

# HOME

Monthly Magazine  
JULY 2021  
ISSUE 7

# MAGAZINE

QUEENSLAND

## Budget Edition

A **WIN** FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES  
STRAIT ISLANDER **HOUSING IN**  
**QUEENSLAND BUDGET**

Help for **BUILDERS AND HOMEOWNERS** in COVID

**Queensland Government**  
MOVES TO MAKE **RENTING FAIRER**

**\$260 Million** for ABORIGINAL  
HOUSING OFFICE in NSW

*Affordable housing advocates*  
**ABANDONED**

**WA DEVELOPS ABORIGINAL SHORT**  
**STAY ACCOMMODATION AND SHELTERS**



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
Housing Queensland



OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND





Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
Housing Queensland

## 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  
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Previous Home Magazine issues can be viewed online at  
[www.housingqueensland.com.au](http://www.housingqueensland.com.au)

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### **2 WELCOME**

### **3 PEAK BODY UPDATE**

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland

### **4 QUEENSLAND HOUSING NEWS**

Feature: Queensland Budget 2021-2022

### **6 QUEENSLAND HOUSING NEWS**

Free help for builders and homeowners caught in COVID storm  
Queensland Government moves to make renting fairer  
Affordable housing advocates say Labor abandoned them

### **7 DATA**

Facts & Figures: Home Ownership by Age

### **8 NATIONAL HOUSING NEWS**

\$260 Million for Aboriginal Housing Office in NSW  
New 100-bed homelessness facility to open in Perth CBD  
WA develops Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation

### **9 CALENDAR/HISTORY**

Looking Back in History





**A**FTER an incredibly successful start to the year, we are now in the second part of 2021 and starting to see the real impact of our presence in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community housing sector.

To show this, we will uncover some of the 2021-2022 Queensland Budget wins our Sector has had in this month's edition of HOME Magazine. It is encouraging to see that our organisation will not only remain active players in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing, but we will also have a seat at the table for the wider housing Sector through the newly released Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025.

There truly has never been a better time than now to have a united front for our Sector and join our peak industry body.

What is equally exciting are the ambitious yet achievable goals to grow the housing Sector more broadly through the '*Queensland Housing Investment Growth Initiative*'. While we acknowledge that we have some work to do to improve the more immediate requirements of the Sector, we also look forward to progressing and growing our Sector to create more of an impact in our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.

We look forward to working with the Queensland Government to achieve real outcomes on behalf of our valued members and help deliver much needed change for our sector.

Beyond the budget, this month's HOME will bring you some of the initiatives in to help make housing easier for Queenslanders as well as a look at what other State's received from their budgets and programs to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing.

Enjoy the read in this month's Queensland Budget Edition of HOME Magazine.

#### MARY DOCTOR AND ANGELINA AKEE

INTERIM CO-CHAIRS

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND

## Update #7

The Housing Working Group held their sixth 2021 meeting on Wednesday, 23 June 2021. The following reveals the key decisions raised, discussed and approved at the meeting. The full communique is available at [www.housingqueensland.com.au](http://www.housingqueensland.com.au)

### DECISIONS

#### GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK APPROVED

At this meeting, the HWG discussed and approved the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland Governance Framework. This Governance Framework guides modern governance and legal operations; it also directs how people (Directors, Sub-committee members, the Chief Executive Officer and the Company Secretary) interact with the organisation (and with stakeholders) to closely guide and monitor operations. Acting as a supporting document to the 2021 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland Constitution, the Governance Framework provides a framework from which and the day-to-day management of operations is clear and compliant operations can grow.

#### POSITION PAPERS APPROVED

The CEO present the HWG with two Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland Position Papers. The included:

1. Reforming NRSCH in Queensland
2. Reducing Government Red-tape in Queensland

Both position papers were approved for use by the CEO. The purpose of these position papers is to raise and issue and to offer solutions to resolve problems.

#### ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT CYCLE APPROVED

The CEO present the HWG with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland Annual Governance and Management Cycle for discussion and approval. The Annual Governance and Management Cycle describes the schedule for annual Activities under the following four (4) Focus Areas: Governance, Planning, Risk Management and Performance, Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting.

The Annual Governance and Management Cycle 2021/22 was approved by the Board at this June 2021 meeting.

### MATTERS FOR NOTING

#### QUEENSLAND BUDGET UPDATE

The CEO provided the HWG with an update on the recent Queensland Budget. The Queensland Budget 2021-2022 was handed down in Queensland Parliament on 15 June 2021 by Queensland Treasurer Hon. Cameron Dick. It included a number of initiatives aimed at supporting the State's housing and homelessness outcomes.

#### FUNERAL NOTICE - CEDRIC WILLIAMS, GLADSTONE

The CEO informed the HWG of the passing of Cedric Williams, Manager, Gladstone Aboriginal & Islanders Cooperative Society, Gladstone on 16 June 2021. The HWP passed on their condolences to Cedric's family and wanted it to be formally minuted that "*Cedric played a major role in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community housing in Queensland for over two decades. He was a strong and respected leader and was also an early advocate for a peak body in the 2000's*".

#### QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT (APRIL - JUNE 2021)

The CEO provided the HWG with information on the next Quarterly Progress Report (April - June 2021). It is due to be submitted to the Department of Housing on 14 July 2021.

THIS WAS THE LAST MONTHLY HOUSING WORKING GROUP MEETING.

THE FIRST QUARTERLY ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING QUEENSLAND BOARD MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY 18 AND THURSDAY 19 AUGUST 2021. THIS WILL BE A FACE-TO-FACE MEETING IN CAIRNS.



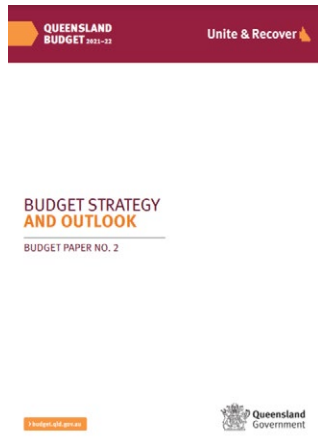




**BUDGET**



# THE QUEENSLAND BUDGET 2021-2022 HAS BEEN HANDED DOWN IN QUEENSLAND PARLIAMENT



Amongst a raft of initiatives aimed at supporting the State's housing and homelessness outcomes is the 'Queensland Housing Investment Growth Initiative' of \$1.9 billion over 4 years and a \$1 billion 'Housing and Homelessness Action Plan' which includes significant support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing.

The 'Queensland Housing Investment Growth Initiative' will further strengthen partnerships with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing sector for opportunities to co-invest in 6,365 new homes, committed over four years. There will also be priority sourcing of over 1000 new private market headleases to meet emergent need.

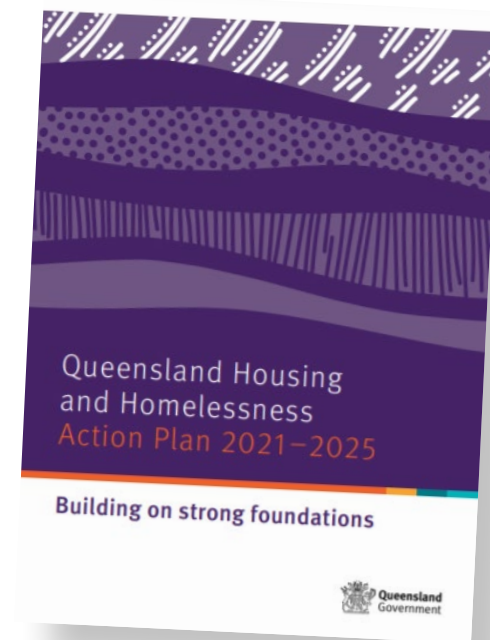
The next initiative is the \$1 billion, Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021 - 2025. This plan will support and complement the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Action Plan 2019 - 2023.

