

ACT - Statement of Assurance reporting template - National Housing and Homelessness Agreement (NHHA) 2023-24

This 2023-24 Statement of Assurance (SoA) reporting template contributes to achieving stated outcomes under the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement (NHHA), including the following clauses:

- 15(f) Improved transparency and accountability in respect of housing and homelessness strategies, spending and outcomes;
- 23(b) Commonwealth monitoring and assessing performance under this Agreement to ensure that the outputs are delivered within agreed timeframes;
- 25(c) States providing evidence of the delivery of outputs as set out in Part 4 – Performance Monitoring and Reporting.

Total expenditure: see RoGS 2023-24 Social Housing Financial Data Manual and Homelessness Services Data Manual for the definitions of data items.

2023-24 funding and expenditure	State-own forecast expenditure (excluding Commonwealth) for 2023-24	Total expenditure 2023-24 (A)	Actual NHHA funding for 2023-24 (B) [use this column to show where NHHA funds have been spent]	State-own expenditure (excluding Commonwealth) in 2023-24 (A)- (B)	Forecast total expenditure 2024-25	Estimated NASHH funding for 2024-25	Reasons for variation between forecast and actual expenditure in 2023-24 / other comments
Social housing	\$m	374.8	280.1	The ACT Government is unable to provide a specific breakdown of NHHA funding as our financial systems and administrative processes do not track expenditure against large appropriations in this way. NHHA funding is pooled with other ACT Government funding.	280.1	278.6	24.3 The change from forecast expenditure in 2023-24 to the actual in 2023-24 (and forecast in 2024-25) is due to changing over to use RoGS rules for reporting in this SoA. RoGS does not include depreciation expenses and other non- cash items or the rental rebate so this is no longer included since the forecast in 2023-24. The rental rebate is now captured below at Other###.

Net recurrent expenditure #

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Public housing (including maintenance)	\$m	195.1	168.5	np	168.5	185.0	The change from forecast expenditure in 2023-24 to the actual in 2023-24 (and forecast in 2024-25) is due to changing over to use RoGS rules for reporting in this SoA. RoGS does not include depreciation expenses and other non-cash items so they are no longer included here.
Public housing maintenance	\$m	57.4	66.005	np	66	46.5	The increase in public housing maintenance is due to some works being expensed rather than capitalised during the year.
SOMIH (including maintenance)	\$m	np	np	np	ACT does not have SOMIH.
SOMIH maintenance	\$m	np	np	np	ACT does not have SOMIH.
All social housing ##	\$m	215.0	180.2	np	180.2	205.6	
Capital expenditure for all social housing	\$m	170.0	99.9	np	99.9	92.7	
Homelessness	\$m	37.5	36.1	np	36.1	38.1	5.8
SHS expenditure	\$m		36.1	np			
Non-SHS Homelessness expenditure	\$m	np		np			
All social housing and homelessness	\$m	412.3	316.2	np	316.2	316.70	30.1

Other ###	\$m	136.8	136.8	135.6	This is the rental rebate, noting it is excluded from RoGS reported above
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Net recurrent expenditure is net of tenant rent received.

All social housing expenditure should be the same as total net recurrent expenditure in table 18A.1 of the RoGS. This includes expenditure on public housing, SOMIH, community housing, Indigenous community housing and other social housing as described in the RoGS financial data manual.

Other social housing and homelessness expenditure not included in the RoGS (if applicable).

