USE TO
CONNECT
EVERY

29 SEPTEMBER WORLD HEART DAY

Cardiovascular diseases are the world's biggest killers. World Heart Day is a reminder to take care of your heart.

10 YEARS AGO (AUGUST 2011)
THE 2011 CENSUS OF POPULATION and
Housing is held.

20 YEARS AGO (AUGUST 2001)
JACK AH KIT, A JAWOYN MAN from Alice
Springs, becomes the first Aboriginal govern-
ment minister of the Northern Territory when
the Australian Labor Party wins office.

30 YEARS AGO (AUGUST 1991)
**FORMER QUEENSLAND POLICE
COMMISSIONER TERRY LEWIS** is
sentenced to 14 years in prison for corruption.

LOOKING BACK IN History



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Housing Queensland

A NEW PEAK HOUSING BODY IS HERE

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland was established in early 2021. We are a new not-for-profit organisation that is the professional peak representative body for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing providers in Queensland. We are an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisation and our purpose is to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing outcomes in Queensland.

WANT TO BE A MEMBER?

Run an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing
organisation in Queensland?

Or are you an Indigenous Council in Queensland?

THEN YOU BELONG WITH US!

To become a Member of Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland
and to enjoy our benefits, please email us at
membership@housingqueensland.com.au