In the Minister's Message of the new plan, Minister for Housing, Leeanne Enoch said, "We will continue to close the gap for First Nations peoples by delivering tailored housing responses and by reaffirming our commitment to and building on work already delivered under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Action Plan."



## The Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025 commits to:

- **WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HOUSING BODY** to strengthen housing outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, supporting the sustainability of Indigenous housing providers and the community housing sector
- **INCREASING HOME OWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLES** through working with communities and partners
- **PROVIDING CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE HOUSING** with support through a frontline service offer for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples across the housing continuum, including through implementing culturally responsive pathway planning and care coordination.



*"This announcement will ensure that we continue the momentum built from the current Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan so we can not only help meet the immediate needs of our sector, but look towards the future sustainability in areas like home ownership."*

CEO, Neil Willmetts, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland

THE State's peak body of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland welcomed the announcements in the Budget. "This announcement will ensure that we continue the momentum built from the current Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Action Plan so we can not only help meet the immediate needs of our sector, but look towards the future sustainability in areas like home ownership," said Neil Willmetts, Chief Executive Officer of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Queensland.

"It is an exciting time for our sector. We are in a position to advocate

for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing providers while actively participating and partnering in exciting new initiatives like the Queensland Housing Investment Growth Initiative."

In addition to the strategic sector approach, there has been \$40.8 million allocated to deliver and upgrade and purchase social housing dwellings in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and support the transfer of social housing to home ownership. A further \$89.6 million will be provided in grants to deliver the works.



# News

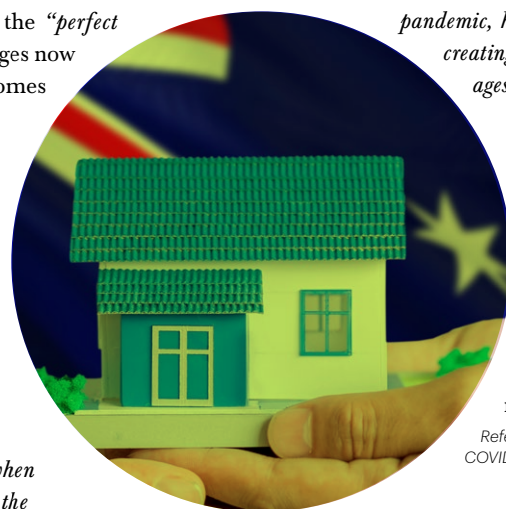
## FREE HELP FOR BUILDERS AND HOMEOWNERS CAUGHT in COVID STORM

HOMEOWNERS and builders caught in the “perfect storm” of rising prices and material shortages now have access to free help to get their homes built.

The Accelerated Builder / Consumer Dispute (ABCD) service went live on July 1 with free professional mediators to help frustrated homeowners and embattled builders find a way to get their homes completed.

Critical shortages in timber and steel products and roofing workers added to a long list of hard-to-find products means some builders are struggling to keep going on homes or facing huge cost increases.

“COVID, HomeBuilder and low interest rates, when added to Queensland’s strong economic recovery from the



pandemic, have drawn more people to move to the state, creating a ‘perfect storm’ for supplies and skills shortages,” Mr de Brenni said.

“The ABCD will give homeowners and builders a way to get together with the help of a professional problem solver and achieve what both sides ultimately signed up for – builders want to get the job done and homeowners want to get into their homes.”

The independent third-party mediation service is available through the QBCC website and expected to run for the next 12 months.

Reference: ‘Free help for builders and homeowners caught in COVID storm’, Queensland Government, July 2021

## QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT MOVES TO MAKE RENTING FAIRER

THE Palaszczuk Government is delivering on its commitment to make renting fairer, with the introduction of new legislation into Queensland Parliament this month.

