

Victoria

NATIONAL AGREEMENT ON SOCIAL HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS - BILATERAL SCHEDULE

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule																																				
Parties	Commonwealth Victoria																																			
Duration	This Schedule will commence when the Commonwealth and Victoria sign the schedule, and is expected to expire on 30 June 2029. It will be reviewed by 30 June 2026. It can also be changed at any time with the agreement of both parties.																																			
Purpose	This Schedule will help people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and support the effective operation of Victoria's social housing and homelessness services sectors. In committing to this Schedule, the Parties acknowledge their mutual interest in addressing homelessness and improving social housing in Victoria, with particular regard to people experiencing disproportionate housing inequality and disadvantage.																																			
Estimated financial contributions	<p>The Commonwealth will provide an estimated total financial contribution to Victoria of \$2,355.63 million in respect of this Schedule.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Table 1 (\$ million)</th> <th>2024-25</th> <th>2025-26</th> <th>2026-27</th> <th>2027-28</th> <th>2028-29</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>- General Funding</td> <td>350.91</td> <td>358.98</td> <td>366.88</td> <td>374.22</td> <td>381.70</td> <td>1,832.71</td> </tr> <tr> <td>- Specified Homelessness Funding</td> <td>100.12</td> <td>102.43</td> <td>104.68</td> <td>106.77</td> <td>108.91</td> <td>522.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total NASHH</td> <td>451.03</td> <td>461.41</td> <td>471.56</td> <td>480.99</td> <td>490.61</td> <td>2,355.63</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Victorian matched homelessness funding</i></td> <td><i>100.12</i></td> <td><i>102.43</i></td> <td><i>104.68</i></td> <td><i>106.77</i></td> <td><i>108.91</i></td> <td><i>522.92</i></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: Estimated financial contributions are based on 2024-25 Commonwealth Budget and are subject to adjustment in accordance with Part 5 of this National Agreement of Social Housing and Homelessness.</p>	Table 1 (\$ million)	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	Total	- General Funding	350.91	358.98	366.88	374.22	381.70	1,832.71	- Specified Homelessness Funding	100.12	102.43	104.68	106.77	108.91	522.92	Total NASHH	451.03	461.41	471.56	480.99	490.61	2,355.63	<i>Victorian matched homelessness funding</i>	<i>100.12</i>	<i>102.43</i>	<i>104.68</i>	<i>106.77</i>	<i>108.91</i>	<i>522.92</i>
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Outputs	<p>Housing and Homelessness Strategy</p> <p>Social and affordable housing</p> <p>Victoria meets the requirements of clause 18(a) of the Agreement through the following publicly available documents:</p>																																			

Victoria's Housing Statement¹ – The Decade Ahead 2024-2034.

The Housing Statement sets a bold target to build 800,000 new homes – 80,000 a year – across the state over the next 10 years, delivered through an Affordability Partnership with the housing industry.

The Housing Statement focusses on five key areas to tackle the root of the problem – housing supply. These are: good decisions made faster, cheaper housing closer to where you work, protecting renters' rights, more social housing and a long-term housing plan.

Big Housing Build²

Victoria's record \$5.3 billion investment in social and affordable housing will deliver 12,000 new homes across metropolitan and regional Victoria. Overall, the Big Housing Build will increase Victoria's social housing portfolio by ten per cent.

In addition to the Building Housing Build, Victoria is delivering the:

- Regional Housing Fund³

Victoria's \$1 billion Regional Housing Fund aims to deliver more than 1,300 new homes across regional Victoria. The new homes will include a mix of social and affordable housing – and we'll work with councils, regional partnerships and local communities to determine the right mix of stock.

- Affordable Housing Investment Partnership

The Affordable Housing Investment Partnership is set to deliver an additional \$1 billion in low-interest loans and guarantees to help finance up to 6,000 new social and affordable homes. AHIP is building on the Building Financial Capacity of Housing Agencies initiative by including affordable housing for the first time. This increases total investment for social and affordable housing projects to more than \$2 billion. The initiative also offers institutional investors, such as superannuation funds, not-for-profits, developers and local governments, the opportunity to partner with the community housing sector to help in delivering a mix of private, affordable and social housing projects.

