

# Regional Local Government Homelessness and Social Housing Charter

## Glossary

Terms	Definitions	Source
<b>Affordable Housing</b>	Defined in the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> – housing, including social housing, that is appropriate for the housing needs of very low, low and moderate-income households.	<a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) <i>Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community housing organisations</i>, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria</a>
<b>Affordable Housing Agreement</b>	The parameters agreed between a council and a developer through the planning system to deliver an Affordable Housing contribution.	<a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) <i>Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community housing organisations</i>, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria</a>
<b>Affordable Housing Contribution</b>	A contribution from a landowner (developer) of land, cash, and/or dwellings, negotiated through the planning system. It should not be confused with development contributions required under a Development Contribution Plan or Incorporated Contributions Plan Overlay.	<a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) <i>Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community housing organisations</i>, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria</a>
<b>Affordable Home Ownership</b>	Affordable Housing where the eligible household purchases the dwellings.	<a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) <i>Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community housing organisations</i>, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria</a>
<b>Charter</b>	<p>A charter represents a document that describes a project, its rationale, its goals and its participants. The purpose of a charter aims at aligning the expectations of all the contributors so that their energy focuses on the project's priorities.</p> <p>The Regional Local Government Homelessness and Social Housing Charter is a formal agreement that has been adopted by thirteen Councils in the south and east of Melbourne.</p>	<a href="#">bizfluent</a>
<b>Charter Group</b>	The group of Councils that have adopted the Regional Local Government Homelessness and Social Housing Charter. Participating Councils include Bayside, Cardinia, Casey, Greater Dandenong, Frankston, Kingston, Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Monash, Mornington Peninsula, Yarra Ranges and Whitehorse.	
<b>Commonwealth Rental Assistance (CRA)</b>	A non-taxable income supplement payable to eligible people who rent in the private rental market or community housing.	<a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) <i>Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community</i></a>

		<a href="#">housing organisations, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria</a>
<b>Community Housing</b>	Affordable housing managed by a registered housing agency.	
<b>Core Infrastructure</b>	The basic framework or underlying foundation of a settlement that supports essential services, such as water, electricity, transport, , schools, hospitals and social housing .	Adapted from Macquarie Dictionary
<b>Crisis and emergency Accommodation</b>	Crisis and emergency accommodation includes a range of specialist services for people who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, escaping family violence, or in other emergency situations. It includes women’s refuges, youth refuges and major crisis supported accommodation services. It does not include rooming houses.	Adapted from AHURI
<b>Homelessness</b>	When a person does not have suitable accommodation alternatives they are considered homeless if their current living arrangement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is in a dwelling that is inadequate; or</li> <li>• has no tenure, or if their initial tenure is short and not extendable; or</li> <li>• does not allow them to have control of, and access to space for social relations.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">ABS brief definition</a>
<b>Homelessness Service System</b>	A system that supplements the mainstream welfare system primarily through Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) providing direct assistance and support to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. It also includes programs operated by health, community support, emergency relief, legal or faith organisations that are targeted at this group of people.	
<b>Housing Affordability</b>	The relationship between the cost of housing (mortgage or rental payments) and household income.	<a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community housing organisations, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria</a>
<b>Housing Association</b>	A registered housing agency that owns and/or manages community housing and has the capacity to develop properties at scale.	<a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community housing organisations, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria</a>
<b>Housing Continuum</b>	The ‘housing continuum’ is a concept used by policy makers to consider the broad range of responses available to help a range of households in different tenures to access affordable and appropriate housing. The concept enables policy makers to move away from a one-size-fits-all strategy of providing public housing, towards ‘the range of housing options available to different households on a continuum.’	<a href="#">AHURI - Understanding the housing continuum</a> accessed at 1 February 2021
<b>Housing costs</b>	Rental or mortgage payments	
<b>Housing First</b>	A strategic response to homelessness that prioritises permanent and stable housing for people	Adapted from AHURI