The proposed laws will make it easier for Queensland renters to have a pet, and end ‘without grounds’ evictions, providing more certainty about ending a lease.

Minister for Communities and Housing Leeanne Enoch said the proposed reforms provide a balanced approach and help deliver certainty for the 34 per cent of Queensland households who rent.

“Queenslanders rely on safe, secure and affordable housing and we’re delivering on our election commitments to improve confidence in the rental market,” Ms Enoch said.

The new laws provide a strong, balanced approach that protects the rights of renters and lessors, while improving stability in the rental market.

The new laws will ensure all Queensland rental properties meet minimum quality standards, will provide clarity about the end of a tenancy, and will make it easier for renters to have a pet.

Reference: ‘Palaszczuk Government moves to make renting fairer’, Queensland Government, July 2021



## AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVOCATES SAY LABOR ABANDONED THEM

THE nation’s peak organisation on affordability and secure housing for Australians on low incomes has accused federal Labor of rejoining a “list of enemies” against increasing home-ownership in favour of benefiting wealthy landlords.

National Shelter, which campaigns to improve housing access for low-income earners, has joined with several social groups to savage the federal opposition’s decision for scrapping key tax policies as it seeks to streamline its policy platform ahead of the next election.

The opposition went to both the 2016 and 2019 elections promising to halve the 50 per cent capital gains tax deduction and limit negative gearing to new properties only, attracting fierce resistance from the government and the property and construction industries.

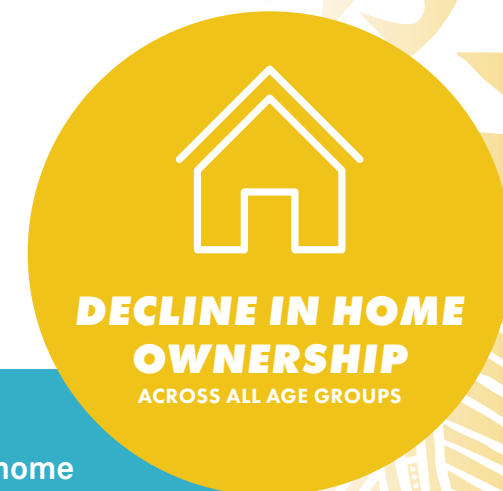
National Shelter chief executive Adrian Pisarski said by ditching its commitment to reforming negative gearing Labor had “abandoned” would-be homeowners and low-income households wanting to buy homes.

“It took 15 years of campaigning by many to get the ALP to find a spine on CGT and negative gearing and commit to helping reduce house price inflation,” Mr Pisarski said. “This is a sad day for housing reform.”

Reference: ‘Free help ‘List of enemies’: Affordable housing advocates say Labor abandoned them’, Sydney Morning Herald, July 2021

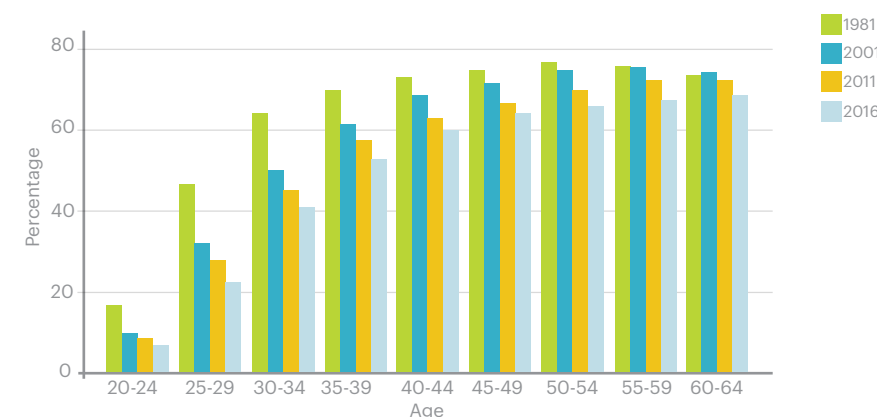
# Home Ownership by Age

Released in July 2020, the ‘Australian Families Then and Now: Housing’ report tells us that young people are much less likely to own a home. Home ownership (either owned outright or purchasing) among people living in private dwellings by age group is from the selected census years from 1981 to 2016.