¹ Victoria's Housing Statement <https://www.vic.gov.au/housing-statement>

² Big Housing Build <https://www.homes.vic.gov.au/big-housing-build>

³ Regional Housing Fund <https://www.vic.gov.au/425600-new-homes-regional-victoria>

Homelessness

Victorian Government response to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Homelessness⁴

Since the inquiry, the Victorian Government has funded a range of initiatives that reform Victoria's approach to homelessness. The investments progress a long-term strategic approach across five pillars to make homelessness in Victoria rare, brief and non-recurring:

- People are supported quickly to access and sustain housing
- People are connected to the right mix, sequence and housing support that is proportionate and tailored to their needs
- All parts of the social service system share responsibility for achieving outcomes
- First Peoples' homelessness services are self-determined
- The homelessness system has the capability to support the delivery of contemporary programs.

The following strategies and initiatives are progressing Victoria's long term strategic approach to making homelessness in Victoria rare, brief and non-recurring:

- Investment in programs based on Housing First Principles

This includes aiming to grow the number of permanent supportive housing places from 180 to over 360 in 2025-26 (includes new regional supportive housing beds and others to come online).

This includes investment in programs such as From Homelessness to a Home (Homes First from 1 July), the Journey to Social Inclusion and Homes for Families and investment in supportive housing facilities.

- Investment in a grants process designed to take contemporary, evidence-based solutions to scale

\$115.5 million was provided through the 2024-25 State Budget to establish a four-year competitive grants process from 2025-26 for homelessness services working to ensure homelessness is rare, brief and non-recurring. At least 10 per cent of these funds will be allocated for Aboriginal-specific responses that will be self-determined by Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations (ACCO)s.

⁴ Victorian Government response to the Inquiry into Homelessness in Victoria [Victorian Government Response to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Homelessness in Victoria – final report](#)

- Redesign and improvement of the Homelessness Service System with advice from the Ministerial Homelessness Reform Advisory Group (Advisory Group) and a Lived Experience Reference Group (Reference Group) on the best way to structure and deliver homelessness services and maximise impact for those experiencing homelessness, and to design and deliver a homelessness services system that meets the needs of people experiencing and at risk of homelessness and drive continuous improvement.
- Continued delivery of the homelessness service system to meet the needs of Victorians experiencing or at risk of homelessness

Every year, the Victorian Government assists more than 100,000 Victorians who are at risk of or are experiencing homelessness.

Homelessness Services in Victoria provide a range of supports based on people across 3 streams of need:

- people at risk of or recently experiencing homelessness with low support needs,
- people experiencing homelessness with increased vulnerabilities and risks and
- people experiencing chronic homelessness and rough sleeping with multiple associated issues and risks.

Supports funded include:

- Initial assessment and planning
- Case management and outreach support
- Crisis and transitional accommodation and support
- Private rental assistance and assistance to maintain tenancies across a range of tenures
- Youth specific services, such as family reconciliation, a youth-specific entry point and case management, youth foyers and youth refuges, with 10 more supportive accommodation facilities coming on line over the next few years as a result of investment from Victoria's Big Housing Build.
- Housing First responses, including Homes First, Journey to Social Inclusion, Homes for Families and eight permanent supportive housing facilities (four operational and four more to come on line in coming years, including two in regional Victoria).
- Family Violence support – building on the Ending Family Violence: Victoria's Plan for Change which outlines a vision for a future where Victorians live free from Family Violence.

First Nations

The Victorian Government is committed to Aboriginal self-determination and supported the development of a Victorian Aboriginal housing and homelessness strategy. In February 2020, '*Mana-na woorn-tyeen maar-takoort: Every Aboriginal Person Has a Home*', the Victorian Aboriginal Housing and Homelessness Framework (VAHMF) was released⁵. The framework represents the first housing policy at a state-wide level prepared by the Aboriginal community for the benefit of Aboriginal peoples in Victoria.

The VAHMF seeks to create the building blocks for a strong, sustainable, and well-resourced Aboriginal housing sector in Victoria. The framework is underpinned by Aboriginal self-determination that is fundamental to strengthen the Aboriginal housing sector by delivering a culturally safe and responsive housing system that addresses the challenges that Aboriginal Victorians face.