Requirement	Evidence			Key changes/ reasons for variation between allocated and actual expenditure in 2023-24
2023-24 funding and expenditure	State-own forecast expenditure (excluding NHHA) for 2023-24	State-own actual expenditure (excluding NHHA) in 2023-24	NHHA funds spent in 2023-24	
Clause 37(a)(i) - Actual Commonwealth and state-own homelessness expenditure by each of the national priority homelessness cohorts for financial year 2023-24				
a. Women and children affected by family and domestic violence	Not available	\$7,548,028.81	The ACT Government is unable to provide a specific breakdown of NHHA funding as our financial systems and administrative processes do not track expenditure against large appropriations in this way. NHHA funding is pooled with other ACT Government funding.	ACT Government service funding agreements with community services organisations do not breakdown cohort specific funding. Funding to homelessness providers who deliver cohort specific services for the ACT Government have been included in these amounts. Other funded services also provide support to a mix of these cohorts, however these amounts are not able to be differentiated and have not been included. For this reason there is a discrepancy of \$11m between the total of column c and Table 1 cell E11 which cannot be definitively attributed to a specific cohort.
b. Children and young people	Not available	\$6,879,570.76		
c. Indigenous Australians	Not available	\$1,473,770.83		
d. People experiencing repeat homelessness	Not available	\$7,629,178.15		
e. People exiting institutions and care into homelessness	Not available	\$1,255,079.59		
f. Older people	Not available	\$813,021.77		

Requirement	Outcome in 2023-24	Evidence	Comments
(a) State/Territory has a publicly available housing strategy (or has been without a strategy for less than 18 months since July 2018)	Yes	https://www.act.gov.au/open/act-housing-strategy?utm_source=homes&utm_medium=redirect	
i) The housing strategy indicates level of supply needed to respond to projected demand	The housing strategy reports the ACT population will grow towards 500,000 residents by 2030. With this growth projection, the strategy estimates 3000 new homes will be required each year	Page 7	This was the estimated level of housing in 2018-19, when the Housing Strategy was developed. The ACT would expect this figure to vary over time in response to fluctuations in the housing environment.
ii) The housing strategy includes planned or expected levels of social housing	The Growing and Renewing Public housing program is set to deliver 1,400 new homes. These additions mean the public housing portfolio stock number will grow by 400 at the end of the program.	www.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/1265638/ACT-Housing-Strategy-2018.pdf	Planned levels of new properties noted throughout the document