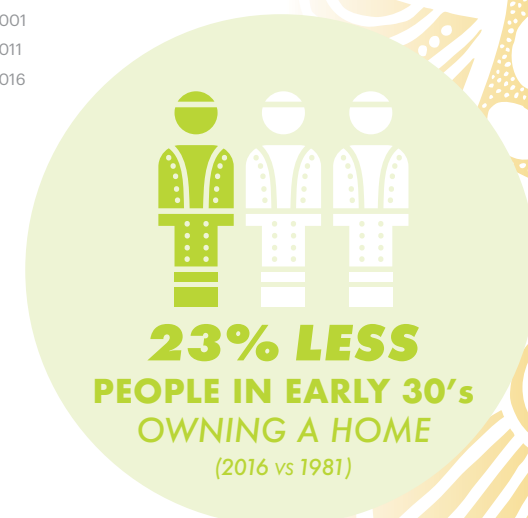
- Across all the years depicted in the figure, THE PROPORTION OF PEOPLE WHO owned their own home WITHOUT OR WITH A MORTGAGE increased with age.
- THE PROPORTIONS OF individuals who owned OR WERE PURCHASING THEIR HOME declined ACROSS ALL AGE GROUPS between 1981 and 2016.
- THE FALL IN HOME OWNERSHIP WAS PARTICULARLY MARKED AMONG younger age groups. FOR EXAMPLE, THE PROPORTION OF PEOPLE IN THEIR early 30s WHO OWNED THEIR HOME WITH OR WITHOUT A MORTGAGE fell by 23 percentage points, FROM 64% IN 1981 TO 41% IN 2016. BY CONTRAST, HOME OWNERSHIP FOR PEOPLE IN THEIR early 50’s FELL BY 10 percentage points, FROM 76% IN 1981 TO 66% 2016.

Proportion of people who owned their home without or with a mortgage by age, selected years 1981-2016



Notes: If a dwelling was owned or being purchased, the household reference person and their partner (if they were living with a partner) were considered to be owning or purchasing the dwelling. Other household members were treated as not owning/purchasing the home in which they lived. Sources: ABS (1981-2016) 1% Census household sample files Credit: Australian Institute of Family Studies 2020 (aifs.gov.au/copyright)

Reference: ‘Australian Families Then and Now: Housing’, Australian Government, Australian Institute of Family Studies





# News

## \$260 MILLION FOR Aboriginal Housing Office in NSW



THE NSW Government this month announced \$350 million for vital Aboriginal programs to further support some of the most vulnerable people and families in the state.

NSW Treasurer Dominic Perrottet said, *"This budget is not just about dollars; it is about our commitment to ensure funding is directed to the areas where it can make the most difference for Aboriginal communities across our state,"*

The investment of \$350 million includes a \$259.6 million capital investment over four years by Aboriginal Housing Office to deliver around 250 new Aboriginal Housing dwellings across the State, and 7,000 upgrades to AHO and community owned homes. The funding includes upgrades for roof restorations and replacements, air conditioning and solar power installation.

Reference: 'Empowering Aboriginal communities', NSW Government, July 2021

## WA DEVELOPS ABORIGINAL SHORT STAY ACCOMMODATION

A PURPOSE-BUILT, short-stay accommodation facility for Aboriginal visitors to Geraldton has reached a key milestone, with a request for tender advertised seeking an architect to design the project.

The State Government allocated \$18 million under the Western Australian Recovery Plan to build the Geraldton Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation facility to provide safe, affordable and culturally considered accommodation for Aboriginal people travelling into Geraldton from regional and remote communities.