The disproportionate disadvantage faced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is addressed by:

- Advancing self-determination of Aboriginal housing outcomes,
- 10 per cent net new social housing from the Big Housing Build and 10 per cent of the regional housing fund will be targeted to housing developments to meet the needs of Aboriginal Victorians.
- Aboriginal housing sector strengthening and capacity building.
- Bespoke delivery models, offering agency to the Aboriginal housing sector and Aboriginal community.
- Offering a culturally safe service system for renters.

In response to the overwhelming challenges faced by Aboriginal people at risk of and experiencing homelessness, the Blueprint for an Aboriginal specific homelessness system in Victoria was launched in 2022.

The Blueprint provides a design of an Aboriginal-specific homelessness system with a plan to implement each of the system features that are the building blocks for a future focussed, connected and culturally safe Aboriginal specific homelessness system.

The Blueprint proposes:

- Staged approach to introducing an Aboriginal-specific system

⁵ Mana-na Woorn-Tyeen Maar-Takoort <https://vahmf.org.au>

- Increasing ACCO delivered services, commencing with:
 - Entry points and multidisciplinary teams pilot
 - Youth facilities funded through the Youth Capital Grants program
 - Expansion of Aboriginal Private Rental Assistance Program (APRAP)
- An Aboriginal System Partner role.

The Victorian Closing the Gap Implementation Plan

Victoria's implementation plan on closing the gap outlines actions Victoria will undertake to achieve the objectives of the national agreement on closing the gap. Aboriginal Housing and Homelessness is captured in Outcome 9: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people secure appropriate, affordable housing that is aligned with their priorities and need.

National Outcomes Framework

Victoria will meet the requirements of clause 18(b) by reporting against the indicators in the National Outcomes Framework (Schedule A of the Agreement). This will include at a minimum, the compulsory measures.

Compulsory measures

Homelessness

- Number of unassisted requests for services, split by accommodation and other services
- Number and proportion of clients with an identified need for services who were not provided or referred to those services, split by accommodation and other services
- Number and proportion of clients at risk of homelessness who receive assistance and avoid homelessness
- Number and proportion of clients who return to homelessness after achieving housing

Social housing

- Number of social housing dwellings at 30 June: public housing, SOMIH, community housing and Indigenous community housing, all programs

- Change in the number of social housing dwellings from previous year
- Proportion of overcrowded households: public housing, SOMIH, community housing and Indigenous community housing, all programs
- Proportion of households with at least four working facilities and not more than two major structural problems: public housing, SOMIH, community housing and Indigenous community housing, all programs

Other reporting (including any non-compulsory measures)

Victoria reports publicly on key social housing and homelessness measures. This information is contained in the following documents, which are released annually:

- Victorian Government Budget Papers (usually released in May each year)
- Department of Families, Fairness and Housing Annual Report (tabled in the Victorian Parliament following the end of the financial year)
- Report on Government Services (produced by the Productivity Commission, usually released in January each year)
- Specialist Homelessness Services Annual Report (produced by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare)

Any changes to the reporting arrangements will be agreed by parties to the bilateral schedule (the Commonwealth and Victoria).

Statements of Assurance

Victoria will report annually on how they have met the requirements of the Agreement using the template in the Agreement (Schedule B). Where possible, this will draw from existing reporting to ensure no duplication of effort and reduce burden on service delivery providers. The annual statement of assurance may also refer to publicly available documents where this information is clearly specified, and the location of the data point requested provided.

Additional terms	This Schedule is an agreement that is a supplementary housing agreement for the purposes of Section 15C of the <i>Federal Financial Relations Act 2009</i> (Cth) (the FFR Act) (Clause 9 of the primary agreement refers).
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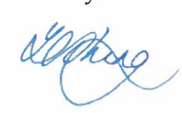
The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by



The Honourable Julie Collins MP
 Minister for Housing
 Minister for Homelessness
 [5] [6] [24]

Signed for and on behalf of the State of Victoria by



The Honourable Harriet Shing MP
 Minister for Housing
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