	experiencing homelessness starting with people who are sleeping rough. The guiding principle is that safe and secure housing should be quickly provided prior to, and not conditional upon, addressing other health and well-being issues.	<a href="#">AHURI - What is the Housing First model and how does it help those experiencing homelessness?</a>
<b>Housing Stress</b>	<p><i>Housing stress occurs when households have to pay too large a proportion of their income in housing costs (reducing their capacity to pay for other essentials such as food and health), and as a result, housing costs rise too far above household incomes.</i></p> <p>Such as:</p> <p><i>When a very low, low, or moderate-income household's housing cost exceeds 30% of household income.</i></p>	<p>Adapted from AHURI <a href="#">AHURI - Understanding the 30:40 indicator of housing affordability stress</a></p> <p><a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community housing organisations, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria</a></p>
<b>Human Rights</b>	<p>People experiencing homelessness face violations of a wide range of human rights. Access to safe and secure housing is one of the most basic human rights. However, homelessness is not just about housing.</p> <p>A person who is homeless may be facing violations of the right to an adequate standard of living, the right to education, the right to liberty and security of the person, the right to privacy, the right to social security, the right to freedom from discrimination, the right to vote and many more.</p> <p>These human rights are protected by a number of international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC).</p>	<p><a href="#">Australian Human Rights Commission</a></p> <p><i>The Parliament of Victoria Legislative Council Legal and Social Issues Committee's Inquiry into Homelessness in Victoria Final Report March 2021 has recommended: "That the Victorian Government include the right to housing in the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)."</i></p>
<b>Housing provider</b>	<p>A registered housing agency that owns and/or manages community housing. Generally smaller in scale than a Housing Association.</p>	<a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community housing organisations, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria</a>
<b>Mandatory Inclusionary zoning</b>	A land use planning intervention by government that mandates a proportion of a residential development includes a number of affordable housing dwellings.	Adapted from AHURI
<b>Public housing</b>	Non-profit housing in the public sector.	<i>Housing Act 1983, Section 4 Definitions</i>
<b>Registered Housing Agency / Registered Agency</b>	A registered housing association or a registered housing provider under the <i>Housing Act 1983</i> .	<i>Adapted from Housing Act 1983, Definitions</i>
<b>Rental Housing Agency</b>	A non-profit body that provides or is established to provide rental housing.	<a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community housing organisations, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and</a>

		<a href="#">Municipal Association of Victoria</a>
<b>Rooming House</b>	A rooming house is a building where one or more rooms are available for rent, and residents share facilities like kitchens or bathrooms. A resident does not need to have a tenancy agreement to live in a rooming house. In Victoria, there is a Rooming House Register and a licensing scheme for Rooming House Operators.	
<b>Section 173 agreement</b>	Under the Planning and Environment Act 1987, a legally binding agreement between council and a landowner. The agreement remains with the land, regardless of change of ownership.	Adapted from <a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community housing organisations, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria</a>
<b>Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA)</b>	A market-based system that has been created under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) to provide housing for people with very high support needs. SDA payments are made by the National Disability Insurance Agency to a person with SDA funding allocated in their NDIS plan. The funding is used to cover the cost of capital to build specialised housing.	<a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community housing organisations, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria</a>
<b>Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS)</b>	<p>SHS refers to agencies that are jointly funded by the State and Federal Governments under the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement to provide support to people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.</p> <p>They include agencies that provide a general service as well agencies that work with a specific target group such as young people.</p> <p>SHS agencies are full members of either the <a href="#">Southern Homelessness Services Network</a> or the <a href="#">Eastern Homelessness Network</a>.</p>	
<b>Social housing</b>	Means: (a) public housing; and (b) housing owned, controlled or managed by a participating registered agency. <i>(this is commonly known as community housing)</i>	Adapted from <i>Housing Act 1983, Section 4 Definitions</i>
<b>Supported housing</b>	A type of housing that provides higher-level care and support for people with particular needs.	<a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community housing organisations, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria</a>
<b>Transitional housing</b>	A supported short-term accommodation program designed to help people move to more permanent housing in public housing, community housing, or the private rental market.	<a href="#">Hornsby &amp; Co. (March 2020) Affordable Housing Agreements: Advice for local government and community housing organisations, Community Housing Industry Association Victoria and Municipal Association of Victoria</a>

<b>Victorian Housing Register</b>	<p>A register of applications for social housing (public and community housing) in Victoria.</p> <p>The register has two categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Priority Access: this is for people:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Who are homeless and receiving support</li><li>○ Are escaping or have escaped family violence</li><li>○ With a disability or significant support needs</li><li>○ With special housing needs.</li></ul></li><li>• Register of Interest: this is for all eligible applicants to register their interest in social housing.</li></ul>	<p>Adapted from: <a href="https://www.housing.vic.gov.au/victorian-housing-register">https://www.housing.vic.gov.au/victorian-housing-register</a> accessed at 1 February 2020.</p>
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