The Geraldton Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation facility



- the fourth facility of its kind in Western Australia, is a response to meet the needs of Aboriginal visitors from remote communities across the Midwest Gascoyne region who travel to Geraldton to access a range of services or are visiting for cultural reasons.

The completed facility is expected to comprise of a range of safe and secure single and family units including universal access rooms, ablution and laundry facilities, dining and recreation spaces, an administration and reception centre and manager's quarters, all set in landscaped gardens.

Reference: 'Geraldton one step closer to Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation facility', Government of Western Australia, June 2021

## NEW 100-BED HOMELESSNESS FACILITY TO OPEN IN PERTH CBD

THE McGowan Government is delivering on its commitment to establish a new 100-bed homelessness service to provide an immediate and culturally appropriate response to rough sleeping in the Perth central business district.

The service will operate under the name Boorloo Bidee Mia and provide a low-barrier accommodation option for rough sleepers, as well as tailored supports for residents for the duration of their stay.

It is scheduled to open its doors next month, with the lease commencing on August 1 and capacity to increase over time to ensure effective service delivery.

Boorloo Bidee Mia represents 'Perth pathway to housing' in the Whadjuk dialect of the Noongar language and was developed in consultation with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs), Wungening Aboriginal Corporation and Noongar Mia Mia.

Wungening Aboriginal Corporation and Noongar Mia Mia have been awarded a grant of \$6.7 million to implement and deliver culturally informed responses, tenancy management and lodging support to residents of Boorloo Bidee Mia over three years.

Reference: 'New 100-bed homelessness facility to open in Perth CBD', Government of Western Australia, July 2021

## COMING UP IN August 2021

**3 AUGUST**  
**MABO DAY COMMEMORATES THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1992 HIGH COURT DECISION** in the case brought by Eddie Mabo and others which recognised the existence in Australia of native title rights.

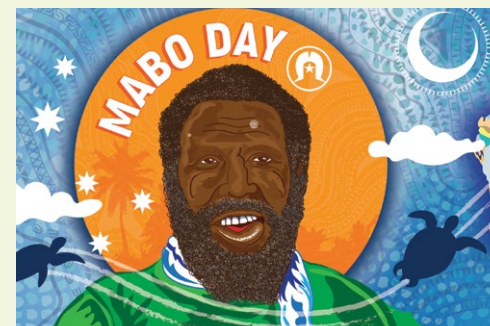


Illustration by Riki Salam

**4 AUGUST**  
**NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER CHILDREN'S DAY (NATICD)** is a celebration of human rights and Indigenous children. Held on 4 August each year, NAITCD was first observed by SNAICC in 1988.

**5 AUGUST**  
**WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY** aims to be the world's biggest and most widely celebrated environmental action event.

**9 AUGUST**  
**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE** is a day to celebrate and recognize the stories, cultures and unique identities of Indigenous peoples around the world.

**12 AUGUST**  
**INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY** is a reminder that investment in the world's youth will provide a better future for all.

**13 AUGUST**  
**RED NOSE DAY** is the major fundraiser for Red Nose. Red Nose is dedicated to saving the lives of babies and children during pregnancy, birth, infancy and childhood and to supporting bereaved families.



### 10 YEARS AGO (JULY 2011)

**IN A CONTROVERSIAL MOVE** the City of Sydney Council decided in July 2011 to use the word 'invasion' in one of its official documents.

