



# NATIONAL BULLETIN

An eBulletin from CHFA - your national community housing peak organisation

**Edition 69, 14 November 2008**

*Check CHFA's web site for a continuous news feed of housing articles:*  
[www.chfa.com.au](http://www.chfa.com.au)

## **Delays in NRAS legislation and applications for Round Two**

The Call for Applications for incentives for Round Two of the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) have been postponed due to a delay in passing of the National Rental Affordability Scheme bills before Parliament, and the subsequent delay of feedback on applications for Round One.

Round Two applications were scheduled to open on Monday 10 November, 2008, but this date has now been pushed back until the NRAS bills have passed, which should see applications open mid December.

Correspondingly, information sessions conducted by FaHCSIA have also been postponed. We are hoping to receive more information on confirmed dates for applications and information sessions soon, and

will provide updates as they become available.

For more information on these developments please see the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) website:

<http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/internet/facsintern.et.nsf/housing/nras.htm>

## **Senate Committee report into NRAS inquiry**

The Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs has released a report on its inquiry into the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) legislation. The report tables submissions, articulates points of concern and makes recommendations for amendments to the legislation as determined by the inquiry. The inquiry report has been tabled in the Senate but debate was held over until the Senate resumes sitting on 24 November..

A copy of the Senate Committee's report can be downloaded from CHFA's website or from the Committee website:

[http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/clac\\_ctte/rental\\_afford\\_scheme/report/report.pdf](http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/clac_ctte/rental_afford_scheme/report/report.pdf)

## **Strategic Issues for the Not-for-Profit Sector**

The growing significance and impact of partnerships between Not-for-Profit organisations and government and business is the topic of a new book edited by Jo Barraket titled *Strategic Issues for the Not-for-Profit Sector*.

According to a review from the *Australian Review of Public Affairs* by Leanne Cutcher of the University of Sydney, the book examines the nature and context of relationships between Not-for-Profit organisations and government, and increasingly, with the private sector. Its key message is that Not-for-Profit organisations should be aware of both the benefits and pitfalls associated with entering into partnerships with government, with a critical look at how governments tend to dominate in these relationships.

This book is a timely publication considering the current context of the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) and the implication for community housing organisations entering into funding agreements and establishing partnerships with private enterprises under this Scheme.

Leanne Cutcher's review may be accessed on the Australian Review of Public Affairs website at this address:

<http://www.australianreview.net/digest/2008/10/cutcher.html>

The book *Strategic Issues for the Not-for-Profit Sector* can be found through the UNSW Press:

<http://www.unswpress.com.au/isbn/9780868409344.htm>

## **2nd Annual Housing Affordability Congress**

Informa will be running the 2nd Annual Housing Affordability Congress on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of December at the Vibe Savoy Hotel in Melbourne.

Early bird registrations are no longer available; however Not-for-Profit organisations may receive a reduced rate for registration for this event by calling the customer service department and indicating that you are from a community housing organisation. If you are interested in attending and would like to enquire about a reduced rate the number for Informa's customer service department is:

(02) 9080 4307

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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](mailto:chfa@chfa.com.au).