



NATIONAL BULLETIN

An eBulletin from CHFA - your national community housing peak organisation

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NRAS technical paper released

The Australian Government has released the technical paper for the National Rental Affordability Scheme. The paper outlines the framework for the implementation of this new housing initiative.

Comments on the paper are being sought, and are due by 31 May 2008. The paper is available from the CHFA website, at www.chfa.com.au.

Minister Plibersek at the Press Club

On 23 April, the Housing Minister addressed the National Press Club in Canberra. The address was attended by all three CHFA employees. The Minister's speech noted the role that community housing will play in the Government's policy agenda, and the need for 'connectedness' for families and children's social development. Her speech can be viewed at www.tanyaplibersek.fahcsia.gov.au/internet/t

anyaplibersek.nsf/content/housing_23apr08.htm.

Papers available from the National Housing Conference

Papers from the National Housing Conference, held in Sydney in February, are now available online. Please see www.nationalhousingconference.org.au/browse.asp?ContainerID=program_2008.

Mission Australia and realestate.com.au website raise money for homeless

Mission Australia and the real estate website, realestate.com.au, have teamed up to raise money for homelessness. Just click on the link below, and follow the prompts. For each person who does, one dollar will be donated. Better still, it's paid for by the good folks from realestate.com.au. Please see www.housesforthehomeless.com.au.

Senate inquiry into housing affordability

The Senate has been conducting an inquiry into housing affordability. So

far, a large number of submissions have been received. These can be accessed at www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/hsaf_ctt/submissions/sublist.htm. The Mercury Centre has put together an excellent submission on cooperative housing. It can be accessed directly at www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/hsaf_ctt/submissions/sub67a.pdf.

New program on the ABC

A new program will begin screening on ABC1 on Thursday 22 May. The program, *Q and A*, is being advertised as a show that will put “punters, pollies and pundits together in the studio to thrash out the hot issues of the week...It’s about democracy in action.” It will be the audience, rather than the show’s host, Tony Jones, that will be asking the questions.

The show will be broadcast live to air, and viewers will also be able to submit questions via the internet and SMS. The Housing Minister, Tanya Plibersek, and the Hon Tony Abbott, Shadow Minister for Families, Community Services, Indigenous Affairs, and the Voluntary Sector will both be guests on the first episode.

The show will be filmed in Sydney. People living in the emerald city, or those within striking distance, can register to be in *Q and A*’s audience at www2b.abc.net.au/AudienceBooking/Client/AudienceRegistration.aspx.

7.30 Report segment featuring community housing

Speaking of our national broadcaster, some weeks back the

ABC’s *7.30 Report* ran a feature on homelessness. The story was based in Melbourne, and focused on the activities of St Kilda’s Sacred Heart Mission. What, we hear you thinking, is the relevance of this to community housing? Two of the people in the story were able to avoid becoming homeless by moving into community housing. The story can be viewed online at www.abc.net.au/7.30/content/2007/s2211227.htm.

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Contributions

If you have news or resources that you think would be interesting or helpful to others in your State/Territory or colleagues interstate, contact CHFA and we can plug your news into NB. Email your news to: chfa@chfa.com.au