<p>iii) The housing strategy contributes to the housing priority policy areas</p>	<p>The ACT Housing Strategy contains five broad goals that operationalise the articulated vision of the Strategy. Each goal has multiple objectives under which multiple actions contribute to the priority policy areas. The goals and objectives cited below are examples of how the requirement of the SoA has been met. They may not represent the entirety of work undertaken in the area.</p> <p>Affordable housing Under Goal 4 of the ACT Housing Strategy the ACT Government investigates priority categories to assist 'at-risk' groups to gain access to community housing, the Affordable Home Purchase database and Affordable Rental Real Estate Management model.</p> <p>Social housing Under Goal 1 of the ACT Housing Strategy the ACT Government committed to dedicate at least 15% of the annual Indicative Land Release Program to affordable, community and public housing (with implementation from 2019-20 onwards).</p> <p>Encouraging growth and supporting the viability of the community housing sector Under Goal 4 of the ACT Housing Strategy the ACT Government explores mechanisms to reduce the cost of land available to the community housing sector, including restrictions on Crown leases, land rent or sale at a fixed percentage of market rate.</p> <p>Tenancy reform Under goal 4 of the ACT Housing Strategy the ACT Government committed to develop and implement outstanding recommendations from the Review of the Residential Tenancies Act 1997 with</p>	<p>Affordable housing: Goal 4 Objective E1. (P35) Social Housing: Goal 1 Objective B 1. (P15) Encouraging growth: Goal 4 Objective A. 3 (P37) Tenancy reform: Goal 4 Objective C 1. (P39) Home ownership: Goal 5 Objective A 1 (P41) Planning and zoning: Goal 1 Objective F 1. (P20)</p>	<p>The key tools for implementing, monitoring and reporting on progress against the objectives of the ACT Housing Strategy are the Implementation Plan, annual Report Cards and the Homes and Housing website. The Implementation Plan sets out how the strategy will be delivered and sets out which government directorates are responsible for each action. The ACT Government reports back to the community annually on the strategy and the progress and status of the actions in the Implementation Plan. The Homes and Housing website provides a central online location for information about the services, programs and policies designed to support the government's commitment to affordable housing in the ACT. More details can be found at: https://www.act.gov.au/homes-housing/act-housing-strategy/implementation-and-reporting</p>
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	<p>a focus on fairness and security of tenure for vulnerable tenants.Home ownershipUnder Goal 5 of the ACT Housing Strategy the ACT Government committed to set annual targets to increase affordable home purchase opportunities as part of the commitment to dedicate at least 15% of government land release to housing targets.Planning and zoning reform initiativesUnder Goal 1 of the ACT Housing Strategy the ACT Government committed to test design-led planning controls within urban design guidelines as part of a draft Territory Plan variation for the City and Gateway urban renewal area.</p>		
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(b) State/Territory has a publicly available homelessness strategy (or has been without a strategy for less than 18 months since July 2018)	Yes	https://www.act.gov.au/open/act-housing-strategy?utm_source=homes&utm_medium=redirect	A strategic approach to addressing homelessness is contained within ACT Housing Strategy. The specific goals that address homelessness are Goal 2 – reducing Homelessness and Goal 3 – Strengthening Social Housing. Goal 4 of Housing strategy also targets cohorts that are vulnerable to homelessness though the objective: Target Programs to increase supply of affordable supply of affordable housing for vulnerable and disadvantaged households.
i) The homelessness strategy addresses the priority homelessness cohorts	<p>Goal 2 of the ACT Housing Strategy outlines a range of objectives for the purpose of reducing homelessness.</p> <p>The following Actions under Goal 2 all address priority cohorts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritise young people, including young mothers, and women and children escaping domestic and family violence to provide assistance early to minimise the intergenerational impacts of experiencing homelessness. • Continue to partner with the Coordinator General for Family Safety 	<p>Common Ground Dickson opened in October 2022 and provides 40 long-term, supported accommodation and affordable housing units for individuals and families on low incomes, and for those experiencing or at risk of chronic homelessness. Centrally located in Dickson, Common Ground supports tenants to connect with the local community, being close to public transport, shops, health services, schools, and other local amenities.</p> <p>During 2023, and building on the key insights from the Homelessness Commissioning engagement, the Community Services Directorate has commenced the 'invest' phase of the commissioning cycle. Additional engagement and further co-design activities with representatives from the homelessness and other sectors, including health, AOD have also been undertaken in 2023</p>	