### 20 YEARS AGO (JULY 2001)

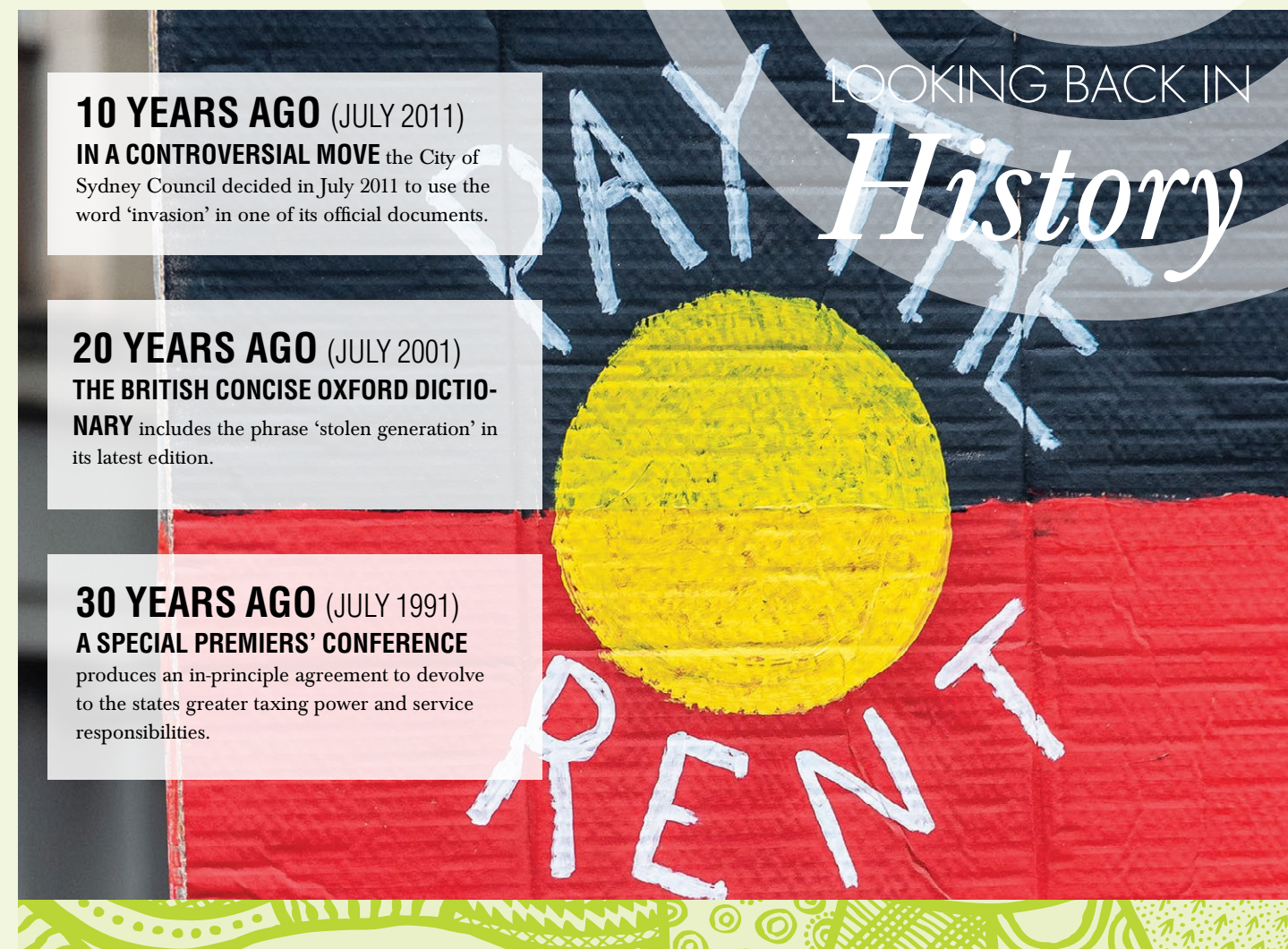
**THE BRITISH CONCISE OXFORD DICTIONARY** includes the phrase 'stolen generation' in its latest edition.

### 30 YEARS AGO (JULY 1991)

**A SPECIAL PREMIERS' CONFERENCE** produces an in-principle agreement to devolve to the states greater taxing power and service responsibilities.

### 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](mailto:membership@housingqueensland.com.au)