

Everyone needs a home - a place for shelter, safety, stability, and comfort. A home provides a foundation to build a life or age in place, and is an important anchor to community.

We've known for some time that the New South Wales housing system is broken. House prices and rents are soaring and renting households lack the security of tenure they need to build the lives they want.

Our homes are inadequate to deal with the impacts of extreme heat or cold, and often lack the basic heating and cooling mechanisms essential to keep us healthy. Groups in our community – including older people and those with mobility issues are being left behind.

We know that NSW can do better. We have the solutions – what we need is for the Government to step up and provide the leadership to create a better housing system for all people.

Homes for People is a coalition of NSW housing campaigns and coalitions who have come together to give focus to the problems many people face in relation to housing. We call for housing reform that will create the homes people want and need.

The dire state of our housing market is the most pressing social issue currently facing NSW. In the lead up to the March 2023 election, we are asking parties and candidates to demonstrate their commitment to addressing the housing crisis.

Housing solutions for everyone

Our five priority asks

INCREASE AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPTIONS

Everyone should be able to afford their housing, without having to forgo basic essentials to afford the rent.

Ask: Invest in social and affordable housing and commit to building 5000 new, additional social housing homes each year for the next 10 years, with a long-term target of increasing the stock of social housing to 10% of total residential dwellings by 2050.

INCREASE HOUSING STABILITY AND SECURITY FOR RENTERS

Everyone should have stability and security in their home. Renters should not face eviction for 'no reason'.

Ask: Reform NSW tenancy law to remove 'no grounds' evictions provisions and replace them with reasonable grounds identified through community consultation.

HEALTHY HOMES FOR RENTERS

Everyone deserves a healthy home - one they can keep at a comfortable and healthy temperature throughout the year, without facing punishingly high energy bills.

Ask: Implement mandatory minimum energy efficiency standards for rental homes.

BUILD MORE ACCESSIBLE HOMES

Everyone wants to live together in homes that work for them, across all circumstances and stages of life.

Ask: Commit to incorporating Silver Level Livable Housing Design across all new home builds in line with changes to the National Construction Code.

RESOURCE HOUSING ADVICE AND SUPPORT FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Older people are at increased risk of homelessness and need specialised services to support them find and sustain housing.

Ask: Implement the Recommendation of the NSW Social Issues Parliamentary Committee by funding a specialist older person's housing information and support service that comprises a prevention, early intervention and crisis response, similar to the Home at Last model in Victoria.



Who we are



Make Renting Fair NSW is a community campaign. We know everyone deserves a home that is affordable, stable, healthy and 'feels like home'. The renting system in NSW is broken, but it doesn't have to be this way. Working with community organisations, faith based peaks, unions and directly with renters, the campaign is focussed on making renting fair for the more than 1 in 3 households who rent their home in NSW.

Contact: Jemima Mowbray jemima.mowbray@tenantsunion.org.au



Supported by over a hundred community organisations, faith-based peaks, environmental actions groups and consumer groups, Healthy Homes for Renters is calling on states and territory governments all around Australia to commit to basic energy efficiency standards in all homes to ensure healthy homes for renters.

Contact: Bernie Barrett bernie@betterrenting.org.au



The NSW Ageing on the Edge Forum is a coalition of over 140 organisations and supporters. The members of the Forum are advocates for change, including older people with lived experience of homelessness, service providers, peak advocacy bodies and private sector organisations, working together to address housing and homelessness related issues of older people.

Contact: Dini Liyanarachchi dini.liyanarachchi@oldertenants.org.au



Building Better Homes

A National Building Code for All Australians

The Building Better Homes Campaign is a coalition of peak bodies and agencies working to secure mandatory accessibility standards within the National Building Code. We are committed to ensuring that all Australian families have access to homes that are safe and accessible to live in across all stages of life.

Contact: Hayley Stone hayley.stone@pdcnsw.org.au

Homes for People contact: Karen Appleby, karen.appleby@cotansw.com.au