<p>ii) The homelessness strategy sets out reforms and initiatives that contribute to reducing the incidence of homelessness</p>	<p>to strengthen the government's response to women and children experiencing family and domestic violence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support culturally appropriate public and community housing accommodation options and support programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. • Work with the sector to design and implement specific programs targeted at new and emerging groups at risk of homelessness. • Work with the sector to investigate and implement a model of support that draws upon the principles of housing first, particularly for those experiencing long term homelessness. 	<p>to better inform the investment phase for programs to support clients with high and complex support requirements needs.</p> <p>Axial Housing – pilot program evaluation. The ACT Government partnered with CatholicCare to pilot the Axial Housing First program to provide safe, secure housing for people with high and complex needs experiencing persistent homelessness. An independent evaluation of the Axial Housing program found it was highly effective in achieving the objectives to meet the immediate physiological and safety needs of the target cohort, receiving unanimous support from stakeholders and clients. The report also found that the Axial Housing model indicated value for money through reduced demand on crisis support services.</p>	
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<p>iii) The homelessness strategy incorporates the homelessness priority policy reform areas</p>	<p>The ACT Housing Strategy contains 5 broad goals that operationalise the articulated vision of the Strategy. Each goal has multiple objectives under which multiple actions are taken that may contribute to the priority policy areas. The Goals and objectives cited below are examples of how the requirement of the SoA has been. They may not represent the entirety of work undertaken in the area.</p> <p>Women and children affected by family and domestic violence Under Goal 2 of the ACT Housing Strategy the ACT Government committed to prioritise young people, including young mothers, and women and children escaping domestic and family violence to minimise the intergenerational impacts of homelessness.</p> <p>Children and young people Under Goal 2 of the ACT Housing Strategy the ACT Government committed to continue to partner with the Coordinator General for Family Safety to strengthen the government's response to women and children experiencing family and domestic violence.</p> <p>Indigenous Australians Under Goal 2 of the ACT Housing Strategy the ACT Government committed to Support culturally appropriate public and community housing accommodation options and support programs for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People.</p> <p>People experiencing repeat homelessness Under Goal 2 of the ACT Housing Strategy the ACT Government committed to Investigate and implement a model of support that draws upon the</p>	<p>Housing Strategy Goal 2 - Reducing homelessness</p>	<p>The key tools for implementing, monitoring and reporting on progress against the objectives of the are the Implementation Plan, annual Report Cards and the Homes and Housing website. The Implementation Plan sets out how the strategy will be delivered and sets out which government directorates are responsible for each action. The ACT Government reports back to the community annually on the strategy and the progress and status of the actions in the Implementation Plan. The Homes and Housing website provides a central online location for information about the services, programs and policies designed to support the government's commitment to affordable housing in the ACT. More details can be found at: https://www.act.gov.au/homes-housing/act-housing-strategy/implementation-and-reporting</p>
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	<p>principles of housing first, particularly for those experiencing long-term homelessness.People exiting from care or institutions into homelessnessUnder Goal 2 of the ACT Housing Strategy the ACT Government committed to Work across government to establish tools to support information sharing and collaboration in response to homelessness, particularly for people exiting care or custody.Older peopleUnder Goal 3 of the ACT Housing Strategy the ACT Government committed to Work closely with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to co-design new long-term accommodation for older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</p>		
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(d) State/Territory has contributed to the implementation of the data improvement plan	Yes	The ACT has attended all meetings of the NHHA Working Group and provided input into the development of papers as requested.	
(e) Match Commonwealth homelessness funding	Yes	As per RoGS table 19A.1	The funding NHHA provides from the Commonwealth to each State and Territory is a small proportion of state/territory homelessness services expenditure. Commonwealth funding is indexed annually; however, the expenditure of the States and Territories have increased significantly more than the indexed amount. Over time the scope of what State and Territories are expected to do has increased, however, funding has not increased in order to meet these new expectations.

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Requirement	Outcome in 2022-23	Outcome in 2023-24	Evidence	Comments
Optional reporting - including SHAP and other dwellings				
Total new social houses	131 dwellings purchased, 402 dwellings constructed	54 dwellings purchased, 212 dwellings constructed	https://www.act.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/2554394/Public-housing-stock-snapshot-June-2024.pdf	<p>The Growing and Renewing Public Housing Program is calibrated to renew 1000 dwellings and grow the portfolio by 400 dwellings and is a combination of government funding (through ACT Government appropriations and NHHA funding) and Housing ACT's own source revenue. The 2023/24 reportable outcomes include the Program, Social Housing Accelerator Program and other BAU additions to the portfolio.</p> <p>The Growing and Renewing Public Housing Program (G&R Program) commenced in July 2019. As at the 30th June 2024 (Program To Date):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total 186 dwellings purchased, of which 176 dwellings were purchased as part of G&R Program, and 9 dwellings were purchased outside of the G&R Program. - 614 dwellings were constructed as part of G&R Program. - 482 dwellings were in construction or design phase
Number of new community houses constructed				
Number of new Indigenous community houses constructed				
Number of new social houses acquired	131	54		
Number of new public houses acquired	131	54		
Number of new SOMIH houses acquired				
Number of new community houses acquired				
Number of new Indigenous community houses acquired				