



Media Release  
03 February 2009

## **HISTORIC INVESTMENT: \$6.6B TO INCREASE PUBLIC HOUSING**

Chairperson of National Shelter, Adrian Pisarski, described the Federal Government's \$6.6 billion investment in public and community housing stock as an historic decision and a fantastic result for Australia's housing future.

"This is the biggest post war public housing investment this country has seen, and is one that the Rudd Government should be proud of," Mr Pisarski said.

"After 10 years of reduced funding from the Howard Government, this is an unbelievable result for the people doing it toughest in this country and 20 000 dwellings will make a big difference to those on the lowest incomes."

The National Affordable Housing Agreement which was handed down at the COAG Meeting last October, directed funding towards homelessness but did not include sufficient public housing investment.

"This funding was the missing element of the National Affordable Housing Agreement and will provide long term growth for the economy and the housing sector," Mr Pisarski continued.

Mr Pisarski also went on to say that increased public housing stock will assist in integrating other policies recently announced by the federal government.

"This investment increases the capacity to meet the homelessness targets and strategies outlined in The White Paper."

"Public housing provides the greatest support, to the most needy, over the longest period of time."