



Media Release
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\$3.5b for public housing to improve rental affordability

Speaking from a national forum in Melbourne today, Chairperson of National Shelter, Adrian Pisarski, has called for an urgent increase of \$3.5b in national public housing funding over the next three years.

Mr Pisarski said that public housing underpins the entire Australian housing system and a benefit of investing in public housing is that it does not have an inflationary affect on the economy.

“Affordable housing, including public housing, needs to be part of every new development in Australia,” he said.

“Public housing supply has been plummeting during the housing affordability crisis. The NAHA is the government’s opportunity to deliver to low and middle income Australia,” Mr Pisarski added.

The forum heard that the supply of affordable housing is the base problem. The Rudd government has committed to measures to improve rental affordability, however the affordability crisis cannot be improved without investment into public housing as well.

“You can track declining housing affordability against the loss of public housing stock. Providing more public housing allows greater choices for low income earners and has the benefit of putting downward pressure on all rentals,”

The forum highlighted how the National Affordable Housing Agreement could work and that as it currently stands, public housing is the necessary but missing element.

The forum kicks off a month long national campaign to boost affordable and public housing supply.

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